

RAPORT ȘTIINȚIFIC

In perioada 17-18 septembrie 2008, in cadrul Conferintei „*Diaspora în cercetarea științifică românească*”(organizata de catre Autoritatea Nationala de Cercetare Stiintifica si Academia Romana), s-a desfasurat workshopul exploratoriu „Neuroștiințe și Transdisciplinaritate”. Aceasta reuniune stiintifica a avut loc in Sala de Consiliu a Facultatii de Medicina, intr-un cadru academic deosebit. La manifestare au prezentat rezultate ale cercetarilor personale un numar de 18 oameni de stiinta din domeniul neurostiintelor, care isi desfasoara activitatea in centre de renume din strainatate sau din tara, si alti cercetatori si studenti interesati de domeniu si membri ai Societatii Nationale de Neurostiuinte. Acest workshop a fost un succes din mai multe perspective. In primul rand a reusit sa aduca laolalta romani care lucreaza in cercetarea din neurostiuinte in diferite colturi ale lumii si care cunosteau in mica masura activitatea celorlalți participanti. A creat o atmosfera stiintifica de clasa internationala, prezentarile si discutiile stiintifice fiind la un nivel inalt. A reusit sa conecteze diferite idei de cercetare, creand astfel premisele unor viitoare colaborari stiintifice in neurostiuinte intre cercetatorii din diaspora si cei care activeaza in Romania.

In ceea ce priveste temele abordate, acestea au avut o varietate larga in cadrul neurostiintelor, de la sistemul nervos central la cel periferic, de la metode de investigare molecularare, celulare, electrofiziologice la cele imagistice, de la cercetarea pe modele experimentale pana la cea cu subiecti umani. Emil Toescu (University of Birmingham, UK) a prezentat date stiintifice despre modele de imbatranire a neuronilor si studiul capacitatii acestora de a tampona diferite agresiuni metabolice, aratand ca neuronii imbatraniti au o capacitate homeostatica redusa. Aurel Popa Wagner (Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universitat, Greifswald, Germany) a prezentat modificarile complexe de expresie a unor seturi de gene legate de accidentul vascular cerebral ischemic acut si de oportunitatile legate de o posibila interventie terapeutica neuroprotectoare. Andrei Barborica (Universitatea Bucuresti), care a lucrat o perioada la Columbia University (New York, USA), a vorbit despre capacitatea de anticipare a sistemului vizual, datele prezentate fiind recent publicate in jurnale medicale de prim rang (Neuron, Journal of Neuroscience, Nature Neuroscience). Dumitru Iacobas (Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, USA) a prezentat date din laboratorul sau privind rolul conexinelor, proteine care intra in alcatuirea jonctiunilor de tip gap, in procese fiziologice importante, cum sunt mielinizarea neuronilor sau ritmul cardiac.

Alexandru Babes (Universitatea Bucuresti) a prezentat descoperirea recenta la care a contribuit, a unui nou tip de canal ionic la nivelul nervilor periferici, implicat in functionarea semnalizarea nervilor periferici la temperaturi joase (date publicate in revista Nature) si Mihai Moldovan (The PANUM Institute, University of Copenhagen, Denmark) a vorbit despre o noua metoda diagnostica pe care o foloseste in laboratorul sau de electrofiziologie clinica, prin care masoara excitabilitatea nervilor periferici, asta pentru a pomeni contributiile numai a unei parti a participantilor. Discutiile pe marginea lucrarilor au fost de asemenea foarte interesante, punand problema relevantei diferitelor tipuri de experimente sau modele experimentale pentru progresul in cercetarea de tip translational din neurostiente.

SCIENTIFIC REPORT

With the occasion of the Conference ‘Diaspora in Romanian Scientific Research’, organized by the National Authority of Scientific Research and Romanian Academy, on September 17-18 took place in Bucharest the exploratory workshop entitled ‘Neurosciences and Transdisciplinarity’. This scientific meeting was organized in an excellent academic setting in the Council Room of the Medical School, ‘Carol Davila’ University of Medicine and Pharmacy. A number of 18 successful Romanian neuroscientists, from diaspora or from Romania, presented recent scientific results from their own laboratories. Other researchers, medical students and members of the National Society of Neuroscience from Romania attended the meeting. The workshop met the targeted objectives because it brought together different Romanian researchers who were unaware of their colleagues activity, created a performant scientific atmosphere and created the bases of future possible scientific collaborations between neuroscience groups in Romania and abroad.

Regarding the specific scientific topics, various fields of modern neuroscience were discussed, involving the central and peripheral nervous systems in relation with different neurological diseases, modern investigational techniques, from molecular, cellular, electrophysiological to imagery methods, in both cellular/animal models of diseases to human subjects research. Emil Toescu (University of Birmingham, UK) presented scientific data about neuronal ageing and aged neurons capacity to deal with metabolic aggression, showing that aged neurons have a reduced homeostatic capacity. Aurel Popa Wagner (Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universitat, Greifswald, Germany) reported complex changes in protein expression in stroke models and opportunities linked to possible neuroprotection strategies in stroke. Andrei Barborica (Bucharest University), who worked in a project with Columbia University (New York, USA), presented results about the visual system anticipation capacity, which have been published in high rank journals (Neuron, Journal of Neuroscience, Nature Neuroscience). Dumitru Iacobas (Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, USA) reported data from his laboratory which focused on roles of connexins, a family of proteins essential for gap junction formation, with relevance for crucial physiological processes such as myelination or cardiac rhythm. Alexandru Babes (Bucharest University) contributed to a recent discovery of a new ionic channel type in peripheral nerves, which is important for nerve signaling at low temperatures (data recently published in Nature) and Mihai Moldovan (The PANUM Institute, University of Copenhagen, Denmark) presented a new diagnostic method used in his clinical electrophysiology laboratory, which measure the excitability of peripheral. We managed to mention here only a part of the important scientific contributions presented at the workshop. The scientific discussions generated by the reports were interesting as well and focused on the relevance of different models and methods used in neuroscience for the translational approach.