

## **The 2011 Combined Annual Meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska Physiological Societies**

**October 21-22, 2011**

A combined meeting of the Iowa (IPS) and Nebraska (NPS) Physiological Societies was held on Friday and Saturday, October 21-22 at the Olsen Medical Education Center (OMEC) on the campus of Des Moines University (DMU) in Des Moines, IA. The meeting became the fifteenth and fourteenth annual meetings of the IPS and NPS, respectively. The meeting was financially supported by The American Physiological Society (APS), DSI, Kent Scientific, AD Instruments, the Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, The University of Iowa, and Des Moines University.

On Friday evening, a social event was held at the OMEC which included dinner and music performed by the DMU Chamber Orchestra. A total of 51 individuals attended the social. On Saturday, 109 individuals participated in the scientific/educational conference. The attendees included 36 faculty members, 17 post-doctoral fellows, 29 graduate students, and 20 undergraduate students. In addition, 1 high school teacher and 7 other individuals, not included in the aforementioned categories, also attended. Overall, institutions from Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin were represented.

The Saturday scientific/educational sessions began with opening remarks from IPS president Julia Moffitt, Ph.D. from the Department of Physiology & Pharmacology, Des Moines University. Following Dr. Moffitt's introductory remarks, the NPS keynote education address was made by Arri Eisen, Ph.D. from Emory University. His presentation was titled "Freshmen, Post-Docs, and Monks: My Journey into Learning How to Teach." Dr. Eisen's presentation was followed by a break in which attendees were able to visit exhibitor booths and view posters. The NPS "local" research address was then given by Keshore Bidasee, Ph.D. for the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Neuroscience at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. His talk was titled "Reactive Carbonyl Species: A New Player in the Pathogenesis of Diabetic Heart Failure."

Following Dr. Bidasee's presentation, two graduate student research presentations were made. One student from the IPS and one from the NPS were selected based on the quality and novelty of their submitted abstracts. The first presenter was Erin Rosenbaugh from the Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Her talk was titled "Neuronal Uptake and Subcellular Localization of Nanoformulated Copper/Zinc Superoxide Dismutase." This was followed by a talk by Katrin Hollinger from the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University. Her presentation was titled "PGC-1-alpha Over-expression Rescues Dystrophin Deficient Skeletal Muscle."

After the graduate student presentations, three concurrent workshops took place. For college/university faculty, a teaching workshop was conducted by Mark Chapleau, Ph.D. and Clay Peterson, Ph.D., both from the University of Iowa. Dr. Chapleau's presentation was titled "Computer Simulation" while Dr. Peterson's talk was on "Technology in Teaching." Another workshop was conducted for high school teachers and this was chaired by Gina Schattemen, Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. Dr. Schattemen presented "Working with the National Institutes of Health Curriculum Supplements." The third workshop was organized for undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students and involved a panel discussion with various professionals from outside academia and was titled "Alternative Career Opportunities." The panelists included: Kelly Pitts, Ph.D. (Corgenix Medical Corporation; current Chair of the APS Physiologists in Industry Committee), Darin Glyten, B.A., M.A., R.N. (Cardiac Rehabilitation,

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics), Jack Johnson, B.A., M.S. (General Manager, Aspen Athletic Club), Meg Robison, (Medical Writer, Robison & Associates Medical Communications, LLC), Mike Dixon, (UNeMed Corporation, University of Nebraska Medical Center), and Lisa Vroegh (Des Moines University Admissions). This workshop was very well attended and produced a great deal of discussion and interest.

Lunch immediately followed the workshops. During the lunch period, Harald Stauss, M.D., Ph.D., from the University of Iowa, and the current chair of the APS Chapter Advisory Committee, gave an informative presentation entitled "News from the Chapter Advisory Committee."

The afternoon sessions commenced with the IPS keynote research address by Karie Scrogin, Ph.D., from the Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Loyola University. Dr. Scrogin's talk was titled "New Tricks from an Old Molecule: Discovery of a Novel Role for Serotonin in the Neural Control of the Circulation." This was followed by a two-hour period devoted to poster viewing and judging.

Following the poster session, Mike Lyons, Ph.D. from Kirkwood Community College gave the IPS "local" education address. His talk was titled "Undergraduate Research in Two- and Four-Year Institutions: How to Develop, Implement, and Assess Research Experiences for First-time Physiology Students."

