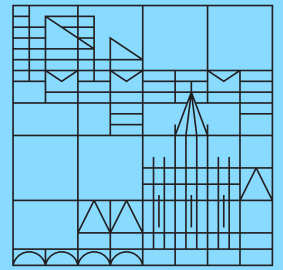




Universität
Konstanz



Changing People Changing Brains

Challenges for Interdisciplinary Research
on Human Learning and Development
Across the Life-Span

Konstanz, April 8–10, 2010
Germany

Program Committee:

Prof. J. Kissler, Dr. M. Odenwald, Dr. I. Kolassa, Dr. I. Paul., Dr. M. Ruf,
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www.clinical-psychology.uni-konstanz.de/index.php?cont=Congress



Changing People Changing Brains

A characteristic feature not only of modern life but also of the ontogenetic development of each individual person is change. Throughout life, human beings need to adapt to rapidly changing environments and undergo various transitions. Periods of change can be critical for mental health, particularly when adaptation fails.

Furthermore, rapidly changing environments also pose additional risks, since adaptation has to happen more quickly and often without support from stable external

structures. On the brighter side of this issue is a growing insight that appropriate modifications of the environment as well as training programs focusing on the individual can hold big opportunities: They may foster resilience, support the capacity to adapt and ameliorate clinical outcomes in psycho-social and neurological rehabilitation.

This conference promotes an integrative approach, which links factors of change to the neural bases of learning and the neuro-psychological and behavioral consequences.

Keynote Lecturers

Professor Steven Hillyard, University of California, San Diego, USA:
The neural basis of cognitive functions

Professor Mike Merzenich, University of California, San Francisco, USA:
Training and cortical plasticity

Professor Ulrich Schnyder, University of Zürich, Switzerland:
Adaptive and maladaptive responses to traumatic life events



Scientific Program

	Thursday, April 8	Friday, April 9	Saturday, April 10
Morning	<p>Workshops Connecting Young Researchers with Senior Scientists</p>	<p>Registration</p> <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p>Keynote 1 Stephen Hillyard</p> <p>Symposium 1 Neural Basis of Adaptation and Learning</p>	<p>Keynote 3 Ulrich Schnyder</p> <p>Symposium 4 Biopsychological Interventions in Psychological Disorders</p> <p>Symposium 5 Mental Health Development across Life Span</p>
Afternoon	<p>Workshops Connecting Young Researchers with Senior Scientists</p>	<p>Keynote 2 Mike Merzenich</p> <p>Symposium 2 Emotional Factors of Learning and Adaptation</p> <p>Symposium 3 Adaptation and Rehabilitation after Neurological Insult</p> <p>Roundtable 1 Adapting to Changing Environments – what does Neuroscience add?</p>	<p>Symposium 6 Causes and Consequences of Traumatic Stress</p> <p>Roundtable 2 Perfect Environment, Perfect Health? Challenges for Science today</p> <p>Outcome and open questions</p> <p>Poster Presentations</p>
Evening		<p>Welcome Reception & Conference Dinner</p>	



Young Investigator Travel Award

Connecting young researchers with senior scientists

Sixteen travel awards for junior researchers

Junior scientists are encouraged to apply for the Zukunftskolleg and Volkswagen Foundation Travel Awards. This Travel Award will cover all expenses related to conference participation (travel, accommodation, etc.) for 16 outstanding young scientists, up to 1.000 € each.

They will be full participants in the conference and will present their work in symposia or poster sessions. Additionally, they will have the opportunity to meet and discuss their work with a group of mentors (eminent senior scientists in their fields) in two pre-conference workshops. Each of these workshops will be hosted and mentored by three selected senior scientists with an outstanding reputation. The goal of these sessions will be to provide helpful feedback and advice to the junior scientists for the continuation of their research.

Mentored Pre-Conference Workshops

Workshop 1: Trauma and Adaptation

Senior researchers: Professor Martin Teicher, Harvard Medical School, USA (inquired); Professor Frank Neuner, University of Bielefeld, Germany (confirmed); Professor Thomas Elbert, University of Konstanz, Germany (confirmed)

Workshop 2: Markers of Neural Plasticity

Senior researchers: Professor Edward Taub, University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA (confirmed); Professor Joachim Liepert, University of Hamburg, Germany (confirmed); Professor Herta Flor, Department of Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, University of Heidelberg and Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, Germany (confirmed)

Who can apply?

Anyone who is a junior scientist or young researcher. As rough criteria for this purpose, a junior scientist is someone who is not much beyond 40 years of age and who holds no permanent position in a university or research institution.

How to apply

Award winners will be identified via a web-based process. The applicants will be evaluated based on the quality of their submission and the relevance of the submission to conference and workshop topics. Applications are to be submitted as single pdf file via email by January 15, 2010, to the conference secretary (changing.brains@uni-konstanz.de). The application should include: (1) Motivation letter (max 1 page); (2) Description of current research project that will be presented and discussed in workshop and conference (background, own preparatory work, methods, results, discussion; max. 2 pages); (3) CV and list of publications (max 2 pages).

A selection committee consisting of the mentors of the pre-conference workshops and the conference organizing committee will score the applications on the following categories:

- (1) relevance of the application for the topic of the workshop and conference,
- (2) quality and creativity of the applicant's research and publications,
- (3) interdisciplinary interest as outlined by publications, research projects, and affiliations.

Decisions will be communicated by February 28, 2010.

For more information, please refer to our webpage.

