

Fifth Annual McMaster Brain Bee

Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (PNB)
Faculty of Science, McMaster University
February 19, 2008 1:00 – 5:00 PM

12:00-1:00 Lobby: Arrival of contestants

- Contestants sign in, enjoy refreshments and chat with students and faculty.

1:00 Room 155: Introduction and Welcome

- Contestants take their places in the first few rows of the lecture hall.
- Brief welcome, introduction, and instructions by:
 - Dr. Alison Sills, Associate Dean of Science
 - Dr. Allison Sekuler, Associate Vice President (Research)
 - Dr. Judith Shedden, Associate Professor, PNB
 - Dr. Betty Ann Levy, Chair, PNB
 - Dr. Joe Kim, Assistant Professor, PNB

1:20 Part 1: Question Rounds with MC clickers

- Each contestant will have an electronic “clicker” registered to their own name.
- Multiple-choice questions will be presented visually and read aloud. Contestants will respond using the electronic clickers. When the time to respond has expired, the correct answer will be provided.
- Each correct answer is worth 10 points.

1:50 Part 2: Question Rounds with MC clickers

- Same format as Part 1.
- Each correct answer is worth 15 points.

2:20 Short 10 minute break

- Contestants will exchange their electronic clickers for pen and paper.

2:30 Part 3: Question Rounds with written answers

- Each student will have a pen and notepad with their contestant numbers and question numbers written on each page.
- Questions will be presented visually and read aloud. Contestants will have 30 seconds to write down the answer. Correct spelling is not crucial.
- Each correct answer is worth 20 points.

3:00 Lobby: Refreshment Break

- Refreshments are provided while the judges tally final points.
- Group photos of all the contestants.

3:20 Room 155: Dr. Joe Kim

- Talk: What can neuroscience tell you about a brain on drugs?

3:35 Part 4: Brain Bee Elimination Rounds

- The top 5 students will advance to the final elimination rounds.
- The elimination rounds will proceed until there is only one person standing.
- Questions are read aloud; contestants have 15 seconds to answer. Judges will rule on ambiguous answers.
- Competitors are eliminated after 3 incorrect answers. They take their seats in the audience at the end of the round and their chair is removed.
- If the 3rd and 4th place students are eliminated in the same round, they will participate in a round-off to determine 3rd place.
 - During a round-off, two students field questions. If both students answer correctly or incorrectly, another set of questions is asked. The rounds continue until one correct and one incorrect answer is provided. The student with the correct answer wins the round off and is awarded 3rd place.
- When there are 2 students left, a round-off will determine 2nd and 1st place winners.

Awards Ceremony

- Awards and prizes will be presented to the winners and to all the contestants.
- Please stay for group photos in Room 155 and in the Lobby.

Thank You!

- Thanks to all our Brain Bee contestants, Brain Bee volunteers, and all the other people involved in this year’s successful event! Details about our sponsors, our volunteers, and photos of the event can be found on our web site: <http://brain.mcmaster.ca/BrainBee>
- Wish our first place winner luck studying to represent McMaster at the First Canadian National Brain Bee, hosted by PNB at McMaster University on May 10th: <http://www.brainbee.ca>
- We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (PNB), the McMaster Faculty of Science, the McMaster Institute for Neuroscience Discovery and Study (MiNDS), and Telecom Computer.
- Spread the word about the 6th Annual McMaster Brain Bee in 2009!