The afternoon session concluded with poster awards and recognitions. The winners of the undergraduate and graduate divisions each received a \$1000 travel award to present their posters at the 2012 Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, CA. The undergraduate winner was Kari Echtenkamp from the University of Nebraska at Omaha for her poster entitled "Reduced Transtubular K Gradient (TTKG) in the Distal Nephron of BK- $\beta$ 4 knockout mice ( $\beta$ 4KO) on Na Deficient, High K Diets." The graduate winner was Jessica Freeling from the University of South Dakota for her poster entitled "Attenuated Parasympathetic Nervous System Control of the Heart in the Aging Mouse." In addition, all undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral poster presenters received a certificate and gift bag for their participation in this year's meeting. Concluding remarks were made by IPS president, Dr. Julia Moffitt.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the individual societies held their annual business meetings.

The IPS business meeting was chaired by Julia Moffitt, from Des Moines University and attended by Harald Stauss, Secretary/Treasurer from the University of Iowa, Kim Tran, from Des Moines University, Ron Torry, from Drake University, Mark Chapleau from the University of Iowa, and Gina Schatteman. Kim Tran was unanimously elected president for 2012. Harald Stauss provided the treasurers report and then discussion of plans for next year's meeting was put forth. In addition possible chapter grant application ideas were discussed as were the association of IPS with the Iowa Academy of Sciences.

The NPS business meeting was called to order and chaired by Past-President, George Rozanski, Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska Medical Center (current President, G. Patrick Lambert, Ph.D., from Creighton University, was unable to attend due to a death in the family). A presentation on outreach activities over the past year was given by NPS Councilor David Holtzclaw, Ph.D. This was followed by an update on the APS Chapter Advisory Committee activities and the chapter grant program by Harold Schulz, Ph.D., from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. NPS Executive Director Cindy Norton then gave the treasurer's report and this was followed by the presentation of the Past-President Award to Dr. Rozanski by Dr. Engebretsen for his service to the NPS. The NPS council members for 2011-2012

were then announced. These are: President - Barbara Engebretsen, Ph.D., Wayne State College; Past-President - G. Patrick Lambert, Ph.D., Creighton University; President-Elect - Keshore Bidasee, University of Nebraska Medical Center; Secretary/Treasurer - Hong Zheng, M.D., University of Nebraska Medical Center; Councilor - Yifan Li, Ph.D., University of South Dakota; Councilor - Carol Fassbinder-Orth, Ph.D., Creighton University; Councilor - Matthew C. Zimmerman, Ph.D. University of Nebraska Medical Center; and Student Councilor - Tamra Llewellyn, University of Nebraska Medical Center. Final remarks were then made by President-Elect Engebretsen regarding ideas for next year's meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Patrick Lambert, Ph.D.  
NPS Past-President

Julia Moffitt, Ph.D.  
IPS Past President



Dr. Kari Scrogin, IPS Keynote Research Speaker



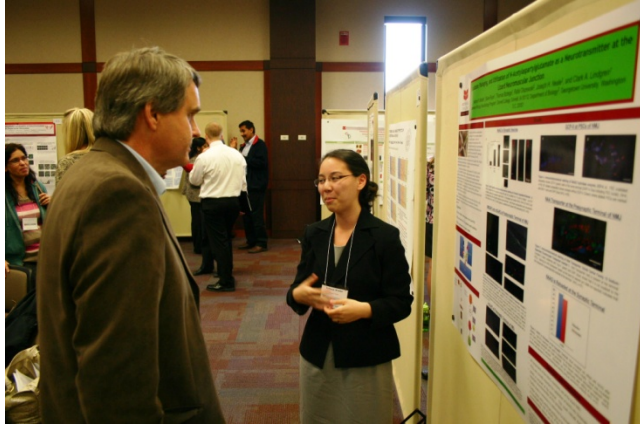
Dr. Arri Eisen, NPS Keynote Education Speaker



Dr. Mike Lyons, IPS "Local" Education Speaker



Dr. Keshore Bidasee, NPS "Local" Research Speaker



The combined meeting drew 13 undergraduate posters, 22 graduate posters, 15 post-doctoral posters, and 5 faculty posters



Undergraduate poster presenters at the 2011 Combined Meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska Physiological Societies



Graduate poster presenters at the 2011 Combined Meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska Physiological Societies



Post-doctoral poster presenters at the 2011 Combined Meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska Physiological Societies



Kari Echtenkamp, winner of the undergraduate EB 2012 travel award, with Dr. Julia Moffitt



Jessica Freeling, winner of the graduate EB 2012 travel award, with Dr. Julia Moffitt