

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Programs in History of the Neurosciences

Organized and hosted for ISHN by **Peter Koehler**.

The Zoom link for the virtual program is distributed to ISHN members through the society's listserv, ISHN-L. Other interested attendees should contact Peter Koehler by email at: [pkoehler AT neurohistory.nl](mailto:pkoehler AT neurohistory.nl)

The Zoom link will be active starting 15 minutes before the scheduled program time. When the presentation starts, please mute your microphone. Questions and answers can be done after the presentation using the "Raise Your Hand" function, but may also be written in Zoom's chat window during the presentation.

Attendance is limited, so please do not post the Zoom link on listservs, websites, chat, etc.

### ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 7

#### 15 September 2021

7:00 Wednesday PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 6:00 PM London / 8:00 PM Moscow / 10:30 PM Ludhiana (Punjab, India) / 1:00 PM New York / 10:00 AM Los Angeles / 3:00 Thursday AM Sydney

Gagandeep Singh

#### **The Visual Aura—Epileptic or Migrainous. A Historical Perspective**

Gagandeep Singh, MD, DM is Professor and Head of the Department of Neurology, Dayanand Medical College & Hospital, Ludhiana, India; and, Hon. Associate Professor of Clinical & Experimental Epilepsy, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, London, UK.

Please note that the September program is **3 hours earlier** than previous talks!

### ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 8

#### 20 October 2021

Edward Fine

#### **Origins of Comprehensive Care of Persons with Epilepsy in the USA**

### ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 9

#### 17 November 2021

Georgina Chapman

### ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 10

#### 15 December 2021

To be determined – interested speakers are encouraged to contact Peter Koehler

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 6

**19 May 2021**

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York / 6:00 AM Sydney

Frank Stahnisch

### **A New Field in Mind: A History of Interdisciplinarity in the Early Brain Sciences**

Frank Stahnisch, PhD, MSc (<https://hist.ucalgary.ca/profiles/frank-w-stahnisch>) is Professor of History and the Philosophy of Science in the Department of History at University of Calgary, and co-Editor of *Journal of the History of the Neurosciences*.

His talk is based on [his recent book of the same title](#) from McGill-Queens University Press (Associated Medical Services in the History of Medicine, Health, and Society series, no. 52, 2020) :

“In recent decades, developments in research technologies and therapeutic advances have generated immense public recognition for neuroscience. However, its origins as a field, often linked to partnerships and projects at various brain-focused research centres in the United States during the 1960s, can be traced much further back in time.

“In *A New Field in Mind* Frank Stahnisch documents and analyzes the antecedents of the modern neurosciences as an interdisciplinary field. Although postwar American research centres, such as Francis O. Schmitt’s Neuroscience Research Program at MIT, brought the modern field to prominence, Stahnisch reveals the pioneering collaborations in the early brain sciences at centres in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland in the first half of the twentieth century. One of these, Heinrich Obersteiner’s institute in Vienna, began its work in the 1880s. Through case studies and collective biographies, Stahnisch investigates the evolving relationships between disciplines - anatomy, neurology, psychiatry, physiology, serology, and neurosurgery - which created new epistemological and social contexts for brain research. He also shows how changing political conditions in Central Europe affected the development of the neurosciences, ultimately leading to the expulsion of many physicians and researchers under the Nazi regime and their migration to North America.

“An in-depth and innovative study, *A New Field in Mind* tracks the emergence and evolution of neuroscientific research from the late nineteenth century to the postwar period.”

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 5

**21 April 2021**

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York / 6:00 AM Sydney

Christopher J. Boes

### **Harry Lee Parker: Games Lost and Won on the Playing Fields of Neurology**

Christopher J. Boes, MD is in the Department of Neurology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 4

**17 March 2021**

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York

Paul Eling (in collaboration with Stanley Finger)

### **Franz Joseph Gall on God and Religion: “God and Brain, Nothing but God and Brain!”**

Paul Eling and Stanley Finger recently published the book, [\*Franz Joseph Gall: Naturalist of the Mind, Visionary of the Brain\*](#) (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019): “Franz Joseph Gall (1758–1828) viewed himself as a cutting-edge scientist, whose broad goals were to understand the mind and brain, and to be able to account for both group and individual behavioral traits in humans and animals. Starting in Vienna during the 1790s, he argued for many independent faculties of mind (e.g., music, calculation), ultimately settling on 27, with 8 being unique to humans. At the same time, he became the first person to provide evidence for cortical localization of function, the idea that the cerebral cortex is composed of specialized functional areas or organs, as he preferred to say. But although he utilized many acceptable methods in his multifaceted research program (e.g., dissections, studying people with brain damage, and observing behaviors over a lifetime), his doctrine was highly controversial from the start. For scientists and physicians, this was largely because he made cranioscopy his primary method, believing cranial bumps and depressions faithfully reflect the cortical organs and could be correlated with specific behaviors. In this book, Gall is shown to be a dedicated scientist with brilliant insights: a free-thinking naturalist of the mind and a visionary of the brain, yet a researcher with faults. Despite being frequently portrayed as a charlatan or comical figure, the authors also show how what others called his ‘phrenology’ (a term he abhorred) helped shape the modern neurosciences and other disciplines. Maintaining that Gall’s impact deserves more recognition today, this book provides a fresh look at the man, his objectives, and his revolutionary doctrine.”

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 3

**17 February 2021**

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York

Marco Piccolino\*

### **Scientists on the Run at the Rime of the “Racial Laws”: The Case of Giuseppe Levi and Rita Levi-Montalcini\*\***

\* Formerly Professor of General Physiology, University of Ferrara. Member of the National Institute of Neurosciences, University of Ferrara. He took his PhD from the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa (1970-2).

\*\* For those who wish to prepare: *Family Lexicon* (London: Daunt Books, 2018; New York: New York Review Books, 2017), the English translation of *Lessico Familiare* (Torino: Giulio Einaudi Editore, 1963) by Natalia Ginzburg, the daughter of Giuseppe Levi, one of the two

personages of my talk. Levi is the protagonist of this book, a very enjoyable reading, and a classic of the Novecento. The English edition exists in ebook format for a small price.

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 2

**20 January 2021**

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York

Manon Auffret

**John Yerbury Dent, Apomorphine, and Addiction(s): An Unfinished History**

Manon Auffret, PharmD, PhD is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Université de Rennes 1, Institut des Neurosciences, Cliniques de Rennes, in France.

## ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 1

**16 December 2020**

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York /  
8:00 AM Sydney (December 17)

Paul Foley

**So Misunderstood: The Story of the Schwann Cell**

Paul Foley, BSc(Hons), MA, PhD (History of Medicine, 2001) from Würzburg, is currently Scientific and Research Editor of *Medical Journal of Australia*. His latest book is [\*Encephalitis Lethargica: The Mind and Brain Virus\*](#) (New York: Springer, 2018).

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