

15th SYMPOSIUM OF
BIAL FOUNDATION

BEHIND AND BEYOND THE BRAIN

Aquém e Além do Cérebro

End-of-life experiences

Casa do Médico - Porto
April 8 to 11, 2026



9 de abril - quinta-feira *April 9 - Thursday*

Oral poster presentations - Bial Foundation grant holders

14:30 - 16:00 - *Oral poster presentations - Grant holders*
Moderator - **Mário Simões**

16:00 - 17:00 - *Coffee, posters session and contacts with faculty*

“How do Bial Foundation grants translate into scientific output?”

Researchers: **Sylvie Marinho**, Sofia Magalhães, Paula Guedes, Nuno Sousa
Institution: Fundação Bial

269/16 – “Does Ganzfeld stimulation elicit a shift away from normal waking consciousness, and is this associated with ESP task success”

Researcher: **Chris Roe**

Institution: Centre for the Study of Anomalous Psychological Processes (CSAPP), Division of Psychology, School of Social Sciences, The University of Northampton (UK)

92/18 – “Attending mindfully: A psychophysiology study of sensory processing in meditators”

Researchers: **Veena Kumari**, Rakesh Pandey

Institutions: Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience, Department of Life Sciences, Brunel University London, Uxbridge (UK); Department of Psychology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (India)

150/18 – “A neuroscience approach to investigating how hierarchy influences moral behaviour”

Researchers: **Axel Cleeremans**, Emilie Caspar

Institutions: Center for Research in Cognition and Neuroscience, Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium); Department of behavioural sciences, Royal Military Academy, Brussels (Belgium)

190/18 – “Ganzfeld ESP research: Building on lessons learned”

Researcher: **Caroline Watt**

Institution: Koestler Parapsychology Unit, University of Edinburgh (UK)

48/20 – “Investigating the relationship between sensory processing sensitivity (SPS), anomalous experiences, and precognitive performance”

Researchers: **Elizabeth Roxburgh**, David Vernon, Malcolm Schofield

Institutions: Psychology Department, Canterbury Christ Church University (UK); University of Derby (UK)

140/20 – “Stimulating compassion: Using transcutaneous vagus nerve stimulation (tVNS) to probe compassionate behaviour”

Researcher: **Sunjeev Kamboj**

Institution: Department Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology, University College London (UK)

146/20 – “The me and the I: Dissociating ownership and agency in sensorimotor processing”

Researchers: **Ana Pinheiro**, Sonja Kotz, Michael Schwartz

Institutions: Centro de Investigação em Ciência Psicológica – CICPSI, Faculdade de Psicologia da Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal); Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of Maastricht (The Netherlands)

152/20 – “Investigation of non-inferential perception using a 3D-computer-assisted dowsing task”

Researchers: Jorge Moll, **Julie Weingartner**, Maria Stewart, Cristiano Junqueira

Institutions: D'Or Institute for Research and Education, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil); Sciens Institute, Palo Alto (USA)

175/20 – “The role of nucleus accumbens in the perception of natural rewards”

Researchers: **Carina Soares-Cunha**, Ana João Rodrigues, Nivaldo Vasconcelos, Rodrigo Oliveira, Bárbara Coimbra, Ana Verónica Domingues, Gabriela Martins

Institutions: Life and Health Sciences Research Institute – ICVS, University of Minho, Braga (Portugal); Zuckerman Institute, Columbia University, New York City (USA)

186/20 – “Exploring the use of floatation tanks as a means to induce psi-conductive states of consciousness”

Researchers: **Glenn Hitchman**, Callum Cooper

Institution: Research Centre for Psychology & Social Sciences, University of Northampton (UK)

191/20 – “Understanding the brain mechanisms of death-denial for fostering mindfulness-based existential resilience”

Researchers: Aviva Berkovich-Ohana, **Yair Dor-Ziderman**

Institutions: The Edmond J. Safra Brain Research Center, University of Haifa (Israel); Gonda Multidisciplinary Brain Research Center, Bar-Ilan University (Israel)

241/20 – “The premotor roots of musical beat perception and imagery: A neurophysiological investigation”

Researchers: **Carlotta Lega**, Virginia Penhune, Luigi Cattaneo

Institution: Department of Psychology, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (Italy)

252/20 – “Neurophysiological bases of decision-making processes: Dissociating risk and uncertainty in the human brain”

Researchers: **Tiago Paiva**, Carina Fernandes, Fernando Barbosa, João Marques-Teixeira, Fernando Ferreira-Santos, Carlos Seixas, Rita Pasion, Carlos Campos

Institution: Laboratory of Neuropsychophysiology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Porto (Portugal)

272/20 – “Advancements on the aware mind-brain: New insights about the neural correlates of meditation states and traits”

Researchers: **Antonino Raffone**, Vasil Kolev, Peter Malinowski, Juliana Yordanova, Roumen Kirov

Institutions: Department of Psychology, “Sapienza” University of Rome (Italy); Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia (Bulgaria); Liverpool John Moores University (UK)

288/20 – “The origin of the sublime power in the brain: An integrated EEG-TMS study”

Researchers: **Eleonora Maggioni**, Paolo Brambilla, Giandomenico Schiena, Alice Chirico, Andrea Gaggioli, Maddalena Mazzocut-Mis

Institutions: Fondazione IRCCS Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, Milan (Italy); Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan (Italy); Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy)

