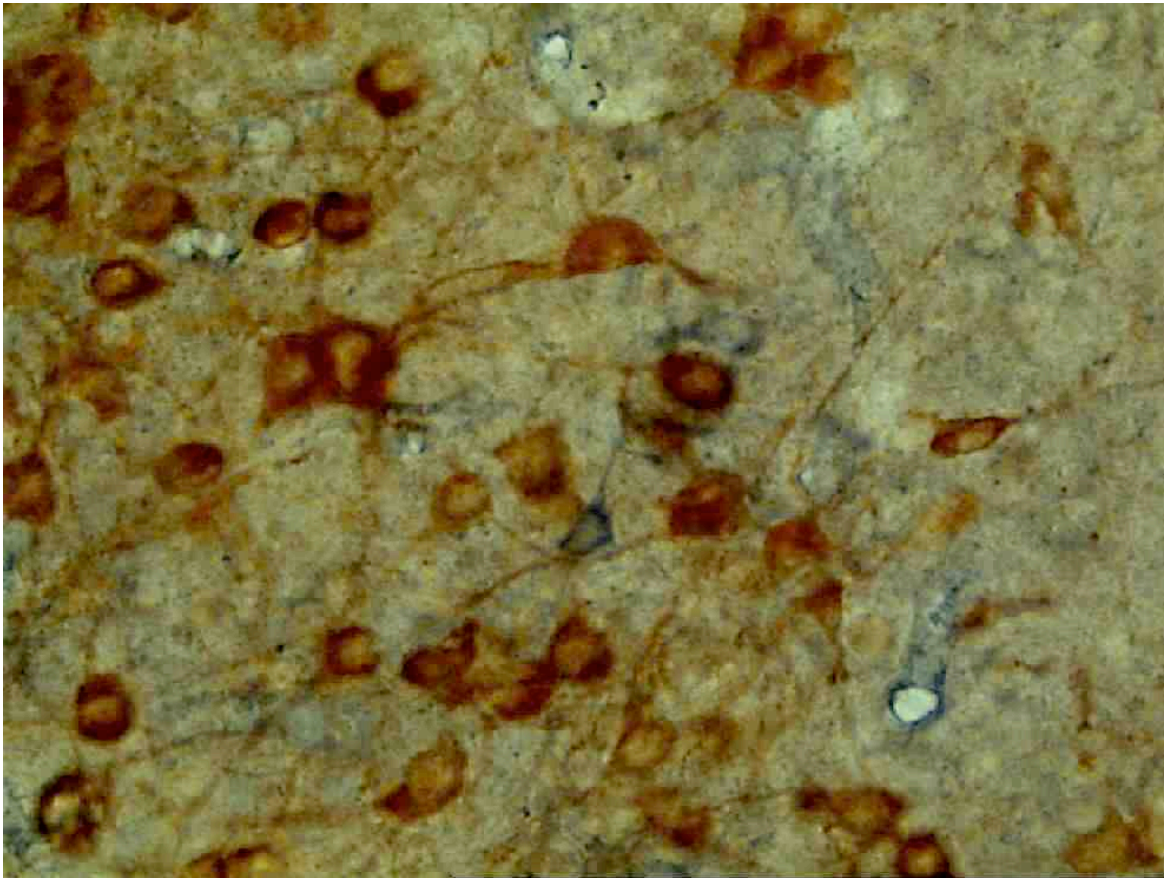


**2nd INTERNATIONAL MEETING
STEROIDS AND NERVOUS SYSTEM**



**TORINO, Italy
Villa Gualino
February 22 - 26, 2003**

COMMITTEES

Organizers

Roberto C. Melcangi (Milano, Italy)
GianCarlo Panzica (Torino, Italy)

International Scientific Committee

Jacques Balthazart	Belgium
Luis M. García-Segura	Spain
Allan E. Herbison	New Zealand
Roberto C. Melcangi	Italy
GianCarlo Panzica	Italy
Phyllis Wise	USA

Local Organizing Committee

Aldo Fasolo
Mariarita Galbiati
Valerio Magnaghi
Roberto C. Melcangi
GianCarlo Panzica
Carla Viglietti Panzica

MEETING SECRETARIAT

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MEETING WEBSITE

<http://www.dafml.unito.it/anatomy/panzica/neurosteroids03/>

MEETING LOCATION

Villa Gualino
viale Settimio Severo 63
I-10133 TORINO
Telephone +39-0116603555 Fax +39-0116603535
e-mail: htlgualin@tin.it

TOPICS OF THE CONFERENCE

The international meeting on *Steroids and Nervous System* is organized to update our knowledge on the relationships among steroid hormones synthesized in different organs (including brain) and central as well as peripheral nervous system.

This is a wide research field covering different areas from molecular biology to behavior. This year the conference is focussed on five main topics:

- Non classical mechanism of action
- Glucocorticoids and Mineralcorticoids
- Pathological correlations and new tools in therapeutical approaches
- Glial cells as a target for steroids
- Steroid regulation of reproduction
- Behavioral effects

To cover these topics the conference is organized in different symposia and posters' presentation. Each symposia will run for half day and will comprise 5 invited lectures with additional short communications (selected by the Organizing Committee) to complete the program.

The other contributions will be displayed in poster format.

CONFERENCE DESK

A conference desk will be opened at Villa Gualino throughout the conference within the following timetable:

• Friday	21	16.00	18.00
• Saturday	22	8.00	18.00
• Sunday	23	9.00	18.00
• Monday	24	8.30	17.00
• Tuesday	25	8.30	17.00
• Wednesday	26	8.30	11.00

MEETING LOCATION

The conference will be held in Torino (Turin), Italy, at Villa Gualino (viale Settimio Severo 63, I-10133 TORINO), that is situated in a pleasant environment atop a hill in the town close to the Po river. All scientific sessions will take place in the Villa Gualino facility that includes a conference room seating 150 people, poster rooms, the conference desk, a restaurant, and a bar.

Villa Gualino overlooks the city of Torino but the road reaching the villa from the city is about 3-4 kms so it will not be practical to leave the conference site during the day for meals and return in time for the afternoon scientific sessions. There is a public bus service (running hourly) from Villa Gualino to downtown. A taxi service will be available on request.

