Faculty Name: Christopher Braun

Location: HN 605
Email: cbraun@hunter.cuny.edu
E-mail: (212) 772-5554
August, 2011

Faculty Research Area

General Area of Research

Neuroethology; Evolution of Sensory Ability; Neural Control of behavior

Description of Current Research

Potential Masters Projects include:
Physiological studies of hearing abilities – Use electrophysiology to make functional comparisons between species that differ in the morphology of their auditory systems

Effects of Temperature on Communication Signals in Electric Fish – Behavioral study of modifications of the communication signal according to different behavioral states (active, resting, stressed, etc) and under different environmental regimes.

Anatomical comparisons of sensory systems in Cave-dwelling and Surface-living fish: Histological and microscopic studies of cutaneous sensory organs in animals adapted to fast rivers or dark caves.

Requirements and Benefits for Student

Essential and Desirable Background Knowledge and Skills

Essential: Willingness to learn. Some background in animal behavior or basic biology. Computer literacy and ability to learn new software.
Desirable: Behavioral conditioning or ethological experience. Good computer skills, programming ability (in any language) is a great plus. Data handling and analysis. Physiology experience or general lab experience (solutions, writing and following protocols).

Expected Responsibilities

Students are expected to participate in the design and set-up of their experiments, to conduct or supervise data collection and to lead in the data analysis and graphic presentations. All lab members cooperate to maintain all experimental animals.