Dear EBPS members,

As 2019 is almost over, many of you will likely be experiencing that typical end-of-year rush. At the same time, it is also an occasion to reflect back on the year that has passed, and look forward to the new year. Looking back just a little bit, this fall we welcomed three new members to the EBPS Full Committee. Amy Milton (University of Cambridge, UK), Gavan McNally (University of New South Wales, Australia) and Markus Heilig (Linköping University, Sweden) will introduce themselves in this issue and the coming issues. As for 2019, I am particularly pleased with the biennial meeting we had in Braga, last August. This meeting, organized by Nuno Sousa, Luisa Pinto, Patrícia Patricio, Joana Silva and Ioannis Sotiropoulos was a great success in terms of science, attendance, location and atmosphere. I have no doubt that Rudy Schreiber and his local committee are already working hard to organize a meeting in lovely Maastricht (the Netherlands) that will be just as successful. You will get to know the members of the committee that organizes the 2021 EBPS biennial meeting in this newsletter.

Looking forward, I would like to draw your attention to three exciting events that will take place in the summer of 2020. Firstly, there is the biennial FENS Forum in Glasgow, UK, from July 11-15. As you know, EBPS is a member of FENS, and the forum is an excellent opportunity to showcase your work – and represent our society – at the largest neuroscience meeting in Europe. In fact, together with three other, behaviourally oriented member societies, we will host a satellite event immediately preceding the forum on Saturday July 11. During this mini-conference, entitled ‘Behavioural neuroscience for the next decade: Why behaviour matters to brain science’, we will exchange opinions and ideas on the importance of behavioural research in neuroscience.

From August 23-25, there is the EBPS workshop on ‘Behaviour to Biomarkers – Reverse Translation in 2020’ in the vibrant city of Toronto, Canada. This workshop, organized by Jane Foster and Mohammed Shoaiib, promises to be an occasion to sharpen your minds on the merits of translational neuroscience research in animals, and how the interaction with work in humans can be optimized.

Announcements of these meetings – that may very well turn next summer into The Summer of Science – are also in this newsletter. But till then, I wish you a happy holiday season, and all the best for 2020!

Kind regards,
Louk Vanderschuren
EBPS President

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FENS is the largest neuroscience meeting in Europe, organized by the main European neuroscience association. Plenary speakers at the 2020 FENS forum include Angela Roberts, Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg, Sheena Joselyn, Rui Costa and Karl Deisseroth. On Saturday 11 July 2020, that is, immediately preceding the 2020 FENS Forum of Neuroscience, EBPS will organize a mini-conference, titled ‘Behavioural neuroscience for the next decade: Why behaviour matters to brain science’ jointly with the European Brain and Behaviour Society (EBBS), the European Molecular and Cellular Cognition Society (EMCCS) and the International Behavioural and Neural Genetics Society (IBANGS). This meeting is focused on the role of behaviour in neuroscience and the translatability of animal models to human traits and psychiatric disorders. Each contributing society will host a themed session. On behalf of EBPS, Shelly Flagel, Amy Milton and Marco Venniro will speak in a session entitled ‘How pharmacology and neuroscience help us to understand behaviour’. The mini-conference is open to all those interested, for a modest registration fee. Mark your diaries! Register here.
**EBPS 2020 Workshop**

Next year, our biennial EBPS Workshop will be held on the 23-25 August at Hart House, University of Toronto in Canada. Entitled, Behaviour to Biomarkers - Reverse Translation in 2020, it is jointly being organised by our treasurer Dr Mohammed Shoab and Dr Jane Foster. Sessions will be dedicated to themes such as strategies for biomarker discovery, reverse translation to novel therapeutics and mechanisms of action, behaviour and biomarkers, and the emerging role of the microbiome for mental health and addiction. Save the date and stay tuned for details on the plenary keynote speakers and the full program in the next newsletter.

**Psychopharmacology News**

Our society journal, Psychopharmacology, has recently published a piece by Trevor Robbins and Klaus Miczek titled, Psychopharmacology in its 60th year, in which they discuss how the publication and the field has evolved over the decades. In particular, they have highlighted the important contribution the journal has made as a resource for publications on psychedelic compounds which have both abuse liability as well as the potential to treat a range of psychiatric disorders such as PTSD and major depression. There is also a recent special issue on Neuroimmune Signaling in Neuropsychiatric Disease edited by Leslie Morrow and Lawrence Price. And a reminder that members of EBPS have free access to the European Journal of Neuroscience. This journal has a number of calls for papers on topics such as Cannabinoid Signaling in the Brain and Glial Plasticity in Health and Disease. You can access the journal website here.

