



November, 2001

BY-LAWS Change

NCAR is holding an election to make a revision in our by-laws. An issue was raised at the last business meeting regarding the procedure for voting for new steering committee members. It was suggested that the vote be delayed until after the meeting, but that the candidates be announced at the meeting. In addition, the steering committee would like to extend the term of the past-chair from one year to three years, allowing more overlap between the past and new chair. These two changes are presented on a ballot contained within this newsletter for all primary NCAR members. Please take the time to return your ballot and vote on these recommended changes.

IN MEMORY

We are sorry to announce the loss of two members of our section, Dr. Margaret Sullivan and Dr. Phyllis Gootman.

Margaret Sullivan passed away on Saturday, June 2, 2001. Her research interests included the central control of fluid and salt ingestion and the role of peptide neurotransmitters in body fluid homeostasis. Margaret was also active in teaching and participated in the Frontiers in Physiology and the Local Outreach Team programs sponsored by the Education Committee of the American Physiological Society. She will be sadly missed by her husband, Dr. J. Thomas Cunningham and their children Sean and Kate. We will miss her greatly for her scientific contributions. Even more, she will be missed for her approach to life, her intelligence, warmth, love and humor.

Phyllis Gootman, SUNY-Health Science Center (Brooklyn), passed away on July 26., 2001 due to complications related to surgical treatment of a leukemia neuroblastoma. Phyllis was instrumental in establishing many basic concepts regarding cardiorespiratory control and control of sympathetic outflow. Her death is a great loss to our section and physiology in general. We will miss her continuing contributions and her insights into cardiovascular regulation.

We would like to honor the memories and contributions of these two friends and outstanding scientists at the NCAR reception/business meeting at EB2002 on Monday, April 22. Please join us in a remembrance of their lives.

SUCCESSFUL NCAR PROGRAMMING FOR EB2001!

The participation of the section and section members at the annual Experimental Biology meeting in Orlando was outstanding. We had a large increase in the number of abstracts submitted to the meeting, showing the interest and enthusiasm of our members for participation in the meeting. Attendance at our section sponsored programming also was outstanding. The meeting was highlighted by the Carl Ludwig Distinguished Lectureship, given by William de Groat, M.D. entitled " PLASTICITY IN SACRAL AUTONOMIC REFLEX PATHWAYS DURING POSTNATAL DEVELOPMENT AND AFTER NEURAL INJURY." Dr. de Groat was honored at our section social, and participated in our traditional breakfast with the Distinguished Lecturer for students and postdoctoral fellows. In addition to these activities, NCAR also sponsored or co-sponsored symposia entitled "THE ROLE OF THE AMYGDALA IN THE PHYSIOLOGY OF EMOTION", chaired by Ralph Adolphs and William Talman. and NEUROHUMORAL CONTROL OF THE NORMAL AND DISEASED HEART", chaired by Jeffrey Ardell. Our Featured Topics included "THE EMERGING NEUROBIOLOGY OF OBESITY: AUTONOMIC AND CARDIOVASCULAR IMPLICATIONS", chaired by Allyn Mark; " NEURAL CONTROL OF RENAL FUNCTION", chaired by Simon C. Malpas; and "AUTONOMIC AND CARDIOVASCULAR REGULATION: FOCUS ON NOCICEPTIN AND OPIOID PEPTIDES", chaired by Daniel Kapusta. In addition, NCAR members played important roles in the organization of Special Lectures: PHYSIOLOGY InFOCUS: NEUROTRANSMITTERS IN CARDIOVASCULAR REGULATION, Organized by Gerald F. DiBona, M.D., University of Iowa. These lectures included "Neurotransmitters in Cardiovascular Regulation: Angiotensin", organized by Roger Dampney; "Neurotransmitters in Cardiovascular Regulation: Glutamate", organized by Frank Gordon; "Neurotransmitters in Cardiovascular Regulation: Nitric Oxide", organized by David Bredt; and "Neurotransmitters in Cardiovascular Regulation: GABA", organized by Alan Sved. All of these programs were outstanding, and the attendance was high. We should all thank Drs. Frank Gordon and Alan Sved for their great work on programming. Members are urged to continue this active participation at the Experimental Biology meeting in New Orleans on April 20-24, 2002. NCAR sponsored programming is listed later in this newsletter.

Patrick J. Mueller, Ph.D. Receives the Michael J. Brody Award

Patrick J. Mueller, Ph.D., was the recipient of the 2001 Michael J. Brody Young Investigator Award. Dr. Mueller is from the University of Missouri, Columbia, working with Dr. Eileen Hasser. His presentation was entitled "Cardiopulmonary receptor activation in conscious rats following hindlimb unloading."

