

KEYNOTE SPEAKER 1

David Bueno i Torrens

Doctor in biology and professor of genetics at the University of Barcelona.

Brain and behaviour: to which extent are we responsible for who we are?

The brain is the organ of thought. Its neural networks manage all our behaviours. Its ontogenetic origin, however, is dual. On one hand, its formation and its functioning are conditioned by a number of genes, which make each person more or less prone to any cognitive ability as well as for any behavioural response. On the other hand, the environment also influences how the synaptic conexions are established, which in turn sets the neural networks, whose activity will generate all the behaviours and learning. What is the relative influence of each of these factors? Can we contribute to the construction of our brain? In this keynote we will discuss to which extent we are responsible for being who we are.

David Bueno i Torrens (Barcelona, 1965) is a doctor in biology and professor of genetics at the University of Barcelona. His professional and academic career has been developed in Barcelona and Oxford, focusing on the genetics of development and neuroscience, and its relationship with human behavior. He teaches several subjects in the field of genetics and has published more than fifty scientific articles in specialized journals. In the field of scientific dissemination, he has published seven books to bring science closer to the public, as well as several textbooks.