

December 2010

GRANTS:

Stop press: VICI grant for Theo Smit

The NWO has granted Theo Smit a VICI grant for his research project 'Development and regeneration of the intervertebral disc - a study on self-organisation'.

VENI grant for research into the spontaneous reorganization of brain dynamics

Tjeerd Boonstra, currently spending time at the University of New South Wales in Australia, received a VENI grant for his research into how numerous neurons in our brain have to coordinate their activities to let us behave adaptively, similar to musicians in an orchestra. In contrast to the orchestra, the brain does not have a conductor. In this research, Boonstra will investigate how neural activity is organized to accommodate adaptive motor control.

VIDI grant for muscle research

Huub Maas, currently holding a Marie Curie postdoc position, has received a VIDI grant for a research proposal into muscle interaction. It is currently unclear if muscles function as (in)dependent functional entities, but Maas and his team will investigate mechanical interactions between muscles, how these are used by the central nervous system, and how these affect the control of movement.

Rubicon Grants

Femke Maij and Myrthe Plaisier have both received a Rubicon Grant from the NWO. Femke received the grant for her project 'Localisation errors during movements reveal how the brain combines different sensory information signals'. She will be carrying out her research at the University of Birmingham, School of Psychology. Myrthe Plaisier received the grant for her project 'Bi-manual perceptual integration'. Myrthe will be doing her research at the Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics, Sensory perception and action group.

Annual Report MOVE

The annual report for 2009 has just been presented. All staff members and business partners should have received a copy. Should you want extra copies, please mail your request to moveoffice@fbw.vu.nl. You can also download the annual report in a PDF version from www.move.vu.nl

MOV(i)E: As announced in the October newsletter, MOVE is in the middle of making a MOV(i)E. One staff member, Astrid Bakker, and two PhD students; Joost van Kordelaar and Dionne Noordhof, all representing the various research areas have in the meantime presented their research on the silver screen. The MOV(i)E will be presented on the MOVE symposium on Regenerative Medicine on April 1st 2011, and will also be available on the VU and MOVE websites.

December 14, 2010

PhD Ceremony

Janwillem Testerink

Vitamin D and skeletal muscle structure and function

3.45 hrs, Aula (main building VU University)

December 15-17, 2010

Themed meeting of The Physiological Society

Including focused symposium

'Mechanosensitivity: from transduction to sensation'

March 11, 2011

VUmc Wetenschapsdag

All day event at the Amstelzaal (Hospital Building VUmc)

March 17, 2011

Symposium preceding the inaugural Lecture of Jelte Bos

Gaan, staan, kijken en kokken met het evenwichtsorgaan

1.00 hrs, exact venue t.b.a.

March 17, 2011

Inaugural Lecture

Jelte Bos

Title yet to be announced

3.45 hrs, Aula (Main Building VU University)

April 1, 2011

MOVE Symposium on Regenerative Medicine.

Complete program yet to be announced

New members in the period Sept. – Dec. 2011



Postdocs:

Tjeerd Boonstra: will join MOVE half way through December, initially from his base in Australia. Read more about his research on the front page of the newsletter. Research group: A. Daffertshofer. (*Funding:* VENI research grant NWO)

Ronald Kaptein has started on a two year research project into the development of a system for the analysis and classification of walking data called: *UPMOVE: Unraveling Patterns in MOVEments*. Research group: A. Daffertshofer. (*Funding:* research grant NWO)

Katinka van der Kooij – Making movements: Optimal and thus Inconsistent? Subproject: what is adaptation? Research group: J. Smeets. (*Funding:* research grant NWO)

New PhD students :

Arjan Bakkum - *Effects of electrical stimulation induced leg cycling combined with voluntary handcycle exercise in people with a chronic spinal cord injury*. (Co-)promoters: T. Janssen, L. van der Woude and S. de Groot. (*Funding:* research grant ZonMW).

Marieke van der Graaff – Making movements: Optimal and thus Inconsistent? Subproject: Planning of pointing. (Co-)promoters: J. Smeets and E. Brenner. (*Funding:* research grant NWO)

Helga Haberfehlner - *Enhancing surgical muscle lengthening for children with Cerebral Palsy (CP) as an intervention to improve gait*. (Co-) promoters: J. Becher, R. Jaspers and H. Maas. (*Funding:* contract research)

Ramon van der Hilst – A fundamental approach to Chromaticity.(Co-) promoters: J. Smeets and E. Brenner. (*Funding:* contract research)

Trienke Ijmker: *The cost of being stable: relations between walking speed, energy efficiency and stability during normal and pathological gait*. (Co-) promoters: P. Beek, L. van der Woude, H. Houdijk and C. Lamoth.(*Funding:* part contract research)

Marielle Kerste - *Steps to follow and obstacles to avoid in speeding up functional gait rehabilitation*. (Co-)promoters: P. Beek, T. Janssen and M. Roerdink. (*Funding:* contract research)

Erwin Maaswinkel – *QDISC: Quantitative Diagnosis of Impaired Spine Control*. (Co-) promoters: J. van Dieën and DJ. Veeger. (*Funding:* research grant STW).

Peter Renden – *Acute stress and training with stress: Effects on police officers' arrest and self-defence skills*. (Co-)promoters: G. Savelsbergh and R. Oudejans. (*Funding:* contract research)

Sietse Rispens – A novel instrument to support fall prevention in extramural care (FARAO): *Improvement of algorithms for detection of falls and fall risk*. (Co-) promoters: J. van Dieën, P. Beek, A. Daffertshofer and M. Pijnappels (*Funding:* research grant NWO)

Kim van Schooten – A novel instrument to support fall prevention in extramural care (FARAO): *Fall risk detection in extramural care*. (Co-)promoters: J. van Dieën, P. Beek, A. Daffertshofer and M. Pijnappels. (*Funding:* research grant NWO)

Sander Schreven – Propulsion in swimming (Co-)promoters: P. Beek, J. Smeets and H. Toussaint. (*Funding:* contract research)

Lydia Willemse – Quantification of leg muscle co-contraction in pathological gait – validation of a clinical EMG-to-force model. (Co-)promoters: J. van Dieën, J. Harlaar en C. Doorenbosch. (*Funding:* direct funding).

September, 2011

3rd Annual MOVE Research Meeting
Complete program and venue yet
to be announced