The Michael J. Brody award recognizes a promising young scientist who has made a significant research contribution to the understanding of neural control and autonomic regulation. The award was named in honor of the late Michael J. Brody, whose work was instrumental in furthering our understanding of central mechanisms involved in control of the cardiovascular system. Dr. Brody placed great emphasis on the importance of developing young scientists. The award is co-sponsored by the Neural Control and Autonomic Regulation Section of the APS and Merck Pharmaceuticals.

Christopher Madden Wins Procter and Gamble Award

The 2001 Procter and Gamble Professional Opportunity Award was received by Christopher Madden from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Madden presented a paper entitled "The effects of destruction of C1 neurons on rostral ventrolateral medulla (RVLM)-evoked cardiovascular responses." Dr. Madden was a graduate student in the laboratory of Dr. Alan Sved.

First Young Investigator Awards Given at EB2001

The first annual NCAR Young Investigator Awards were given out at the NCAR reception this year at the Experimental Biology Meeting. This award provides travel support (\$500) and registration to junior investigators to present meritorious research. A total of four awards were given this year to the following applicants:

Andrew J. Lawrence, Ph.D., Monash University, Clayton, VIC, Australia

Jeffrey T. Potts, Ph.D., Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Karie E. Scrogin, Ph.D., Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL

Javier E. Stern, Ph.D., Wright State University, Dayton, OH

NCAR will be awarding at least two Young Investigator Awards at every EB Meeting. More awards will be possible, based on the number of abstracts submitted for our section's programming. To be eligible, the investigator must have a Ph.D., M.D., or other professional degree with an academic rank or equivalent not higher than that of Assistant Professor and conduct either basic or clinical research in a field of neural control and autonomic regulation. To apply, the investigator must submit a first-authored abstract to any appropriate neural control topic of the Experimental Biology meeting. Award criteria will be based on current work reflected in the abstract and overall contributions to the field. A copy of the abstract and a CV from the investigator must be mailed by **January 31, 2002** to the Member-at-Large of the NCAR Steering Committee, **Dr. William Talman**, Professor, Department of Neurology, University of Iowa Hospital, 200 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA, 52242-1053. The abstracts will be judged by the NCAR Steering Committee and the most meritorious applications will be awarded.

APS Committee Representatives Appointed More are Needed

This August, NCAR had four members appointed to APS committees, based on the recommendation of the Committee on Committees. **Dr. Michael J. Kenney** was appointed to the Daggs Award Committee, **Dr. Ann C. Bonham** was appointed to the Finance Committee, **Dr. Shaun F. Morrison** was appointed to the membership Committee, and **Dr. Philip S. Clifford** (secondary member) was appointed to the serve as the AAAS Representative. We congratulate these members on their appointments and ask that anyone who is interested in serving on APS committees please contact our Committee on Committee Representative, **Dr. Gregory Fink**, finkg@pilot.msu.edu.

Donald J. Reis Memorial

There is still time to donate to the memorial to Donald J. Reis. We are establishing a fund that will endow a lectureship and award program to be presented annually at the Experimental Biology meeting. The award will be cooperatively administered through the Neural Control and Autonomic Regulation, Central Nervous System, and Cardiovascular Sections. Tax deductible contributions to that fund can be sent to the Donald J. Reis Memorial Fund, c/o The American Physiological Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3991. Those seeking further information may contact Martin Frank at mfrank@aps.faseb.org, Jeanne Seagard at jseagard@mcw.edu, or Susan Barman at barman@pilot.msu.edu

EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY MEETING

"Translating the Genome"

APRIL 20-24, 2002

New Orleans, LA

Many events are planned for the annual Experimental Biology Meeting. These include the Carl Ludwig Distinguished Lecture on Sunday, April 21; a reception and business meeting on Monday, April 22 and breakfast for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with our distinguished lecturer on Tuesday, April 23. In addition, we have a lot of interesting programming, including one symposium and three featured topics sponsored by NCAR. These events are outlined below. Check your program and the APS website for additional information on these and other sessions. Make your plans now!

Sponsored Symposium

Neural Control of the Cerebral Circulation, William T. Talman. Tuesday, April 23, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sponsored Featured Topics

Orthostatic Tachycardia and Hypotensive Syndromes, David Robertson, Sunday, April 21, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Chemoreflexes in Health and Disease: Recent Perspectives in Cardiovascular Control, Harold Schultz. Tuesday, April 23, 3:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Sensory Afferents and Cardiovascular Regulation, Donna Wang and Steven Mifflin. Monday, April 22, 3:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Carl Ludwig Distinguished Lecturer 2002

Dr. Suzanne Oparil, M.D.