Accommodation will be provided either in Villa Gualino, or in a variety of hotels located in various places in the city.

Torino is located in the northern part of Italy and therefore is easily accessible to other important cultural cities such as Firenze (Florence), Pisa, Verona and Venezia (Venice). However, these cities are located several hundred kms from Torino and several hours (4-6) of travel by train are required (good train or bus connections are available). Good connections by plane are with Roma (Rome) or with the south part of Italy. We encourage you to spend some additional time in Italy before or after the conference to visit these beautiful places, but because of time constraints we are not able to organize short excursions to these cities during the conference.

Torino is also placed very near the mountains and will be the capital of the Winter Olympic Games in 2006. Excursions to mountains are also possible and you could program a longer stay in Italy to spend your time skiing in our mountains.

Further tourist information are available at the website of the meeting. Additional information concerning Torino and the Region Piedmont can be found on Internet at:

<http://www.comune.torino.it>

<http://www.provincia.torino.it>

<http://www.regione.piemonte.it>

CONFERENCE ORGANIZED WITH THE SUPPORT OF

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Università degli Studi di Torino | • IBRO |
| • Università degli Studi di Milano | • National Science Foundation |
| • Dipartimento di Anatomia, Farmacologia e Medicina Legale | • Regione Piemonte |
| • Fondazione Cavalieri Ottolenghi, Torino | • Provincia di Torino |
| • Centro Rita Levi Montalcini, Torino | • Comune di Torino |
| • Center of Excellence on Neurodegenerative diseases, Milano | • Celbio, Italy |
| • SERONO foundation | • Leica, Italy |
| | • Applied Biosystems, Italy |

PRESENTATION OF CONTRIBUTION

Poster Presentation

Posters will be on display during the entire conference from Sunday to Wednesday at 15.00. Boards for posters will be available also on Saturday for those participating at the Satellite Symposia. The posters will be exhibited Monday afternoon; the authors will be requested to be present at least one hour at the poster board, according to the schedule reported in the program.

Size of poster boards is 90 cm horizontal by 200 cm vertical. Posters will have to be mounted with sticky tape. Material for the mounting will be provided by the Congress staff during the set-up of the posters.

Short Oral Communication

A limited number of oral communications of 15 min (10 min presentation + 5 min discussion) concerning the main topics of the conference will be allowed. A slide projector (5 x 5 cm) and an overhead projector will be available for all presentations, however the preferred presentation type is computer presentation. A computer with Windows 98 and PowerPoint will be available in the conference room. You should prepare your presentation on a CD that will be loaded on the computer. If you require additional devices please contact the meeting organizers in advance.

Lectures

The program is also including a list of invited lectures (25 min presentation + 5 min discussion) and plenary lectures (45 min presentation). As is the case for the contributed oral communications, a slide projector (5x5 cm) or an overhead projector will be available for these presentations, however the preferred presentation type is computer presentation. A computer with Windows 98 and PowerPoint will be available in the conference room. You should prepare your presentation on a CD that will be loaded on the computer. If you require additional devices please contact the meeting organizers in advance.

Speakers should give their CDs or slides to the projectionist at least 15 min. before the starting time of their symposium. A slide viewer will be available in a separate place.

REGISTRATION

All participants (including invited speakers) must be registered. For registration please carefully fill in the PARTICIPATION FORM.

Payment of fees must be made in Euro (only).

Registration fees can be paid in advance by means of:

1. **Bank transfer** to: SanPaolo IMI, Filiale 00506 (abi 01025, cab 010006) account number 100000106785 in favor of INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON STEROID AND NERVOUS SYSTEM (SNS03).

Any bank charges must be paid by the applicant. Please state clearly the applicant's NAME on the bank transfer forms when using this method. In case of bank transfer you should add 20.00 € to the total for handling expenses.

2. **Banker's draft** forwarded together with the registration form. The banker's draft should be purchased at your bank and made out in Euro, payable at an Italian bank in favor of COMITATO ORGANIZZATORE DELL'INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON STEROID AND NERVOUS SYSTEM. Personal cheques, or company cheques from outside the Euro countries are not accepted by Italian Banks and so we cannot accept payments made in this way. In case of banker's draft you should add 20.00 € to the total for handling expenses.
3. **Credit card** (VISA or MasterCard only). In this case you should fill the appropriate form, sign it and send to the meeting secretariat the original signature.

If you send a combined payment for several participants (this is more economical as it will save you on bank charges) please ensure that a complete list of the names of all the participants and social events (e.g., final banquet) covered by this payment are sent to the secretariat to ensure that the payment will be credited to the right participants.

The registration fees cover the attendance to the scientific activities (symposia, poster sessions), to the opening ceremony, to the coffee breaks during the meeting. In the price of registration is also included the abstract book of the conference (additional copies must be ordered in advances), and a bonus for a special reduced price for the Proceedings of the conference that will be published as one volume of the Annals of the New York Academy of Science.

A social dinner will be organized, it is optional and its cost will be charged to those who are willing to participate (see the registration forms).

Cancellations. 75% of the registration fee will be refunded if cancellation of registration is received in writing (or fax) by January 7, 2003. After this date no refund will be possible. People canceling their registration after January 7 will receive all the conference material by mail after the conference is over.

Fellowships for young scientists. (deadline **November 10, 2002**)

SERONO foundation granted the conference to support young researchers attending to the conference.

National Science Foundation (USA) granted the conference to support young researchers from USA attending to the conference.

International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) granted the conference to support researchers coming from countries suffering of lack of research resources.

We have therefore granted 48 free registrations (lunch tickets not included) to STUDENTS presenting a poster at the conference. In addition, some of these students (29) received a fellowship differentiated according to the nationality of the participants:

- * 750 € dedicated to USA participants
- * 500 € dedicated to participants from Canada, South America, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Middle East, Far East
- * 250 € dedicated to participants working in Europe (EU, Switzerland, NATO countries excluding USA)
- * 125 € dedicated to researchers working in Italy

The requests for fellowships and free registration were selected by the local organizing committee and the international scientific committee. The responsible for NSF grants was dr. C. Frye (Albany, USA). The fellowships will be granted during the conference and they will not be assigned if the recipient will not participate to the conference.

