

Pharmacology International

No. 70 June 2008 The semi-annual newsletter from the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology

In This Issue

CPT2008	Front
Fun Night	Pg 2
Things to KNOW	Pg 4
Career Fair	Pg 5
Special Symposium on Africa	Pg 6
NIDA-IUPHAR Young Investigator Travel Awards	Pg 8
Raskova Celebrating 95 Years	Pg 10
2008 Anniversaries	
ASPET - 100th	Pg 12
Belgian - 60th	Pg 15
Finnish - 60th	Pg 17
Chilean - 30th	Pg 19
PRACP Introducing Journal	Pg 20
Funding Opportunity ICSU Visiting Professor Program for 2008	Pg 21
Upcoming Events	Pg 22
18th Neuropharmacology Conference	Pg 25
Safety Pharmacology	Pg 26
Pharmacogenetics	Pg 27
Indian Pharmacology Society	Pg 27
British Pharmacology Society	Pg 28
Meeting Reports	
PRACP Int'l Conf. on Pharmacogenomics	Pg 30
Cuban Pharmacology Society	Pg 33



DO NOT MISS THE MOST IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL EVENT THIS YEAR IN CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS!

The IXth World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics 2008 (CPT2008)

is reaching new heights with nearly 1,100 approved abstracts originating from 82 countries so far. Clinical and basic pharmacologists from around the world have accepted the invitation to meet and discuss the latest science results at CPT2008 and to enjoy the 400th anniversary celebration events of Québec City. The attendance projection for graduate students and fellows has already been exceeded.



CPT2008
Québec

www.CPT2008.org

The stellar program put together by Dr. Patrick du Souich and the Scientific Program Committee explains the enthusiasm for CPT 2008. In addition to 10 plenary lectures and 39 symposia, there are 10 sponsored industrial symposia and special sessions scheduled for early evening. Six Meet-the-Expert Sunrise sessions have recently been added with a few more still in discussion. Several organizations are planning their business, scientific and social functions during CPT2008 to benefit from the critical mass of participants from around the globe.

Visit www.cpt2008.org/e_regist/registration_e.shtml to join the Conference!

To enjoy your stay in Québec City be sure to take advantage of all aspects of the Conference, including the social events. The Fun Night will take place on Thursday night, July 31st and you don't want to miss this fabulous event. The evening will include dinner and refreshments as well as a unique performance of circus arts in the tradition of Cirque du Soleil. See page 2 for more information. •

We look forward to welcoming you in Québec City for CPT2008!

Marc LeBel and Stuart MacLeod
CPT2008 Co-Chairs



Photo courtesy of www.cpt2008.org

REGISTER NOW TO VISIT QUÉBEC CITY DURING ITS 400TH ANNIVERSARY



FUN NIGHT

Thursday, July 31st at 19:00

Salon 200 ABC

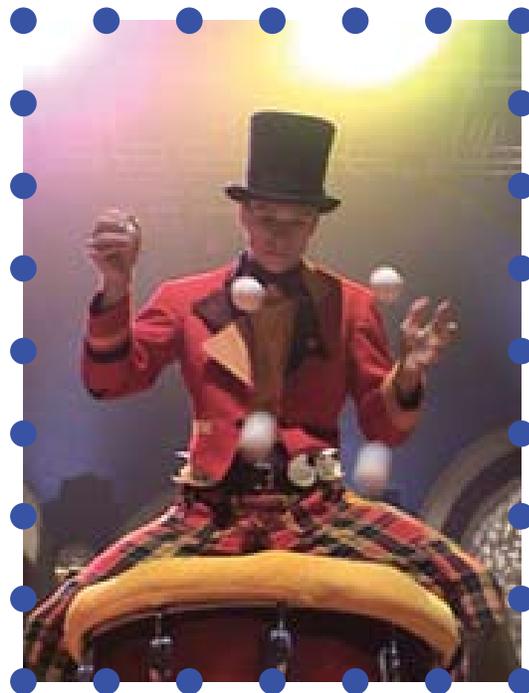
Québec City Convention Centre

Ticket Cost: \$65.00 CAD

includes dinner, refreshments, and the performance

Did you know that the famous Cirque du Soleil was born in the province of Québec, Canada, not far from Québec City? The incredible success of this entertainment organization stems from the many talents nurtured here over the last 25 years.

The organizers of CPT2008 wish to demonstrate the savoir-faire of the Québec City local talent and provide registrants with a taste of the creativity and

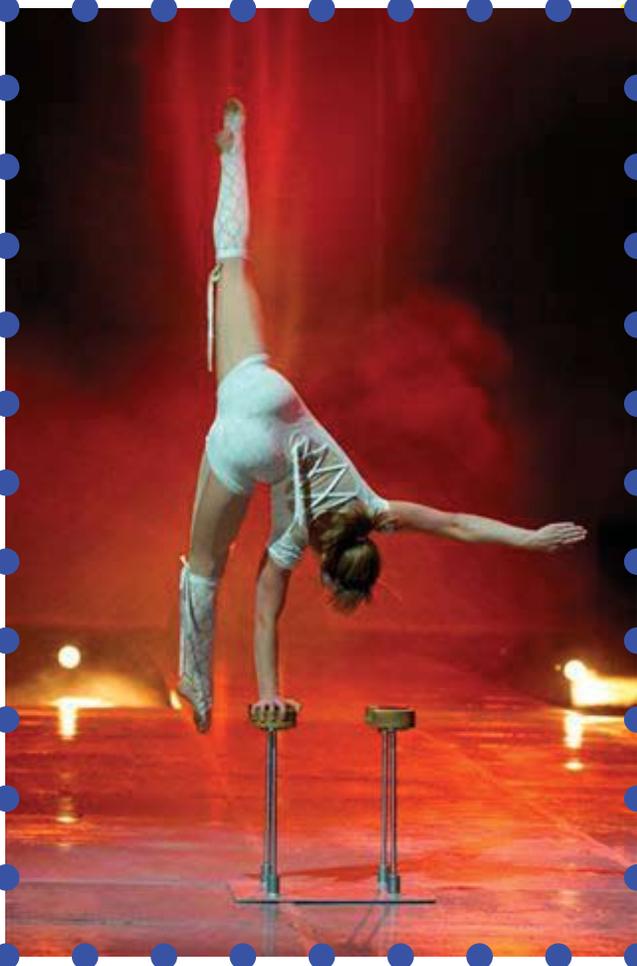
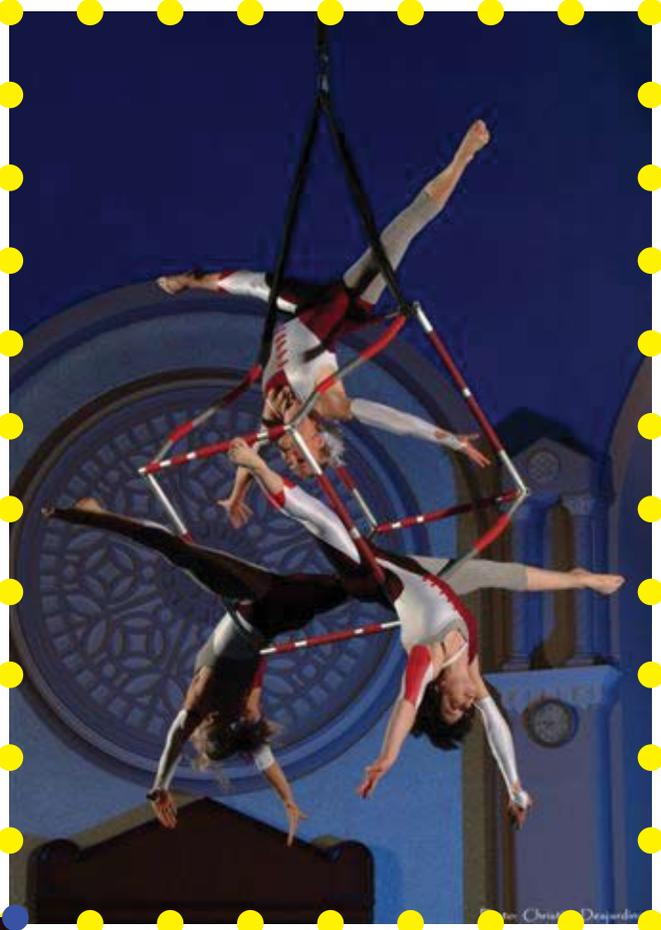


Continued on page 3...

Continued from page 2...

inspiration that led to the world-renown circus tradition of Cirque du Soleil ("Circus of the Sun"). Such entertainment requires great daring, exhaustive effort and, above all, strong conviction. The incentive for this presentation was the availability in Québec City of talented young artists who graduated from the École de cirque de Québec.

The show weaves its own central theme and storyline which



draws the audience into the performance. This unique production moves beyond the animals and rings of the traditional circus style. Be prepared to be dazzled - let the circus entertain you!

Tickets for Fun Night must be purchased in advance by calling +1-613-993-0414 or e-mail CPT2008@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca The admission of \$65 CAD includes dinner, refreshments, and the entertainment. •

LET'S GO TO QUEBEC CITY!

