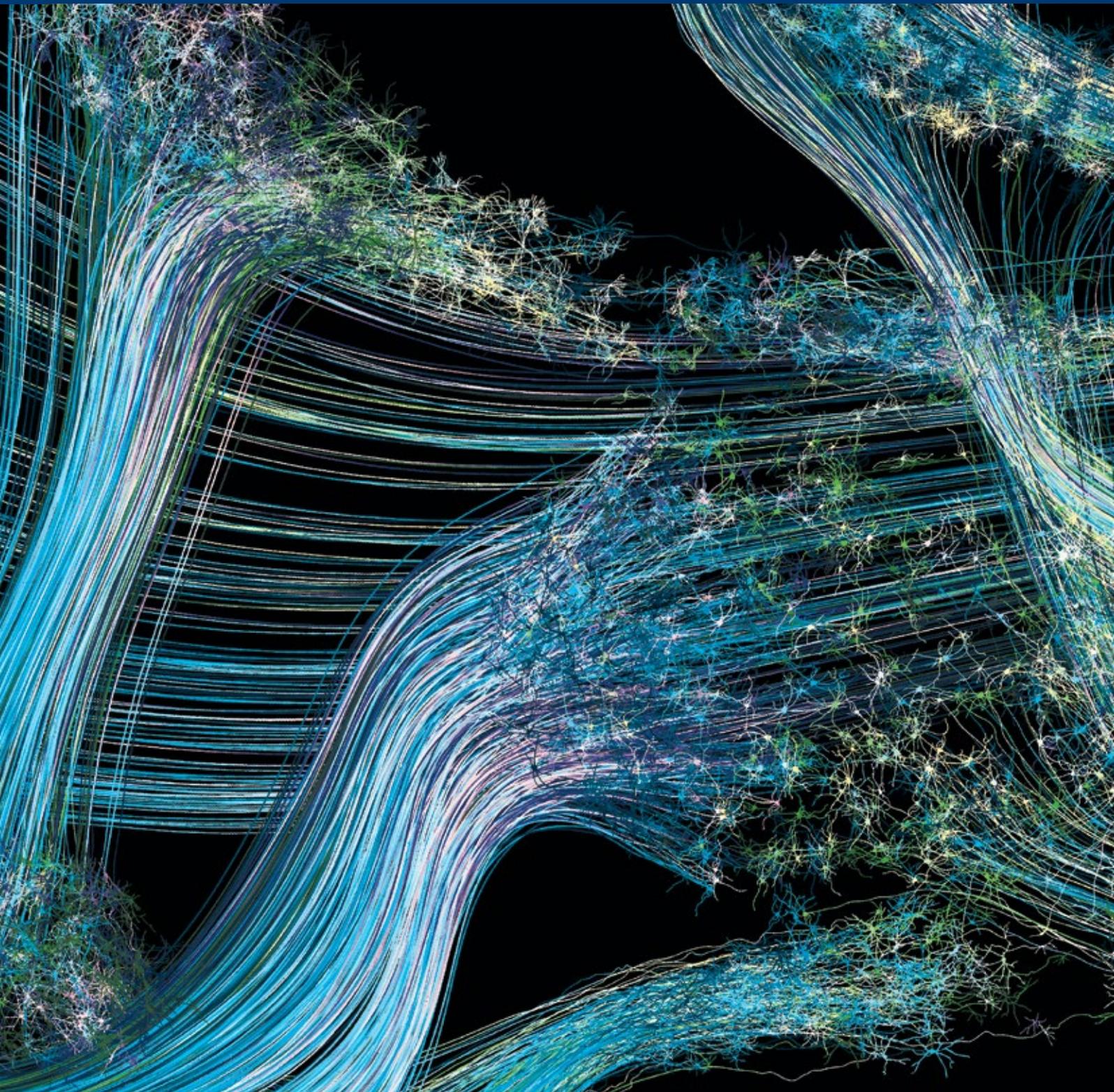




# ANNUAL REPORT 2021





IBRO aims to be a global leader for international collaboration and eminent training, with a unique, strong focus on inclusion, equity and diversity in neuroscience.

As we look toward 2022 and beyond, IBRO's global impact and leadership seems increasingly important. IBRO is committed to holding itself and our members to the highest bar, to ensure that our values are transparently implemented across all our activities. IBRO stands strong in support of assuring global access to neuroscience excellence in research, training and mentorship.

Tracy L. Bale, IBRO President



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IBRO extends a special thanks to **Greg Dunn** who has generously provided images for this Annual Report. Dunn has a PhD in neuroscience, and fuses art and science together through his extraordinary paintings and reflective microetchings. Explore more of his neuro art at [www.gregadunn.com](http://www.gregadunn.com)

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# IBRO

## The President's Message

'2021 was a year of consolidation and change for IBRO. As we began to emerge from a uniquely challenging period we initiated a process to refine our programmatic and administrative structure, centered around the needs of our diverse, global community.'

Tracy L. Bale, IBRO President



I am delighted to welcome you to IBRO's 2021 Annual Report, an opportunity for everyone involved in IBRO to take stock of our achievements over the past year and to extend our thanks to the global neuroscience community for its continued support.

2021 was a year of consolidation and change for IBRO. As we began to emerge from a uniquely challenging period linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, welcoming with enthusiasm renewed opportunities for engagement and exchange, we initiated a process to refine our programmatic and

administrative structure. Centered around the needs of our diverse, global community, we reorganized the configuration of our programs to offer enhanced visibility for our support of scientists at all career stages in a framework that will enable us to account for regional identities and priorities.

The clarity offered by this new structure will be instrumental as we continue to work toward the implementation of our mission, offering higher visibility for the funding opportunities we provide both globally and regionally, as well as strengthening our regional impact and laying the groundwork

for increased collaborations within and between our Regional Committees. A key focus has been to ensure that all IBRO-supported programs are carried out with a focus on equity and accessibility. The 2021 elected members of our Regional Committees will play an important role in engaging with broader networks of scientists and exploring different avenues to implement our mission moving forward.

In 2021, we also elected a new group of excellent scientists to the Young IBRO (YIBRO) network. This self-coordinated, diverse network of international scholars provides an important voice to IBRO in its engagement with early career scientists on how to integrate ideas and program elements of particular value to scientists embarking on their careers. YIBRO has continued to feature some of the most promising neuroscience research and researchers of the future through its *NextinNeuro* webinar series, and I look forward to working with the 2022 elected members.

In 2021, we were thrilled to be able to once again participate in and support in-person activities. While the pandemic has undoubtedly led to innovative solutions for online engagement, it is difficult to discount the value of in-person interactions, and the opportunities for networking and career development they offer. The lessons learned from this period have already proven key as we began preparations for the IBRO World Congress that will be hosted by the Spanish Society of

Neuroscience in Granada in September 2023.

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to mention the continued role of IBRO's flagship journal, *Neuroscience*, as well as its sister journal, *IBRO Neuroscience Reports*, in enabling us to offer the global community a rich and diverse range of programs. I would like to thank the editors, reviewers, authors and our publisher, Elsevier, for their continued commitment and work as we move towards our long-term goals. If you have the opportunity to publish your work in either of our journals, please do, recognizing that this is IBRO's main revenue stream and doing so provides continued support for IBRO programs and activities.

As the world continues to open up and we look toward 2022 and beyond, IBRO's global impact seems increasingly important. IBRO is committed to holding itself and our members to the highest bar for ensuring inclusivity and equity across all our activities – a more diverse representation means a more valuable and enriching experience for all. The world has continued toward greater complexity, and IBRO stands strong in support of assuring global access to neuroscience excellence in research, training and mentorship.

Tracy L. Bale, IBRO President

# 1

## IBRO Mission and values

International Brain Research Organization

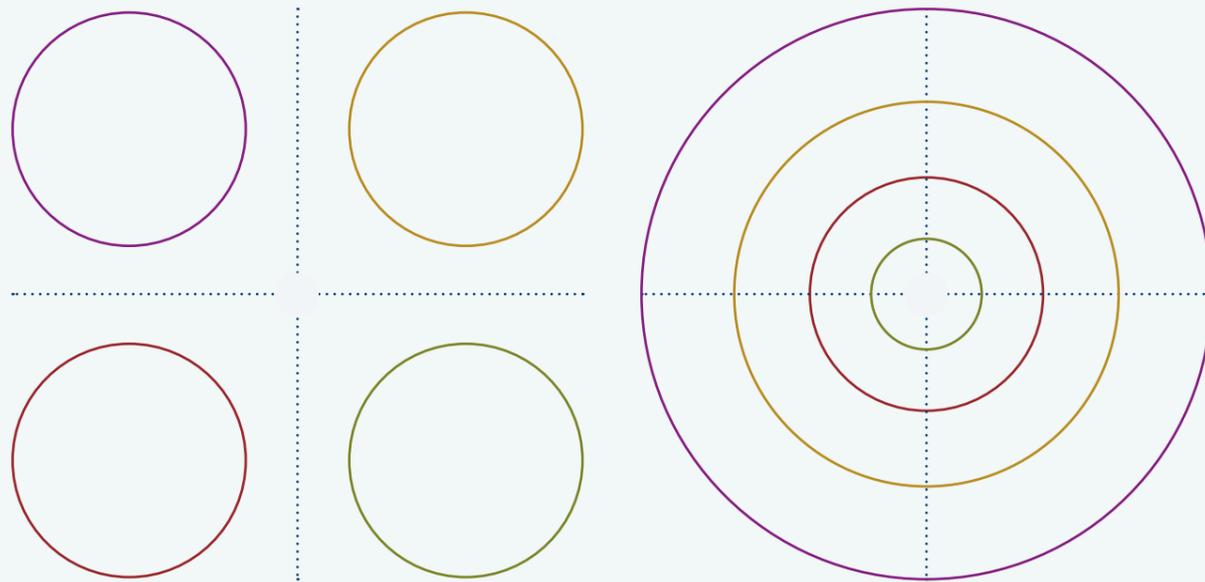
IBRO 

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# IBRO Mission and values

1



## VISION

IBRO strives to be a global leader for international collaboration and eminent training, with a unique and strong focus on values of inclusion, equity and diversity in neuroscience across the globe. It also aims to be a frontrunner in the global promotion of excellence and rigor in neuroscience education, training and research that is innovative, impactful and significant.

## MISSION

The IBRO mission is to support and promote basic scientific research worldwide that contributes to the understanding of normal and pathological brain functions. It also endeavors to develop, coordinate and promote scientific research and education globally in all domains that concern the brain, and to directly engage in these efforts.

## Core Values

IBRO serves the global neuroscience community guided by a set of core organizational values. As the world and its needs change, we acknowledge that these values remain constant, but the strategies and actions to enact them will require regular review.



## Accountability

IBRO takes ownership and holds itself accountable for its actions and programs by communicating and acting transparently, respectfully, equitably and inclusively. This aim serves as the foundation of trust that binds the IBRO community together. IBRO strives to constantly improve and review its actions and progress.



## Diversity

IBRO represents an independent global scientific network of member organizations, and respects and upholds the expression of this community's diversity. IBRO recognizes that respectful integration of different opinions, backgrounds, experiences, expertise, interests and perspectives, through healthy debate and discussion, are essential components to successfully implementing its mission.

**Equity**

IBRO strives to ensure equitable and inclusive access, participation and leadership in neuroscience. Prioritizing and creating opportunities for those who have no or limited access to resources, education, training, mentorship and financial support are central actions of IBRO.

**Impact**

The work of IBRO shall result in measurable impacts that can be evaluated with transparent and consistent metrics to ensure evidence-based development and advancement of operations and activities.

**Inclusiveness**

IBRO believes in a worldwide scientific community where everyone has the right to access, participate and benefit from global resources. Neuroscience has no borders and should serve to engage and inspire everyone, ensuring that human development and welfare are built collectively.

**Integrity**

IBRO upholds honest, open, equitable and respectful behavior and conduct. There is zero tolerance within the organization or entities supported by IBRO (with funding, in-kind or volunteer assistance) for sexual harassment, other harassing, bullying, condescending or patronizing behaviors, or discrimination and bias based on cronyism, nepotism, race, color, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, geographical and national origins, genetics or disability.

**Leadership**

IBRO assumes the preeminent role as the global leader in the promotion and support of equitable, inclusive and sustainable neuroscience research, capacity building, partnership, engagement and advocacy. IBRO shall lead by example and work to empower community members to shape a better future for all.

**Partnership**

IBRO acknowledges that advancing neuroscience globally cannot succeed without shared goals and joint efforts. Working with other like-minded organizations based on transparent and mission-aligned programs, reduces individual burdens and duplication of efforts while increasing impact. Leveraging shared resources and taking collective action are essential for fair and sustainable growth in neuroscience.

**Professionalism**

IBRO strives to maintain the highest standards of professional behavior in all activities conducted by the organization, its representatives or by entities supported by IBRO. Integrity, honesty, patience and respect should be embodied and expressed towards all others in any aspect and activity of IBRO.

**Quality**

IBRO promotes and fosters excellence in neuroscience research, and maintains the highest standards for scientific rigor, measurable impact and inclusive, ethical neuroscience research and training through efficient and transparent use of IBRO funds.

**Service**

IBRO is a non-profit international organization that is committed to serving the interests of its membership and the greater global neuroscience community with transparency, accountability, equity, inclusivity and integrity.

