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1. UBC Department of Psychiatry invites applications from the Faculty for Director of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development

The Department of Psychiatry, UBC invites applications from the Faculty for the position of Director of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development (up to 0.4 FTEs allocated).

The full job description is available on request but the major tasks include:

- chairing the Dept's CME/CPD Committee
- planning the Annual Dept-wide Clinical Day and Hot Topic Day
- developing and serving as Editor of the Dept's quarterly newsletter
- liaising with other CME/CPD associations, including the UBC Division of CPD/KT Advisory Committee and the Canadian Psychiatric Association's Council of Professional Continuing Education (COPCE)
- assisting with the dissemination of information on continuing medical education and professional development programs within the Department
- serving as a resource to members of the Department with regards to CPD activities including the Royal College's Maintenance of Certification Program

Interested applicants should contact Mark Friesen (Manager, Human Resources by November 15th 2007;

Phone 604-822-7315 Fax 604-822-7756

E-mail friesen1@interchange.ubc.ca

2. Dr. Alvaro Pascual-Leone IMH Lecture Notes

Alvaro Pascual-Leone, MD, PhD, gave his second UBC on Friday, Sept 28.

While his IMH talk yesterday illustrated brain plasticity using motor behavior as the example, his talk today focused on addictions, obesity, and risky, impulsive behaviors (arguably more psychiatrically-relevant).

Since most people in the dept who were able to make it to either talk, attended yesterday's, I just wanted to let people know about references to what he talked about today, because of its obvious clinical relevance.

The work reported today was based on the hypothesis that prefrontal cortex, especially right lateral PFC, functions to suppress more impulsive, primitive urges.

Alvaro showed results that stimulation to PFC (usually right) that increased PFC activity resulted in

- reduced attention to food and reduced food intake in obese persons

- reduced cocaine craving and intake by cocaine addicts

- reduced nicotine craving and smoking by smokers

- reduced alcohol craving and drinking by alcoholics

- reduced risking behavior on gambling and neuro-economic tests (like the Ultimatum Game or Balloon task)

 - by normal volunteers

Conversely, decreasing (usually right) PFC activity had the opposite effects to all those listed above.

The implications re: eating disorders, addictions, ADHD, etc. are at least quite interesting.

here are the few references I could jot down:

re: Risk-taking Behavior

Fecteau S, Pascual-Leone A, Zald DH, Liguori P, Theoret H, Boggio PS, Fregni F.

Activation of prefrontal cortex by transcranial direct current stimulation reduces appetite for risk during ambiguous decision making.

J Neurosci. 2007 Jun 6;27(23):6212-8.

Knoch D, Gianotti LR, Pascual-Leone A, Treyer V, Regard M, Hohmann M, Brugger P.

Disruption of right prefrontal cortex by low-frequency repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation induces risk-taking behavior.

J Neurosci. 2006 Jun 14;26(24):6469-72.

there were others with other paradigms, but I missed those refs.

re: Obesity and Food Craving

Alonso-Alonso M, Pascual-Leone A.

The right brain hypothesis for obesity.
JAMA. 2007 Apr 25;297(16):1819-22.

Fregni et al. in the journal: Appetite, in press

re: Smoking and Nicotine Craving

Fregni et al., J of Clinical Psychology, 2007

re: Alcohol Craving

Boggio PS, Sultani N, Fecteau S, Merabet L, Mecca T, Pascual-Leone A, Basaglia A, Fregni F.

Prefrontal cortex modulation using transcranial DC stimulation reduces alcohol craving: A double-blind, sham-controlled study.

Drug and Alcohol Dependence. 2007 Jul 17; [Epub ahead of print]

I missed the refs on drug addiction. But Alvaro's email address is: apleone@bidmc.harvard.edu and (p)reprints might be available on his lab website (sorry I don't have a URL for that).

AND - people who missed Alvaro on this visit, can catch him on his next Vancouver visit when he gives the Closing Plenary Address of the Conference Jana Davidson and I have organized for July 12-15, 2008:

<http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/bdl.html>

all the best,
adele diamond

3. GREAT opportunity for students & trainees

Jana Davidson (in Child Psychiatry) and I are in the process of organizing the second biennial meeting of our **Brain Development and Learning series** to educate people working with young children (including educators, physicians, and parents) about important findings in psychology and neuroscience. The goal is to enrich and improve the lives of children by making research findings that are relevant to the care and education of young children available and understandable to those who work with children on a daily basis.

The volunteers who worked on our first meeting did a GREAT job and had a GREAT time.

We are now looking for volunteers to work on our upcoming meeting. We'd like to have people have a variety of different disciplines and from various institutions around the lower mainland, so for starters we are opening up this opportunity to only one student per faculty member's lab. It is open to undergrads, grad students, postdocs, and residents. We're looking for very bright, super-organized, responsible, and very detail-oriented individuals.

