

Project title: **Synaptic communication in neuronal microcircuits**

Project leader: **JONAS Peter M.**

Project number: **Z 312-B27**

Review

1. Use of the funds provided

- Have the funds provided by the Wittgenstein prize been used efficiently?

Comments

The funds for this prize seems to have been used extremely efficiently, and leveraged with other funding, produced a broad array of findings that will have a dramatic impact on the field. Clearly was a worthy awardee for this prize.

2. Scientific success within the scope of the Wittgenstein Prize

- How did the funds of the Wittgenstein Prize contribute to the prizewinner's impact on international research?
- Did the prize promote the development of the of the specific field of research?
- Did the research break new ground in science?
- Did the research develop new hypotheses or methods?
- What other results could be achieved?
- To what extent could the Austrian research be established within the international scientific community?

Comments

The Jonas group and collaborators produced a broad array of outstanding results, and a number of high profile publications. The work was innovative, and broke new ground in several areas that will help neuroscientists throughout the world. The main strength was in the development of new methods and tools for other neuroscientists.

3. Unique opportunities of development which evolved within the scope of the Wittgenstein prize

- Did the Prize help the researcher to make use of new opportunities which would have been impossible otherwise? (e.g. unconventional topics, intensified research in fields that were new to the prizewinner)
- Did the researcher exploit the opportunities successfully? In which way?
- How did the Wittgenstein Prize and the research carried out increase the prizewinner's international reputation?
- Did the Wittgenstein Prize have an influence on the academic staff working in the project (academic career, personal career planning)?

Comment

This prize clearly helped Professor Jonas to initiate new collaborators, and centers within his own institution that will provide benefits not only in Austria, but through the neuroscience community around the world.

4. Additional effects

- Did the research institute support the research of the prizewinner? To what extent?
- What was the impact of the Wittgenstein Prize on the research institute?
- Did the prize help to intensify the researcher's publication activities?
- What kind of meetings or conferences were organized?
- Were the research outcomes in the course of the Wittgenstein prize presented to a broader public?
- How promising are the follow-up activities envisaged?

Comments

Clearly Professor Jonas is well supported at his research institution, which not only helped his group receive this award, but helped in the discover of new knowledge, methods, and tools, to benefit the institute and others going forward.