

SfN Chapters Grant Proposal Application Form 2009

Chapter name: Brisbane (Australia) Chapter

Chapter Representative: Professor Shaun P. Collin (President), Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, School of Biomedical Sciences, The University of Queensland, Brisbane 4072, Queensland, Australia. Phone: +61 (07) 3365 4066, Fax: +61 (07) 3365 1299, email: s.collin@uq.edu.au

Chapter Treasurer: Professor David Adams, Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland, Brisbane 4072, Queensland, Australia. Phone: +61 (07) 3346 6434, Fax: +61 (07) 3346 6394, email: dadams@uq.edu.au

Cheques payable to: Brisbane (Australia) Chapter

Mailing address for cheques: Professor Shaun P. Collin (President), School of Biomedical Sciences, The University of Queensland, Brisbane 4072, Queensland, Australia.

Brief summary

The Brisbane (Australia) Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience has now been running for 6 years. The Chapter and especially its activities with respect to its support of the Australian Brain Bee Challenge and its Annual ‘Neuroscience Downunder Reception’ have been large events on the Australian Calendar. Both events are incredibly well attended. The events have been so successful that new Chapters have been /are being formed around Australia (the Melbourne Chapter is already established and a Sydney Chapter has just applied for membership). The rationale for requesting funds this year is to help us expand our activities to prepare and run the Australian Brain Bee Challenge in 2009.

Specific goals

We have 8,225 students registered for the 2009 ABBC Round 1 Quiz which will take place online in schools in every State/Territory in Australia and two regions of New Zealand during Brain Awareness Week.

We are seeking funds to help reach students in all communities in Australia and some regions in NZ . The *Challenge* has grown from only 240 students registered in 2006 offered in Queensland only; to 8,225 students registered by schools from every Australian State/Territory and 2 regions of New Zealand in 2009.

Travel/Accommodation Grants:

This year we are especially focussing our attention on developing the involvement of the remote communities of Far Northern Queensland and the Northern Territory.

We are seeking funds to:

(1) Provide travel/accommodation grants that will assist in making the participation of the remote schools of the NT and Far North Queensland possible. Queensland, schools have registered over 2,200 students for the 2009 Round 1 online Qualifying Quiz from as far North as Cooktown, almost 2,000 km from Brisbane (Cooktown State School registered 30 Yr 10 students) and everywhere in between, many schools

more than a days car journey from Brisbane. Students who progress to Round 2 of the ABBC will need to travel and be accommodated in Brisbane. To eliminate the disadvantage of distance, we are seeking travel/accommodation funds that we can distribute on a needs basis.

(2) Establish a program in the NT - we anticipate that these initiatives may also help provide young indigenous Australians and Torres Strait Islanders with the opportunity to be involved. So far we have 50 students from one school from the Northern Territory - Taminmin High School, 70 Challoner Circuit, Humpty Doo. Humpty Doo is 50 km from their capital city Darwin and 3,400 km from Queensland. However, Darwin University doesn't have a neuroscientist to run a program. To overcome this disadvantage, if we can encourage other NT schools to participate (we have at least two others who have expressed interest) we could, with sufficient funds, invite students who qualify to progress to the second round of the *Challenge* to Queensland.

(3) Provide some small prizes. We also require funds for small prizes for the winners/place-getters and teachers of the winning student/team in Round 2 of the *Challenge*.

Budget

	Requested funds (US\$)	Specific goal(s) addressed	Other sources of funding
Travel Accommodation Grants (Northern Qld and Northern Territory)	\$1,300	1 & 2	Queensland Brain Initiative (University of Queensland) and fundraising
Establish a program in the Northern Territory	\$400	2	Queensland Brain Initiative (University of Queensland) and fundraising
Provide some small prizes.	\$300	3	
Total	US\$2,000		

All funds are in US dollars (based on an exchange rate of 0.670)

Budget justification

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge is an important part of the Australian Calender and unifies a large cross section of the neuroscience community. It receives a lot of media coverage. The Challenge is run out of UQ but enlists other States and Territories and New Zealand. Therefore, this funding request will benefit all. Additional funds are being sought by us and will be needed. However, any contribution SfN can make to this worthy cause is much appreciated.

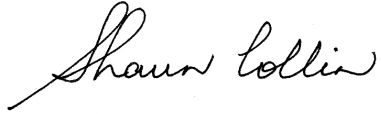
Number of current chapter members: 18 faculty members, 12 postdoctoral trainees and 15 graduate students

Chapter-sponsored events (over the last 3 years):

SfN has sanctioned our Annual Reception but not funded it directly. The Reception has been held as part of the Annual Meetings

Neuroscience Downunder Reception 2008 Washington
Neuroscience Downunder Reception 2007 San Diego
Neuroscience Downunder Reception 2006 Atlanta

Thank you for the opportunity to Apply.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shaun Collin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Shaun P. Collin PhD
Professor of Marine Neurobiology
President Brisbane (Australia) Chapter.

Chapter Grant Awards

Application

1.) Name of Chapter: Brisbane (Australia) Chapter

2.) Number of Current Chapter Members

Faculty Members: 18 Staff Members: _____ Postdoctoral Trainees: 12

Graduate Students: 15 Undergraduate Students: _____

3.) Chapter Representative Contact Information:

Name: Prof. Shaun P. Collin (President)

Address: School of Biomedical Sciences

The University of Queensland Brisbane Qld 4072

Phone: (07) 3365 4066 Fax: (07) 3365 4522 Australia

E-mail: s.collin@uq.edu.au

4.) Chapter Treasurer Contact Information

Name: Prof. David Adams

Address: Queensland Brain Institute

The Univ. of Qld, Brisbane Qld, 4072 Australia

Phone: (07) 3346 6234 Fax: (07) 3346 6394

E-mail: dadams@uq.edu.au

5.) Checks Payable to: Prof. Shaun P. Collin, University of Qld.

6.) Mailing Address for Checks: as above

Please attach responses to the following questions in 10 point font or larger:

- 1.) A brief summary of the proposal (no more than 150-200 words).
- 2.) Specific goals of the proposal and how it relates to the SIN Strategic Plan, Brain Awareness Week activities, or otherwise promotes increased chapter membership and activity (please do not exceed 750 words to 1 page). Please be sure to include an approximate date of the proposed activity or event.
- 3.) Budget: explanation and justification. Travel may be allowed only for visits to promote chapter membership, if part of a formal program. Please note: requests for travel funds must be accompanied by a compelling justification.
- 4.) Please list any chapter-sponsored events held during the past three years (please include event dates and titles).
- 5.) Chapter web-page address, if applicable

Important note:

All Chapter awardees are required to submit a final report including detailed budget expenditures within 30 days after the funded event or activity. Any unused funds must be returned to SIN.

Return this form and your attachments to chapters@sfn.org.