



ECNP Research & Scholarship  
Foundation (R&S)  
Annual Report  
and Policy Plan

2015

R&S is a public-interest-serving entity  
(algemeen nut beogende instelling – ANBI)  
under Dutch tax law

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# 1. Mission

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## What Is the ECNP Research and Scholarship Foundation

The ECNP Research and Scholarship Foundation (R&S) is a non-profit foundation constituted under Dutch law and domiciled in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Founded in 1995, the objective of R&S is to promote research in the field of applied and translational neuroscience, and to create a framework in conjunction with the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) for scientific and educational initiatives and activities.

It does this by organising a variety of educational meetings that aim to identify and cultivate especially promising European junior scientists and clinicians and assist them in improving their research output and clinical effectiveness. Every year some 300 young scientists and clinicians pass through R&S programmes, funded by the foundation. In addition, R&S organises various projects designed to develop and enhance the research infrastructure for European applied and translational neuroscience.

R&S is a public-interest-serving foundation (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling) under Dutch law.

### ***Our mission:***

“To advance the science of the brain, promote better treatment, and enhance brain health.”

## Contact details

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## Key identification numbers

VAT number: NL807967087B01

Tax identification number (RSIN): 807967087

Chamber of Commerce number: 41215196

## 2. Governance

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### The Board

The R&S board is responsible for administering the foundation and conducting all acts of management and decision-making. The board comprises a chair, a treasurer and a secretary.

Board members serve on a voluntary basis. Expenses directly related to their R&S board activities are reimbursed at cost, but board members receive no further recompense.

### Members of the board



**Guy Goodwin**

Chair

Professor of Psychiatry  
University of Oxford  
United Kingdom



**Eduard Vieta**

Treasurer

Professor of Psychiatry  
University of Barcelona  
Spain



**Celso Arango**

Secretary

Professor of Psychiatry  
Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón  
Madrid, Spain

### Sub-Committees and Task Forces

R&S oversees a number committees and task forces staffed by scientists active in the field of applied and translational neuroscience.

- **Educational Committee**, to oversee ECNP's training activities and educational programmes, especially for junior scientists.
- **Workshop Committee**, to co-ordinate the programme design and organisation of the annual ECNP Workshop on for Junior Scientists in Europe, held annually in Nice, France.

- ***Nomenclature Task Force***, to spearhead the project, led by ECNP, to rationalise the naming conventions of psychotropic medications.

The members of the board and all R&S sub-committees work on a volunteer basis. R&S reimburses travel and accommodation costs, but does not remunerate for time invested.

## **Office**

For administrative and logistical support, R&S uses the ECNP Office, based in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The ECNP Office is charged with the day-to-day management of R&S activities and the administration of its funds and resources. Specific functions include:

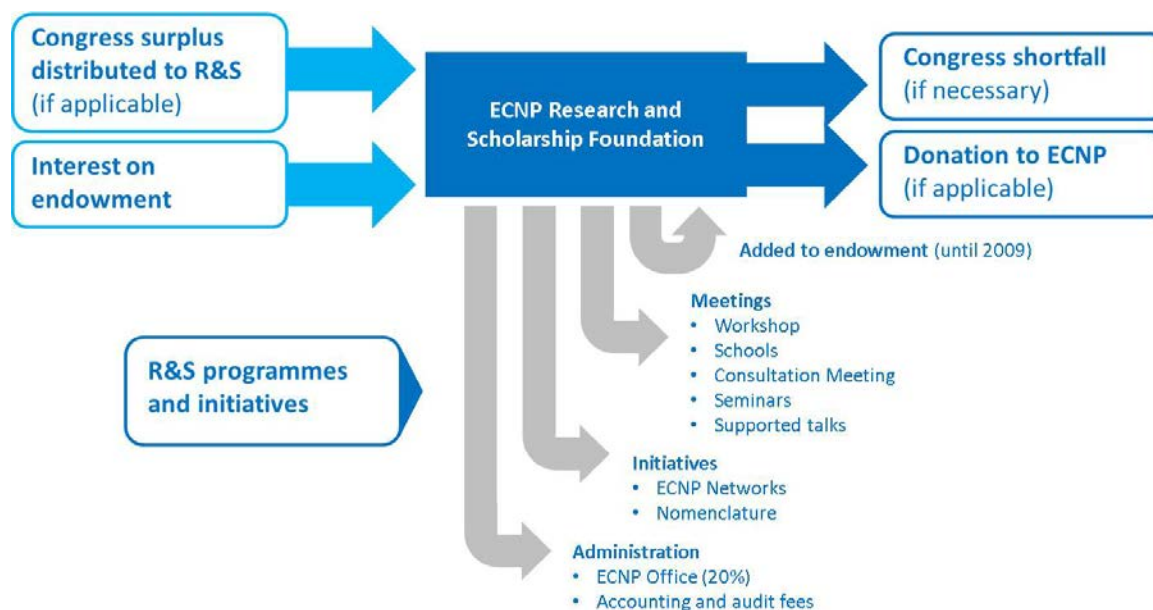
- Implementing decisions of the board;
- Organising all R&S meetings, programmes and activities;
- Providing the scientific secretariat of R&S meetings;
- Administering R&S finances;
- Conducting all day-to-day communication on behalf of R&S.

