

Organisation to date

1. **Date** Saturday 20 August – Friday 26 August 2011

2. **Venue**

We have preliminarily booked the University of Oxford Examination Schools as a venue for the meeting.

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/schools/>

The North and East Writing Schools will comfortably house delegates each for the parallel sessions. The poster sessions, tea and coffee break catering and trade exhibition could be held in the South Writing School.

There are also facilities for an internet cafe, press room, space for luggage storage and a quad for evening functions, if need be.

The South Writing School can also be used for the Congress Banquet and we have contacts with a catering company which has held events at the ES previously

We propose to hold the EBRS Council Meeting in Brasenose College.

3. **Organisation and Content (see Preliminary Timetable)**

The congress will span 6 days and we propose a similar content to the meeting in 2009 with an opening ceremony, the J Ariens-Kapplers Lecture and a Wine Reception on Day 1 (Saturday 20 August). We propose parallel sessions in the mornings and afternoons for days 2-3 and 5-6. Wednesday 24 August will be a half day with the banquet in the evening. Friday 26 August will see the end of the conference at approx 16.00. There will be hour long poster sessions on days 1 and 2 – there may be more on other days.

We propose a major day of plenary talks on Tuesday 23 August. This day will be sponsored by a single funder (TBA) and will be entitled 'Cells to Circuits: Circuits to Behaviour'. RF has suggested that Gero Miessenboeck assist with this day's organisation.

Plenary Lectures will include:

- LE1: The J Ariens-Kappers Lecture
- LE2: The Axelrod Lecture
- LE3: The Gwinner Lecture
- LE4: The JCS Lecture

and 11 other plenary lectures

Parallel session topics will include:

- S1 Photodetection by the circadian system
- S2 Entrainment by photic cues
- S3 Entrainment by non-photoc time cues
- S4 Clocks in model species
- S5 Exploring spatiotemporal organisation of SCN circuits
- S6 Organisation of the hierarchical multi-oscillator system in the suprachiasmatic nucleus
- S7 Organisation of the mammalian circadian timing system
- S8 Interplay between circadian clocks and metabolism
- S9 Regulation of pineal melatonin synthesis
- S10 Melatonin: modes of action
- S11 Clocks and Sleep
- S12 Seasonal timing
- S13 Molecular mechanisms controlling vertebrate seasonal functions
- S14 Links between circadian clocks, clock genes and diseases
- S15 Circadian rhythm disorders; from sleep problems to psychiatric troubles
- S16 Ageing and the circadian system

We propose to have Hot Topics and the Young Researcher Awards included under individual sessions.

4. Accommodation

August is a busy month for Oxford and the height of the tourist season. Hotel rooms will be at a premium and very expensive which may dissuade delegates from attending, particularly junior delegates and those from abroad.

We have been investigating the possibilities of College accommodation for delegates and to date have the possibility of 273 en suite rooms and 390 standard rooms in 6 Oxford University Colleges: St Catherine's, Christ Church, St Edmund Hall, St Hilda's, Queen's College and Wadham College,

<http://www.stcatz.ox.ac.uk/>

<http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk>

<http://www.seh.ox.ac.uk>

<http://www.sthildas.ox.ac.uk>

<http://www.queens.ox.ac.uk>

<http://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk>

These provide comfortable single room accommodation with breakfast included (some colleges have twin rooms and doubles) at a reasonable price (£46 + VAT - £82.50 + VAT per person, this year) and are all within easy walking distance of the congress venue (see map

http://www.ox.ac.uk/colleges/map_of_the_colleges_and_halls/index.html).

Oxford is particularly bad for parking and we would not recommend that delegates drive to the congress.

5. Social Events

We propose a Wine Reception on the Evening of Day 1, and a Congress Banquet on the evening of Day 4. We would also like to include a hog roast, disco and fireworks on the evening of Day 3, but have to explore the logistics of such an event.

6. Travel

We would recommend that delegates use public transport to and from Oxford as the traffic and parking are bad and it will be the height of the tourist season. It will be very busy everywhere.

There are good bus services from all the London Airports (Heathrow, Gatwick, Stanstead and Luton).

The city itself is small enough to wander around on foot, and there are decent bus services to destinations all over the city and beyond (eg Blenheim Palace) should people want to fit in a bit of sight-seeing.

7. Sponsorship

We will be seeking sponsorship from previous sponsors and other contacts through the University. We already have two interested parties.

Lots to do.....