

**Winnipeg Chapter – Society for Neuroscience  
(Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada)**



**2009 CHAPTER REPORT:**

**1. SFN Grass Traveling Scientist Award – 2009**

Due to the lack of funding, WCSN was unable to host a Grass Traveling Scientist lecture

**2. SFN Presentations in Washington (Nov/09)**

39th Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting was held November, 2009 in Chicago, IL. USA. Winnipeg neuroscientists were responsible for 30 presentations

**3. Brain Awareness Activities in 2009**

**The Winnipeg Brain Awareness Events were held over two days, April 8-9<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Sakkubai Naidu, MD, PhD  
Director, Neurogenetics Unit  
Kennedy Krieger Institute  
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD. USA

Dr. Naidu gave a public seminar at the St. Boniface Research Center on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Title: "*Rett syndrome: Increased recognition of a novel brain disorder in girls.*" The evening was attended by members of the public as well as members of the WCSfN. Dr. Naidu presented Pediatric Grand Rounds on the 9<sup>th</sup>, and was hosted by the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health for the morning, before presenting a research seminar to the WCSfN. Title: "*MeCP2 mutations and neuronal dysfunction*"

In addition to the invited speaker, the Chapter held a graduate student symposium which consisted of 5 oral presentations and a poster competition for neuroscience trainees and members.

**4. Membership Services**

Total # 2009 members = 66 (as of June 2009)  
24 Regular members (Faculty/Res. Associates/Clinicians), 42 Student members  
Dues/year are Regular members \$25, Student members \$5

The 2009 Membership list is posted on the WCSN website  
<http://www.sfn-manitoba.ca/WCSN2009Members.html>

## **5. Outreach Activities in 2009**

### ***2009 Science Fair - Manitoba School Science Symposium:***

As a part of Brain Awareness Week, the Winnipeg Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience participated in the Manitoba School Science Symposium annual provincial science fair (Grade 5- 12) held in April 2009.

Our Chapter awarded 3 prizes (totaling \$225) for the best neuroscience-related presentations. Approximately 40 presentations had a neuroscience subject matter and so it was a difficult job to select just 3 from such an array of talent.

The judges, Drs Fernyhough, Glazner and Albensi, focused on innovation and evidence that the project was clearly the work of the student.

1st place (\$100 prize); Michael Teichman, Grade 10

2nd place (\$75 prize); Christopher Rampersad, Grade 8

3rd place (\$50 prize); Juliana Perez, Grade 6

### **The Winnipeg Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience supports and is actively involved in the:**

#### **WISE Kid-Netic Energy Science and Engineering Camp**

Neuroscience theme days were implemented in our camp curriculum at the following locations:

- Cross Lake First Nation - Flin Flon
- Steinbach - Norway House First Nation
- Niverville - Clearwater
- Rossbrook House - University of Manitoba

Neuroscience programming engaged **493 grade 4—6 students** this summer. Kid-Netic Energy offers programming in theme days, with campers doing four to six activities over the course of a day in a specific topic area. The Neuroscience theme day was centered around educating the children about the function and composition of neurons as well as brain anatomy. Activities for Neuroscience Day were:

**The 5 Senses Game:** Campers learned about the five senses and how the brain transmits the signals for each sense, using interactive sense stations for each sense.

**Reaction Time:** Campers learned about reaction times and the effect of sight and hearing on reaction time through experimenting with various scenarios.

**Rope Neuron Model:** Campers built a large scale model of a neuron using ropes, masking tape and a plastic container and then demonstrated the transmittal of a signal.

**Beady Neuron:** Using plastic beads the campers constructed a neuron model, including the synaptic terminal, the axon, the cell body and the dendrites.

**Shower Cap Brains:** Using a template the campers traced the parts of the brain onto white shower caps and then labeled and coloured the sections of the brain to have a wearable model.

**Brain Dissection:** Campers were given a sheep's brain. In an instructor facilitated dissection, campers examined the external brain structures (forebrain, hindbrain and

spinal cord). After slicing the brain in half the campers identified the forebrain, grey and white matter, midbrain, hindbrain and spinal cord.

### **Neuroscience Workshop Programming**

WISE now offers two Neuroscience workshops: Using Your Brain (grade 8) and Neuroscience The Inner Workings (grade 11) as part of our regular workshop menu of 25 curriculum based workshops. Each year WISE provides more than 700 workshops across Manitoba reaching more than 22,000 youth.

**Using Your Brain** (grade 8): a discussion of the neurosystem, its cells and their functions, including information on neurodegenerative disorders and research in these areas at the St. Boniface Research Centre. Students will have the opportunity to play games and participate in hands-on activities.

**Neuroscience, The Inner Workings** (grade 11): Further discussion on the neurosystem function and dysfunction resulting from neurodegenerative disorders.

**Participants: Dr. Paul Fernyhough, Dr. Ben Albensi.**

### **MindSET**

MindSet, the Manitoba Network for Science and Technology, operates as a program of the Government of Manitoba's ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines (STEM). ([link to www.gov.mb.ca/stem](http://www.gov.mb.ca/stem)). Since its inception in 1999, as a program to increase the science and technology awareness of students, MindSet has developed into one of Canada's successful science, technology and engineering career awareness programs. Dr. Emma Frost has been working with Norm Lee and Bob Brown, coordinators of MindSET, to establish constructive links between the Neuroscience Community in Winnipeg, with local schools, to increase the participation of students in sciences early in their careers.

