Gilles Laurent
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EDUCATION

1989	Computational Neuroscience Course, Woods Hole, MA, USA
1985	Ph.D., Neuroethology, Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France
1985	Doctorate, Veterinary Medicine, Natl. School Vet. Med., Toulouse, France

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2009 -	Director, Max Planck Institute for Brain Research, Frankfurt, Germany
2021 -	Guest Professor, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Holland
2014 -	Guest Professor, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany
1990 - 2011	Asst., Assoc., *L. Hanson* Professor, California Institute of Technology, CA
1987 - 1990	Royal Society Locke Research Fellow, University of Cambridge
1987 - 1990	Research Fellow, Downing College, University of Cambridge
1985 - 1987	Postdoctoral Research Assistant, University of Cambridge

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2008	Guest Prof., Sabbatical, École Normale Supérieure, Physics Dept., Paris
2005	Guest Prof., Sabbatical, Stanford University, Clark Center (Quake lab), CA
1982-83	Visiting Student, Technische Universität, Garching, Munich; Max Planck Institute für Verhaltensphysiologie, Seewiesen, Germany; Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research, U.C. Davis

RECOGNITION

2025	2025 Karl Spencer Lashley Award
2025	2025 Louis-Jeantet Prize for Medecine
1987	International Society for Neuroethology Prize
1985	1985 City of Toulouse Prize (Natural and Life Sciences)
2024 - 2029	ERC Advanced Grant (Camouflage & Texture Perception)
2019 - 2024	ERC Advanced Grant (Sleep Mechanisms and Evolution)
2013 - 2018	ERC Advanced Grant (Amniote Cortex Evolution)

Academy Memberships: German Academy of Sciences (Leopoldina) (2025); Academia Europaea (2017); EMBO (2014); Fellow Associate, Neurosciences Institute, La Jolla (2002); Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science (2001)

Early Career Awards

McKnight Neuroscience Investigator Award, USA (2000) — National Science Foundation Presidential Faculty Fellow Award, USA (1993) — L.L. and A.W. Ferguson Award for Excellence in Teaching, Caltech (1992 and 1993) — McKnight Neuroscience Young Investigator Award, USA (1991) — Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow Award, USA (1991) — Searle Fellow Award, USA (1990) — Royal Society Locke Research Fellow (1987) — Research Fellow, Downing College, Cambridge (1987) — Fyssen Foundation Fellowship, Paris, France (1985, declined) — S. & C. del Duca Foundation Fellowship, Paris (1985, declined)

SPECIAL LECTURES (recent selection)

Presidential Lecture, FENS, Barcelona (upcoming); Presidential lecture, Simons Foundation, NY NY (2025); Adrian Lecture, University of Cambridge UK (2024); Keynote Lecture, Lake Conference on Brain Evolution, Seattle WA, USA (2024); Franz-Huber Lecture, 2024 Neuroethology Meeting, Berlin (2024); Keynote Lecture, McKnight Foundation, Aspen CO, USA (2024); Keynote Lecture, Simons Foundation, NYC (2024); Special Lecture, Society for Neuroscience Meeting, Washington DC (2023); Duke Neurobiology Ruth K. Broad Lecture,

Duke University, Durham, NC (2023); Richard M. Furlaud Distinguished Lecture, Rockefeller University, NYC, NY (2022); IBM Distinguished Speaker, IBM Watson Research Center, NJ (2022); Forbes Lecture, MBL, Woods Hole, MA, USA (2019); Adrian Lecture, University of Cambridge, UK (2018); EMBL Distinguished Lectures Series, Heidelberg, Germany (2018); Lamport Lecture, Univ. Washington, Seattle, WA, USA (2017)

TRAINEES

I have so far trained and mentored over 40 postdoctoral fellows and 30 graduate students. The great majority of them are now in academia in Europe, the US and Asia, and the remainder in industry. I take immense pride in their successes and scientific achievements. They include, with their present position:

Lorenz Fenk: Max Planck Research Group Leader, MPI for Biological Intelligence, Munich; **Xitong Liang:** Assistant Professor, Neuroscience Department, Peking University, China; **Hiroaki Norimoto:** Full Professor, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan; **Sam Reiter:** Associate Professor, OIST, Okinawa, Japan; **Maria Antonietta Tosches:** Associate Professor, Columbia U., New York, NY, USA; **Mark Shein-Idelson:** Associate Professor, Neuroscience, University of Tel Aviv, Israel; **Robert Naumann:** Group Leader, Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shenzhen, China; **Tracy Yamawaki:** Senior Associate Scientist, Amgen, South SF, CA, USA; **Janie Ondracek:** Research Group Leader, TUM, Munich, Germany; **Julien Fournier:** Chargé de Recherche INSERM, Paris Jussieu, France; **Andreas Kotovicz:** Head of IT, MPI for Astronomy, Heidelberg, Germany; **Ueli Rutishauser:** Professor and Board of Governors Chair in Neurosciences, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA; **Vivek Jayaraman**: Group Leader, Janelia/HHMI, VA, USA; **Mala Murthy:** Professor of Neuroscience, Director of Princeton Neuroscience Institute, Princeton University, NJ, USA; **Rachel Wilson:** Joseph B Martin Professor of Neurobiology, HHMI, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; **Christophe Pouzat**: Chargé de Recherche, IRMA/CNRS, Strasbourg, FR; **Glenn Turner:** Group Leader, HHMI Janelia RC, Ashburn, VA, USA; **Stephen Houston:** Research Professor, Columbia University, NYC, USA; **Ingmar Riedel-Kruse:** Associate Professor of MCB, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA; **Fabrizio Gabbiani:** Professor of Neuroscience, Baylor Coll. Medicine, Houston & Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Rice University, Houston, TX, USA; **Rainer Friedrich:** Group Leader, FMI, Basel, Switzerland; **Holger Krapp:** Professor of Systems Neuroscience, Imperial College, London, UK; **Nicho Hatsopoulos:** Professor, Dept. Organismal Biology, University of Chicago, IL, USA; **Leslie Kay:** Professor, Dept. of Psychology, University of Chicago, IL, USA; **Mark Stopfer:** Senior Investigator, Sensory Coding and Neural Assemblies, NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA; **Mike Wehr**: Professor Neuroscience and Psychology, University of Oregon, Eugene OR; **Mikko Vähäsöyrinki:** Founder and CEO, Sensapex Oy, Oulu, Finland

SERVICE

MPI Brain Research and MPG Academic Affairs (since 2008)

2009-2013; 2016-2017; 2020-2023	Managing Director, Max Planck Inst. Brain Research
2018-2024	Max Planck Soc. Presidential Committee on Animal Research
2016-2022	IMPRS (Graduate School) Director
2015 -2025	Special Presidential Committee on MPG History
2010 -	IMPRS Graduate Admissions Committee
2009 -	Various search and recruitment committees in the US and Europe
2009 -	Various MPG recruitment committees (directors, research group leaders)
2008 - 2014	Concept and Design of new MPI Brain Research Building

Recent Scientific Advisory Boards, Review Boards

SAB, Chinese Academy of Science, ION, Shanghai, China (2024) — Review Board, Champalimaud Institute, Lisbon, Portugal (2023) — SAB, Pasteur Institute, Neuroscience Department, Paris FR (2023) – SAB, Weizmann Institute, Neuroscience, Rehovot, Israel (2021) – Review Board, Champalimaud Institute, Lisbon, Portugal (2021) — SAB, Chinese Academy of Science, ION, Shanghai, China (2020) – Chair SAB, NeuroMarseille, Marseille, France (2019) — Review Board, Champalimaud Institute, Lisbon, Portugal (2019) — Chair, NeuroPSI Paris Saclay SAB, Paris, France (2018) — HHMI Investigators Review Boards (2), Chevy