**EBPS 2021 Maastricht Meeting**

The members of the freshly assembled “local” organising team from Maastricht, Nijmegen, Utrecht, Groningen and Amsterdam are very much looking forward to welcome you at the 2021 Biennial EBPS Meeting to be held in the vibrant and charming city of Maastricht. Below you can learn more about the members. Stay tuned for further updates on the meeting!

**EBPS Website Designer**

EBPS is looking to revamp their existing website and we’re looking for someone who has experience in website design and construction. This will be a volunteer position and you’ll be working closely with the executive committee and our communications rep, Anand Gururajan. If you’re interested, get in touch.
Dr Amy Milton is our most recent addition as EBPS committee member. She is a principal investigator in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cambridge. Amy took time out of her busy schedule to tell us a little about her academic history.

I have had a long-standing interest in learning and memory since starting my undergraduate degree in Natural Sciences at Newnham College, Cambridge, and after hearing Barry Everitt’s lectures on motivation, I also became fascinated by compulsive behaviour. I was able to combine my research interests in memory and compulsive behaviour when I began my PhD with Barry Everitt in 2004. Barry had recently shown, with Joff Lee and Kerrie Thomas, that pavlovian cue-drug memories undergo reconsolidation under specific conditions of retrieval, and that knocking down the plasticity-related immediate early gene zif268 in the basolateral amygdala prevented reconsolidation from occurring. My PhD research looked upstream of zif268 activation to find neurochemical targets to disrupt cue-drug memory reconsolidation, focusing on the NMDA subtype of glutamate receptor, and beta-adrenergic receptors. We found it was possible to disrupt old, well-established cue-drug memories in rats self-administering cocaine with systemic treatments, showing the translational potential of the reconsolidation approach to the treatment of addiction. I took the preliminary data to the EBPS meeting in Barcelona in 2005, which was the first time I had ever presented at an international conference.

After completing my PhD in 2007, I was awarded a Research Fellowship at Downing College, Cambridge, which allowed me to continue to collaborate with Barry Everitt during my postdoctoral research. My postdoc was relatively brief, as in 2008 I became a fixed-term Departmental Lecturer in the (then) Department of Experimental Psychology at the University of Cambridge. In 2013, I was appointed to a University Lectureship in the (renamed) Department of Psychology, and subsequently promoted in 2019. Since completing my PhD, my research has remained focused on the process of memory reconsolidation, but has expanded beyond pavlovian cue-drug memories to investigate fear memories (including collaborative human research with Emily Holmes), instrumental memories, and the relationship between memory reconsolidation and extinction, including the phenomenon of ‘extinction within the reconsolidation window’, or retrieval-extinction. I was delighted to receive the EBPS Young Scientist Award in 2017 in recognition of this work.

I like to spend my spare time with my husband and two young sons or – when I need some peace and quiet – outside, long-distance running.

E: alm46@cam.ac.uk @DrAmyMilton

### Notice of Membership Fee Changes

Starting next year, EBPS will use a three-tier membership fee system, with reduced fees for students (as we had before) and post-docs (which is new). Also new is the option of donating an addition sum when paying your membership fee. The rates of membership for 2020 are: €40 for students, €70 for post-docs and €100 for regular members. You will receive a call to pay your annual fee in January 2020.

### EBPS Committee

**Executive Committee:**
- President - Louk Vanderschuren (NL)
- President Elect - Yavin Shaham (US)
- Past President - John Cryan (IE)
- General Secretary - Shelly Flagel (US)
- Treasurer - Mohammed Shoai (UK)
- Meeting Secretary - Rudy Schreiber (NL)
- Past Meeting Secretary - Nuno Sousa (PT)

**Ex-Officio:**
- Psychopharmacology Rep - Christelle Baunez (FR)
- Communications - Anand Gururajan (AU)

**Full Committee:**
- Daniele Caprioli (IT)
- Taco de Vries (NL)
- Veronique Deroche (FR)
- Michela Marinelli (US)
- Amy Milton (UK)
- Gavan McNally (AU)
- Markus Heilig (SE)

The EBPS committee would like to wish all EBPS members a happy holiday season and best wishes for 2020!