

The Drug Metabolism Section of IUPHAR - Report 2006-2010

Executive Council 2006-2010

The Council Meeting and the General Assembly meeting were held in connection with the IUPHAR International Congress in Beijing in July 2-7, 2006. The new council was elected.

Chair: Prof. Jaime Kapitulnik, Israel

Vice-Chair: Prof. Allan Rettie, USA

Secretary: Prof. Olavi Pelkonen, Finland

Treasurer: Prof. Steven Leeder, USA

Past Chair: Prof. John Miners, Australia

Councillors:

Prof. Mumtaz Iscan, Turkey

Prof. Aldo Mottino, Argentina

Dr. Amin Rostami-Hodjegan, UK

Prof. H. Suzuki, Japan

Prof. Andrew Walubo, South Africa

Prof. Hong-Hao Zhou, China

The Executive Council has worked via e-mail exchanges. This has proved satisfactory, because participation has been sufficient.

The current Executive Committee of the DMS will complete in 2010 its 4-years mandate. The new committee, which will be elected at the upcoming IUPHAR Congress in Copenhagen (July 18-23, 2010), will make a plan for future activities. This report for 2006-2010 will be delivered to the DMS membership at its annual meeting in Copenhagen.

Executive Council on Tuesday, July 20, at 16:00-17:30 in a small meeting room (location specified later)

The General Assembly of the Drug Metabolism Section (DMS) of the IUPHAR will be in the Congress Center (Bella Center) on Wednesday 21st of July at 17:30 to 19:30 in Auditorium 10. [The response to this invitation has been rather promising; close to 40 people have expressed their interest]

DMS-supported scientific events

7th Xenobiotic Metabolism and Toxicity Workshop of Balkan Countries (Novi Sad, Serbia, 3-6 June 2008)

The Drug Metabolism Section provided financial support (\$5,000) to the meeting. These meetings have been financially supported by the DMS in the past. The Novi Sad

Workshop was organized by Professors Momir Mikov and Zdenko Tomic, under the scientific guidance and scrutiny of the DMS. The meeting was very successful and attracted many young investigators from the Balkan countries, who presented their research in oral presentations and posters. These young investigators discussed their work with the invited speakers, and several worthy initiatives originated from these discussions. We believe that the outcome of the Novi Sad and previous Balkan workshops deserves the support of the DMS of IUPHAR to this important regional initiative.

International Symposium on Drug Transport and Metabolism (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 13-14 October 2009) was organized by the Argentinean Society of Experimental Pharmacology (SAFE). The DMS sponsored and supported financially (grant of 5,000 USD) the meeting. This was actually the first symposium of its kind in South America supported by the DMS (the full report was published in the December 2009 issue of *Pharmacology International*). The symposium was a great success and it is expected that it will be followed by a series of symposia in South America sponsored by the DMS and IUPHAR.

8th Xenobiotic Metabolism and Toxicity (XEMET) Congress of Southeastern Europe (Thessaloniki, Greece, 1-5 October 2010) will be organized by Prof. Paraskevi Papaioannidou from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. A grant of 5,000 Euros will be provided by the DMS to the organizers, thus continuing its long-standing tradition and commitment to support these important regional meetings, previously named Xenobiotic Metabolism and Toxicity Workshop of Balkan Countries.

Future events

The DMS will consider sponsoring future workshops in Africa, Southeast Asia or India, and South America.

The DMS has been, and will be, active (and successful) in submitting proposals for symposia and plenary lectures in IUPHAR-related meetings.

DMS proposals to IUPHAR

The DMS applied to the Executive Committee of IUPHAR, which convened in April 2007, asking for special support for two important projects which are intimately linked to IUPHAR's Africa Initiative – an initiative warmly endorsed by the DMS at the last IUPHAR congress (Beijing 2006): a) support for distribution of the AIBST newsletter (by Dr. Collen Masimirembwa); b) support for the 1st African Conference on Drug Metabolism and Development (by Prof. Andrew Walubo, a member of the DMS Executive Committee). These applications were not approved by the IUPHAR Executive Committee.

The DMS submitted to the organizers of the 2010 IUPHAR world congress in Copenhagen a proposal for a focused conference entitled 'Adverse Drug Reactions: Scope, Mechanisms, Solutions'. This proposal was not approved by the organizers. This is quite unfortunate, since the DMS organized highly successful symposia in previous IUPHAR world congresses. Due to its limited budget, the DMS decided not to organize a self-funded workshop in Copenhagen.

Collaboration with other IUPHAR sections

A possible collaboration between the Drug Metabolism Section and the Section of Pharmacogenetics of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology has been discussed by Prof. Kapitulnik and the Exec of this division at the Pharmacology Congress in Beijing in 2006, but nothing has developed so far. Further initiatives in this respect are pending.

Financial situation of the Section

The actual balance before the grant to the Thessaloniki meeting is about \$23000. No contributions have been received during 2006-2010. The DMS did not receive any contribution from IUPHAR in the period 2006-2010, although such contributions were offered in previous years.

Prof Leeder will report on the financial situation of the Section at the DMS meetings in Copenhagen.

The Section membership

Initiative of Prof. Kathy Knights to create an e-mail list of DMS members is still not fulfilled. Prof. Pelkonen, after his retirement on May 1, 2010, is now trying to find optimal solutions to accomplish this important task.

**SECTION OF DRUG METABOLISM
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Past Chair

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Vice Chair

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Secretary

Professor Olavi Pelkonen (Finland)

Treasurer

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Professor A Mottino (Argentina)

Professor A Walubo (South Africa)

Professor M Iscan (Turkey)

Professor HH Zhou (China)

Dr A Rostami-Hodjegan (UK)

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