



## Edito

Dear All

I am pleased to present you with the summer newsletter.

In the column "Spotlight on a Researcher," you will find a portrait of **Anne-Amandine Chassot**, researcher at iBV, who introduces us to her work on sex determination.

In the column "Quirky Paper," you will discover the wonders of synesthesia, a peculiar neurological condition that allows you to see life in color!

And in the "Info" column, among other things, you can read a report about the iBV Days and a story about a young high-school student named **Louis Martin** who came from Shanghai in July for a training session at iBV. And, of course, we have some words about the appointment of Frédérique Vidal, the president of our university, to the head of the Ministry of **Higher Education, Research and Innovation**.

I wish you pleasant reading, and I remind you that if you have any comments about this letter or news, let me know. I am proposing a new section to the newsletter: **Letters to the Editor**.

Marie-Pierre and the publishing committee

## Spotlight on a researcher p 2

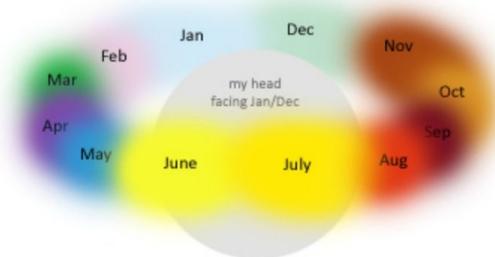


Anne Amandine Chassot



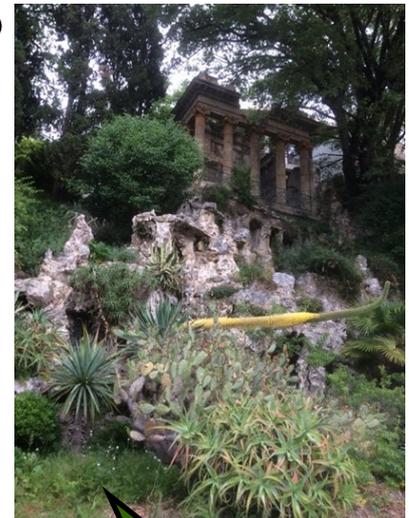
iBV days 2017 p 9

## The quirky paper P 6



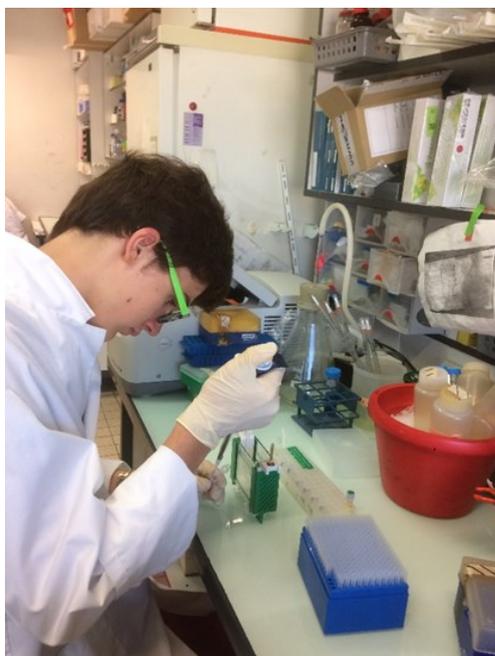
Ramachandran et al 2016

Synesthesia, or when the senses go crazy!



Infos P 10

## Training for volunteer high school students at iBV



Initiation to “experimental research”

### Louis Martin: A guaranteed future!

For two summers now, iBV has received volunteer high school students as trainees. And that, on the initiative of **Florence Bigot-Cormier** (seconded assistant professor from UNS after a thesis at Geoazur), now teacher in “Sciences of Life and Earth” at the [lycée Français of Shanghai](#). For many years, she has been encouraging high school students in the scientific section to do a training session in research labs. At iBV, Florence's work is mediated by Michel Bidet, training correspondent and communications officer who organized Louis **Martin's visit** this year, from July 3 to 7.

This 16-year-old high school student already knows what he wants to do later in life. He is very motivated by research in biology and especially in cancerology. So, he came from Shanghai to participate in the life of a biology research institute. Michel made sure Louis got kid-glove treatment and concocted a special program for him.

**-On Monday**, Louis began from the start, that is to say by accompanying **Santhi Radj-Kumar**, **Mouna Sekoni** and **Dominique Hattab** in their diverse work linked to the laundry and to the preparation of different media on the first floor of the Natural Sciences building. And Dominique demonstrated to Louis the functioning of the automatic machine used to prepare the nutritional media for *C.elegans*.

**-On Tuesday**, Michel gave a general presentation of the Institute and reviewed the organization of research in France (organizations, trades, university sectors). Then, Louis “rose” to the eighth floor, to **Elvire Gouze's** team to learn about the organization of a start-up and about the diseases linked to the skeleton.

**-Wednesday** was dedicated to the visit of two labs that work in cancerology, with **Dominique Grall** in **Ellen van Obberghen's** team and **Sébastien Huault** in **Anne-Odile Hueber's** team.

**-On Thursday**, Louis went to the Biochemistry building to meet **Pascal Théron's** team, specialized in drosophila. Here, “coached” by **Laurence Lavenant**, he was initiated in the joys of Western blot technology (see photo). And from 12 to 2 pm — icing on the cake — he attended a highly specialized seminar, in English of course, given by **Andy Greenfield**, on sex determination in mammals!

Finally, Louis's week finished **on Friday** with a number of other visits. In the morning he went to the biochemistry/molecular biology platform with **Virginie Virole** and **Maurice Hattab**; and in the afternoon, with **Delphine Cerezo** from another team working on drosophila, he visited the team of our director **Stephane Noselli**.

It was a full week that helped Louis reaffirm his desire of “becoming a researcher in Biology.” After his Bac, Louis would like to go to a top engineering school in France, or maybe study Medicine, even abroad for his Bachelor's degree, but always with the aim “of doing research.”

**We wish Louis good luck.**

**A great thanks to all those who guided him during the first week of July.**