



EDITORS:
**Please note that the first
lecture takes place
Wednesday, October 4, 2006.**

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate use

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**San Diego Natural History Museum
Hosts Grey Matters Lecture Series
Leading Neuroscientists Continue Popular Series at Museum**

San Diego: September 27, 2006—The San Diego Natural History Museum, with the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) Biological Sciences and the Kavli Institute for Brain and Mind at UCSD, is hosting *Grey Matters: From Molecules to Mind*. This widely popular lecture series, which drew record crowds to the Museum last year, is sponsored by Amylin Pharmaceuticals and is entirely free to the public.

San Diego's leading neuroscientists will lecture on their research exploring the human brain. Exciting new developments have led to dramatic advancements in the fields of neurobiology and cognitive sciences. For the first time, understanding how the human brain works has become a scientifically achievable goal. All lectures start at 6 PM. Registration begins at 5:30 PM.

TOPICS AND DATES:

Wednesday, October 4, 2006

Decisions: How We Animals Choose What to Do

Lecture with William Kristan, Ph.D., UCSD, Division of Biological Sciences

We make thousands of decisions every day: where to go, what to do, when to do it. Because all animals face similar sets of problems, their nervous systems are likely to use the same strategies to solve them—even leeches. Discover how neurons, synapses, and chemical input impact decision making. Who is to say that we don't make decisions like leeches?

Wednesday, November 1, 2006

Conscious and Unconscious Memory Systems of the Mammalian Brain

Lecture with Larry Squire, Ph.D., UCSD, School of Medicine

The medial temporal lobe is essential for declarative memory. Brain systems outside the medial temporal lobe support nondeclarative, nonconscious learning abilities including habit learning, simple forms of conditioning, and the phenomenon of priming. Learn about recent research that identifies a robust system for the acquisition of habits—both good and bad—which occurs gradually and outside of conscious awareness.

-OVER-

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

New Drug Treatments and the Future of Stem Cells for the Aging Brain

Lecture with Stuart Lipton, Ph.D., The Burnham Institute for Medical Research

Discover important anti-aging strategies, the latest drugs for degenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, and the potential use of human stem cells for neurological conditions.

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

The Science and Fiction of Autism: How to Tell the Difference

Lecture with Laura Schreibman, Ph.D., UCSD, Department of Psychology

Autism is one of the most fascinating yet controversial of childhood disorders. Everything about autism, from etiology to characteristics to treatment, has evoked strong disagreements and passions. What do we know and what do we not know about this devastating disorder? How can parents, educators, and the general public cut through the hype, the unproven, and the blatantly bogus? These children depend on us to do so.

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

Evolution of the Brain

Lecture with Harvey Karten, Ph.D., UCSD, Department of Neurosciences

Abstract: TBA

The San Diego Natural History Museum is “your nature connection” in beautiful Balboa Park. The Museum is open daily from 10 AM–5 PM, except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission includes all exhibitions and films and is \$11 for adults; \$9 for seniors; \$7 for military, youth 13–17, students; \$6 for children 3–12; and always free for members. Phone: 619.232.3821. Website: www.sdnhm.org.

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