The Anterior Hypothalamic Area: Gatekeeper in the Pathogenesis of Salt-Sensitive Hypertension

Sunday, April 21, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

The **Carl Ludwig Distinguished Lecture** at Experimental Biology 2002 will be given by **Dr. Suzanne Oparil**, University of Alabama, Birmingham. This lectureship is named in honor of Carl Ludwig in recognition of his many and important contributions to understanding autonomic regulatory mechanisms. The lectureship is sponsored by the Neural Control and Autonomic Regulation Section of the American Physiological Society.

The title of Dr. Oparil's lecture will be "The Anterior Hypothalamic Area: Gatekeeper in the Pathogenesis of Salt-Sensitive Hypertension." Dr. Oparil is Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. Research in Dr. Oparil's laboratory spans the gamut from molecular and cellular studies to the whole animal to clinical trials. This work has two general themes: 1) the pathogenesis of vascular disease, with particular emphasis on sexual dimorphism and the protective effects of female sex hormones and 2) the pathophysiology and treatment of high blood pressure. Dr. Oparil, in collaboration with colleagues at UAB, has developed and characterized a model of salt-sensitive hypertension in the spontaneously hypertensive rat (SHR-S). Using this model, they have demonstrated that the nervous system contributes importantly to the development of salt sensitive hypertension. Past studies have shown that in the SHR-S, excessive dietary salt leads to a significant selective decrease in noradrenaline release from nerve terminals in the anterior hypothalamic area. This in turn causes decreased inhibition of sympathetic nervous system activity and a resultant rise in arterial pressure. Current studies are elucidating the mechanisms by which the anterior hypothalamus plays a role in salt sensitive hypertension.

Dr. Oparil will attend the **NCAR Reception/Business meeting** on Monday, April 22. Please attend and use this opportunity to meet Dr. Oparil and mingle with other NCAR members. She will also attend an informal **breakfast with students and postdoctoral fellows** on Tuesday, April 23. This will be a unique opportunity for young investigators to interact in an informal way with one of the leaders in our field. Please plan to attend the lecture and the meetings with Dr. Oparil.

YOU CAN DETERMINE NCAR PROGRAMMING FOR THE FUTURE

Programming for the EB meeting continues to be entirely in the hands of the sections. It is our responsibility to ensure that we have high quality programming. We need your help in this most important function of your section. This is your opportunity to organize a great program around your primary research interest. The stature and influence of NCAR within APS will rise or fall as a function of the quality and success of its programming. NCAR will likely program 3-4 featured topic sessions and one symposium for EB 2003.

For **symposium**, each organizer will be allocated monies for use in the reimbursement of relevant travel expenses (airfare, per diem, housing, etc.) of invited speaker(s), both member and nonmember. The amount provided to each organizer from APS funds will not exceed \$4,000. All APS-sponsored symposium speakers and chairs will receive complimentary registration. The symposium organizer will direct the allocation of speaker travel reimbursement. The organizer may raise additional funds from outside sources. APS does not provide honoraria.

Featured topics are similar to *minisymposia* in that they are pre-formed (prior to the mailing of the Call for Papers) oral sessions including a session title, chairperson and not more than two *featured presenters*. Featured presenters, or invited speakers, may present work not represented by a submitted abstract. All other presentations are selected from the submitted abstracts. Abstract authors choose the preferred *featured topic* category from the call for papers as an indication that they are willing to present their research in both an oral and poster format. Either the chairperson of the featured topic or the primary sponsoring section's Joint Program Committee Representative is responsible for selecting which abstracts to include in the featured topic session. NCAR, via APS funding, provides each featured topic organizer \$750 for each featured topic to be used in support of travel or activities related to the featured topic session, including registration and travel expenses.

Please mail, FAX, or e-mail your ideas for featured topics or symposia to our program representative, Alan Sved (sved@bns.pitt.edu). We will need programming for future meetings, as well as EB 2003.

FUTURE CARL LUDWIG DISTINGUISHED LECTURERS

Each section has a Distinguished Lectureship, which is given each year at the EB meeting. The NCAR Distinguished Lectureship is the Ludwig Distinguished Lecture. This is a major focus of programming for the section. In addition to giving the lecture, the individual who is chosen also is asked to participate in several section activities, including an informal breakfast with students and postdocs. We are very interested in input from members of the section regarding who is chosen. Please contact any steering committee member with your suggestions for this distinguished lecturer for 2003 or future years.

NEURAL CONTROL AND AUTONOMIC REGULATION SECTION COMMITTEES

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