Before you arrive

- Register for CPT2008 and Fun Night
www.cpt2008.org/e_regist/registration_e.shtml
- Visa information
www.cic.gc.ca or call +1-819-994-2424
- Aéroport International Jean-Lesage (YQB)
www.aeroportdequebec.com
- Get the facts on customs, exchange rates, electrical currency, etc.
www.canada.travel/selectCountry.html
- Plan your itinerary
www.monquebec2008.com
www.bonjourquebec.com
www.travelcanada.ca

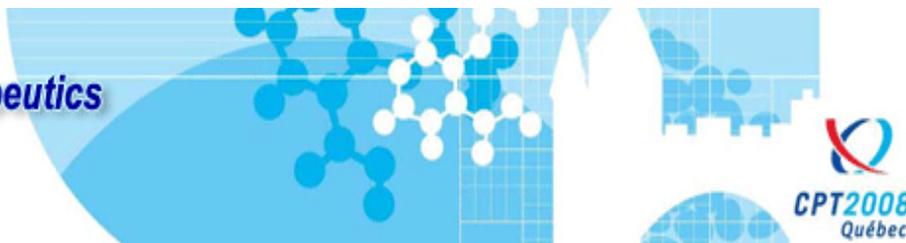


After you arrive

- Taxi fare from the airport to the Convention Centre area is a flat CAD\$30 CAD.
- There are two taxes: The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is 5% and the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) is 7.5% and added on top of the GST for a total of about 13%.
- Tipping in restaurants and bars is generally 15% of the total bill with 20% for exceptional service. Some restaurants automatically add 15% gratuity for larger groups (often 8 or more). Tipping is also customary for hairdressers (10%), taxi drivers (10%), and hotel staff that carry luggage (\$1.00 CAD per piece) or valet cars (\$1.00 CAD per trip).
- People commonly queue or line up to purchase items in stores or tickets.
- Smoking is prohibited in public places such as restaurants, bars, office buildings and casinos.
- For emergencies dial 911 from any telephone.
- For local telephone calls, dial the last 10 digits of the number (e.g., 418-555-5555). To reach a telephone number outside North America, dial 011 then the country code and telephone number.

**The IXth World Conference on
Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

July 27 - August 1, 2008 Québec, Canada
www.CPT2008.org



Attention all Employers and Job Seekers!

The Organizers are pleased to present the
CPT2008 On-Line Job Fair
being held in conjunction with the
**IXth World Conference on
Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics:**

Monday, June 2nd, 2008 - Saturday, August 2nd, 2008

This is an excellent opportunity for employers to conduct in-person interviews with potential candidates and for job seekers to evaluate available positions. All CPT2008 registrants will be given access to a free Internet Café in the Québec City Convention Centre to view the latest on-line interview invitations and responses. Postings may be anonymous, if desired. **Sign up now for maximum visibility!**

For more information, please visit the
IUPHAR Careers website:
<http://careers.iuphar.org>

CHALLENGES OF PHARMACOLOGY IN AFRICA

IUPHAR is pleased to present a special CPT2008 symposium to help raise awareness for the PharfA initiative and pharmacology in Africa, in general. Novartis International and F. Hoffmann-La Roche SA donated generously to help underwrite this unique offering on Tuesday, July 29th from 9:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Quebec City Convention Centre.

Africa is faced with a high burden of infectious diseases and, increasingly, non-communicable diseases. Despite recent increases in financial resources to run public health programmes most of these diseases remain significant impediments to national development. One of the major challenges of treating these health conditions is the cost of available medicines, the development of resistance and other dimensions of access. At a recent meeting of the Ministers of Health of Africa held in Accra, Ghana the importance of developing health research as a tool for national development was stressed. A matter of concern in this regard was developing capacity to undertake discovery of new therapeutic interventions, especially from plant origins. There is increasing success in sequencing the genes of some of the important disease-causing organisms and their vector pharmacology becomes an important scientific consideration.

The discipline of pharmacology is vital to the aspirations of disease-endemic countries as well as to the pharmaceutical industry. Pharmacology, an important discipline in health research and human development, is taught mainly in faculties of medicine, nursing, pharmacy and veterinary medicine. However, there are very few institutions in Africa with well developed pharmacology and clinical pharmacology departments well positioned to respond to the continent's needs. This has implications for human resource development and capacity to respond to the academic, regulatory, use and drug development needs of Africa.

An initiative for African pharmacologist called "Pharmacology for Africa" (PharfA) has been established based in South Africa. It is open to "pharmacologists involved with medicine in clinical practice, consultation, drug distribution/supply chain, drug registration, drug research & development, education (continued professional education), education (postgraduate), education (undergraduate), manufacturing, policy making, quality control, research (clinical trials), research (pre-clinical), sales & marketing among others " Please visit <http://www.iuphar-africa.org/ASPXPages/AdvantagesL1.aspx> for more information. This initiative is supported by IUPHAR.

At the IXth World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (CPT2008) in Québec, Canada a symposium will be held to discuss some of the issues related to Pharmacology in Africa. The symposium

Continued on page 7...



CHALLENGES OF PHARMACOLOGY IN AFRICA

Continued from page 6...

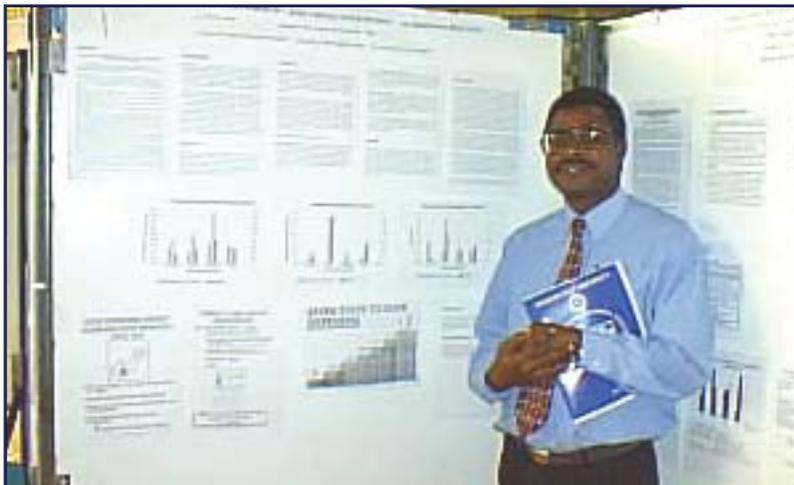
will look at the challenges facing Africa in pharmacology within the context of the changing demography, disease epidemiology, health care delivery and health research. A group of established African health professionals will talk on the specific areas of drug regulation, ethnopharmacology, rational use of medicines and HIV/AIDS in Africa and current efforts to address these challenges:

- Dr. Ossy Kasilo works with the World Health Organisation in Brazzaville, Congo and is responsible for Traditional Medicine.
- Dr. Richard Odoi-Adome is Professor of Pharmacology at Makerere University, Uganda and has extensive experience with drug regulation and pharmacy practice issues in Africa.
- Professor Ambrose Isah, Clinical Pharmacologist at the University of Benin City, Nigeria, has interests in optimal pharmacotherapy and promotes the concept of rational use of medicines.
- Dr. Gabriel Anabwani is a pediatrician at Botswana-Baylor Children's Clinical Center of Excellence, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana and will discuss the management of pediatric HIV/AIDS.
- Prof. Ofori-Adjei is a former Director of the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research and currently at the Center for Tropical Clinical Pharmacology of the University of Ghana. His work covers a wide spectrum of activities including pharmacoepidemiology and pharmacogenetics.

The symposium has been jointly facilitated by Professor David Ofori-Adjei and Professor Stuart MacLeod, who is the director of the Child & Family Research Institute in Vancouver and co-chair of CPT2008.

The outcome of the discussion of the presentations will provide additional information and insights into the challenges faced by pharmacologists and pharmacology in Africa. This will enhance current efforts to strengthen national and regional initiatives on pharmacology; and promote initiatives on drug discovery and access. •

David Ofori-Adjei
University of Ghana Medical School



Dr. David Ofori-Adjei, photo courtesy of World Health Organization

WINNERS CHOSEN FOR NIDA-IUPHAR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR TRAVEL AWARDS

The United States National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) presents a one-day mini-convention each year in conjunction with the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) annual meeting. This year the mini-convention, entitled "Frontiers in Addiction Research," is scheduled for Friday, November 14th, 2008 in Washington, DC, and features four symposia and a poster session for early career investigators (graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty) that will take place during a two-hour extended lunch break. A website at www.sei2003.com/nida/frontiers2008 will be available in the coming months for more information.

IUPHAR has once again co-sponsored three international (non-U.S.) early career investigators who will receive travel awards of USD\$1,000 each. The individuals chosen are:

Dr. Stephanie Borglund, Assistant Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, Canada, was nominated by the Pharmacology Society of Canada. Her research focuses on drug addiction and neural mechanisms of appetitive motivation. The work she plans to present, entitled "Orexin A/Hypocretin1 promotes incentive motivation selectively for highly salient appetitive stimuli", contains both behavioral and electrophysiological evidence in support of the role of the neuropeptide "orexin", also known as "hypocretin", in appetitive motivation.



Dr. Pouya Tahsili-Fahadan, Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Neurosciences of the Medical University of South Carolina, in Charleston, USA, was nominated by the Iranian Society of Pharmacology. In pursuing the cellular and molecular basis of addiction and reward, Dr. Tahsili-Fahadan has taken a particular interest in the neurobiology of reward and reward-related memory. His presented abstract will be "Modafinil blocks morphine-primed reinstatement of conditioned place preference" and explores whether modafinil may be an effective agent in the treatment of opiate abuse.



