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Prof Jonathan Bacon is Professor of Neuroscience in the School of Life Sciences, University of Sussex, UK, and is Adjunct Professor of Neuroscience in the Department of Neuroscience, University of Arizona, Tucson. His first degree was at Cambridge. After a year teaching in Jamaica, he took an MSc and a PhD at Manchester, and postdocs in: Seewiesen, Germany; Albany, USA; Basel, Switzerland. He joined the faculty in Biology at the University of Sussex in 1984, where he was awarded the 1987 President's Medal of the Society for Experimental Biology, and was the Dean of Life Sciences from 2002-2009.