The Canadian Open Neuroscience Platform
Summer 2021 e-newsletter

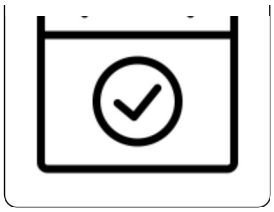
The CONP is a national network supported by Brain Canada and matching funds from multiple donors that brings together many of Canada's leading scientists in neuroscience to form an interactive network of collaborations in brain research, interdisciplinary training, international partnerships, clinical translation and open publishing.

CONP News

Brain Canada has approved our no-cost extension request! The CONP is funded through October, 2021 and on track to complete our original grant objectives. We're also drafting our funding renewal application for submission by early fall 2021.

Brain Canada awarded a 2019 Platform Support Grant (PSG) to Dr. Alan Evans and his team that includes several CONP researchers. This will support EEGNet, an open repository to better investigate neurodevelopmental, psychiatric, and neurodegenerative brain disorders. Read more here.

Upcoming Events



Centre for Neuroinformatics presents Dr. Blake Richards. His talk is titled "A single self-supervised loss function can explain specialized pathways in mouse visual cortex." Learn more and register here.

August 4, 2021: For the August Speaker Series event, the Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics presents Dr. Marta Garrido to speak on "From sensory prediction errors to computational psychiatry." Learn more and register here.

Do you have any upcoming events you want to share? Send us the details by emailing info@conp.ca

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

April 7, 2021 - CONP Ethics Officer Michael Beauvais presented a webinar for CONP Scholars on "The Ethics of Open Neuroscience". Attending were CONP Scholars past and present, including members of the latest 2021 cohort.

April 14, 2021 - As part of the Neuro's Open Science in Conversation series, Helena Ledmyr (INCF) and J.B. Poline (Chair, CONP Technical Committee) discussed the principles and practices of data sharing in their conversation, "Make it Open, Make it FAIR, Make a Difference."

April 26, 2021 - CONP partner Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics hosted Dr. Joel Zylberberg for April's KCNI Speaker Series talk on "Learning from unexpected events in the neocortical microcircuit."

May 28, June 4 and June 11, 2021: A collective of Canadian researchers (including CONP institutions and researchers) developed a series of Neuroimaging lessons under The Carpentries Incubator to teach skills that contribute to reproducible brain science. Three online lessons were given on three consecutive Fridays.

June 21, 2021: The Krembil Centre for Neuroinformatics held a Virtual Open House, featuring a panel discussion with Drs. David Goldbloom, Stefan Kloiber, Abigail Ortiz and George Foussias.

course on the integration of multi-scale neuroscience data. The course was open to grad students, post-grad research and clinical fellows, as well as early-career scientists.

Fall 2020 Events

November 3, 2020 - The CONP presented a tutorial on the CONP Portal during the Ludmer Centre Workshop on a brain-region-specific expression-based polygenic score. This included the ePRS-5-HTT tool that has been containerized into a pipeline available through the CONP Portal. The 5-HTT-ePRS tool could enable early identification of those children with ADHD in need of intervention.

November 4, 2020 - Webinar with Violeta Ilik, FORCE11 and Dean of Libraries, Adelphi University

November 26, 2020 - Webinar with Amy Orben, "Approaches on Scientific Error", in collaboration with Open Science Basel

Jane Roskams, Chair of CONP Training Committee, gave a TEDxSeattle talk

November 11-12, 2020 - A number of CONP members gave presentations at the Neuro-Gairdner Open Science in Action Symposium:

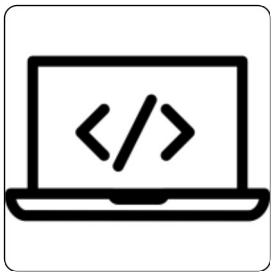
- Samir Das (CONP Portal developer) – CONP Portal
- Rachel Harding (Chair, Communications Committee) – SGC Open Lab Notebooks
- Agâh Karakuzu and Elizabeth DuPre (CONP Scholars) - NeuroLibre
- Sara Memar (CONP Scholar) - MouseBytes

November 30-December 18, 2020 - At Brainhack Global 2020, the CONP gave a live demo on how to use the CONP Portal and convened a project to encourage participants to share data and pipelines. The virtual event was attended by approximately 100 participants.

Visit Media & News to catch up on past events, view videos of some of our past webinars and keep up with CONP activities and developments.

CONP Committee Updates

Technical Committee



- New feature included for direct download of small datasets without third-party accounts
- There is now integration of CONP datasets and pipelines into CBRAIN with a direct link for easy processing
- Partnerships with NTRIC and NEXUS
- Portal Analytics

Communications Committee

- CONP Twitter account has over 1,000 followers, with an average Tweet engagement rate (January 2021 to date) of 2.21%. Follow along to meet all of our new CONP scholars #CONPScholar2021
- NeuroLibre soft launch with Quebec Bio-Imaging Network, larger event to be held in fall 2021

Ethics Committee

- Refining the ethical governance of datasets added to the CONP Portal
- Examining the legal and ethical aspects of synthetic data
- Developing an ethics toolkit, a cohesive set of tools, information and resources to assist researchers in responsibly conducting open neuroscience research

Training Committee

through the second (2020) and third (2021) rounds of the CONP Scholar Awards competition. Browse their profiles here!

- Continuing a series of webinars to expose CONP scholars to the core components of the CONP to promote their active engagement in the CONP community and open science
- The CONP is collaborating with the INCF Training Space to include CONP Training Resources.

Operations Committee

The Operations Committee has restructured the new CONP website (English site ready; French site to come) and would like your opinion on its new look.

Visit the new website and fill out the 5-question survey.

Contact us at:
info@conp.ca

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