

## MICHIGAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY (MPS) Third Annual Meeting Report (2015-2016)

**EA Wehrwein (President) and V VanRyn (Secretary-Treasurer)**

The third Annual Meeting of the Michigan Physiological Society (MPS) was hosted by Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, MI on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2016. Additional events of the conference, including a poster session and dinner, were held at the Detroit Historical Museum. The meeting hosted 180 attendees, representing twelve institutions: *Adrian College, Alma College, Brock University, Central Michigan University, Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University, Oakland University, University of Michigan, The University of Western Ontario, The University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and Wayne State University.* Additionally, 18 educators from high-schools across the state of Michigan participated in our first Life Sciences Teacher Workshop offered on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2016.

Registration took place during the afternoon of Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup>. After registration, Dr. Erica Wehrwein (President, Michigan State University (MSU)) and Dr. Pat Mueller (President Elect, Wayne State University (WSU)) greeted MPS members, special attendees, and guests during the opening session. Additionally, Dr. Stephen Lanier (WSU Vice President for Research) and Dr. Jian-Ping Jin (WSU Chair of Physiology) welcomed the membership to the Wayne State University campus.

All oral presentations, aside from the keynote lecture, were given by trainees. Trainees also served as session co-chairs. The first oral session ensued immediately following the meeting opening. Presenters were selected by the awards committee based on judging of submitted abstracts. Trainees gave ten minute talks with five minutes for questions. The question and answer sessions were moderated by the trainee session co-chairs, and MPS leadership has a stated goal that trainees in the audience ask questions rather than the faculty. Oral presentations were judged to determine the top presentations for award honors. There were 16 total trainee oral presentations over the two-day conference. This first session, regarding molecular and cellular topics, was co-chaired by Brandon Coughlin (MSU) and Zeljka Minic (WSU) and featured excellent talks by three individuals: Vanessa Ramseyer (WSU), Molly Thorson (U of M) and Ryan Pettit-Mee.

The Society then welcomed Keynote Speaker Hannah V. Carey, PhD of The University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Comparative Biosciences. Dr. Carey's keynote address was titled, "Seasonal Remodeling of the Host-Gut Microbe Symbiosis in Hibernation." A group photo was taken (Fig. 1) and the members traveled to the nearby Detroit Historical Museum for an opening reception.

The evening session included a reception, the first poster session, and dinner. Hors d'oeuvres were served during a reception where members mingled amongst themselves and navigated through the first poster session which included roughly half of the 68 total posters. Submitted poster abstracts were judged in advance by the awards committee to determine which posters would be further evaluated at the meeting. Poster presentations were scored by a panel of judges in order to select award recipients. At the conclusion of the poster presentations, the museum was opened for public viewing and a "Streets of Detroit"-themed dinner was served as live music resonated throughout the corridors.

After morning announcements on Friday May 13<sup>th</sup>, the second oral session began. This session, regarding respiratory/cardiovascular and neuro-physiology, was co-chaired by Andrew Chapp (MTU) and Dragana Komnenov (WSU) and featured excellent talks by six individuals: Amanda Shoemaker and Kevin Steelman (CMU), Joanne Garbincius (U of M), Andrew Kulek (WSU), Janice Diazz-Ortero (MSU) and Stephen Klassen (Brock U.).

Three concurrent breakout sessions took place during the meeting. The highlighted foci were, "Individual Development Plan" with Tony Nunez (MSU), "Opportunities to Involve Undergraduates in Research" with Rasheeda Zafar (WSU-IMSD) and Jennifer Tabb (WSU-Re-B.U.I.L.D. Detroit) and "Models for Physiologist-Teacher Collaboration" (see information regarding Life Sciences Teacher Workshop below) with Dinesh Pal (U of M). The second poster session was held on Friday afternoon posters were available for further viewing during the lunch period.

Following a catered lunch, the third oral session began. This session, regarding neuro-physiology was co-chaired by Travis Wakeman (MTU) and Brandon Sauer (CMU) and featured excellent talks by four individuals: Kelsey Kusch (Adrian), Katelyn Norton (U. WO), Robert Larson (MTU) and Mark Badrov (Western U.). Brief refreshments were offered before the fourth oral session began. This session was co-chaired by Shibandri Das (MSU) and Isola Brown (MSU) and featured excellent talks by four individuals: Zachery Krease (WSU), Nusrat Matin (MSU), Ankita Jaykumar (HFH, WSU) and Kevin Gordish (HFH, WSU).