YOUNG INVESTIGATOR TRAVEL AWARDS

Dr. Leonardo Resstel Barbosa Moraes, Predoctoral Student in the Department of Pharmacology, University of São Paulo, Brazil, was nominated by the Brazilian Pharmacology Society. His current project is glutamatergic, nitrenergic neurotransmission interaction and the modulation of the cardiovascular and behavioral responses evoked by contextual fear conditioning in rats. Dr. Resstel also has research interest in the relationships between behavior, the autonomic nervous system, and the cardiovascular system. His presentation is entitled "Activation of CB1 cannabinoid receptors in medial prefrontal cortex modulates the expression of contextual fear conditioning in rats".



S.J. Enna
IUPHAR Secretary-General

READY FOR A NEW POSITION IN PHARMACOLOGY?

START HERE

http://careers.iuphar.org/c/coaching/index.cfm?site_id=804

CAREER RESOURCES INCLUDING
NETWORKING SKILLS
COMPANY RESEARCH LINKS
JOB ALERTS FOR SPECIFIC KEYWORDS
INTERVIEWING TIPS
SALARY NEGOTIATION TECHNIQUES
ARE AVAILABLE AT THE



<http://careers.iuphar.org>

CZECH AND SLOVAK PHARMACOLOGICAL SOCIETY PAY TRIBUTE TO PROF. RAŠKOVÁ, THE DOYENNE OF WORLD PHARMACOLOGY

On 2 January 2008, Prof. MUDr. Helena Rašková, DrSc., Dr.h.c., the legendary figure of Czech and world pharmacology, celebrated her 95th birthday. A friendly meeting on 16 January 2008 for the occasion of this jubilee was arranged by the Czech Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology of the Czech Jan Evangelista Purkyně Medical Society. The participants included representatives from the field of pharmacology and a number of other scientific disciplines as well as personal friends from Czechia, Slovakia and other countries.

Prof. Rašková and the participants were welcomed by Prof. Vladimír Geršl, Chair of the Czech Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology. The contributions of Prof. Rašková to the development of science in the Czech Republic were recognized by the Medal of Honour of the Czech Jan Evangelista Purkyně Medical Society presented by Prof.



Prof. MUDr. Helena Rašková, DrSc., Dr.h.c.



Prof. Geršl (left) and Prof. Blahoš (center) present the Medal of Honour to Prof. Rašková (right).

Jaroslav Blahoš, President of the Society. The role of Prof. Rašková was described and praised by Prof. Václav Pačes, President of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, who delivered an official greeting from the Academy.

Prof. Jaroslav Květina, one of her closest collaborators, summed up the activities and importance of Prof. Rašková in the context of Czechoslovak and world pharmacology.

“Prof. Rašková has significantly contributed to the establishment of pharmacology as an independent scientific discipline in the world context and established the Czechoslovak Pharmacological School of the 1950s and 1960s. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of Charles University in Prague in 1937. Her career as a clinical university lecturer was interrupted by the closure of Czech institutions of higher education in 1939. During the Second World War she worked for a pharmaceutical manufacturer in Prague. There she had contact with the sciences connected with the development of new medications and was motivated for her later lifetime love, pharmacology.

“Soon after Czech institutes of higher education re-opened following the war, she became one of the restorers of the Pharmacological Institute of the Faculty of Medicine of Charles University in Prague. She accurately anticipated the trends in pharmacology and became recognized as an authority among her university collaborators as well as in pharmacological research in the pharmaceutical industry.

Continued on page 11...

TRIBUTE TO PROF. RAŠKOVÁ

“She managed to maintain communication with world science even after political barriers were formed and thus, in the period of political pressures orienting Czechoslovakia exclusively to the East, she kept “more cosmopolitan” scientific contacts for Czech and Slovak pharmacology. Prof. Helena Rašková and the Swedish Prof. Börje Uvnäs were two of the European pharmacologists who substantially contributed to the establishment of the IUPHAR. In appreciation of these merits, Prof. Rašková was awarded the Gold Medal of the Federation of European Pharmacological Societies (EPHAR). It is also impossible to ignore her initiative in the history of European drug toxicology and she was significantly responsible for developing clinical pharmacology in Czechia and Slovakia.

“Prof. Rašková established two independent pharmacological institutes within Charles University and the Pharmacological Institutes of the Czech and Slovak Academies of Sciences. Her vitality and enthusiasm for science did not abate even in the 1970s and 1980s when the existing political situation forced her to leave the scientific institutes which she had helped to found. The network of her closest collaborators and first disciples was further increased with her scientific grandchildren and great-grandchildren, now holding important posts in pharmacological research both in Czechoslovakia and abroad.

“Prof. Rašková is also known for her efforts in forming the Czechoslovak Pharmacological Society in 1959, where she was repeatedly elected President. She has been the Honorary President of the Czech Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology and has thus stayed, with her sustained vitality, in the middle of many pharmacological as well as non-pharmacological activities. The recognition of her merits is manifested in the dozens of honorary memberships and medals from a number of world scientific societies and university institutes, and other awards.”

This summary of the accomplishments of Prof. Rašková was followed by messages and greetings from various pharmacological societies, including a letter from IUPHAR, in which President Sue Duckles congratulated and thanked Prof. Rašková for, among other things, her contribution to the founding and activities of the IUPHAR; a congratulatory letter from the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium; and a birthday greeting from the German Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology. Many other messages of greeting were read and many other awards were bestowed upon her from the representatives of Czech and Slovak pharmacologists, dignitaries of Faculties of Medicine, several scientific societies and her personal friends.

Prof. Rašková’s comments and recollections that accompanied the individual speeches brought back memories of the history of pharmacology as well as her role in our scientific community.

At the end of the official presentations, Prof. Rašková was crowded by a large number of well-wishers who wanted to express their thanks and esteem. Prof. Rašková thus was – quite in harmony with the credo of her life – surrounded by a large family of pharmacologists and friends. The most important tribute was the reverence of a large community of pharmacologists and scientists as well as personal friends. •

Prof. Vladimír Geršl
Czech Pharmacological Society Chair



The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) was established on December 28, 1908 by John Jacob Abel and 17 fellow pharmacologists. ASPET celebrated its centennial anniversary during the Experimental Biology 2008 meeting in San Diego, USA from April 2nd – 5th, 2008. The extensive list of tribute activities was highlighted by 10 high-profile symposia, several presentations and awards, a street fair (see page 13), and publications. The symposia included the debut of the Julius Axelrod Symposium and a round-table discussion about the future of pharmacology by many of the Nobel laureates involved in the Society. The centennial publications are available through the various ASPET journals and website (www.aspet.org) and reflect the great discoveries in pharmacology, the contributions of the female members of ASPET, and a brief history of the Society.

During the business meeting, IUPHAR President Sue Duckles presented ASPET President Ken Minneman with a framed reproduction of John Jacob Abel in his laboratory to commemorate the founder of ASPET. The British Pharmacological Society Past President Graeme Henderson awarded Dr. Minneman a plaque for the occasion. Other dignitaries acknowledging this important milestone were the President of the United States, George W. Bush, the Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health, Elias A. Zerhouni.

IUPHAR congratulates ASPET on the first 100 years of success knowing that the staff and officers of ASPET will work to continue offering their international membership another 100 years of advancement. •

S. J. Enna
IUPHAR Secretary-General



ASPET President Ken Minneman (on left) receives a reproduction of John Jacob Abel from IUPHAR President Sue Duckles.



ASPET President Ken Minneman (on left) and ASPET Executive Officer Christie Carrico proudly display John Jacob Abel, founder of the Society in 1908.

What do you get when you combine 1 block of downtown San Diego, 100 years of pharmacology, 800 people, and 1,000 balloons? The ASPET party of the century!

On April 8th, 2008 ASPET rented J Street in the Gaslamp District of San Diego, USA for a centennial extravaganza. A band and street entertainers contributed to the festivities where participants enjoyed free food and beverages with friends from around the world. For more pictures, visit www.aspet.org.



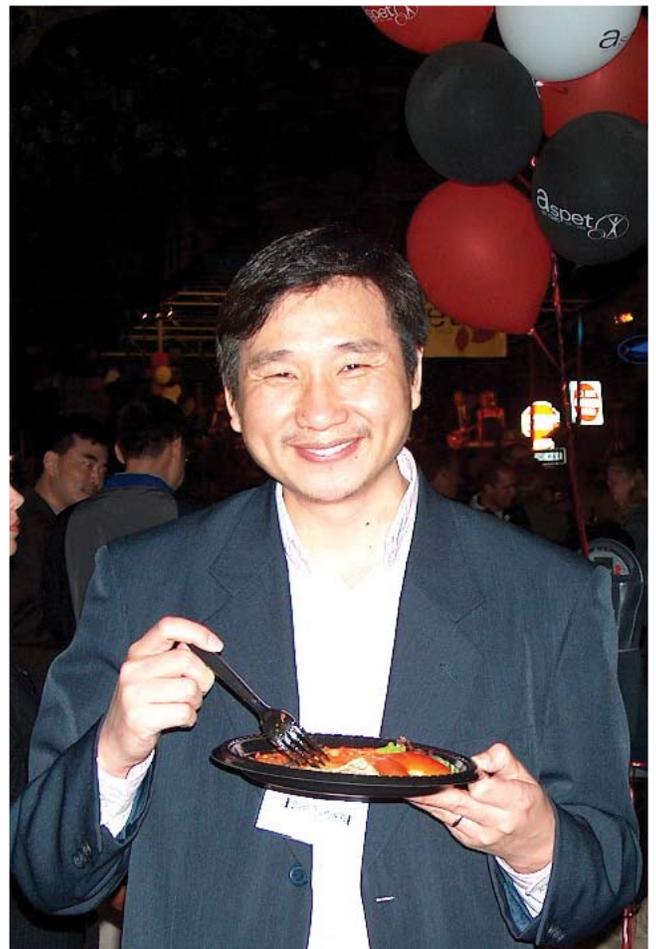
Some of the ASPET staff relax after working all weekend at the centennial events (L→R) Harry Smith, Ron Hanks, Margie Arkin, Jill Filler, Dan Collinge, Suzie Thompson, Bobby Phipps, and Rich Dodenhoff



The Centennial Celebration included a live band and street performers.



