

Pharmacology International

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BPS CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY WITH £120,000 GIFT TO NC-IUPHAR

The British Pharmacological Society (BPS) has awarded a three year grant to IUPHAR from its Anniversary Strategic Initiatives Fund to support the database work of NC-IUPHAR. Announcing the award, Graeme Henderson, President of the British Pharmacological Society, commented, "The British Pharmacological Society considers the work of NC-IUPHAR to be essential to the future of the discipline of pharmacology. The database is an encyclopaedic resource of information on the pharmacology of receptors and ion channels freely available to the scientific community world-wide. We are pleased that our financial assistance to NC-IUPHAR will ensure the continuing work of the database team in Edinburgh."

The IUPHAR Receptor Database (www.iuphar-db.org), is a major initiative of NC-IUPHAR to create a public, peer-reviewed database of information on G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). The database is a "one stop shop" for information on the pharmacology, genomics, functions and anatomical distribution of GPCRs. It receives over 60,000 hits (9,000 visits) per month from students and scientists engaged in research and teaching of Pharmacology. More than 40% of the medicinal drugs in current use, many drugs of abuse, and an estimated 20% of all future likely drug targets are members of three relatively small families of proteins: GPCRs, ion channels and nuclear hormone receptors.

Work on the GPCRs is almost complete and a new database of the ~143 mammalian voltage-gated ion channels, edited by world

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The IUPHAR database team in Edinburgh L→R: Rebecca Hills (database curator), Martin Jones (database developer), Joseph Coulson (locum database curator), and Tony Harmar

experts Bill Catterall (University of Washington) and George Gutman (University of California, Irvine), is well underway. In 2008, work will begin on the 48 nuclear hormone receptors, with the guidance of Dr. Vincent Laudet (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon). Dr. Laudet edited a compendium on nuclear hormone receptors that was distributed to all participants at the 15th World Congress of Pharmacology (IUPHAR2006) in Beijing. To ensure consistency of nomenclature of genes, drugs and receptor-related enzymes, close links are maintained with the HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (HGNC), the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), and the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB).

In addition to the generous award from the British Pharmacological Society, the work of NC-IUPHAR is supported by UNESCO, Novartis, GlaxoSmithKline, Servier, and Wyeth.

IUPHAR Secretary-General S.J. Enna stated, "The Union is greatly indebted to the British Pharmacological Society for this generous donation. This gift helps ensure that Drs. Spedding and Harmar and their international team of scientific experts are able to continue this important work on behalf of the entire scientific community."

NC-IUPHAR Chairman Michael Spedding concluded, "This is a very important grant which will keep the database available as a world-wide resource for drug discovery and pharmacology research and teaching. The impact of drugs and also environmental poisons on human receptors is a key factor for human health. Freely available information on this, linked to many other databases, is a very important resource. Tony Harmar's team has done a great job and we are very grateful to the BPS for the funding." ●



Some of the NC-IUPHAR Committee Members L → R: Richard Olsen, Anthony Davenport, Philippe Delagrangé, Michael Spedding, Urs Ruegg, Tom Bonner, Igor Goryanin (guest), Rick Neubig, Rebecca Hills, Colin Dollery, Sue Duckles, John Peters, Steven Foord, and Tony Harmar.

Looking for a job?

Looking for a pharmacologist?

IUPHAR has the solution!

[HTTP://CAREERS.IUPHAR.ORG](http://careers.iuphar.org)

As part of our on-going efforts to provide better resources and services for members,

IUPHAR is pleased to announce the international launch of the

IUPHAR Career Center on

July 2nd, 2007.

**FREE Job Postings
in July and August**



This service is always free for job applicants. If you're seeking employment, then try the Personal Job Alert. Select your desired job functions, industries, states (USA and Canada), and/or countries to receive notifications when positions fitting these descriptions become available.

Job seekers will appreciate the Career Resources link that provides tips from experts, plus solutions to Frequently Asked Questions (example, How do I respond when the employer asks, "What are your salary requirements?"). A Content Library is available to guide you through the hundreds of websites offering advice on creating a résumé or curriculum vita. Of course, the posting of résumés and *curriculum vitae* is always free and anonymous.

To introduce employers to the range of services offered, there will be no cost for job positions advertised during July and August. This site provides the unique option of including free-format questions as a part of the application process to help gauge the writing and language skills of candidates. Weighted averages can be assigned to pertinent skills and/or specialized experience to bring the most highly qualified applicants to the top of the applicant list. Résumés and curriculum vitae posted by anonymous job seekers can be purchased on an individual basis if selective recruitment is preferred.

Societies that belong to IUPHAR and wish to enhance revenue through job postings are invited to create a Career Center for their own members at no charge. All transactions are in English and US dollars. Contact iuphar@kumc.edu for further information. •

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WINNERS CHOSEN FOR NIDA-IUPHAR YOUNG INVESTIGATOR TRAVEL AWARDS

The United States National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is again presenting an all-day satellite mini-convention on Friday, November 2nd, 2007 entitled "Frontiers in Addiction Research". This symposium will be held in conjunction with the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) meeting in San Diego, CA. Every year NIDA and IUPHAR co-sponsor three international early career investigators to participate in the poster session. Each is awarded US\$1,000 towards travel expenses. The recipients are scientists who have demonstrated excellence in their areas of research. This year the winners are:

Dr. Fabio Fumagalli, the Department of Pharmacological Sciences of the University of Milan, was nominated by the Italian Society of Pharmacology. His studies on the mechanisms of action of psychotropic and psychostimulant drugs have earned prior awards, including the Italian prize, Gruppo S.I.M.S., and the Galeno Prize for Pharmaceutical Research. Dr. Fumagalli's current work on the role of BDNF on the long-term effect of action of cocaine will be presented in San Diego.



