

Seminar IRH-ICUB

Consciousness and Cognition: An Interdisciplinary Approach

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convenor Dr. Diana Stanciu

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Date: Tuesday, 10 May 2016, 17h

Place: IRH-ICUB (D. Brandza 1), conference room

Prof. Maria-Luisa Flonta

University of Bucharest, Faculty of Biology

Professor Maria-Luisa Flonta teaches Physiology and Neurobiology at the Faculty of Biology of the University of Bucharest. She worked in the field of ionic transport through biological membranes, contributed to the discovery of thermosensible ionic channels in the neurons of the dorsal spinal ganglia and also contributed to the clarification of the chronic pain mechanisms. Prof. Flonta is the director of the Masters' programme in Neurobiology at the University of Bucharest. She is a corresponding member of the Romanian Academy. She is a graduate of the Faculty of Biology at the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj. As a Humboldt Fellow at the Institute for Diabetes Research in Munich, Prof. Flonta discovered the cell receptors for insuline.

What Is Reality ?

The lecture will be structured as follows:

1. Old and new opinions on what reality is and how we see it
2. The case of the visual system – does colour exist in the objective reality? How do different organisms see the external world?
3. We all perceive different worlds or realities, among which some have a common denominator (the outer physical, chemical, biological or social world) while others do not have this common denominator. Examples.
4. The eye can sometimes be 'tricked' by optical illusions, but the sensory-motor system cannot.
5. What does the metaphor of 'the mind's eye' describe?