The heart of the Renal Section is the scientific program for the Spring EB meeting and I hope this year’s meeting will be better than ever in New Orleans. I want to encourage everyone to present your latest and most exciting findings to this meeting and submit your abstracts early. The Program Committee has expanded their topics, which should provide a suitable category for all the Renal Section members. The Renal Section highlights will include the Featured Topic for the Young Investigator Award, the Gottschalk award presentation and the Berliner Award, presented at the Renal Section Dinner. In addition we will also host the Excellence in Research Awards Posters and Professors session, which was hugely successful in its inaugural year at the last meeting. Look for all of these and more in your EB program next spring.

Below is a list of awards and deadlines. Abstract deadline for EB2009 is November 5, 2008. Visit www.eb2009.org to submit abstracts, reserve housing and register for the meeting.

Renal Section Awards. Awards are available for nearly every career stage. Applications can be found at www.the-aps.org/awardapps and description at www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb09/awards/renal.htm.

- All **graduate students** who are first author on abstracts should apply for the Renal Section Pfizer Predoctoral Excellence in Renal Research Award. **Deadline November 5.**
- All **postdoctoral trainees** who are first author on abstracts should apply for the Renal Section Pfizer Postdoctoral Excellence in Renal Research Award. **Deadline November 5.**
- **Instructors or new Assistant Professors** who author a 2009 abstract should apply for the Renal Section Research Recognition Award. **Deadline November 5.**
- **Instructors or Assistant Professors** who are APS members are eligible for the New Investigator Award, which is not abstract-based. **Nominations are due November 5.**
- More established **Assistant Professors** who are APS members are encouraged to apply for the 2010 Renal Section Young Investigator Award. **Nomination deadline is April 13, 2009.**
- The **Carl W. Gottschalk Distinguished Lectureship** of the APS Renal Section is awarded to an outstanding renal-based investigator. **Nominations are due April 13, 2009.**
- The **2009 Robert W. Berliner Award** sponsored by Abbott Laboratories is presented to the most distinguished scientist and mentor. **Nominations are due by November 5.**
Call for Nominations

The Robert W. Berliner Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology
Sponsored by Abbott Laboratories

The Robert W. Berliner Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology is the most prestigious award of the APS Renal Section. The award recognizes distinguished lifetime achievement in renal physiological research by a living American scientist. Candidates should satisfy the following criteria:

- A world-renowned, distinguished scientist who has been a major contributor to the field of renal physiology over a lifetime, including accomplishments in research, teaching, training and activities within the APS.
- U.S. citizen, at least 60 years of age.
- Must be able to attend EB2009.

All application/nomination materials must be submitted online (http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps) by November 5th. Questions should be directed to Pablo Ortiz at portiz1@hfhs.org. Nominations are automatically carried forward for consideration in the following years. The 2009 award recipient will be selected by the Berliner/Abbott Award Committee; composed of the Renal Section Awards Committee Chair (Pablo Ortiz), the Chair of the Renal Section (Bill Welch), and the Editor of AJP-Renal Physiology (Thomas R. Kleyman).

NEW APS AWARD: Early Career Professional Service Award

The Early Career Professional Service Award honors an early career stage (graduate student, post-doctoral fellow, Assistant Professor or equivalent position) member of the American Physiological Society. The Award will honor someone who is judged to have made outstanding contributions to the physiology community and demonstrated dedication and commitment to furthering the broader goals of the physiology community. This can be by serving on professional committees, participating in K-12 education outreach, participating in scientific advocacy and outreach programs, or by otherwise strengthening and promoting the physiology community. (Current members of the APS Trainee Advisory Committee are ineligible.) For further information, visit http://www.the-aps.org/awards/society/earlycareer.htm

Award: $1,000 and complimentary registration to Experimental Biology meeting
Deadline: January 23, 2009
Apply online at http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps

The 2008 Robert W. Berliner Award recipient Gerald DiBona at the Renal Dinner.
The Pfizer Predoctoral and Amgen Postdoctoral Awards for Excellence in Renal Research are presented each year for outstanding presentations by students and postdoctoral fellows at the Experimental Biology meeting. The awardees were selected from a pool of student and postdoctoral finalists, who were judged on their presentations at the meeting.

