

SPEAKERS



John Archer

Professor, Director of Research The Aggression Research Group University of Central Lancashire, UK

<http://www.uclan.ac.uk/facs/science/psychol/research/people/Archer.htm>

Prof. Archer's research interests are the study of human aggression, and bereavement and loss. He is the former President of the International Society for Research on Aggression (ISRA), and is on the editorial board of the journal *Aggressive Behavior*. He is the author of several books and has published over 100 articles, with a total citation count of over 3,500. John Archer studies topics such as young men's physical aggression from an evolutionary perspective, including cross-national comparisons, partner violence and stalking, bullying and aggression in prisons and other secure institutions, testosterone and aggression, and people's attributions about their aggression.



Klaus-Peter Lesch

Professor of Psychiatry and Vice Chair of the Department of Psychiatry, Psychosomatics, and Psychotherapy and Director of the ADHD Program of the University of Würzburg, Germany

<http://www.psychobiologie.uni-wuerzburg.de/>

Klaus-Peter Lesch's work has led to new insights into the psychobiology of personality, behavior, and psychiatric disorders. He has been pioneer in discovering genes linked to aggression in different animal species. He is strongly committed to bridge the sizeable gap between basic molecular and clinically applicable research. His work attempts to elucidate neural mechanisms involved in the pathophysiology of psychiatric disorders with the goal to identify final common pathways which could be targeted by novel treatments.



Richard Wilkinson

Professor of Social Epidemiology, University of Nottingham Medical School, UK
Visiting Professor, International Centre for Health and Society, University College London

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/cps/index.php?page=2.0.0.40>

Richard Wilkinson's research career focusses on health inequalities and the social determinants of health. Working in the field for 30 years, Richard has played a formative role in research and public awareness of health inequalities and the social determinants of health. Since persuading the UK Secretary of State to set up the working party which in 1980 produced the Black Report on Health Inequalities, he has worked particularly on the health and social effects of income inequality.



Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg

Professor, Chair of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University of Heidelberg and Director, Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, Germany

<http://snp.nimh.nih.gov/>

Prof. Meyer-Lindenberg is an expert in the fields of neural mechanisms of psychopathology, imaging genetics, social neuroscience and systems neuroscience in humans. Using mathematical tools, he investigates complex interactions between genetic variants and their influence on the human brain. He combines studies of genetic indicators of mental illness with neuroimaging.



Richard E. Tremblay

Professor, Research Unit on Children's Psychosocial Maladjustment University of Montreal, Canada

<http://www.psy.umontreal.ca/employees/TREMBLAYRichardE.html>

Richard Tremblay started his clinical career treating dangerous mentally offenders. For the past 25 years he has conducted a program of longitudinal and experimental studies to understand the physical, cognitive, emotional characteristics of humans from conception onward, in order to gain a better understanding of the development and prevention of physically violent behaviors.



Richard J Ebstein

Director, Department of Research – Herzog Hospital Director, Scheinfeld Center for Human Behavioral Genetics Hebrew University Professor

<http://ebsteinlab.huji.ac.il/index.html>

Richard Ebstein has made major contributions to human behavioral genetics, especially in the emerging field of personality genetics. His catalyzing role in personality genetics was initiated with a seminal report in Nature Genetics in 1996 that first showed an association between a common polymorphism and a specific temperament (Ebstein et al 1996). He has published more than 200 scientific articles.



Sheilagh Hodgins

Head of Forensic Mental Health Sciences King's College London, UK
Professor at the Institute of Psychiatry King's College, University of London UK

<http://www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/staff/profile/?go=10161>

Sheilagh Hodgins has authored numerous papers, book chapters, and books on antisocial, violent, and criminal behaviours among persons with mental disorders. Her current work aims to identify causal mechanisms leading to early-onset antisocial behaviour that remain stable over the life-span among persons who develop schizophrenia, as well as the factors that maintain these unwanted behaviours. She also works on the development of treatments to reduce violent behaviour.



