

Oxford Centre for Functional MRI of the Brain (FMRIB)

25th Anniversary Celebration

20 April 2023

Blavatnik School of Government



Programme



9.30 Coffee and arrivals

10.00 Welcome: Heidi Johansen-Berg

10.15–11.15 Session 1: Chair – Kia Nobre

Reflections on FMRIB: Paul Matthews – The Early Days

Paul worked with Profs. Cowey, Newsom-Davies and Radda to set out of the vision for a functional imaging centre in Oxford and secure funding for it from the MRC, GlaxoSmithKline and philanthropic donors. He was Director-designate, responsible for the design and construction and then the first Director of FMRIB from its foundation in 1997 until 2005. He is now the Edmond J and Lily Safra Chair and Head of the Department of Brain Sciences and Director of the UK Dementia Research Institute Centre at Imperial College.

Research highlights: Laurence Hunt – Mapping Brain Function – from FMRI to Bridging Scales

Laurence completed his DPhil research in computational neuroscience at FMRIB from 2007–2011, and after a short spell at UCL he moved back to Oxford and is now an Associate Professor in the Department of Experimental Psychology.

Life after FMRIB: Narender Ramnani

Narender carried out post-doctoral research, studying the cerebellum, at FMRIB from 2001 to 2004 before moving to Royal Holloway where he is now Professor of Neuroscience.

11.15–11.45 Break and Posters

11.45–1.00 Session 2: Chair – Steve Smith

Reflections on FMRIB: Stuart Clare – Evolution of our Values as a Centre

Stuart has been at FMRIB since its start in 1997. Alongside his physics research, he led the FMRIB Graduate Programme from 2003 to 2009 and is now Director of Operations at the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging.

Research highlights: Saad Jbabdi – Data Analytics – from FEAT to Big Data

Saad joined FMRIB as a post-doc in 2006, working on diffusion analysis methods, and is now Professor of Biomedical Engineering at the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging.

Life after FMRIB: Reza Khorshidi

Reza completed his DPhil on image analysis at FMRIB from 2007–2011, before moving to work with AIG. He now mentors Machine Learning and FinTech start-ups as well as being a principal investigator at the Deep Medicine programme of the University of Oxford.

1.00–2.00 Lunch and Posters

2.00–3.00 Session 3: Chair – Peter Jezzard

Reflections on FMRIB: Irene Tracey

Irene was a founder member of FMRIB, as Head of Applications from 1997, and was its Director from 2005–2015. Following her time as Head of the Nuffield Department of

Clinical Neurosciences, and Warden of Merton College, she is now Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

Research highlights: Charlotte Stagg – Neurophysiology: from TMS to Ultrasound

Charlie completed her DPhil at FMRIB from 2005–2008, investigating brain stimulation methods. She has continued working in Oxford where she is now Professor of Human Neurophysiology at the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging.

Life after FMRIB: David Homfray

David was the first electronics technician at FMRIB from 1997–2002, before moving to the UKAEA Centre for Fusion Energy, becoming an Engineer in Charge of JET, (Joint European Torus, the world largest operating fusion experiment). He is now CTO at Space Solar, a venture to develop space-based solar power.

3.00 Good Citizens Awards

3.30–4.00 Break and Posters

4.00 WIN Graduation 2023: Chair - Mark Woolrich

Address by David Van Essen

David is a neuroscientist with an esteemed career studying the neuroanatomy of the human and primate cortex. He is Professor of Neuroscience at Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis and has held numerous positions over his career, including Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Neuroscience* and President of the Society for Neuroscience. He is a principal investigator of the Human Connectome Project, a multicentre effort to map brain functional connections, of which FMRIB is part.

4.30–5.30 Session 4: Chair - Tim Behrens

Reflections on FMRIB: Heidi Johansen-Berg - Looking forward

Heidi joined FMRIB as a DPhil student in 1998, developing her research in brain plasticity and stroke rehabilitation, before becoming Director of FMRIB and then the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging in 2015.

Research highlights: Karla Miller – MR Methods: from Steady State to the Digital Brain Bank

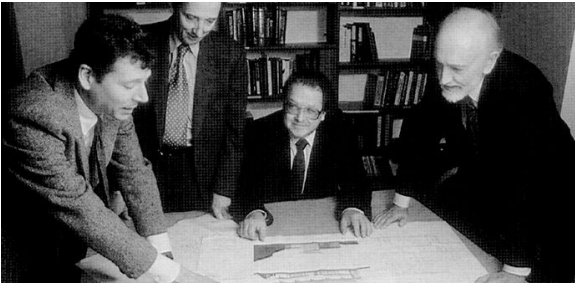
Karla spent a short stint in FMRIB in 2000 during her PhD studies in imaging physics at Stanford, before returning to Oxford in 2004 to stay. She is now Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Associate Director of the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging.

Life after FMRIB: Hannah Devlin

Hannah completed her DPhil at FMRIB, focused on fMRI physics, from 2004–2008. An internship on the British Science Association Media Fellowship Programme led to her becoming science journalist with the *Times*. She is now *The Guardian's* science correspondent.

5.30 Drinks Reception followed by Buffet

9.00 Close



The founding grant holders reviewing the plans for the FMRIB Building; the FMRIB Building in 1998; staff and students at FMRIB's official opening in 1998; the original FMRIB 3T scanner; a Physics Group away day in 2014; the installation of the 7T scanner in 2011; Heidi, Holly, Tim, Karla and Kate in 2008; the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging Away Day at Eynsham Hall in 2019