Dr. Kimmo Jensen, the Department of Physiology of the University of Aarhus, was nominated by the Danish Society for Pharmacology and Toxicology. Dr. Jensen's studies have focused primarily on the pharmacology of GABA receptors, with particular emphasis on examining the electrophysiological effects of drugs of abuse in the rat neocortex. Most recently he has been examining the abuse of γ -hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and structurally-related drugs.



Dr. Naoko Kuzumaki, the Hoshi University School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, was nominated by the Japanese Society of Pharmacology. Her research focuses on how drugs of abuse induce differentiation in neural stem cells. Dr. Kuzumaki is a past recipient of the Young Scientist Award at the Japanese Forum on Nicotine and Drug Dependence Studies in recognition of her contributions to the field.



The program for "Frontiers in Addiction Research" will showcase recent findings and provide a forum for discussing future directions for research on drug abuse and addiction. The mini-

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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION UPDATE

Clinical Pharmacology Division

At its 120th session in January 2007, the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) endorsed continuing its association with the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology. The board complimented IUPHAR for its dedication to the work of WHO. The WHO designated technical officer for the IUPHAR is Dr. Lembit Rägo, former professor of clinical pharmacology at Tartu University, Estonia. Dr. Rägo and Prof. Folke Sjöqvist, the IUPHAR representative for WHO, met in Geneva to discuss priorities. These include:

- a) Further development of a core curriculum in clinical pharmacology
- b) Renewal/update of the WHO recommendations on clinical pharmacology (WHO Technical Report Series No. 446, 1970, Clinical Pharmacology. Scope, organization, training: Report of a WHO Study Group)
- c) Preparation of a mailing list of all individual clinical pharmacologists in the various IUPHAR societies
- d) IUPHAR member involvement in the preparation of articles for WHO Drug Information quarterly bulletin (www.who.int/druginformation)

Two of the subcommittees of the IUPHAR Clinical Pharmacology Division are also collaborating with WHO. These include the subcommittee on clinical pharmacology in developing countries, chaired by Prof. Lars L. Gustafsson, and the subcommittee on pediatric clinical pharmacology, chaired by Prof. Kalle Hoppu. (See page 6.) •

Prof. Folke Sjöqvist, IUPHAR Liaison to WHO

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NIDA-IUPHAR TRAVEL AWARDS

convention includes four symposia, a presentation by the Jacob Waletzky Memorial Prize winner, and a poster session for early career investigators. The symposia include:

- Neuronal Adaptations and Counteradaptations
- Heteromerization of G-Protein Coupled Receptors: Implications for CNS Function and Dysfunction
- Glial Cells and Addiction
- Henri Begleiter Memorial Symposium (co-sponsored by NIAAA)

A website with more information on this satellite meeting will be available at www.sei2003.com/nida/frontiers2007 in the upcoming weeks. •

Dr. S. J. Enna, Secretary-General, IUPHAR

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BETTER MEDICINES FOR CHILDREN GAINS WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY ENDORSEMENT

On May 23rd, 2007 the representatives of the 193 Member States of WHO met in Geneva. They adopted a resolution on better medicines for children (www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA60/A60_R20-en.pdf). The issue of children's medicines was put on the agenda last year by a Finnish government initiative. It was discussed by the WHO Executive Board during its 120th Meeting in January 2007.

The 60th World Health Assembly (WHA), the supreme decision-making body for WHO, wishes to ensure better access to essential medicines for children as a prerequisite for achieving health outcomes, as set out in the internationally agreed health-related development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. To this end, in the resolution the WHA requests WHO Member States and Director-General to take action to provide children with access to essential medicines of assured quality.

Specifically, Member States are requested to:

- collaborate in order to encourage research and development of appropriate medicines for diseases that affect children
- ensure that high-quality clinical trials for these medicines are conducted in an ethical manner
- facilitate innovative development of age appropriate formulations, including regulatory approval, providing information on, and the rational use of, paediatric medicines and medicines authorized for adults but not approved for use in children.

The WHO Director-General is requested to undertake a program to improve access to essential medicines for children and to ensure that all relevant WHO programs including, but not limited to, those on essential medicines contribute to making safe and effective medicines as widely available for children as for adults.

The WHO has already begun working on a Model List of Essential Medicines for Children by establishing a subcommittee of the WHO Expert Committee on Essential Medicines. The agenda for this meeting is available at http://mednet3.who.int/EML/expcom/CHILDREN/INDEX_children_07.htm. This year, WHO will also start work on evidence-based medical information for prescribers and care-givers by identifying key research and development requirements for producing better medicines for children.