293/20 – “Closing the loop: Using real-time EEG to mutually enlighten first and third-person perspectives on the self”

Researchers: **Fynn-Mathis Trautwein**, Lukas Hecker, Stefan Schmidt

Institution: Department of Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy, University Medical Center Freiburg (Germany)

315/20 – “Non-conscious influences on expected and subjective value in economic decisions”

Researchers: **Fredrik Bergström**, Jorge Manuel de Albuquerque Almeida, Johan Eriksson, Bruno de Sousa

Institution: Center for Research in Neuropsychology and Cognitive and Behavioral Intervention, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Coimbra (Portugal)

316/20 – “The psychology of the living and the dead: Interpersonal psychology in the afterlife”

Researcher: **André Mata**

Institution: Centro de Investigação em Ciência Psicológica - CICPSI, Faculdade de Psicologia da Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal)

380/20 – “Neuroanatomical correlates of wellbeing in a mindfulness and religious exercises program”

Researchers: **Paulo Dias**, Ângela Leite, Bruno Nobre, Bruce Fischl

Institutions: Centre for Philosophical and Humanistic Studies, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Braga (Portugal)

391/20 – “Illuminating the dreamer’s perceptual experiences”

Researchers: Delphine Oudiette, Ken Paller, Susan Florczak, **Karen Konkoly**, Saba Al-youssef

Institution: Institut du Cerveau, Paris (France); Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, Northwestern University, Evanston (USA)

“Mind-to-Mind Experiment: A multi-phase talent selection program and a potential enhancement technique for testing the hypothesis of interconnected minds”

Researchers: Dean Radin, **Helané Wahbeh**

Institution: Institute of Noetic Sciences, California (USA)

11/22 – “The relationship between temporal lobe lability and anomalous cognition”

Researchers: Lance Storm, Scott Coussens, **Jacob Sevastidis**

Institutions: School of Psychology, University of Adelaide (Australia); Cognitive Neurosciences Laboratory, University of South Australia (Australia)

27/22 – “EEG and behavioral correlates of forward and backward priming”

Researchers: Marc Wittmann, Jürgen Kornmeier, Mareike Wilson, **Azadeh Mozhdefarahbakhsh**

Institution: Institute for Frontier Areas of Psychology and Mental Health, Freiburg (Germany)

65/22 – “Unintended returns of awareness during cardiopulmonary resuscitation”

Researchers: Charlotte Martial, **Pauline Fritz**, Alice Clerget

Institution: Coma Science Group, University of Liège (Belgium)

92/22 – “An integrative biopsychological model to explain associations between trauma history, paranormal experience and belief”

Researchers: **Alexander Sumich**, Nadja Heym, Stephanie McArdle

Institution: NTU - Psychology, School of Social Sciences, Nottingham Trent University (UK)

129/22 – “Mapping the characteristics and impacts of terminal lucidity in children”

Researchers: Natasha Tassell-Matamua, Karalee Kothe, **Marjorie Woollacott**, Michael Nahm, Sara Gunnoe, Philip Roehrs, Allan Kellehear

Institution: School of Psychology, Massey University (New Zealand)

142/22 – “The eternal movement of a still mind: Exploring the properties of dynamic brain networks in meditation practices”

Researcher: **Roberto Guidotti**

Institution: Department of Neurosciences, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" Chieti - Pescara (Italy)

153/22 – “Blinded by our thoughts? Testing the universality of perceptual decoupling”

Researcher: **Sophie Forster**

Institution: School of Psychology, University of Sussex (UK)

171/22 – “Investigating physician barriers to acceptance of near-death experiences”

Researchers: **Marieta Pehlivanova**, Bruce Greyson

Institution: Division of Perceptual Studies - DOPS, School of Medicine, University of Virginia, Charlottesville (USA)

179/22 – “Exploring aphantasia and exceptional experiences”

Researchers: **Christine Simmonds-Moore**, John Kruth

Institutions: Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology, University of West Georgia, Carrollton (USA); Rhine Research Center, Durham (USA)

191/22 – “Psychophysical interactions in an optical diffraction system”

Researchers: Dean Radin, **Helané Wahbeh**

Institution: Institute of Noetic Sciences, California (USA)

192/22 – “Gut brain telepathy: A pilot study with food cues”

Researcher: **Garret Yount**

Institution: Institute of Noetic Sciences, California (USA)

265/22 – “Predicting the future to make sense of the present: Predictive brain mechanisms for speech perception”

Researcher: **Ediz Sohoglu**

Institutions: School of Psychology, University of Sussex (UK)

284/22 – “Slow wave sleep reduces emotion: A multilevel approach combining the monitoring of brain, neurovegetative and dream activities”

Researchers: **Pascal Hot**, Jean Baptiste Eichenlaub, Sophie Schwartz, Jessica Bourgin, Sonia Pellissier, Sylvain Delplanque

Institutions: Laboratoire de Psychologie et Neurocognition, Université Savoie Mont Blanc (France); Sleep and Cognition Neuroimaging Laboratory, Geneva University NeuroCenter (Switzerland)

304/22 – “Boosting and hindering action imitation by modulating spike-timing dependent plasticity”

Researchers: **Alessio Avenanti**, Chiara Spaccasassi, Sonia Turrini, Antonio Cataneo

Institution: Department of Psychology, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Italy)