**Sustainability**

IBRO seeks to minimize the negative impact of its actions on the environment and human development. In doing so, IBRO will continue to implement concrete and relevant actions across its activities that align with the 2030 United Nations agenda for sustainable development and its 17 goals for all: no poverty; zero hunger; good health and well-being; quality education; gender equality; clean water and sanitation; affordable and clean energy; decent work and economic growth; resilient and inclusive industry, innovation and infrastructure; reduced inequalities; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; climate action; conserve and sustainably use life below water; protect, restore and sustainably use and manage life on land; peace, justice and strong institutions; and building partnerships for attaining collective goals.

**IBRO strategy: from plan to practice**

**Accessible, transparent funding**

Ensuring the accessibility of IBRO’s programs is a key priority, and in 2021, significant effort has been dedicated to streamlining the implementation of the organization’s funding support across the globe. The introduction of new processes for the verification of diversity criteria across its programs, and exchanges between regional committees on these values, are a clear signal of IBRO’s continued efforts to prioritize transparency in order to secure equitable access to career development opportunities for neuroscientists at all career stages. In 2021 IBRO processed numerous funding applications, within a structure that ensures accountability and equitability. The overall gender balance across all IBRO-supported activities was 55% female - 45% male; focusing on individual career support alone, IBRO was able to support 199 scientists from 64 countries across the world.

**Meeting community needs**

A new and simplified funding framework enables IBRO committees to continue to offer innovative and impactful programs that correspond to both global and regional needs. The development of regional partnerships to support training opportunities for underrepresented groups is just one example, while the continuation of key programs such as the Diversity Grants – contributing to the promotion of regional and gender diversity in neuroscience – and the Maternity/Parenthood grants – offering supplemental funding to early career PIs approaching parental leave – aim to address community-based needs. New mechanisms such as the support for Soft Skills Training will also contribute to ensuring that scientists at all career stages have access to information and learning material about important skills – in particular as we emerge from a period marked by COVID-19, with reduced possibilities for interaction and exchange.

**Collaborating to further brain research**

IBRO’s core values underlie its global partnerships. Throughout the year, IBRO has continued its additional support for the ALBA Network, an international network of committed scientists and organizations working to promote equity and diversity in the brain sciences, and continues to prioritize international, cross-disciplinary exchange. Through its collaboration with the IBRO-Kemali Foundation, IBRO has recently welcomed the announcement of Sergiu P. Pasca as the 2022 recipient of the IBRO Dargut and Milena Kemali International Prize for Research in the field of Basic and Clinical Neurosciences. The continuation of outstanding programs such as the IBRO/IBE-UNESCO Science of Learning Fellowships scheme, offering selected fellows the opportunity to translate research projects on learning and the brain to educators, policymakers and governments, further demonstrates IBRO’s ongoing efforts to highlight the global importance of neuroscience research and its wider applications.

**Supporting scientific excellence**

The dissemination of research is at the heart of IBRO’s mission. Through the publication of ethical, evidence-based research, IBRO continues to facilitate debate and knowledge-sharing within the neuroscience community. Support for IBRO’s journals remains a key priority in securing the longevity of its global activities.

**Rooting IBRO’s global reach in its values**

IBRO continues to uphold its core values across all of the activities it supports. As it works to establish new metrics and methods to evaluate the accessibility and reach of its support, centered around the principles of progressive career development, community building, promotion of the scientific enterprise and the dissemination of research, IBRO will continue to engage with the global scientific community, in order to raise awareness of the full spectrum of innovative opportunities it offers and to ensure the homogenous and transparent implementation of programs and grants across all IBRO world regions.

**THE FOUR PILLARS**

1

**COMMUNITY BUILDING**

Global and regional impact of neuroscience training

2

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Fair, equitable access to training and progressive career support

3

**DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH**

Sharing research through scientific publishing and engagement with scientists and the public

4

**OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT**

Outreach and promotion of the scientific enterprise

# 2

## IBRO Governance Structure

International Brain Research Organization

IBRO 

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# IBRO Governance Structure

The **IBRO Governing Council**, composed of 90 international, national and regional scientific member organization representatives, is the highest governing body of IBRO.

The Governing Council brings together eminent neuroscience researchers and representatives of scientific organizations from around the world to leverage their collective pool of expertise, experience, and commitment in support of IBRO’s mission to promote and advance global brain research, while at the same time addressing the needs and challenges of different neuroscience communities.



Executive Committee meeting, November 2021.

The **IBRO Executive Committee** consists of IBRO’s President, Secretary General, Treasurer, and the five chairs of IBRO’s Regional Committees. In addition, the chair of Young IBRO, the Executive Director as well as the Secretary General-elect or Past Secretary General are non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

The responsibility of the Executive Committee is to guide the overall operations and development of IBRO while maintaining good governance and management practices. The Executive Committee approves IBRO’s guidelines and policies and makes decisions about the acceptance of new IBRO member organizations. The IBRO officers, elected through an online vote by the Governing Council, each have a term of three years with the possibility for the President and Treasurer to be re-elected for a second and final term. In addition, the Executive Committee approves the annual budget along with the IBRO Finance Committee.



# 3

IBRO  
Society  
Journals

International Brain Research Organization

IBRO 

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# IBRO Society Journals

3

## Neuroscience

'Any research paper, however short, is considered for publication provided that it reports significant, new and carefully confirmed findings with full experimental details.'

Juan Lerma, Editor-in-Chief



IBRO's flagship hybrid journal *Neuroscience* was established in 1976 and is published by Elsevier. Revenue from the journal provides 93% of IBRO's annual income, enabling the organization to fulfill its mission and grow its impact. *Neuroscience* features papers describing the results of original research on any aspect of the scientific study of the nervous system. Any research paper, however short, is considered for publication provided that it reports significant, new and carefully confirmed findings with full experimental details. The journal also publishes review articles, either invited (Neuroscience Forefront Reviews) or prescreened, Commentaries, Perspectives and Letters to the Editor. Through its support of rigorous, peer-reviewed science,

*Neuroscience* enriches and advances the work of IBRO and its global community.

The year 2021 continued to be a challenging year for *Neuroscience*. The sudden decrease in submissions in August 2020 continued during 2021. We believe that this was a result of the pandemic situation and the consequential global lock-down of the research enterprise. Nevertheless, *Neuroscience* received a score of 3.59 for the 2020 Impact Factor, released in 2021 by Journal Citation Reports, which represents an increase of 17.5% over 2019 (3.056). In 2021, we published 22 issues plus 5 special issues, including one honoring Professor Masao Ito, a father of cerebellar plasticity and a former president of IBRO.

Considering the overall number of citations, *Neuroscience* positioned 8th in the field of neuroscience journals, while it was 12th in number of papers published (as from Clarivate data from 2020).

Promotional events by the main Editors, completely discontinued in 2020, resumed in 2021, contributing to the awareness of *Neuroscience* as a society journal. In 2021 we have participated in in-person workshops about scientific publication celebrated at scientific meetings in Sicily (Italy) and Lérida (Spain), as well as virtually in several other events.

Importantly, *Neuroscience* has partnered with the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) to launch *Neuroscience First Look*, a preprint space where submitted research is showcased as it undergoes the peer

review process. *Neuroscience First Look* provides a preview of papers under review in *Neuroscience* totally free of charge.

The aim of this service is to help authors of *Neuroscience* who are increasingly obliged (e.g., by funder mandates) or wish to post preprints.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that a new Associate Editor-in-Chief will be joining *Neuroscience*, succeeding Jerome Sanes who ended his term in 2021. **Daniela Schiller**, Professor of Neuroscience and Psychiatry of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, will start in January 2022. I welcome her to the Journal and look forward to working with her to improve *Neuroscience*.

**SPECIAL ISSUES OF NEUROSCIENCE APPEARING IN 2021.**  
The issue in the centre commemorates Masao Ito, former president of IBRO and father of cerebellar plasticity.



## IBRO Neuroscience Reports

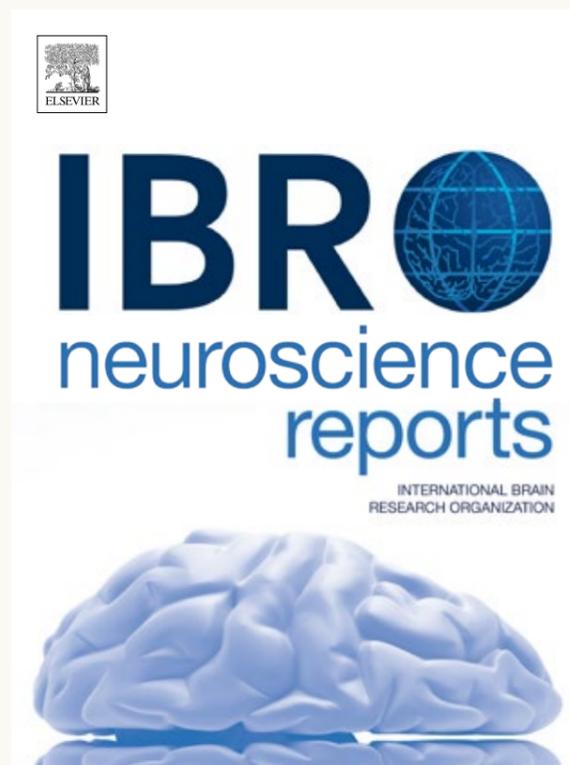
'As a fully open access journal, IBRO Neuroscience Reports demonstrates a clear commitment by IBRO to support open research principles, contributing to its mission in supporting the dissemination of scientific knowledge in an equitable manner.'

Prof. **Ying-Shing Chan**, Editor-in-Chief



*IBRO Neuroscience Reports*, the sister journal of *Neuroscience*, publishes papers describing the results of original research on any aspect of the nervous system. We welcome preliminary, descriptive and small-scale results if they have the potential to stimulate and/or contribute to future research, leading to new insights or hypotheses. As a fully open access journal, *IBRO Neuroscience Reports* demonstrates a clear commitment by IBRO to support open research principles, contributing to its mission in supporting the dissemination of scientific knowledge in an equitable manner.

In 2021, *IBRO Neuroscience Reports* published two volumes of papers, including articles from special issues dedicated to "Neuroscience in Africa" and "Neuroscience & Lifestyle: From neurobiology to mental health". *IBRO*



COVER OF IBRO NEUROSCIENCE REPORTS, the fully open access companion journal to *Neuroscience*.

*Neuroscience Reports* has also started a new Mini-Series aiming to give visibility to science in different IBRO regions. The first Mini-Series focused on Scientific Contributions and Advances by Latin American IBRO Alumni, while a further collection from Asia-Pacific IBRO Alumni is planned for 2022.

Submissions to the journal continue to demonstrate its international scope and relevance to the IBRO scientific community. In April 2021, Professor Ying-Shing Chan, Editor-in-Chief of *IBRO*

*Neuroscience Reports*, participated in the first IBRO Global Neuroscience Horizons Webinar, focused on how its society journals support the success and development of the global neuroscience community, in collaboration with *Neuroscience* and IBRO alumni. Efforts to increase visibility of the journal are ongoing and will continue in 2022 through participation at several society meetings and events. Following the change of name in 2021, *IBRO Neuroscience Reports* is expected to obtain an impact factor in 2023.

'Editing the special issue on Neuroscience & Lifestyle was a very positive experience. The process of working with the editorial team was very smooth and the special issue was an excellent opportunity to increase the visibility of this important topic.'

**Renato Sobral Monteiro Jr.**, Guest editor of *Neuroscience & Lifestyle: From neurobiology to mental health*



# 4

IBRO  
2021 Financial  
Report

International Brain Research Organization

IBRO 

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# IBRO 2021 Financial Report

The resources available to IBRO have, over an extended period, allowed for a stable and sustained level of financial support for the programs and partner collaborations that contribute to the implementation of IBRO’s worldwide mission. With a view to maintaining the available financial means at a level that will allow the organization to offer a reliable and modestly growing funding model in the future, IBRO has started a process to diversify and broaden its income streams, including objectives for growing the organization’s investments to a level where they can buffer potential decreases in annual revenues garnered from IBRO’s two journals. The Treasurer, in collaboration with the Finance Committee, advises the leadership of IBRO on how best to achieve these financial objectives.

## Annual accounts

In the 2021 fiscal year, the global COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect planned activities, resulting in cancellations and reduced applications for travel awards. Compared to the disruptions in 2020, flexibility in IBRO’s funding in 2021 yielded an improved global distribution of funds, resulting in a year-over-year increase of 24% in IBRO funding. Support for individual career programs, including Exchange Fellowships, Travel Grants and Early Career Awards, unfortunately remained at the relatively low levels that were also seen in 2020,

probably reflecting logistical difficulties relating to holding in-person training and career development.

In 2021, more member organizations evidently had resources to fulfill their financial obligations to IBRO, which returned to pre-pandemic levels. Journal income and partnership-related income likewise were either maintained or increased during 2021, leading to a 10% increase in IBRO income over 2020 levels. Combined, the financial surplus from the year, resulting from a markedly lower level of funding opportunities due to the global pandemic, was at a level of €1.266M.

Consistent with the investment objectives of IBRO, the extraordinary results for the year have been added to IBRO’s investments.