There were three first place awardees in the graduate student category this year. One award was presented to Liang Fang, for his presentation entitled, "Molecular Mechanism of ROMK channel endocytosis". Liang is a doctoral student at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and his mentor is Dr. Paul Welling. The second 1st place award went to David Osmond for his presentation entitled "P2X receptor blockade inhibits autoregulation of renal blood flow in vivo". David is a doctoral student at the Medical College of Georgia, and his mentor is Dr. Ed Inscho. The third 1st place award went to Jane Kim Nguyen for her presentation entitled "The WT1 interacting protein: a molecular messenger between the slit diaphragm and podocyte nucleus". Jane is a doctoral student at Case Western Reserve University and her mentor is Dr. John Sedor.

There were two awardees in the postdoctoral category for 2008. One award went to Jennifer Pluznick for her abstract entitled "The Olfactory isoform of adenylyl cyclase (AC3) in the renal macula densa serves as a key regulator of glomerular filtration rate". Jennifer's research was done under the guidance of Dr. Michael Caplan at Yale University. The second award went to Arnold Sipos for his abstract entitled "Direct demonstration of tubular fluid flow sensing by macula densa cells". Arnold is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Southern California in the laboratory of Dr. Janos Peti-Peterdi.

We would like to thank the judges who contribute their time and expertise to evaluate the abstracts and presentations. These individuals support these young scientists and the renal section by their efforts both before and during the meeting. The success of this year's program is a tribute to their commitment. This year's judges were Christine Maric (Georgetown), Pablo A. Ortiz (Henry Ford

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<th>Recipients of the Robert W. Berliner Award</th>
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<td>1993 Carl W. Gottschalk</td>
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2008 Renal Section Awards
Pablo Ortiz, Awards Committee Chair
Hospital), Sylvie Breton (Harvard), James Stockand, (San Antonio), Brooks Robey (Dartmouth), Basil Hanss (Mt. Sinai), and Chair John Imig (MCG).

APS-Sponsored Renal Section Awards 2008
The Renal Section Research Recognition Award was presented to Drs. Fady Botros, (Tulane University), Alejandro Chade (University of Mississippi Medical Center), Marcela Herrera (Henry Ford Hospital) and Mona Oppermann (University of Erlangen, Germany). The APS New Investigator Award for 2008 was given to Dr. Robert Fenton (University of Aarhus). The Astra Zeneca Young Investigator Award went to Dr. Christine Maric (University of Mississippi Medical Center).
Congratulations to all the awardees for their outstanding contributions to kidney research!

We are once again inviting students and postdoctoral fellows to submit their first author, kidney related abstracts to the Renal Awards Program, regardless of the programming topic to which the abstract is submitted. We remind all Renal Section members to encourage their students and postdoctoral fellows and new investigators to apply and participate in the Renal Section Awards Program.

We also encourage renal section members to submit applications and nominations for the Renal Section Research Recognition Awards, the Renal Section New Investigator Award and the Robert W. Berliner Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology. The deadline for submission is November 5, 2008 and a brief description of each award is given below.

The Renal Section Research Recognition Awards recognizes the meritorious research by young investigators (junior faculty) who participate in the annual Experimental Biology Meeting. To qualify for this award, the applicant must have finished post-doctoral work, may not be a senior faculty member. Candidates must author an abstract for the EB meeting.

The Renal Section New Investigator Award recognizes an outstanding investigator in the early stages of his/her career. Candidates should be investigators who have made meritorious contributions to the scientific areas represented by the APS Renal Section. They should not be above the rank of Assistant Professor or a comparable position in a research track at an academic institution or in industry.

The Robert W. Berliner Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology recognizes distinguished lifetime achievement in renal physiological research by a living American scientist. Candidates must be U.S. citizens at least 60 years of age, and must have been a major contributor to the field of renal physiology over a lifetime, including accomplishments in research, teaching, training and activities within the APS.

Instructions for applying for all Renal Section awards are provided in the EB 2009 call for abstracts and through the APS Renal Section Website http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb09/awards/renal.htm. All EB2009 awards will be applied for on-line.

**HEDDWEN BROOKS WINS 2009 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD**

The Renal Section of the American Physiological Society is pleased to announce that the 2009 recipient of the AstraZeneca Young Investigator Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology is Dr. Heddwen Brooks. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physiology at the University of Arizona.

