

• **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Family name, First name: **GROSS, Cornelius Thilo**

Researcher unique identifier (ORCID): 0000-0001-9129-1322

Date of birth: September 15, 1965

Nationality: USA, France

Web site: <https://www.embl.it/research/unit/gross/index.html>

Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=IHwmMhIAAAAJ&view_op=list_works

X: <https://x.com/cornhelix>

• **EDUCATION**

- 1998-2002 **Postdoctoral Fellow** with R. Hen, Center for Neurobiology & Behavior, Columbia University, NY – *identified serotonin receptor that mediates the behavioral effects of antidepressants* (Santarelli, Saxe, Gross et al., *Science* [2003] 301, 805-809 – 4849 citations); *showed that this receptor controls anxiety behavior via a developmental programming mechanism* (Gross et al., [2002] *Nature* 416, 396-400 – 1039 citations; Gross & Hen, [2004] *Nature Rev Neurosci* 5, 545-552 – 632 citations)
- 1995 **Ph.D.** with W. McGinnis, Dept. of Mol. Biophys. & Biochemistry, Yale University, USA; PhD thesis: “DEAF-1, a novel protein which binds an essential region in a *Dfd* response element” – *addressed the problem of poor homeodomain DNA binding specificity by identifying, cloning, and validating a cofactor that bound to a genetically defined regulatory target* (Gross & McGinnis, [1996] *EMBO J* 15:1961-1970 – 191 citations).
- 1988 **B.A.**, Dept. Biophysics, University of California, Berkeley, USA

• **CURRENT POSITIONS**

- 2020-present **Interim Head of Unit**
Epigenetics & Neurobiology Unit (formerly Mouse Biology Unit), European Molecular Biology Laboratory, EMBL Rome, Italy
- 2009-present **Senior Scientist**
Mouse Biology Unit, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, EMBL Rome, Italy
- 2003-present **Group Leader**
Mouse Biology Unit, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, EMBL Rome, Italy

• **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2023 ERC Advanced Grant Investigator (2023-2028)
- 2023 Falaschi Lecture award
- 2022 elected EMBO Member
- 2020 promoted to Interim Head of Unit, EMBL Rome
- 2016 Adjunct Professor, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- 2014 EMBL Insight Lecturer
- 2013 ERC Advanced Grant Investigator (2014-2019)
- 2009 promoted to Deputy Head of Unit, EMBL Rome
- 2009 awarded tenure (Open-Ended Contract, currently held by 7% of EMBL staff)
- 2009 appointed member of EMBL Scientific Strategy and Management Advisory Committee
- 2002-2003 NIH K01 Career Development Award
- 1999-2001 NIH F32 Postdoctoral Fellowship
- 1998-1999 NIH Institutional Postdoctoral Fellowship
- 1990-1993 NSF Predoctoral Fellowship

• **SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS AND POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS**

- 2003-present Mentored 16 Postdocs/16 PhD students/over 50 Master Students

• **ORGANISATION OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

- Jun 2020 Principal organizer, “EMBL-ESRF Meeting on X-ray Imaging”, Heidelberg/Grenoble, Germany/France
- Mar 2018 Principal organizer, “Microglia 2018”, EMBO Workshop, Heidelberg, Germany
- Mar 2014 Principal organizer, “Microglia – Guardians of the Brain”, EMBL Conference, Heidelberg, Germany
- Nov 2009 Principal organizer, “Translating Behavior”, EMBL Workshop, Heidelberg, Germany

• **INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2022 Chair of Steering Committee, EMBL Partnership Conference
- 2023 led External Facilities Review, Epigenetics & Neurobiology Unit, Rome (held every 4 years)
- 2020-2024 led External Scientific Review, Epigenetics & Neurobiology Unit, Rome (held every 4 years)
- 2020 Chair, Faculty Search Committee for Neurobiology Faculty, Epigenetics & Neurobiology Unit, Rome – hiring of Ana Boskovic, first female group leader to be hired at EMBL Rome
- 2020-present Member of the EMBL Directorate, since 2022 EMBL Extended Directorate
- 2019-present Co-Chair (with Helen Parkinson, EBI & Olivier Stegle, EMBL Heidelberg), EMBL Human Ecosystems Transversal Theme
- 2017-2019 Chair, EMBL Equality & Diversity Committee – during my tenure % female faculty at EMBL rose from 14% to 29%, introduced Helping Hands program,
- 2014-present Chair, EIPOD Postdoctoral Fellow recruitment panel
- 2015-2020 Co-Chair, Search Committee for Neurobiology Faculty, Epigenetics & Neurobiology Unit, Rome
- 2013-present Founder and organizer of the EMBL Neurobiology Retreat (cross site participation, held every 2 years)

