



International Society for Neuroethology

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International Society for Neuroethology

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THIS ISSUE FEATURES

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Heiligenberg Travel Award Winners
Information on Visas for the 2018 ICN
Communicating with the ISN Membership (and Beyond)



The Prez Says

Catharine Rankin
President of the ISN



Hi Everyone!

It's season change time again! In the Northern Hemisphere we are heading into fall and winter, while the Southern Hemisphere is moving into spring and summer. To me this is always a time of renewal. Season change triggers different wardrobe choices, new shoes, and remembering to bring a jacket (that, of course, is my perspective—for my spouse it means that hockey season is starting!). Seasons mark moving ahead in the year. In academia, we have other markers of the forward movement of time: terms beginning or ending, saying hello to new classes or good bye to ones we have finally got our point across to (or not...?). The grant proposal

season is another such marker. My five-year grant is up next year, so I am starting early and submitted one in September. The context I am trying to maintain is that writing a grant allows me to take an objective look at my research and to explore directions I want it to go. I try not to get bogged down by the negativity of the world right now. Grant funding rates are low and the odds of my recently submitted proposal being funded are not great. I know a lot of people are in the same position and, for me, it is important to stay disciplined about not becoming depressed or discouraged. It helps me to know that even the very best scientists worry about their grant renewals...not too long ago I heard a Nobel Prize winner express real worry that his grant might not be funded. By keeping that in perspective, I avoid the trap of believing I won't get funded because I am *not really good enough*. This is the impostor trap many of us can fall into. It is hard to avoid the jaws of that trap. I googled "Impostor Syndrome Science" and was amazed by the number of articles in academic journals on this topic (a recent article on "faking it" and "unhappy successes" is <https://www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/articles/10.1038/nj7587-555a>). For me, knowing that people that I admire feel the same insecurities as I do puts my feelings into perspective and makes them much less hurtful than if I were living alone with them in my head! I try to stay focused on the exciting science going on in my lab, the great students I am mentoring and I take pleasure in learning something new every day! How many jobs can boast that?

As we move in to the last quarter of 2017 (!) we celebrate a successful Neuroethology GRC in Switzerland. Get an attendees' perspective on both the GRC and the GRS by reading the first-person reports from the Heiligenberg Student Travel Award winners included in this newsletter. Now it is time to start gearing up for the ICN in 2018 in Brisbane. We are finalizing speakers and have colloquia lined up. It is going to be a great meeting! If you have not been checking the website regularly, (<http://icn2018.com/index.php>), you should be! It is fantastic! There will be updates to it as things are finalized, so check back often. Invite your friends—we are going to have a great time Down Under.

Catharine Rankin
President, ISN

RETROACTIVE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

If you are a U.S.-based graduate student or postdoctoral researcher who attended the 2016 ICN in Montevideo,

Uruguay and did NOT receive any travel funds from the ISN, please read the following article and take action. Note that you do NOT need to have saved your receipts to qualify.

Immediate retroactive travel reimbursement is available for U.S.-based graduate students and postdoctoral researchers who participated in the ICN meeting in 2016 (Montevideo, Uruguay). If you resided in the USA and were not awarded any ISN travel-related funds to attend the ICN in 2016, you are eligible. Priority will be given to past attendees who were ISN members and first-author presenters (poster or talk).

Applicants need only to:

1. State that they are U.S. citizens OR resided in the U.S. at the time of the ICN 2016.
2. Provide the title of their ICN 2016 poster or talk with a list of the authors.
3. Provide full name with complete mailing address.
4. State whether or not they are an ISN member

The application deadline for retroactive travel reimbursement is Friday, December 15, 2017. The amount reimbursed to each individual will be prorated based on the number of applicants approved.

Please submit your request directly to the ISN Treasurer, Karen A. Mesce (mesce001@umn.edu). Do not delay if you think you may be eligible, as this opportunity to apply ends without exception on Friday, December 15, 2017.



REPORTS FROM THE 2017 HEILIGENBERG STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD WINNERS

ISN travel awards are one of the major benefits of membership for young neuroethology investigators. The 2017 awardees were **Daniel Knebel** (Tel Aviv University), **Charlotte Doussot** (Universität Bielefeld), **Maayan Kaiser** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), and **Florencia Scarano** (University of Buenos Aires). Here they share their experiences using their awards.