Stephen J. Suomi

Chief of the Laboratory of Comparative Ethology, the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, Maryland

http://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/staff/bio.cfm?nih_id=0010152932

Prof. Suomi has received international recognition for his extensive research on biobehavioral development in rhesus monkeys and other primate species, with a particular focus on aggressive behaviors. His research at Wisconsin led to his election as Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science “for major contributions to the understanding of social factors that influence the psychological development of nonhuman primates.”



Kent Kiehl

Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of New Mexico
Director, Mobile Imaging Core and Clinical Cognitive Neuroscience, Mind Research Network, Albuquerque, New Mexico

<http://www.mrn.org/kkiehl>

Prof. Kiehl conducts clinical neuroscience research of major mental illnesses, with special focus on criminal psychopathy, substance abuse, and psychotic disorders. His group uses non-invasive techniques for measuring brain function, including event-related potentials (ERPs) and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). He has authored over 70 articles and book chapters and he currently directs four major NIH projects in the areas of adolescent psychopathy, adult psychopathy, substance abuse, and early stage psychosis.

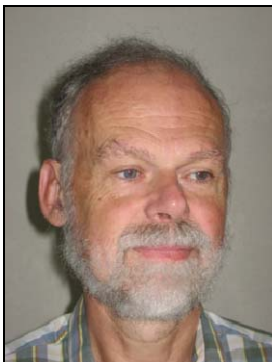


Caroline Blanchard

Professor at the Pacific Biosciences Research Center, and Dept. of Genetics and Molecular Biology, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii

<http://www2.hawaii.edu/~blanchar/home.html>

Caroline Blanchard’s work has focused on the functions and biology of “negative” emotion patterns such as aggression and defense, across mammalian species and, more recently, on more “positive” emotions, examining behaviors comprising sociality and affiliative emotions. Her approach characterizes by using research based on lower order mammals to analyze both the expression of these emotions in people, and the brain systems involved in potentially related human emotional psychopathologies. She recently (2004-2006) served as President of the International Society for Research on Aggression.



Jaap M. Koolhaas

Professor in Behavioral Physiology, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

<http://www.onderzoekinformatie.nl/en/oi/nod/onderzoeker/PRS1237036/>

His research aims to unravel the behavioral and physiological mechanisms by which animals (rodents) adapt to challenges in their social environment. Specifically, his group studies both the causes and the consequences of intermale aggressive behavior. The research tries to understand the interaction between social environmental demands and the individual capacity to cope with these demands in terms of behavior and physiology (coping style). The results of his studies are relevant for understanding the interaction between personality and environmental factors in the development of violence and depression.



Inga D. Neumann

Professor, Head Department of Behavioural and Molecular Neuroendocrinology University of Regensburg, Germany

<http://www.biologie.uni-regensburg.de/Zoologie/Neumann/index.htm>

Her main research interest focuses on uncovering molecular, neuronal and neuroendocrine parameters linked to complex social and emotional behaviours, including intermale aggression, depression- and anxiety-related behaviours, social phobia and social cognition as well as maternal care and aggression. Using animal models, she studies interactions between genetic and early environmental events shaping adult stress-related behaviours.



Pierre Magistretti

Professor of Neuroscience - Director, Brain Mind Institute, EPFL
Director of the Center for Psychiatric Neuroscience, University of Lausanne Medical School and Hospital (CHUV)

<http://bmi.epfl.ch/page61215.html>

Prof. Magistretti's laboratory has discovered some of the cellular and molecular mechanisms that underlie the coupling between neuronal activity and energy consumption by the brain. He is strongly engaged in public understanding of neuroscience and in establishing links between neuroscience and psychoanalysis. He has occupied an International Chair 2007-08 of the Collège de France, Paris. He is member of Academia Europea and of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences. He is the Past-President of the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) and Vice-Chairman of the European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB).



Mel Slater

Professor of Virtual Environments Department of Computer Science University College London, UK

<http://www.event-lab.org>

Mel Slater carries out research in immersive virtual reality - systems that incorporate a participant into a virtual space that is created by computer displays. His research covers both the technical aspects, such as creating new display methods, and new forms of interaction, and also the scientific side, in order to understand how people respond to being inside a virtual reality. His main application interests are in the use virtual reality in aspects of neuroscience and psychotherapy. In 2005 he was awarded the Virtual Reality Career Award by IEEE Virtual Reality.