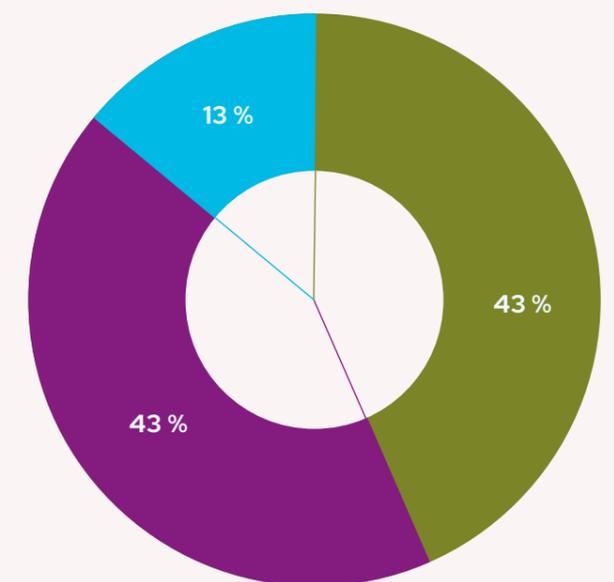
## Investments

IBRO’s investments, covering risk mitigating, return seeking and diversifying allocations, are roughly equally distributed across US and European markets and allocated in US dollars and European Euro. In 2021 IBRO allocated a total of €5M in available funds to the European sustainable global thematic investment portfolio. Considering the modest return in 2021 of around 7%, the total portfolio of IBRO was nearly €34M at the end of 2021.

In the long-term, a new investment strategy will facilitate the growth of IBRO’s investments toward the goal of significantly supporting IBRO’s activities within the coming decade, independently of potential decreases in other revenue sources. Pending the level of growth in markets, combined with a new strategy of diverting funds from income into investments and developing new and sustainable income sources, IBRO aims to substantially reduce its current near total dependence on

income derived from publishing. It will strive to achieve a model where income from publishing is combined with other revenue sources and complemented with a modest draw from investments.

**Portfolio distribution**  
(USD/EUR combined)



- Risk Mitigating
- Return Seeking
- Diversifying

**INCOME**

Item	2021	2020
Membership income	€ 89,696	€ 49,357
Journal income	€ 3,350,552	€ 3,131,202
Partnership	€ 87,183	€ 75,534
Other extraordinary income	€ 70,406	€ 22,183
<b>Total Income 2021</b>	<b>€ 3,597,837</b>	<b>€ 3,278,276</b>

**EXPENSES**

IBRO office and administration	€ 748,912	€ 529,017
Other overhead and fees	€ 29,106	€ 20,623
Consultancy and accounting	€ 111,945	€ 104,995
Travel and meeting costs	€ 10,562	€ 33,068
Unforeseen costs	€ 52,085	€ 67,458
Network and memberships	€ 71,449	€ 72,200
Grants and stipends	€ 499,171	€ 487,420
Program support	€ 808,398	€ 650,732
<b>Total Costs 2021</b>	<b>€ 2,331,628</b>	<b>€ 1,965,513</b>

**Result 31/12/2021** € 1,266,209 € 1,312,763

**Diversification of income**

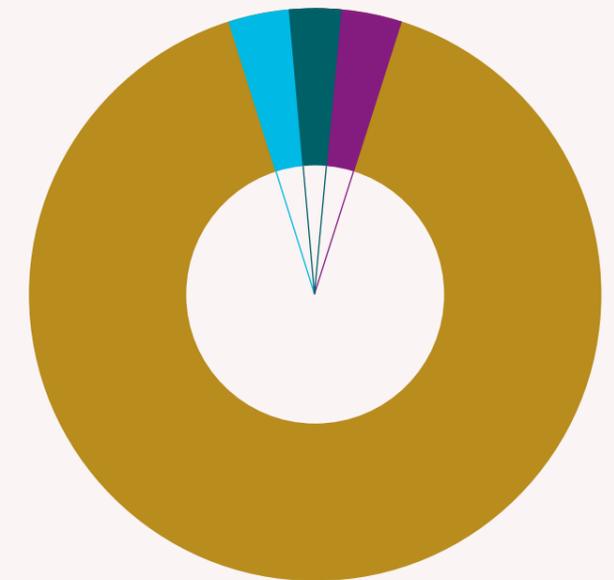
The income for 2021 returned to pre-pandemic levels. The distribution of income, as in past years, was principally derived from royalty revenues, originating

from the journal *Neuroscience*, with additional income from membership, partnerships and the ownership of *IBRO Neuroscience Reports* representing far smaller contributions to the annual budget of IBRO.

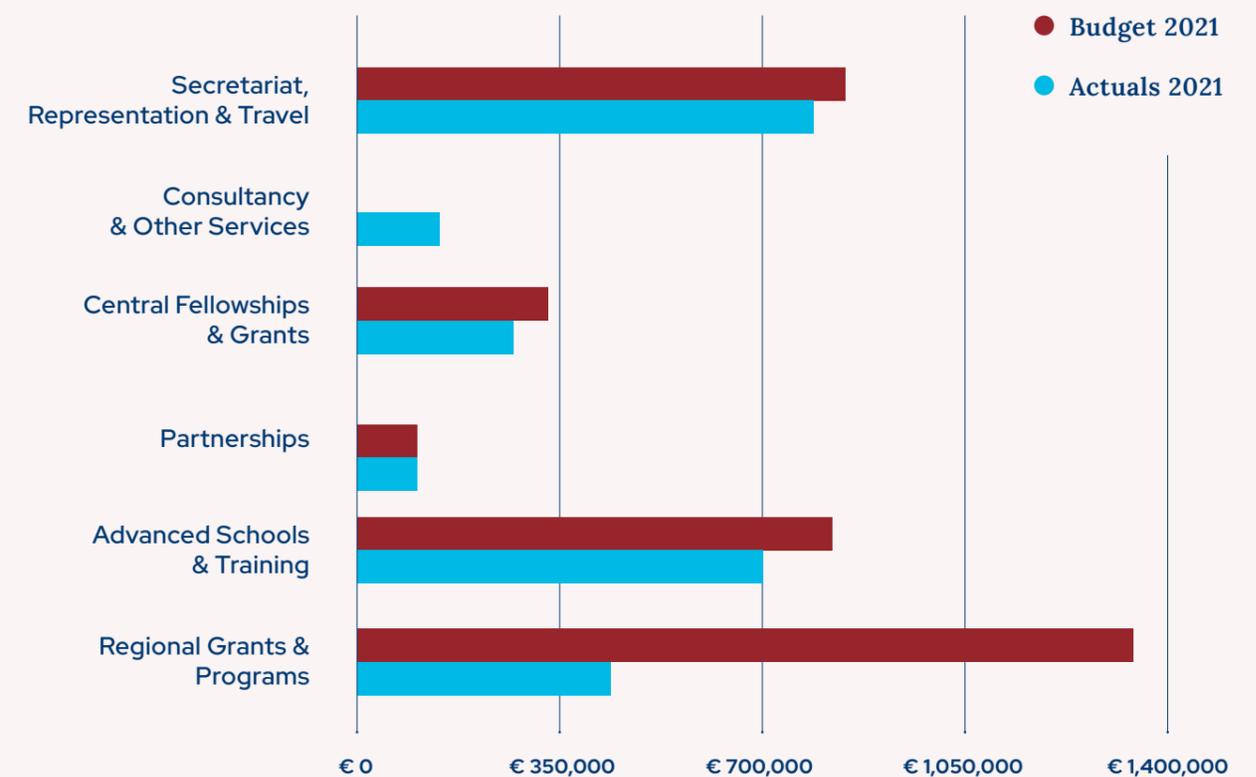
Future years should ideally see a diversification of income for IBRO. This would not only act to secure a more robust income profile, but would likely secure alignment of IBRO with other partner programs and thereby generate a higher impact and visibility across IBRO activities. This would also reinforce and resonate with the strategic plan of IBRO. Changes and additions to the administrative team over the coming years shall support this mission.

**Income distribution 2021**

- Membership Fee
- Partnerships
- Journal income
- Other extraordinary income



**2021 budget vs. actuals**



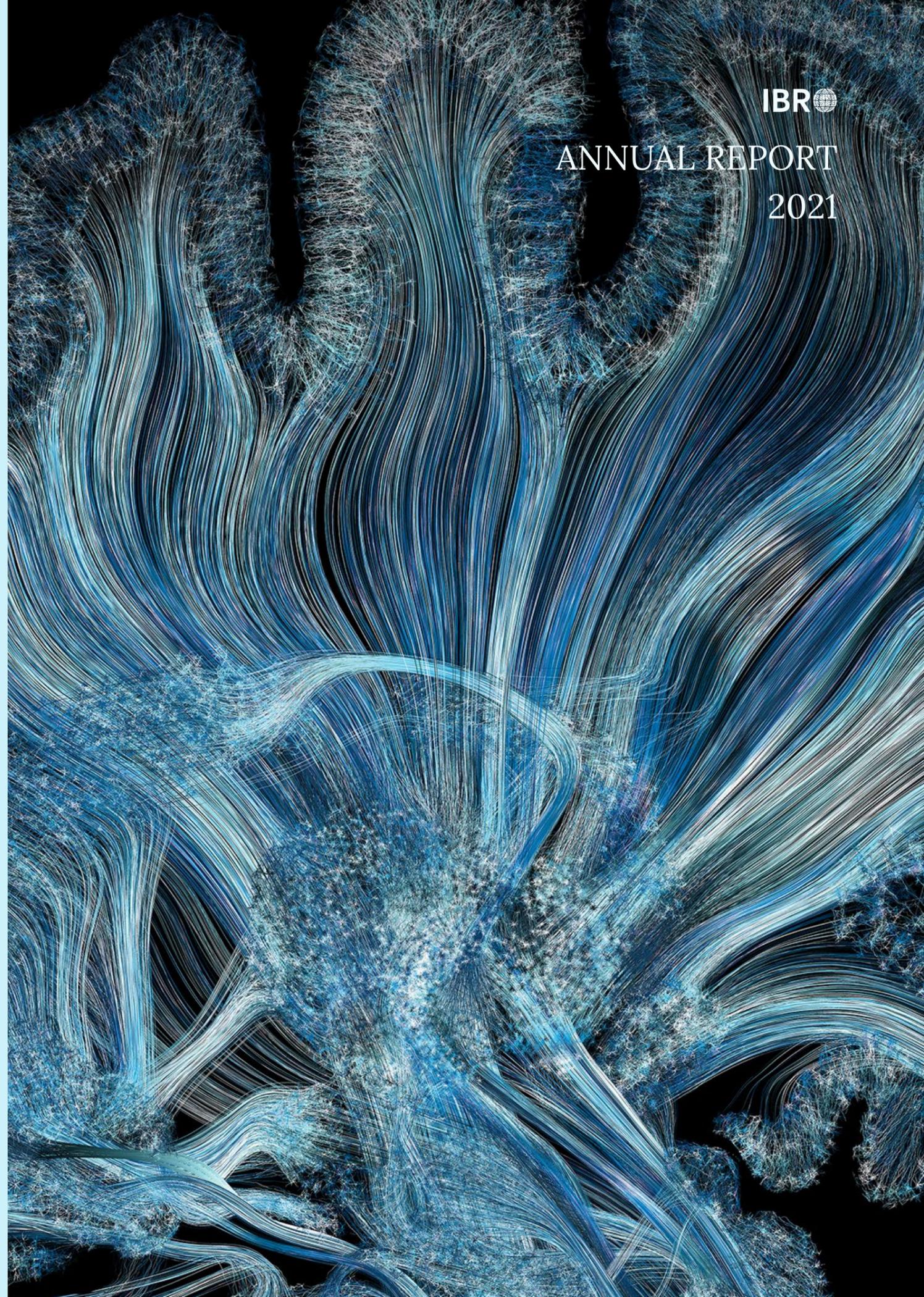
# 5

IBRO  
Regions and  
Young IBRO

International Brain Research Organization

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# IBRO Regions and Young IBRO: Bringing neuroscience resources to the world

5

## Africa Regional Committee (ARC)



*'I am very pleased to note that we have implemented guidelines that will enable us for the first time to evaluate the impact of IBRO activities on the African continent.'*

Desire Tshala-Katumbay, ARC Chair

Twenty years ago, I was awarded my first IBRO post-doctoral fellowship. Fast forward 20 years, and I've had the privilege of being elected as Chair of the IBRO Africa Regional Committee. This came with unprecedented challenges. In spite of the many COVID-19 related restrictions, we have been able to support virtual and in-person schools and training consisting of 7 neuroscience schools, 4 workshops, and 2 symposia. The IBRO-sponsored congress of neuroscience in Africa (SONA) was successfully held in Ghana, in October 2021. Ten travel grants, 3 early career grants, 9 Dana Brain Awareness Week events, 3 Global Engagement

Seed Grants, and 3 IBRO Return Home Fellowships were awarded to African neuroscientists in 2021. Further, I am very pleased to note that we have implemented guidelines that will enable us for the first time to evaluate the impact of IBRO activities on the African continent. Moving forward, we envision laying the foundation for more robust ARC engagement with young and mid-career neuroscientists. Concurrently, local neuroscience societies will be encouraged to build strategic collaborations that will improve research outcomes and, eventually, attract funding for long-term sustainability.