(L→R) Harish Vasudevan (Univ. of British Columbia), Beatrice Hanaoka (Cleveland Clinic), Victoria English (Univ. of Kentucky), Vijay Sharma (Univ. of British Columbia) and Prahbhakar Nagareddy (Univ. of British Columbia) voted the street fair to be their favorite aspect of the Centennial Celebration.



Zhinan Yin (Nankai Univ.) came to Experimental Biology 2008 to visit with a friend and enjoy the keynote ASPET Centennial Symposia.

Continued on page 14...

Continued from page 13...

ASPET Party of the Century



Zany balloons and hats from the street entertainers kept everyone smiling.



Conversing with friends seldom seen was a particularly favorite part of the Centennial Celebration. (L→R) Sharon Steinsland (Galveston, Texas, USA), Paul Vanhoutte (Univ. of Hong Kong) and Walter Dixon (Univ. of Kansas)



The street was thick with people dancing, eating and visiting. (L→R) Arthur Christopoulos (Monash Univ.), Henry Lester (California Inst. of Technology), Nigel Birdsall (National Inst. for Medical Research) and Berry Birdsall (National Inst. for Medical Research)



Highlight: 60 Years of Belgian Society of Fundamental & Clinical Physiology and Pharmacology

Before the Second World War Belgian physiologists and pharmacologists met under the umbrella of the Société de Biologie, the respected scholarly society founded in 1848 by Claude Bernard and his Colleagues. Scientific communications were published in the Comptes Rendus. On 29 March 1947, less than two years after the end of the war, the Belgian Society of Physiology was founded by a group of twelve physiologists and pharmacologists from the four Belgian Universities existing at the time: the Governmental Universities of Liège (ULg) and Gent (RUG) and the Private Universities of Brussels (ULB) and Louvain (KUL/UCL). The twelve founders were: J.J. Bouckaert, C. Heymans, J. Van De Velde (RUG), Z.M. Bacq, M. Florquin, H. Frédéricq (ULg), F. Bremer, J. La Barre, P. Rylant (ULB), J.P. Bouckaert, J. Hoet, and A. Simonart (KUL/UCL).

The aim of the Society was clearly defined in the first article of the statutes: "The organization of scientific meetings during which the Belgian Physiologists (and eventually their guests) can present and bring up for discussion the results of their recent researches in the fields of physiology and pharmacology". The first meeting of the Society took place on Saturday, 22 November 1947 in the Laboratory of Physiology in Leuven at the invitation of J.P. Bouckaert. There were 4 demonstrations and 27 oral presentations on the programme. The hand-written account of the secretary, the pharmacologist A. Simonart, reported that the meeting lasted until late in the evening because the discussions had been lively and not limited in time. Accordingly, for the next meeting, held on 22 May 1948 at the invitation of C. Heymans in the Laboratory of Pharmacology in Gent, a time of fifteen minutes, including discussion, was allocated to each speaker as is still the case now. Between 1946 and 1960 two meetings were held per year but the frequency was increased to three or four per year between 1961 and 1999, to be reduced again to two per year beginning in 2000.

Society dues are used to affiliate with the European Federations of Physiology (FEPS), of Pharmacology (EPHAR) and of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (EACPT). Memberships in the International Unions of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) and Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR) are supported by the Royal Academies thanks to the National Committee for Physiology and Pharmacology of the Belgian Academies of Science, founded in 2002.

The Society held 158 meetings during the six decades of its existence (November 1947 to November 2007). The statutes of the Society stated that the meetings were to be held in turn in one of the four existing universities, and that was indeed the case until 1970. The foundation of new University Centi and the split of the two Private Universities according to French and Flemish



UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES
UNIVERSITÉ D'EUROPE



Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Continued on page 16...



FACULTÉS UNIVERSITAIRES
NOTRE-DAME DE LA PAIX
NAMUR

Université de Mons-Hainaut 
L'université à dimension humaine

60 YEARS OF BELGIAN PHYSIOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY

languages in the 1960s and 1970s increased tremendously (from four to twelve!) the number of potential meeting locations. In addition, one took place in the Research Department of Janssen Pharmaceutica (Beerse near Antwerp). From the onset the Belgian Society sought scientific contacts with sister European societies. Accordingly, some twenty “Joint Meetings” were organized between 1951 and 1997 with foreign Pharmacological and Physiological Societies (British, Dutch, French, Italian and German). Half of the joint meetings were held abroad and half in Belgium. The creation and conferences of EPHAR, EACPT and FEPS eventually replaced the individually organized joint meetings.

The principal aim of the meetings was, and still is, the presentation and discussion of the results of both experimental and clinical research in the field of Physiology and Pharmacology. Until the meeting in September 1973 this was only done through oral communications and demonstrations. The number of demonstrations decreased with time and disappeared entirely in the nineties for practical and technical reasons. By contrast, the number of communications increased with the expansion of the universities and their research groups. In order to keep the duration of the meetings within reasonable limits, poster presentations were adopted in 13 September 1973, starting with the Joint Meeting with the Dutch Societies of Physiology and Pharmacology in Gent. The poster presentations were from the outset a great success and allowed the traditional limit of 15 minute oral presentations. It is worth mentioning that since 1969 each meeting of the Society held in Belgium started with an “Invited Lecture” of 45 to 60 minutes on a contemporary subject in either physiology or pharmacology, delivered in most cases by an international speaker of prominence. These lectures have been supported since 1973 by financial aid from Belgian scientific organisations. Until 1994, reports of the Society appeared either in Archives internationales de Pharmacodynamie et de Therapie or in Archives internationales de Physiologie et de Biochimie. From 1994 until 2005 physiological abstracts appeared in Pflüger Archives and, since 2005, in Acta Physiologica, the official FEPS Journal, whereas pharmacological abstracts have been published since 1994 by Fundamental and Clinical Pharmacology, the official EPHAR Journal.

Approximately 500 scientists have been accepted as members of the Society since the founding in 1947. The Society maintains a high standard of scientific activity due to the faithful attendance of senior members, young PhDs, and graduate students. •

Theophile Godfraind and Eric Lacroix
Honorary Permanent Officers
Belgian Society of Fundamental and Clinical Physiology and Pharmacology
<http://users.ugent.be/~jvdvoord/physiology&pharmacology>



The Finnish Pharmacological Society Prepares to Celebrate its 60th Birthday

SFY Suomen Farmakologiyhdistys
Finnish Pharmacological Society

Sixty years ago a group of 14 pharmacologists met at the University of Helsinki to create a national society - the Finnish Pharmacology Society. Today, membership has grown to over 500 individuals which is quite remarkable in a country with just over 5 million citizens. Sixty years ago the impetus for creating the society was to lay the foundations for the Third Nordic Pharmacology meeting which was to be held in Helsinki in September 1949. Today, the society will also celebrate its birthday by organizing another major international meeting - the 5th International Endothelium-derived Hyperpolarizing Factor (EDHF) Symposium



(<http://www.edhf2008.org>) which will be held in Tampere in June 2008. This meeting will mark another chapter in the long history of the Finnish Pharmacology Society playing host to major congresses and conferences. In fact, senior readers may well have attended the 6th IUPHAR Congress in Helsinki in 1975.

The 1975 IUPHAR congress was memorable for a number of reasons. At the time it was the largest gathering of pharmacologists ever assembled under one roof - almost three thousand active participants with over 500 social delegates. No one in Finland had ever organized such a major scientific meeting before and the local organizing committee headed by Prof. Matti K. Paasonen had to solve innumerable logistic problems. One advantage of Helsinki was its location at a crossroads between East and West. Due to the special ties of Finland with eastern European countries, it was possible for many pharmacologists from behind the Iron Curtain to meet colleagues from the West. However, the unique location of Finland almost brought disaster to the meeting. By the beginning of 1975, a thaw in East-West relations meant that for the first time since the end of the Second World War world leaders were embarking on a process of detente. It had been decided that the signing of the so-called Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) would take place in Helsinki in the summer of 1975. The date when leaders of 35 states would descend on Helsinki was a closely guarded secret but the IUPHAR organizers realized that should that date coincide with the IUPHAR meeting, then their meeting would be abruptly canceled and five years of work would have been in vain. Fortunately, the CSCE opened on the day after the IUPHAR meeting ended and the only disruption was a few delegates had to change hotel rooms.

Continued on page 18...

