

## Congratulations to the new Director of the Institute for Integrative Neuroscience Chris Rochet !

The field of neuroscience as we see it unfolding today offers exciting opportunities while presenting formidable challenges. For example, powerful imaging technologies hold promise in unlocking the cellular and molecular underpinnings of brain function. At the same time, our knowledge of how to treat devastating CNS syndromes such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, autism and schizophrenia remains limited. Clearly, a top-tier university that strives for excellence in the life sciences must have a strong presence in neuroscience, with the expertise and resources in place to capitalize on opportunities and overcome key challenges such as those outlined above.

In 2015, Purdue made a bold statement about its commitment to excellence in neuroscience research by establishing PIIN. Since then, the institute has made tremendous inroads under the leadership of its inaugural director, Donna Fekete, particularly with respect to recruiting talented faculty, opening state-of-the-art neuroscience research labs in DLR, implementing two research cores, and enhancing graduate training (to name but a few examples). During the next phase of PIIN, we will continue this momentum by building strategic relationships, both within the institute and between PIIN and other institutes at Purdue and beyond.

Together with the leadership team, I look forward to working with PIIN's talented investigators across the Purdue campus to build an even more collaborative neuroscience community, and to help us all reach new heights in neuroscience research. Through these efforts, PIIN will move closer to fulfilling its vision of being a recognized international leader in advancing knowledge of neural systems to improve the human condition.

- Chris Rochet, Director, Institute for Integrative Neuroscience

## Announcements:

Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center Pilot Project Program The IADC is soliciting proposals for pilot projects from investigators who want to develop research on Alzheimer disease, frontotemporal dementia, or other neurodegenerative dementias. Applications pertinent to basic mechanisms of memory, learning and cognition are also welcome, as are proposals related to the delivery of health care services. Pilot projects may be requested under one of two different funding arms: 1. Up to \$30,000 (total cost) for one year (salary support for the principal investigator is not allowed). This will be awarded using NIA funds. Funding period will be July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. Up to \$25,000 (total cost) over two years (salary support for the investigator is not allowed). This will be awarded using Indiana CTSI institutional funding. Funding period will be July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021, For more information, visit here.

## **Upcoming Events:**

• Spring 2019 Special Lectures in Neuroscience: The Neuroscience of Obesity. Please join us for Nicholas Ryba's presentation, "New Approaches for Understanding the Molecular Basis of Sensory Detection and Perception." Ryba (NIH, NIDCR) uses modern molecular and neuroscience approaches to study taste and other sensory systems. The event will take February 7, 2019, in the Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship (MRGN) Room 121, starting with a reception with refreshments from 3-3:30 p.m., followed by the lecture from 3:30-5 p.m.