

Memoload Minisymposium

8 March 2011, CRG, Barcelona
Seminar 300.08/350.08 (3rd floor)

09:15 Welcoming words

09:30 **Prof. Heikki TANILA**
University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio FI
Introducing MEMOLOAD

10:00 **Prof. Richard MORRIS**
University of Edinburg, UK
"Synaptic tagging and capture: molecular mechanisms and implications for memory"

10:45 **Prof. Michael ROWAN**
Trinity College Dublin, IE
"Immunotargeting disrupted form and function in vivo: Amyloid β and synaptic plasticity"

11:25 **Prof. Mara DIERSSEN**
Center for Genomic Regulation (CRG), Barcelona ES
"Excercising Down's Synapses: The impact of environmental enrichment on Down syndrome models"

12:00 Get-together Tapas lunch (5th Floor Terrace)

SPEAKERS

Prof. Richard Morris (Centre for Cognitive and Neural Systems, University of Edinburgh) is one of the pioneers in developing cognitive tests to reveal hippocampal contribution to spatial memory. He has also significantly contributed to our understanding of NMDA mediated signaling in synaptic plasticity and introduced the concept of synaptic tagging.

Prof. Michael Rowan (Department of Pharmacology, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland) has a long career in studying synaptic transmission and plasticity in hippocampal networks using electrophysiological recording techniques both in vivo and in vitro. Recently the group has made major discoveries on the mechanisms of the effects of amyloid peptides on synaptic plasticity (long-term potentiation and long-term depression) in the rodent hippocampus.

Prof. Mara Dierssen (Genes and Disease Program, Center for Genomic Regulation) is considered a leader in Down syndrome research. Her group is interested in candidate genes for human complex genetic diseases that affect cognitive systems, to understand the genetic and neural circuits disturbed in mental retardation and neuropsychiatric disorders is one of the significant challenges in ultimately treating it.