IUPHAR has closely followed the developments at WHO. Dr. Kalle Hoppu, Chairman of the Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology Subcommittee of the IUPHAR Clinical Pharmacology Division, made a presentation at the 60th WHA expressing IUPHAR support for the resolution. IUPHAR is committed to work for better medicines for children in collaboration with the WHO, and is already providing experts for the work on the Model List of Essential Medicines for Children. •

Dr. Kalle Hoppu, Chair, IUPHAR
Paediatric Subcommittee

'PHARMACOLOGY FOR AFRICA' INITIATIVE

The '**Pharmacology for Africa**' (**PharfA**) initiative recently launched its bilingual website with an online database (www.iuphar-africa.org). The African pharmacologists are fully supported in this initiative by IUPHAR, ICSU (international) and ICSU-Africa (regional). A South African National Research Foundation grant covers the development and hosting of the PharfA website. IUPHAR granted permission for using its web address.

PharfA aims to promote, organize, and mobilize pharmacology on the African continent. Currently only three societies from Africa are members of IUPHAR. The initiative will be driven by African pharmacologists, with the initial founding process facilitated by the South African Pharmacology Society. The idea is to first build a database of pharmacologists and their scientific activities on the continent then to assist countries or small regions to form their own pharmacology societies. PharfA plans to promote scientific meetings, communication, networking, and collaboration between pharmacologists and the internationalization of African pharmacology. All pharmacologists are called upon to sign-up on the PharfA website, particularly those with expertise in basic and clinical research and education, clinical practice, consultation, policy making, drug distribution/supply chain, drug registration, drug research & development, manufacturing, quality control, and sales and marketing.

PharfA meetings were held to discuss a forum for African pharmacologists. These involved active pharmacologists from all over the African continent. A meeting was also held in Beijing during the IUPHAR World Congress 2006, which included African delegates and IUPHAR executive committee members. Minutes can be viewed on the PharfA website.



L→R: Professor Paul Vanhoutte, IUPHAR Past President, H.E. Ndumiso Ntshinga, South African Ambassador, and Professor Douglas Oliver, South African Pharmacology Society President

PharfA has established the following goals:

- 2006 Initiate process (key role players)
- 2007 Launch website and establish database and network
- 2007/8 Arrange regional meetings of Planning Group
- 2009 Arrange 1st regional general meeting
- 2009 Constitute Forum and Governance at 1st general meeting
- 2012 Arrange 2nd regional general meeting
- 2014 IUPHAR World Congress – Cape Town, South Africa

You are invited to visit the **PharfA** website at www.iuphar-africa.org for more information, or to e-mail office@iuphar-africa.org . •

Dr. Christiaan Brink, Secretary, South African Pharmacology Society

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In Memory of Alfred Pletscher

Professor Alfred Pletscher, IUPHAR Treasurer from 1984 to 1987, died on December 12th, 2006. He was 89 years old. Together with the IUPHAR Executive Committee officers P. Lechat and A. M. Barrett, Alfred Pletscher influenced and shaped the activities of global pharmacology. He was one of several Swiss treasurers for the Union, which between 1972 and 1986 included P. G. Waser and G. Zbinden.

Alfred Pletscher was born on March 5th, 1917 in Altstaetten, Switzerland and studied medicine and chemistry in Zurich. He rose through the academic ranks at the University of Basel, serving as professor of pathophysiology from 1965 to 1987. Simultaneously Professor Pletscher directed the Department of Experimental Medicine of Hoffmann-LaRoche and from 1967 to 1978 was a member of the board of directors with responsibility for global research. In 1978 he founded the Department of Research at the University Hospital Basel serving for a decade as its chairman. He was also among the founders of the Biocentre of the University of Basel.



During his tenure, Professor Pletscher was a visiting scientist at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, USA in 1955. He worked in the laboratory of Dr. Bernard B. Brodie. He authored or co-authored about 300 publications covering a wide range of interests from intermediary metabolism to cerebral monoamine transmitters, to levodopa as treatment for Parkinson's disease, to psychopharmacology, in general. From 1981 to 1987, Professor Pletscher served as President of the Swiss National Science Foundation.

In Memory of Ullrich Trendelenburg

Professor Ullrich Trendelenburg, born on December 31st, 1922 in Gelsdorf, Germany, died on November 21st, 2006 in Tübingen, where he had been living in retirement with his wife, Christel. Professor Trendelenburg followed in the footsteps of his father, Paul Trendelenburg, a famous German pharmacologist who headed the pharmacology departments in Rostock, Freiburg, and Berlin. The younger Trendelenburg first studied medicine at the University of Göttingen and later at the University of Uppsala where he worked on his M.D. thesis. From 1952–1956 he was a Ph.D. student, a British Council scholarship holder, and an instructor in the Department of Pharmacology at Oxford University. After spending a year in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Mainz, Professor Trendelenburg joined the Department of Pharmacology at Harvard Medical School in 1957. From 1966–1968, following the retirement of Professor Otto Kraye, his mentor and friend, Professor Trendelenburg served as the Acting Head of the department at Harvard. From 1968 until his retirement in 1991, Professor Trendelenburg was Head of the Institute of Pharmacology at the University of Würzburg.