REGISTRATION (prices in Euro)

Full registrant (including Satellite Symposia (5 days)*)	385.00
Registration for the meeting only (4 days)*	325.00
Student**, including Satellite Symposia (5 days)	250.00
Student**, meeting only	200.00
Lunch tickets (5 days)	55.00
Lunch tickets (4 days)	44.00
Registration to Satellite Symposia only (with lunch)	90.00
One-day registration***	85.00
Two-day registration***	150.00

* Members of Società Italiana di Neuroscienze, Members of Societies affiliated to the International Neuroendocrine Federation (INF), Researchers of the University of Torino and Milano have a discount of 25.00

** Students' registrations will be only accepted if accompanied by a signed letter from department head, program director or supervisor, attesting the condition of: undergraduate student, graduate attending to a PhD program, graduate attending to a Specialization course. Graduate fellows of private foundations or of public administrations will be registered as Students only if they have less than 35 years.

***One day or two day registrations will be accepted only during the conference. Registrants should not be first or presenting authors in free communications or in posters. There is no discount as member of listed scientific societies.

ACTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ESTROGENS ON BEHAVIORALLY RELEVANT NEURAL CIRCUITS

(Chairs: Gahr M., and Panzica G.C.)

- 9.00 **Gahr M.** and **Panzica G.C.** *Introductory remarks*
9.15 Di Lorenzo D., Mussi P., Villa R., Biasiotto G., Belloli S., Ruggeri G., Apostoli P., Raviscioni M., Ciana P. and **Maggi A.** (Milano, Italy, EU) *In vivo imaging of estrogen receptor activity*
9.45 **Gahr M.** (Amsterdam, Holland, EU) *Estrogenic effects of Alkylphenols on brain differentiation*
10.15 **Ottinger M.A.**, Hazelton J., Wu J., Ruscio M., Thompson N., Quinn M. and Abdelnabi M. (College Park, MD, USA) *Assessing the consequences of dietary methoxychlor: neuroendocrine and behavioral measures*
10.45 **Coffee break**
11.15 **Santucci D.**, Branchi I., De Acetis G. and Alleva E. (Rome, Italy, EU) *Neurobehavioural effects of perinatal exposure to PCB in developing CD-1 mice*
11.45 **Halldin K.**, Axelsson J. and Brunström B. (Uppsala, Sweden, EU) *Effects of endocrine modulators on sexual differentiation and reproductive function in Japanese quail*
12.15 **Palanza P.** (Parma, Italy, EU) *Impact of environmental estrogens on sexually dimorphic behavioral systems in mice*
12.45 General discussion

13.00-14.30

Lunch

THE ROLE OF NEUROACTIVE STEROIDS IN HEALTHY AGEING: THERAPEUTICAL PERSPECTIVES

(Chairs: Melcangi R.C., and Schumacher M.)

- 14.30 **Baulieu E.E.** (Bicêtre, France, EU) *Basic and clinical aspects of the aging process: human brain and steroids*
14.55 **Schumacher, M.**, Ibanez, C., Weil-Engerer, S., Liere, P., Robert, F., Guennoun, R., Gago, N., Baulieu, E.E., Akwa, Y. (Bicêtre, France, EU) *Biosynthesis of progesterone in the nervous system: trophic and protective effects*
15.20 Ibanez C., Shields S.A., El-Etr M., Baulieu E.-E., Schumacher M., Li W.-W. and **Franklin R.J.M.** (Cambridge, UK, EU) *Progesterone and CNS remyelination*
15.45 **Melcangi R.C.**, Azcoitia I., Ballabio M., Cavarretta I., Gonzalez L.C., Leonelli E., Magnaghi V., Veiga S. and Garcia-Segura L.M. (Milano, Italy, EU) *Neuroactive steroids influence peripheral myelination*
16.10 **Coffee break**
16.40 **Garcia-Segura L.M.**, Veiga S., Méndez P., García-Ovejero D., DonCarlos L.L. and Azcoitia I. (Madrid, Spain, EU) *Neuroprotection by steroids in the central nervous system*
17.05 **Mayo W.** (Bordeaux, France, EU) *Individual differences in cognitive ageing: implication of neurosteroids*
17.30 **Lambert J. J.**, Belevi D., Callachan H., Harney S.A., Peden, D., Vardy, A. (Dundee, UK, EU) *The interaction of neurosteroids with recombinant and synaptic GABA_A receptors*
18.00 General discussion

SUNDAY, 23th February

10.30 *Opening ceremony*

Plenary lecture (Chair: Melcangi R.C.)

12.00 **Kelly M.J.**, Qiu J., Wagner E.J. and Rønnekleiv O.K. (Portland, OR, USA) *Estrogen modulation of G protein-coupled receptor activation of potassium channels in the CNS*

13.00-14.30 *Lunch*

NON CLASSICAL MECHANISMS OF ACTION

(Chairs: Lambert J.J. and McCarthy, M.)

14.30 **Beyer C.** and Küppers E. (Ulm, Germany, EU) *The developing midbrain: a model to probe mechanisms of nonclassical estrogen action*

15.00 **Brussaard A.B.** (Amsterdam, Holland, EU) *Conditional regulation of neurosteroid sensitivity of GABA_A receptors in oxytocin neurons during female reproductive cycle*

15.30 **Tasker J.G.**, Di S. and Malcher-Lopes R. (New Orleans, LO, USA) *Non-genomic glucocorticoid actions in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus*

16.00 *Coffee break*

16.30 Cascio C., Guarneri R., Russo D., De Leo G., Guarneri M., Piccoli F. and **Guarneri P.** (Palermo, Italy, EU) *Neurosteroids in the retina: neurodegenerative and neuroprotective agents in retinal degeneration*

17.00 **Frye C.A.** (Albany, NY, USA) *Fluoxetine's effects on sexual function may involve allopregnanolone in the ventral tegmental area*

17.15 **Marin R.**, Guerra B., Morales A., Díaz M. and Alonso R. (Sta Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, EU) *An ICI 182,780-sensitive, membrane-related estrogen receptor contributes to estrogenic neuroprotective actions against amyloid-beta toxicity*

17.30 **Broekhoven F. van**, Droogleever Fortuyn, H.A., Bäckström T., Span P.N., and Verkes R.J. (Nijmegen, Holland, EU) *Effects of PhD examination stress on allopregnanolone and cortisol plasma levels and peripheral benzodiazepine receptor density*

MONDAY, 24th February

**GLUCOCORTICOIDS AND MINERALCORTICOIDS: SYNTHESIS,
MECHANISM OF ACTION AND EFFECTS**

(Chairs: Piva F. and Riva M.)

