



Rudolf Magnus Institute of Neuroscience

Rudolf Magnus Bulletin 04

Evaluation of the Rudolf Magnus Institute

The report of the Institute has been completed and was submitted to the international review committee that will evaluate our Institute. Members of this committee are: S.W.J.Lamberts (Chair), S.DiDonato, T.Höckfelt, R.M.Murray, J.Newsom Davis, and D.M.Pfaff. The site visit will take place on June 10-11, and the report of the committee is expected in the weeks thereafter. In the autumn the evaluation report including the recommendations of the committee will be published and presented to the UMCU, Utrecht University and Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences for (re-)accreditation of our Institute and Graduate School.

CONTACT: For all questions regarding the procedure, j.dekker@med.uu.nl

Staff in the English version of 'Scan'

The UMCU has recently launched an English version of 'Scan', which will appear twice a year, and is aimed to promote the scientific research of the UMCU internationally. Several staff members of the Institutes feature in this first issue of 'Scan', and their work is excellently presented in this magazine. All members of staff are encouraged to read the articles and to use the freely available copies for promotional purposes of the Institute and the UMCU (e.g. symposia).

COPIES: Free copies of the English version of Scan or a free subscription can be obtained at scan@azu.nl

Masters Neuroscience and Cognition attracts many new students

The success of the Masters Neuroscience and Cognition continues. This year 36 students have been admitted to the Master's Programme, including 9 foreign students, for the new academic year starting September 1, 2003. This means more than a doubling of the number of students with respect to last year (16), which is remarkable given the fierce competition by many other Master's Programmes. Apparently, our Master's Programme has the appeal it deserves.

Rudolf Magnus Research Award 2003

Also this year the Rudolf Magnus Research Award will be awarded to the author (PhD student or member of staff) of the article of our Institute that reports on the most innovative research. A national committee will judge the nominated work. Candidates must be nominated before September 1, 2003. The Award exists of a certificate and 3500 Euro.

NOMINATIONS: Mail a letter of recommendation and 5 copies of the article to J.M.Van Ree, STR5.203

Rudolf Magnus Summer School

The programme of the Summer School 2003 is now available and registration for PhD students and staff will open soon. In contrast to last year, the whole programme will have a plenary character, allowing many interactions among the participants and the international experts.

INFORMATION: www.rudolfmagnus.nl, see under 'students' and then 'summer school 2003'.

Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

The Rudolf Magnus Institute of Neuroscience collaborates with the PET centre of the Free University Medical Centre (VUMC), Amsterdam. Bart Van Berckel who received his PhD at the Department of Psychiatry in 1998 (supervisors R.S.Kahn, J.M.Van Ree) has been appointed part time as Physician in Nuclear Medicine at the Division of Neuroscience in order to coordinate and initiate PET protocols from the Rudolf Magnus Institute of Neuroscience. The PET centre of the VUMC has a Siemens HR+, a state-of-the-art PET scanner suitable for human PET studies. At the end of 2003, the High-Resolution Research Tomograph (HRRT) PET camera will be operational, which will make it possible to perform animal PET studies.

CONTACT: Researchers interested in PET studies may contact Bart van Berckel, B.Berckel@vumc.nl

Academic promotions

Since February we celebrated another 12 PhD-graduations (supervisors between brackets).

- A.M.A.Keizer, Cognitive decline after (not) undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting (R.S. Kahn, C.J.Kalkman, R. Hijman)
- N.H.Tenney, Obsessive-compulsive disorder: measuring, predicting and improving outcome (H.G.M.Westenberg, G.Glas, H.J.G.M.Van Meegen)
- D.H.Vrinten, Melanocortins and neuropathic pain (W.H. Gispen, R.A.H.Adan, C.J.Kalkman)
- W.A.J.Nijenhuis, On the molecular pharmacology of the melanocortin-4 receptor (W.H.Gispen, R.A.H.Adan)
- T.B.Hafsteinsdóttir, Neurodevelopmental treatment after stroke: a comparative study (M.H.F. Grypdonck, L.J.Kappelle, A.Algra)
- H.G.J.M.Vermetten, Posttraumatic stress disorder; neurobiological studies in the aftermath of traumatic stress (H.G.M.Westenberg, R.H.Kahn)
- W.B.Veldhuis, Neuroprotection against excitotoxicity and inflammation in acute ischemic stroke (K.Nicolay, P.B.Bär, M.A..Viergever)
- J.C.Reijneveld, Adhesion and angiogenesis in central nervous system tumours (E.E.Vroest, J.Van Gijn, M.J.B.Taphoorn)
- C.F.Vogelaar, Homeobox gene expression in adult dorsal root ganglia: is regeneration a recapitulation of development? (J.P.H.Burbach, W.H.Gispen, M.F.M.Hoekman)
- D.M.Dhossche, Toxicology of psychoactive substances in suicides. Touchstone for suicide prevention? (G.F.Koerselman)
- F.C.Bakker, Cognitive impairment in patients with symptomatic carotid artery occlusion (L.J.Kappelle, A.Jennekens-Schinkel, C.J.M.Klijn)
- M.F.G.Van der Meulen, Polymyositis: diagnostic dilemmas and therapeutic boundaries (J.H.J.Wokke, M.De Visser, J.E.Hoogendijk)

Code of Practice for the use of personal data

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences has published a Code of Practice on the use of personal data in scientific research, describing the consequences of new Dutch law on this topic. This Code of Practice will be applied nationally and will be locally enforced by the Board of the University (College van Bestuur). The Institute concurs with the recommendations, and all members of staff involved in studies using personal data of patients must familiarise themselves with these new regulations (text is in Dutch only).

INFORMATION: The text can be downloaded from www.knaw.nl/swr or ordered at edita@bureau.knaw.nl