

(Note: There are two candidates for President-Elect)

Candidate for President-Elect – F. Scott Hall



I received my Ph.D. in neurobiology from Cambridge University in 1994, where I worked with Trevor Robbins. After a postdoc at NIAAA/NIMH I spent 15 years in the intramural program at NIDA. I recently joined the faculty of the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics at the University of Toledo. My interests are neurodevelopmental and genetic rodent models of addiction and related psychiatric disorders.

Like most of us that have been coming to IBNS meetings for a long time (and some of us that discovered the Society more recently), I was attracted to IBNS for many reasons: the strength of the science, the focus on areas of neuroscience that are often lost at larger meetings like SFN, the smaller more intimate nature of the meetings where you can see almost all of the talks and talk to most of the attendees, the strong interactions between students and established scientists, the focus on mentoring and career development, and the open and active social life of the Society that facilitates all of these goals. These goals match my own career goals very closely and are important to the future of the field, to which IBNS can contribute greatly. For these reasons this has been the Society in which I have been most active, contributing to committees, planning of meetings, working at mentoring events and workshops, chairing symposia, and all of those things that you do as a scientist, but with especial enthusiasm because I believe in these goals. However, one of the problems with small societies, in part because of the small, close-knit membership, is that they can be like private clubs, and not representative of the field at-large. IBNS has certainly struggled against this tendency. The origins of the Society were in the United States, so the majority of the membership has long been US or Canadian. This is not to say that we have not had strong contributions from behavioral neuroscientists all over the world, but all the same, since I joined the Society it has seemed to me that there is a broader behavioral (or behavioural) neuroscience community across the world which should be actively engaged by, and in, the Society. This growing engagement, actively encouraged by our immediate past-Presidents, should be one ongoing goals of the Society, and would be the major goal of my tenure as President. I think that this broader representation, a worthwhile goal in itself, would strengthen the, already strong, science of the meeting, and extend the reach and influence of the Society – as the international society for behavioral neuroscience should represent all areas of the field, with respect to scientific disciplines and areas of study, and professionally and geographically as well. Although we do not want to change the dynamics and size of the meeting very much, I think that we certainly want to grow the society as a part of this effort to some degree. As chair of the membership committee several years ago I suggested to the Council that our goal should be to increase the active/consistent membership to about 1000 and the meeting size to about 500. These goals would make the society more internationally representative, strengthen the science of the meetings, and secure the finances of the Society for some time to come. In addition to continuing our long tradition of strong scientific meetings, these would be my goals as President of IBNS.

Candidate for President-Elect – Jared W. Young



Degrees:

Ph.D.; University of Edinburgh, Scotland
Post-Doc; University of California, San Diego, USA

Current Position:

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry,
University of California, San Diego, USA

Other Memberships:

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
Society for Neuroscience
British Neuroscience Association
British Association of Psychopharmacology
European Behavioral Pharmacological Society

Area of Research Interests: Serious mental illness results in numerous behavioral and cognitive abnormalities. Understanding the mechanisms that underlie normal behavior and cognition is an important start to developing treatment for such illnesses. My research interests therefore focus on using cross-species translational paradigms to understand these mechanisms. These paradigms are then employed to develop better models of dysfunctional mechanisms relevant to mental illnesses. From better models - with etiological relevance to the disorder - we can develop targeted treatments, the clinical relevance of which can then be tested using the same paradigms we use in our clinical populations.

IBNS Contribution and Future Goals: I have been a member of IBNS over 10 years, attending 9 out of the last 10 annual meetings. Since presenting at my first IBNS, I have had the opportunity to speak at every meeting since. I have organized 5 symposia at IBNS meetings, allowing me to introduce many non-IBNS members to the Society whom have since returned. I was fortunate enough to be elected Student Councilor (2008-2009) and beyond organizing a grant workshop that year, I was the first to suggest an IBNS presence on social media (Facebook and LinkedIn), increasing the global awareness of IBNS. I joined the Program Committee in 2011, becoming Co-Chair in 2013, and Chairing the Program Committee in 2014. In addition, I have been US Council representative since 2013. In 2014, I was honored to be inducted into the IBNS College of Fellows. I have also aided in selecting Poster presentation prizes and been part of the 'meet the Professors' luncheon (2011-2015). I even won a prize in translational free-style dancing in 2011!

In my role as Program Chair (2014), I began – with President Steve Kent – the initiative to create a special issue in Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews annually, allowing IBNS to publish the work of our keynote speakers and symposium chairs in a very well-respected journal. Writing the foreword to the first special issue, describing the history of IBNS, gave me a strong connection to our rich history, as well as an appreciation of how we can move forward as a Society. Overall, I believe these actions have contributed to the greater symposia submissions we have seen year over year for IBNS, and our continued success to reach the scientific community.