- 8.30 **Holmes M.C.**, Yau J.L., Kotelevtsev Y., Mullins J.J. and Seckl J.R. (Edinburgh, UK, EU) *11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenases in the brain: two enzymes, two roles*
- 9.00 **Moore F.L.** (Corvallis, OR, USA) *Structure and function of a membrane corticosteroid receptor*
- 9.30 **Gass P.** (Heidelberg, Germany, EU) *Corticosteroid receptor transgenic mice: are they depressed or not?*
- 10.00 **Holsboer F.** (Munich, Germany, EU) *The corticosteroid receptor hypothesis of depression*
- 10.30 **Joëls M.**, Verkuyl M. and van Riel E. (Amsterdam, Holland, EU) *Hippocampal function after chronic stress*
- 11.00 *Coffee break*

WORKSHOP: INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

(Sponsor: National Science Foundation. Organizer: Frye C.)

- 11.30 Speakers: Bakker J., Canoine V., Frye C.A., Rhodes, M., Swann, J.
The purpose of this workshop is to discuss benefits and challenges of international research opportunities for trainees. Information about funding and specific placements will be provided.

12.30-14 *Lunch*

TRAINEE-FACULTY LUNCH

(Sponsor: National Science Foundation. Organizer: Frye C.)

Most participants in the Trainee/Faculty Member Lunches will meet at the conclusion of the International Research Workshop, outside of the seminar room. Trainees and their matched professor will proceed upstairs to lunch where they will discuss topics of common scientific interests and professional development. Some meetings will also be held on Tuesday at lunch. See the back of the program for assignments.

14.00-17.00 **POSTERS' EXHIBITION**

20.30 *Social Dinner*

**CASTELLO di BURIASCO
Via Macello 11, 10006 Buriasco**

TUESDAY, 25th February

**PATHOLOGICAL CORRELATIONS AND NEW TOOLS
IN THERAPEUTICAL APPROACHES**

(Chairs: Garcia-Segura and L.M., Mensah G.)

- 8.30 **Hurd Y.L.**, Östlund H. and Keller E. (Stockholm, Sweden, EU) *Estrogen receptor gene expression in relation to neuropsychiatric disorders*
- 9.00 **Stoffel-Wagner B.** (Bonn, Germany, EU) *Neurosteroid metabolism in the human brain and its clinical implications*
- 9.30 **Simpkins J.W.**, Yang S.-H. and Liu R. (Fort Worth, TX, USA) *The Use of Estrogens and Related Compounds in the Treatment of Damage from Cerebral Ischemia*
- 10.00 **Murphy D.G.M.**, **Cutter W.** (London, UK, EU) *The effect of oestrogen on brain ageing*
- 10.30 **Coffee break**
- 11.00 **Bäckström T.** (Umea, Sweden, EU) *Pathogenesis in menstrual cycle linked CNS-disorders*
- 11.30 **Merchenthaler I.** (Collegeville, PA, USA) *Neuroprotection by estrogen in global and focal ischemia*

Plenary lecture (Chair: Panzica G.C.)

- 12.00 **McCarthy M.M.** and Amateau S.K. (Baltimore, MD, USA) *Estradiol modulation of astrocytes and the establishment of sex differences in the brain.*

13.00-14.30

Lunch

GLIAL CELLS AS A TARGET FOR STEROIDS

(Chairs: Melcangi R.C. and Schumacher M.)

- 14.30 **Azcoitia I.**, Veiga S., Sierra A., Méndez P. and Garcia-Segura M. (Madrid, Spain, EU) *Neuroactive steroids and neuroprotection*
- 15.00 **Glaser M.**, Rodriguez-Waitkus P. M., Ng B.K., LaFollette A., Zhu T.S. and Conrad H.E. (Urbana, IL, USA) *Steroid Hormone Signaling between Schwann Cells and Neurons that Regulates the Rate of Myelin Synthesis*
- 15.30 **De Nicola A.F.**, Labombarda F., Gonzalez S., Gonzalez Deniselle M.C., Guennoun, R. and Schumacher M. (Buenos Aires, Argentina) *Steroid effects on glial cells: detrimental or protective for spinal cord function?*
- 16.00 **Coffee break**
- 16.30 **Carrer H.F.**, Cambiasso M.J., Brito V. and Gorosito S. (Cordoba, Argentina) *Neurotrophic factors and estradiol interact to control axogenic growth in hypothalamic neurons*
- 17.00 **Drew P.D.**, Chavis J.A., and Bhatt R. (Little Rock, AK, USA) *Sex steroid regulation of microglial cell activation: relevance to multiple sclerosis*
- 17.30 **Giachino C.**, Galbiati M., Fasolo A., Peretto P., Melcangi R.C. (Torino, Italy, EU) *Effects of progesterone derivatives, dihydroprogesterone and tetrahydroprogesterone, on newly formed cells and glial tubes of the subependymal layer*
- 17.45 **Nichols N.R.** (Melbourne, Australia) *Ndr2, a novel gene regulated by adrenal steroids and antidepressants, is highly expressed in astrocytes*

WEDNESDAY, 26th February

STEROID REGULATION OF REPRODUCTION

(Chairs: Fasolo A. and Herbison A.)

