Message from the Renal Section Chair

It is hard to believe that the EB abstract deadline (November 8, 2006) is approaching so rapidly! I encourage each of you to submit your work for presentation at EB2007. The quality of the EB program depends entirely on the work being performed in your laboratory – a fact that ensures that we will always pick up important new insight when we attend this meeting. In addition

Last year the attention of the Renal Section Steering Committee was focused, at least in part, on updating our Statement of Organization and Procedures (SOP). The document approved by the members last spring can be accessed at our website (http://www.the-aps.org/sections/renal/sop.htm), and provides a good resource if you are wondering we do as a Section and how we get it done. This is an important document in light of the fact that the Section leadership undergoes a 3-yr turnover cycle, as the SOP directs the activities of the officers and other steering committee members. As I am currently in the midst of my term as Chair of the Renal Section, I’ve now got a pretty good handle on what needs to be done, when those things need to happen, and how to accomplish them. However, the updated SOP will be quite useful to newly elected/appointed Steering Committee members as they undertake leadership roles in the Renal Section.

Indeed, a Renal Section election looms on the horizon: David Ellison’s term as Renal Section Secretary ends in May 2007 and Darwin Bell’s term as representative to the Joint Program Committee (JPC) ends in December 2007. Over the past nearly 3 years, David has done a great job keeping records of steering committee meeting and compiling the Fall and Spring Newsletters, while Darwin has played a major role in developing renal symposia and programming of featured topics sessions for EB meetings. Both of these individuals have earned our thanks for a job well-done! The process of finding their replacements will begin with the appointment of a Nominating Committee chaired by David Pollock (our representative to the APS Committee on Committees). The Nominating Committee will prepare a slate of candidates for an election to be held in the spring. The new Secretary will take office at the end of the EB2007 meeting, and the new JPC representative will take office in Jan 2008 (his/her term will partially overlap with that of our other JPC representative, Sue Mulroney). Both individuals will serve a 3-yr term. If you are interested in serving as Secretary or JPC representative, or would like to suggest someone for these important positions, please contact David Pollock (dpollock@mcg.edu).

Please visit our website (http://www.the-aps.org/sections/renal/index.htm) and offer suggestions by email (address below) as to how it can be improved so that it better serves the needs of the Section membership. We are always open to suggestions regarding how the Renal Section can better serve its members.

Chair, APS Renal Section
pcarmines@unmc.edu
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. The recipient will be honored at the 2007 Renal Dinner, and will participate in the Renal Section’s “Meet the Professors” Reception at EB2007. 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 EB2007.

All application/nomination materials must be submitted online (www.the-aps.org/awardapps) by November 8, 2006. Questions should be directed to John D. Imig at: jdimig@mcg.edu. Nominations are automatically carried forward for consideration in the following years. The Berliner/Abbott Award Committee will convene at the ASN meeting to select the 2006 award recipient. The committee is composed of the Renal Section Awards Committee Chair (John D. Imig), the Chair of the Renal Section (Pamela K. Carmines), the Editor of AJP-Renal Physiology (Jeff M. Sands) and a representative from Abbott Laboratories (Glenn A. Reinhart).

Recipients of the Robert W. Berliner Award

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Carl W. Gottschalk</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Gerhard H. Giebisch</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Heinz Valtin</td>
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<td>Maurice B. Burg</td>
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<td>Juha P. Kokko</td>
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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 awardees in the graduate student category this year. The 1st place award was presented to Rebecca Falin, for her abstract entitled, “Acute inhibition of the epithelial Na⁺ channel (ENaC) by epidermal growth factor involves PＹ motif and putative ERK phosphorylation site”. Rebecca is a doctoral student at the Case Western Reserve University, and her mentor is Dr. Calvin Cotton. Two 2nd place awards were given in the predoctoral category. One 2nd place winner was Emily Cordas for her paper entitled “Subcellular location and function studies of the serum and glucocorticoid induced kinase-1 (SGK1)”. Emily is a doctoral student at Dartmouth Medical School under the supervision of Dr. Géza Fejes-Tóth. The other 2nd place winner was Norman Taylor for his abstract entitled “The contribution of renal medullary NADPH oxidase and mitochondrial superoxide production to salt-induced hypertension in Dahl S rats”. Norman is a doctoral student at the Medical College of Wisconsin with his mentor Dr. Allen Cowley, Jr.