## Asia-Pacific Regional Committee (APRC)



*'APRC has successfully supported 13 Associate Schools, benefitting thousands of graduates, postdocs and faculty members in the region.'*

Pike-See Cheah, APRC Chair

In 2021, neuroscience activities in the Asia-Pacific region resumed. APRC successfully supported 13 Associate Schools, benefitting thousands of graduates, postdocs and faculty members. APRC also promoted regional and gender diversity in neuroscience via the Women Bioscience Forum held in South Korea. Excitingly, APRC offered a one-time IBRO-APRC BAW Grant to support 18 events celebrating the spirit of Brain Awareness Week. These activities served to increase awareness of the brain and promote the benefits of neuroscience research. The IBRO-APRC Local Clustered Neuroscience

Program also supported the 1st China-Japan-Korea International Meeting, which received an encouraging response with visitors from several continents. APRC hosted the 2nd IBRO Global Neuroscience Horizons Webinar, involving 6 eminent speakers who have made field-leading contributions in translational neuroscience and novel therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases, with the participation of scientists from 50 countries. In the coming years, we will strive to advance the work of APRC further and continue to build support for neuroscience in the Asia-Pacific region.

*'Our permanent challenge is to continue our effort to impact the entire region, reaching places where it has not been possible until now.'*

## Latin-America Regional Committee

(LARC)



**Adrian Palacios**, LARC Chair

We have noticed a growing interest in IBRO-LARC programs that promote and support careers in brain research. As a regional committee, LARC has the challenge to contribute to society through its programming and support actions. Improving the knowledge and tools that can impact education and public health, achieving and maintaining better brain health throughout ageing, will have a decisive impact on quality of life and the functioning of society in general. During 2021, we have strengthened our equity and gender equality principles in science. We have ensured that these principles are reflected in all our programs, applications, and results in our region. Our permanent challenge is to continue our efforts to impact the entire region, reaching



places where it has not been possible until now due to the incipient development of brain sciences. We could not have foreseen the profound consequences of the pandemic in terms of the organization of face-to-face activities funded by our programs. At the same time, we witnessed a significant increase in the number of virtual activities and application of tools that were specially adapted to the situation, allowing for a better participation in courses and the dissemination of brain research in general. IBRO-LARC also supported activities that brought together studies on the brain and its impact and consequences for developing public policies. The effects of COVID-19 on brain functions will undoubtedly be very important research topics to be addressed at the regional level in the future.

*'Events in partnership with the national neuroscience societies strengthened links with IBRO while promoting IBRO's visibility within the European neuroscience community.'*

## Pan-Europe Regional Committee

(PERC)



**Fabio Blandini**, PERC Chair

In 2021 PERC activities slowly started to bounce back from the partial paralysis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mobility of researchers still suffered from COVID-related travel restrictions, but other initiatives were successfully implemented with PERC support, such as diversity grants, top-level neuroscience meetings, events in partnership with national neuroscience societies and courses in soft skills training. These latter two initiatives, first introduced in 2021, proved quite successful in our region. Events in partnership with the national neuroscience societies (six were funded) strengthened links with IBRO while promoting IBRO's visibility within the European neuroscience community. The training courses on soft skills (scientific writing, grant writing, poster design and



presentation, oral presentation skills, etc.) balanced, within the portfolio of IBRO training initiatives, the traditional hard-core neuroscience training with training on translational skills that will help trainees to "survive in science". The quality of the five courses funded in 2021 was impressive, which further convinced us that this new tool will continue to be extremely important to early-career neuroscientists, as well as to IBRO in the future.

*'The focus of the USCRC programs is to improve and strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion in neuroscience in our region.'*

## US/Canada Regional Committee (USCRC)



**Samuel David**, USCRC Chair

In 2021, the impact of COVID-19 on delivery of our programs eased somewhat with the adaptation to virtual courses and conferences, and the start of some in-person courses and activities. The USCRC had 5 fellowship programs partnering with three organizations – Society for Neuroscience (SfN), Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories (CSHL). The aim was to support the scientific and professional development needs of talented trainees in the US and Canada, with priority given to members of underrepresented communities including ethnic minorities and the disabled. These fellowship programs span the range from undergraduate summer students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and new faculty members. USCRC also



supported trainees in Latin America, in partnership with the Latin American Training Program (LATP), SfN and LARC. Our summer studentship program was expanded to 4 sites (2 in Canada and 2 in US). Support was also provided to attend the meetings of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN) and the International Neuroethics Society (INS). The annual CAN-IBRO Neuroscience school was held successfully online for 12 trainees from Morocco, Egypt, Cameroon, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay. The focus of the USCRC programs is to improve and strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion in neuroscience in our region (US/Canada) as well as Latin America and Africa. We look forward to greater easing of COVID-19 related restrictions in 2022.

*'In 2021, the Young IBRO Network continued its efforts to support collaboration of emerging research groups.'*

## Young IBRO



**Zeljka Krsnik**, Young IBRO Chair

In 2021, the Young IBRO Network continued its efforts to support collaboration of emerging research groups among two different IBRO Regions by awarding ten Young IBRO Regions Connecting Awards. We successfully launched a new Young IBRO Maternity/Parenthood in Neuroscience grant and continued the NextInNeuro webinar series featuring promising research of emerging neuroscientists across the world. In partnership with the ALBA Network, we organized webinars on DEI issues, including a panel discussion on "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Central and Eastern Europe: Challenges and Solutions" at the online FENS Regional Meeting. In addition, Young IBRO organized a Maker's Movement workshop using DeepLabCut during the



virtual 14th IBRO-USCRC Canadian School of Neuroscience, in Canada. Finally, at the beginning of 2022, we welcomed new members to the Young IBRO Committee. We encourage them to continue their assiduous work towards being the proactive global voice of early and mid-career neuroscientists and further contribute to our common goals of supporting collaboration throughout the world and serving the IBRO community.

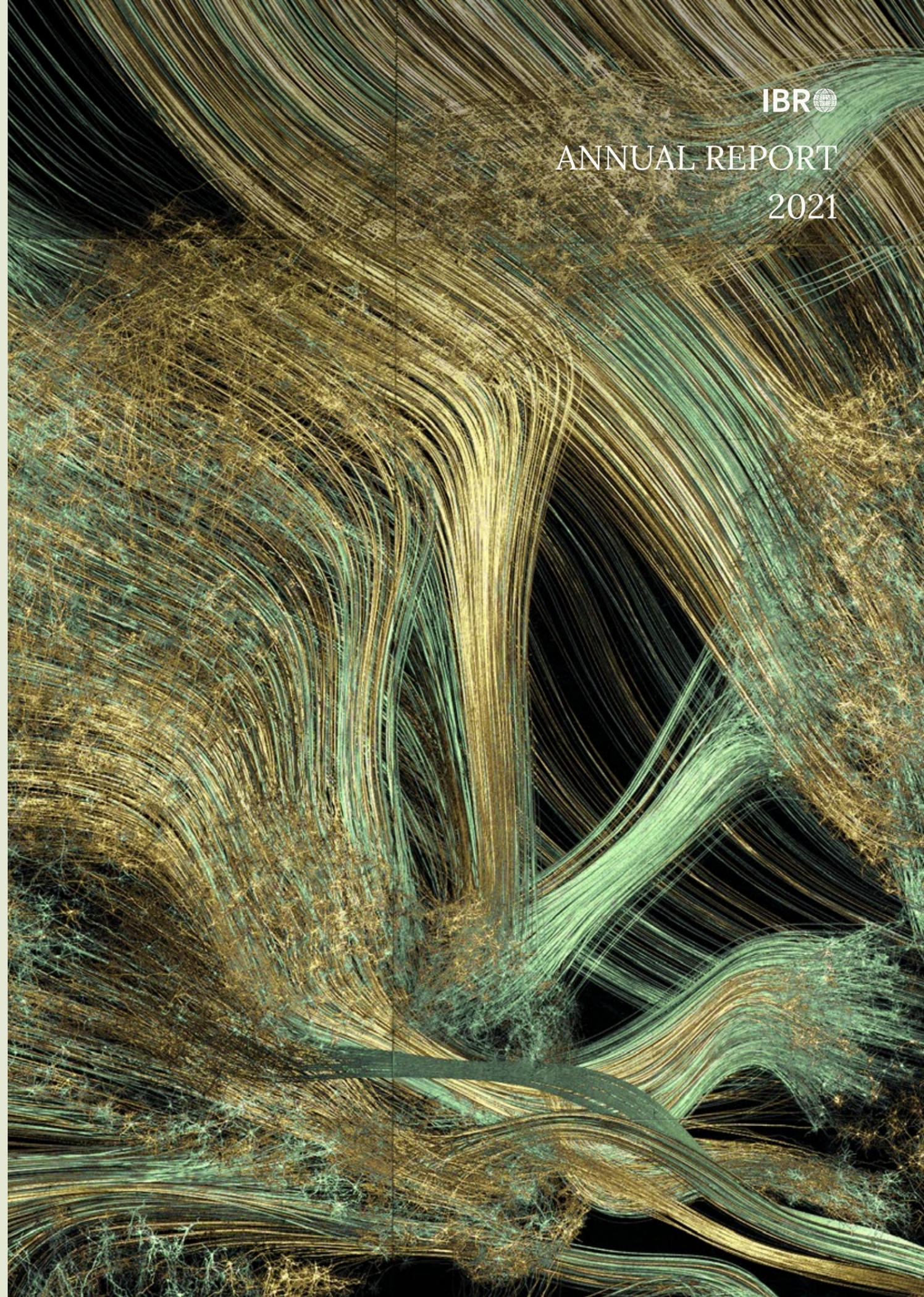
# 6

IBRO  
Ensuring  
Continuity

International Brain Research Organization

IBRO 

ANNUAL REPORT  
2021



# IBRO

## Ensuring Continuity

6

### COMMITMENT

IBRO Regional Committees support the implementation of IBRO's mission and help to plan and implement IBRO activities in their respective regions. They help identify, develop and support education and training programs which meet local, national and regional needs and promote neuroscience in their regions through outreach, mentoring and capacity building.

Responding to specific regional needs and circumstances, the IBRO Regional Committees have over time developed a wide variety of funding opportunities. With a view to establish a transparent structure for these career and support actions, regional programs with overlapping scope and implementation have been consolidated, allowing for the more efficient handling of applications and dissemination of information across the IBRO regions.

The newly updated grants structure was put into practice in 2021, with the intention of enhancing career opportunities available to the IBRO community and further adding

to the recognition and inter-operationality of programs across multiple regions. In addition, the new structure allows for the Regional Committees to strengthen their focus on developing programs and initiatives that correspond to unique regional needs.

Within a framework of enhanced exchange, IBRO leadership has continued to work closely with the Regional Committees to ensure that the values of transparency, diversity and inclusiveness are recognized throughout the application, review and awarding processes, with an emphasis on the inclusion of diverse and marginalised groups. In this vein, the IBRO Secretary General and the Chairs of IBRO's five Regional Committees met in November to closely examine the grants evaluation process and to identify best practices for these, with a view to optimize and align methods by which decisions are made across different Regional Committees. Such meetings are scheduled to occur twice annually, thus supporting dialogue and exchange between IBRO's Regional Committees.

'IBRO offers a global neuroscience education and training platform that results from committed dialogue, intercontinental exchanges and cooperation. We strive to ensure that programs are operated according to the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion, which are key elements of the philosophy and spirit of IBRO. We aim to provide education and training opportunities to a wide range of scientists, including early career scientists, allowing that they not only enhance their individual scientific competences, but also contribute to the development of a global neuroscience community. IBRO strives to become a bridge to help dreams come true for all.'