Ullrich and Christel Trendelenburg

As a student in Uppsala, Professor Trendelenburg began his studies in pharmacology by examining the antitussive effects of morphine derivatives. During his time at Oxford he developed a lasting fascination with the sympathetic nervous system, having undertaken studies on the pharmacology of ganglion cells, with experiments utilizing both nicotinic and non-nicotinic ganglion-stimulating agents. He was the first to identify presynaptic morphine receptors on noradrenergic neurons. At Harvard, his main research interest was the pharmacology of directly and indirectly acting sympathomimetic amines and the effects of cocaine on their actions. Professor Trendelenburg continued these studies in Würzburg, directing particular attention to the uptake of monoamines by neuronal and extraneuronal transporters, to intraneuronal storage, and to the neuronal and extraneuronal metabolism of these substances.

Professor Trendelenburg was President of the German Pharmacological Society and the 2nd Vice-President of IUPHAR. He also served as a member of the IUPHAR Receptor Nomenclature Committee (NC-IUPHAR). He was a Field Editor for the *Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*, and for many years he was the Managing Editor of *Naunyn-Schmiedeberg's Archives of Pharmacology*,



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Pletscher

Alfred Pletscher was awarded degrees of *Dr. honoris causa* by several European universities and received the prestigious Marcel Benoit prize (1995) and the CINP Pioneers in Psychopharmacology Award (2004).

IUPHAR is grateful for, and proud of, Alfred Pletscher's service and devotion to international pharmacology. •

Dr. Karl J. Netter, Treasurer from 1987 to 1994, and currently Chairman, IUPHAR Membership Committee

Dr. Urs T. Ruegg, Treasurer, IUPHAR

Dr. S. J. Enna, Secretary-General, IUPHAR



L→R: Drs. A. Pletscher and K. Netter signing the transfer of IUPHAR treasurership on January 12th, 1988 in the Kantonsspital in Basel.

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Trendelenburg

the oldest international journal in the field. He held membership in a number of pharmacology societies around the world, and was awarded honorary doctorates from universities in Portugal, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the United States.

His final publication, which appeared in March 2006, was a booklet entitled "Verfolgte deutschsprachige Pharmakologen 1933–1945" ("Persecuted German-speaking Pharmacologists 1933–1945"). It contained a compilation of 69 curriculum vitae of German-speaking pharmacologists who were victimized by the Nazis.

Professor Ullrich Trendelenburg had a profound scientific impact in pharmacology through his rigorous and creative research and through the scientists who had the privilege of receiving training with him. Last but not least, Ullrich Trendelenburg was a real gentleman in his ethical standards for justice and fairness. Both the scientific achievements and his high moral principles throughout his long scientific carrier place Ullrich Trendelenburg among the top most influential pharmacologists in our generation.

With his passing, IUPHAR and the scientific community as a whole has lost a great friend and supporter. As evidenced by his students and research accomplishments, his legacy will have a lasting effect on our discipline. •

Dr. Heinz Bönisch

Dr. Edmund Przegaliński

Dr. Barbara Malinowska

Edited/revised by

Drs. Salomon Langer and S. J. Enna

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Dr. Ullrich Trendelenburg 1922 - 2006

NEW MEMBERS OF IUPHAR

ESDPP

The European Society for Developmental, Perinatal and Paediatric Pharmacology (ESDP) was established in 1988 by paediatric pharmacologists and clinical paediatricians to improve drug treatment in children. The Society encompasses the interests of many cross-sectional disciplines in human biomedical sciences. Its primary goal is to promote research in developmental and paediatric pharmacology.



ESDP supports the proposal by the European Commission (European Parliament and Council Regulation) on medicinal products for paediatric use. This document outlines the urgent need of achieving "the right combinations of incentives and regulatory obligations which will ensure that both existing and new medicinal products will be suitably adapted for the needs of paediatric populations in the Community in a resource efficient manner".

Too many drugs are still used in children without being sufficiently validated in this population.

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ECNP

The European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), which was established in 1987, aims to encourage research and facilitate communication of ideas in this field. Besides the annual scientific congress, the Workshop for Young Scientists in Europe, and the biannual regional meetings, ECNP has established:

- * Fellowships to enable young scientists to present their findings at the annual meetings
- * Research awards
- * A scientific journal, *European Neuropsychopharmacology* which publishes original findings from basic and clinical sciences
- * A dialogue between the European regulatory and funding authorities and the local European regulatory affair institutions to work toward a common policy in neuropsychopharmacology.

The 20th Congress of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) will be held in Vienna, Austria on October 13-17th, 2007. This meeting is open to all interested scientists. The programme consists of plenary lectures, a limited number (28) of symposia, an educational track consisting of educational updates, brainstorming sessions, and poster sessions. Additionally, breaking news sessions, focussing on the latest development in preclinical and clinical research will be organized as well as guided poster tours.

Please visit their website at www.ecnp.eu for more details. ●

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2007 Anniversaries

IUPHAR congratulates the following member societies:

Japanese Pharmacological Society 1927 - 2007

Belgian Society of Fundamental and Clinical
Physiology and Pharmacology 1947 - 2007

Korean Society of Pharmacology 1947 - 2007

Egyptian Society of Pharmacology
and Experimental Therapeutics 1957 - 2007

Latvian Society of Pharmacology 1972 - 2007

Pharmacological Society in Taipei 1982 - 2007

Serotonin Club 1987 - 2007

European College of Neuropsychopharmacology 1987 - 2007

Highlight: The Japanese Pharmacological Society Celebrates 80th Anniversary

This year, the Japanese Pharmacological Society marked the 80th anniversary of its founding. More than three thousand of its members celebrated this event at the 80th Annual Meeting at Nagoya City, Japan on March 14–16th, 2007.

