

SECOND ANNUAL Paul Bach-y-Rita Memorial Lecture

A Neuroplasticity Perspective About The Origins Of
Human Ability-Medical and Philosophical Implications

Sponsored by The W. M. Keck Laboratory for Biological Imaging

DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010

TIME: 4:00 PM

LOCATION: ROOM 1111

GENETICS-BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER

SPEAKER:

MICHAEL MERZENICH

Title:

Co-Founder & Chief Scientific Officer,
Posit Science and Professor Emeritus,
Neuroscience, UCSF



Neuroscience studies conducted primarily over the past two decades have provided us with a new level of understanding of the brain plasticity-based origins of human abilities. They also provide us with a fresh perspective about the origins of and the potential reversal of the functionally limiting expressions of developmental and adult-acquired neurological and psychiatric impairments and disease. We shall consider some of the pragmatic implications of this new science by explaining how it has led to the development of an important new class of therapeutic training tools that help patients overcome cognitive (and other) impairments attributable to normal aging, or to a variety of other medical causes. Some of the philosophical implications of this new perspective about the neurological origins and nature of the operational Person shall be discussed.

For additional information or questions, please contact
Ronald Kalil at rekalil@wisc.edu or 608-262-4903