



## Saudi Arabia Hosts The Brain Forum

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia - Friday, November 8th 2013

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia will be hosting the first of its kind symposium in the Middle East region that will bring together some of the world's top inspirational thinkers and pioneers in the field of Brain Research and Personalized Healthcare.

Renowned scientists from all over the world will present their latest discoveries and hold open discussions on the future of brain research and related healthcare challenges. The Forum will also present new tools, technologies and other personalized healthcare innovations that could improve the diagnosis, management and treatment of brain disorders.

The Forum will provide physicians, scientists, and business executives from both the public and private sectors opportunities to exchange ideas and share their thoughts on the future healthcare challenges and opportunities.

Dr. Walid Juffali, whose hosting the event, said the Forum comes within the framework of initiatives undertaken by the Saudi government to address national health priorities, including neurodegenerative diseases and brain disorders. He believes the Kingdom will benefit, greatly, from the leading scientists and global experts, and this will contribute to the improvement of medical technology as well as to support the government's efforts. He added that the Forum also falls under the tenets and guidelines of the W Science initiative funded by Dr. Walid Juffali.

W Science initiative was launched by Dr. Walid Juffali to support outstanding scientific projects and facilitate collaborations among leading scientists working at the interfaces of different scientific disciplines to address unmet medical needs and improve the quality of personalized healthcare.

For registration, visit our website: www.thebrainforum.org

You can watch the brain forum streaming live on the website

Among the speakers are some of the leading experts who through their pioneering work and leadership of major international scientific initiatives are playing major roles in shaping the future of brain research.

The Forum was set up in conjunction with a Scientific Committee which included Professor Dr. Hilal A. Lashuel, Associate Professor of Neuroscience, Director of the Laboratory of Chemical Biology of Neurodgeneration, Brain Mind Institute, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, Switzerland; Professor Christopher Toumazou from Imperial College, and Dr. Jamil El-Imad, Managing Director and Chief Scientist of NeuroPro, a Swiss-based medical technology research, design and commercialization company focused on bringing to the healthcare community innovative, safe and low-cost solutions to applied neural signal analysis. Professor Saeed Bohlega, professor and senior neurology consultant at the Department of Neurology at King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh, and the President of Saudi Neurology Society, Dr. Mohammed Jan, Professor & Consultant of Pediatric Neurology & Clinical Neurophysiology Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, (KAU).

Among the Forum speakers are:

- 1. Prof. Patrick Aebischer, Professor of Neuroscience and President of the ÉcolePolytechniqueFédérale (EPFL) in Switzerland.
- 2. Prof. Alim-Louis Benabid, director of the National Centre for Nanotechnologies in Healthcare, based in Grenoble and Chairman of the Board, Clinatec, CEA, in France.
- 3. Prof. Olaf Blanke is founding director of the Center for Neuroprosthetics, Bertarelli Foundation Chair in Cognitive Neuroprosthetics at the ÉcolePolytechniqueFédérale (EPFL) in Switzerland.
- 4. Prof. SaeedBohlega, professor and senior neurology consultant at the Department of Neurology, King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh, and the president of Saudi Neurology Society in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- 5. Prof. Ralph Etienne-Cummings, professor of electrical and computer engineering at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and the founding Director of the Institute of Neuromorphic Engineering in United States of America.
- 6. Alvaro Fernandez, co-founder and CEO of SharpBrains.
- 7. Prof. YikeGuo is a professor in computing sciences at the Department of Computing at Imperial College, in United Kingdom.
- 8. Dr. Thomas Grunwald. A neurologist at the Swiss Epilepsy Centre in Zurich and a senior consultant for epileptology at the Department of Neurology, University Hospital Zurich in Switzerland.
- 9. Dr. Sean Hill, co-director of the Blue Brain Project and co-director of Neuroinformatics in the European Union funded Human Brain Project (HBP) at the ÉcolePolytechniqueFédérale (EPFL) in Switzerland.
- 10. Prof. Christof Koch, Chief Scientific Officer of the Allen Institute for Brain Science in Seattle and the (Lois and Victor Troendle ) Professor of Cognitive and Behavioral Biology at The California Institute of Technology in United States of America.
- 11. Prof. Pierre Magistretti, Dean of Biological and Environmental Science and Engineering in KAUST, Professor (on leave) at Brain Mind Institute of EPFL, and President elect of the International Brain Organization (IBRO).
- 12. Prof. Wolfgang Knecht, managing director of the Neuroscience Center Zurich (ZNZ) of the University and ETH Zurich in Switzerland.
- 13. Prof. Miguel Nicolelis, Professor of neurobiology, biomedical engineering, psychology and Neuroscience. Also he isthe co-director for center of neuroengineering in Duke University, United States of America.

## **Contacts**

## **Headline Communication**

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