What I love about IBNS has continued even with its greater attendances, that IBNS is – for me and any I speak to - a very warm, welcoming Society. The science is always excellent at IBNS but it wonderfully couples this excellence with a fun, familial environment that adds to its success. Moreover - and this I can attest to personally - IBNS makes a great effort to encourage young scientists, their integration, and their ideas. Given the international flavor and the breadth of science presented at IBNS, combined with its familial and supportive environment, IBNS already plays an essential role in the scientific community. Since joining IBNS, I have worked hard to promote IBNS so others can share the experience I have had. If elected, I will continue to work hard at promoting IBNS and do what I can to foster the positive experience with the Society as I have had. As President, I will continue our efforts to connect with other Societies to launch future joint meetings, reducing conference costs, increasing attendance, and thereby making even remote locations accessible for future meetings. Ultimately, I hope to be able to take IBNS forward into the future of behavioral neuroscience.

(Note: There are two candidates for USA Councilor)

Candidate for USA Councilor - Susanne Brummelte



I am currently an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI, and my research focusses on early life adversity and its impact on brain and behavioral development. In particular, I am interested in the consequences of exposure to depression, antidepressant medication, stress or glucocorticoids and pain during the prenatal or postnatal period and how it effects the outcome of males and females. We are using rats as the animal model of choice to address these important questions on how exposure to early adverse conditions can impact the maturation of the nervous system and thus lead to long-term behavioral changes. I received my Ph.D. from the University of Bielefeld in Germany in 2007 and I spent five years as a post-doc at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Thus, I have a lot of *international* experience that will help me with my duties as the USA councilor of promoting behavioral research and the society nationally as well as internationally. I have served as the IBNS secretary from 2012 – 2015 and am currently on the program committee and thus I am well aware of the Society's aims and needs and I am

very familiar with the structure and function of the IBNS council. I attend IBNS meetings regularly (though I missed the last one due to the birth of my first child), and I am looking forward to continue to work for the society and help disseminate information, recruit new members and participants and continue to improve our society. In fact, I have been very involved in recent developments, such as the creation of a new "Early Career Award" and efforts to ensure that we continue to attract new members as well as promising students to our meetings. As a USA councilor I would focus on increasing awareness about our society (through personal communication with colleagues, advertising at other conferences and through social media (Twitter, Facebook etc.) and suggesting great speakers for our future conferences that will attract many attendants) and continue to promote behavioral Neuroscience research in general.

Candidate for USA Councilor – Anthony Kline



It is an honor to be a candidate for USA Counselor of the IBNS. I am an Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh and Co-director of the Center for Neuroscience Summer Undergraduate Research Program. My research focuses on behavioral recovery after traumatic brain injury (TBI). I am an active member and Fellow of the IBNS. I am currently serving as co-chair of the program committee and will chair this position next year. I wish to serve the membership in other capacities as well, such as councilor because the mission of the society fits with my interests as a behavioral neuroscientist, which include 1) the exchange of scientific information at local, national, and international levels, 2) fostering support and advocating for research and education in behavioral neuroscience, and 3) member recruitment. Regarding the latter, as chair of two scientific symposia I have invited speakers who have never attended IBNS, but because of their exposure to this exciting meeting they have since joined as members. As a TBI researcher and neuroscientist, I am enthusiastic about the brain safety initiative. My laboratory has been involved with a similar

program in Pittsburgh and as councilor I will continue to seek and support avenues to expand this important promotion of brain awareness at the local, as well as national and international level in parallel with the annual IBNS meeting. I look forward to working with a renowned group of behavioral neuroscientists who share the mission of IBNS. Together we will ensure that our society continues to prosper and benefits our membership of student trainees and faculty.