The Japanese Pharmacological Society is proud of the many contributions made by its members to medical research, including discovery of troponins by Dr. Setsuro Ebashi, development of calcium antagonist for hypertension by Dr. Koroku Hashimoto, and one discovery of statins for hyperlipidemia, among many other significant findings.

Pharmacology is one of the applied medical sciences, with research in the field directed toward curing diseases with new medications. To achieve this aim, Japanese pharmacologists strive to design research approaches and drug development strategies that integrate biological and cellular functions into a whole body system. This fusion approach provides bench research with a definite clinical goal.

The *Journal of Pharmacological Sciences*, an official journal of the society, published its 100th volume last year. The ongoing challenge is to publish a journal with higher scientific quality representing work from around the world. •

Hiroshi Iwao, Member, Japanese Pharmacological Society Board of Directors



First row L→R: Drs. T. Suzuki, I. Muramatsu, Y. Ito, A. Akaike, M. Mishina, M. Iino, H. Iwao, and S. Narumiya.
Second row L→R: Drs. M. Miyamoto, T. Dohi, Y. Nomura, M. Fujiwara, N. Matsuki, T. Takenaka, T. Iijima,
H. Takeda, K. Yanai, and H. Nakaya. Not pictured: Drs. K. Yamamoto, J. Kimura, C. Kamei, A. Baba, T.
Nabeshima, S. Motomura, and K. Goto.

Highlight: The Serotonin Club is 20 Years Young and Going Strong

The Serotonin Club's 6th IUPHAR Satellite meeting was held in a beautiful venue at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan on June 27-30th, 2006. The scientific program was packed with excellent presentations and high quality science from an international slate of speakers. Dr. John Harvey from Drexel University gave the Page Lecture and Dr. Richard Green from AstraZeneca presented the first inaugural Rapport Lecture.

Dr. Harvey described his research experience on the selective influence of serotonin on certain behaviors as identified using lesioning and precursor replacement techniques. Recently his work has led to the *in vivo* identification of constitutive activity of the 5-HT_{2A} receptor in Pavlovian conditioning.

The Rapport lecture covers topics of historical importance to work on this monoamine. Dr. Green led participants through the various ways of measuring serotonin in the brain to examine the function of new serotonin receptors and the effects of drugs on those sites, *i.e.*, antidepressants and recreational drugs.

Mixed throughout the lecture was a gallery of photographs taken during the many Serotonin Club meetings in past years, adding to the enjoyment of the lecture. The meeting itself consisted of 15 symposia dealing with serotonin as it relates to cardiovascular function, obesity, many psychiatric disorders, immune function, and the physiology of the serotonin neurons. There were two poster sessions with over 80 posters.

The 7th International Meeting of the Serotonin Club will be held July 17-20th, 2008 in Oxford, England, as a satellite to the EPHAR meeting in Manchester. The meeting venue will be Keble College, which is in the heart of the city, directly opposite the University Museum and University Parks, and a gentle stroll from the Sheldonian theatre, Bodleian library,



covered market, and the historic pubs of St. Giles. The college provides state-of-the-art conference facilities and modern accommodation in idyllic surroundings. Meals will be taken in the magnificent Dining Hall, which is one of the largest and most impressive at the University. Oxford is very accessible from Manchester, London, and all the main airports, so it is convenient for both UK and international delegates. Both train and bus stations are within walking distance or a short taxi ride from the college. The scientific organizing committee has plans for an exciting program of cutting edge preclinical and clinical serotonin research, with young scientists at the forefront. •

Dr. Sheryl Beck, Secretary-Treasurer, Serotonin Club

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Highlight: The International Society of Pharmacovigilance

Our two parallel winter training courses 'Immunopharmacology and drug safety' and 'Basic concepts in pharmacovigilance' took place in the beautiful city of Budapest, Hungary, in March, 2007. Both included stimulating presentations and practical exercises and were well attended.



A meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Society of Pharmacovigilance (ISoP) immediately followed the courses. Their gathering resulted in some important developments which I would like to share with you.

After the extraordinary General Assembly in Oxford last December, we are pleased to confirm that the transfer of the Society from the Trade Register in Strasbourg to Trade Register in Geneva is nearly completed. An English based company, 'ISoP Secretariat Ltd.', has been created. This UK subsidiary will undertake the secretarial activities on behalf of ISoP. The association will be based on a contract between the parent body, ISoP, and ISoP Secretariat Ltd. In addition, ISoP Secretariat Ltd. will be registered as a charity. Please note our new address:

ISOP Secretariat Ltd.
140 Emmanuel Road
London SW12 0HS, UK
Tel. and Fax: +44 (0) 20 3256 0027

Members (at least 10) in a country or region can form chapters to facilitate the organisation of meetings, training courses, or other activities related to the missions of ISoP. The Italian chapter has already organised its first meeting in Verona, Italy entitled 'Signal detection and dissemination in pharmacovigilance'. The challenging creation of a Western Pacific chapter is well underway and we expect to have news about a dedicated chapter for North America. Please contact administration@isoponline.org for information about chapters.