The Finnish Pharmacology Society 60th Birthday



Today, there are five universities where students are taught pharmacology, with the University of Helsinki having two departments one in the

medical school and one in the faculty of pharmacy. The other departments are in the Universities of Kuopio, Oulu, Tampere and Turku. The tradition of



neuropharmacology research initiated by the grand old man of Finnish Pharmacology, Armas Vartiainen, is continued by Professors Korpi, Männistö, Tuominen (all in various Helsinki departments), and Scheinin and Koulu (Turku). Cardiovascular and metabolic

pharmacology are represented by Professors Ruskoaho (Oulu), and Mervaala and Paakkari (Helsinki). Drug metabolism research is conducted in Oulu by Professor Pelkonen

and Professors Raunio and Pasanen in Kuopio, and chairs of clinical pharmacology are held by



Professors Neuvonen (Helsinki), Huupponen (Turku), Kivistö (Tampere) and Keränen (Kuopio). Finally, the current chairperson of the society,



Professor Eeva Moilanen, heads a successful group working on immunopharmacology in Tampere.

Professor Moilanen is also the chair of the organizing committee of the EDHF symposium to be held in June this year. On the final day of this meeting the Finnish Pharmacology Society will celebrate its 60th birthday with a symposium marking sixty years of drug discovery followed by a grand dinner. In conjunction with the EDHF meeting, several distinguished pharmacologists will be in Tampere to enjoy this dinner under the midnight sun. Thus, the society looks forward to welcoming the IUPHAR past-president Paul Vanhoutte and Federation of European Pharmacological Societies (EPHAR) president Arthur Weston, and the Head of the Wolfson Institute in London, Salvador Moncada. A report on the society's 60th birthday celebrations and the EDHF Symposium will appear in a future issue of *Pharmacology International*. •

Ewen MacDonald
Finnish Pharmacological Society Vice President
<http://www.helsinki.fi/jarj/farmakologia/>

The Chilean Society for Pharmacology Is 30 Years Young and Going Strong



SOCIEDAD DE FARMACOLOGIA DE CHILE

The Chilean Society for Pharmacology was founded in December 26th, 1978 by a group of 60 members that approved the statutes. The first board of officers was elected in September 1979 and in October of the same year the Chilean Society for Pharmacology acquired official legal status (Supreme law 1396 of the Chilean Government). During the

same period the academic staff from the Universities of Chile, Concepcion, Temuco, Valparaiso, Valdivia and the Catholic University of Chile was incorporated into the Society in order to share knowledge, updates, stimulate the scientific research in pharmacological sciences and to discuss the developments in the area. The initial organizing was done by Dr. Jorge Mardones Restat, first President of the Society, who was a full professor in Pharmacology of the University of Chile and ex-ministry of Health of Chilean Government.

Since its founding, many distinguished members of the Society have participated in the generation of National Public Health policies and drug guidelines. Thus far, 14 executive boards have directed the Society overseeing the organization of 29 national scientific meetings in addition to several international meetings, conferences, workshops and courses, where Chilean researchers have presented their work.

The Chilean Pharmacology Society is currently a member of the Chilean Association of Scientific Societies, the Latin American Pharmacology Society, and a full member of IUPHAR. It also maintains permanent relationships with many other international societies around the world. At present, the Society has more than 100 individual members around the country and is characterized by its easy accessibility by undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Many members of the Society are primary researchers on grants in diverse areas of the discipline, including both government and private financial support. The main objective for the 30th anniversary is the organization of the Latin American Congress of Pharmacology between October 12th and 15th in Coquimbo, Chile (www.biologiachile.cl/socfarmch). This meeting will include scientist from all countries of Latin America and from Spain and Portugal. •

Dr. Hernan E. Lara
Chilean Pharmacolgy Society President

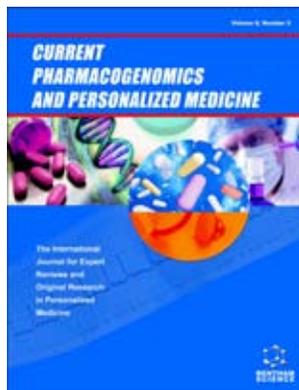


Last meeting of the Chilean Society for Pharmacology in Iquique from September 6th to 9th, 2007). L→R upper row: Gabriela Diaz-Veliz (Vice President), Sergio Mora (President 1999-2000), Hernan E. Lara (President), Isolde Rudolph (President 2003-2004), Ivan Saavedra (President 2005-2006), Sandra Nicovani (Director), Alfonso Paredes (Treasurer), Miriam Orellana (Director). L→R lower row: Ramon Sotomayor-Zarate (Secretary), Julio Benites (Local Coordinator) and Leonel Rojo (Local Coordinator).

Current Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine:

A Multidisciplinary Journal for Omics Technology Applications and
Personalized Medicine Research

The *Current Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine* (*CPPM*; formerly "*Current Pharmacogenomics*") is an international peer reviewed biomedical journal that publishes expert reviews and original research on all aspects of pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine under a single cover. The *CPPM* is the official journal of the Pacific Rim Association for Clinical Pharmacogenetics (PRACP), an IUPHAR member society. The journal is published by Bentham Science Publishers, a recognized publishing house with circulation. We would member societies to multidisciplinary forum for their most recent reviews.



The *CPPM* publishes four issues each year and now is in its sixth successful year of publication. We give priority to original ideas or new

related to personalized health interventions (e.g., pharmacogenomics, nutrigenomics, systems biology, diagnostics) and enabling omics health technologies (e.g., genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics). Integration of molecular and clinical research, social science, ethics, economics and policy dimensions in personalized medicine is highly desirable. The journal offers an exciting new option for open access publication providing the maximum dissemination of articles to the largest audience.

For *CPPM* instructions to authors, journal subscription information and the PRACP membership, we invite IUPHAR members to visit the journal website at www.bentham.org/cppm and the PRACP society home page at <http://www.med.niigata-u.ac.jp/psy/PRACP>. An important benefit of the PRACP membership is the significantly reduced subscription rate to the *CPPM*, for both online and print editions, offered by the Bentham Science Publishers.

We thank you in advance for your interest and possible contribution to the *CPPM*. We look forward to hearing from you. •

Toshiyuki Someya¹ and Vural Ozdemir²
Current Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine Editors-in-Chief

¹Niigata University Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences,
Niigata, Japan (psy@med.niigata-u.ac.jp)

²Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada (vural.ozdemir@umontreal.ca)

International Funding Opportunity

ICSU-TWAS-UNESCO-UNU/IAS Visiting Scientist Programme

What is TWAS?

TWAS, the academy of sciences for the developing world – www.twas.org – is an autonomous international organization founded in Trieste, Italy, in 1983. TWAS represents the best of science in the developing world. Its principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for sustainable development in the South. Since 1986, TWAS has been supporting scientists and institutions in developing countries through a wide range of programs that focus on scientific capacity building.

The administration and financial operation of TWAS is undertaken by UNESCO in accordance with an agreement signed by the two organizations.

General Information on the Program

Partners in the Visiting Scientist program, which is administered by TWAS, are:

- The International Council for Science (ICSU) - www.icsu.org
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - www.unesco.org
- The United Nations University - Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS) - www.ias.unu.edu

1. The ICSU-TWAS-UNESCO-UNU/IAS Visiting Scientist program supports visits of internationally renowned scientists to institutions located in developing countries, especially those located in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).¹
2. The objective of the program is to provide institutions and research groups in developing countries, **especially those with limited outside contacts**, with the opportunity to establish long-term links with world leaders in science and so help develop capacity-building in their country.
3. Under the program, prospective host institutions can invite internationally renowned experts in areas of science other than mathematics and physics to collaborate in research and training. The visiting scientist will be expected to interact closely with faculty and students of the host institution with the aim of strengthening its existing activities and/or assisting in the establishment of new lines of research. The visiting scientist could also deliver lectures and seminars to research students, supervise students, conduct research and discuss future collaborative partnerships.
4. The visit should have a minimum stay of two weeks at the host institution. Applications to renew successful visits will be considered in the following year(s). The sponsoring organizations, through TWAS, will provide the Visiting Scientist with the most direct economy class travel (round-trip). An honorarium of US\$500 is provided by the sponsoring organizations, while the host institution is expected to cover local expenses.
5. On completion of the visit, the visiting scientist and the host institution should provide comprehensive reports outlining the impact the visit has had on the educational and research programs of the host institution.
6. Institutions wishing to be considered for this program should fill in the request form also available from the TWAS and ICSU secretariats and via Internet: www.twas.org and www.icsu.org. As the program is striving towards providing equal opportunities, nominations of women will be particularly welcomed. Only persons who have attained international recognition in their fields of science will be considered for support under this program.

¹The group of LDCs currently comprises 50 countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo [formerly Zaire], Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia.

**APPLICATIONS MUST ARRIVE IN TWAS OFFICE
NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1ST, 2008**

TWAS, *the academy of sciences for the developing world*

ICTP Campus, Strada Costiera 11, 34014 Trieste, Italy.

