Stellingen

Modeling human brain diseases using pluripotent stem cells

1. Pluripotent stem cell technology provides a reductionist model with which to study mechanisms of early human brain development (this thesis).

2. *BDNF* biology encompasses several levels of molecular regulation yet to be discovered (this thesis).

3. Human and mouse UBE3A may not have a fully overlapping set of targets and/or cell biological functions (this thesis).

4. Stem cell-derived neurons from Fragile X patients do not represent an appropriate model to study the disease (this thesis).

5. Variant rs2526377 affects *MIR142* promoter activity and decreases gene expression (this thesis).

6. Neuroscientists should learn from scientists in other life science domains, given the comparably disappointing success in rational therapeutic development for brain diseases.

7. 'We are currently facing an overflow of data without definite strategies to convert it into knowledge and eventually reach a better comprehension of the living brain.' *(Yves Frégnac (2017), Science, Vol. 358, Issue 6362, pp. 470-477*

8. Neuroscience should be part of primary education.

9. Scientists are responsible for an accurate public understanding of their field of research.

10. 'Just about every job suitable for a general graduate will be done better by a psychology graduate.' *(Florance et al. (2011), The Psychologist, 24 (9), pp.696- 699)*

11. Rather to be divided in truth than gathered in error.