

News and Announcements

Musings from the Director.....



Last month we kicked off the academic year with a successful wine and cheese mixer we held together with faculty and postdocs from the McKnight Brain Institute. We appreciate everyone who took the time to drop by and help get the academic year off to a proper start. This month turns out to be an especially busy one for our chemical senses community, with four closely-spaced seminars of interest. Dr. Steve Liberles will be speaking in Biology on the 2nd (see item 4), Dr. Joel Mainland will be giving our regular October seminar on the 13th (see item 7), Dr. Anand Ray will be speaking in Biology on the 14th (see item 4), and Dr. Michael Shipley will be speaking at FSU on the 15th (see item 6). Drs. Liberles and Ray are both potential preeminence hires in Biology under the campus-wide brain and neuroscience initiative. We appreciate everyone's help to entice them to join UF's expanding chemical senses community by attending their talks and offering to visit with them one on one.

Speaking of expanding our community, Dr. Wen Li, this month's featured member (see item 2), recently joined the Psychology faculty at FSU from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Her interest in functional imaging aligns well to research here at UF, and she'll be visiting campus in early December to meet everyone and explore possible collaborations.

Also, October is the time to remind everyone to consider assigning some or all of the 'centers and institutes' allocation of their indirect costs to the Center (see item 3). This money is a major source of income for the Center and its mission and your support is sincerely appreciated.

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Upcoming Chemical Senses Meetings

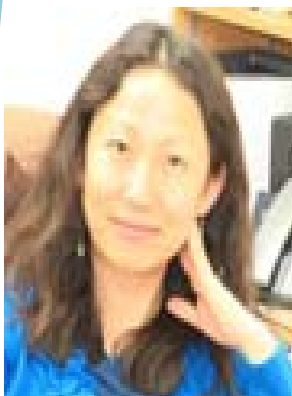
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Featured Member

Dr. Wen Li

**Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology
Florida State University**

This month we're pleased to feature one of our chemical senses colleague from Florida State University. Dr. Wen Li was recently hired from the Department of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to be an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at FSU. She received her doctoral training with Dr. Jay Gottfried (our December speaker) at Northwestern University.



Contact:

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As she describes, her research pertains to psychological and neural underpinnings of emotion processing and emotion-cognition interactions, and how these mechanisms are implicated in anxiety disorders. She studies emotion processing at different stages, categorized as “quick-and-dirty” analysis versus slower-yet-elaborate evaluation of stimulus information. Her findings suggest that emotion processes interact with diverse cognitive operations, in an automatic or even unconscious fashion, resulting in various cognitive biases that are especially salient in anxious individuals. On the other hand, her research demonstrates that emotional experiences can lead to remarkable cognitive improvement, highlighting the extraordinary capacity humans possess to maximize ecological advantage. Nevertheless, impairment in this kind of learning may underlie anxiety symptoms characterized by excessive sensory sensitivity and hypervigilance. Given the unique psychological and neural intimacy between olfaction and emotion, olfactory (in addition to visual) stimuli are often applied in her experiments to facilitate emotional responses. She incorporates multiple approaches and methodologies, including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), event-related potentials (ERPs), autonomic physiology and sensory psychophysics, in her investigations.

We are most pleased to have Dr. Li be part of our greater chemical senses research community. Welcome aboard!

Request for Assignment of Indirect Cost Return

Very shortly the Office of Research will be finalizing the 2013-14 indirect cost (IDC) distributions. If your grant(s) accrued indirect costs in the past fiscal year, sometime during the year you should have received an email from them asking you to indicate your IDC distributions. I hope you selected the 'Center for Smell and Taste' to receive some or all of the 7.5% of the IDCs that can be assigned to 'Centers and Institutes'. This money is a major source of support for the Center and its mission. We use it to help operate the Center, to run our seminar program, to provide travel fellowships to our students and postdocs to attend scientific meetings, and to provide small seed grants to our faculty. If not, or to check, you can update the IDC distributions for your grant(s) by going to:

<https://apps.research.ufl.edu/research/fa/index.aspx>

Please designate the following overhead account:

DEPTID	Department	Overhead	PS Project Title
11290000	Center for Smell & Taste	00047350	CTR-OH

Your support of the Center and its mission to advance discovery, application, and education in the chemical senses across the campus and statewide is greatly appreciated.





Department of Biology Interviewing Two Chemosensory Scientists as Potential Preeminence Hires

Dr. Steve Liberles will visit campus October 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Dr. Liberles currently is an Associate Professor in the Department of Cell Science and the Program in Neuroscience at Harvard Medical School. Before joining the faculty at Harvard he was a postdoctoral associate of Dr. Linda Buck who shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for her pioneering discovery of vertebrate olfactory receptors. Dr. Liberles is an emerging leader in the molecular basis of instinctive animal behavior in mammals. Among his research interests are pheromone signaling in mammals, including the discovery of trace amine associated olfactory receptors (TAARs), and charting the neural circuits that control appetite. His recent paper in *Science* describing the evolution of sweet taste in hummingbirds by transformation of the ancestral umami receptor epitomizes the breadth of his research interests.

Dr. Liberles will be giving a seminar entitled, 'Internal and external chemosensory systems' on Thursday October 2nd at 3:30 PM in Bartram Hall, Rm. 211.

Dr. Anand Ray will visit campus October 13th, 14th, and 15th. Dr. Ray is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside. Before joining the faculty of UC Riverside, Dr. Ray trained with Dr. John Carlson at Yale studying the molecular genetics of insect olfaction. Dr. Ray is an emerging leader in the molecular basis of insect olfaction, studying olfactory receptors and their development as well as the central neural circuitry controlling odor recognition. Much of his current research focuses on olfaction in mosquitoes and other vector insects as well as agricultural pests, addressing questions that align well with research interests here in the College of Medicine, the Emerging Pathogens Institute, the USDA, and IFAS.