Heddwen received her PhD from the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London, U.K. in 1997. She started her post-doctoral training at the University of Arizona with Dr. A.J. Yool working on the molecular and pharmacological characterization of aquaporins until 1999. She then moved to continue her training to the Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Metabolism at NIH with Dr. Mark Knepper working primarily on the molecular physiology of renal salt and water transporters. She joined the Department of Physiology at the University of Arizona as an Assistant Professor in 2001. Heddwen was one of the first to use cDNA arrays and proteomic profiling to identify several genes and proteins that are regulated by osmolality and vasopressin in the renal medulla. She has also identified renal medullary genes and proteins that are altered in transgenic mice such as the aquaporin 1, AT1-receptor, NHE3 and NCC knockout mice. Her current research addresses the regulation of gene expression, cell proliferation and endoplasmic reticulum stress in renal medullary cells by vasopressin and osmolarity. She is also focusing her research to early diabetic kidney damage during menopause.
Dr. Peter Aronson delivered the 2008 Carl W. Gottschalk Distinguished Lecture of the APS Renal Section

The Carl W. Gottschalk Distinguished Lecturer, Peter Aronson (right) and Pam Carmines (Renal Section Chair) at the 2008 Renal Dinner. Dr. Aronson discussed his groundbreaking work on the roles of ion exchangers in renal NaCl transport and pathogenesis of kidney stones.

AJP-Renal Physiology
NEWS FROM THE EDITOR
Tom Kleyman

The American Journal of Physiology: Renal Physiology continues to see growth in the number of submitted manuscripts. Last year submissions increased by eighteen percent. This year, to date, submissions have increased by ten percent. Our 2007 impact factor remains strong at 4.4, and is among the highest of the journals published by the American Physiological Society that present original work.

Over the next year we will be initiating two new types of review articles. One will provide an overview of basic concepts in renal physiology, targeted to trainees being introduced to renal physiology. The second will focus on new experimental methodologies that are relevant to our community of renal physiologists. The Journal will also publish a series of review articles that highlight areas of renal physiology that were pioneered by Steve Hebert, a former Editor-in Chief of the Journal who recently passed away.
We will continue recognize a “best” paper of the year published in the Journal. The Renal Section Steering Committee will select the paper of the year and the authors will be recognized at the Renal Section dinner at EB2009.

As a final note, the Associate Editors and I look forward to continuing to work with the Journal’s authors and readership to maintain its tradition of excellence.

Joint Programming Committee Report
Sue Mulroney, Tom Pallone

We had excellent submissions for symposia this year, and we wish we could have programmed all of them. Thanks to everyone for their contributions. For EB’09 the symposia are:

**Young Investigator Awardee**

**Heddwen Brooks, PhD**
University of Arizona School of Medicine
*Novel mechanisms of vasopressin regulation of renal function*

**Christine Maric, PhD**
University of Mississippi School of Medicine
*Assessment of dynamic renal autoregulation: principles and applications*

**Jennifer Pluznick, PhD**
Yale University School of Medicine
*The contributions of ROMK and BK channels to renal K secretion*

**Alan Yu, PhD**
University of Southern California
*Novel approaches to elucidate claudin function and paracellular permeability*

We encourage more of the good citizens of the renal community to submit symposium proposals for the Experimental Biology Meetings. This is a great opportunity to ask four of your closest friends, enemies, or scientific competitors to give talks highlighting their work. Everyone gets complementary registration and there are additional funds to pay most, if not all, of the participants travel expenses. What more could you want? All you have to do is go to the following website: [http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb.htm](http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb.htm) and fill out a simple and painless form. That is it! And, if you think you’re too junior and that this is only for experienced investigators, this is nonsense. Let’s keep the great quality and innovative symposia in the pipeline!

See you at EB 2009!

PASSING UP ON A GOOD DEAL?

Folks, your renal representatives to the Joint Program Committee (JPC) want to get more of the good citizens of the renal community to submit symposium proposals for the Experimental Biology Meetings. This is a great opportunity to ask four of your closest friends, enemies, or scientific competitors to give talks highlighting their work. Everyone gets complementary registration and there are additional funds to pay most, if not all, of the participants travel expenses. What more could you want? All you have to do is go to the following website: [http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb.htm](http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb.htm) and fill out a simple and painless form. That is it! And, if you think you’re too junior and that this is only for experienced investigators, this is nonsense. Let’s keep the great quality and innovative symposia in the pipeline!
APS CONFERENCES