(Note: There are two candidates for Canadian Councilor)

Candidate for Canadian Councilor – Liisa Galea



Liisa Galea is a Professor in the Department of Psychology, a member of the Centre for Brain Health and the Graduate Program in Neuroscience at the University of British Columbia. Dr. Galea obtained her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Western Ontario in 1994 and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Rockefeller University in New York City until 1996. She has been an invited speaker and a keynote speaker at numerous international conferences over the past 10 years. Dr. Galea is a Distinguished University Scholar, has held a Michael Smith Senior Scholar Award, a Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)- Discovery Accelerator Supplement, Cattell Sabbatical Award and won the Vancouver YWCA Women of Distinction award (Technology, Science and Research). She was recognized as a Fellow at International Behavioral Neuroscience Society (IBNS) in 2013. She has over 120 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals and has over 6000 citations with an H-index of 44. Dr. Galea is the chief editor of Elsevier's *Frontiers in Neuroendocrinology* (IF: 7.037), an editor of *Neuroscience* and *eNeuro* and serves/served on the editorial boards of *Endocrinology*, and *Hormones and Behavior*. Dr. Galea serves on a National Institute of Health (USA) peer-review study section and has served on

peer review panels for the major federal agencies: Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) and NSERC. She has held operating grants from CIHR, NSERC and Alzheimer Society of Canada over her career. **Her research** centers on how sex hormones influence brain health and disease in both females and males. Although sex differences exist in many brain diseases, research targeting sex as a factor in brain health has been scarce. Dr. Galea's research is vital in filling this knowledge gap, specifically in understanding how sex and hormones influence neuroplasticity in females as too often women's health is ignored in research. This preclinical work is essential for developing tailored treatments for brain disease in both women and men. Her research examines the effects of hormones, stress and reproductive experience on neuroplasticity, including adult neurogenesis (the birth of new brain cells in the adult), and subsequent behavior. Liisa developed the first animal models of postpartum depression, and was among the first researchers worldwide to study hormonal control of adult neurogenesis and the impact of motherhood on the brain in later life. **Goals for IBNS:** IBNS is doing a tremendous job of growth in terms of membership, visibility in the scientific community at large and the quality of research presented at the annual conference. This growing society has the potential to be a strong voice on the world's scientific stage to promote the importance of behavioral research. IBNS must relay the message to the scientific community at large that a lack of reproducibility and/or translation from preclinical to clinical work may rest on how well the behavioural endpoint was measured. Last but not least, it is vitally important to lobby for more funding so that we can promote the future of our society by reducing conference costs for trainees and increasing the number of travel awards for trainees to attend this international conference.

Candidate for Canadian Councilor – Susanne Schmid



Dr. Susanne Schmid is an Associate Professor and Assistant Chair for Research at the Anatomy & Cell Biology department at the University of Western Ontario. She has studied Biology at the University in Tuebingen, Germany, and did her postdoc at the university Eye Hospital in Tuebingen. She was awarded a Heisenberg Fellowship by the German Research Council that enabled her to spend a year at the University of Toronto as a guest professor. In 2007 she was recruited to Western. Susanne Schmid studies cellular mechanisms and neurocircuits underlying sensory filtering and sensorimotor gating in healthy animals and in rodent models for autism. She is also the director of the interdisciplinary graduate program for Neuroscience at Western. Susanne Schmid has joined IBNS several years ago and has since attended almost every meeting. IBNS is a relatively small society with a focus on research and education in the field of behavioral neuroscience. Her goal for the society is to keep it a steadily, but slowly, growing society with a broad and interdisciplinary focus on discovery based research on neural mechanisms underlying behavior and behavioral disruptions related to diseases and disorders. A central role plays the annual meeting which

is an excellent networking opportunity for all attendees, including students and postdocs. A special focus of the society has been on supporting research trainees as well as outreach to the public. This strategy has been proven to be very successful in past years and should certainly be continued, including the travel support for trainees to the annual meetings. As a Neuroscience graduate program director, Susanne Schmid is currently building a training module that is geared towards enabling trainees to capitalize on the unique skillset that they acquire during their postgraduate education. A workshop with some of the content could be offered to trainees on annual meetings additionally to the "meet the expert" event. Another focus that she thinks is very important, especially with regard to trainees, is to foster gender equity and to keep promoting positive female role models, which are unfortunately still not as abundant as we wish them to be. IBNS has been exemplary in the past in regards to speaker choices. Lastly, Dr. Schmid thinks it is important that IBNS councillor use the leverage of the society to lobby for more investments into research and education in their respective countries and on international platforms. In Canada, we have some very active societies lobbying on the federal level that are open for support by others. I think that IBNS should join these non-partisan efforts to create a better funded research environment.

(Note: There are three candidates for Student Councilor)

Candidate for Student Councilor – Davide Amato



Davide Amato is Head of the Addiction Medicine Laboratory at the University Hospital Erlangen, Germany. He received a Ph.D. in Pharmacology after a Master in Experimental Psychology from Sapienza – University of Rome. He had been doing experimental work in a large Italian pharmaceutical company before moving to King’s College London, UK, as a post-doctoral fellow. He joined the Medical School of Erlangen in 2010. Additionally, he has been visiting a number of internationally renowned laboratories in the USA.

