

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

COLIN BLAKEMORE

PhD, ScD, FIBiol, FMedSci, FRS

Waynflete Professor of Physiology, University of Oxford
Director of the Oxford Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience

Colin Blakemore studied medical sciences at Cambridge, completed a PhD at the University of California, Berkeley, taught at Cambridge for 11 years, and in 1979 took up the Chair of Physiology at the University of Oxford. He has received many prizes for his research, which has been concerned with vision and the early development of the brain, and he is currently President of the Physiological Society and President of the new Biosciences Federation. He is also passionately committed to the public communication of science and won the Royal Society Michael Faraday Medal in 1989. He has been President and is now Chairman of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. He is a frequent broadcaster on radio (including the BBC Reith Lectures) and television (including the Royal Institution Christmas lectures and *The Mind Machine*, a 13-part series on brain and mind). He has also written widely for the general public: his most recent book is *The Oxford Companion to the Body*. He has contributed to the national debate on drugs, arguing that assessment of harm should be soundly based on scientific evidence, and that we must contemplate more radical approaches to the problem.

T.W. ROBBINS

Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Cambridge

Trevor Robbins gained his first degree and PhD in Psychology from the University of Cambridge, the latter under the supervision of Dr Susan Iversen in Psychopharmacology. He was appointed initially to the faculty in 1973 at the University and gained tenure as a lecturer in 1978. He was appointed first as Reader in Cognitive Neuroscience (1992) and in 1997 as Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience. Recently, he has been elected to the Chair of Experimental Psychology (and HoD) at Cambridge from October 2002. He is a Fellow of the British Psychological Society (BPS) and the Academy of Medical Sciences. In 1982, he won the BPS Spearman Medal for outstanding research. In 1996 he shared the award of the DG Marquis medal for the best paper published that year in the APA journal *Behavioral Neuroscience*. In 1998 he delivered a Hebb Lecture to McGill University and the closing Plenary at FENS in Paris 2002. He has been President of the European Behavioural Pharmacology Society (1992-1994) and he won that Society's inaugural Distinguished Scientist Award in 2001. He was also President of the British Association of Psychopharmacology from 1996 to 1997. He has edited the journal *Psychopharmacology* since 1980 and until recently was Associate Editor of *Behavioral Neuroscience*. He has been a member of Medical Research Council (UK) and chaired the Neuroscience and Mental Health Board until 1999. He was included on a list of the 100 most cited neuroscientists by ISI. He has published over three hundred and fifty full papers and co-edited three books (*Psychology for Medicine: The Prefrontal Cortex; Executive and Cognitive Function, and Disorders of Brain and Mind*).

LESLIE IVERSEN

Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford

Leslie Iversen PhD is Director of the Wolfson Centre for Research on Age Related diseases at Kings College London, Visiting Professor at the Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford, and founder of the pharmaceutical company Panos Therapeutics Ltd. He was previously Director of the Neuroscience Research Centre set up by the international pharmaceutical company Merck & Co. Inc. in Harlow, Essex, UK (1983-1995) and Director of the UK Medical Research Council Neurochemical Pharmacology Unit in Cambridge, England (1970-1983). He is interested in understanding how drugs work in the nervous system and in the molecular basis of nervous system disorders and is particularly known for his work on the chemical messengers used for communication between nerve cells. He is the author of several books and of more than 350 scientific publications and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of London and a Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences, USA. He acted as the specialist adviser to the House of Lords Science & Technology Committee's enquiry into Cannabis, and his most recent books are "The Science of Marijuana", Oxford University Press, 2000 and "A Very Short Introduction to Drugs", Oxford University Press, 2001.

