

**FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN NEUROSCIENCE SOCIETIES**  
**11<sup>th</sup> FENS Forum of Neuroscience**

**PRESS CONFERENCES AND NEUROTALKS**

*PLEASE OBSERVE EMBARGO TIMES SHOWN ON THE PRESS RELEASES*

[PRESS CONFERENCES – ROOM M4, LEVEL 3 \(unless otherwise stated\)](#)

[NEUROTALKS – PRESS OFFICE, ROOM M6, LEVEL 3](#)

Neurotalks are an opportunity for journalists to have an informal discussion with speakers to find out more about an important topic in neuroscience and the wider issues associated with it. In some cases there may be a press release.

**SUNDAY 8 JULY**

[NEUROTALK - 10.00 – 10.30](#)

- Helen Mayberg, Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai, USA  
*Deep brain stimulation for depression*

[PRESS CONFERENCE - 11.00 – 12.00](#)

**FENS highlights and an overview of neuroscience in Germany**

- Helmut Kettenmann, Chairman of the FENS Forum Committee of the German Neuroscience Society

**The Brain-Immune System**

- Michal Schwartz, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel  
*Boosting the immune system to treat Alzheimer's*
- Isaac Chiu, Harvard Medical School, USA  
*Botulinum toxin to block pain of flesh-eating disease*
- Asya Rolls, Technion Israel Institute of Technology  
*Placebo effect – the hidden persuader*

[NEUROTALK - 12.45 – 13.15](#)

- Barry Everitt, President of FENS
  - Carmen Sandi, President-Elect of FENS
- FENS – its place in international neuroscience; the state of European neuroscience*

[NEUROTALK - 14.00 – 14.30](#)

- Nicole Deglon, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
*Gene editing for neurological disorders*

## MONDAY 9 JULY

### NEUROTALK - 10.00-10.30

- Frans de Waal, Emory University

*The importance of studying animal emotions and behaviour*

### PRESS CONFERENCE - 12.00 – 13.00

#### **Epigenetic inheritance**

- Isabelle Mansuy, University of Zurich, Switzerland

*The long-lasting consequences of trauma*

- Per Jensen, University of Linköping, Sweden

*Reducing fear to domesticate animals*

### NEUROTALK - 13.15-13.45

- Dina Dechman, Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, Germany

*Saving energy: shrews shrink their skull and brain in winter*

### PRESS CONFERENCE - 14.00 – 15.00

#### **How the brain tells the time**

- Nandakumar Narayan

*Improving the timing of movement in patients with Parkinson's disease*

- Lucille Tallot

*How the brain keeps track of time*

## TUESDAY 10 JULY

### NEUROTALK - 10.00 – 10.30

- John Donoghue, Wyss Center for Bio and Neuroengineering, Switzerland

- Ilina Witten, Princeton University, USA

*New technology emerging from the BRAIN Initiative*

### PRESS CONFERENCE - 11.00 – 12.00

#### **Learning from Insects to improve autonomous robots**

- Oliver Bertrand, Bielefeld University, Germany

*How Bumble-bees learn to navigate*

- Noriysu Ando, University of Tokyo, Japan

*Robots controlled by silkworms*

- Elisabetta Chicca, Bielefeld University, Germany

*Avoiding collisions: a new detector for automobile systems*

### PRESS CONFERENCE - 12.00 – 13.00

#### **Mini-brains: organoids and stem cells**

- Fiona Doetsch, University of Basel, Switzerland

*How hunger controls stem cell production*

- Pierre Vanderhaeghen, University of Brussels, Belgium

*Genetic regulators of brain size discovered*

- Arnold Kriegstein, University of California San Francisco, USA

*Understanding congenital brain defects and damage caused by the Zika virus*

**NEUROTALK - 13.15 – 13.45**

- Philippe Tobler, University of Zurich
- Fabian Grabenhorst, University of Cambridge

*Social cognition: empathy for strangers and economic decision-making between partners*

**PRESS CONFERENCE - 14.00 – 15.00**

**New treatments on the horizon for Multiple Sclerosis**

- Jonah Chan, University of California, San Francisco, USA

*Clemastine to promote remyelination*

- Luke Lairson, Scripps Research Institute, California, USA

*Taurine to enhance repair and remission of MS*

- Robin Franklin, University of Cambridge

*Reversing the damaging effects of MS*

- Anna Williams, University of Edinburgh, UK

*Repairing MS damage in the laboratory*