The operating expenses of the ECNP Office relative to R&S activities are charged to the foundation at cost.

## 3. Funding

### R&S Funding Model

The funds of R&S are derived, in principle, from lump-sum or periodic contributions, grants, donations, legacies or other revenue. In practice, this means the surplus of the annual ECNP Congress.



### Financial Management

The R&S board is responsible for the financial management of R&S's funds. Professional auditors are appointed by the board for a term of office of two years, at the expiration of which they will be re-eligible. The auditors control and verify the inventory and accounts, the book-keeping and the funds of the ECNP. They report to the board in writing about the balance sheet and the result of their auditing. The external auditor is currently Schuiteman & Partners Registeraccountants B.V.

### Asset Management

The main part of R&S's capital is invested in portfolios managed by a Dutch bank. Oversight of these portfolios is, in the first instance, the responsibility of the ECNP Office, reporting to the Treasurer. R&S has a 'defensive' investment mandate, designed to avoid risk and deliver a steady rate of return, with an asset allocation accordingly weighted heavily towards fixed-income securities.

## 4. Current Activities

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R&S's activities are organised according to a number of priority themes:

### Developing young researchers

- **ECNP Workshop** – three-day intensive educational session for 100 junior scientists, competitively selected, held annually in Nice, France. For those selected no registration fee is charged and the travel and accommodation are substantially covered by R&S.



By promoting and encouraging the development of junior scientists seeking to pursue research careers in neuropsychopharmacology, the ECNP Workshop aims to stimulate high-quality experimental and clinical research in disorders of the brain and their treatments. The Workshop focuses on three recurring topics and one variable topic, within each of which two distinguished scientists address specific themes, followed by short presentations of their research by five junior scientists.

- **ECNP Schools** – a week-long programme of intensive training in all aspects of neuropsychopharmacology for exceptional young clinicians. Participants are nominated by members of the ECNP Advisory Board of National Societies or ECNP Ambassadors, with two to three potential candidates per country, on the basis of their career potential. Travel and accommodation costs are substantially covered by R&S. So far three Schools have been established:



- ECNP School on Neuropsychopharmacology – annual
  - ECNP School on Child and Adolescent Neuropsychopharmacology – annual
  - ECNP School on Old Age Neuropsychopharmacology – biennial
- The **ECNP Workshop on Clinical Research Methods** was launched to introduce junior clinicians, including psychiatrists and clinical psychologists, to research methodology and to promote a critical approach to the scientific literature that is particularly relevant to clinical practice. The three day workshop covers issues of interest ranging from research in psychopharmacology and non-pharmacological research to how to read and write a scientific paper and how to start a successful scientific project and career.

#### ***New in 2015***

The 2015 **ECNP Workshop** was held on 12-15 March in Nice, France. In addition to the three recurring topics – molecular neuropsychopharmacology, behavioural pharmacology and clinical neuropsychopharmacology – this year's variable topic was sleep circadian rhythms and timing of neurobiological processes. The keynote speaker Thomas R. Insel, USA, director of the National Institute of Mental Health. Sixteen junior scientists, selected on the basis of the quality of their posters, were invited to speak at the 28<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress, 29 August-1 September 2015, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

The first iteration of the **ECNP Workshop on Clinical Research Methods** was held on 4-6 November at the Hospital Clinic of the University of Barcelona, Spain, led by Eduard Vieta. In 2015 the attendance was limited to 25 participants but it is planned to increase the number of participants to 30 in 2016.