- 8.30 **Moenter S.M.**, DeFazio R.A., Straume M. and Nunemaker C.S. (Charlottesville, VI, USA) *Steroid regulation of GnRH neurons*
- 9.00 **Ábrahám I.M.** Han S.-K., Todman M. and Herbison A.E. (Cambridge, UK, EU) *Rapid effects of estrogen on GnRH neurons*
- 9.30 **Bourguignon J-P.**, Matagne V., Gérard A. and Lebrethon M-C. (Liege, Belgium, EU) *Estrogens and GnRH secretion in vitro throughout development*
- 10.00 **Sisk C.L.** (East Lansing, MI, USA) *Pubertal Maturation of the Brain and Reproductive Behavior: A recasting of behavioral potential*
- 10.30 **Coffee break**
- 11.00 **Etgen A.M.** (Bronx, NY, USA) *Functional interactions between estrogen and insulin-like growth factor-I in the regulation of hypothalamic alpha1-adrenoceptor signaling and female reproductive function*
- 11.30 **Galbiati M.**, Martini L. and Melcangi R.C. (Milano, Italy, EU) *Steroid hormones and growth factors act in an integrated manner at the levels of hypothalamic astrocytes: a role for neuroendocrine control of reproduction*
- 11.45 **Thiéry J.-C.** and Malpoux B. (Nouzilly, France, EU) *Seasonal modulation of the passage of sex steroids from peripheral blood to brain in sheep.*

Plenary lecture (Chair: L. Martini)

- 12.00 **Arnold A.P.** (Los Angeles, CA, USA) *The role of sex chromosomes in sexual differentiation of the brain and possible interactions with gonadal steroids*

13.00-14.30

Lunch

BEHAVIOURAL EFFECTS

(Chairs: Balthazart J. and Panzica G.C.)

- 14.30 **Ball G.F.**, Sartor J.J., Castelino C.B. and Maney D.L. (Baltimore, MD, USA) *Androgens, song behavior and seasonal neuroplasticity: where and how?*
- 15.00 **Blaustein J.D.** (Amherst, MA, USA) *Progestin receptors: neuronal integrators of hormonal and afferent stimulation*
- 15.30 **Swann J.M.** (Bethlehem, PA, USA) *Hormonal regulation of behavior: a tale of two sexes*
- 16.00 **Coffee break**
- 16.30 **Hines M.** (London, UK, EU) *Sex steroids and human behavior: prenatal androgen levels influence gender-typical behavior in childhood*
- 17.00 **Bakker J.**, Honda S., Harada N. and Balthazart J. (Liege, Belgium, EU) *The aromatase knockout mouse provides new evidence that estradiol is required during development in females for a normal expression of socio-sexual behaviors in adulthood*
- 17.30 **Evrard H.C.** and Balthazart J. (Liege, Belgium, EU) *Long term and short term aromatase inhibitions result in slow and rapid alteration of pain*
- 17.45 **Aloisi A.M.**, Ceccarelli I. and Fiorenzani P. (Siena, Italy, EU) *Gonadectomy affects hormonal, behavioural and neuronal responses to repetitive nociceptive stimulation in male rats.*

18.00

Closure of the meeting

MONDAY, 24th February

POSTER EXHIBITION

A - NON CLASSICAL MECHANISMS OF ACTION

- A-1 **Birzniece V.**, Zhu D., Lindblad C., Turkmen S., Johansson I.-M., Wahlström G and Bäckström T. (Umeå, Sweden, EU) *Acute allopregnanolone tolerance.*
- A-2 **Cascio C.**, Guarneri R., Russo D., Guarneri M., Piccoli F. and Guarneri P. (Palermo, Italy, EU) *Retinal steroidogenic machinery: expression and activity of P450_{scc}, P450_{c17}, 3 β HSD, P450_{aromatase}*
- A-3 **Díaz M.**, Morales M., Ropero A.B., Nadal A. and Alonso A. (Tenerife, Spain, EU) *Acetylcholine-Induced calcium signals in Gt1-7 cells are acutely modulated by 17 β -estradiol via a membrane-related mechanism*
- A-4 **Haage D.**, Druzin M., Johansson S. (Umeå, Sweden, EU) *Presynaptic action of the neurosteroid allopregnanolone*
- A-5 **Herd M.B.** and Belelli D. (Dundee, Scotland, U.K.) *Modulation Of GABA_A receptor mediated synaptic transmission by neurosteroids and benzodiazepines in the rat central amygdala*
- A-6 **Hill M.**, Havlíková H. and Pařízek A. (Prague, Czech Republic) *Steroid GABA modulators in human serum, formation and transport between maternal and fetal compartment*
- A-7 **Milman A.**, Weizman R., Peter Y., Paz L., Schreiber S., Gavish M. and Pick C.G. (Tel Aviv, Israel) *Effect of the pregnane-related GABA-active steroid alphaxalone on mice performance in the staircase test*
- A-8 **Mitchell E.A.** And Belelli D. (Dundee, Scotland, U.K.) *Analgesic neurosteroids and inhibitory synaptic transmission in the spinal cord dorsal horn*
- A-9 **Petralia S.M.** and Frye C.A. (Albany, NY, USA) *Progestins in the ventral tegmental area may mediate lordosis, in part, by actions at dopamine type 1 receptors, CAMP and DARPP-32*
- A-10 **Rosellini, R.A.**, Rhodes, M.E, Svare, B. and Frye, C.A. (Albany, NY, USA) *Testosterone's hedonic effects may involve metabolism to 3 β -diol and actions at GABA_A receptors in the nucleus accumbens*
- A-11 **Shi D.** and Tasker J.G, (Tulane, Louisiana, USA) *Rapid glucocorticoid effects on synaptic activity in hypothalamic magnocellular neurons*
- A-12 **Strömberg J.**, Lundgren P. and Bäckström T. (Umeå, Sweden, EU) *Progesterone metabolites interact with the GABA-mediated chloride flux in opposite directions*
- A-13 **Vardy A.W.** and Lambert J.J. (Dundee, Scotland, UK) *Neurosteroid modulation of cortical synaptic GABA_A receptors: a putative role for protein kinase C*
- A-14 **Wang M.**, Zorumski C.F., Mennerick S. and Bäckström T. (Umeå, Sweden, EU) *Recent developments in structure-activity relationships for steroid modulator of GABA_A receptors: 3 β -hydroxypregnane steroids are pregnenolone sulfate-like GABA_A receptor antagonists*
- A-15 **Wong C.G.T.**, Wang Y.T., Mielke J.G., Persad V. and Snead III O.C. (Toronto, Canada) *Progesterone increases cell surface GABA_A receptors by inhibiting endocytosis*
- A-16 **Zhu D.**, Wang M.D., Bäckström T. and Wahlström G. (Umeå, Sweden, EU) *Evaluation and comparison of the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties of allopregnanolone and pregnanolone at induction of anaesthesia in the male rat*

