

IUPHAR Education Section – Annual Report to Executive Committee 5th February 2015

The objective of IUPHAR-Ed is to support educators in pharmacology in promoting innovative teaching, learning and assessment of basic, clinical and translational pharmacology to higher education pharmacology students and wider audiences across the globe. This brief report highlights some of the important events of a busy 2014.

Retiring Officers

I would like to begin by recording our gratitude to the IUPHAR-Ed Officers who stood down in the summer. Tiaan Brink, as past-Chair, gave excellent leadership over the last 4 years culminating in the planning of a very successful Education Satellite meeting before 17th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2014) in Cape Town, South Africa. All this was achieved with the additional contributions of David Dewhurst (UK) as Treasurer and PK Rangachari (Canada) as Deputy-Chair. We wish them all well for the future.

IUPHAR-Ed Satellite Meeting

IUPHAR-Ed was pleased to be able to run another successful Pharmacology Education Satellite meeting in association with WCP2014. The plenary speakers were Helen Kwanashie (Nigeria) - *Pharmacology education in Africa: Challenges and opportunities* - and Leszek Wojnowski (Germany) - *Internet-based solutions to alleviate shortages of pharmacology faculty in developing countries*. In addition, there were several excellent free communications, a poster session and five roundtable discussions on key topics in education: flipped lectures, assessing pharmacology for healthcare students, faculty development, students as agents of change and interprofessional education in pharmacology. A busy Saturday was rounded off with an enjoyable Gala dinner giving everyone the chance to meet old friends, make new ones and shake off the effects of jet-lag. The Satellite finished with the IUPHAR-Ed General Assembly including the award of the Section prizes, the election of new officers (see below) and two important presentations. First, Professor Bevyn Jarrott (Australia) offered his reflections on the history and development of IUPHAR-Ed. He was the founding Chair and driving force behind the establishment of an IUPHAR Teaching Section and our current position owes much to his work and that of his successors Ian Hughes (UK), Joan Lakosi (US) and Tiaan Brink. Second, we were pleased to welcome Prof Masamitsu Iino, President of WCP2018 (Kyoto, Japan) who indicated his commitment to supporting education events as part of that meeting. IUPHAR-Ed is grateful to the following for sponsoring the Satellite meeting: North-West University Faculty of Health Sciences, HB Healthcare, Reaxys, Lasec, Reckitt-Benckiser, Elsevier, and Springer.

IUPHAR-Ed Awards

An important new development for the IUPHAR-Ed has been the establishment of awards to recognise those who have made important contributions to pharmacology education both at junior and senior level. The international judging panel was chaired by Liz Davis (Australia). The IUPHAR-Ed outstanding Early Educator Award, sponsored by the North-West University School of Pharmacy, recognizes an individual in the early stage of their career who has created novel teaching practices in response to a particular challenge to improve student learning outcomes. The 2014 award went to Jelle Tichelaar (Netherlands) for a project entitled 'A feasibility study of a learner centered student run clinic (LC-SRC) with the emphasis on pharmacotherapy'. The IUPHAR-Ed Teaching Excellence Awards have been established to recognize outstanding pharmacology educators who have made a

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sustained and significant contribution to education and/or training in pharmacology in any context. The three worthy award winners in 2014 were Evan Begg (New Zealand), Helen Kwanashie (Nigeria) and Shiela Doggrell (Australia).

IUPHAR-Ed Executive Committee (2014–2018)

Elections were undertaken for the new Section officers and Councillors, who will serve on the IUPHAR-Ed Executive committee for the next 4 years. The elected Officers were Simon Maxwell (UK) as Chair, Shirra Moch (South Africa) as Deputy-Chair, Liz Davis (Australia) as Secretary, and Robert Likic (Croatia) as Treasurer. They will be joined by six new Executive Committee members: Thomas Griesbacher (Austria), Helen Kwanashie (Nigeria), David Lewis (UK), Atsuro Miyata (Japan), Jelle Tichelaar (Netherlands) and Paul White (Australia). We all offer our gratitude to the IUPHAR-Ed Officers who stood down: Tiaan Brink, as past-Chair, David Dewhurst (UK) as Treasurer and PK Rangachari (Canada) as Deputy-Chair.