The **ECNP School of Child and Adolescent Neuropsychopharmacology** was held on 1-6 March in Venice, Italy, led by Alessandro Zuddas. The school continued its mission to create a consistent, evidence-based framework for the treatment of children and adolescents with psychiatric disorders.

The **ECNP School of old Age Neuropsychopharmacology** was held on 19-24 April in Venice, Italy, led by Robin Jacoby.

The **ECNP School of Neuropsychopharmacology** was held on 5-10 July, Oxford, United Kingdom, led by Guy Goodwin. The school offered participants a week-long programme of intensive training in all aspects of neuropsychopharmacology: from its fundamentals to the use of medications in individual indications, good clinical practice and optimal treatment and algorithms.

## Building research infrastructure

- **ECNP Networks** – common European clinical databases for research into the main psychiatric conditions. The Networks were launched in 2007 to address the lack of a European research network with access to a common database, a widely recognised shortcoming in Europe's neuropsychopharmacological research infrastructure. The co-operation that the Networks have fostered at the scientific, technical and clinical level has already yielded significant research and public health dividends.

The aims of the ECNP Networks are to:

- Foster multicentre European collaboration in order to collect in a standardised way the essential clinical, psychological, biological and therapeutics variables to be analysed in clinical studies and pharmacological trials.
- Create and foster European networks of highly qualified investigators.
- Provide a platform for collaboration on the development of common assessments and new or follow-up projects

The Networks board comprises of a chair (Celso Arango, Spain) and a scientific co-ordinator (Nic van der Wee, the Netherlands). The board along with the chair and co-chair of each Network forms the Networks Taskforce. Taskforce meets annually and facilitates the development of new proposals, fosters interaction between networks, and monitors progress and the appropriate use of funding.

- **Nomenclature Project** – a collaborative project to rationalise and improve the nomenclature of psychotropic drugs, in conjunction with the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP), International College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CINP), Asian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (AsCNP) and International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR). The Nomenclature project was established in 2010 to address the disconnect between the nomenclature





of psychotropic drugs and the underlying neuroscience of these compounds.

The driver behind the project was the concern that inadequate nomenclature not only made it more difficult to identify – and gain approval for – innovative treatments, but was confusing patients and exacerbating non-compliance, in both cases to the ultimate detriment of patient welfare.

- **Spring innovation meeting** – Every March ECNP holds a two-day meeting in Nice, France, to explore some cutting edge new development of emergent frontier in applied and translational neuroscience. Designedly multidisciplinary, this meeting attracts between 60 and 100 scientists, industrial researchers and regulators from around Europe. Registration and all meeting costs are met by ECNP R&S.

### ***New in 2015***

In 2015 ten **ECNP Networks** were active:

- Anxiety Disorders Network (ADRN)
- Bipolar Disorders Network (ENBREC)
- Brain Imaging
- Child and Adolescent Neuropsychopharmacology Network
- Experimental Medicine s Network
- Neuroimaging Network
- Obsessive Compulsive and Related Disorders Network (OCRN)
- Preclinical Data Forum
- Suicide Network
- Traumatic Stress Network

In 2015 the programme welcomed two new members: the ADHD Network, chaired by Barbara Franke, the Netherlands; and the Down Syndrome and Other Genetic Developmental Disorders Network (DSG2D), chaired by Marie-Claire Potier, France.

The **Nomenclature Project** further developed its successful app, adding new compounds and enhancing usability. A Spanish version was launched, with Japanese, Chinese and Korean versions in the pipeline and extension into neurological and child and adolescent disorders planned.

The Spring innovation meeting this year was **From biomarkers to clinical tests in psychiatry – the promise and the challenge**, 15-16 March. The meeting brought together academics, industry professionals, regulatory experts, SME entrepreneurs, patient representatives and social scientists to debate the role and promise of psychiatric biomarkers.

### **Fostering common regional standards**

- **Seminars** – interactive training courses for future leading scientists in applied neuroscience, focused every year on a European country whose researchers and practitioners have limited opportunities to attend international meetings.

