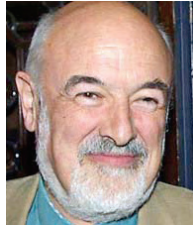


Professors Chris and Uta Frith win the European Latsis Prize 2009 for The Human Brain – The Human Mind

Professors Chris and Uta Frith of UCL (University College London), UK and Aarhus University, Denmark have been awarded the European Latsis Prize for their contribution to understanding the human mind and brain.

The European Latsis Prize is valued at 100,000 Swiss francs (€66,000). The prize is funded by the Geneva-based Latsis Foundation and awarded by the European Science Foundation to an individual or a research group who, in the opinion of their peers, has made the greatest contribution to a particular field of European research.

"It's exciting to be awarded this prize and particularly to receive it together, recognising our work individually and as a team" said Chris Frith. "Our collaboration shows that not only is it valuable to cross disciplines, but it is also valuable to cross national boundaries. Europe is uniquely rich in the variation you can find in expertise and



Chris Frith



Uta Frith

approaches. In every country there is something worth borrowing or learning about in relation to knowledge and skills."

The work of Chris and Uta Frith has shaped the way researchers and clinicians think about mind and brain and various socio-cognitive deficits. The prize is awarded to them as a couple and they

were nominated as such. Both Uta and Chris Frith see their marital and academic partnership as the strongest formative influence on their careers.

Uta Frith comments "I think we are a prime example of the benefits of the kind of interpersonal and cross-cultural cooperation that we are now studying explicitly with our Danish colleagues at Aarhus University. We have always discussed each other's research and more recently our constant hidden collaboration has become visible to others as we now tend to publish together."

Chris Frith continues, "If I had not met Uta my research career would have been very different. It has been important to us that, until very recently, we have always worked in different institutions and in different topics. As a result my research has been fertilised by the different approaches and topics that engaged Uta."

Nominations for 'Life After Stroke' Award



The Life After Stroke Awards - Nominations are open now until 26 February 2010. For more information E. helen.chapman@stroke.org.uk or see www.stroke.org.uk

Epilepsy charity delights in top award for Earl Howe

Earl Howe has championed the cause of people with epilepsy for 25 years and recently his work for the National Society for Epilepsy (NSE), was recognised with a top award. Westminster played host to the 7th DODS Charity Champion Awards in which Members of Parliament are voted for by other Parliamentarians in recognition of their consistent hard work, commitment and achievement on behalf of voluntary causes and issues. Earl Howe, the President of NSE was nominated by the charity in the health champion category and was delighted to win the award. He also chairs the All Party Parliamentary Group on Epilepsy.



He said, "I'm very proud of my involvement with NSE. It's a wonderful organisation. For many years epilepsy was an unsung condition but it has recently come out of the shadows, not least thanks to NSE's work in pioneering diagnostic techniques and its state-of-the-art research."

Bridget Gardiner, NSE's director of fundraising and marketing, said, "Earl Howe is a deserved winner of this award. We are privileged to have him as our President and thank him for his loyal support and hard work during the last 25 years."

Heraldry Award for the Association of British Neurologists

The Association of British Neurologists was recently awarded the 2009 "Corporate Heraldry Award" by the UK Heraldry Society. This award is made annually to a corporate body which makes best use of its armorial bearings in the opinion of a panel of judges. The ABN beat several other entrants for the award, and was commended for the widespread use made of its relatively new arms which were granted during 2007. Dr Colin Mumford, Consultant Neurologist in Edinburgh, and Dr Chris Butler, Lecturer in Neurology at the University of Oxford, received the illuminated certificate on behalf of the ABN at a formal dinner held in The Apothecaries' Hall in London.



Colin Mumford and Chris Butler with the award.

New Medals awarded at the World Congress of Neurology

At the recent World Congress the WFN awarded two new medals for the first time. One was for Achievement in Neurology and the other for Services to International Neurology. The former was presented to Professor Roger Rosenberg of the Southwestern Medical School, University of Texas Medical Center in Dallas, US; the latter to Professor Noshir H Wadia from India. Also during the World Congress the WFN held the Annual General Meeting of its Council of Delegates. One item of business on the agenda was the election of new officers and a Trustee.

Professor Vladimir Hachinski from London, Ontario in Canada was chosen to be the new President of the WFN for a 4-year term from 1st January 2010, succeeding Dr Johan Aarli; Professor Werner Hacke from Heidelberg, Germany was elected as First Vice-President; Dr Raad Shakir, Consultant Neurologist from Charing Cross Hospital, London was re-elected unopposed as Secretary-Treasurer General for a further 4 years from 1st January 2011; and Professor Wolfgang Grisold from Vienna, Austria became an Elected Trustee to serve for a 3-year period.

New President for the British Neuro-Oncology Society

Consultant Neurosurgeon Mr Charles Davis (Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, UK) is the newly-elected President of the British Neuro-Oncology Society (BNOS) and will continue in this role for the next two years. Charles assisted in the

preparation of the IBTA's recent booklet on "The First Documented, Modern-Day Brain Tumour Surgery for a Glioma" by kindly allowing them to reprint his own article on the subject (co-written with Mr Robert Bradford, also a British neurosurgeon) in the booklet.