In a parallel session on Friday, a Life Sciences Teacher Workshop was offered. The APS Chapter Program and APS staff partnered with the MPS this year to develop and evaluate a model program, Regional Professional Learning Communities (RPLC). The workshop hosted 18 local HS life science teachers. Teachers were provided a full day workshop with travel reimbursement and lunch to engage in the activities of our in chapter activities including the poster session, integrate the Six Star Science principles into chapter K-12 outreach activities and inform both teachers and researchers in the region about the APS Frontiers program and Physiology Understanding Week. Margaret Shain-Stieben, of the APS education office, traveled to MI to run this event with the assistance of the MPS K12 Chair Karen Ball (Alma College) and session moderator Dinesh Pal (University of Michigan). Dr. Hannah Carey from the University of Wisconsin gave a stimulating lecture entitled "Hibernation: A cool way to spend the winter", MPS members served on a career panel moderated by Erica Wehrwein (Fig. 2), and Dr. Steve DiCarlo (WSU) opened his laboratory for a private demonstration regarding his research models.

All members and guests reconvened for the Business Meeting on Friday afternoon. Secretary-Treasurer James Poteracki (MSU) discussed the budget, expenses and donations from the previous year. Subsequently, Erica Wehrwein announced the date of the next Annual Meeting at Alma College for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017. She then offered thanks to the outstanding members of the Executive Board who completed terms: Jason Carter (MTU, Past-President) and James Poteracki (MSU, Secretary-Treasurer) (Fig. 5). A ballot was distributed at the meeting and a popular vote was taken to elect new members. The results were tallied afterward and two new members were elected to the Executive Board: Karen Ball (Alma, President-Elect) and Valerie VanRyn (MSU, Secretary-Treasurer). The meeting concluded with the Awards Ceremony. Awards were funded by generous donations of our members. Of the 16 total oral presentations, four talks were honored and oral award recipients were presented with a \$250 check (Fig. 3). Of the 68 total poster presentations, six posters were honored and poster award recipients were presented with a \$100 check (Fig. 4).

The MPS was extremely pleased with the robust member turn-out for the Annual Meeting of 2015-2016. The year showed continued growth in numbers of members and attendees. The meeting welcomed international members from Canada for the first time.

We owe many thanks to the planning committee (Fig. 5) and local volunteers for the execution of this meeting and are grateful to The American Physiological Society for their continuous support. We also appreciate the financial support of our benevolent sponsors: Michigan State University College of Human Medicine (Dr. Aron Sousa-Dean), Wayne State University, Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (Dr. Joseph Dunbar-Program Director), Wayne State University, Office of the Vice President for Research (Dr. Stephen Lanier-Vice President), Henry Ford Health System (Dr. Margot LaPointe-Vice President for Research), Michigan State University College of Natural Sciences (Dr. R James Kirkpatrick-Dean), Michigan Technological University Graduate School (Dr. Jacqueline E Huntoon-Dean); Department of Kinesiology& Integrative Physiology (Dr. Jason Carter-Chair); and Department of Biological Sciences (Dr. Shekhar Joshi-Chair), Wayne State University, School of Medicine (Dean Jack Sobel), Wayne State University, School of Medicine, Department of Physiology (Dr. J.-P. Jin-Chair), Michigan State University, Graduate School (Dr. Judith Stoddart- Interim Dean), Michigan State University, Office of the Vice President for Research & Graduate Studies (Dr. Stephen Hsu-Dean), Wayne State University, School of Medicine, Research Office (Dr. Linda Hazlett-Interim Vice Dean), Wayne State University, School of Medicine, BioMed Graduate Programs (Dr. Stanley Terlecky- Associate Dean), Wayne State University School of Medicine Cardiovascular Research Institute (Dr. Karin Przyklenk-Director), Wayne State University Graduate School (Dr. Ambika Mathur-Dean) and Mayo Graduate School Biomedical Engineering & Physiology Program.



**Figure 1. 2015-2016 MPS Member Photo**



**Figure 2. Life Sciences Teacher Workshop Career Panel** MPS members from left to right: Valerie VanRyn, Adele Denison, Monica McCullough, Jason Carter, and Anthony Anzell.



**Figure 3. Oral Presentation Award Winners** MPS members from left to right: Dr. Erica Wehrwein (MPS President), Ankita Jaykumar, Janice Diaz-Ortero, Kevin Gordish and Dr. Monica McCullough (Oral Judging Chair). Not pictured: Amanda Shoemaker and Kevin Steelman.



**Figure 4. Poster Presentation Award Winners** MPS members from left to right: Dr. Erica Wehrwein (MPS President), Brandon Coughlin, Kiera Fisher, Hannah Marti, Shibandri Das, Konstadionos Bakoulas, and Mohamad-El Chami, and Dr. Naveen Sharma (Poster Judging Chair).



**Figure 5. Executive Board and Planning Committee** MPS members from left to right: John Durocher (Awards Chair), Jason Carter (Past-President), Karen Ball (K12 Chair), Erica Wehrwein (President), Sue Barman (Membership and Fundraising Chair), Nusrat Matin (Trainee Affairs Chair), Pat Mueller (President-Elect), James Poteracki (Secretary-Treasurer), and Kevin Gordish (Website Coordinator).