He oversees projects on addiction, depression and schizophrenia, works as a mentor assistant of undergraduate and graduate students of medicine and also teaches. His research expertise covers a wide range of behavioural and neurochemical methods.

He is a proud member of IBNS and is actively contributing to the achievement of the society mission goals in the field of behavioral pharmacology. He has received the IBNS travel award in the 2014 and is currently serving in the program committee as well as working as a guest editor for the IBNS newsletter.

The tasks related to these opportunities have given Davide the chance to familiarize with fellows of the society and to recognize their excellence. Davide sees the IBNS as a concrete possibility to promote the advancement of neurosciences around the world with no discrimination of any country and as a stage to leverage scientific as well as ethical standards.

If elected, he will continue working to extend the international impact of IBNS, to expand the number and breadth of IBNS memberships, to continue improving the quality of IBNS meetings, and to ensure that IBNS remains committed to training and supporting the interest of young researchers around the world in the field of behavioral neuroscience.

Candidate for Student Councilor – Monica Bolton



Monica Bolton is completing her PhD student in the Experimental Psychology – Neuroscience at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She performs research in the Dr. Jefferson Kinney’s UNLV Neurobiology of Disease and Behavior Laboratory, where she focuses on elucidating the molecular mechanisms underlying the effects of ketamine as it relates depression and learning and memory disorders. Her other research areas include inhibitory mechanisms of learning and memory and the relationship between neuroinflammation, diabetes, and Alzheimer’s disease.

Monica has been involved with IBNS since 2014. She was instrumental in organizing the IBNS Brain Safety Initiative within the Las Vegas community to help educate students on helmet safety and donate money for helmets to students in need. She has a passion for educational outreach and looks forward to help plan and volunteer in future IBNS outreach initiatives.

Her involvement with IBNS extends beyond outreach events. She has been a member of the Membership and Communications Committee since last year and is involved in maintaining various IBNS social media platforms (make sure to follow IBNS on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram or use #IBNSconnect to view announcements and connect with other members!). Along with Julianne and Wendy (the past and current Student Councilors), Monica helped with organizational and promotional activities at the 2015 IBNS Annual Meeting in Victoria, Canada.

If elected Student Representative for IBNS, her aim is to encourage more student involvement in the society, help increase international membership, and stimulate more interest with individual in professions outside academia within the realm of behavioral neuroscience.

Candidate for Student Councilor – Patricia B. de la Tremblaye



I am a postdoctoral associate in the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation of the Safar Center for Resuscitation Research at the University of Pittsburgh. My research examines the impact of stress exposure on neurobehavioral and neurochemical alterations observed after experimental traumatic brain injury, and how pharmacotherapies targeting the neuroendocrine and endocannabinoid systems may be used as therapeutic strategies relevant to cognitive and emotional impairments observed in CNS injured patients. I completed my doctoral degree in experimental psychology with specialization in behavioral neuroscience at the University of Ottawa. Under the supervision of Dr. H el ene Plamondon, my PhD research investigated the role of the neuroendocrine stress system in the regulation of markers of neuroplasticity in regions of the mesocorticolimbic circuitry, using a rodent behavioral model of global cerebral ischemia. Having attended the IBNS meetings annually since 2013, it has truly allowed me to grow as a behavioral neuroscientist, through the conference's continuous

encouragement of young researchers. I really feel at home in terms of the research mandate and truly appreciate the collaborative atmosphere of the IBNS conference. It would be an honor for me to be part of the organization of the conference by serving the interests of our members as Student Councilor. I have experience in serving on academic and conference committees and have been working on PR/social media projects in various contexts. For example, I was in charge of logistics and communications for a conference I helped found at the University of Ottawa, called the Interdisciplinary Conference in Psychology. I was also the student-life commissioner for the Graduate Student Association at the University of Ottawa, where I organized all sorts of activities, including welcome week, the grad ball, and the Graduate Students Annual interdisciplinary conference. I was also part of the Brain Buddies Outreach club, during which I gave presentations on topics such as cognitive decline and brain health to the elderly community. These positions allowed me to learn effective ways and skills of interacting with people in academia and in the community at various levels, ensuring that I will be successful and efficient at fulfilling my duties as Student Councilor of the IBNS. I am looking forward to assist the Council in continuing to conduct a dynamic and collaborative conference focused on the goals and mission of IBNS, and my goal is to help increase the national and international membership, and engage student members at all levels from undergraduate to postdoctoral by enhancing the professional and social student-focused activities of the conference. Thank you for your kind consideration and support!