B - GLUCOCORTICOIDS AND MINERALCORTICOIDS: SYNTHESIS, MECHANISM OF ACTION AND EFFECTS

- B-1 **Bellido I.**, Hansson A., Gómez-Luque A., Andbjør B. and Fuxe K. (Malaga, Spain, EU) *The pituitary-adrenal axis strongly modulates the affinity of the 5-HT_{1a} autoreceptors in the dorsal raphe nucleus and influences their responses to galanin in vitro*

MONDAY, 24th February

- B-2 Catania C.**, Sotiropoulos I., Michaelidis T. and Almeida O.F.X. (Munich, Germany, EU) *Glucocorticoid regulation of Alzheimer's disease-related proteins*
- B-3 Chiavegatto S.** and Nelson R.J. (Sao Paulo, Brazil) *elevated corticosterone concentrations in male mice lacking neuronal nitric oxide synthase*
- B-4 Constantinescu C.S.** and Gottlob I. (Nottingham, UK) *Improvement in amblyopia after optic neuritis in the fellow eye treated with steroids suggests role of corticosteroids in nervous system plasticity*
- B-5 Hansson A.C.**, Metsis M., Sommer W., Strömberg I., Agnati L.F. and Fuxe K. (Stockholm, Sweden, EU) *Corticosterone actions on the hippocampal BDNF expression are mediated by exon II and exon IV promoters*
- B-6 Mitsuyo T.**, Adachi N. And Arai T. (Ehime, Japan) *Relationship between dopamine release and deleterious effects of dexamethasone in ischaemic rat brain*
- B-7 Rashidy-Pour A.**, Vafaei A.A., Taherian A.A., Hejazi J. and Arab-Yarmohammadi M. (Semnan, Iran) *Peripheral injection of glucocorticoids reduces anxiety related behavior in mice: an interaction with opioidergic neurons*
- B-8 Robertson D.A.**, Beattie J.E., Reid I.C. and Balfour D.J.K. (Dundee, Scotland, U.K.) *Regionally-selective upregulation of hippocampal gluco-corticoid receptors in response to chronic unavoidable stress in the rat*
- B-9 Taherian A.A.**, Vafaei A.A., Rashidy-pour A. (Semnan, Iran) *The modulatory effects of glucocorticoids on morphine addiction phenomena in mice*
- B-10 Vafaei A.A.** and Rashidy-Pour A. (Semnan, Iran) *Modulatory roles of glucocorticoid receptors on spatial memory in place avoidance learning in rats*
- B-11 Vlad A.G.** and Raica M. (Timisoara, Romania) *The effect of steroid hormones on hippocampus and subependymal neuronal layer of the hypothalamus*

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- C-6 Nuñez J.L.**, Alt J.J. and McCarthy M.M. (Baltimore, Maryland, USA) *Effect of sex and hormones in a model of preterm infant brain injury*
- C-7 Nyberg S.**, Sundström Poromaa I. and Bäckström T. (Umeå, Sweden, EU) *Patients with premenstrual dysphoric disorder have a decreased sensitivity to alcohol in the luteal phase*
- C-8 Patte-Mensah C.**, Kappes V., Freund-Mercier M.J., Tsutsui K. and **Mensah-Nyagan A.G.** (Strasbourg Cedex, France, EU) *Immunohistochemical localization of cytochrome P450_{sc} in the nociceptive nervous system of rat*
- C-9 Persad V.**, Wong C.G.T., Cortez M.A. and Snead III O.C. (Toronto, Canada) *Steroids and atypical absence seizures*
- C-10 Rhodes M.E.** and Frye C.A. (Albany, NY, USA) *Androgens anti-seizure effects may be due in part to actions at intracellular androgen receptors in the hippocampus*

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- C-11 Ritz M.-F.**, Schmidt P. and Mendelowitsch A. (Basel, Switzerland) *Effect of 17 β -estradiol on the release of excitatory amino acids and energy metabolites during transient cerebral ischemia in male rats*
- C-12 Veiga S.**, Garcia-Segura L.M. and Azcoitia I. (Madrid, Spain, EU) *Role of aromatase on neuroprotective effects of pregnenolone and dehydroepiandrosterone*
- C-13 Walf A.A.** and Frye C.A. (Albany, NY, USA) *Systemic and intra-amygdala administration of estrogen and progesterone to ovariectomized rats increases analgesia*
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- D-1 Belcredito S.**, Vegeto E., Etteri S., Ciana P. And Maggi A. (Milano, Italy, EU) *Reactivity of microglia in estrogen receptor-alpha null mice*
- D-2 Ientile R.**, Campisi A., Raciti G., Caccamo D., Currò M., Cannavò G., Macaione S., Vanella A. and **Avola R.** (Catania, Italy, EU) *Steroid-growth factor cross-talk on transglutaminase, GFAP and vimentin expression during astroglial cell proliferation and differentiation in primary culture*
- D-3 Magnaghi V.**, Ballabio M., Cavarretta I., Gonzalez L.C., Leonelli E., Veiga S. and Melcangi R.C. (Milano, Italy, EU) *In vitro effects of neuroactive steroids on male and female Schwann cells: a study by RNase protection assay*
- D-4 Marchetti B.**, Tirolo C, Gennuso F, L'Episcopo F., Testa N, Caniglia S, and Morale MC. (Sassari, Italy, EU) *oxidative stress, estrogens and neuroprotection of nigrostriatal dopaminergic system: bidirectional effects on astrocyte and microglia*
- D-5 Menuet A.**, Pellegrini E., Anglade I., Le Guevel R., Kah O. and Pakdel F. (Rennes, France, EU) *direct cooperation between estrogen receptors and astrocyte-specific factors elicits high activity of the zebrafish brain aromatase gene.*
- D-6 Ng B.K.**, Conrad H. E. and Glaser M. (Urbana, Illinois, USA) *Characterization of an alternatively spliced platelet-derived growth factor variant during myelin synthesis*
- D-7 Pinos H.**, Collado P., Rodriguez M. and Guillamón A. (Madrid, Spain, EU) *Sexual dimorphism in radial glia in adult locus coeruleus in the rat*
- D-8 Rodriguez-Waitkus P.M.**, LaFollette A., Zhu T.S., Suidan G. and Glaser M. (Urbana, Illinois, USA) *Expression of the progesterone receptor and identification of progesterone inducible genes in Schwann cell/neuronal co-cultures*