Mark Levine

Professor of Psychology at the Lancaster University, UK

<http://www.psych.lancs.ac.uk/people/MarkLevine.html>

Mark Levine's research, in the behaviour of bystanders in emergencies has integrated classic work on bystander intervention with more recent developments in the social psychology of group behaviour. His research uses a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods to explore bystander behaviour at the group level, with a particular interest on analysing 'real life' behavioural data, or at least trying to study behaviour in 'real time'. Recently, he has been working on an analysis of CCTV footage of violent incidents in the night-time economy.



Mark Broom

Professor, Head Department of Mathematics University of Sussex, UK

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/math/profile27849.html>

Mark Broom's research focuses on the application of game theory to the mathematical modelling of biology, especially using the concept of the Evolutionarily Stable Strategy (ESS). He works in modelling a number of biological phenomena, most notably including the areas of dominance hierarchies and of food-stealing. Recent work involves the modelling of simple evolution processes and more complex games on structured populations, especially graphs.



Lee Alan Dugatkin

Professor and Distinguished University Scholar, Department of Biology, University of Louisville, USA

<http://louisville.edu/~laduga01/dugatkin.htm>

Prof. Lee Alan Dugatkin's main area of research interest is the evolution of social behavior. He is currently studying the evolution of cooperation, the evolution of aggression, the interaction between genetic and cultural evolution, the evolution of disease virulence, the evolution of antibiotic resistance and the evolution of risk-taking behavior. He is the author of seven books on evolution and behavior, and has published over 120 articles in highly regarded scientific journals.



Francois Ansermet

Head Service of psychiatry of children and adolescents Geneva University Hospital
Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Geneva Faculty of Medicine

<http://spea.hug-ge.ch/>

Prof. Ansermet's research has focused on perinatal stress, and, specifically, on risks for and consequences of prematurity. He has also explored the psychological and ethical implications of new advances in perinatal biotechnology, in particular, assisted reproductive therapy, genetic counselling, and gender attribution in cases of ambiguous genitalia. Moreover, Prof. Ansermet is interested in the link between neuroscience and psychoanalysis and the role of neuronal plasticity in the psychoanalytic process.



Joshua W. Buckholtz

Scientist at the Neuroscience Vanderbilt Brain Institute Department of Psychology
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN USA

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/psychological_sciences/people/buckholtz

Joshua Buckholtz uses functional, structural, and receptor imaging techniques to characterize the influence of genetic risk factors for antisocial behavior and addiction on neural circuitry for affect regulation, motivation, and social cognition. He obtained his bachelor of science degree from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and then received training in genetics and neuroimaging in the intramural program of the National Institute of Mental Health.



Jozsef Haller

Professor, Head of the Behavioural Neurobiology Department Institute of Experimental Medicine Budapest, Hungary

<http://www.koki.hu>

Jozsef Haller's research interests focus on the understanding of brain mechanisms involved in violent forms of aggression. By comparing the brain mechanisms of violent aggression induced by different means (e.g. genetic selection, social deprivation, glucocorticoid deficiency), he has made major contributions to the field. Working in rodents, he has identified main components of the brain circuitry underlying violent forms of aggression.



Carmen Sandi

Professor, Head of Laboratory of Behavioral Genetics Brain Mind Institute EPFL, Switzerland

<http://lqc.epfl.ch/>

Carmen Sandi is interested in understanding how stress affects brain function, behavior and cognition. Her work has implicated stress hormones and associated pathways in the modulation of learning and memory. Her recent work focuses on the impact of stress on social dominance hierarchies and aggressive behaviour. Her lab is also devoted to develop cognitive enhancers and new drug treatments for stress-related mood and anxiety disorders.



Stefan Klusemann

Scientist at Sociology MA, University of Pennsylvania, USA

Stefan Klusemann works at the University of Pennsylvania, USA, on violence, armed groups, historical sociology of political and cultural change, and sociological theory, Stefan Klusemann work studies rituals, violence and the organization of force in situations of state breakdown. He received an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania and a Diploma in Sociology, Economics, and Law from the Free University of Berlin.



