

**CICLO
DE CONFERÊNCIAS 2013
A CIÊNCIA QUE POR CÁ SE FAZ
CENTRO DE INVESTIGAÇÃO
ISPA - INSTITUTO UNIVERSITÁRIO**

“MIND THE FISH”: ZEBRAFISH AS A MODEL IN SOCIAL NEUROSCIENCE

Understanding how the brain implements social behavior on one hand, and how social processes feedback on the brain to promote fine-tuning of behavioural output according to changes in the social environment is a major challenge in contemporary neuroscience. A critical step to take this challenge successfully is finding the appropriate level of analysis when relating social to biological phenomena. Given the enormous complexity of both the neural networks of the brain and social systems, the use of a cognitive level of analysis (in an information processing perspective) is proposed here as an explanatory interface between brain and behavior. A conceptual framework for a cognitive approach to comparative social neuroscience is proposed and the state-of-the art of zebrafish social cognition and of the tools available to map social cognitive abilities to neural circuits in zebrafish are reviewed.



Rui Oliveira
ISPA - Instituto Universitário

6 JUNHO 2013

12H30

AUDITÓRIO 1

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