Dr. Ray will be giving a seminar on Tuesday October 14th at 3:30 PM, also in Bartram Hall, Rm. 211. The title of his talk will be announced shortly.

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.

UFCST's

Chemical Senses Fall Seminar Series

In case you haven't already done so, be sure to save the dates for the remainder of our Fall seminar series. All seminars are held at Noon in the Deweese Auditorium in the McKnight Brain Institute, 1149 Newell Dr. Don't forget, the seminars are followed immediately by a meet-the-speaker luncheon for graduate students and postdocs who sign up in advance (browcl@ufl.edu).

Monday, October 13th - Dr. Joel Mainland (Assistant Member, Monell Chemical Senses Center)

Dr. Mainland studies the molecular biology of olfaction who is interested in developing a predictive basis for relating molecular structure and olfactory perception using combined psychophysical and molecular approaches.

Monday, November 5th - Dr. Elissa Hallem (Assistant Professor of Neuroscience, UCLA)

Dr. Hallem studies the function and organization of the neural circuitry that mediates odor driven behavior in free living and parasitic animals, especially nematodes such as the model organism *C. elegans*. She is the recent recipient of a MacArthur 'Genius' Award.

Monday, December 3rd - Dr. Jay Gottfreid (Associate Professor of Neurology, Northwestern University)

Dr. Gottfreid is an emerging leader in clinical aspects of olfaction who uses high-resolution functional magnetic imaging computational techniques and psychophysiological paradigms to better understand the profound impairment in the sense of smell associated with Alzheimer's disease.

Upcoming Chemical Senses' Seminar at FSU

Wednesday, October 15



'From molecules to networks: unraveling olfactory bulb glomeruli'

Dr. Michael T. Shipley, Chair
Dept. of Anatomy and Neurobiology
University of Maryland School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD

Wednesday, October 15
3:30 PM, Rm A221
Psychology Building
Florida State University

Dr. Shipley is one of the leading experts in the neural organization of the olfactory bulb and higher order neural processing in olfaction. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in understanding the anatomy, synaptology, and pharmacology of the olfactory bulb and its higher order connections.

Note: This lecture is at FSU in Tallahassee. To attend this and all chemical senses lectures at FSU, you can park in one of four reserved spaces in front of the new Psychology Building on w. Call St. Move the parking cone, if necessary, then go inside the building and ask the receptionist for a parking permit to display on your windshield. Be sure to return the permit before you leave! If you wish you can also use the office maintained for visiting UF faculty and students in the Psychology Building, which is equipped with a phone and computer for your use. Ask the receptionist for directions and a key.

Note: If your schedule will not allow driving to FSU, we plan to live stream this and other chemical senses lectures at FSU to the MBI conference room on the 5th floor of the McKnight Brain Institute, just outside of the Center office, Rm L5-101B.

Upcoming Chemical Senses' Seminar at **UF** Monday, (**NOTE CHANGE OF DAY**) October 13



'Insights from Olfactory Receptor Screening'

Dr. Joel Mainland

Louise Slade Assistant Member
Monell Chemical Senses Center
Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday, October 13
12 Noon, DeWeese Auditorium
Rm. LG-101A, McKnight Brain Institute, University of Florida

Matching mammalian odorant receptors to their cognate ligands has seen only limited success. The picture is even worse when considering human odorant receptors; we know ligands for only 40 of the approximately 400 intact human odorant receptors. 'Deorphanizing' odorant receptors is critical for understanding the olfactory system at all levels and for building viable models of olfaction. Dr. Mainland has developed a high-throughput screening system capable of screening the entire human olfactory receptor repertoire. He will explore cell-based olfactory receptor screening techniques and their application in understanding odor coding in humans.

NIH Announcements

- NIDCD Small Grant Program (R03)
[\(PAR-13-057\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
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)
[\(PAR-13-062\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
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)
[\(PAR-14-009\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): June 23, 2014, February 23, 2015, October 23, 2015, June 23, 2016, February 23, 2017
- Notice of Participation of NIDCD in RFA-NS-13-013 Collaborative Research on Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy and Delayed Effects of Traumatic Brain Injury: Neuropathology and Neuroimaging Correlation (U01)
[\(NOT-DC-13-004\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
- Notice of Participation of NIDCD in RFA-NS-13-014 Pilot Projects on Sports-Related Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Research (R21)
[\(NOT-DC-13-005\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
- Notice of Participation of NIDCD in RFA-NS-13-015 Pilot Projects on Sports-Related Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Research (R03)
[\(NOT-DC-13-006\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
- NIDCD Research Grants for Translating Basic Research into Clinical Tools (R01)
[\(PAR-14-009\)](#)
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): June 23, 2014, February 23, 2015, **October 23, 2015, June 23, 2016, February 23, 2017**



Upcoming Chemical Senses Meetings

~~~~~ **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 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 travel guidelines.

November 20-21, 2014

Smell and Taste 06

Dresden, Germany

<http://goo.gl/HbrJcU>

November 21-23, 2014

Clinical CHEMOSENSATION 2014

Dresden, Germany

<http://goo.gl/5STBhS>

December 8-9, 2014

Digital Olfaction Society 2014

Tokyo Institute of Technology
Japan

www.olfaction-site.com

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>

June 5-9, 2016

ISOT 2016 – 17th International Symposium on Olfaction and Taste

Yokohama, Japan

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