Albert Rizzo

Professor, Institute for Creative Technologies University of Southern California, USA

http://www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/departments/cell_neurobiology/research/isnrrizzo_pres.html

Albert Rizzo conducts research on virtual applications that use 360 Degree Panoramic video for exposure therapy (social phobia), role-playing applications, anger management, etc.), journalism studies and digital media art creation. He also conducts research to study of how virtual reality simulation technology can be usefully applied to serve the needs of the user/client/patient in a manner that goes beyond what is available with traditional 20th Century tools and methods. His latest project has focused on an exposure therapy application for combat-related PTSD with Iraq War veterans.

DISCUSSANTS



Didier Trono

Professor, Dean of Life Science Faculty EPFL, Switzerland

<http://tronolab.epfl.ch/>

His research focuses on interactions between viral pathogens and their hosts, and on the exploration of genetics from both fundamental and therapeutic perspectives. More recently, he has become interested on the study of epigenetic mechanisms regulating brain function and behavior and has started a research programme addressed to ascertain genomic and epigenomic mechanisms linked to differences in personality traits and stress vulnerability. For the last four years, has been serving as deputy director of the Swiss National Science Foundation “Frontiers in Genetics” Center of Excellence.



Ronald de Kloet

Professor of Medical Pharmacology, Leiden University The Netherlands

<http://www.medicalpharmacology.leidenuniv.nl/>

Ron de Kloet is a work leader in the field of neuroendocrinology of stress and adaptation. He received the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology, the 2007 Award of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology and the 2005 Geoffrey Harris Award of the European Federation of Endocrine Societies. In 2004 he was awarded the prestigious Academy Professorship of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the highest scientific accolades in The Netherlands. He has published more than 550 articles on the topic and 6 books.



Alexander Butchart

Prevention of Violence Coordinator, WHO, Switzerland

http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/en/

Dr. Alexander Butchart’s responsibilities at WHO include coordinating the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, the development of policy for the prevention of interpersonal violence, preparation of guidelines for the prevention of specific types of interpersonal violence, and the coordination of research into various aspects of interpersonal violence and its prevention. Prior to joining WHO, he worked mainly in Southern and East Africa, where he was lead scientist in the South African Violence and Injury Surveillance Consortium, and participated in training violence and injury prevention workers from a number of African countries.



Daniel Schechter

Professor, Department of Psychiatry Columbia University Medical Center

http://asp.cumc.columbia.edu/facdb/profile_list.asp?uni=dss11&DepAffil=Psychiatry

Daniel Schechter's program of research focuses on the effects of mothers' violence-related posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) on their functioning as caregivers. PTSD is foremost seen as a disorder of emotion and arousal dysregulation. In further examining the impact on the children's development of stress reactivity, psychiatric symptoms, and mental representations of self and other prospectively, his team hopes to understand how psychosocial interventions might more effectively target and interrupt intergenerational cycles of violence and related psychopathology.



Philippe Cotter

University of Geneva, Switzerland

www.eclectica.ch

Philippe Cotter's research initially focussed on collective violence and within the parameters of traditional historical analysis. Subsequently, intellectual curiosity incited him to look at other forms of extreme violence, in individuals. This time specifically in serial killers. He found a number of similarities between the psychology of the serial killer and that of political extremists, the Nazi leaders in particular. His field of study then extended to include terrorist violence in the wake of 9/11, making use of all relevant scientific disciplines. His subsequent publications are the result of the unexpected convergence between the functioning of individual and collective forms of extreme violence. His latest book is *La vengeance des humiliés* (written with Gilbert Holleufer).



Olaf Blanke

Professor, Head Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience Brain Mind Institute EPFL, Switzerland

<http://lnc0.epfl.ch>

Olaf Blanke's multidisciplinary team includes biologists, psychologists, medical doctors, physicists, engineers and computer scientists with the focus on understanding the functional and neural mechanisms of body perception, corporeal awareness, and self consciousness. Projects rely on the investigation of healthy subjects as well as neurological patients (that suffer from selective neurocognitive deficits and illusions) by combining psychophysical and cognitive paradigms with state of the art neuroimaging techniques such as intracranial EEG, surface EEG, fMRI, and Virtual Reality.