

**STAYING IN TOUCH: ER-TO-PLASMA MEMBRANE CONTACT SITES
IN SYNAPTIC AND BRAIN FUNCTION**

ABOUT THE LECTURE

Our lab studies the interaction of intracellular organelles with excitatory synapses in the mammalian brain. I will describe in this lecture a series of findings highlighting key roles of endoplasmic reticulum (ER)- to plasma membrane contact sites in synaptic function. In particular, I will discuss how signalling at ER-plasma membrane tethers impacts AMPA receptor trafficking, plasticity in hippocampal circuits and spatial memory.

Speaker: Prof Marc Fivaz

*Assistant Professor, Neuroscience & Behavioral Disorders Program
Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School*

Host: Prof Shirish Shenolikar

*Interim Director, Neuroscience & Behavioural Disorders Program
Professor, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disorders Program
Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School*

Date: Tuesday, 6 May 2014

Time: 12.00 PM — 1.00 PM

(Light refreshments will be served at 11.30 AM)

**Venue: Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School
Amphitheatre, Level 2**

**Contact Person: Ms Cynthia Lim, Duke-NUS Research Affairs Department
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ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Marc Fivaz obtained his PhD from the University of Geneva (Switzerland), working on membrane trafficking. He then moved to Stanford University (California) where he studied neural signalling using cell imaging approaches. Since 2007, he is an Assistant Prof. in the NBD program at DUKE-NUS. His research focuses on signalling mechanisms regulating the activity and plasticity of neural circuits in the mammalian brain.