Around 50 participants attend, selected on the basis of their curriculum vitae and a short abstract (50-100 words describing research or a relevant case). Outstanding participants of the Seminar (max. 5) are awarded free registration and a subsidy towards travel cost for the succeeding ECNP Congress on the condition that they submit an abstract for poster presentation and that the abstract is accepted. R&S covers all costs; participants are asked only to pay their own in-country travel expenses.

- **Supported talks** – ECNP sponsors a variety of talks and symposia at national and international meetings:
  - ECNP-supported talks
  - Mini-Symposia
  - Expert roundtables

### ***New in 2015***

In 2015 four **ECNP Seminars** were organised:

- Kernavė, Lithuania 24-26 April. Speakers included Avraham Avital, Israel; Dina Popovic, Spain; and Yoram Barak, Israel.
- Odessa, Ukraine, 9-11 October. Speakers included Joseph Zohar, Israel; Rene Hurlemann, Germany; and Avi Avital, Israel.
- Esposende, Portugal, 30 October-1 November. Speakers included Carmen Moreno, Spain; Koen Schruers, the Netherlands; and Dina Popovic, Spain.

The year also saw a record number of **ECNP Supported Talks**, furthering the goal of this programme to facilitate the diffusion of cutting-edge research and clinical practice in a simple, easy-to-organise and high-impact format:

- Annual Meeting of the ISBP, 24-26 March, Israel  
Speaker: Naomi Fineberg: Understanding excess: New Insights into obsessive – compulsive disorders.
- 38<sup>th</sup> CCNP Annual Meeting, June 9-12, Ottawa, Ontario  
Speaker: Michel Hamon: 40 years of research on serotonin receptors.
- 45<sup>th</sup> EABCT Congress, 31 August-3 September 2015, Israel  
Speaker: Uli Wittchen: epidemiology of mental disorders.
- Yerevan State Medical University after M. Heratsi, 12 October 2015, Armenia  
Speaker: Avraham Avital: The trajectory of research – from good idea to successful presentation.
- Innovation in Psychiatry (Innopsy), 5-6 November, Italy  
Speaker: Peter Falkai: Are the treatment guidelines really useful for the management of schizophrenia?
- New developments in PTSD research and treatment, 16 November, Bristol UK  
Speaker: Elisabeth Binder: Epigenetic regulation of HPA axis-related genes and their role in PTSD
- Belgian College of Neuropsychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry, 11 December, Brussels, Belgium

Speaker: Guy Goodwin: Indication or mechanism of action – how should we best describe psychotropic drugs?

R&S supports the travel costs, including air fare (economy class), hotel accommodation and public transport, up to a fixed amount.

## 5. Forward Strategy

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### **Risk Management and Long-Term Financial Strategy**

The income of R&S derives in part from the proceeds of the ECNP Congress, in those years in which the congress achieves a surplus. The congress, in turn, derives its incomes from three main sources: (1) registration fees, (2) industry exhibition fees, and (3) industry satellite symposia fees. No other support is allowed.

It has long been the expectation that participation in the congress by the pharmaceutical industry will decrease over time, as the economics of the pharma industry change and the regulations governing the support it is able to provide for continuing medical education (CME) becomes more restrictive.

The foundation has been preparing itself for the eventuality of industry support in the congress – and hence congress donations to R&S – decreasing altogether, and R&S being wholly dependent on its own accumulated resources to continue its many scientific and educational activities. The unpredictable nature of the time horizon in which this will occur, however, makes financial forecasting for the foundation challenging.

Moreover, the volatility in the financial markets since the beginning of the financial crisis in 2008 has made R&S's other source of income – investment earnings – also highly unstable. The significant uncertainty it has introduced, has made accurate budgeting and forward planning difficult.

### **Future Spending Plans**

In order to prevent excess capital accumulation, spending plans have been developed to run a persistent budget deficit.

Extensions of the current budgetary provisions have been planned to encompass these programmes:

- Neuroscience Summer School, in collaboration with the European Neuroscience Schools Programme
- Brain Prize Master Class
- Psychotherapy and Neuroscience Meeting, Nice, France – and subsequent thematic 'incubator' meetings
- Expansion of the e-learning programme
- Expansion of the ECNP Networks initiative
- Clinical Trials Platform
- Cost and prevalence studies

It should be noted that, built into this schema, is the possibility to expand, add or remove activities depending on income fluctuations.

