

## **Structure and function in the nervous system of invertebrates**

In addition to his landmark discoveries, another piece of work produced by Ted Bullock during his tenure at UCLA has had an enormous influence on generations of other scientists—the two-volume treatise *Structure and Function in the Nervous System of Invertebrates* (Bullock and Horridge 1965). In the 1950s, Ted Bullock started to work on this book, using the classical work of Bertil Hanström, *Vergleichende Anatomie des Nervensystems der wirbellosen Tiere*, published in 1928, as a forerunner. At the end of the 1950s, he communicated with a number of colleagues regarding this book, sending out drafts of chapters for comments or seeking permission to reproduce Figures from original publications. Among these colleagues was G. Adrian Horridge of the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. In a letter dated 10 February 1958, Bullock invited Horridge to become a co-author:

*“I would like to invite your serious consideration of the proposition that you join me in this project. I do not wish to undertake a team affair, such as Prosser’s Comparative Physiology or Roeder’s Insect Physiology, but neither have I any thirst for the glory of sole authorship...I could elaborate at some length as to why you have the special qualifications needed for this task but will not because it really does not matter to you!”*

Horridge initially rejected the offer, arguing that he would like to give preference to his research work over the coming years, and that the library at St. Andrews was not sufficiently well equipped to obtain the literature necessary to co-author the book. This triggered the following counter-reaction from Bullock, as documented in a letter dated 17 March 1958:

*“Excuse my returning to item A, but I would like to respond to your candor about the co-authorship proposition. There may, of course, be factors which I*

*do not appreciate and you must not feel obligated to explain your reasons. But just in case you would actually like to undertake it if external factors permitted, I would like to offer any assistance I can to the proper arranging of external factors. Would it alter the picture for you if your institution would grant a leave of absence of, say 9–12 months and if I could find funds to provide a stipendium for that period here? ... You probably do not take into account your own unique qualification for this job. Assuming you admit the serious need for a modern work summarizing the state of knowledge in the area, you will see upon reflection that not any active worker in the neurophysiology of some invertebrate animal or in the histology of some groups would do at all. It requires precisely someone who is worried about the functional attention paid to fibrils, recesses and such details, who looks ahead but has a healthy respect for earlier work, who thinks for himself, etc. Horridge, having these gifts as you must admit you do, I call upon your sense of social obligation!”*

After this letter, Horridge finally agreed to join Bullock as co-author. A good part of the manuscript was written, while Bullock and Horridge spent a considerable amount of time together—at St. Andrews, UCLA and, most importantly, as Fellows in Residence during an entire year at the renowned Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, immediately adjacent to Stanford University, California.