Member on various EMBL Search Committees – Developmental Biology faculty search, European Bioinformatics Institute faculty search, EMBL Hamburg faculty search, Administration

Member on various EMBL committees – Graduate Program, EMBL/EMBO Symposia/Courses & Conferences, Grants Office, Strategy & Communications, COVID-19 Contract Extension Evaluation Committee, EM Facility, Monoclonal Antibody Facility

NOTE: As the senior neurobiology researcher at EMBL I have overall responsibility for drafting and spearheading the strategy of the neurobiology program across all six sites of the institute and its presentation in the EMBL 5-year Scientific Programme; as Head of Unit I have wide responsibility for initiating and hosting events and representing EMBL and the Italian site at activities across Europe (e.g chairing Faculty and PhD recruitments, Scientific Programme drafting, Indicative Scheme/budget Working Groups, scientific workshops, fundraising activities, promotional events) as well as managing and mentoring a staff of >70 persons, including 12 faculty members (6 group leaders, 6 facility heads)

• **REVIEWING & ADVISORY ACTIVITIES** (last 10 years only)

Ad hoc reviewer for *Science*, *eLife*, *Nature*, *Nat Neurosci*, *Neuron*, *PNAS*, *Curr Biol*, *Mol Psych*, etc.

- 2021-present Chair, ERC Consolidator Grant Neuroscience study section
- 2022 SAC Member, Neuroscience Institute, Alicante, Spain
- 2020-present SAC Member, DANDRITE, Danish Institute for Translational Neuroscience, Aarhus, Denmark
- 2019-present Chair, International Scientific Committee, Braincity, EMBL-Nencki Partnership, Poland
- 2019 Member, Neurogenetics Search Committee, Human Technopole, Milano, Italy
- 2017 Simons Foundation for Research in Autism (SFARI) grant study section member
- 2017-2019 ERC Consolidator Grant Neuroscience study section member
- 2017 Member, French National Scientific Review Board (hCERES) 5-year review & site visit – IGBMC, Strassbourg, France
- 2017 Chair, Lundbeck Foundation 5-year review & site visit – DANDRITE, Aarhus, Denmark
- 2016 Chair, EMBL-Poland Twining Proposal Committee
- 2013 Search committee member, DANDRITE, Aarhus, Denmark
- 2012 ERC Synergy Grant study section member
- 2012 Search committee member for Neurophysiology faculty search, University of Basel, CH
- 2012 Member, Max Planck Society Presidential Private Colloquium, Future of Psychiatry, Frankfurt, Germany

2012 Member, Lundbeck Foundation selection committee for Danish EMBL Node, Copenhagen, Denmark

Publications (H-index 47 with 73 senior author papers since 2003 [lead publication: Paolicelli et al. *Science* 2011, 3779 citations])

Top-10 invited presentations to peer-reviewed, internationally established conferences and/or international advanced schools (of 77 invited scientific talks at academic institutions):

EMBO Workshop – Microglia 2020, Heidelberg, Germany, postponed to 2022
 Australian Neuroscience Meeting – Adelaide, Australia, 2019
 Neural Circuits of Emotions – Shenzhen, China, 2019
 NeuroFrance2019 – Symposium speaker, Marseille, France, 2019
 Keystone Meeting – Neuroinflammation, Keystone, CO, USA, 2018
 Gordon Research Conference – Predator-Prey Interactions, Ventura, CA, USA, 2018
 Nature Conference – Neural Circuits of Emotion Meeting, Shenzhen, China, 2016
 Keystone Meeting – Microglia, Keystone, CO, USA, 2016
 Bordeaux Neurocampus Conference – Beyond Glia, Bordeaux, France, 2016
 SfN Annual Meeting – Minisymposium, San Diego, CA, USA, November 2015

Mentoring of early career researchers (not including >50 Masters trainees)

Mentored PhD fellows (years at EMBL, position if departed):

Michela Caliari (2023-present)
 Celeste Turchetta (2021-present)
 Sukrita Deb (2019-present)
 Irene Ayuso (2018-present)
 Piotr Krzywkowski (2015-2020) Senior Data Scientist, IQVIA, Cambridge, UK
 Emmy Tsang (2016-2019) Innovation Community Manager, eLife, Cambridge, UK
 Livia Marrone (2015-2018) Senior Project Officer, AstraZeneca Pharma, Milano, Italy
 Laetitia Weinhard (2012-2017) postdoctoral fellow in Gan/Littman Laboratories, NYU, USA
 Bianca Silva (2011-2015), Assistant Professor, ERC Investigator, and Kavli Fellow, Sophie Antipolis, Nice, France
 Rosa Paolicelli (2007-2011) Assistant Professor and ERC Investigator, University of Lausanne, CH
 Apar Jain (2006-2010) Elected politician, City Government of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany
 Tiago Ferreira (2004-2008) Senior Fellow, Janelia Farm Research Campus, Auburn, USA
 Luisa LoIacono (2003-2007) Staff Researcher, Santa Lucia Foundation, Rome, Italy
 Theodoros Tsetsenis (2003-2007) Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA
 Olivier Mirabeau (2003-2007) Senior Research Engineer, Curie Institute, Paris, France

