

CENTER FOR SMELL AND TASTE

News and Announcements

Musings from the Director.....



In This Issue

Director's Musings

Page 1

UFCST's Chemical Senses March Seminar

Page 2

NIH Announcements

Page 3

Upcoming Chemical Senses Meetings

Page 4

As last month, we jump right into March with a seminar, this time by Dr. Ivan de Araujo on March 4th (see item 2). During March there should also be interviews for several new faculty hires in the chemical senses in various units across campus, so stay tuned for forthcoming announcements on those seminars.

Restarting our Chemical Senses Discussion Group has slipped to March. 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.

We had excellent interest in the Center at the College of Medicine's annual 'Celebration of Research' at the O'Connell Center last month. Numerous students, faculty, and administrators stopped by to learn about the Center, take the jelly bean demonstration of retro-nasal olfaction, and pick up one of the 'worry-nose' give-aways.

We are always proud to showcase the achievements of our membership, and this month applause goes out to member Fatima Kaplan (Biology). In collaboration with member Rebecca Butcher (Chemistry) and Patricia Stock (U Arizona), Fatima received a 3 year USDA/NIFA award to study the role of *Xenorhabdus* bacteria on pheromone production by *Steinernema* nematodes and its impact on nematode fitness and formulation. Congratulations Fatima and Rebecca! Their work epitomizes the broad diversity of topics that falls under the heading of chemical senses research.

In March the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience will be holding its annual 'Sunposium' featuring several chemical senses researchers among their list of outstanding neuroscientist speakers (see item 4).

Finally, just to remind you again that Dr. Steve Munger, our new Associate Director, is leading a charge to improve the Center's 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, please let Steve know (steven.munger@ufl.edu).

UFCST's Upcoming Chemical Senses Seminar Wednesday, March 4, 2015

'The Physiology and Neural Circuitry of Sweet Taste Reward'

Ivan de Araujo, PhD

Associate Fellow, John B. Pierce Foundation
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Yale University School of Medicine

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

12:00 Noon

DeWeese Auditorium, Room LG-101A

McKnight Brain Institute



Contact:

laraujo@jbpierce.org

Dr. de Araujo studies the neurobiology of feeding in humans and animals. Many different organisms are strongly attracted to nutritive sugars. Sugars not only have a pleasurable (sweet) taste, but also constitute an essential source of energy. Sugars' sweetness and energy appear to be encoded by segregated pathways within the brain's reward circuitry. Strikingly, sugar's calories, but not its sweet taste, stimulate the neural pathway that mediates the acquisition of long-term behavioral habits and compulsions. This neural arrangement may underlie the widespread overconsumption of sugared foods and beverages.

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.

NIH Announcements

- NIDCD Research Career Transition Award for Nurturing Clinician-Investigators (K22) (RFA DC-15-002)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-15-002.html>

- 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)

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): June 23, 2014, February 23, 2015, October 23, 2015, June 23, 2016, February 23, 2017



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**UFCST Travel  
graduate students  
and postdocs**  
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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 ufcst@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>

March 30-31, 2015

SUNPOSIUM

PGA National Resort & SPA
Palm Beach Gardens, FL

<http://www.sunposium.org/>

July 26-31, 2015

Summerschool on Human Olfaction

Dresden, Germany

<http://www.uniklinikum-dresden.de/das-klinikum/kliniken-polikliniken-institute/hno/forschung/interdisziplinares-zentrum-fur-riechen-und-schmecken/neuigkeiten/kongresse>

June 5-9, 2016

ISOT 2016 – 17th International Symposium on Olfaction and Taste

Yokohama, Japan

<http://www.isot2016.com/>