—  
Sung-Jin Jeong, IBRO Secretary General



## IMPACT

Through its organization into five main regions (Asia-Pacific, Africa, Latin America, Pan-Europe and US/Canada) IBRO brings scientists together via targeted programs, aligning its mission, interest and goals with other regional stakeholders to strengthen networks of education, training, exchange, mentorship and communication globally. Part of the IBRO mission is to ensure transparency

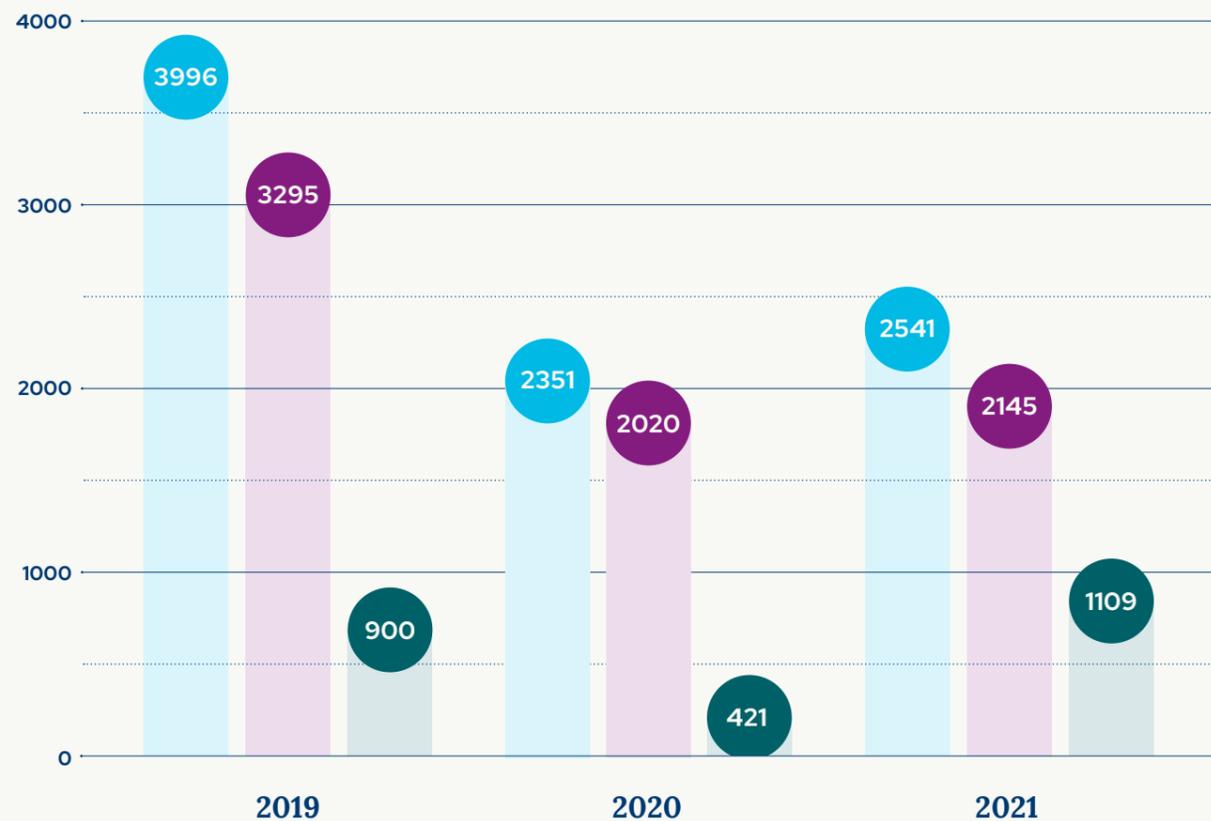
and efficiency in the impactful utilization of funds and resources, including the reporting of measurable outcomes and application of metrics toward individual and regional development. IBRO is focused on maintaining the highest standards for scientific rigor and achieving significant impact in neuroscience research and training, by ensuring access to inclusive, career advancing training opportunities.

The year 2021 saw the return of the IBRO Schools program, with 910 students attending IBRO's 32 supported schools. This was largely possible due to the increased number of virtual and hybrid schools that were implemented during the year (19), combined with global COVID-19 vaccination efforts, and easing of international travel restrictions during part of the year.

In 2021, IBRO supported a further 199 awardees across 18 separate career-advancement programs with 55% of these awarded to female scientists. The 2021 pool of grant awardees hailed from a record 64 countries. With a success rate of 52%, the number of awarded individual grants and fellowships in 2021 represented more than a doubling over the previous year.

### Total Applications Processed

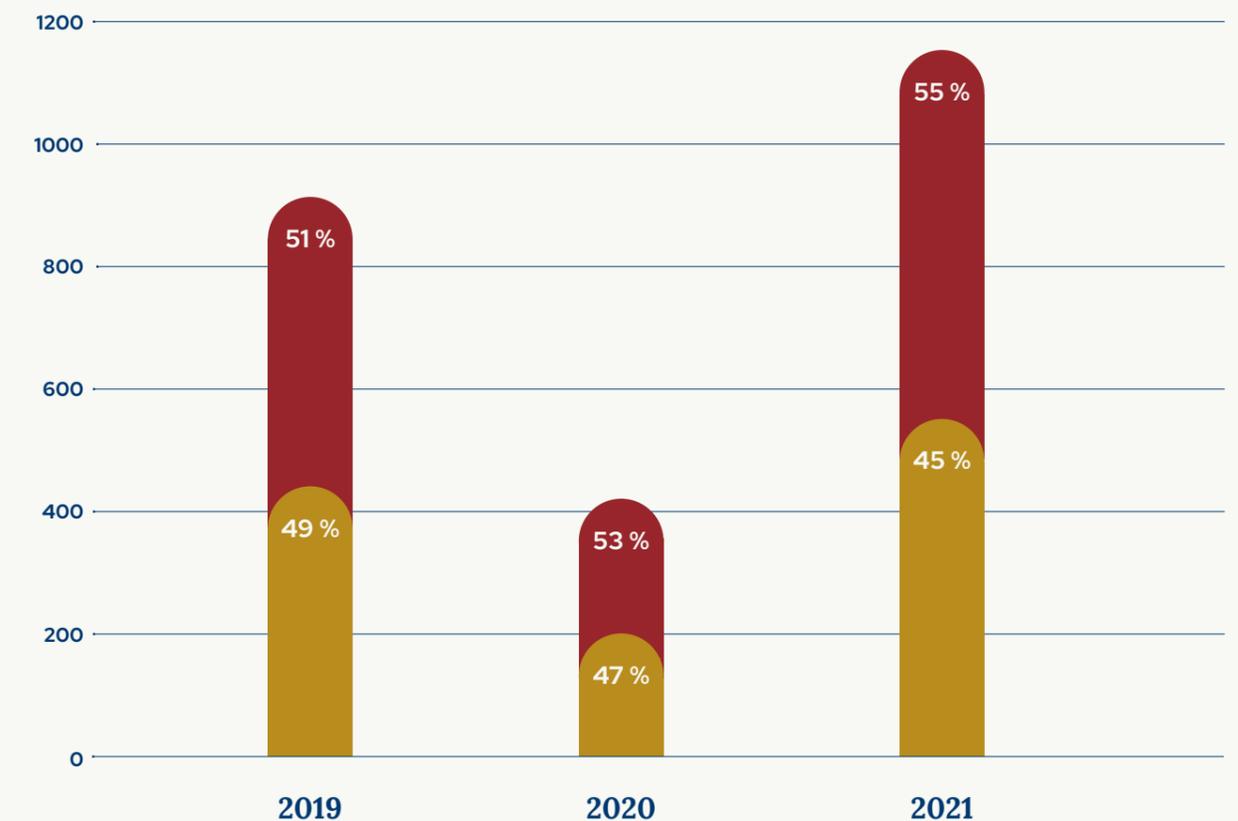
● Received ● Eligible ● Awardees



The year 2021 saw an increase in applications received compared to the previous year, with an increased number of awards given due to the relaxation in COVID-19 travel restrictions and increased participation by the IBRO regions in core funding programs.

### Gender Distribution of IBRO Awardees

● Male ● Female



A clear commitment to gender equality has been demonstrated over the past three years, with equal, if not higher, numbers of awards distributed to female applicants to IBRO funding programs.

### Geographical Distribution of IBRO Grant Awardees

A total of 64 countries were represented by IBRO program awardees in 2021, indicating a large degree of geographical diversity.

- |               |             |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Argentina     | Australia   | Austria     |
| Brazil        | Bangladesh  | Belgium     |
| Chile         | Hong Kong   | France      |
| Colombia      | India       | Georgia     |
| El Salvador   | Indonesia   | Germany     |
| Mexico        | Israel      | Greece      |
| Panama        | Japan       | Hungary     |
| Peru          | Jordan      | Italy       |
| Uruguay       | Malaysia    | Lithuania   |
|               | Mongolia    | Netherlands |
| Cameroon      | Nepal       | Poland      |
| Cote d'Ivoire | Oman        | Portugal    |
| DR Congo      | Pakistan    | Russia      |
| Egypt         | Philippines | Serbia      |
| Ethiopia      | Singapore   | Slovenia    |
| Ghana         | South Korea | Spain       |
| Kenya         | Sri Lanka   | Sweden      |
| Morocco       | Thailand    | Switzerland |
| Nigeria       | Vietnam     | Turkey      |
| Rwanda        |             | UK          |
| South Africa  | Canada      |             |
| Togo          | US          |             |
| Tunisia       |             |             |
| Zambia        |             |             |



## PROGRAMS AND IMPACT

### Asia-Pacific

Two new initiatives were implemented in the Asia-Pacific region in 2021. The APRC Brain Awareness Week (BAW) program, which is a program that supports targeted public events that focus on increasing brain awareness among the general public and society, supported 18 events in 2021 across 6 different countries (Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Malaysia, Vietnam).



“Know Your Brain & Keep It Healthy” (APRC BAW; Nepal).

The Clustered Neuroscience Activity, a new event format supported in 2021, aiming to foster regional collaboration and exchange, supported the combined meeting of the Chinese Neuroscience Society (CNS), Japan Neuroscience Society (JNS) and the Korean Society for Brain and Neural Sciences (KSBNS) that took place in Japan in 2021.

The Asia-Pacific region also participated in a wide variety of inter-regional programs in 2021. A total of 40 awards were distributed between 7 different programs to applicants from 7 different countries in the region (Australia, India, Japan, Mongolia, Pakistan, South Korea and Thailand). Female neuroscientists in the region particularly

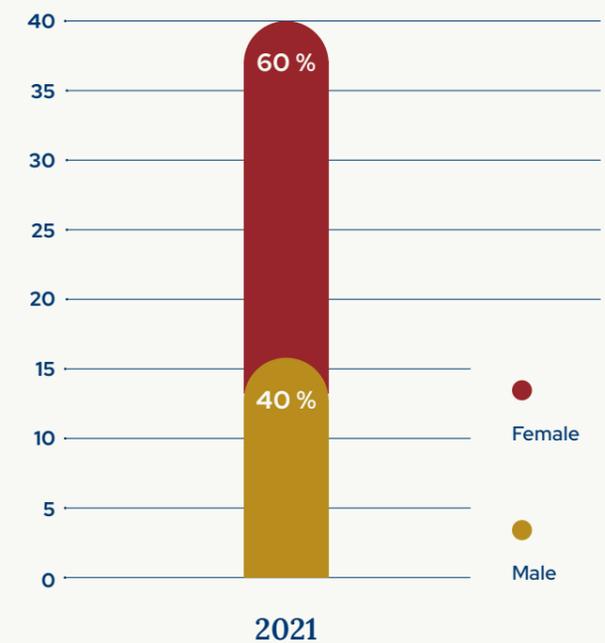
'I'm extremely passionate about educating young people, and their teachers & parents; empowering them to take control - and care - of their own brain, to reach their true potential and be the best humans they can be. Mind-Brain Education is at the very forefront of the future in global education, and this grant from IBRO allowed me to share this beneficial approach with many teachers from across Western Australia for free.'



benefited from these programs, with more females awarded across the vast majority of programs.

As an example of impact, the Diversity Grant program successfully supported the scientific session “Recent Progress in Neurobiology” in conjunction with the Women Bioscience Forum in South Korea, to promote interaction between female neuroscientists. Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the related difficulties for meeting organizers, early career faculty of the Asia-Pacific region benefited from IBRO Meetings Support as supported speakers in various regional scientific meetings and events. In addition, a total of 13 virtual schools were held across 6 different countries.

### APRC Gender Distribution



### APRC Regional Distribution 2021



Inter-regional Programs (APRC)	Awardees	Male	Female	Countries
Young IBRO Maternity/Parenthood Grants	2	0	2	2
Collaborative Research Grants	2	2	0	1
Exchange Fellowships	2	0	2	2
Early Career Awards	3	1	2	2
Meeting Support	5	2	3	3
Diversity Grants	1	0	1	1
Travel Grants	25	11	14	4
<b>Total Awardees</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	

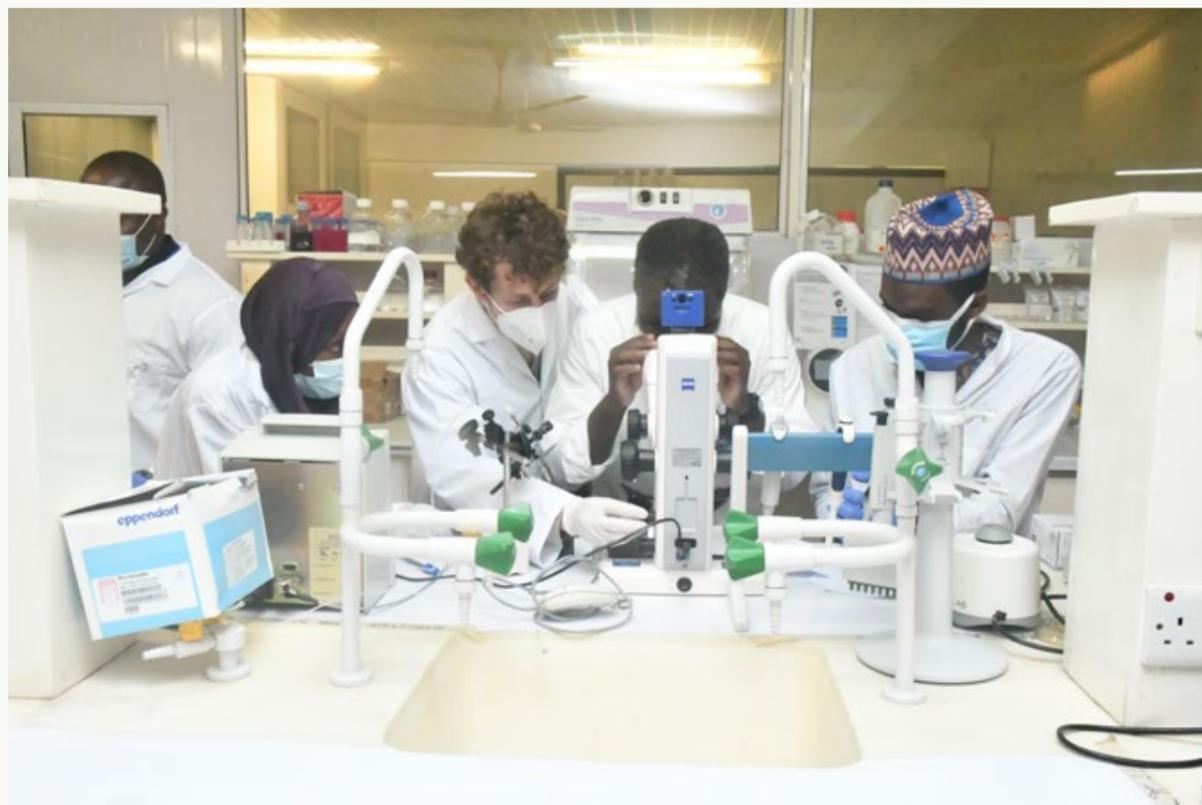
A total of 40 awards were distributed by the Asia-Pacific Regional Committee across 7 countries in the region, with the majority of recipients being female.

## Africa

Under the theme “Neurological Disease in Contemporary Africa”, the Society of Neuroscientists of Africa (SONA) held its 15th scientific meeting in Accra, Ghana, in October 2021. A total of 157 (64 virtual

and 93 in-person) delegates, including IBRO President Tracy Bale, attended the meeting, which was offered in a hybrid format.

Several IBRO supported events were linked to the conference, including the



Students receiving hands-on training in modern genome editing techniques - IBRO-ARC School on Genomics Editing for Neuroscience Research (Ghana)

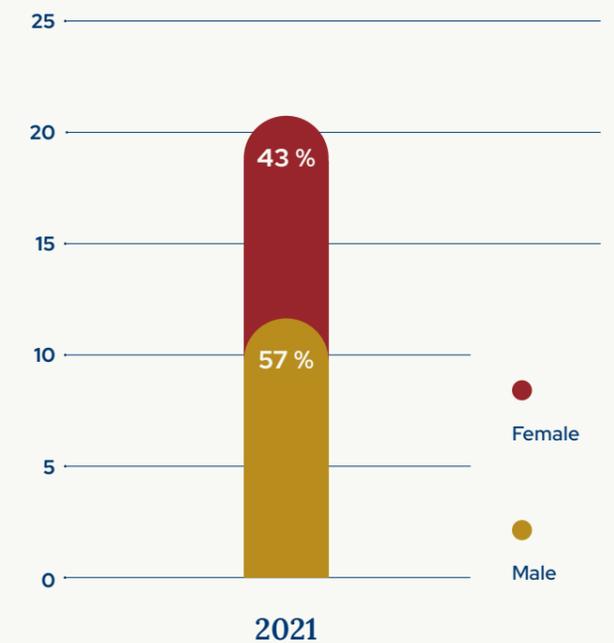
'I feel amazingly fulfilled. Attending the Teaching Tools Workshop was a dream come true, as I have gained so many skills which will help me in both my teaching and public speaking career.'

13<sup>th</sup> Teaching Tools Workshop Attendee (Ghana)

Ghana Brain Bee Competition, two IBRO-ARC workshops: "Zebrafish as a Tool for Neuroscience Research in Africa" and "13th Teaching Tools", in addition to two IBRO-ARC Schools: Neuropharmacology Research and Drug Development and Genomics Editing for Neuroscience Research.

The Africa Regional Committee engaged in 4 different inter-regional programs in 2021, distributing a total of 21 awards to applicants from 7 different countries. While 2 schools were cancelled due to COVID-19, a further 12 schools took place across 7 countries in Africa, in a variety of formats (physical, virtual, hybrid).

### ARC Gender Distribution



### ARC Regional Distribution 2021

Country	Awardees	Male	Female	Countries
Cameroon	1	0	1	1
Ivory Coast	3	2	1	3
Egypt	3	2	1	3
Ghana	14	8	6	5
Morocco				
Nigeria				
South Africa				
<b>Total Awardees</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	

Inter-regional Programs (ARC)	Awardees	Male	Female	Countries
Young IBRO Maternity/Parenthood Grants	1	0	1	1
Return Home Fellowships	3	2	1	3
Early Career Awards	3	2	1	3
Travel Grants	14	8	6	5
<b>Total Awardees</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	

A total of 21 awards were distributed across 7 countries in the African region, with a near balanced gender distribution among awardees.

## Latin America

As a result of the pandemic, the Latin-American region remained in a comparatively longer transitional period in 2021, causing the cancellation of many scheduled events in the region, including the Seeding Neuroscience program and the Latin American Training Program(s) (LATP). The 3rd FALAN Congress unfortunately also had to be cancelled.

Three schools were successfully held across the region (Uruguay, Chile, Columbia) on different topics, including artificial intelligence, open hardware/software technology, evolutionary neuroscience and neuroendocrinology. These schools further supported the establishment of collaborative networks at local, regional and international levels.



Students attend a 1-week intensive School on neuroendocrinology, cellular neurobiology, electrophysiology, neurobehavior and computational neuroscience - IBRO-LARC International School of Neuroscience (Columbia).

All events that had to be cancelled in 2021 fortunately were rescheduled, including the 3rd FALAN Congress, which will now take

'We are very proud of having a School with [the large majority of] speakers being women that are worldwide acknowledged experts in their fields. This greatly highlights and empowers female participation in academia.'

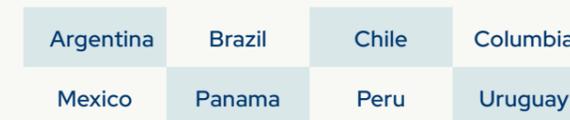


George Barreto (IBRO-LARC International School of Neuroscience organizer, Columbia)

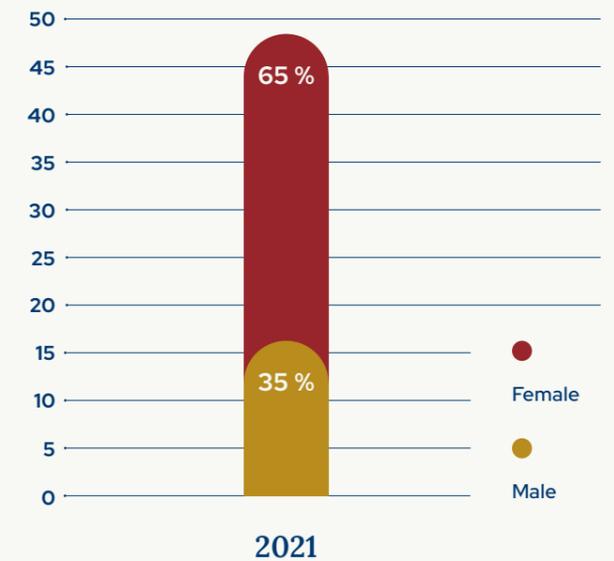
place in hybrid format in September 2022, in Belém, Brazil.

Despite the uncertainty and difficulties in 2021, LARC continued to participate in a wide variety of inter-regional programs. A total of 48 awards were distributed via 8 different programs to scientists from 8 different countries within Latin-America.

### LARC Regional Distribution 2021



### LARC Gender Distribution



Inter-regional Programs (LARC)	Awardees	Male	Female	Countries
Young IBRO Maternity/Parenthood Grants	2	0	2	1
Collaborative Research Grants	7	6	1	3
Return Home Fellowships	2	1	1	1
Exchange Fellowships	6	0	6	2
Early Career Awards	5	2	3	4
Meeting Support	3	0	3	2
Diversity Grants	4	2	2	4
Travel Grants	19	6	13	7
<b>Total Awardees</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	

A total of 48 awards across 8 countries were distributed across Latin America, with a larger proportion of awards given to female candidates across funding programs.

**Pan-Europe**



Two new regional initiatives were launched by PERC in 2021. The National Neuroscience Society Partnership initiative reinforced the links between the Pan-Europe Regional Committee and many European neuroscience societies,

**Stain the Brain, Serbia.**

contributing to increasing IBRO's visibility an impact in the region. The program supported a number of events and activities, including ad hoc sessions and

'This has been a tremendous opportunity to create a network of researchers that may share knowledge and widen each other's perspective on how to approach grant writing.'

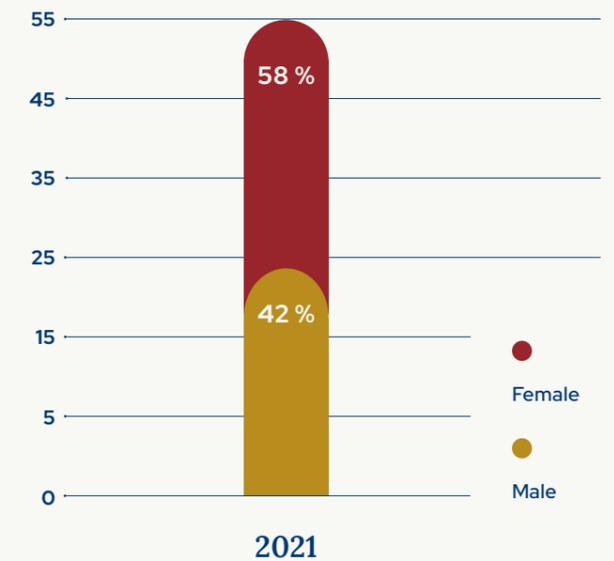


**Carlotta Lega** (IBRO-PERC Support for Soft Skills Training, Italy)

symposia in meetings that took in Russia, Switzerland, Slovenia, Italy, Spain and Georgia.

The committee also awarded a total of 55 grants, distributed between 7 different inter-regional programs to scientists from 17 different European countries. Events funded under the Diversity Grant initiative aimed to increase representation of and participation by currently under-represented ethnic groups in the UK and Switzerland, while the portfolio of supported meetings covered a wide spectrum of neuroscience fields.

**PERC Gender Distribution**



**PERC Regional Distribution 2021**

Belgium	Georgia	Greece	Israel	Lithuania	Serbia	Spain	Switzerland	UK
France	Germany	Hungary	Italy	Portugal	Slovenia	Sweden	Turkey	

Inter-regional Programs (PERC)	Awardees	Male	Female	Countries
Young IBRO Maternity/Parenthood Grants	3	0	3	3
Return Home Fellowships	3	0	3	3
Exchange Fellowships	10	5	5	7
Early Career Awards	4	1	3	4
Meeting Support	15	11	4	11
Diversity Grants	2	0	2	2
Travel Grants	18	6	12	10
<b>Total Awardees</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>32</b>	

A total of 55 grants were given to applicants from 17 countries within Pan-Europe, with a larger proportion of awardees in the region being female.

### US/Canada

Partnering with the Society for Neuroscience, The Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, USCRC implemented five fellowship programs in 2021, supporting the scientific and professional career-relevant needs of diverse and underrepresented trainees in the US and Canada.

With IBRO support, the first SEE-Diversity Workshop was held at MBL, providing candidates with long-term mentoring and opportunities for professional development. Three Summer Studentship programs for undergraduate students were likewise implemented at two sites in

Canada (University of British Columbia and McGill University) and one site in the US (Brown University), with the aim of increasing the intake of historically underrepresented students into graduate neuroscience programs.

A total of 12 and 38 grants were awarded by IBRO-USCRC to attendees of the International Neuroethics Society (INS) and the Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN) meetings, respectively. The 14th Canadian-IBRO School for Neuroscience was furthermore held virtually in May under the theme, "Development, Plasticity, and Repair of Neural Circuits" with 12 students from ARC and Latin-America selected to attend.

'Thanks to the IBRO-USCRC scholarship I was able to deepen my understanding of biology and electrophysiology and it allowed me to create long lasting relationships with colleagues investigating different brain disorders while strengthening my ties to the MBL family – a place where I hope I can come back every summer to continue to grow as a scientist and as a person.'



Ismary Blanco (IBRO-USCRC MBL Fellow, USA)

### Other Partnerships

In 2021, IBRO continued partnerships with like-minded organizations in an effort to mutualize and increase impact. Through these partnerships, IBRO was able to fund several programs and scientists, including three senior scientists being awarded the IBRO-IBE/ UNESCO Science of Learning Fellowships to support and translate key neuroscience research on learning and the brain to educators, policymakers, and governments.

In partnership with the Dana Foundation, the IBRO-Dana Brain Awareness Week program supported 28 BAW events taking place across 21 countries within Africa, Asia and Latin-America. Global

Engagement Seed Grants, another IBRO partner program, were awarded to 12 event organizers (4 male, 8 female) in partnership with the Dana Foundation, FENS, ISN, JNS and SfN, to scientists conducting outreach and engagement activities in their regions. These grants are offered as part of the IBRO-led Global Engagement Initiative, launched in 2012. In addition, a total of 15 grants were generously provided by SfN in support of early career scientists to attend the SfN annual meeting that was implemented virtually in 2021.

In addition, the Regional Committees continued to support their respective regional neuroscience federations (FAONS, SONA, FALAN, FENS).