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- E-1 Canoine V.**, Fusani L., Schlinger B.A. and Hau M. (Los Angeles, California, USA) *Expression of androgen receptor, estrogen receptor, and aromatase in the brain of a tropical bird, the Spotted Antbird: MapPing and seasonal comparison*
- E-2 Cornil C.A.**, Seutin V., Motte P., Balthazart J. (Liège, Belgium, EU) *Dopamine actions on MPOa neurons are mediated in part by alpha-noradrenergic receptors*
- E-3 Forlano P.M.** and Bass A.H. (Ithaca, NY, USA) *Seasonal plasticity of brain aromatase mRNA expression in glia: regulation by gonadal steroids and divergence between the sexes*
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- E-5 Guerriero G.**, Roselli C.E. And Ciarcia G. (Napoli, Italy, EU) *Progesterone receptor in the frog brain: seasonal expression and hormonal dependence*
- E-6 Guerriero G.**, Birch L., Prins G.S., Roselli C.E. and Ciarcia G. (Napoli, Italy, EU) *Progesterone receptor in the lizard: distribution and properties of progesterone binding sites in the brain*
- E-7 Hazelton JL**, Hoffman GE , Cushing BS , Levine K , Le WW, Ottinger MA, Carter CS (Baltimore, Maryland, USA) *Activation of the HPG axis following cohabitation in the Prairie Vole (Microtus Orchrogaster)*
- E-8 Matagne V.**, Lebrethon M-C., Gerard A., Bourguignon J-P. (Liège, Belgium, EU) *Estradiol stimulation of pulsatile gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH) secretion from prepubertal rat hypothalamic explants: a perinatally programmed and sexually dimorphic effect*
- E-9 Morale M.C.**, L'Episcopo F., Testa N., Caniglia S., Tirolo C., Gennuso F. and Marchetti B. (Troina, Italy, EU) *Estrogen as a key morphogenic and differentiation factor for immortalized hypothalamic lhrh neurons: crosstalk between the cytoskeleton and intracellular signaling pathways*

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- F-2 Bartolomucci A.**, Chirieleison A., Pederzani T., Sacerdote P., Ceresini G., Panerai A.E., Parmigiani S. and Palanza P. (Parma, Italy, EU) *Social context and housing condition affects behavioral and immuno-endocrine responses to psychological stress in mice*
- F-3 Belle M.C.D.**, Sharp P.J. and Lea R.W. (Preston, UK) *Co-localization of hypothalamic progesterone and androgen receptors and regulation by aromatase in the ring dove (Streptopelia risoria): implications for sexual behaviours*
- F-4 Collado P.**, Carrillo B., Pérez-Torrero E., García-Falgueras A., Pinos H., Guillamón A. and Panzica G.C. (Madrid, Spain, EU) *Role of nitric oxide in the control of maternal behavior in rats*
- F-5 Dalla C.**, Bakker J., Honda S., Harada N., Antoniou K., Papadopoulou-Daifoti Z. and Balthazart J. (Liège, Belgium, EU) *Behavioral and neurochemical characterization of aromatase deficient female mice.*
- F-6 Edinger K.**, Walf A. and Frye C.A. (Albany, NY, USA) *Androgen implants to the dorsal hippocampus can enhance anxiolysis, analgesia, and cognitive performance of male rats*
- F-7 Freytes P.** and **Carrer H.F.** (Córdoba, Argentina) *Effect of neonatal ovariectomy on learning and synaptic transmission in the hippocampus*
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- F-10 Küppers E.**, Brito V. and Beyer C. (Ulm, Germany, EU) *Expression and intracellular trafficking of striatal dopamine D1 receptors is affected in estrogen receptor- α knockout (ERKO) mice*
- F-11 Lariviere W.R.**, Ceccarelli I., Fiorenzani P. and Aloisi A.M. (Siena, Italy, EU) *The effect of acute estrogen receptor antagonism on estradiol-induced increases in formalin inflammatory pain behaviour and interferon-gamma production in male rats*
- F-12 Mele P.**, Serra M., Pisu M.G., Biggio G., Eva C. (Torino, Italy, EU) *NPY-Y1 receptor gene expression increases in transgenic mice amigdala following restrain stress.*
- F-13 Orso F.**, Sica M. Panzica G.C. and De Bortoli M. (Torino, Italy, EU) *Possible oestrogenic effects on AP-2 alfa expression and AP-2 alfa potential role in nNOS regulation in mouse hypothalamus.*

