Preparations are in full swing for the Annual Symposium on June 6th, 2013. We received 56 abstracts that will be presented in both poster and oral presentations. The three best presentations in each category will be awarded prizes. The day will start with Keynote Speaker Dr. Avindra Nath, who was chosen by our Trainee’s Committee. Dr. Avindra Nath is Chief of the Section of Neurological Infections and the Clinical Director of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases at the National Institutes of Health. His research is focused on the pathophysiology and treatment of neurological complications of HIV infection including opportunistic infections.

As every year, we invited five trainees from four Canadian cities to encourage networking and foster collaborations. The visiting trainees will have a red sticker on their name tags. Please welcome Liam Potter (Bradley Kerr Lab, University of Alberta), James Rogers (Wee Yong Lab, University of Calgary), Alexandre Paré (Steve Lacroix Lab, Université Laval), Shadna Rana (Quentin Pittman Lab, University of Calgary) and Kyla McKay (Helen Tremlett Research Group, University of British Columbia).

The DEADLINE to register for the Symposium is on May 15th, 2013. Register now on:

http://neuroinflammation.com/symposium-registration/
Our 2013 Summer Students

Julia Johnson
University of Alberta
Neuroscience
Summer Lab:
Dr. Ji Zhang

In an effort to encourage undergraduate students to consider a career in scientific research in the area of neuroinflammation, we offered an “Undergraduate Summer Studentship in Neuroinflammation”.

We received numerous applications from 6 Universities across Canada.

The labs that accepted our summer students this year are: Luheshi Lab, Nalbantoglu Lab, Piccirillo Lab, Zhang Lab.

There are three group meetings planned for the summer students to visit some of our sites: The Montreal General Hospital, The McGill University Genome Building, and The Douglas Mental Health University Institute. The aim of these meetings is for the summer students to learn more about what other labs in our Program are working on and give them a broader understanding of Neuroinflammation.

At our Annual Symposium on June 6th, the summer students name tags will have a yellow sticker on it. If you spot one of the summer students, please give them a warm welcome!

To find out more about our Summer Student Research Awards, please visit http://neuroinflammation.com/awards/summer-school-awards/

Aram Bernardos
University of Waterloo
Biology and Cognitive Science
Summer Lab:
Dr. Josephine Nalbantoglu

Vanilla Sun
University of British Columbia
General Biology & Psychology Minor
Summer Lab:
Dr. Giamal Luheshi

Sharon Lau
University of British Columbia
Honors in Biotechnology
Summer Lab:
Dr. Ciriaco Piccirillo
**ARE YOU NOT SURE if you are part of the Neuroinflammation Training Program?**

You are automatically a member of the Neuroinflammation Training Program if you belong to one of the following research groups and your research is in the field of Neuroinflammation, even if you are not currently funded by the NTP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jack Antel</th>
<th>Amit Bar-Or</th>
<th>Josephine Nalbantoglu</th>
<th>Tina Wolfson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel David</td>
<td>Pierre Duquette</td>
<td>Sylvie Fournier</td>
<td>Pierre Talbot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giamal Luheshi</td>
<td>Doug Arnold</td>
<td>Alexandre Prat</td>
<td>Ciriaco Piccirillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathalie Arbour</td>
<td>Ji Zhang</td>
<td>Nancy Mayo</td>
<td>Ridha Joober</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What does this mean for you?**

- You are eligible to apply for our Awards (Travel Awards, Graduate Awards, Postdoctoral Fellowships, Short-term International/National Fellowships)

- You will be invited to all our events (Lab Presentations, Visiting Scholar Lectures, Symposium, Annual Get-Together,...)

- You have the opportunity to present your research work at one of our lab presentations

- You should update your info on our database: [http://neuro.imagery-stage.com/](http://neuro.imagery-stage.com/). We use this information for our annual progress report, that is required to receive funding and makes this great program possible.

**Program Coordinator - Mat Leave Replacement**

After the Annual Symposium on June 6th, Sabrina will be going on maternity leave and Nia Tsatas will be replacing her for 1 year. Nia has been working in Sam David’s Lab for 25 years and she is looking forward to this new opportunity. If you haven’t met Nia yet, look out for her at the Symposium, she will be greeting you at the registration desk.

The coordinates of the Program Coordinator will not change. Nia will be reachable by email at [neuroinflammation.mni@mcgill.ca](mailto:neuroinflammation.mni@mcgill.ca) or by phone at 514-934-1934 ext: 45102.
A letter from a valued NTP Alumni

Dear Neuroinflammation Training Program,

I write to you in gratitude of your support for my master’s thesis from 2010-2012.

My paper entitled Dual effects of daily FTY720 on human astrocytes in vitro: relevance for neuroinflammation was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Neuroinflammation and I would like to acknowledge the NTP for this achievement. The NTP scholarship has given me the opportunity to design and carry out a project that was most captivating to me. I was able to develop a hypothesis and conduct assays that were novel to the lab, which resulted in a successful collaboration currently in effect.

I was privileged to have participated in a number of important meetings during my training at McGill University. The Travel Award I received from the NTP enabled me to attend a Gordon Research Conference in Lucca, Italy in April of 2012. There, I had the opportunity to engage with eminent pioneers in the sphingolipids/glycolipids field and I was proud to be the [only] Canadian representative at the meeting. More recently, I gave an oral presentation at the European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis (ECTRIMS) congress and was an active participant at the International Society of Neuroimmunology meeting in Boston, MA. These experiences have propelled my scientific training by providing me the opportunity to disseminate my work at an international level.

Furthermore, being a part of the Neuroinflammation Training Program committee has been a tremendous privilege. It was a pleasure working with my fellow colleagues, PI’s and Sabrina Schramm over the last two years, and the NTP has played an integral part in my professional character development. I gained self-confidence in public speaking through chairing speaker sessions at the monthly Breakfasts and the annual symposiums, and became comfortable in engaging in scientific discourse via lunch discussions with invited lecturers. Collectively, the NTP has made a lasting impression on my overall experience as a research trainee.

I would like to thank the Neuroinflammation Training Program again for the exclusive opportunities it has given me over the last two years and hope to stay connected for the years to come.

Sincerely,

Celina Wu

Important Dates & Deadlines

Graduate & Postdoctoral Studentships (starting Sep 1st)
Application Deadline: August 1st

Sep 2011 & Sep 2012 Awards - Progress Report Submission:
Deadline: August 1st

(2nd year of funding is conditional to the submission of a progress report as well as proof that the trainee has applied for another independent award during the first 10 months of this award or has previously held such an award)

Travel Awards/Short-term Inter-(national) Fellowships
Application Deadline: 60 days before travel (abstract acceptance by the meeting organizers is not required for the application but will be requested at a later date)
e-NEWSLETTER

CIHR Neuroinflammation Training Program
1650 Cedar Avenue, Room L7-121
Montreal, QC, H3G 1A4

Contact: Sabrina Schramm, Program Coordinator
Phone: 514-934-1934 Ext: 45102
Email: neuroinflammation.mni@mcgill.ca
Web: www.neuroinflammation.com

Supported by the CIHR Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA), Infection & Immunity (III) the CIHR Institute of Infection and Immunity (III)

CIHR IRSC
Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

AFFILIATES

INRS
Université d'avant-garde

McGill

Douglas

INSTITUT
UNIVERSITAIRE EN
SANTÉ MENTALE

MENTAL HEALTH
UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE

The Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain

CHUM

RESEARCH CENTRE

CRN
Centre de recherche en neurosciences
Centre for Research in Neuroscience

L’Institut de recherche du Centre universitaire de santé McGill
The Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre