The Office for Science and Technology would like to continue spreading the word about exciting scientific news and advancements with this May newsletter. Please explore the following newsletter to find upcoming events, programs, and funds this May. As you will see, April proved to be another great month in terms of scientific achievement and events.

**Deadline: May 27, 2015** – We are pleased to announce the launch of the 10th edition of the Young Enterprise initiative *(YEi Start in France)*, an accelerator program designed to help American entrepreneurs start and grow their business in France and Europe. This initiative offers to promising startups across the United States training sessions in the U.S. and in Paris on how to do business in France, as well as an immersion week in France for the overall winners. This week includes personalized business connection and meetings fitted to the needs of the startups and access to the best French resources (competitive clusters, large research infrastructures, etc.). For more information, visit the program website and applications to the competition are now open here. The deadline to apply is May 27, 2015.

**FACTS Denver** – On June 24th, 2015, the French Ameri-Can Climate TalkS (FACTS) will be traveling to Denver to hold a conference highlighting climate change’s effects on health and the quality of life from the perspectives of France and Colorado. Held at MSU Denver, the conference will welcome a variety of speakers and panelists to discuss the issue in detail, with a special emphasis on water as well as new emerging diseases. Local and French scientists and professionals will come together in Denver to explore these effects of climate change, with the goal of bringing public opinion to light. FACTS Denver and several other similar conferences around the United States and Canada are building up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference, the COP 21-Paris Climate 2015, hosted in France this December 2015. Find more details here.

Visit the website of the Office for Science and Technology at the Consulate General of France in Los Angeles to explore our activities and events as they occur in May.

Lastly, but certainly not least, we would like to say goodbye to Mandy Majidian who was an intern for the Office for Science and Technology at the Consulate General of France in Los Angeles from October 2014 to April 2015. Mandy was a great member of our team and we are sad to see her leave. We thank her for all of her help and wish her the best of luck with the MCAT and medical school. Come back and visit us soon!

We wish to give a warm welcome to Gwen Calais-Haase, a sophomore at UCLA, who will be taking over Mandy.

**Gwen Calais-Haase, Science and Technology Intern**
Viviane Chansavang, Deputy Attaché for Science and Technology
Fabien Agenes, Attaché for Science and Technology

*To read the full version of the May 2015 newsletter, please scroll down. You can also register here to receive emails about events organized by the OST LA.*
April 2, 2015: “Open” Stem Cell Chromosomes Reveal New Possibilities for Diabetes

Stem cells hold great promise for treating a number of diseases, in part because they have the unique ability to differentiate, specializing into any one of the hundreds of cell types that comprise the human body. Researchers map chromosomal changes that must take place before stem cells can be used to produce pancreatic and liver cells.

To access the full article: http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/open_stem_cell_chromosomes_reveal_new_possibilities_for_diabetes

April 7, 2015: More Anti-inflammatory Genes Mean Longer Lifespans for Mammals

We age in part thanks to “friendly fire” from the immune system — inflammation and chemically active molecules called reactive oxygen species that help fight infection, but also wreak molecular havoc over time, contributing to frailty, disability and disease. The CD33rSiglec family of proteins are known to help protect our cells from becoming inflammatory collateral damage, prompting researchers at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine to ask whether CD33rSiglecS might help mammals live longer, too.

To access the full article: http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/more_anti_inflammatory_genes_mean_longer_lifespans_for_mammals

April 7, 2015: Engineers elucidate why skin is resistant to tearing

Using powerful X-ray beams and electron microscopy, researchers made the first direct observations of the micro-scale mechanisms that allow skin to resist tearing. They identified four specific mechanisms in collagen, the main structural protein in skin tissue, that act together to diminish the effects of stress: rotation, straightening, stretching, and sliding.

To access the full article: http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/engineers_elucidate_why_skin_is_resistant_to_tearing

April 7, 2015: Food for thought: Master protein enhances learning and memory

Salk scientists and collaborators have discovered that physical and mental activities rely on a single metabolic protein that controls the flow of blood and nutrients throughout the body. The new study could point to potential treatments in regenerative and developmental medicine as well as ways to address defects in learning and memory.

To access the full article: http://www.salk.edu/news/pressrelease_details.php?press_id=2076

April 9, 2015: Microbes Help Produce Serotonin in Gut

Although serotonin is well known as a brain neurotransmitter, it is estimated that 90 percent of the body’s serotonin is made in the digestive tract. In fact, altered levels of this peripheral serotonin have been linked to diseases such as irritable bowel syndrome, cardiovascular disease, and osteoporosis. New research at Caltech shows that certain bacteria in the gut are important for the production of peripheral serotonin.

To access the full article: http://www.caltech.edu/news/microbes-help-produce-serotonin-gut-46495
April 14, 2015: Exploring the ADHD-autism link

An associate professor of pediatrics at UC Irvine and a licensed clinical psychologist with the Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders, is focusing on the link between ADHD and Autism to better understand why people with both may be more prone to substance abuse and, in the process, to develop more effective behavioral therapies.

To access the full article:
http://news.uci.edu/features/exploring-the-adhd-autism-link/

April 16, 2015: Genetics Overlap Found Between Alzheimer’s Disease and Cardiovascular Risk Factors

An international team of scientists, led by researchers at University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, have found genetic overlap between Alzheimer’s disease (AD) and two significant cardiovascular disease risk factors: high levels of inflammatory C-reactive protein (CRP) and plasma lipids or fats. The findings, based upon genome-wide association studies involving hundreds of thousands of individuals, suggest the two cardiovascular phenotypes play a role in AD risk – and perhaps offer a new avenue for potentially delaying disease progression.

To access the full article:
http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/genetics_overlap_found_between_alzheimers_disease_and_cardiovascular_risk_f

April 17, 2015: Teen rebellion marks subconscious separation from parents

The rebel has a cause. Using brain scans, USC psychology researchers have found that teenage rebellion is a sign of teens separating from parents in their transition to adulthood. The team believes this study is the first of its kind to record images of teenage brains as they responded to separate videos of their peers and parents.

To access the full article:
http://news.usc.edu/79970/teen-rebellion-marks-subconscious-separation-from-parents/

April 21, 2015: Stem cell scientists at UCLA develop more effective way to create motor neurons

Research on treating neurodegenerative diseases like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease, and spinal muscular atrophy has long been hindered by the difficulty of producing the different kinds of motor neurons needed to model them. Now, researchers at UCLA’s Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research have found a new way to create key motor neurons for use in research on such diseases and on spinal cord injuries.

To access the full article:
http://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/stem-cell-scientists-at-ucla-develop-more-effective-way-to-create-motor-neurons

April 23, 2015: Gene-editing technique offers hope for hereditary diseases

For thousands of women around the globe carrying a mitochondrial disease, having a healthy child can be a gamble. This set of diseases affect mitochondria, tiny powerhouses that generate energy in the body’s cells and are passed exclusively from mother to child. Now, researchers at Salk Institute have developed a simple technique to eliminate mitochondrial mutations from eggs or early embryos, which has the potential to prevent babies from inheriting mitochondrial diseases.

To access the full article:

April 23, 2015: Two for one: recycling water and recovering energy

With global ecology in mind, Adam Smith, assistant professor in the Sonny Astani Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering, wants to develop efficient and
sustainable ways of cleaning water. He’s exploring the use of microbes for water treatment, focusing on resource recovery from waste streams.

To access the full article:  
http://news.usc.edu/80343/two-for-one-recycling-water-and-recovering-energy/

**NATIONAL NEWS**

**April 14, 2015: HHS announces $1 million in new grant programs to help improve sharing of health information**

National Coordinator for Health Information Technology Karen B. DeSalvo, M.D., M.P.H., M.Sc., announced today the availability of $1 million in grant funds to support community projects for the Community Interoperability Health Information Exchange (HIE) Program. The funding will help support and enable the flow of health information at the community level, leading to better care and better health.

To access the full article:  

**April 15, 2015: NIH launches largest clinical trial focused on HIV-related cardiovascular disease**

Researchers have begun enrolling participants in a multicenter international clinical trial to test whether statin administration can reduce the risk for major adverse cardiovascular events, such as heart attacks, strokes, and heart disease, in people with HIV infection. The trial is supported by the National Institutes of Health’s National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

To access the full article:  

**April 20, 2015: Drugs that activate brain stem cells may reverse multiple sclerosis**

Two drugs already on the market — an antifungal and a steroid — may potentially take on new roles as treatments for multiple sclerosis. According to a study published in Nature today, researchers discovered that these drugs may activate stem cells in the brain to stimulate myelin producing cells and repair white matter, which is damaged in multiple sclerosis. The study was partially funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), part of the National Institutes of Health.

To access the full article:  

**SCIENCES IN FRANCE**

**April 8, 2015: Bioasphalt : from microalgae to "green roads"**

Microalgae offer a highly promising alternative to petroleum products without competing for resources used in the food industry. They have now been used for the first time to make — asphalt! Researchers at the CEISAM, GEPEA, IFSTTAR and CEMHTI, working in collaboration with the company AlgoSource Technologies, have proved the viability of bioasphalt, demonstrating its close similarity to the “real” asphalt used to pave roads.

To access the full article:  
http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/2551.htm

**April 8, 2015: Human brain inspires computer memory**
How is it possible to create computer memory that is both faster and consumes less energy? Researchers at the Institut d’électronique fondamentale (CNRS/Université Paris-Sud) and CEA-List have unlocked the physical mechanisms involved in new-generation magnetic memory, and have shown that these mechanisms could be used as "synapses" in a new type of neuro-inspired system, able to learn how to store and retrieve information.

To access the full article:
http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/2561.htm

April 22, 2015: Detailed structure of human ribosome revealed

A team at the Institut de Génétique et de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire (IGBMC - CNRS/Université Strasbourg/Inserm) has evidenced, at the atomic scale, the three-dimensional structure of the complete human ribosome and the detailed interactions that occur within it. These findings, obtained using a technology that is unique in France, open the way to further exploring some of the adverse effects of antibiotics, and, in the longer term, to the treatment of diseases related to ribosomal dysfunctions and the deregulation of protein synthesis.

To access the full article:
http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/2555.htm

April 23, 2015: SWIFTS spectrometer to study earth tides and quakes

The world’s smallest spectrometer has successfully measured tiny deformations of the Earth’s crust, of the order of one millimeter, over a length of one thousand kilometers. Researchers at the Institut des Sciences de la Terre (CNRS/Université Joseph Fourier/IRD/IFSTTAR/Université de Savoie) and the Institut de Planétologie et d’Astrophysique de Grenoble (CNRS/Université Joseph Fourier) used the SWIFTS1 spectrometer to detect these as yet poorly understood movements.

To access the full article:
http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/2557.htm

MORE INFORMATION

NEXT MONTH’S EVENTS

UCLA

Protein folding, misfolding, and neurodegenerative disease
Wednesday May 6, 2015, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Neuroscience Research Building, Room 132
Featured Speaker: Dr. Arthur Horwich, Yale University
More Information: http://happenings.ucla.edu/all/event/165051

The 15th Annual Jeffrey Lecture on Cognitive Neuroscience – Understanding Consciousness: From Lab to Clinic
May 27, 2015, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Faculty Center, California Room, UCLA
Featured Speaker: Stanislas Dehaene, Ph.D.; Professor, Collège de France; Director, French Institute of Health and Medical Research
More Information: http://happenings.ucla.edu/all/event/165051

UC San Diego
Perspectives on Ocean Science Lecture - Charles David Keeling Annual Lecture (speaker to be announced)
May 11, 2015 – 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Birch Aquarium at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD
Featured Speaker: To Be Announced
More Information: https://calendar.ucsd.edu/DisplayEventDetail.asp?iEventID=118613&iSubCatID=3&iRoomID=

Annual Kuffler Lecture: Dr. Eve Marder
May 13, 2015 – 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Liebow Auditorium, Basic Science Building
Dr. Eve Marder lecture revolves around the extent to which similar network performance can arise from different sets of underlying network parameters, opening up rigorous studies of the variations in individual brains of normal healthy animals
More Information: https://calendar.ucsd.edu/DisplayEventDetail.asp?iEventID=108559&iSubCatID=3&iRoomID=4

USC

Epigenetics and the 3-Dimensional Genome
May 7, 2015 – 12:00 p.m.
University Park Campus, Davis School of Gerontology
Featured Speaker: Andrew Hoffman, M.D., Professor and Vice Chair, School of Medicine, Stanford University, VA Palo Alto Health Care System
More Information: https://www.usc.edu/calendar/event/915269

Salk Institute for Biological Studies
More Information: http://www.salk.edu/events/scientific_seminars.html

Using Fixed Circuits to Build Flexible Behaviors
May 7, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
Trustees' Room
Featured Speaker: Cori Bargmann, The Rockefeller University

Human-Climate Interactions and Evolution: Past and Future
May 15, 2015 – 1:00 p.m – 5:30 p.m.
Conrad T. Prebys Auditorium
More Information: https://calendar.ucsd.edu/DisplayEventDetail.asp?iEventID=128775&iSubCatID=&iRoomID=

The Scripps Research Institute
More Information: http://www.scripps.edu/california/events/seminars.html

6th Annual Beutler Lecture on The Edge of Medicine: "Immunology Taught by Humans"
May 5, 2015 – 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Location: The Auditorium at TSRI
Featured Speaker: Mark M. Davis, Ph.D., Investigator, HHMI; Professor, Dept. of Microbiology & Immunology; Director, Institute for Immunity, Transplantation & Infection, Stanford University School of Medicine

Molecular and Cellular Architecture of the Mouse Social Brain"
May 19, 2015 - 4:00 PM - 5:00 AM
DNC1 - Dorris Neuroscience Center Auditorium
Featured Speaker: Catherine Dulac, Ph.D., Higgins Professor of Molecular & Cellular Biology, HHMI; Dept. of
INTERNATIONAL CALLS FOR PROPOSALS – SCHOLARSHIPS

Please consult Le Fil de Marianne for further information on international calls and job offers.  
http://www.france-science.org/Fil-de-Marianne-lettre-d.html

IN FRENCH

Les bulletins électroniques
Les articles et les rapports produits par les activités de veille scientifique menées par les Missions Scientifiques et Technologiques dans 40 zones géographiques sont accessibles gratuitement via les Bulletins Electroniques. Ils sont édités par l’Agence pour la Diffusion de l’Information Technologique (ADIT), sur une base mensuelle ou hebdomadaire.

Le Fil de Marianne
Le Fil de Marianne est une publication hebdomadaire des bureaux de l’INSERM et du CNRS aux Etats-Unis. Il offre une information détaillée sur les évolutions de la politique de recherche française, les appels d’offres et les manifestations scientifiques en France. L’abonnement est gratuit.

La Mission pour la Science et la Technologie du Consulat Général de France à Los Angeles
Des informations sur le rôle de notre service au sein de la Mission pour la Science et la technologie (MS&T) peuvent être trouvées sur le site du Consulat Général de France à Los Angeles. Le planning des événements à venir ainsi que nos coordonnées et nos activités, sont également disponibles en ligne.

IN ENGLISH

The Office for Science and Technology of the Consulate General of France in Los Angeles
Information about the OST LA’s missions and activities can be found here.

We value your feedback. Please send us your comments and suggestions at

deputy-sdv.la@ambascience-usa.org

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Subscribe to the monthly French arts and culture newsletter to receive information about shows, exhibitions and much more, by sending an email to : culture@consulfrance-losangeles.org

FILM & TV OFFICE

Subscribe to the monthly French Film and TV newsletter to receive information about projections and events, by sending an email to : frenchfilminla@consulfrance-losangeles.org