

The Francis Crick Lecturer 2007 - Professor Geraint Rees

Professor Geraint Rees (Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging at UCL and the UCL Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience) has been awarded the Royal Society's Francis Crick Lectureship for 2007.

The Francis Crick Lecture was established in 2003 following an endowment by Dr Sydney Brenner CH FRS, joint winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. The prize lecture is delivered each year in any field of the Biological Sciences, but preference is given to the areas in which Francis Crick himself worked: genetics, molecular biology and neurobiology. Fundamental



theoretical work, which was the hallmark of Crick's science, will also be given preference. Importantly, the lectureship is aimed at younger scientists. Ideally, nominees should be under the age of 40, but the intention is that the lecture will be awarded to someone whose career stage corresponds to under 40, thus making allowance for people whose career progression may have followed a less routine or more interrupted path.

Nominations for the Francis Crick Lecture will reopen on 1 December 2007. See www.royalsoc.ac.uk for more information

Epilepsy award

A health award which recognises the efforts of individuals and teams trying to develop better healthcare for the half a million people with epilepsy in the UK and Ireland was launched recently. The BEST (Best Epilepsy Standards Today) award, an initiative of the Joint Epilepsy Council (JEC), aims to raise awareness of the condition and to encourage epilepsy service improvements. Nominations for the award can be made by patients or their family members, voluntary groups and volunteers, primary practice and specialist nurses, health visitors, GPs and pharmacists. Entries can come from health students, administrators, community or hospital healthcare teams and consultants working in England, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

See www.jointepilepsycouncil.org.uk for details. Deadline for nominations is September 7, 2007.

ENS Fellowship Stipend 2008

If you have an experimental project in neurology of your own design and would like to carry it out in the near future, apply now for an ENS Fellowship for the year 2008. The second deadline for this stipend is October 15, 2007.

The European Neurological Society will support the scholarship holder for a period of 6 months, with a monthly stipend of EUR

2,000. The scholarship is to be held at a host institution in Europe during the year 2008.

ENS sponsors this programme to provide an opportunity for talented researchers to participate in an exchange of scientific activities between home and host institutions.

Programme is primarily aimed at young Applicants must be less than 40 years of

age, and affiliated with an academic neurological department. Applicants and / or home or host institution must be active at ENS meetings. The ENS invites applicants from European nations, as well as those outside Europe.

Application forms can be obtained from the web site www.ensinfo.com

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Epilepsy Research UK invites applications for grants to support basic and clinical scientific research in the UK into the causes, treatment and prevention of epilepsy. We encourage applications on all aspects of epilepsy including basic and social science, clinical management and holistic management of patients.

Project grants

Applications are invited for grants up to £80,000 to support a research project lasting a maximum of three years. Applications for smaller sums to support salary costs, purchase of equipment, or student fees are also welcome.

Epilepsy Research UK Fellowship

Applications are invited for grants of between £150,000 and £200,000 over 1-3 years to support the Epilepsy Research UK Fellowship. Funds will cover Fellow's salary, support staff costs and project running costs.

Deadline for receipt of completed applications: **Friday 19 October 2007**

More information and application forms are available from www.epilepsyresearch.org.uk, or Isabella von Holstein, Research and Information Executive, Epilepsy Research UK, PO Box 3004, London W4 4XT.

Tel: 020 8995 4781, email: isabella@eruk.org.uk



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epilepsy action

Epilepsy Action Research Grants Programme 2007-2008

Applications are invited for proposals to carry out non-laboratory epilepsy research.

Epilepsy Action is offering up to £70,000 for large projects, £15,000 in small grants, a three year PhD studentship (up to £25,000 a year), and a number of postgraduate research bursaries worth £1,500. In addition, we are inviting entries for Epilepsy Action Research Prizes.

Epilepsy Action is the largest member-led epilepsy organisation in Britain. It acts as the voice for the UK's estimated 456,000 people with epilepsy, as well as their friends, families, carers, health professionals and the many other people on whose lives the condition has an impact. We are committed to promoting all types of research into epilepsy, and actively fund a wide range of non-laboratory epilepsy research.



Further details and application packs are available on www.epilepsy.org.uk/research/awards.html or by contacting Margaret Rawnsley on 0113 210 8800. Email research@epilepsy.org.uk

Closing date for applications is 8 October 2007.

Epilepsy Action

New Anstey House, Gate Way Drive, Yeadon, Leeds LS19 7XY
tel: +44 (0)113 210 8800 fax: 0113 391 0300 **epilepsy helpline freephone: 0800 800 5050**
free fax: 0800 800 5555 email: epilepsy@epilepsy.org.uk www.epilepsy.org.uk
Epilepsy Action is a working name of British Epilepsy Association. Registered Charity in England (No. 234343)

Epilepsy Research News



In April 2007, the Epilepsy Research Foundation merged with the Fund for Epilepsy, creating Epilepsy Research UK. Epilepsy Research UK is the only charity dedicated to funding independent epilepsy research in the UK. There are 28 grants ongoing, representing a total commitment of £1,300,000 to epilepsy research. The Epilepsy Research Foundation made five new research project grants in 2006/7, totalling £322,816.

Bruno Frenguelli and Nicholas Dale of the University of Warwick were awarded £69,950 to investigate the regulation of cortical excitability and seizure activity by purines.

John Jefferys and colleagues at the

University of Birmingham received £74,932 for a combined in vitro and in vivo study of Fast network activity and neuronal aggregate formation preceding epileptic seizures. Precursor work to this project was also funded by the Epilepsy Research Foundation.

A total of £79,997 was awarded to Dr Frances Platt and colleagues at University of Oxford and St George's Hospital Medical School for a study of Human GM3 synthase deficiency, a new severe epilepsy syndrome (co-funded with The Wellcome Trust).

The effect of status epilepticus-induced neu-

roinflammation on brain injury and epileptogenesis will be studied by Rod Scott, Mark Lythgoe and colleagues at UCL Institute of Child Health and Institute of Neurology, who were awarded £79,937.

Professor Adam Zeman and colleagues at the Peninsula Medical School, Exeter will investigate the impairment of memory in epilepsy: the significance of autobiographical amnesia. This is an Economic and Social Research Council CASE Studentship; the Epilepsy Research Foundation will contribute £18,000.

For more information see www.epilepsyresearch.org.uk

13th European Charcot Foundation Lecture

The European Charcot Foundation Annual Symposium 2007 takes place November 29-30 and December 1 in Fiuggi (Italy): "Treatment Targets in Multiple Sclerosis. The ends and the means". Prof. L. Steinman will open the Symposium with the 13th European Charcot Foundation Lecture.

The three-day Symposium will discuss treatment perspectives at various levels of the

immune system (periphery, blood brain barrier and brain compartment). In this way a coherent view of available and prospective treatments can be given. The Symposium is preceded by "University Classes in Multiple Sclerosis IV", a teaching course focused on progressive MS, on November 28, 2007 at the same venue.

Participants of the course are updated on the latest developments in the field by a prominent

faculty of European MS researchers. The course is directed at general neurologists, neurologists in training, rehabilitation specialists, urologists, ophthalmologists, MS investigators and pharma staff.

Biogen Idec Travel Grants are available for neurologists in training and young MS researchers to support participation in this course. For more information see www.charcot-ms.eu

Epilepsy Action have in recent years funded several important projects...

Epilepsy Action is committed. In recent years they have funded several important projects and developed a number of funding initiatives including postgraduate research bursaries, studentships and prizes.

Epilepsy Action has now launched a new programme of research awards worth more

than £100,000 each year. This will incorporate existing awards and introduce new large and small scale grants and PhD studentships for research into the causes and cures of epilepsy. Researchers and students working within the British Isles, including Eire, will be eligible to apply to for Epilepsy Action

Research Grants Programme funding.

Further information can be found on Epilepsy Action's website www.epilepsy.org.uk/research/awards.html or contact Margaret Rawnsley on Tel. +44 (0)113 210 8800, E. reseach@epilepsy.org.uk

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Please contact

Rachael Hansford, Publisher
ACNR (Advances in Clinical Neuroscience & Rehabilitation)
1 The Lynch, Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6DQ, UK
Tel/Fax. 01747 860168, Mobile. 07989 470278
E. Rachael@acnr.co.uk

www.acnr.com