Mentored postdoctoral fellows/technicians (fellowship funding, years at EMBL, position if departed):

Valeria Mussetto (2023-present)
 Sofia Torchia (data scientist, 2023-present)
 Dorian Battivelli (EIPOD fellow, 2020-present)
 Rahul Sureka (2019-2023) Postdoctoral Fellow, UPenn, Philadelphia, USA
 Senthilkumar Deivasigamani (NARSAD Young Investigator/EIPOD fellow, 2016-present) Postdoctoral Fellow, Imperial College, London, UK
 Maria Esteban Masferrer (technician, 2014-2023) on job market
 Daniel Rossier (SNF Fellow, 2016-2020) Senior Researcher, Biotech incubator, Geneva, Switzerland
 Angelo Raggioli (technician, 2013-2019) Head of Vectorology, Reithera Pharmaceuticals, Rome, Italy
 Alessandro Ciccarelli (2014-2017) Light Sheet Microscopy Specialist, Francis Crick Inst., London, UK
 Tamara Franklin (SNF fellow, 2012-2016) Associate Professor, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada
 Urte Neniskyte (MC fellow, 2013-2016) Group Leader, University of Vilnius Biocenter, Vilnius, LT
 Yang Zhan (EIPOD fellow, 2010-2013) Assistant Professor, Shenzhen Inst. of Advanced Technology, Shenzhen, China
 Noelia Madroñal (MC fellow, 2010-2013) Project Officer, Roche Pharmaceuticals, Basel, Switzerland
 Enrica Audero (technician, 2003-2011) Senior Lab Manager in Mainen laboratory, Champalimaud Neuroscience Center, Lisbon, Portugal; now independent entrepreneur
 Olga Ermakova (2006-2010) Staff Scientist, CNR, Monterotondo, Italy
 Laura Maggi (EMBO fellow, 2004-2006) Associate Professor, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy

Valeria Carola (Thyssen Foundation, 2004-2009) Associate Professor, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy
Amaicha Depino (2005-2007) Associate Professor, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
Giovanni Frazzetto (Branco Weiss fellow, 2004-2007) science writer/novelist

Competitive Research Funding Support (in addition to EMBL core funding)

- 2023-2028 **ERC Advanced Grant (2.5M EUR)** “TERRITORY,” PI: Gross; circuit mechanisms of the territorial modulation of social defense and aggression in mice
- 2022-2025 **EC ITN International Training Network (264K EUR)** “Serotonin & Beyond”; funds Celeste Turchetta; role of serotonin in social defeat induced brain plasticity
- 2014-2019 **ERC Advanced Grant (2.4M EUR)** “COREFEAR,” PI: Gross; functional description of the hypothalamic defensive instinct behavior system
- 2011-2013 **NIH R21 Grant (120K USD)** “Pharmacogenetic tool for the manipulation of functional brain connectivity,” PIs: C. Gross and J. Gordon (Columbia University, NY, USA); funded the design, construction, and validation of a novel hM4D receptor trafficked exclusively to axons as a pharmacogenetic tool to rapidly inhibit neurotransmitter release in genetically defined neurons in behaving mice
- 2010-2012 **IRSF Grant (100K USD)**, “A mouse model of CDKL5 Rett Syndrome,” PI: C. Gross; funded the construction, validation, and phenotyping of a *Cdkl5* conditional knockout mouse, production of monoclonal antibodies against Cdkl5, and a biochemical screen for Cdkl5 targets
- 2008-2013 **EC FP7 Multi-PI Collaborative Grant (340K EUR)** NEUROCYPRES, Co-PI: C. Gross; funded the production and validation of mice expressing a novel FRET-based genetically encoded chloride ion sensor
- 2008-2012 **EC FP7 Multi-PI Collaborative Grant (534K EUR)** DEVANX, Co-PI: C. Gross; funded a series of experiments to dissect hippocampal and amygdala circuits controlling anxiety and fear using the Htr1a/8-OH-DPAT pharmacogenetic tool