The Education and Training Programme (ETP) has a new leader, Dr. Kenneth Hartigan-Go, who has succeeded Dr. Paula Marquez.



The collaboration with our official journal, *Drug Safety*, is an active one and the journal welcomes contributions from ISoP members. In particular, the journal is interested receiving original research papers, reviews, and 'Letters to the editor' that refer to published articles and topical issues. Feel free to contact the Editor, Dr. Rosie Stather, at drugsafety@adis.co.nz concerning submissions.

Forthcoming events:

- ◇ The 2007 Annual Meeting in Bournemouth, England is approaching on October 21-24th. The scientific programme is almost ready with

ISoP Activities

two pre-conference courses on the agenda, and, as usual, a social programme.

- ◇ The 2008 Annual Meeting will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina on October 6-8th, 2008. The meeting is organised by the Argentinian Society of Pharmacovigilance.
- ◇ In 2009, ISoP will return to France for the 2009 ISoP Annual Meeting in Reims. More information will be available later.
- ◇ If your country would like to host the 2010 Annual Meeting, please contact the administration office to obtain guidelines for bids. These must be received by March 2008.
- ◇ Our next training course will take place in Bangkok, Thailand, March 17-18th, 2008. More details will follow in the June ISoP Star.
- ◇ In the meantime, we will have joint sessions with other scientific societies like ISPE (Quebec, August 2007) and EACPT (Amsterdam, August 29th – September 1st, 2007). We will work also on a joint session with the IUPHAR Clinical Pharmacology Division for CPT 2008 in Canada. E-mail administration@isoponline.org for information and programmes.

As always, please visit our website www.isoponline.org for updates and news. Please e-mail us with your suggestions. I look forward to seeing you in Bournemouth! ●

Prof. Nicholas Moore, President, ISoP

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New Member ESDPPP

The reasons for this are varied but mostly economic. The paediatric population represents some 50% of the global population, although drug use in this target group is small. While clinical trials of drugs for paediatric disorders are difficult and expensive, this can no longer be allowed to prevent such studies.

One of the most important challenges in the near future is to give priority to the concept that medicinal products administered to children should meet the same criteria of quality, safety, and efficiency as is now required for adults. Ways must be found to achieve this important goal. ●

For more details or to join ESDP, please contact Dr. Imti Choonara at imti.choonara@nottingham.ac.uk .



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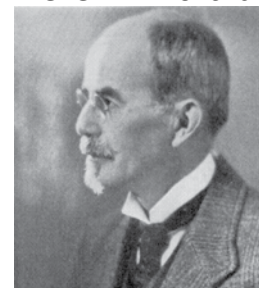
[HTTP://CAREERS.IUPHAR.ORG](http://careers.iuphar.org)





AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL IN SAN DIEGO IN APRIL 2008

On December 28th, 1908 Dr. John Jacob Abel and 17 of his colleagues met in his laboratory at Johns Hopkins University and made plans for the establishment of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). Among this group were Dr. Torald Sollmann, Professor of Pharmacology at Western Reserve University and Dr. Reid Hunt, then Chief of the Division of Pharmacology for the U.S. Public Health Service. These individuals became the first, second and third presidents of the Society, respectively. The group also discussed the founding of a journal for the fledgling society, and the first issue of the *Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics* debuted a short six months later.



Dr. John Jacob Abel
1857 - 1938

Such were the humble beginnings of the oldest formal pharmacology society in the world. In the 100 years since then, ASPET has grown from 18 members to nearly 5,000 members representing not only the breadth of research in pharmacology, but also the breadth of venues in which pharmacology is important. ASPET currently has members from academia, industry, and government. Almost 11% of ASPET's members are from countries other than the United States. Graduate students and undergraduate students comprise an increasing cadre of the membership as they represent the future of the discipline and, indeed, the society.

Plans to celebrate ASPET's centennial have been percolating for the last four years. ASPET Council appointed Dr. William Dewey, a past president of the Society, to be the Centennial Chair. Dr. Dewey, in turn, appointed a committee consisting of Drs. William Fleming, David Jones, Suzanne Laychock, John Parascandola, Darryle Schoepp, Keshari Thakali, Michael Vasko, and Stephanie Watts. Like the Society, the committee reflects the age, gender, employment, and interest diversity of the membership. This committee has been meeting for the past 3 years to plan the many events and commemorations of the Centennial.

While recognizing that a centennial is, by definition, a celebration of longevity, Dr. Dewey has emphasized from the beginning that equally as much emphasis should be put on looking ahead to the future.

The primary celebration of the ASPET centennial will be at the ASPET annual meeting in 2008 - Experimental Biology '08 in San Diego, California, USA, April 5th - 9th, 2008. The Opening Reception, to be held on the grand terrace of the San Diego Convention Center, will feature music, great food, and a number of surprises. In addition, a special birthday event is being planned at one of San Diego's exceptional venues. While this will in all likelihood be a ticketed event, it will be heavily subsidized by ASPET. A special student mixer is also being planned by a committee of our student members. However, the keystone of the centennial celebrations will be a set of ten Centennial Symposia organized by each of ASPET's divisions and focusing on the past, present, and future directions of a scientific area integral to that division's interest. One such symposium, sponsored by the Division for Pharmacology Education, will bring together many of ASPET's Nobel laureates for a roundtable discussion of the future of pharmacology education and a meet and greet reception.