- |              |                |                 |               |             |             |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Argentina | 7. Egypt       | 13. Kenya       | 19. Rwanda    | 1. Brazil   | 7. Malaysia |
| 2. Australia | 8. El Salvador | 14. Mexico      | 20. Singapore | 2. Cameroon | 8. Nepal    |
| 3. Brazil    | 9. Ethiopia    | 15. Nepal       | 21. Togo      | 3. Columbia | 9. Portugal |
| 4. Cameroon  | 10. Ghana      | 16. Nigeria     |               | 4. India    | 10. UK      |
| 5. Chile     | 11. Hong Kong  | 17. Pakistan    |               | 5. Italy    | 11. Uruguay |
| 6. Columbia  | 12. India      | 18. Philippines |               | 6. Kenya    | 12. Zambia  |

## IBRO's Engagement

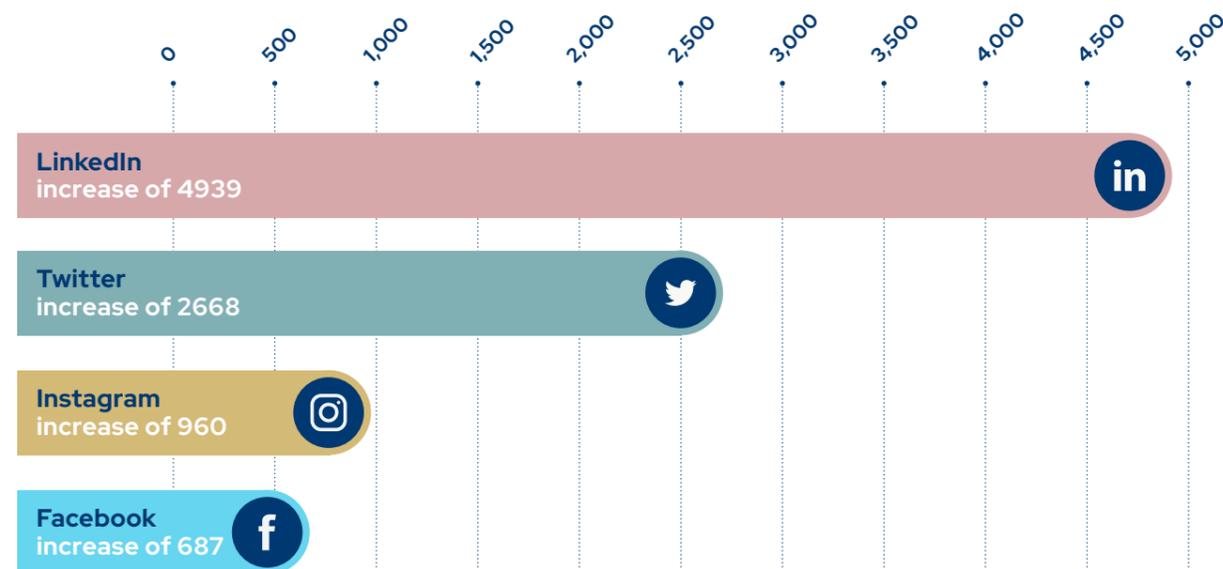
IBRO's communication activities are driven by a few mission-related priorities and centered around community building, career development, dissemination of research and engagement. Benefiting from its international network of member organizations and partners, IBRO uses various communication tools – website, social media channels and newsletter – to engage with the global scientific community, facilitate discussion, advance the dissemination of research through its journals, and highlight global opportunities for career support.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

IBRO's social media channels play a key role in bringing together the scientific community and ensuring high visibility for the programs supported by IBRO across the five world regions. In 2021, IBRO continued to enrich its

online presence through Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. As of 31 December 2021, IBRO had 67,714 social media followers, with around 16% of traffic to [ibro.org](http://ibro.org) coming from these social media sources.

### Increased reach

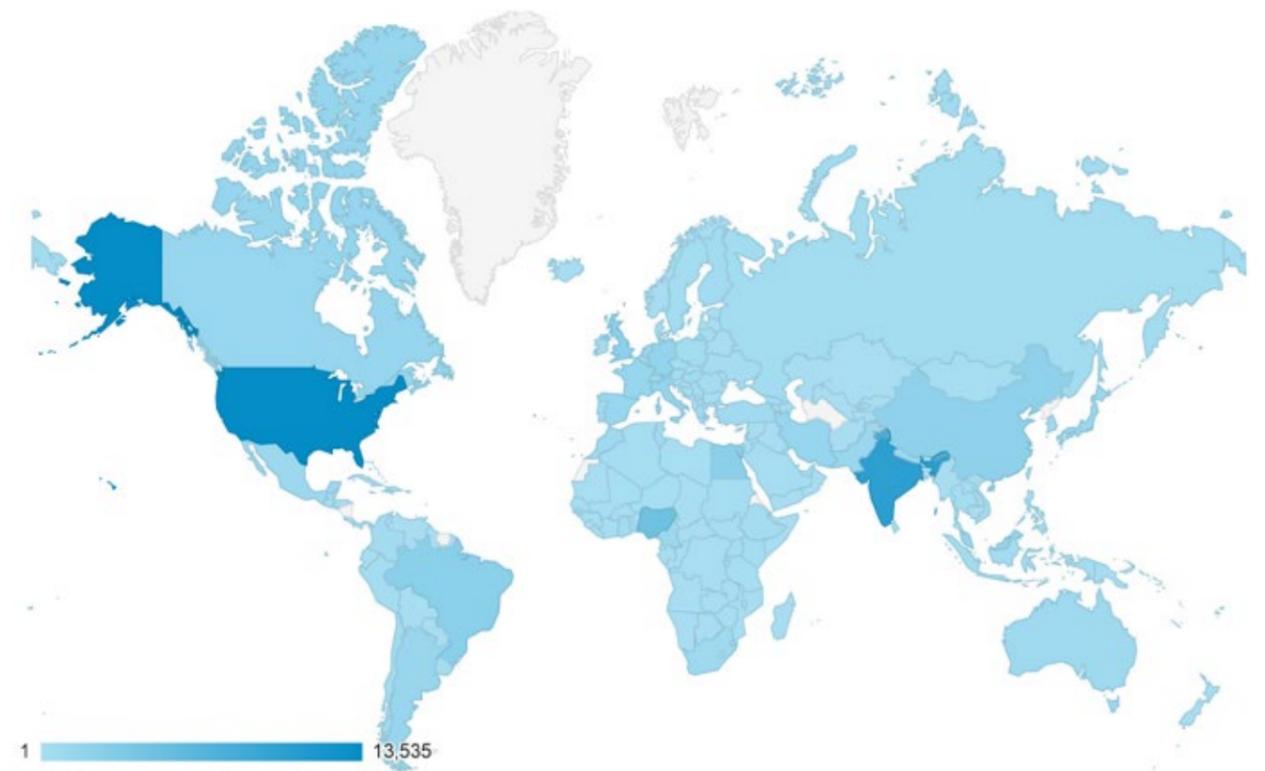


## WEBSITE

The number of users visiting the IBRO website - [ibro.org](http://ibro.org) - increased by 25% in 2021, reaching a total of 75,751 unique users across the year. There was an increase in the proportion of visitors returning to the website, although, as in 2020, new visitors continued to represent the vast majority of visitors. In terms of geographical distribution, users came from almost every country in the world, with the highest number of visitors coming from the USA, India and Nigeria, reflecting IBRO's global audience.

In 2021, the IBRO secretariat reorganized the website in order to make it easier to navigate. The open calls and grants pages are consistently among the most popular on the website, corresponding to a key focus for IBRO's communication activities, while pages dedicated to the IBRO World Congress, the news section and IBRO's journals also attract significant numbers of visitors.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION**  
of visitors to [ibro.org](http://ibro.org)



## RAISING IBRO'S VISIBILITY AT EVENTS

In 2021, IBRO participated in several online meetings and events, including contributing to an IBRO-Global Engagement supported event organized by the Uruguay Neuroscience Society, a booth at the Society for Neuroscience's virtual annual meeting and a panel discussion on society publishing at the FENS Regional Meeting. IBRO officers also participated in several IBRO-supported schools in order to raise the visibility of IBRO's mission and highlight opportunities for scientists at different career stages.

IBRO was also able to take advantage of in-person meetings and events to directly engage with the scientific community. The European Brain and Behaviour Society's hybrid meeting held in Switzerland offered an opportunity for IBRO officers and staff

to meet directly with partners and the wider European scientific community, including during an IBRO-supported event on early career opportunities, as did the 2021 meeting of the Society of Neuroscientists of Africa in Ghana (SONA), at which IBRO President Tracy L. Bale was a keynote speaker. IBRO's presence at in-person meetings will continue to increase as the global situation improves.



**'Attending the SONA meeting represented a unique and personal highlight for me in 2021. I experienced first-hand the importance of in-person meetings for our global community. In particular, the opportunity for networking and gaining visibility for trainees and early career scientists cannot be overestimated.'**

Tracy L. Bale, IBRO President

# IBRO On The Horizon

The strong resilience of the international scientific community has proven itself over the past two years. As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic that continued into 2021, many neuroscientists have faced challenging situations, with members of our community being unintentionally exposed to limited access to funding and training.

I am therefore pleased to note that 2021 represented a turning point in the pandemic. As we are now again emerging from lock-downs and restrictions, we should remember to bring the excellent new formats for inclusive dissemination of research and training with us as we move forward. IBRO stands firm in our commitment towards the most marginalized members of our community and will continue our efforts to support inclusion and equal access and opportunity for scientists throughout the world.

IBRO is a member-driven organization of likeminded scientific associations with a mission to support careers and promote excellent neuroscience throughout all regions of the world. Engagement with and from the global scientific community is at the heart of this mission, as we focus on

the priorities of scientists to develop our programming and funding. All members of our community are therefore warmly invited to engage with IBRO to help shape the organization. We are better when we all have a seat at the table.

As we move into 2022, we will again be able to meet and exchange. With a solid focus on diversity, equity and inclusion, IBRO will continue addressing the needs of our global neuroscience community by offering access to excellent training, education and progressive career support. With your continued engagement, IBRO is well positioned to lead global neuroscience at this critical time.

Tracy L. Bale, IBRO President

# IBRO Leadership

## Officers

**Tracy L. Bale** (2020-2022)

President  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
Baltimore, Maryland  
USA

**Keiji Tanaka** (2018-2021)

Secretary General  
RIKEN Brain Science Institute  
Wako, Japan

**Jerome Sanes** (2020-2022)

Treasurer  
Brown University  
Providence, Rhode Island  
USA

**Sung-Jin Jeong** (2021-2023)

Secretary General  
Korea Brain Research Institute  
Daegu, South Korea

## AFRICA Regional Committee



**Esperance Kashala-Abotnes**

(2021-2023)  
University of Kinshasa; University of Bergen  
Democratic Republic of Congo, Norway

**Fleur Howells**

(2019-2021)  
University of Cape Town  
Cape Town, South Africa

**Angelina Kakooza**

(2014-2021)  
Makerere University College of Health  
Sciences  
Kampala, Uganda

**Athanase Milogo**

(2021-2023)  
University of Ouagadougou  
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

**Victor Bambidele Owoyele**

(2021-2023)  
University of Ilorin  
Ilorin, Nigeria

**Thomas Tagoe**

(2019-2024)  
University of Ghana  
Accra, Ghana

**Desiré Tshala-Katumbay**

(Chair, 2019-2024)  
University of Kinshasa; Oregon Health and  
Science University  
Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo;  
Portland, USA

**Amira Zaky**

(2016-2023)  
Alexandria University  
Alexandria, Egypt

**ASIA/PACIFIC**  
Regional Committee**Pike-See Cheah**

(2017-2020; Chair, 2021-2023)  
University Putra Malaysia (UPM)  
Selangor, Malaysia

**Yuki Goda**

(2021-2023)  
RIKEN Center for Brain Science  
Wako, Japan

**Aurnab Ghose**

(2019-2021)  
India Institute of Science Education  
and Research  
Pune, India

**Tadashi Isa**

(2017-2023)  
Kyoto University  
Kyoto, Japan

**Bronwyn Kivell**

(2021-2023)  
Victoria University of Wellington  
Wellington, New Zealand

**Battuvshin Lkhagvasuren**

(2019-2021)  
Mongolian National University of Medical  
Sciences  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Yun Wang**

(2019-2021)  
Neuroscience Research Institute,  
IDG/McGovern Institute  
Peking University Beijing, China

**Wing-Ho Yung**

(2019-2021)  
Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong, China

**LATIN AMERICA**  
Regional Committee**Gabrielle Britton Bouzat**

(2021-2023)  
Instituto de Investigaciones Científicas  
y Servicios de Alta Tecnología  
(INDICASAT-AIP)  
Panama City, Panama

**Martin Cammarota**

(2019-2021)  
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte  
Natal, Brazil

**Newton Canteras**

(2019-2021)  
Universidade de São Paulo  
São Paulo, Brazil

**Elaine Del-Bel**

(2021-2023)  
Universidade de São Paulo (USP)  
São Paulo, Brazil

**Gustavo Murer**

(2016-2023)  
Institute of Physiology and Biophysics  
(IFIBIO Houssay), University of Buenos Aires  
School of Medicine & CONICET  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Adrian Palacios**

(2016-2020;  
Chair, 2021-2023)  
Universidad de Valparaíso  
Valparaíso, Chile

**Carolina Escobar-Briones**

(2021-2023)  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma  
de México (UNAM)  
Mexico City, Mexico

