

## CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE



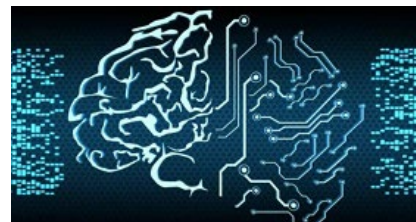
### NEUROSCIENCE NEWS | NOVEMBER 2018

Welcome to the November Clinical and Translational Neuroscience newsletter. This month we'll let you know about new funding opportunities from the NIH, highlight events of interest, and feature an investigator on campus. Please visit our [program area pages](#) of the IHSI website for the latest news and grant opportunities. And as always, if you have an item to share with the neuroscience community at Illinois, we would be happy to feature it. Items can be submitted to [Gillian Snyder](#), IHSI research development manager.

#### ETHICS AND NEUROTECHNOLOGY | FUNDING FROM THE NIH

One of the defined themes in the BRAIN 2025 report is: *"Considers ethical implications of neuroscience research."* Although ethical issues that are common to other areas of biomedical science also impact brain research, there are special ethical considerations unique to brain research in areas such as brain imaging and modulation, data privacy, informed consent, and several additional opportunities that warrant focused attention. In addition, feedback solicited through a recent [BRAIN Neuroethics Request for Information](#) underscores that the broader public and scientists alike endorse that scientific advances and technology development are well-served by thoughtful consideration of potential ethical issues.

This [FOA](#) seeks to provide opportunities to directly consider the integration of ethical issues with BRAIN-supported scientific advances. Specifically, it seeks to support efforts addressing core ethical issues associated with research focused on the human brain



and resulting from emerging technologies and advancements in research and development supported by the BRAIN Initiative. The hope is that efforts supported under this initiative might be both complimentary and integrative with the transformative, breakthrough neuroscience discoveries supported through the BRAIN Initiative.

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## INNOVATIVE INVESTIGATOR SPOTLIGHT | HEE JUNG CHUNG

Each Investigator Spotlight features a clinical and translational neuroscience researcher doing important work right here at Illinois.

**Professor Hee Jung Chung's** research interests include focus on epilepsy, a brain disorder that affects millions of people worldwide. She is specifically interested in investigating molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying epilepsy with specific focus on ion channels that are critical regulators of neuronal activity.



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## LINKING BRAIN FUNCTION AND BEHAVIOR ACROSS DEVELOPMENT

Studies linking basic neurodevelopmental concepts and approaches with mental-health relevant behavioral questions are critical to the field of mental health research. The problems with memory, executive functions, affect regulation, and social interaction seen in psychiatric disorders are most closely linked to neural circuit organization and function. However, our understanding of the timing, trajectories, and mechanisms involved in the normative development of neural circuits that subservise these complex behaviors is lagging. We need more basic research at the level of neural circuits and systems to bridge the gap between genetic and molecular-level events and the development of clinical signs and symptoms.



The NIMH has issued two new FOAs that are focused on the dynamic and mechanistic links between the maturation of brain circuits and behaviors across development in rodents and non-human primates. Projects supported will focus on neurodevelopmental trajectories and investigate questions using in vivo neural measures in awake, behaving animals. The first FOA seeks shorter, [higher-risk R21 grant applications](#), whereas its companion funding opportunity seeks [R01 grant applications](#).

[VIEW ALL NIMH-SPONSORED PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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## NINDS PROGRAM PROJECT GRANT

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke's program project grants (PPG) support investigator-initiated research programs, consisting of three or more highly interdependent projects, in which a team of investigators works in a clearly defined area of mutual scientific interest. In a program project, there should be a unifying, well-defined goal or targeted area of research to which each project relates and contributes, thereby producing a synergistic and collaborative research environment that allows each research project to share the creative strengths of the others. Programs should present a compelling case in support of interrelated projects and collaborating investigators will yield results beyond those achievable if each project were pursued separately and without formal interaction among the participating investigators.



[VIEW THE FOA](#)

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## NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH GROUP MAILING LIST

There is interest in revitalizing the postgraduate/postdoc group in neuroscience. If you are involved in neuroscience research and are interested in being part of this group, contact [Michael Dulas](#) or [Nien-Pei Tsai](#) to get on the mailing list. Weekly breakfasts with the NSP seminar speakers are offered on Tuesday mornings and additional activities are underway.



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## CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE IN THE NEWS

Researchers at Illinois advance work in clinical and translational neuroscience, addressing complex and critical challenges. Here, we highlight recent research news:

11.16.18 [Division of Nutritional Sciences at Illinois receives USDA training grant for gut-brain axis research](#)

11.01.18 [The biological roots of intelligence](#)

10.26.18 [Fiber for your brain](#)



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## IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- Scolnick Prize in Neuroscience nominations: December 15, 2018

Contact Gillian Snyder, IHSI research development manager, at 217-300-6709 or [gcooke@illinois.edu](mailto:gcooke@illinois.edu) if you have a calendar item or event to share.

