

IMCB Invited Speaker



Speaker : **Assoc. Prof. Suresh Jesuthasan**
Principal Investigator,
*A*STAR/Duke-NUS Neuroscience Research Partnership*

Date : 28 January 2013 (Monday)

Time : 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Venue : Level 3, IMCB Seminar Room 3-46, Proteos.

Host : Prof. Wang Yue

Seminar :

Triggers and Modulators of Fear

Different individuals react in different way to similar environmental stimuli. Although variation is a normal feature of biological systems, extreme fear responses can lead to behavioral disorders. We use the alarm response of zebrafish as a paradigm to understand the basis of the variation in fear response, addressing the question at both the molecular as well as circuit level. The alarm response is an innate fear behavior, triggered by injury to a conspecific. A mixture of substances contained within the skin is released upon injury, and this is sensed by the olfactory system. The intensity of the fear response depends on the concentration of the alarm substance, and is also modulated by social conditions. In this seminar, I will discuss the lab's progress in understanding how these factors operate.