### **International BioInnovation Week**

The Manitoba High School Teachers Association is part of the organization of the International BioInnovation Week, with grade 11 and 12 students from four different countries participating in a weeklong series of activities. This year, the Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology, and The Faculty of Pharmacy hosted 3 groups of 15 students for 3 hours, demonstrating scientific techniques, and discussing the advantages of post graduate education in the sciences. Dr. Emma Frost, Dr. Sabine Mai and Dr. John Wilkins were actively involved in this process.

## 6. Financial Report

### Winnipeg Chapter Society for Neuroscience Annual Revenue and Expense Report

January to December	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Opening balance</b>	\$ 3,280.43	\$ 3,723.39	\$ 4,883.08	\$ 3,241.44	\$ 3,874.32
<b>REVENUES</b>					
<b>Brain Awareness Event</b>					
Canadian Institutes for Health Research		2,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
AstraZeneca				0.00	0.00
Epilepsy Manitoba				0.00	0.00
Huntington's Society				0.00	0.00
Institute for Biodiagnostics				0.00	0.00
Manitoba Head Injury				0.00	0.00
Manitoba Heart and Stroke Foundation				0.00	0.00
Pfizer				0.00	0.00
<del>Smith Kline</del> Beecham				0.00	0.00
Sport Manitoba				0.00	0.00
SBRC		500.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
U of M Dept Pharmacology				0.00	0.00
<b>*Membership Dues</b>	685.00	945.00	740.00	410.00	700.00
<b>Society for Neuroscience</b>		3,981.78	2,217.00	2,444.20	0.00
<b>Bank Interest</b>	1.72	2.61	2.57	2.43	0.52
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 686.72</b>	<b>\$ 7,429.39</b>	<b>\$ 5,959.17</b>	<b>\$ 3,856.63</b>	<b>\$ 700.52</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Brain Awareness Event (speaker expenses)</b>					679.20
Catering (Aramark - SBRC)					175.62
Awards/Prizes	100.00	600.00	745.34		100.00
Bank Fees		10.00	0.00		0.00
Equipment Rental		413.95	106.00		395.00
Honorariums & gifts		590.45	570.70		0.00
Advertising		100.00	0.00		1,144.93
Meals					78.00
Accommodations					279.06
<b>Grass Lecturer (speaker expenses)</b>			2,602.56	863.39	0.00
**Advertising				0.00	136.50
Grass Catering - Aramark				134.40	0.00
Grass Catering - Pedway				107.86	0.00
Honorarium & gifts		600.97	300.00	423.57	0.00
Accommodations		289.84	129.95	418.59	0.00
Meals				252.66	0.00
Equipment Rental				27.50	0.00
<b>Centre on Aging &amp; WISEKidnetic support</b>		250.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Manitoba School Science Symposium awards</b>				600.00	225.00
<b>Meeting(s) Expenses</b>	98.16	2,447.53	3,125.98	183.44	0.00
<b>Office Expenses &amp; website</b>	45.60	966.96	20.28	212.34	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 243.76</b>	<b>\$ 6,269.70</b>	<b>\$ 7,600.81</b>	<b>\$ 3,223.75</b>	<b>\$ 4,213.31</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 3,723.39</b>	<b>\$ 4,883.08</b>	<b>\$ 3,241.44</b>	<b>\$ 3,874.32</b>	<b>\$ 361.53</b>

Closing balance as of December 22, 2009

\*Membership dues collected are for one or three years therefore some dues for 2009 have been deposited in previous year. Dues/year: Faculty members \$25, Students \$5

\*\*Grass advertising from 2008 paid for in February 2009

**7. Elections.** Current Council Composition (elected Nov 30, 2007 unless otherwise stated)

**ELECTED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT 2008 -**

Emma FROST, PhD  
Dept. Pathology  
JBRC512A  
T. 204-789-3273  
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**TREASURER Sept 2008 -**

Sharon McCARTNEY  
Dept Physiology  
409 BMSB  
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**SECRETARY**

David McCREA, PhD  
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**COUNCILLORS**

**BASIC SCIENCE**

Phillip GARDINER, PhD  
Physiology, 404 BMSB  
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**CLINICAL**

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**BANNATYNE**

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**FORT GARRY**

Tammy IVANCO, PhD  
Dept of Psychology  
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**NRC-IBD**

Krisztina MALISZA, PhD  
NRC Inst of Biodiagnostics  
435 Ellice Avenue  
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**STUDENT REPS**

Parvez Vora/Pathology  
Wenjun Zhu/Fac. Pharmacy  
Nicole Portisanos/Physiology

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

### **WCSFN Executive Assistant**

**2009 vacant**

2008: Kelly JORUNDSO

### **WCSFN Website Admin.**

Gilles DETILLIEUX

SCRC Systems Analyst

Physiology, 402 BMSB

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### **WCSFN Membership Services**

#### **Coordinator**

Sharon McCartney

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### **WCSFN Website/Imaging Tech**

Maria SETTERBOM

SCRC Graphics Tech

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