The APS Council recently approved the establishment of an APS Conference Committee whose purpose is to facilitate, improve, and energize APS Conferences. To simplify the application process, an online submission site within the APS website is currently being developed. This site should be active by the end the year. It will contain information on APS Conferences, instructions on how to organize a meeting, and the application procedure, which consists of providing an overall meeting abstract and minimal additional details. Application deadlines will be April 1, August 1, and December 1. Anyone who is a member of APS can submit an application for an APS Conference. For more information or to submit an application prior to the activation of the online submission site, please contact: P. Darwin Bell, Chair at BellPD@MUSC.EDU or Linda Allen: APS Representative at: LAllen@The-APS.ORG.

Dear Renal Section,

Greetings from your Trainee Advisory Committee (TAC) Representative! The TAC’s charge is to help APS assist and support trainees (students, postdocs, and junior faculty as well as trainee positions in industry and government). Here are a few highlights from the TAC’s current projects:

- The TAC has developed an award known as the “Early Career Professional Service Award,” for an early career APS member who has made outstanding contributions through professional service. Information on this award can be found at http://www.the-aps.org/awards/society/earlycareer.htm. The deadline is January 23, 2009, and the award includes $1000 and complimentary registration for EB. Please considering applying for this award if you are eligible, or forwarding this information to anyone who may be a candidate for this award.

- **Trainees:** Please visit the newly re-designed Trainee Web Page (http://www.the-aps.org/trainees/) and sign up for the Trainee Listserv as well as the Renal Listserv. Both the Trainee Web Page and the Trainee and Renal Listservs will keep you up-to-date on information regarding Awards, Job Postings, Mentoring, and other helpful information.

- We hope to see you at our **EB 09 symposium** entitled “Mentoring Strategies: Beyond the Bench” (time and date TBA). You can find the powerpoint presentations from our **previous sessions (with audio)** on-line on the APS website at http://www.the-aps.org/careers/careers1/mentor/wrkshp.htm

Finally, I will be rotating off the TAC at the end of this year, and Rick Grimm (pgrim@unmc.edu) will be my very capable replacement. I know that both Rick and I would be glad to hear your questions, concerns, or ideas; please feel free to e-mail one or both of us with any thoughts. I’ve really enjoyed the opportunity to serve the Renal Section, and I truly appreciate the value that the Renal Section places on input from their trainees.

Sincerely,

Jen Pluznick
jennifer.pluznick@yale.edu
The Liaison with Industry Committee (LWIC) is committed to fostering interactions between the APS and industry. Below are some LWIC-sponsored events for Experimental Biology 2009 that Renal Section members won’t want to miss!

**Symposia 2009:** The LWIC is continuing its tradition of sponsoring high quality symposia relevant to industry and academic scientists. The annual LWIC Symposium at EB ’09 is entitled “Molecular Imaging of Physiological Processes in Drug Discovery”. The symposium will highlight recent advances in the field of In Vivo molecular imaging of disease processes, biomarkers, and novel therapeutic targets and has commitments from Dr. William Strauss, M.D. (Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center), Dr. Adriana Maggi, Ph.D. (University of Milan), Dr. Paul Acton, Ph.D. (Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals), and Dr. Farouc A. Jaffer, M.D., Ph.D. (Harvard Medical School).

The committee has also successfully competed for the EB ’09 Translational Physiology symposium; it is entitled “Fibrosis: Signaling, Physiology, and Therapies”. The symposium will discuss recent advances in the field of pathological fibrosis and potential therapeutic approaches to its treatment. Speakers for the Translational Physiology Symposium include Dr. Scott L. Friedman, M.D. (Mount Sinai School of Medicine), Dr. Eric G. Neilson, M.D. (Vanderbilt University School of Medicine), Dr. Scott Lonning, DVM, Ph.D. (Genzyme), and Dr. Kevin K. Brown, M.D. (National Jewish Medical and Research Center).

**Novel Disease Model Award:** A reminder that abstract submissions to EB ’09 are NOT that far away! The Novel Disease Model Award, sponsored by the LWIC and the APS, recognizes one graduate student ($500) and one postdoctoral fellow ($800) who submit the best abstract describing a disease model that is novel or has significant potential to be applied to the drug discovery process. The...
application for the award can be found on by visiting the APS website and following the “Section Awards” link ("Physiologists In Industry") from the EB'09 page, or by clicking on the “Committees” tab on the APS homepage and going to the LWIC page.