From Daniel Knebel: I attended both the GRS and GRC this year. Based on my previous enriching experience at the former meeting in Italy, my expectations were high. Not surprisingly, the 2017 GRS and GRC met all my expectations. The venue was overwhelming, and the science did not fall short of the surroundings. While the sessions were most inspiring, I must point out the many faces of scientific creativity, which is, perhaps, the one quality that connects the various components of neuroethology together. Moreover, the spaced schedule offered numerous opportunities to meet and create bonds with colleagues.

Being at the crossroads between my PhD and post-doc, these meetings meant a lot to me; I felt reassured in my decision to enter the neurotheological academic path, and I was able to put everyday difficulties into proportion. For all that and much more, I would like to thank the Heiligenberg Student Travel Award given by the International Society for Neuroethology for their generous support which allowed me to attend the conference, as well as the organizers of the meetings: **Lena Veit, Eva Fischer** (chairs of the GRS), **Melissa Coleman** and **Keith Sillar** (chairs of the GRC).

From Florencia Scarano: It was my first time in a GRC and I am sure that it is not the last one. It was a wonderful experience, I was very comfortable and I had a lot of opportunities to interact with almost all the participants of the meeting in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The chosen place for the meeting gave the perfect background for all the topics and lectures which were really interesting and fascinating. Undoubtedly, it is an unforgettable experience for me and I hope to meet again with all of the participants at the Brisbane Congress or other meeting.

From Charlotte Doussot: Thanks to the Heiligenberg Student Travel Award, I had the opportunity to participate in the neuroethology meeting of the GRC held in the Alps in Switzerland from June 18 to 23, 2017. Despite the astonishing landscape and nature surrounding the location (one regrets to leave this amazing place), the meeting was no less inspiring.

I was there to present my fairly new project on bumblebee navigation, during homing, supervised by **Martin Egelhaaf** at the Bielefeld University in Germany. Bees are amazing navigators and almost never fail to find their way back to their home in nature. I, therefore, wanted to challenge them in order to understand which homing and search strategy they are using when their environment has been changed. This conference gave me the opportunity to present some preliminary data and get the feedback from many scientists in the field. Such help is really

precious when one is starting a new project! The neuroethology conference gave me the chance to discuss my works with experts in the field as **Jochen Zeil, Patrick Schultheiss**... and to hear some interesting presentations on migration and navigation.

The GRC conference was a great scientific and friendly time, as the discussions continued until late at night on the hotel terrace.



DON'T FORGET YOUR VISA

Do you need a visa to enter Australia to attend the 2018 International Congress of Neuroethology in Brisbane? Unless you hold a New Zealand passport or are a permanent resident of Norfolk Island the answer is YES. This is one aspect of preparing to attend the 2018 Congress that you don't want to leave to the very last minute.

All of the information you need to know in order to apply for your visa is given on the 2018 Congress website at <http://www.icn2018.com/visa-information.php>. Online applications for visas are typically processed within a few hours, and are active and valid for 12 months, so you do not need to know your exact travel dates before you apply. There is no charge for an ETA (Electronic Travel Authority) visa, but there is a service charge for online processing of the application, so have both your passport and your credit card ready when you apply.



COMMUNICATING WITH ISN MEMBERS

One of the benefits of ISN membership is the ease of communication with other ISN members. Here's a review of how you can share information with your neuroethology colleagues.

All members may post announcements of meetings, workshops, positions available, and other items likely to be of interest to ISN members on the ISN website. Send your information either to the ISN Secretary (fahrbach@wfu.edu) or our Allen Press representative (tleatherman@allenpress.com), or even better, both, as they will consult to be sure that the message is appropriate before sharing it with the membership. You can also request that an e-mail announcement be sent to the membership. This is probably the best way to get your message out quickly to as many members as possible. You are also welcome to sign up to post directly to the ISN Facebook page. This is also a good venue for announcements, but is also used to hold interesting

discussions. If you are not Facebook-adept, the ISN Secretary will be happy to post your item to Facebook for you. One advantage of posting to Facebook is that your information can be viewed by non-members and potential members as well as members. Finally, send information that you would like to see in this newsletter directly to the ISN Secretary. Columns, opinion pieces, book reviews etc. are always welcome, as are announcements. But given that the ISN Newsletter is only published 3-4 times per year, it's best to use the website, e-mail, and Facebook for your time-sensitive information.