



Giacomo Rizzolatti

Élu Associé étranger le 21 juin 2005 dans la section de Biologie intégrative

Giacomo Rizzolatti, né en 1937 en URSS, de nationalité italienne, Professeur de physiologie à l'université de Parme, est à l'origine de nombreuses découvertes en neurosciences intégratives. On lui doit en particulier des observations récentes très innovantes sur l'activité cérébrale chez le singe, montrant comment, chez cet animal, l'image mentale d'un mouvement à exécuter pourrait se construire par imitation de l'expérimentateur.

Giacomo Rizzolatti, Professor of Physiology of the University of Parma, is a world known integrative neurobiologist. Among some of his major contributions to cerebral mechanisms, he recently discovered that in the monkey cortical neurones commanding a given movement can also be activated when the operator simply mimics the movement. These "mirror neurones" suggest that, even in the animal, the brain can build up a mental image of a movement to be performed.

Curriculum vitae

1961	Medical Doctor, University of Padua (Italy)
1964	Specialization in Neurology, University of Padua
1969	Libero Docente Human Physiology, Roma (Italy)
1964-1967	Assistant in Human Physiology, University of Pisa (Italy)
1967-1969	Assistant in Human Physiology, University of Parma (Italy)
1969-1975	Associate Professor of Human Physiology, University of Parma
1975-present	Professor of Human Physiology, University of Parma
1988-1991	President of the Scientific Committee European Training Program in Brain and Behaviour Research, European Science Foundation
2002-present	Director of the Department of Neuroscience, University of Parma

Membership

1989 Member of the Academia Europaea
1999 Docteur Honoris causa, Université Claude Bernard, Lyon
2002 Member of the Accademia dei Lincei (Italy)
2002 Honorary Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

2012 Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences (USA)

Awards

1982 Golgi Prize for Physiology, Accademia dei Lincei

1999 George Miller Award, Cognitive Neuroscience Society (USA)

2000 Feltrinelli Prize for Medicine, Accademia dei Lincei

2005 Herlitzka Prize for Physiology, Accademia delle Scienze di Torino (Italy)

Le 30 novembre 2006