



Chapter Grant Awards Application

- 1.) Name of Chapter: _____ Birmingham Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience _____
- 2.) Number of Current Chapter Members
Faculty Members: 27
Staff Members: 9
Postdoctoral Trainees: 5
Graduate Students: 12
Undergraduate Students: 4
- 3.) Chapter Representative Contact Information:
Name: _____ Timothy Gawne _____
Address: _____ 924 South 18th St. _____
_____ Birmingham, AL 35294 _____
Phone: 205-934-5495 _____ Fax: 205-934-5725 _____
E-mail: _____ tgawne@uab.edu _____
- 4.) Chapter Treasurer Contact Information
Name: _____ (as above) _____
Address: _____
_____ _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____
- 5.) Checks Payable to: UAB _____
- 6.) Mailing Address for Checks: c/o Timothy Gawne, Dept. Vision Sciences _____
924 South 18th St. Birmingham, AL 35294 _____

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 SfN 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 SfN.*

Materials should be returned to chapters@sfn.org

For SfN Use Only:
Proposal Number: _____
Date Submission Received: _____
Amount Requested: _____
Amount Awarded: _____

UAB/McWane Science Center Brain Awareness Days

Birmingham has never participated in Brain Awareness Week (BAW). This year, a collaboration has been established between the Departments of Neurobiology, Neurology, and Vision Science at UAB, UAB's Center for Community Outreach Development (CORD), and the McWane Science Center, the premier hands-on children's science museum in the southeast, to carry out Brain Awareness Week activities. This is a proposal for the Birmingham Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience to help support this program. Dr. Standaert of UAB's Comprehensive Neuroscience Center has pledged to match any chapter grant awarded to the Birmingham Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience. The total amount requested from the Society for Neuroscience is \$1181.09.

The involvement of several departments yields a large pool of experts to aid in the development of activities, and the venue of the McWane Science Center provides a large audience to participate. BAW will coincide with spring break of most local schools, which is a high volume period at the McWane Center (minimum 2,000 visitors a day). The McWane Center offers a variety of venues at which activities can be performed and we have proposed appropriate activities for each. Proposed experiments will be held in the spring of 2009, and center around the senses:

1. The Protozone: On the floor of the museum in a high-traffic area. Designed to offer short (3-5 minute) hands-on manipulations.
 - a. Activities.
 - i. Touch: 2-point touch discrimination that the students can perform on one another.
 - ii. Smell: Receptor desensitization performed with varying concentrations of clove oil and smell discrimination performed with a kit from Carolina Biologicals. A model of chemosensation will be available as a teaching aid.
 - iii. Sight: Goggles simulating various eye diseases (macular degeneration, cataracts, retinitis pigmentosa).
 - iv. Audition: Tuning fork manipulations. An ear model and illustrated chart will be available for manipulations and as a teaching tool.
 - v. Taste: PTC tasting papers will be available for use. A chemosensation model of the mouth/sinuses will be available as a teaching aid.
2. The Demonstration Station: A venue with seating for approximately 20 viewers, with programs usually lasting 20-30 minutes.
 - a. Activities.
 - i. Comparative brain anatomy: Real brains (mouse, sheep) and brain models (human) will be available for manipulations by the participants, in addition to a small lecture focusing on brain regions.
 - ii. Taste: Miracle fruit tablets, which are known for making normally sour foods taste sweet, will be used along with lemon/sour tasting. A chemosensation model will be available for learning purposes.
3. The Rushton Theater: A lecture-type hall with a seating capacity of 100.
 - a. Activity.

- i. Illusion Confusion: A long-established program at McWane used to explain how visual illusions work.
 - 4. LabSpace: A fully equipped molecular biology laboratory where the Geneius Program, a collaboration between UAB-CORD and McWane has been housed for 10 years. Capacity of 24.
 - a. Activity.
 - i. Brain Dissections: Sheep brains will be available for a guided dissection, as well as a model brain for guidance.
 - ii. Eye Dissections: Beef eyes will be available for a guided dissection, as well as an eye model for clarification.

Proposed budget:

In addition to use during BAW, all materials purchased will be used to enhance educational programs and camps at McWane Science Center and UAB throughout the year.

Materials to purchase:

Item	Source	# needed	Unit price	Total price (inc. shipping)
Sheep brains	BioCorps Biologyproducts.com	20	6.30	138
Human Brain Model	Brainmart.com	1	54.95	54.95
Brain Gelatin Mold	Brainmart.com	1	7.95	7.95
Beef Eyes	SargentWelch	20	Pk10/18.95	45.90
Eye Model	Brainmart.com	1	49.95	104.81 (all brainmart.com)
Eye Illustrated Chart	Brainmart.com	1	15.95	15.95
Eye Patches	Sightconnection.com	10	4.25	42.50
Goggles	Fishersci.com	12	100.37	107.37
Ear Model	Brainmart.com	1	119.95	119.95
Ear Illustrated Chart	Brainmart.com	1	15.95	15.95
Sinus and Chemosensory Model	Brainmart.com	1	47.00	47.00
Sense of Smell Kit	Carolina.com	1	49.95	56.90
Skin Model	Kappamedical.com	1	67.00	74.30
PTC Papers	Ward Scientific	200	Pk 100/1.13	6.51
PTC Control Papers	Ward Scientific	200	Pk 100/1.30	2.60
Miracle Fruit Tablets	Miraclefruitplus.com	8	Pk 10/12.95	107.85
Lemons/Tart Candies	Local grocery store	Variety		20
Brain erasers	Schoolsupplyprojectboards.com	300	Pk 50/13.45	88.95
Brain pencils	Forteachersonly.com	2 gr	144/10.95	27.65
T-Shirts for facilitators	Local printer	8	12	96
Total				1181.09