WCP2014

There were three education sessions during the main WCP2014 Congress. Monday morning began with two plenary presentations: 'Of molecules and markets; culturing pluripotent learners in a standards-based world' by PK Rangachari and 'Challenges of training tomorrow's prescribers' by Simon Maxwell. Monday afternoon included an education symposium entitled *2020 Vision for Pharmacology Education* with six talks: 'Pharmacology teaching, learning and assessment in the 'e-space' - strategies and implementation' by David Dewhurst, 'Developing an online education resource in pharmacology and therapeutics for medical students' by Robert Likic, 'Flipping the classroom: Using technology to build core learning structures in clinical pharmacology' by Shirra Moch, 'e-Learning 2.0 - The Teaching Resource Centre as tool for integrative pharmacology and therapeutics' by Justin Hay, 'Delivering a national strategy for e-Assessment in clinical pharmacology and prescribing' by Simon Maxwell and 'Influences on the uptake of technology for teaching and assessment of pharmacology? Can IUPHAR help?' by Liz Davis. The following afternoon there was a symposium on delivering education in developing countries: *Internet-based solutions to alleviate shortages of pharmacology faculty in developing countries*, organized by John Szarek (US) and Leszek Wojnowski.

IUPHAR/ASPET Pharmacology Education Project (PEP)

IUPHAR and ASPET have formed a collaboration to develop an open access education website for which the key aims will be (i) to support students of the pharmacological and other biomedical sciences, medicine, nursing and pharmacy, (ii) to provide support for the pharmacology education community that provides much of the teaching for those groups, (iii) to provide a 'stepping stone' towards some of the cutting edge pharmacological data curated within the *IUPHAR/BPS Guide to Pharmacology* and allow those who are less familiar with such material to have some understanding of the concepts involved, and (iv) to achieve this within a simple, attractive and easily searchable resource with an intuitive layout (Figure). This initiative should be particularly attractive to those in resource-poor countries or where the discipline pharmacology is less well developed. The initial Editorial Board includes myself and John Szarek (US) as Co-Leads as well as Leszek Wojnowski, Antonio Sarikas (Germany), Liz Davis (Australia), Kelly Karpa (US), and Chay-Hoon Tan (Singapore). This group will undoubtedly expand and I hope that contributing to this project will progressively be seen as a major activity for the members of IUPHAR-Ed.

Other initiatives

IUPHAR-Ed continues to maintain its commitment to supporting education in less established centres. A major part of that commitment is the IUPHAR Integrative Organ and Systems Pharmacology (IOSP) initiative, ably led by David Lewis (UK). The IOSP ran another successful

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workshop at the University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa from in July, organized locally by Johannes Bodenstien and colleagues. Members of IUPHAR-Ed have also been happy to deliver lectures and other educational events remotely. At the time of writing Tiaan Brink and I look forward to participating in International Symposium on Medicines and Patient Safety to be held at the University of Rwanda in November. We have previously supported young pharmacologists with travel bursaries to present their work and will continue to support global networking whenever our funds permit it.

IUPHAR-Ed Financial Position

The current balance of the IUPHAR Ed account stands at €11,553. From this balance we are due to pay the sum of USD 1,000 to the winner of the Young Investigator Prize.

Future

It will remain a challenge to keep in touch with members of the Section in the coming years without a major Congress but we hope to continue regular online meetings, harness the benefits of social media and also provide more information on the [IUPHAR website](#) in coming months. The development of the IUPHAR Pharmacology Education Project (PEP) should be an important focus for the Section and the IOSP initiative will organise further events while its funding continues. IUPHAR-Ed would also like to help to develop and update the WHO *Guide to Good Prescribing* and is pursuing this aim via the IUPHAR-WHO liaison group.

Professor Simon Maxwell
Chair, IUPHAR Education Section 2014–2018