**Ana Silva**

(2021-2023)  
Universidad de la República (UdelaR),  
Montevideo, Uruguay

## Middle East/North Africa Sub-regional Committee



### Karem Alzoubi

(2018-2022)  
Jordan University of Science and  
Technology (JUST)  
Irbid, Jordan

### Samia Ben Sassi

(2018-2022)  
Mongi Ben Hamida National Institute  
of Neurology  
Tunis, Tunisia

### Firas El-Kobeissy

(Chair, 2018-2021)  
American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon

### Mohamed Essa

(2018-2021)  
Sultan Qaboos University  
Muscat, Oman

### Mohamed Herzallah

(2018-2022)  
Al-Quds University  
Abu Dis

### Hilal A. Lashuel

(2014-2021)  
L'École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne  
Lausanne, Switzerland

### Mohamed Salama

(2018-2022)  
Mansoura University  
Mansoura, Egypt

## PAN-EUROPE Regional Committee



### Fabio Blandini

(Chair, 2018-2024)  
Fondazione IRCCS Ca' Granda Ospedale  
Maggiore Policlinico, Milan  
Milan, Italy

### Carsten Duch

(2014-2021)  
Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz  
Mainz, Germany

### Herta Flor

(2018-2021)  
University of Heidelberg  
Heidelberg, Germany

### José Luis Lanciego Perez

(2020-2022)  
Center for Applied Medical Research,  
University of Navarra  
Pamplona, Spain

### Marina Pizzi

(2018-2021)  
Università degli Studi di Brescia  
Brescia, Italy

### Emmanuel Valjeant

(2020-2022)  
INSERM, L'Institut de Génétique  
Fonctionnelle (IGF)  
Montpellier, France

### Ana-Maria Zagrean

(2018-2024)  
Carol Davila University of Medicine  
and Pharmacy  
Bucharest, Romania

*In 2021, it was decided to officially dissolve the MENA sub-committee from January 2022 onwards and reintegrate its member representatives into the APRC and ARC Regional Committees.*

**US/CANADA**  
Regional Committee



**Derek Bowie**  
(2018-2021)  
McGill University Montreal, Canada

**Samuel David**  
(Chair, 2018-2021)  
McGill University  
Montreal, Canada

**Anne Etgen**  
(Co-Chair, 2018-2021)  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
New York, USA

**Michela Fagiolini**  
(2018-2024)  
Boston Children's Hospital  
Boston, USA

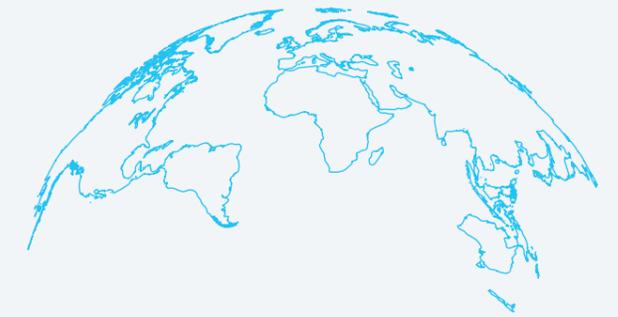
**Charles Gilbert**  
(2018-2021)  
The Rockefeller University  
New York, USA

**Kurt Haas**  
(2018-2024)  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, Canada

**Julie Lefebvre**  
(2020-2022)  
Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute  
Toronto, Canada

**Ramesh Raghupathi**  
(2020-2022)  
Drexel University  
Philadelphia, USA

**Young IBRO**  
Members



AFRICA

**Jacqueline Bracher**  
University of Cape Town  
Cape Town, South Africa

**Sunday Bisong**  
University of Calabar  
Calabar, Nigeria

ASIA/PACIFIC

**Hyoung F. Kim**  
Sungkyunkwan University  
Seoul, South Korea

**Liming Wang**  
Zhejiang University  
Hangzhou, China

LATIN AMERICA

**Agustin Anastasia**  
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba  
Córdoba, Argentina

**Amaicha Mara Depino**  
University of Buenos Aires  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

PAN-EUROPE

**Zeljka Krsnik (Chair)**  
Croatian Institute for Brain Research  
Zagreb, Croatia

**Urte Neniskyte**  
Vilnius University  
Vilnius, Lithuania

US/CANADA

**Arjun Krishnaswamy**  
McGill University  
Montréal, Canada

**Aparna Suvrathan**  
McGill University  
Montréal, Canada

# IBRO

## Member Societies

### AFRICA

#### Association pour la Promotion des Neurosciences (APRONES)

Represented by Dr. Jean-Marie Kashama wa Kashama since 2020

#### Egyptian Network for Neurodegenerative Disorders (ENND)

Represented by Dr. Mohamed Mosaad Salama since 2019

#### Ghana Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Patrick Amoateng since 2019

#### Kenya Society for Neurosciences

Represented by Dr. Nilesh Patel since 2010

#### Malian Society of Neuroscience

Represented by Dr. Zeinab Kone since 2019

#### Moroccan Association for Neuroscience

Represented by Dr. Mohammed Bennis since 2009

#### Neuroscience Group of Egypt

Represented by Dr. Yasser El Wazer since 2017

#### Neuroscience Society of Nigeria

Represented by Dr. Nuhu Danjuma Mohammed since 2012

#### Society of Neuroscientists of Africa (SONA)

Represented by Dr. Amadi O. Ihunwo since 2017

#### Southern African Neuroscience Society (SANS)

Represented by Dr. Fleur Howells since 2018

### ASIA/PACIFIC

#### Ageing and Dementia Research Group

(ADRG), Sultan Qaboos University, Oman  
Represented by Dr. Mohamed Essa since 2019

#### Australasian Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Peter Schofield since 2021

#### Beijing Society for Neuroscience

Represented by Dr. Albert Cheung-Hoi Yu since 2010

#### Chinese Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Xu Zhang since 2020

#### Federation of Asian-Oceanian

#### Neuroscience Societies (FAONS)

Represented by Dr. Adhi Wibowo Nurhidayat since 2020

#### Hong Kong Society of Neurosciences

Represented by Dr. Wing-Ho Yung since 2013

#### Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Represented by Dr. Prahlad Seth since 2009

#### Iranian Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Saeed Semnianian since 2010

#### Japan Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Michisuke Yuzaki since 2020

#### Korea Brain Research Institute

Represented by Dr. Pann-Ghill Suh since 2019

#### Korean Society for Brain and Neural Science

Represented by Dr. Seungbok Lee since 2021

#### Malaysian Society of Neurosciences

Represented by Dr. Mustapha Muzaimi since 2019

#### Mongolian Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Battuvshin Lkhagvasuren since 2015

#### Neuroscience Group, United Arab Emirates

Represented by Dr. Abdu Adem since 2009

#### Neuroscience Society of Nepal

Represented by Sunil Dhungel since 2016

#### Neuroscience Society of Sri Lanka

Represented by Dr. Ranil De Silva since 2016

#### Pakistan Society of Basic & Applied Neurosciences (PASBAN)

Represented by Dr. Kaneez Fatima Shad since 2009

#### Singapore Neuroscience Association

Represented by Dr. S. Thameem Dheen since 2009

### LATIN AMERICA

#### Sociedad Argentina de Investigacion en Neurociencias

Represented by Dr. Liliana Cancela since 2019

#### Sociedade Brasileira de Neurociencias e Comportamento

Represented by Dr. Deborah Sucheki since 2021

#### Sociedad Chilena de Neurociencia

Represented by Dr. Christian Gonzalez-Billault since 2020

#### Colegio Colombiano de Neurociencias (COLNE)

Represented by Dr. Zulma Janeth Dueñas Gómez since 2020

#### Cuban Neuroscience Society

Represented by Dr. Carlos Santos-Anzorandia since 2010

#### Federation of Neuroscience Societies of Latin America and the Caribbean (FALAN)

Represented by Dr. Elaine Del-Bel since 2018

**Sociedad Mexicana de Ciencias Fisiológicas**  
Represented by Dr. Daniel Ortuño since 2020

**Society for Neuroscience of Peru (SONEP)**  
Represented by Dr. Martín Arturo Tipismana Barbarán since 2019

**Sociedad de Neurociencia del Uruguay**  
Represented by Dr. Ana Silva since 2021

**Sociedad Venezolana de Ciencias Fisiológicas**  
Represented by Dr. Horacio Vanegas since 2009

## PAN-EUROPE

**Armenian IBRO Association**  
Represented by Dr. Naira M. Ayvazyan since 2013

**Austrian Academy of Sciences**  
Represented by Dr. Friedrich Barth since 2009

**British Neuroscience Association**  
Represented by Dr. Rik Henson since 2021

**Bulgarian Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Ivan Milanov since 2014

**Croatian Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Milos Judas since 2013

**Czech Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Jiří Paleček since 2017

**Danish Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Jens Bo Nielsen since 2019

**Dutch Neurofederation**  
Represented by Dr. Guus Smit since 2010

**European Brain and Behaviour Society**  
Represented by Dr. Igor Branchi since 2021

**European Society for Neurochemistry**  
Represented by Dr. Johannes Hirrlinger since 2021

**Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS)**  
Represented by Dr. Jean-Antoine Girault since 2020

**Brain Research Society of Finland**  
Represented by Dr. Pirta Hotulainen since 2020

**Société des Neurosciences**  
Represented by Dr. Luc Buee since 2019

**Georgian Neuroscience Association**  
Represented by Dr. Temur Naneishvili since 2017

**German Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Christine Rose since 2021

**Hellenic Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Kiriaki Sidiropoulou since 2020

**Hungarian Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Csaba Fekete since 2021

**Israel Academy of Sciences & Humanities**  
Represented by Dr. Jo Cohen since 2021

**Israel Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Gabi Amitai since 2010

**Italian Association of Neuroimmunology**  
Represented by Dr. Roberto Furlan since 20210

**Italian Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Paolo Calabresi since 2020

**Lithuanian Neuroscience Association**  
Represented by Dr. Inga Griskova-Bulanova since 2017

**Mediterranean Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Giuseppe Di Giovanni since 2019

**Neuroscience Ireland**  
Represented by Dr. Karen Doyle since 2021

**Norwegian Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Sandvig Ionna since 202

**Polish Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Grzegorz Hess since 2021

**Sociedade Portuguesa de Neurociencias**  
Represented by Dr. Ana Cristina Rego since 2019

**National Neuroscience Society of Romania**  
Represented by Dr. Mihai Moldovan since 2012

**Russian Academy of Sciences**  
Represented by Dr. Pavel Balaban since 2021

**Serbian Neuroscience Society**  
Represented by Dr. Selma Kanazir since 2016

**Slovak Academy of Sciences**  
Represented by Dr. Jan Gálik since 2021

**Slovak Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Dasa Cizkova since 2021

**Slovenian Neuroscience Association**  
Represented by Dr. Maja Bresjanac since 2021

**Sociedad Española de Neurociencia**  
Represented by Dr. Joan Comella since 2019

**Trisomy 21 Research Society (T21RS, Spain)**  
Represented by Dr. Maria Martínez since 2020

**Swiss Society for Neuroscience**  
Represented by Dr. Anita Lüthi since 2020

**Brain Research Society (BARD) in Turkey**  
Represented by Dr. Metehan Çiçek since 2021

**Neuroscience Society of Turkey (TUBAS)**  
Represented by Dr. Gulgun Sengul since 2017

**US/CANADA**

Canadian Association for Neuroscience  
Represented by Dr. Shernaz Bamji  
since 2021

Canadian Institute of Neuroscience, Mental  
Health & Addiction (INMHA)  
Represented by Dr. Samuel Weiss since 2017

Society for Neuroscience (SfN)  
Represented by Dr. Edda Thiels since 2021

**INTERNATIONAL**

The Dana Foundation  
Represented by Barbara Gill since 2012

International Behavioral Neuroscience  
Society (IBNS)  
Represented by Dr. Jill McGaughy  
since 2019

International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE)  
Represented by Dr. Edward Bertram  
since 2017

International Neuroethics Society (INS)  
Represented by Dr. Judy Illes since 2017

International Neuroinformatics  
Coordinating Facility (INCF)  
Represented by Helena Ledmyr since 2021

International Regulatory Peptide Society  
(IRPS)  
Represented by Dr. Lee Eiden and Dr. Limei  
Zhang since 2019

International Society of Neuropathology  
(ISN)  
Represented by Dr. Seth Love since 2019

International Society of  
Psychoneuroendocrinology (ISPNE)  
Represented by Dr. Carmine Pariente  
since 2021

International Union of Physiological  
Sciences (IUPS)  
Represented by Dr. Julie Chan since 2019

**IBRO  
Secretariat**

Lars Kristiansen, PhD  
Executive Director

Tasia Asakawa  
Director of Development, Communications & Finance  
(until October 2021)

Rebecca Hadid, PhD  
Director of Grants and Programs

Natasha Slater  
Director of External Relations, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
(since May 2022)

Chalini Snega Victor  
Senior Programs Officer

Tawanda Daka  
Executive Office Manager





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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## **IBRO Secretariat**

255 rue Saint-Honoré 75001 Paris, France

Brussels satellite office: Rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

[www.ibro.org](http://www.ibro.org) | [secretariat@ibro.org](mailto:secretariat@ibro.org) | +33 (0)1 46 47 92 92



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<https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-brain-research-organization>



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[https://instagram.com/ibro\\_insta](https://instagram.com/ibro_insta)



YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOYRDynSh2N-2XO89rELFKw>