Phone: +39 040 2240387 - Fax: +39 040 2240689

E-Mail: exchanges@twas.org - Web: www.twas.org

Upcoming Events

July

17th International Symposium on Microsomes and Drug Oxidations

Saratoga, New York, USA

July 6 - 10, 2008

<http://mdo2008.org>

The Congress of the Federation of European Pharmacological Societies (EPHAR 2008) hosted by the British Pharmacological Society

Manchester, England, United Kingdom

July 13 - 17, 2008

<http://www.epharm2008.org>

Annual Meeting of the Serotonin Club in conjunction with EPHAR 2008

Oxford, England, United Kingdom

July 17 - 20, 2008

<http://www.serotoninclub.org>

9th World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (CPT2008) sponsored by IUPHAR Division of Clinical Pharmacology

Québec City, Québec, Canada

July 27 - August 1, 2008

<http://www.cpt2008.org>

August

7th International Bern Summer School on Inflammation, Immunomodulation, and Inspiration, sponsored by the Swiss Societies of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Experimental Pharmacology, and Allergology and Immunology

Bönigen, Switzerland

August 10 - 12, 2008

Send inquiries to anita.daehler@pki.unibe.ch

6th James Black Conference - New Pain Concepts and Future Treatments sponsored by the British Pharmacological Society

St. Andrews, Scotland, UK

August 16 - 17, 2008

<http://www.bps.ac.uk/site/cms/contentCategoryView.asp?category=258>

21st Congress of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology

Barcelona, Spain

August 30 - September 3, 2008

www.ecnp.eu

Designed by Anry www.anryhome.com

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

MO	7	14	21	28
TU	1	8	15	22
WE	2	9	16	23
TH	3	10	17	24
FR	4	11	18	25
SA	5	12	19	26
SU	6	13	20	27

September

37th Annual Meeting of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
September 14 - 16, 2008

<http://www.accp1.org>

FEBRUARY

MO	4	11	18	25
TU	5	12	19	26
WE	6	13	20	27
TH	7	14	21	28
FR	1	8	15	22
SA	2	9	16	23
SU	3	10	17	24

MARCH

MO	1	8	15	22
TU	4	11	18	25
WE	5	12	19	26
TH	6	13	20	27
FR	7	14	21	28
SA	2	9	16	23
SU	3	10	17	24

Sao Paulo Research Conference on "Molecular Medicine Pharmacogenetics"
sponsored by the IUPHAR Section on Pharmacogenetics

São Paulo, Brazil
September 18 - 22, 2008

<http://www.eventus.com.br/bioconferences>

2008 Annual Meeting of the Safety Pharmacology Society

Madison, Wisconsin, USA
September 22 - 25, 2008

<http://www.safetypharmacology.org/am2008>

JUNE

MO	2	9	16	23
TU	3	10	17	24
WE	4	11	18	25
TH	5	12	19	26
FR	6	13	20	27
SA	7	14	21	28
SU	8	15	22	29

MO	5	12	19	26
TU	6	13	20	27
WE	7	14	21	28
TH	1	8	15	22
FR	2	9	16	23
SA	3	10	17	24
SU	4	11	18	25

MO	30	2	9	16
TU		3	10	17
WE		4	11	18
TH		5	12	19
FR		6	13	20
SA		7	14	21
SU		1	8	15

October

Focused Meeting: Lysophospholipid Receptors, Role in Health and Disease
sponsored by the British Pharmacological Society

West Sussex, United Kingdom
October 1 - 2, 2008

<http://www.bps.ac.uk/site/cms/contentCategoryView.asp?category=258>

8th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Pharmacovigilance:
Strategies for Developing Pharmacovigilance

Buenos Aires, Argentina
October 5 - 8, 2008

<http://www.isoonline.org/annual-meeting.html>

**International Symposium on Drug Discovery and Development for
Gastrointestinal Tract and Liver Diseases presented by the IUPHAR
Gastrointestinal Pharmacology Section**

Nanjing, P.R. China
October 12 - 14, 2008

<http://www.iuphar-gi.org>

**18th Congress of Latin American Association of Pharmacology and 30th
Congress of the Chilean Society of Pharmacology**

Coquimbo, Chile
October 12 - 16, 2008

<http://biologicachile.cl/socfarmch>

MO	1	8	15	22
TU	2	9	16	23
WE	3	10	17	24
TH	4	11	18	25
FR	5	12	19	26
SA	6	13	20	27
SU	7	14	21	28

MO	4	11	18	25
TU	5	12	19	26
WE	6	13	20	27
TH	7	14	21	28
FR	1	8	15	22
SA	2	9	16	23
SU	3	10	17	24

MO	1	8	15	22
TU	2	9	16	23
WE	3	10	17	24
TH	4	11	18	25
FR	5	12	19	26
SA	6	13	20	27
SU	7	14	21	28

MO	6	13	20	27
TU	7	14	21	28
WE	1	8	15	22
TH	2	9	16	23
FR	3	10	17	24
SA	4	11	18	25
SU	5	12	19	26

MO	3	10	17	24
TU	4	11	18	25
WE	5	12	19	26
TH	6	13	20	27
FR	7	14	21	28
SA	1	8	15	22
SU	2	9	16	23

MO	1	8	15	22
TU	2	9	16	23
WE	3	10	17	24
TH	4	11	18	25
FR	5	12	19	26
SA	6	13	20	27
SU	7	14	21	28



2008

Upcoming Events

November

60th Anniversary Celebration of the Korean Society of Pharmacology

Bexco, Busan, Republic of Korea
November 6 - 7, 2008

<http://www.kosphar.or.kr>

18th Neuropharmacology Conference in association with NC-IUPHAR as a satellite meeting to Neuroscience 2008

Washington DC, USA

November 12 - 14, 2008

<http://www.neuropharmacology-conference.elsevier.com>

Annual meeting of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists in conjunction with the Australian Health and Medical Research Conference

Brisbane, Australia

November 16 - 21, 2008

www.ahmrcongress.org.au/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

Riksstämman 2008 - annual meeting of the Swedish Society of Medicine and Centennial Celebration of the Swedish Section for Pharmacology

Göteborg, Sweden

November 26 - 28, 2008

<http://nemonet.swefair.se/templates/FlexiblePage165525.aspx>

8th National Congress of Pharmacology and Therapeutics (CENTROFARMACOL 2008) and the 2nd National Workshop on Clinical Pharmaceutical Services (SERVIFARMA 2008) sponsored by the Cuban Society of Pharmacology

Santa Clara, Cuba

November 26 - 29, 2008

Send inquiries to servifarma@iscm.vcl.sld.cu

December

Winter Meeting of the British Pharmacological Society

Brighton, United Kingdom

December 16 - 18, 2008

www.bps.ac.uk/site/cms/contentCategoryView.asp?category=258

International Conference on Translational Pharmacology and 41st Annual Conference of the Indian Pharmacological Society

New Dehli, India

December 18 - 20, 2008

Send inquiries to ips2008.aiims@gmail.com

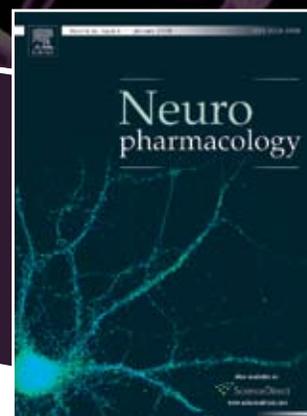
LIGAND-GATED ION CHANNELS

18th Neuropharmacology Conference

IN ASSOCIATION WITH IUPHAR

November 12-14, 2008 | Washington DC, USA

Satellite to the 2008 meeting of the Society for Neuroscience



DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION

Register by **September 15, 2008** for reduced delegate fees.

Coverage includes: Ionotropic glutamate receptors • GABA_A receptors • Glycine receptors • Nicotinic ACh receptors • P2X receptors • 5-HT₃ receptors.

INVITED SPEAKERS

Heinrich Betz, *Germany*
Jean-Pierre Changeux, *France*
Graham Collingridge, *UK*
Daniel Choquet, *France*
Cindy Czajkowski, *USA*
Richard Evans, *UK*
David Jane, *UK*
Michael Jarvis, *USA*
Bal Khakh, *USA*
Juan Lerma, *Spain*
Robin Lester, *USA*
David Lodge, *UK*
Sarah Lummis, *UK*
Joe Lynch, *Australia*
Bob MacDonald, *USA*

Husseini Manji, *USA*
Mark Mayer, *USA*
Neil Millar, *UK*
Christophe Mulle, *France*
Roger Nicoll, *USA*
Richard Olsen, *USA*
Chris Parsons, *Germany*
John Peters, *UK*
Uwe Rudolph, *USA*
Peter Seeburg, *Germany*
Trevor Smart, *UK*
Michael Spedding, *France*
Martin Wallner, *USA*
Susanne Zukin, *USA*

ORGANIZED BY



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

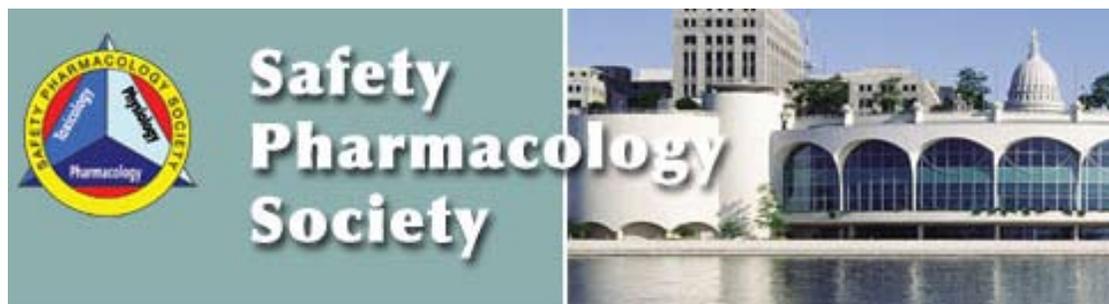


Conference Secretariat

Tel: +44 1865 843089

Email: ch.wilkins@elsevier.com

www.neuropharmacology-conference.elsevier.com



Dr. Craig January, internationally recognized clinician-scientist in arrhythmia, will be the Keynote Speaker at the **Safety Pharmacology Society Annual Meeting to be held in Madison, Wisconsin, USA, September 22-25, 2008**. This year's meeting will offer a variety of new cutting-edge topics including a half-day session dedicated to the complexities of developing biologic molecules. To learn more about the Annual Meeting agenda and to register for the meeting, please visit the SPS Annual Meeting Web site at: <http://www.safetypharmacology.org/am2008>.