Other topics include:

- P450s: Structure, Function, *In Silico* Predictions
- Development of inhibitors of the soluble epoxide hydrolase as a novel treatment for hypertension, vascular inflammation, and end organ damage
- New Experimental Approaches to Treatment of Schizophrenia: Moving Beyond Monoamine Antagonists
- The G-Whizards of GPCR/G-Protein Signaling
- The Obesity Epidemic: Pharmacological Challenges
- Drug Discovery Paradigms: Past, Present and Future
- New Concepts in an Old System: Renin-Angiotensin System Blockade as Therapy for General Cardiovascular disease Pharmacogenomics - Tailoring Therapy to the Individual
- Pharmacotherapy of Cocaine Abuses

In addition, ASPET will use the occasion of its centennial to debut what is hoped to be the first of the Julius Axelrod Symposia to be linked to the Julius Axelrod Award. This first symposium will feature four past winners of the Julius Axelrod Award.



Dr. Julius Axelrod
1912 - 2004

One of ASPET's major activities is publishing, and it is thus appropriate that ASPET is planning many publications to celebrate the Centennial



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as well. Most of these will be bound together in a commemorative volume to be given to all ASPET members who attend the 2008 meeting. Adolor Corporation is sponsoring the publication of this souvenir compendium. "A Brief History of Great Discoveries in Pharmacology - A Nobel Perspective: In Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Founding of ASPET" written by Dr. Ronald P. Rubin from the State University of New York at Buffalo, will be published in the June 2007 issue of *Pharmacological Reviews*. This will be freely available online immediately upon publication, as well as included in the meeting compendium. Each of ASPET's four journals will be publishing short reviews of key historical papers, called Centennial Perspectives. These will appear starting in the fall of 2007 and continue throughout 2008. ASPET's newest journal, *Molecular Interventions*, has inaugurated with the April 2007 issue a new feature, *Significant Deciles*. Each issue for ten issues will be devoted to a decade, highlighting the significant pharmacological events of that decade, as well as the social, cultural, and political background in which they occurred.

Although nearly 100 years old, ASPET did not have its first paid staff executive until 1962. Since that time, there have been a total of four executive officers, Drs. Ellsworth Cook, Houston Baker, Kay Croker, and Christie Carrico. Dr. Bill Dewey, Chair of the Centennial Committee, has interviewed each of these four individuals and the interviews will be published in *The Pharmacologist*, starting with the first issue of 2008. The Committee on Women in Pharmacology is sponsoring a monograph, prepared by Drs. Marlene Cohen, Lynn Wecker and Holly Brevig, on the role female pharmacologists have played in ASPET and in the discipline in general. Dr. John Parascandola, noted pharmacological historian and a member of the Centennial Committee, is writing a brief history of ASPET that highlights key events in the Society over the past 100 years.

Pharmacology has made enormous scientific progress over the past 100 years and to highlight this, the Centennial Committee has prepared a timeline poster of the Significant Events in Pharmacology since 1908. This graphically compelling poster will be available to all members and to attendees at EB '07 and EB '08. We hope it will be as prominently displayed in departments of pharmacology around the world as it is in the ASPET Office Conference Room. It is not only an attractive artistic work, but an educational tool. Cephalon has graciously sponsored the production of this poster.

ASPET is taking the opportunity of the 2008 Centennial meeting to make the public aware of the importance of pharmacology and the contributions it makes to their daily lives. Mr. Jim Bernstein and Dr. David Jones, with input from many segments of the Society, have identified several areas in which pharmacology will have a significant impact on human health in the next ten years. These topics will be

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expanded and extensively played up for the press and the visual media. The exact form that this activity will take will develop as we progress through the next year.



One of the fun activities designed to get members (and others) interested in the Centennial celebration is the Abel Number. Based on the Erdos number concept, the Abel Number project was conceived and researched by Dr. David Bylund of the University of Nebraska. The Abel Number represents one's publication lineage from John Jacob Abel. Abel

himself would have an Abel number of 0. Anyone who published with Abel would have an Abel Number of 1. Anyone who published with someone with an Abel Number of 1 would have an Abel Number of 2, and so on. So far we have fairly complete data for individuals through Abel Number 4. Abel Number buttons were distributed at EB '07 to those people for whom we have Abel Numbers and to those who could document their number. These colorful buttons were sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline and proclaim "My Abel Number is *N*. What's Yours?" We hope they will generate interest and excitement in the Centennial celebration, as well as educate young pharmacologists that as scientists we all owe something to those who have gone before us. As ASPET moves into its second century, we celebrate the future of pharmacology, but we also acknowledge the contributions of the past. •

Dr. Christie Carrico, Executive Officer, ASPET

Do you know your Abel number?? If not, visit http://aspet.org/public/Centennial/Abel_number.htm



The IXth World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics
July 27 - August 1, 2008
Québec City, Canada

Have you marked your calendar yet??

