

Stellingen
behorende bij het proefschrift

Transcripts From the Circadian Clock - Telling Time and Season

1. Challenging the suprachiasmatic nuclei (SCN) with quixotic light regimes was required to understand its every day role in seasonal adaptation. (this thesis)
2. That the rhythmic transcriptome of the rostral and caudal SCN are photoperiodically regulated supports a direct role for the circadian clock in encoding photoperiod. (this thesis)
3. Gene transcription tracks dawn and dusk in the SCN. (this thesis)
4. Bestowing the title of ‘evening’ and ‘morning’ oscillators upon the rostral and caudal SCN is an oversimplification and misleading. (this thesis, Inagaki et al., PNAS 2007, Naito et al., J. Biol. Rhyth. 2008).
5. Brain-derived neurotrophic factor has long been known to underpin synaptic plasticity and be induced by light in the SCN, but so far this phenomenon has not been demonstrated by the central pacemaker. (this thesis, Liang et al., Neurosci. Lett. 1998)
6. Homo sapiens owe their dominance to dichotomous ‘right’ and ‘left’ politics: conservatives saved us from extinction; progressives elevated us above our Hominidae relatives.
7. The under-representation of women in science has little to do with maternal commitment nor a dearth in creative genius, but an environment that rewards chest-thumping intellectualism.
8. The over-reliance on publications as a metric for funding research has corrupted peer-review and poisoned science. (Lawrence, Curr. Biol. 2007)
9. Gone are the halcyon days when small tight-knit labs made the big breakthroughs; superseded by the super labs and über collaborations of a hundred or more co-authors.
10. Our biggest challenge is not learning more about what we know we don’t know; it’s finding out what we don’t know we don’t know.
11. Without good questions, there are no good answers.