Continuing Education courses will also be offered the day prior to the meeting. The meeting will be a great opportunity for you to expand your knowledge base about safety pharmacology and network with colleagues from around the globe. We are a very friendly Society and truly welcome new faces from around the world. We rotate the meeting venues to seek out a slightly new target audience with our programs reflecting the scientific focus and training needs of the host industries nearby. We cordially invite you to become a member, get involved in our ongoing activities and join us in Madison, Wisconsin for our 8th Annual SPS Meeting this September!

As well as three parallel scientific sessions, we have some additional activities during the SPS Annual Meeting. These include the Society's Opening Reception at the conclusion of the Continuing Education Courses in addition to Junior Travel Awards, invited Oral Communications, new Posters (by online submission); plus the winner of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award. The SPS exhibitors provide attendees with information about the latest technologies and services available in the safety pharmacology field.

We are earnestly seeking corporations and businesses to assist our Society's financial future scientific activities by means of a financial donation in the run-up to the Annual Meeting. Those new and established partners who wish to donate should contact our AIM Executive colleagues based in Reston, Virginia - they can work with you to define the process that suits your business needs plus the specific level of contribution you wish to provide amongst the many 2008 donation levels.

With very best wishes on behalf of the 2008 Safety Pharmacology Society Board of Directors, we very much look forward to seeing you in Madison in September. •

Ian MacKenzie
Safety Pharmacology Society President

Richard Briscoe
Vice President and Program Chair



Molecular Medicine – Pharmacogenetics

Co-sponsored by the IUPHAR Section on Pharmacogenetics

Featuring Professor Oliver Smithies, 2007 Nobel Prize winner

September 18-20, 2008

Rebouças Convention Center, São Paulo, Brazil

<http://www.eventus.com.br/bioconferences/sprc11/default.asp?action=programa>

All Scientific Sessions in English



*International
Conference*



*on
Translational Pharmacology*

&

41st Annual Conference

of

Indian Pharmacological Society

December 18-20, 2008

Theme

Concept to Clinic



**Department of Pharmacology
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
New Delhi, India**

Dear Colleagues,

The 41st Annual Conference of the Indian Pharmacological Society (IPS) is being organized at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. The emphasis will be on the contemporary issues in Basic Pharmacology, Toxicology, Clinical Research and Herbal Medicines. There will be brainstorming sessions on issues of concern in the national scenario such as pharmacology curriculum, use of large animals, etc.

The laboratory research in drug development is only worthwhile when it is translated into drugs for masses or drugs for incurable diseases and in this process, the academic institutions, scientific laboratories and drug industries, all play a crucial role.

With this background, the annual conference of IPS has been clubbed with **International Conference on Translational Pharmacology**. Several leading national and international experts have already consented to attend and deliberate.

To attract the young pharmacologists, special programs like national quiz program, round table dinner discussion groups with dignitaries are being arranged.

Pre conference workshops on different themes for a limited number of young participants have also been planned.

We cordially invite all of you in the cold to the warm weather of Delhi.

YK Gupta
Organizing Secretary



The British Pharmacological Society Gears Up for Another Great Year of Conferences

6th James Black Conference

The 6th James Black Conference: New Pain Concepts and Future Treatments will be held at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland from the 16 – 17 August 2008. The aim of the conference is to present cutting edge research on pain mechanisms in relation to novel analgesics. Since many promising results for preclinical candidates are not replicated in human studies, a major objective is to discuss the source of these discrepancies, and identify strategies for successful translation to the clinic. The focus will be on new pain therapies in the clinical phase of development, and new classes of compounds which target unmet clinical needs.

To view the full programme, register or submit an abstract please visit the BPS website (www.bps.ac.uk).



British Pharmacological Society



Focused Meeting: Lysophospholipid Receptors

The BPS Focused Meeting Lysophospholipid Receptors, Role in Health and Disease will be held at the Novartis Horsham Research Centre & Effingham Park Hotel, West Sussex from 1 – 2 October 2008. Topics to be covered include:

- Molecular pharmacology of phospholipids
- Metabolism of phospholipids
- Phospholipids and cellular activation
- Phospholipids in disease

To view the full programme, register or submit an abstract please visit the BPS website at www.bps.ac.uk.

BPS Winter Meeting

The BPS Winter Meeting will be held at the Hilton Metropole Hotel in Brighton from the 16 – 18 December 2008.

Confirmed symposia include:

- Pattern recognition receptors as therapeutic targets for disease
- Regulators of gene expression as new therapeutic targets
- Disposition and safety of biopharmaceuticals
- Receptor structure/function studies and drug design
- Obesity
- Pharmacogenomics: from drug development to clinical application
- Molecular pharmacology of Cys-loop receptors
- Cytokines, depression and 5-HT
- Mending a broken heart: Advances and challenges of stem cell therapy

Online registration and abstract submission will open on the BPS website (www.bps.ac.uk) on 4 September 2008.



Meeting Reports

International Conference on Pharmacogenomics & 14th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Rim Association for Clinical Pharmacogenetics

The 2008 International Conference on Pharmacogenomics was held in Busan, Republic of Korea, on April 9-11, 2008. This was the 5th Annual International Conference on Pharmacogenomics organized by the Pharmacogenomics Research Center, Inje University (PGRC, Director, Jae-Gook Shin) and the Korean Pharmacogenomics Research Network (KPRN, Network Leader, Sang-Goo Shin) since the inaugural conference held in 2004. The 2008 International Conference on Pharmacogenomics was jointly organized with the 14th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Rim Association for Clinical Pharmacogenetics (PRACP). The conference was Co-Chaired by Professor Sang-Goo Shin (Seoul National University) and Professor Min-Soo Lee (Korea University). The conference attracted a large participation from academic scientists, trainees in personalized medicine research, clinicians, regulatory experts, social scientists, biomedical publishing companies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry representatives. The Organizing Committee (Executive Chair: Jae-Gook Shin, Inje University) developed an outstanding scientific program in close collaboration with the Pharmacogenetics Research Network (PGRN, Rochelle M. Long, NIH; and Eileen Dolan, University of Chicago).



Professor Min-Soo Lee welcomed the Conference participants.



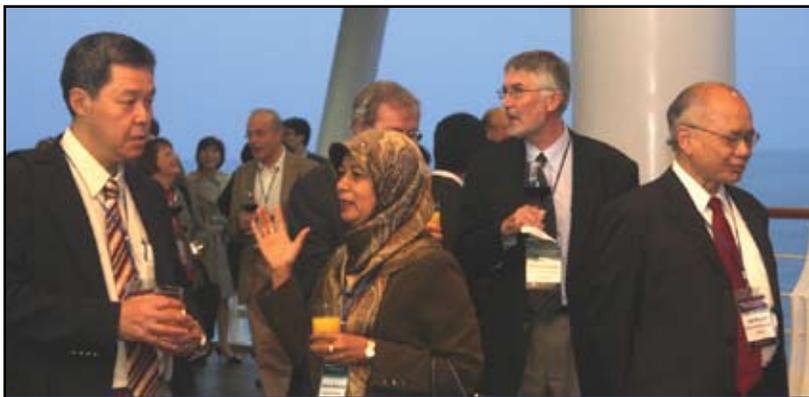
Over 650 participants from 20 countries (from Asia, North America, Europe, Middle East and other global regions) were present at the conference, with 48 speakers across 11 symposia, and 191 poster presentations that collectively made for an exciting and very informative scientific program. This was complemented by four State-of-the-Art Plenary Lectures. Professor Michel Eichelbaum opened the conference with the Plenary Lecture on "Pharmacogenomics in the Translational Research and Personalized Medicine". Other Plenary Lectures were delivered by Dr. Lawrence J. Lesko ("Successes in Pharmacogenomics: Progress to Date and Future Opportunities"), Professor Siegfried Kasper ("Integrated Approach in the Treatment of Depression and Anxiety Disorder") and Professor Dan M. Roden ("Pharmacogenetic Approaches to the Study of Abnormal Cardiac Rhythm").

Continued on page 31...

Continued from page 30...

2008 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PHARMACOGENOMICS

An important theme in the conference was on translational research in pharmacogenomics to bridge the gap between molecular discoveries and applications at the bedside. To this end, Professor Toshiyuki Someya (PRACP President) emphasized the unique focus of the PRACP on (1) population pharmacogenetics and (2) translational clinical pharmacogenetics. As pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine research become increasingly global, the spirit towards international collaborations was self-evident among the conference participants. In addition, the exciting social program made for an excellent opportunity to establish new friendships, sustain and enrich the existing collaborations among different stakeholders in pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine.



Farewell Dinner in Nurimar, the venue for the 2005 Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit. L→R: Edmund Jon Deoon Lee (National University of Singapore, Singapore), Zahurin Mohamed (University of Malaya, Malaysia), Andrew Somogyi (University of Adelaide, Australia), and Keh-Ming Lin (National Health Research Institutes, Taiwan)

Presentations from the conference are now available at the conference web site (<http://www.pgx2008.org>). These include slides (in a pdf format) from speakers who previously agreed to release their presentation file to the organizing committee and the scientific community. Importantly, the photos from the conference are also available on this conference web site for your enjoyment. The PRACP meeting report by Dr. Toshiyuki Someya is uploaded separately on the PRACP Society web page (<http://www.med.niigata-u.ac.jp/psy/PRACP>).

