Stan Floresco given the ACNP Daniel H. Efron Award

The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) has named Stan Floresco, Ph.D. as the winner of the 2019 Daniel H. Efron Research Award for excellence in basic research. Dr. Floresco is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health at the University of British Columbia. As a principal investigator, Dr. Floresco’s research focuses on neural circuits which facilitate different forms of cognition, including learning, decision making, behavioral flexibility and executive functioning. Dr. Floresco develops models for how the healthy brain solves certain types of problems and utilizes these models to identify mechanisms that may underlie impairments in cognitive functioning associated with different diseases such as stimulant addiction, schizophrenia and depression. In addition to his major contributions to the study of neural circuits involved in cognition, Dr. Floresco’s lab has pioneered animal models to represent the neuropharmacology of schizophrenia and drug addiction which can be used to guide the development of new therapeutic approaches. Dr. Floresco has won numerous awards, which include the Killam Faculty Research Award, American Psychological Association Award, Killam Faculty Research Prize, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar Award and the Robert E. Knox Master Teaching Award.

The Efron Research Award, presented at the 58th Annual Meeting of the ACNP in Orlando, Florida, is in recognition of outstanding basic research contributions to neuropsychopharmacology. The contributions may be preclinical or work that emphasizes the interface between basic and clinical research. The selection of the awardee is based on the quality of the contribution and its impact in advancing neuropsychopharmacology.

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ACNP, founded in 1961, is a professional organization of more than 1100 leading scientists, including four Nobel Laureates. The mission of ACNP is to further research and education in neuropsychopharmacology and related fields in the following ways: promoting the interaction of a broad range of scientific disciplines of brain and behavior in order to advance the understanding of prevention and treatment of disease of the nervous system including psychiatric, neurological, behavioral and addictive disorders; encouraging scientists to enter research careers in fields related to these disorders and their treatment; and ensuring the dissemination of relevant scientific advances.