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- F-14 Pérez-Laso C.**, Ortega E., Izquierdo M.A.P., Moreno N., Rivera L., Segovia S. and Del Cerro M.C.R. (Madrid, Spain, EU) *Male rats adopted at birth by stressed dams display feminine behavioral patterns in induced maternal behavior*
- F-15 Pincemy G.** and Guyomarc'h C. (Rennes1, France, EU) *Variation of the physiological state and social behavior in Japanese quail.*
- F-16 Sica M.**, Allieri F., Plumari L., Bakker J., Honda S., Harada N., Viglietti-Panzica C., Balthazart J., and Panzica G.C. (Torino, Italy, EU) *Activational effects of estradiol and dihydrotestosterone on the arginine-vasopressin immunoreactive system of male mice lacking a functional aromatase gene.*
- F-17 Thompson N.**, Micevych P. and Ottinger M.A. (College Park, MD, USA) *Comparison of neuroanatomical distribution of delta opioid receptor and tyrosine hydroxylase immunoreactivity in young and old male quail.*
- F-18 Turkmen S.**, Birzniece V., Johansson I.M. and Backstrom T. (Umeå, Sweden, EU). *Negative allopregnanolone effects on learning in the Morris watermaze test can be inhibited.*

G.- ACTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ESTROGENS ON BEHAVIORALLY RELEVANT NEURAL CIRCUITS

- G-1 Alò R.**, Madeo M., Giusi G., Facciolo R.M., Carelli A. and Canonaco M. (Arcavacata di Rende (CS), Italy, EU) *Influences of environmental chemical compounds occur preferentially on certain somatostatin receptor subtypes in some brain regions of teleost fishes.*
- G-2 Capone F.**, Branchi I., Costa L.G. and Alleva E. (Roma, Italy, EU) *Developmental exposure to a polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE 99) alters thyroid homeostasis and induces neurobehavioural effects in CD-1 mice*
- G-3 Colciago A.**, Pravettoni A., Negri-Cesi P. and Celotti F. (Milano, Italy, EU) *A transplacental exposure to xenobiotics affects dimorphic differentiation of rat brain during embryogenesis*
- G-4 Cottone E.**, Guastalla A., Mosconi G., Polzonetti-Magni A.M., Kikuyama S. and Franzoni M.F. (Torino, Italy, EU) *Effects of the xenoestrogen 4-nonylphenol on some neuroendocrine mechanisms of the urodele amphibian Triturus carnifex*
- G-5 Della Seta D.**, Minder I., Dessi-Fulgheri F. and Farabollini F. (Siena, Italy, EU) *Effects of exposure to bisphenol a on maternal behavior, in rats*
- G-6 Facciolo R.M.**, Madeo M., Alò R., Canonaco M. and Dessi-Fulgheri F. (Arcavacata di Rende (CS), Italy, EU) *Neurobiological activities of the environmental estrogen bisphenol a in limbic regions of the rat occur via its interaction with the SRIF receptor subtype SST₃*
- G-7 Gioiosa L.**, Fissore E. and Palanza P. (Parma, Italy, EU) *Effect of perinatal exposure to environmental estrogens on learning ability and working memory in adult mice*
- G-8 Laviola G.**, Gioiosa L., Adriani W., Palanza P. (Roma, Italy, EU) *D-Amphetamine-related reinforcing effects are reduced in mice exposed prenatally to estrogenic endocrine disruptors*
- G-9 Quinn M.J.Jr.**, Summitt C.L. and Ottinger M.A. (Baltimore, Maryland, USA) *Effects of p,p'-DDE on sexual maturation and copulatory behavior in the Japanese quail (Coturnix japonica)*
- G-10 Razzoli M.**, Massardi B., Valsecchi P. and Palanza P. (Parma, Italy, EU) *Chronic exposure to xenoestrogens interfere with pair-bonding and maternal behavior in female Mongolian gerbils.*

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- H-2 Lacreuse A.** And Herndon J.G. (Atlanta, GA, USA) *Estrogen and cognition in young and aged female rhesus monkeys*
- H-3 Leonelli E.**, Azcoitia I., Ballabio M., Cavarretta I., Garcia-Segura L.M., Gonzalez L.C., Magnaghi V., Veiga S. and Melcangi R.C. (Milano, Italy, EU) *Progesterone and its derivatives dihydroprogesterone and tetrahydroprogesterone stimulate remyelination of sciatic nerve in aged male rat*
- H-4 Matsumoto A.** (Hongo, Japan) *Androgen regulates expression of androgen receptor protein in the perineal motoneurons of aged male rats*
- H-5 Sujkovic E.**, Fry J.P., Mileusnic R. and Rose S.P.R. (Milton Keynes, UK) *Dehydroepiandrosterone sulphate potentiates memory in the day-old chick*

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- I-1 Axelsson, J.**, Halldin, K. and Brunström, B. (Uppsala, Sweden, EU) *Expression of estrogen receptor -alpha and -beta mRNA in embryonic quail brain*
- I-2 Halldin K.**, Axelsson J., Holmgren C. and Brunström B. (Uppsala, Sweden, EU) *Localization of estrogen receptor- α and - β mRNA in the brain of embryonic and adult Japanese quail*
- I-3 Kalita K.**, Szymczak S., Markowska A., Konopka W. and Kaczmarek L. (Warsaw, Poland) *Estrogen receptor beta isoforms in the function of the rat brain*
- I-4 Szymczak S.** and Kaczmarek L. (Warsaw, Poland) *Estrogen receptor beta in the rat hippocampus following stimulation with kainic acid*
- I-5 Vegeto E.**, Belcredito S., Eteri S., Ciana P. and Maggi A. (Milano, Italy, EU) *Estrogen receptors mediate the inhibitory activity of estradiol on brain macrophage reactivity*

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**MONDAY, 24th February****Meet The Professor Lunches**

Trainees and their matched professor(s) (see list below) should obtain lunch tickets prior to their meeting and make arrangements with one another for a specific meeting place so that they may proceed to lunch together.

	Professor To Be Met For Lunch On the Day Indicated	
Trainee	Monday	Tuesday
Bakker		Ball
Canoine		Blaustein
Di	Moore	
Edinger	Swann	
Forlano	Piva	McCarthy
Hazelton	Ball	Frye
Kudwa	Herbison	Hines
Ng	Monter	
Nunez	Arnold	
Petralia	Tasker	Etgen
Quinn	McCarthy	Lacreuse
Rhodes	Simpkins	Ottinger
Rodriguez-Waikus	Carrer	
van Broekhoven	Hurd	
Walf	Aloisi	Herdon