At the 2008 International Conference on Pharmacogenomics, Professor Leif Bertilsson (Karolinska Institute, Sweden) and colleagues recognized the enduring and enormous contributions made to the field of pharmacogenetics by Professor Werner Kalow who passed away in early 2008. Professor Kalow was one of the founders of the PRACP and the study of the population-to-population differences in pharmacogenetics. A tribute in memory of his work and contributions will be posted on the PRACP web page by Vural Ozdemir (PRACP Secretary) later in 2008.



Some of the conference participants were invited for a photograph during the Korean Traditional Dance Performance at the Conference Banquet. L→R: Ken-ichi Inui (Kyoto University Hospital, Japan), Hong-Hao Zhou (Central South University, China), Peter Honig (Merck Research Laboratories, USA), David A. Flockhart (Indiana University, USA), Lawrence J. Lesko (FDA, USA), Sang-Goo Shin (Seoul National University, Korea), Takashi Ishizaki (Hamamatsu University, Japan), Dan M. Roden (Vanderbilt University, USA), Leif Bertilsson (Karolinska University Hospital, Sweden), and Zeruesenay Desta (Indiana University, USA)

Continued on page 32...

2008 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PHARMACOGENOMICS



Conference participants at the Plenary Session

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all of the distinguished speakers for their outstanding presentations and attendance at the 2008 International Conference on Pharmacogenomics and the 14th Annual Meeting of the PRACP. There remains much to be accomplished in the field of pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine. However, we view this as an exciting challenge that can only be met with long term commitment and international collaborations. The 2008 International Conference on Pharmacogenomics & the 14th Annual Meeting of the PRACP were a meaningful and significant step on this arduous path to personalized medicine. •

Jae-Gook Shin, Min-Soo Lee, Sang-Goo Shin,
Toshiyuki Someya, and Vural Ozdemir
on behalf of the Organizing Committee
<http://www.med.niigata-u.ac.jp/psy/PRACP>



A group of invited speakers outside the BEXCO Convention Hall in Busan L→R: In-Jin Jang (Seoul National University, Korea), Sang-Goo Shin (Seoul National University, Korea), Alan R. Shuldiner (University of Maryland, USA), David A. Flockhart (Indiana University, USA), Dan M. Roden (Vanderbilt University, USA), Rochelle M. Long (NIH, USA), Zeruesenay Desta (Indiana University, USA), Jae-Gook Shin (Inje University, Korea), Issam Zineh (University of Florida, USA), and Sang Heon Cho (Seoul National University, Korea)



Meeting Reports

IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008

**1st International Workshop of ImmunoPharmacology
5th International Workshop of Inflammation & Pain
1st International Workshop of Neuroimmunology, and
1st International Symposium of Cytochrome P450 Pharmacology**



The Opening Ceremony was presented by Dr. Lorenzo Somarriba, vice-minister of Cuban Public Health

During April 19th – 22nd, 2008 the Cuban Society of Pharmacology held IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008, at Varadero Beach, Cuba. The Opening Remarks were delivered by Prof. Hartmut Wekerle, President of the International Society of Neuroimmunology (Germany), who spoke on autoimmune pathogenesis in multiple sclerosis. Dr. Silvio Perea (Cuba) updated participants with the latest research in protein kinases as promising pharmacological targets for cancer therapeutics and the development of CIGB-300 as a novel proapoptotic synthetic peptide that impairs the protein kinase CK2-mediated phosphorylation. Dr. Angus Dagleish (United Kingdom) reported on the immunotherapy of cancer as being more than just antibodies and vaccines in the importance of synergy and sequential management in cancer.



Dr. Silvio Perea (Cuba) served as President of the Organizing Committee of Inflammation & Pain.

IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008 offered a superior scientific program:

- 16 Plenary lectures
- 55 Lectures divided into 14 workshops on immunopharmacology, 13 on inflammation & pain, 17 in neuroimmunology, and 11 symposia focusing on cytochrome P450
- 120 Posters were presented with half representing immunopharmacology, and the rest concerning inflammation & pain, neuroimmunology, and cytochrome P450. Seventeen awards were presented to the best investigators. For a complete list of winners, please visit <http://www.scf.sld.cu/impharmacology08/impharmacology08.htm>.



Seventeen awards were presented during the poster sessions for the best investigations in the categories of Immunopharmacology, Inflammation & Pain, Cytochrome P450, and Neuroimmunology. Continued on page 34...

IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008



IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008 featured the 1st International Symposium on Cytochrome P450 Pharmacology. The lecturers and participants of this forum included (L→R) Genaro G. Ortiz (Mexico), Adrián Llerena (Spain), William Casley (Canada), Diadelis Remirez (Cuba), Javier Espinosa (Mexico), Juan C. Sepúlveda (Colombia), Idania Rodeiro (Cuba, president of the Organizing Committee of this symposium), Graham Robertson (Australia), Usoa Busto (Canada), Ioanna Martínez (Cuba), and Bárbaro Pérez (Cuba).

The plenary lectures included presentations from predominant Cuban immunopharmacology research institutions such as the Center of Toxicological and Biomedical Investigation (TOXIMED) from Santiago de Cuba, the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (CIGB), the Center of Molecular Immunology (CIM), the Finlay Institute, the Center of Pharmaceutical Chemistry (CQF) and the International Center of Neurological Restoration (CIREN) from Havana.

More than 190 research projects were presented among the lectures, plenary lectures and poster presentations in addition to the debate, the analyses, and reciprocal exchange of pertinent information. This high level of interchange allowed institutions from 20 countries to share their acquired knowledge, reinforcing the need to continue the search for new solutions and medicines stemming from, and related to, immunopharmacology.



Dr. Maria A. Robinson (Cuba) served as President of the Organizing Committee of Neuroimmunology Workshops.



Dr. Gabino Garrido (Cuba), President of the Scientific Committee, highlighted the interesting attributes of the scientific program.

The Closing Plenary was led by Prof. Jack Antel (Canada) who summarized the most recent findings on the mechanisms of immune mediated injury and repair in the central nervous system. Dr.

Continued on page 35...

IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008



Dr. René Delgado (Cuba), President of the Organizing Committee, welcomed the delegates and offered closing remarks.

Gregorio Martínez presented an alternative approach to autoimmune mechanisms in neurodegenerative disease therapy. Dr. Rolando Pérez (Cuba) reported on ganglioside-based cancer immunotherapy and two vaccination approaches. Dr. René Delgado concluded with a lecture about the current state of immunopharmacological research in Cuba including a perspective on its impact on the Cuban health care system.

The conference included 81 participants from such diverse countries as Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Republic of South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Taiwan, Turkey, the United States, the United Kingdom and Venezuela. Their presence and quality presentations left an indelible mark on the history of IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008.



Around 200 delegates from 20 countries participated. The Brazilian delegates were among the most numerous represented at the Congress.

Around 120 Cuban scientists from universities, medical science facilities, investigation institutes, assistance centers, and hospitals participated in the event. This large representation signifies a qualitative jump for the Cuban Society of Pharmacology and demonstrates the realization of the Society's goals and strategies aimed at developing integration, collaboration and professional science advancement for those working in this important field in Cuba.

IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY 2008 was an exceptional opportunity to enhance the knowledge, scientific exchange, and on-going collaboration among professionals that devote their daily activity to the field of the pharmacological sciences and, most particularly, in the disciplines of immunopharmacology, inflammation, pain, neuroimmunology and cytochrome P450.

Gabino Garrido
Scientific Committee President
Cuban Society of Pharmacology
<http://www.scf.sld.cu>



Dr. Mario L. Chovel (Cuba) served as President of the Organizing Committee of Immunopharmacology Workshops.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. S.J. Enna, Secretary-General

Editorial Board



The IUPHAR Executive Committee serves as the Editorial Board for Pharmacology International. Clockwise beginning in lower left: Drs. Mohamed Khayyal, Petra Thürmann, Sérgio Ferreira, Zhi-Bin Lin, David Webb, Sue Duckles, S. J. Enna, Paul Vanhoutte, Salomon Langer, Kim Brøsen, Gabrielle Hawskworth, Masayoshi Mishina, Donald Birkett, Urs Ruegg, and Patrick du Souich

Donald Birkett	Australia	Salomon Langer	Israel
Kim Brøsen	Denmark	Zhi-Bin Lin	PR China
Patrick du Souich	Canada	Masayoshi Mishina	Japan
Sue Piper Duckles	USA	Urs Ruegg	Switzerland
Sérgio Ferreira	Brazil	Petra Thürmann	Germany
Gabrielle Hawskworth	UK	Paul Vanhoutte	PR China
Mohamed Khayyal	Egypt	David Webb	UK

Published by

IUPHAR Administrative Office
University of Kansas Medical Center
3901 Rainbow Blvd., 1018 Smith East
Kansas City, Kansas 66160 USA

Tel: 1.913.588.7533

Fax: 1.913.588.7373

iuphar@kumc.edu

www.iuphar.org



Dr. Enna's office L→R: Lynn LeCount, Leigh Ann Arbuckle, Cindy Martin and S. J. Enna

Contributions:

We welcome contributions from member societies, divisions, and sections. Please submit articles and photographs to iuphar@kumc.edu.

Membership:

The members of IUPHAR are national, international, and special research interest societies. If you are an individual, please visit www.iuphar.org for additional information on the societies you may be interested in joining.

ISSN 1462-9941

© 2008 IUPHAR

All Rights Reserved