CPT2008

July 27th - August 1st, 2008

Québec City, Canada

www.CPT2008.org

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Education**

**Pharmacology
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June 2007

Upcoming Events

July

Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists Glutamate in the Vineyards

Hunter Region, NSW, Australia

July 8-10, 2007

www.glutamateinthevineyards.org/

Life Sciences 2007: Joint Meeting of the Biochemical Safety, Physiological Society, and the British Pharmacological Society

Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

July 8-12, 2007

www.lifesciences2007.org

Int'l Congress of Toxicology - Discovery Serving Society

Montreal, Canada

July 15-19, 2007

www.ict2007.org/01_welcomeIUTOX_e.shtml

August / September

European Association for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics 8th Congress

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

August 29-September 1, 2007

www.eacpt2007.nl/default.html

Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences of South Africa 28th Annual Conference: Convergence of Research, Education & Practice

Cape Town, South Africa

September 4-7, 2007

www.apssa.org.za

American College of Clinical Pharmacology 36th Annual Meeting

San Francisco, California, United States

September 9-11, 2007

www.accp1.org

The 2nd Balaton, Bosphorus, Bled, and Baltic (BBBB) Conference on Pharmaceutical Sciences

Tallinn-Tartu, Estonia

September 13-15, 2007

www.med.ut.ee/farmaatsia/bbbb

Safety Pharmacology Society 7th Annual Meeting

Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom

September 19-21, 2007

www.safetypharmacology.org

5th Croatia Congress of Pharmacology & 2nd Congress of Croatian Physiological Society

Osijek, Croatia

September 19-22, 2007

www.hdfkongres.mefos.hr

Upcoming Events

Better Medicines
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Research and
Education

October

The South African Pharmacology and Toxicology Congress 2007

Buffelspoort, South Africa
October 2-5, 2007

www.sapharmacol.co.za/Files_htm/Congress/default.htm

The British Pharmacological Society 5th James Black Conference - Cutting Edge in Lung Pharmacology

Perthshire, Scotland
October 9-11, 2007

www.bps.ac.uk/meetings/index.jsp

Int'l Symposium on Drug Discovery & Development for Gastrointestinal Tract and Liver Diseases

Nanjing, P.R. China
October 12-14, 2007

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

European College of Neuropsychopharmacology 20th Congress

Vienna, Austria
October 13-17, 2007

www.ecnp.eu

Int'l Society of Pharmacovigilance 7th Annual Meeting

Bournemouth, Dorset, United Kingdom
October 21-24, 2007

www.isop2007.org/Registration.aspx

November

Austrian Pharmacological Society 13th Scientific Symposium

Vienna, Austria
November 22-24, 2007

www.aphar.at/aphar2007.html

IX Latin American Symposium of Chronobiology

Havana, Cuba
November 28-30, 2007

www.scf.sld.cu

December

ASCEPT & SEAWP-RMB Joint meetings on Drug and Chemical Safety

Adelaide, Australia
December 2-6, 2007

www.meetingsfirst.com.au/meetings/SEAWP2007/site/

III Int'l Congress of Pharmacology & Therapeutics "Pharmacology Havana 2007" and VII National Congress of Cuban Society of Pharmacology

Havana, Cuba
December 11-14, 2007

<http://www.scf.sld.cu/html/congreso/english/congress2007.htm>

To include your events here, please e-mail the details to iuphar@kumc.edu.

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June 2007

International Research Funding Opportunity for Type 1 Diabetes



dedicated to finding a cure

RESEARCH EMPHASIS AREAS July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

The **mission** of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International (JDRF) is to find a cure for type 1 diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

To accomplish this mission, JDRF will provide more than \$150 million in fiscal year 2008 to support relevant exploratory research, discovery research, non-clinical development, clinical research, and clinical development research in the general **research areas** of:

- Restoration and maintenance of normal glucose regulation in type 1 diabetes, including restoration of beta cell function, immunoregulation, and metabolic control
- Prevention and treatment of complications of diabetes
- Prevention of type 1 diabetes

The primary objective of any research proposal and grant to be considered for funding should be aimed at accomplishing one or more of the following:

- Exploring and elucidating underlying molecular mechanisms and biochemical pathways
- Identifying and validating potential points of interference with the disease process
- Identifying and validating potential drug targets
- Identifying disease modifying small molecules, peptides, proteins, antibodies and cellular approaches
- Translating research discoveries into viable projects that can be tested in non-clinical settings
- Proof of concept studies in animal model systems
- Translating research discoveries into viable projects that can be tested in clinical settings
- Proof of concept studies in humans
- Developing commercially viable products

There are multiple funding mechanisms available both for Academia and Industry. Please consult the JDRF web site for the scope of funding and the corresponding details of the application process.

www.JDRF.org

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Clockwise beginning in lower left: Drs. Mohamed Khayyal, Petra Thürmann, Sérgio Ferreira, Zhi-Bin Lin, David Webb (added to photo), Sue Duckles, S. J. Enna, Paul Vanhoutte, Salomon Langer, Kim Brøsen, Gabrielle Hawskworth, Masayoshi Mishina, Donald Birkett, Urs Ruegg, and Patrick du Souich

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Patrick du Souich	Canada	Masayoshi Mishina	Japan
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Contributions:

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

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