



EUROPEAN BRAIN  
AND BEHAVIOUR SOCIETY

## Newsletter December 2020

### Message from the President

We are closing in on the finishing line for 2020, so it is time to take a look back what has happened last year in our society and beyond, as well as to look ahead to what is still to come in 2021.

I don't think I am exaggerating when I say that this year will be a very memorable one for all of us. The Covid-19 pandemic has been and continues to be an unprecedented challenge that already cost over 1.5 million lives worldwide and caused exceptional suffering on a personal as well as society level. Next to the devastating health problems caused by this disease, the economic and social consequences are greater than anything that we have witnessed in our recent history. At the same time, I am overwhelmed by the overarching sense of solidarity and by the understanding that if we work together and adhere to common sense and scientific insights, we have the ability to overcome this challenge. The role of a scientific society as the EBBS became even more evident to me last year, as it enabled us to connect scientists and actively work against the negative consequences of the Covid-19 crisis, for example in the area of mental health. We have also witnessed a lot of changes, for example when it comes to scientific conferences. But also here the swiftness of our actions to convert the FENS meeting to a virtual format and thereby exchange scientific information and discussion despite the ongoing pandemic was extraordinary. In parallel EBBS also continued its work to promote equality and gender balance, particularly to promote young scientists and to lead brain and behavior research exchange. I am therefore optimistic that we will continue to be resilient and thrive in the face of the current adversity, which brings me to the outlook to 2021.

The most important EBBS-related event that will take place next year is the 49th meeting of our society from September 4th to 7th in Lausanne. Carmen Sandi as the local organizer and the EBBS committee were able to put together a wonderful and exciting program of young as well as renowned scientists, and I am already very much looking forward to this event. Clearly, 10 months from now we will still battle Covid-19 and there will likely be hygiene and distancing regulations that we haven't seen at previous meetings, but we are confident that we can offer our society members the opportunity to attend the meeting in person once again. In parallel, we are organizing the conference as a hybrid meeting also offering virtual access, thereby allowing more scientists than ever to participate and – at the same time – can actively contribute to our goal to reduce our CO2 footprint and organize an ecofriendly conference. It seems time has been flying and already in 10 months I will be handing over the EBBS leadership to our new president-elect Igor Branchi. Until this time we still have lots to do and to achieve, and I will continue to work for this society with all my heart. I wish you all a peaceful and healthy holiday season.

In science,  
Mathias Schmidt  
President of the EBBS

### Registration opens for the EBBS meeting in Lausanne

We are delighted to open registration for the Society's meeting in Lausanne from 4th – 7th September 2021, and look forward to seeing you there. Please visit <https://www.ebbs2021.org/>

The local organizing committee and the EBBS committee are highly confident that it will be possible to hold a physical, face-to-face meeting in Lausanne 2021 (the meeting would have been possible to be held on the same dates in 2020 in Switzerland at the same dates; and we cautiously expect that the sanitary situation would improve throughout 2021). We very much encourage people to plan attending in person.

Importantly, we are currently planning the meeting to take place in person, but also include a hybrid format, so that those that can not travel to Lausanne can follow the meeting virtually.

Delegates that register to the online version will be able to upgrade their registration to participate in person at any time before the meeting (paying either early registration or late registration fees).

In the unlikely eventuality that the meeting cannot take place physically in Lausanne, we will organize a virtual meeting and reimburse those delegates the excess that paid for the physical meeting

Early registration will be open until March 15th 2021

	<b>Full attendance (early registration until March 15<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>Virtual Attendance (early registration until March 15<sup>th</sup>)</b>
<b>EBBS Members</b>	€300	€100
<b>EBBS Non-Members</b>	€450	€150
<b>EBBS Student Members</b>	€180	€60
<b>EBBS Student Non-Members</b>	€270	€90

## Keynote speakers and symposia

We are delighted to announce our keynote speakers for the meeting



Prof. Edvard Moser

Prof Iain Couzin

Prof. Kay M. Tye



Prof. Marina Picciotto

Prof. Tiago Branco

Prof. Tracy L. Bale

In addition we are pleased to announce 21 symposia over the course of the meeting.