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
<b>Develop young researchers</b>						
Workshop	143.053	160.000	173.000	176.000	180.000	184.000
Internship Programme	0	20.000	21.000	2.000	23.000	24.000
Research Methodology Workshop	–	60.000	61.500	63.000	64.500	66.000
ECNP Schools	153.928	265.000	170.000	270.000	173.000	275.500
Brain Prize Masterclass	–	–	30.000	30.600	31.200	31.800
Neuroscience Summer School	–	–	100.000	102.000	104.000	106.000
E-learning	0	20.000	50.000	51.000	52.000	53.000
<b>Build infrastructure</b>						
ECNP Networks	39.546	100.000	150.000	153.000	156.000	160.000
Nomenclature Project	132.303	80.000	81.600	83.200	85.000	86.700
Clinical Trials Platform	–	–	75.000	83.000	90.000	98.000
<b>Facilitate dialogue</b>						
Incubator Meeting, Nice	0	50.000	100.000	102.000	104.000	106.000
ECNP Summit / Collaborative Forum	0	–	–	–	–	–
ISCTM	0	0	10.000	10.200	10.400	10.600
<b>Raise Awareness</b>						
Cost and prevalence studies	0	0	100.000	102.000	104.400	107.000
<b>Foster common regional standards</b>						
Seminars (x6)	73.698	90.000	92.000	94.000	96.000	98.000
Supported talks	2.654	15.000	50.000	51.000	52.000	53.000
<b>Other expenses</b>						
ECNP Office	224.358	225.000	230.000	235.000	240.000	245.000
Sundry/miscellaneous	1.464	42.000	50.000	52.000	54.000	56.000
Audit and tax fees	0	25.000	25.500	26.000	26.600	27.500
Bank charges and commission charges	0	20.000	21.000	22.000	23.000	24.000
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>771.004</b>	<b>1.172.000</b>	<b>1.590.600</b>	<b>1.708.000</b>	<b>1.669.100</b>	<b>1.812.000</b>
<b>INCOME</b>						
Congress (3.291.199)	1.168.965	650.000	700.000	700.000	700.000	700.000
Interest and similar income	614.016	300.000	350.000	350.000	350.000	350.000

		<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Total income</b>	1.782.981	950.000	1.050.000	1.050.000	1.050.000	1.050.000
<b>NET RESULT</b>	1.011.977	-222.000	-540.600	-658.000	-619.100	-762.100

## 6. Finances

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### Balance sheet as at 31 December 2015

(after appropriation of profit/losses)

	31-12-2015		31-12-2014	
	€	€	€	€
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
<b>Accounts receivable</b>				
Debtors	2,036		8,698	
Amounts owed by congress foundations	409,952		259,828	
Taxes	-		10,091	
Other receivables	138,939		139,670	
Prepayments and accrued income	81,968		123,220	
		632,895		541,507
<b>Securities</b>		8,400,021		8,192,248
<b>Bank deposits</b>		4,699,153		4,650,703
		13,732,069		13,384,458

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 13,732,069
 

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 13,384,458
 

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	31-12-2015		31-12-2014	
	€	€	€	€
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>EQUITY</b>				
Other reserves	13,214,593		13,055,278	
Designated fund	<u>200,000</u>		<u>-</u>	
		13,414,593		13,055,278
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Trade creditors	46,760		115,127	
Amounts owed to congress foundations	-		2,589	
Amounts owed to other foundations and college	200,964		211,464	
Taxes	37,626		-	
Other liabilities	<u>32,126</u>		<u>-</u>	
		317,476		329,180
		<u>13,732,069</u>		<u>13,384,458</u>



## Profit and loss account 2015

	<u>Balance 2015</u>	<u>Balance 2014</u>
	€	€
<b>Income</b>		
Proceeds fundraising	1,065,089	1,169,381
Interest and similar income	276,738	635,883
<b>Total income</b>	<u>1,341,827</u>	<u>1,805,264</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Meetings and other activities</b>	700,145	546,646
<b>Other expenses</b>	282,367	246,641
	<u>982,512</u>	<u>793,287</u>
<b>Net result</b>	<u>359,315</u>	<u>1,011,977</u>
<b>Appropriation of result</b>		
Other reserves	159,315	1,011,977
Designated fund	200,000	-
	<u>359,315</u>	<u>1,011,977</u>



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