

UCLA Brain Research Institute

Tell us about your priorities and provide ideas for our community.

Publicity	Votes
Host more international or well-known meetings at UCLA like ICLM anywhere from 1-several days long. This raises the profile of UCLA. Can use UCLA's Lake Arrowhead resort or the Luskin or elsewhere.	14

Affinity Groups	Votes
Increase funds for Affinity Groups from \$2000 to \$5000 so we can invite prominent speakers	17

Grant Submissions	Votes
Match early career faculty with senior faculty who can help review their aims and grant drafts.	16
Help all members find grant opportunities appropriate to their expertise and interests. Use an expert who can search public and private grant opportunities and do searches of BRI member's CVs to help matchmake grant opportunities with PIs.	15
Incentivize the writing of Training Grants (t32s) such that the faculty get ample administrative help and some research support for submitting it, and some priority for one of their trainees to be supported on the grant if won.	9
Assist early stage faculty in the grant writing process. Not every department has the same amount of help: e.g., peer reviewers of chalk talks, pre-proposal budgets and assembly of elements and timelines for preparing the various documents.	8
Increase the number of travel grants for trainees to attend meetings, network to build their career potential, and serve as our ambassadors.	4
Related to matching career/senior faculty, create a pool of willing/experienced grant reviewers/writers to review outgoing grants.	0

Community Building	Votes
Resurrect and infuse new life into annual retreats for neuroscience students and faculty.	22
Start a BRI Newsletter. Writers could include students interested in science writing. Could link to a podcast interview of various neuroscientists on campus.	10

Identify physical spaces where people can interact and work together — there isn't a BRI lounge but could there be? With the community spread out across so many buildings, the need is great for a "hub" of conversation, a place to collaborate, and bump into colleagues.	10
Friday afternoon relax and mingle get -togethers open to kids and with activities like bocce ball or croquet. And/or a regular tea time to enhance community/collaboration.	9
Big Idea Salons held at various member's homes covering fun neuroscience-related problems like consciousness and creativity.	7
Help faculty organize into peer and near-peer groups! We can help each other with some of these issues if we connect!	5
Find new ways to integrate Psychology, Bioengineering, QC Bio, and clinicians like Neurologists and Neurosurgeons.	4
Have a "take your colleague to lunch" program where lunch is on the BRI, perhaps at Café Synapse. The diners need only be BRI members, submit their receipts to the BRI office right after lunch, take a photo, and write a sentence about what they learned about the other person.	4
Do a survey to check in on the faculty: what is bothering them? What could be better?	3
Make the retreat have a theme like "Free Will," or "Psychedelics" or "Is A.I. going to be the end of humanity?" and have friendly debates.	3
BRI-wide UCLA official Slack workspace, with events posted and affinity groups having their own channels.	2

Member Support	Votes
Reduce the ever-increasing administrative burden on faculty.	15
Create an equipment library for all neuroscience across campus so people can borrow (or take) if needed. Equipment for a project without having to buy it.	12
Refurbish the Core facilities like Microscopy or Behavioral cores.	10
Create more funding support for graduate students in the NSIDP program	8
Reward those who attend in person various BRI events like the Joint Seminars in Neuroscience and Affinity Group activities by prioritizing active BRI community members for seed grants and other opportunities.	8
Put pressure so that VISA renovations for international postdocs are processed in time (multitcases of people having to leave due to delays)	7

Make a searchable list of mouse lines on campus - a library of sorts so people don't always have to create their own or search outside.	7
Help in navigating the university's maze of bureaucracy. Concierge service?	6
Allow admissions of more International graduate students. At the moment, the number of international graduate students are restricted (at the admissions level).	6
Create more student travel awards.	5
Provide guidance in the process of hiring foreign postdocs.	4
Create more seed grant or research support awards for trainees.	4
Require faculty with graduate students to take a course similar to the entering mentoring course offered for graduate students with a shortened yearly refresher.	3
Help defray publication costs.	3
Organize onboarding (trainings, keys, ID's building access, internet access, etc.) of students into batches each quarter.	2
Include project scientists in award, training and community building opportunities.	1
Allow direct admission of graduate students to the lab (if the PI wants them).	0