Chase, MD, USA (2017) — Cambridge University Neuroscience Ten-year Review Board, CB, UK (2016) — HHMI Janelia Ten-year Review Board, Ashburn, VA, USA (2015) — HHMI Investigators Review Board, Chevy Chase MD, USA (2014) — Chair, Review Board, AERES UNIC Gif-sur-Yvette, France (2014) — Graduate Program Review Board, Champalimaud, Lisbon, Portugal(2014) — HHMI Investigators Review Board, Chevy Chase MD, USA (2013) — Chair, SAB, Neuro-PSI Saclay, France (2013 – 2018) — Chair, Institute Neuroinformatics Review Board, ETH/UZ, Zurich, CH (2014) — Hiring Committee, ETH Zürich, Switzerland (2013 – 2018) — Hiring Committee, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France (2012 – 2013) — Chair, École des Neurosciences de Paris, France (2009 – 2014) — SAB, Biozentrum Basel, Switzerland (2009 – 2013) — SAB, NeRF-VIB Leuven, Belgium (2009 – 2013)

Journal Reviewing and Editorial Work

Cell, Current Biology, eLife, Eur J Neuroscience, Frontiers Journals, J Comp Neurol, J Neuroscience, J Neurophysiology, J Comput Neurosci, J Exp Biology, Nature, Nature Communication, Nature Neuroscience, Neuron, Neural Computation, PLoS, Science, J Comput Neurosci; J Physiol (Paris), Current Opinion Neurobiology; Guest Editor: Annual Rev Neuroscience; Edit Board: Current Opinion Neurobiology

Grant Reviewing

2021 - 2024 EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships Committee (~1,200 applications/yr)
2023 - ERC Consolidator Grants Review Committee
2000 - NIH, NSF, Wellcome Foundation, HSFP, DFG, Foundation *Schlumberger*, ATIPE, ANR, ERC (Adv., Syn., Cons. Grant panels), German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research, Minerva

Prize Committee Memberships

2024-2026 *Soc. for Neuroscience* Swartz Prize for Theor. Computational Neuroscience
2023 - Co-Chair, *ALBA-Roche Prize*
2018 - V. Braitenberg Award for Computational Neuroscience
2018 - 2021 *Soc. for Neuroscience* Young Investigator Award
2011 - 2014 *Soc. for Neuroscience* Girard Prize

Summer Course Teaching

I have for many decades, enjoyed teaching in (and in some cases co-organizing) summer courses for graduate students and postdocs, mostly in Woods Hole MA, USA; Cold Spring Harbor Labs NY, USA and at the Champalimaud Center in Lisbon (CAJAL/FENS courses).

CSHL High Throughput Neuroanatomy, CSH, NY USA (2025, 2024, 2023)
Forbes Scholar, Woods Hole MBL MA, USA (2019)
FENS CAJAL Computational Neuroscience Course, Lisbon, Portugal (2015-2024)
Neuroinformatics, Baltic/Nordic Course, Frankfurt, Germany (2019)
FENS CAJAL Behavioral Neuroscience Course, Lisbon, Portugal (2018)
ISN-JNC Flagship School, Alpbach, Austria (2016)
Drosophila Neuroscience Course, MPI Chemical Ecology, Jena, Germany (2012)
Neuroscience Course, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (2011)
Computational Neuroscience Course, Arcachon, France (2005)
Cold Spring Harbor Labs NY, Neurobiology Course, NY, USA (1996, 1998)
US-German School of Neuroethology, Munich, Germany (1996)
Scholar in Residence, Neural Systems and Behavior Course, Woods Hole, MA, USA (1996)
Cold Spring Harbor NY, Drosophila Neurobiology Course, NY, USA (1995)

Meeting Organization

2023 *Special Symposium* (in honor of M. Burrows' 80th birthday), Cambridge.
2022 *Neural Dynamics Symposium*, Max Planck Institute for Brain Research
2019 Brain Conference (Lundbeck Foundation, FENS) on *Neural Dynamics*, Copenhagen, June 2019 (with Ila Fiete, MIT)
2014 *Inaugural MPI Brain Research Symposium* (with Erin Schuman)
2006 Computational/Systems Neuroscience, NIH, USA (Planning Committee)
2005 Gordon Conference on Circuits and Synapses, USA (Organizing Committee)

Caltech Academic Affairs Committees (1990-2009)

1990-2009 Various Campus, Divisional and Hiring Committees
1998-2001 Option Representative for Computation Neural Systems Graduate Program