- Memory aids on the chromatin? Deciphering epigenetic modifications during memory formation  
*Johannes Gräff, Ana Oliveira, Angel Barco, Ana Pombo*
- Early-life origins and sex-dependence of vulnerability to eating disorders  
*Tallie Baram, Alon Chen, Silvie Ruigrok, Susan Ozanne*
- Developmental origins of neuropsychiatric disorders: many roads, common mechanisms  
*Marco Andrea, Francesca Cirulli, Daniella Dwir, Janssen Kotah*
- The hippocampus and remote memory  
*Lynn Nadel, Eleanor Maguire, Morris Moscovitch, Brian Wiltgen, Yaniv Ziv*
- Do we understand human aggressive behavior? In the search for brain mechanisms towards effective rehabilitation  
*Maria Sanchez-Vives, Beatrice de Gelder, Sofia Seinfeld, Sieste de Boer, Sam Golden*
- From sex to rage: understanding the female brain  
*Inga Neumann, Suzanna Lima, Mauro Silva, Alexa Veenema, Vinicius Oliveira*
- Tracking the acute stress response from basic research to clinical translation  
*Guillen Fernandez, Johannes Bohacek, Maurizio Popoli, Marloes Henckens, Talma Hendler*
- Neural mechanisms underlying social behavior  
*Camilla Bellone, Salvatore Lecca, Viviana Trezza, Cristina Marquez*
- Thalamic regulation of emotional memory  
*Bianca Silva, Jan Gründemann, Ferenc Matyas, Gisella Vetere*
- The neurobiology of mammalian vector coding: Boundaries, objects, goals and abstract spaces  
*Steven Poulter, Ayelet Sarel, Alexandra Constantinescu, Andrej Bicanski*
- Novel statistical and machine learning techniques to assess inter-individual behavioral variability  
*Kshitij Jadhav, Maxime Fouyssac, Marwa Mahmoud, Mael Lebreton*
- Neural circuit function and behavior during development  
*Emre Yaksi, Guillermina Lopez Bendito, Ileana Hanganu-Opatz, Laura Cancedda*
- Brain basis of interoceptive mechanisms in adaptive and maladaptive behavior  
*Christophe Lamy, Sarah Garfinkel, Henri Evrard, Aude Belin-Rauscent*
- Neural substrates underlying post-traumatic stress disorder symptomatology and vulnerability  
*Aline Desmedt, Pierre Gagnepain, Gal Richter-Levin, Chris Brewin*
- Neurobiological underpinnings of psychiatric disorders and their treatment  
*Ueli Kramer, Daniela Schiller, Bogdan Draganski, Hélène Beuchat*
- Cortical subcortical interactions underlying cognition  
*Anna Mitchell, Helen Barbas, Mathieu Wolff, Seralyrne Vann*
- Human brain evolution beyond the cerebral cortex  
*Avram Holmes, Robert Barton, James (Mac) Shine, Fenna Krienen, Luiz Pessoa*
- Neural mechanisms of real-world social interactions and their development measured with fNIRS  
*Antonia Hamilton, Joy Hirsch, Paolo Pinti, Chiara Bulgarelli*
- Learning and cognitive control in the orbitofrontal cortex  
*Abhishek Banerjee, Geoffrey Schoenbaum, Fanny Cazettes, Christine Constantinople*
- Broadening our conception of habit to improve translational validity  
*Youna Vandaele, Ingo Willuhn, Medhi Keramati, Robert Hardwick*
- Single-cell omics meets behavior: opportunities and challenges  
*Ozgun Gokce, Gul Dolen, Pinar Ayata, Hansruedi Mathys*