Musings from the Director.....

We jump right into the month with a seminar by Dr. Tom Bozza on February 4th (see item 2). We envision the Spring term will be an especially busy one with the prospect of several new hires in the chemical senses in various units across campus in addition to our regular seminar series. Be sure to stay tuned for forthcoming announcements.

This month we’ll be restarting our Chemical Senses Discussion Group after it took a vacation over the Holidays. These discussions are intended to explore specific topics in depth that are of current interest to the field and the membership. They will continue to be held in Rm L5-101B on the 5th floor of the Brain Institute unless we outgrow the room. A schedule of discussion leaders and topics, as well as the specific day and time, is being prepared and will follow. Everyone is welcome.

On the evening of February 9th, the Center will be staffing a table at the college of Medicine’s annual ‘Celebration of Research’ at the O’Connell Center to help make the research community aware of the Center and its mission. This is always a lively event with food and science in abundance. Be sure to stop by the Center’s table (Table #11) and say hello if you’re planning to attend the event.

Dr. Steve Munger, our new Associate Director, is leading a charge to improve our visibility and branding. As part of that effort, we’ll be updating and expanding the Center’s webpage. If you have any suggestions for useful content, eye-catching pictures, glaring errors, etc., be sure to let Steve know (steven.munger@ufl.edu) so they can be included. Your help is most appreciated.

Finally, as part of the same effort, I’m pleased to unveil our new logo, seen here on the upper left. It was created by postdoc member Dr. Corey Williams (Pharmacology, COM) together with Dr. Munger. Many thanks to you both. It represents a primary olfactory receptor cell and a taste bud, the two major inputs mediating chemosensation from the molecular to the behavioral level. And it sports the official UF colors and fonts. If you look carefully, you can almost envision it evolving from an island with a palm tree on it!
UFCST’s Upcoming Chemical Senses Seminar
Wednesday, February 4, 2015

‘Genetic Analysis of Olfactory Receptor Function in the Mouse’

Thomas Bozza, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Neurobiology
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

Wednesday, February 4, 2015
12:00 Noon
DeWeese Auditorium, Room LG-101A
McKnight Brain Institute

Dr. Bozza is an emerging leader in olfaction who uses gene targeting to understand how the nervous system encodes molecular information, and how neural circuits process this information to give rise to learned and innate olfactory-driven behavior. He will discuss how over 1,000 canonical odorant receptors (ORs) and a much smaller family of 14 Trace Amine-Associated Receptors (TAARS) contribute to odor detection, and his ability to measure for the first time how ligand recognition at the receptor level impacts stimulus perception at the behavioral level in olfaction.

LUNCH WITH THE SPEAKERS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS THE SEMINAR

Faculty are reminded to encourage their postdocs and grad students (sorry, no faculty) to take advantage of the opportunity to meet with each of our speakers immediately following their seminar.

These luncheons are provided at no charge and are held just upstairs from the seminar room in the MBI conference room, Rm L5-101B. Take the elevator to the 5th floor and turn right immediately on exiting the elevator.

If you have a student or postdoc who would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please have them contact Cheri Brown (browncl@ufl.edu) to reserve a spot since seating is limited.

Contact:
bozza@northwestern.edu
NIH Announcements

- NIDCD Research Career Transition Award for Nurturing Clinician-Investigators (K22) [RFA_DC-15-002]
  

- NIDCD Small Grant Program (R03) [PAR-13-057]
  Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): February 26, 2013; June 26, 2013; October 18, 2013; February 26, 2014; June 26, 2014; October 28, 2014; February 26, 2015; June 26, 2015; October 28, 2015

- NIDCD Clinical Research Center Grant (P50) [PAR-13-062]
  Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): February 22, 2013; May 30, 2013; October 1, 2013; January 30, 2014; June 2, 2014; October 1, 2014; February 2, 2015; June 6, 2015; October 1, 2015

- NIDCD Research Grants for Translating Basic Research into Clinical Tools (R01) [PAR-14-009]

- NIDCD Research Grants for Translating Basic Research into Clinical Tools (R01) [PAR-14-009]
UFCST Travel
graduate students and postdocs

The Center provides travel awards for graduate students and postdocs at the University of Florida on an ongoing basis. We encourage applications from young scientists whose main area of interest is not the chemical senses, but who would benefit from exposure to the field. We will also consider requests from graduate students and postdocs actively working in the chemical senses to attend the AChemS annual meeting or other scientific meetings of relevance to chemical senses research. Please submit requests for support in the form of a letter to the Center office at ufscst@ufl.edu at least one month before the start of the meeting. Please include in the request the estimated cost of travel, registration, and housing while at the meeting, and whether or not you intend to make a scientific presentation. Graduate students should submit letters that are countersigned or otherwise supported by their mentor. UFCST Travel Awards will be governed by the University of Florida.

Upcoming Chemical Senses Meetings

April 22-25, 2015
AChemS 37th Annual Meeting
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point
Bonita Springs, FL
http://www.achems.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3962

July 26-31, 2015
Summerschool on Human Olfaction
Dresden, Germany

June 5-9, 2016
ISOT 2016 – 17th International Symposium on Olfaction and Taste
Yokohama, Japan
http://www.isot2016.com/