Volunteers help on-site during the meeting with registration, directing conference attendees to the right room, collecting evaluation forms, and all sorts of little details. Volunteers also help in advance of the meeting, helping us publicize the meeting in the Fall, and helping us assemble the conference program materials, stuff the conference

bags, and all sorts of little details just before the conference in the Summer. In total, spread out over several weeks, they probably put in a week's work (40 hours). In return, they get to attend the conference for free (a \$300- 500 value), get to stay at the 4-star Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel (where the conference will be) for free, and get to meet some of the best people in the field and some of the most interesting people anywhere.

The conference will take place in Vancouver from **Saturday, July 12, through Tuesday, July 15, 2008.**

There will be two themes for our upcoming meeting will be:

Stress / Trauma/ Depression/ Anxiety/ Resilience

Prefrontal Cortex/ ADHD/ Working Memory/ Cognitive Control/ Self-Regulation

I would love to do this were I a student. Could you please let students in your lab or department know about this opportunity?

Our conference website is: <http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/bdl.html>

the list of speakers appears at:
http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/BDL_subpages/BDL_files/faculty%20for%202008.pdf

the conference program appears at:
http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/BDL_subpages/schedule.html

If they are interested, they should contact my lab: devcogneuro@gmail.com. (They should use that email rather than my personal email.)

If they have questions, they can call 604 822-7664.

Thanks very much.

Gratefully yours,



Adele Diamond

Canada Research Chair Tier 1 Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience,
in the Department of Psychiatry, UBC, Vancouver &
the Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, BC Children's Hospital, Vancouver
Member, the Brain Research Centre, UBC
Graduate Program in Neuroscience, UBC
Undergraduate Program in Cognitive Systems, UBC and
the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP)

4. Library: BIOSIS Previews on ISI (trial) – October only

For the month of October, we have a trial to the database [BIOSIS Previews](#) through the ISI Web of Knowledge interface. We currently subscribe to BIOSIS through OVID but switching to ISI offers the following benefits:

- you'll be able to search BIOSIS and Web of Science simultaneously
- BIOSIS via ISI is slightly more current than via OVID
- there is no limit to the number of people who can access the database at one time

You can access the database at:

<http://toby.library.ubc.ca/resources/infopage.cfm?id=1249>

Please give it a try and let me know what you think.

Thanks for your feedback!

Sally.

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5. 2007 Gairdner Symposium - October 22, 2007

The 2007 Gairdner Symposium will feature two Gairdner Award recipients, Dr. C. David Allis, The Rockefeller University, New York, NY and Dr. Harry F. Noller, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Monday, October 22, 2007

from 4 pm to 6 pm

Life Sciences Centre, Lecture Theatre 1 (LSC 1) University of British Columbia 2350 Health Sciences Mall

The symposium is FREE.

No RSVP required, however seating is first come, first-served.

Website: <http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/NR/rdonlyres/32AFA058-C180-454C-B92A-B0A673FFDCAB/25010/Gairdnerwebsite2007.pdf>

For more information, please contact:

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6. Tri Council Training Invitation – October 24, 2007

We are please to offer another Tri-Council Training Session on Wed, October 24th from 9-12pm.

Please register for it from <http://www.finance.ubc.ca/Training/Tri-CouncilPPsCourseDescription.cfm>

UBC AND TRI-COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Tri-Council agencies (made up of NSERC/SSHRC/CIHR) have developed standard guidelines surrounding the "Eligibility of Expenditures" for all three agencies in order to streamline the administrative process. Through lecture, examples, and problem solving, this workshop will go through those guidelines and will identify the related UBC policies that have a research impact.

Course:	UBC and Tri-Council Policies and Procedures
Duration:	up to 3 Hours
Date/Time:	See below or refer to the training schedule Held twice per year in February and August
Location:	GSAB Room 241
Target Group:	This course is open to all researchers and administrators who are involved in ensuring compliance of expenses incurred on Tri-Council research grants.
Purpose:	To provide the tools necessary to manage financial risks of the unit and also support the 2006/2007 Financial Statement Certification Program.

Training Schedule

August 2, 2007	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
September 18, 2007	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
September 27, 2007	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
October 24, 2007	9:00 am - 12:00pm

7. Geriatric Psychiatry Conference Brochure - November 23, 2007

Please visit the following link for information on BCMHAS' Geriatric Psychiatry Conference:

<http://www.bcmhas.ca/NR/rdonlyres/596E6904-79D4-4331-BFE6-4B6035D259A4/24908/GeriatricPsychiatryConferenceBrochure.pdf>