SECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTIONS, AWARDS AND COMINGS AND GOINGS

I am happy to announce that Mark Clemens (UNC-Charlotte) and Jerry Turner (University of Chicago) were both elected to serve as councilors on our Steering Committee to begin this Spring in San Diego. Congrats to both and welcome aboard. In addition, it is with great pleasure that I announce that Chris Cheeseman will assume the role of Chair of the GI and Liver Steering committee this Spring as I will be stepping down at that time. I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as Chair and want to thank everyone in the section for all their help. I would also like to point out that we are fortunate to have Ron Ferraris assuming the position of Chair of our section’s Program Committee. Ron has worked tirelessly with Chris over the past 3 years to insure we have the absolute best in GI and Liver programming.

Please join with me and thank both Curtis Okamoto and Hugh Nellens for their valuable service to our section. Both members are rotating off the committee this Spring. We all really appreciate their time and effort in moving GI and Liver research forward at EB. THANKS VERY MUCH!!

Finally congratulations to Dr. Ann Hubbard from Johns Hopkins University for being selected as the Horace W. Davenport Distinguished Lecturer of the APS GI and Liver Section for the 35th Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences. The award will be presented to Dr Hubbard in San Diego this Spring during the joint Experimental Biolog/IUPS meeting in 2005.

Trainee Representative Update

Christie Cefaratti, Postdoctoral Fellow
Trainee Representative for Gastrointestinal and Liver Section
The Trainee Advisory Committee (TAC) was established by the APS in July of 2003 to investigate the needs of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and new investigators. TAC strives to determine how the APS can better address and assist trainees. TAC is composed of trainees elected by each section of the APS to communicate the concerns of that particular section and bring the feedback to committee for discussion.

TAC met recently in Bethesda at the APS Campus to discuss plans for the upcoming year which include establishing a web page and a newsletter, organizing a trainee-relevant workshop for the 2006 Experimental Biology meeting in San Francisco, and composing a listserv of students and postdoctoral trainees. TAC is also going to distribute a survey to further investigate the needs of all, including, mentoring, family and childcare issues, time management, ethics, advancement/promotion, and establishing standards for postdoctoral trainees. If there are any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me with any issues related to students, postdocs, or new faculty. TAC welcomes all suggestions and ideas.

From the APS Liaison With Industry Committee (LWIC)

(Section representative: Pam Hornby)

The LWIC is sponsoring a symposium entitled “Metabolic Syndrome: From Clinical Insights into New Therapies” at IUPS05 on Monday, April 4 from 3:15-5:15 pm. This workshop will feature presentations on the genetic and physiological insights into metabolic syndrome, on the role of PPAR alpha/gamma activation for the treatment of dyslipidermia and insulin resistance in humans and animal models of metabolic syndrome and on the discovery and development of Dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibition for the treatment of obesity and insulin resistance in metabolic disease. Look for the full program in the Spring.

The Novel Disease Model Award ($500/graduate student; $800 postdoctoral fellow) recognizes the graduate student and postdoctoral fellow submitting the best abstracts describing a novel disease model. The model can be cellular or in vivo but should clearly emphasize the potential utility of the system for future research related to a disease process. Applicants must send a copy of the submitted abstract accompanied by the signed and completed Award Certification Form to: Linda Allen, Meetings Department, American Physiological Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3991; fax: 301-634-7241; email: lallen@the-aps.org.
You're invited! Come meet and eat with your fellow physiologists who are working in the corporate sector. The 5th Annual Liaison With Industry Committee Mixer is on at IUPS05. Look for details in the Spring newsletter.

**SESSIONS OF INTEREST**

The 35th Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) will be held in San Diego, CA, March 31 - April 5, 2005 in association with Experimental Biology 2005. IUPS 2005 is being organized by the six member societies of the U.S. National Committee of the IUPS: the American Physiological Society, the Society for Neuroscience, the Microcirculatory Society, the Society of General Physiologists, the Biomedical Engineering Society, and the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, under the auspices of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. The Featured Topics are composed of 1-2 featured presentations followed by 4-6 short presentations selected from contributed abstracts. The abstract deadline is November 3, 2004 (see www.faseb.org/meetings/eb2005 for further information). The following are sessions of interest to gastrointestinal and liver physiologists:

**Symposia**

**Signaling Pathways in Gut Mechano-Sensitivity**
Friday, April 1, 10:30 AM —12:30 PM  
Chairs: Fievos Christofi and Michael Schemann  
Track: Free Standing

Presenter #1  Chemo- and mechanosensitivity in intrinsic primary afferent neurons. John Furness, University of Melbourne

Presenter #2  Emerging role for purines in mechanosensory signals to intestinal cells. Fievos Christofi, Ohio State University

Presenter #3  Mechanosensing signals and nucleotide receptors in tubular structures. Geoffrey Burnstock, Royal Free and University College Medical School, London

Presenter #4  Inflammation and sensory signaling. Gary Mawe, University of Vermont
Epithelial Cells & their Neighbors
Saturday, April 2, 8:00 AM—10:00 AM
Chairs: Hannah Carey and Helen Raybould
Track: Epithelial

Presenter #1  Interaction of epithelial cells with gut microflora. Lora Hooper, U. Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas
Presenter #2  Signaling between neuroendocrine cells and gut epithelial cells. Gunnar Flemstrom, Uppsala University, Sweden
Presenter #3  Role of intestinal myofibroblasts in epithelial cell function. Don Powell, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston
Presenter #4  Interactions between intraepithelial lymphocytes and neighboring epithelial cells. Wendy Havran, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

Neural Control of Energy Balance
Sunday, April 3, 8:00 AM—10:00 AM
Chair: Roger Cone
Track: Feeding, Fuel and Fat: Energy Metabolism

Presenter #1  CNS pathways that regulate energy balance. Roger Cone, Oregon Hlth. Sci. Inst.
Presenter #2  Interaction of adipokines with arcuate nucleus. Tamas L. Horvath, Yale Univ.
Presenter #3  Leptin and insulin in the brain. Mike W. Schwartz, Harborview Med. Ctr.
Featured Topics

Molecules Underlying Diseases of the Central and Enteric Nervous Systems
Saturday, April 2, 10:30 AM—12:30 PM
Chair: George Richerson
Track: Regulatory Brain

Presenter #1: Brain gut-peptides and functional bowel disease. **Yvette Pache**, UCLA

Presenter #2: Serotonin and SIDS. **Hannah Kinney**, Harvard Univ.

Gut Interactions with Pancreas and Liver
Sunday, April 3, 3:15 PM—5:15 PM
Chairs: Patricia Brubaker and David D'Alessio
Track: Free Standing

Presenter #1: The incretins: lessons learned from rodent studies. Patricia Brubaker, Univ. of Toronto

Presenter #2: The regulation of glucose tolerance by incretins in health and disease. David D'Allesio, Univ. of Washington

The Nature of Intestinal Adaptations: Cellular Diversity & Versatility
Tuesday, April 5, 10:30 AM—12:30 PM
Chair: Ronaldo Ferraris
Track: Free Standing

Presenter #1: Glucose Sensors and Transporters in the Small Intestine. Ernest Wright, UCLA

Epithelial Genomics, Proteomics and Genetic Models
Tuesday, April 5, 3:15 PM—5:15 PM
Chairs: Mark Knepper and James Melvin
Track: Epithelial
Presenter #1: Use of model organisms and profiling technologies to study nutrient transport processes in epithelia. Hannelore Daniel, Technical University of Munich

**Davenport Lecture**
Saturday, April 1, 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM
Ann Hubbard

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