Renal Section members, get involved in the workings of APS.

APS Committees are what determine the future of our society and there is no better way to have your voice heard. There are 15 APS committees on which you could serve. A description of the committees, member qualifications, and nomination forms can be found at: http://www.theaps.org/committees

Those of you that indicated your interest at the renal dinner will be contacted by me soon, so check out the committees which have open positions (listed on website).

The application process does not take much time at all and I am happy to help so please contact me.

Individuals only have to fill out a candidate form and send it to me, I can fill out the endorsement form, or you can find a colleague to endorse you if preferred.

Send both the application and endorsement forms electronically to nominations@the-aps.org before January 16, 2009 and to me at brooksh@email.arizona.edu

Congratulations to the following Renal Section members who were selected by the Committee on Committees at EB 2008

**Communications Committee**
New Trainee Member Jennifer Pluznick, Yale University

**Ray G. Daggs Committee**
New Member L. Gabriel Navar, Tulane University

**International Committee**
New Member Peter Deen, Nijmegen Ctr. for Life Sciences

**Membership Committee**
New Trainee Member Maggie Diamond-Stanic, University of Arizona

**Porter Physiology Development Committee**
New Member Ryan Pelis, University of Arizona

**Senior Physiologists Committee**
New Member Frank Knox
ET-11: APS International Conference on Endothelin

From David Pollock

The purpose of the International Conferences on Endothelin (ET) is to present the most recent information on the physiology and pathophysiology of endothelin. Previous conferences have an impressive and exciting history and have been the site of crucial scientific and clinical announcements. For the first time in the history of the Endothelin Conferences, the organization of this meeting in Montreal will benefit from the logistical support of the American Physiological Society (APS) and its professional staff. In addition to its well-established vascular actions, ET also contributes to control water and electrolyte transport and modulation of sympathetic nerve activity in the kidney. Current phase III clinical trials are on-going to explore the use of ET antagonists in malignant hypertension and diabetic nephropathy.

The program will be a combination of oral and poster presentations based primarily on submitted abstracts. A relatively small number of invited speakers are included in order to provide overviews, historical information, and lend credibility to the range of topics. Of special note, trainees are encouraged to submit abstracts, as many will be provided an opportunity for oral presentations. Furthermore, a special ancillary session will be included to allow trainees an opportunity to discuss career options with scientists in a field where both large and small corporations have played major roles. Finally, our industrial partners will be invited to share the most recent outcomes of currently ongoing clinical trials with ET antagonists, whenever possible.

ET-11 will offer a comprehensive and original scientific program addressing hot topics in the field of endothelin biology. We also hope that you will enjoy our social program and Montreal’s proverbial hospitality.

http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/aps/ET11Montreal/

The American Society of Nephrology will hold its annual meeting between November 4-9, 2008 in Philadelphia, PA. We expect this to be another great program and hope that many of the Section members will be able to attend.
Chair and SAC Representative
Bill Welch, Ph.D. (04/08-04/11)
Georgetown University
Email: welchw@georgetown.edu

Treasurer
L. Lee Hamm, M.D. (04/06-04/09)
Tulane University School of Medicine
Email: lhamm@tulane.edu

Secretary
János Peti-Peterdi, M.D., Ph.D. (04/07-04/10)
University of Southern California
Email: petipete@usc.edu

Awards Committee Chair
Pablo Ortiz, Ph.D. (04/06-04/08)
Henry Ford Health Sciences CTR
Email: portiz1@hfhs.org

APS Committee on Committees Representative
Heddwen Brooks, Ph.D. (04/07-12/11)
University of Arizona
Email: brooksh@email.arizona.edu

APS Trainee Advisory Committee Representative
Jennifer L. Pluznick, Ph.D. (01/06-12/08)
Yale University School of Medicine
Email: Jennifer.Pluznick@yale.edu

APS Liaison with Industry Committee Representative
Craig F. Plato, Ph.D. (01/04-12/10)
In Vivo Pharmacology, Gilead Colorado, Inc.
Email: craig.plato@gilead.com

ex officio AJP: Renal Physiology Editor
Tom Kleyman, M.D. (07/07-06/10)
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Email: kleyman@pitt.edu

ex officio APS Officer/Councillor
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Medical College of Georgia
Email: dpollock@mcg.edu