

ABN news



ABN Medallist

Each year at its annual conference the ABN awards the ABN Medal to a distinguished neurologist who has made a major contribution to neurology and to the Association.

Our 2016 medallist is Professor Alastair Compston CBE, FRS, and his citation, delivered by Professor Neil Scolding, may be viewed at <http://www.theabn.org/what-we-do/awards,-fellowships-and-bursaries/abn-medal/> from Wednesday 18 May 2016.

Election of Honorary Assistant Secretary and new members of ABN Council

Following a recent election process, Dr David Nicholl has been elected Honorary Assistant Secretary of the ABN and will serve for 2 years, followed by 2 years as Honorary Secretary. Dr Jon Sussman and Professor Kevin Talbot have been elected as members of ABN Council to serve for 4 years.

ABN clinical research training fellowship

The ABN has a strong commitment to the training of the next generation of neurological researchers. Following interviews in March 2016 we were delighted to appoint 4 new fellows:

- *Mark Ellul, Liverpool*: ABN Fellow
- Improving the diagnosis of encephalitis through examining whole proteome and host gene expression patterns.
- *James Hrastelj, Cardiff*: Guarantors of Brain/ABN Fellow
- Investigation of gene expression regulation in CSF-derived CD4+ T-cell dysfunction in multiple sclerosis.
- *Anne-Catherine Huys, London*: Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust/ABN Fellow
- Attention and functional movement disorders: its role in symptom generation and sense of agency.
- *Thomas Massey, Cardiff*: Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust/ABN Fellow

- The role of DNA repair in Huntington's Disease pathogenesis: towards new therapeutic targets.

The next round of applications will be in the autumn of 2016.

The continued success of this scheme depends on raising funds to support the salaries of the Fellows. Information on how to make donations can be made by visiting the ABN website at <http://www.theabn.org/news/clinicalresearch-training-fellowships-2015.html>.

ABN intercalated degrees

The ABN invites applications from medical students in UK and Ireland for its 2016 intercalated degree award.

The award consists of a £5000 bursary (2 available) to be awarded to a medical student commencing an intercalated degree/BMedSci in September/October 2017. The award can be used at the discretion of the supervisor, who must be an Ordinary (full) member of the Association. Applicants should submit the following:

- 1 page research proposal in a structured format (Title; Aims; Methods; Importance/potential impact)
- Full CV (student)
- Full CV (supervisor): to include a summary of previous experience in supervision
- Paragraph describing the research environment at the host institution.

Students undertaking an MB PhD, MRes or intercalated BSc degree will be eligible to apply for a bursary to support up to 1 year of their research project, providing the course includes at least 3 months of full time research. For further information please contact info@abn.org.uk.

ABN/BNA joint symposium 29 September 2016, Cardiff

The ABN and the British Neuroscience Association are holding a joint symposium in Cardiff, on Thursday 29 September 2016, entitled 'Meeting of Minds', and specifically discussing epilepsy and memory.

ABN Autumn meeting 20 October 2016, Institute of Education, London

Our 1 day programme will include a wealth of scientific updates from an authoritative range of speakers including keynote speaker Professor Sir Simon Wessely and ABN Autumn Lecturer Professor Peter Sandercock.

Neurology for medical students, 19 October 2016, IoE, London

The autumn meeting will be preceded by a training session aimed at medical students considering a career in neurology. The speakers will emphasise the rapidly changing face of

neurology which, to a unique degree, combines traditional clinical skills in history taking and examination with advances in treatment arising from basic science. Sessions will cover practical advice on the structure of neurological training and how to enter the speciality. The programme will also offer a glimpse into what the future might hold for the specialty. As if that weren't enough to entice students to attend, the afternoon will conclude with food and drink and the chance to meet the speakers and other senior neurologists.

For more information on ABN meetings please see <http://www.theabn.org/events/>.