BARRY J. EVERITT

Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Cambridge

Barry Everitt has a B.Sc. in Zoology and a Ph.D. in Behavioural Neuroendocrinology from the University of Birmingham Medical School in 1970. Following a postdoctoral position in neuroscience at the Karolinska Institute, he joined the Department of Anatomy at the University of Cambridge as a lecturer, then Reader in Neuroscience. In 1995, he moved to the Department of Experimental Psychology in Cambridge and was appointed to a personal Professorship in Behavioural Neuroscience in 1997. He has been President of the British Association for Psychopharmacology, President of the European Brain and Behaviour Society and is president-elect of the European Behavioural Pharmacology Society. He is also Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Neuroscience. His major research interests at present concern the neural and psychological basis of cocaine and heroin addiction, especially the importance of interactions between these drugs and learning systems in the brain which result in drug-seeking and drug-taking becoming compulsive habits. A key aspect of his research concerns the development of novel treatments for addiction based on preventing relapse when individuals are exposed to drug cues that induce craving.

DAVID J. NUTT
DM, FRCP, FRCPsych, FMedSci
Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Bristol

David Nutt is currently Professor of Psychopharmacology, Head of the Department of Clinical Medicine and Dean of Clinical Medicine and Dentistry, based at the University of Bristol. He received his undergraduate training in medicine at Cambridge and Guy's Hospital, and continued training in neurology to MRCP. After completing his psychiatric training in Oxford, he continued there as a lecturer and then later as a Wellcome Senior Fellow in psychiatry. He then spent two years as Chief of the Section of Clinical Science in the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism in NIH, Bethesda, USA. On returning to England in 1988 he set up the Psychopharmacology Unit in Bristol, an interdisciplinary research grouping spanning the departments of Psychiatry and Pharmacology. He is currently a member of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, and Chair of the Technical Committee of the ACMD, the Committee on Safety of Medicines. In addition, he is advisor to the British National Formulary, the editor of the Journal of Psychopharmacology and the Past-President of the British Association of Psychopharmacology.

MARK A. GEYER
Department of Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego

Dr. Geyer is a preclinical psychopharmacologist at the University of California, San Diego, where he currently holds the position of Professor of Psychiatry and Neurosciences in the School of Medicine. He is actively involved in both the Ph.D. Group in Neurosciences and the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program. Since receiving his doctorate in Psychology in 1972, he has focused on basic research addressing the behavioral and neurobiological effects of drugs acting via monoaminergic neurotransmitters. For over two decades, he has had continuous funding from the U.S. National Institute on Drug Abuse to study the behavioral effects of hallucinogens in animals. Dr. Geyer is also internationally known for his research on the psychophysiology, neurobiology, and pharmacotherapy of schizophrenia, which is supported by multiple grants from the National Institute of Mental Health. He has published over 250 peer-reviewed papers, including many addressing the mechanisms subserving the effects of psychostimulants, hallucinogens, and entactogens. Dr. Geyer is currently an editor for two highly-respected international journals, *Psychopharmacology* and *Neuropharmacology*, and is on the Editorial Board of several other journals. Dr. Geyer was one of the co-founders of the Heffter Research Institute, which reviews and funds rigorous research on psychedelic compounds and publishes the Heffter Review. He is currently the President of the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society, Vice-President of the international Serotonin Club, and a member of the Scientific Council of NARSAD.

MICHAEL FARRELL
Consultant Psychiatrist, National Addiction Centre

Dr Michael Farrell, is a Senior Lecturer and Consultant Psychiatrist at the National Addiction Centre and Maudsley Hospital London. He is responsible for a large community based drug and alcohol service in South London. He is involved in research and policy aspects of drug and alcohol problems. He has conducted research on the relationship between drug, alcohol, tobacco use and other forms of psychiatric morbidity. He has conducted a range of treatment evaluation projects. He has worked in partnership with the Office in National Statistics on the programme of surveys of psychiatric morbidity which has included two national household surveys, a prisons survey, a homeless survey and a survey of child and adolescent mental health. He has worked part time as a policy advisor to the Department of Health. He is an editor with the Cochrane Collaboration Alcohol and Drugs Group involved in the review of effective interventions for drug and alcohol dependence. He has worked with a wide range of international organisations and is also a member of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence. He has published over 200 articles on aspects of tobacco, alcohol and drug use and dependence.