There were two awardees in the postdoctoral category for 2006. The first place award went to Dr. Jennifer Bomberger for her abstract entitled “Regulation of Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger-3 (NHE3) by adrenomedullin in human proximal tubule cells: Role for receptor activity-modifying proteins (RMAPs) and Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger-regulatory factor-1 (NHERF1)”. Jennifer’s research was done under the guidance of Dr. Bill Spielman at Michigan State University. The second place award went to Dr. Marcela Herrera for her abstract entitled “Aquaporin-1 as a NO transporter”. Marcela is a post-doctoral fellow at Henry Ford Hospital with Dr. Jeffrey Garvin.
Renal Section Research Recognition Awards were presented to Dr. Minolfa Prieto-Carrasquero (Ponce School of Medicine), Dr. Hayo Castrop (University of Regensburg), Guangping Chen (Emory University), and Dr. Damian Romero (University of Mississippi Medical Center).

The APS New Investigator Award for 2006 was given to Dr. Heddwen Brooks (University of Arizona). The Astra Zeneca Young Investigator Award went to Dr. Sylvie Breton (Dartmouth School of Medicine).

Renal Research Recognition Award winners at 2006 Renal Dinner in San Francisco, CA. From left to right are John Imig (Awards Committee Co-chair), Damian Romero, Hayo Castrop, Minolfa Prieto-Carrasquero, Guangping Chen, and Heddwen Brooks (Awards Committee Chair).

The APS New Investigator Award winner, Heddwen Brooks, and Pam Carmines (Renal Section Chair) at the 2006 Renal.

The Astra-Zeneca Renal Section Young Investigator Award Winner Sylvie Breton (center) and Pam Carmines (left, Renal Section Chair) and Jeff Garvin (right, Renal Section Treasurer).

Congratulations to all the awardees for their outstanding contributions to kidney research. 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 pre- and postdoctoral award judges were Christine Marie, Janos Peti-Peterdi, Pablo Ortiz, Jim Stockand, Alan Yu, Awards Committee Co-Chair John Imig and Awards Committee Chair Heddwen Brooks. The New Investigator Award winner was selected by the Renal Section JPC representatives (Darwin Bell & Sue Mulroney) and the Awards Committee Co-Chair (John Imig). The AstraZeneca Young Investigator Award selection committee members were Jeff Garvin (Interim Treasurer) and the JPC representatives.

We invite all 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. Instructions on how to apply for all Renal Section awards are provided in the EB2007 call for abstracts and through the APS Renal Section Website. Applications for abstract-based awards must be submitted online (www.the-aps.org/awardapps) with the abstract submission. November 8, 2006 is the unwavering application deadline for all 2007 Renal Section awards except the AstraZeneca Young Investigator Award and the Gottschalk Lectureship (which have an April 2, 2007 deadline).

VOLKER VALLON NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE 2007 AstraZeneca YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The Renal Section of the American Physiological Society is pleased to announce that the 2007 recipient of the AstraZeneca Young Investigator Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology is Dr. Volker Vallon. He is Associate Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology at the University of California at San Diego.

Volker Vallon received his M.D. from the University of Tübingen in his native Germany in 1992, and research training with Hartmut Osswald in Tübingen, with Roland Blantz at the University of California San Diego (UCSD), and with Jürgen Schnermann and Josie Briggs at the NIH. Following his habilitation and board certification in Pharmacology and Toxicology, he joined the faculty at the University of Tübingen as a Lecturer in 1998, and in 2003 he was recruited to UCSD where he currently is an Associate Professor of Medicine & Pharmacology and a Research Scientist at the San Diego Veterans Medical Research Foundation. His research has characterized the roles played by a variety of channels, transporters, receptors and signaling molecules in the physiology, pharmacology and pathophysiology of the kidney. He aims to integrate aspects of vascular, glomerular and tubular function to gain a more complete understanding of the physiology of the kidney as well as the pathophysiology of arterial hypertension and of the early diabetic kidney. His work is a blend of physiology, molecular biology and pharmacology, and particularly uses gene-targeted mouse models to dissect the contributions of specific genes.

John D. Imig
Awards Committee Chair
jdimig@mcg.edu

FASEB Summer Research Conference on Renal Hemodynamics

The 2007 FASEB Summer Research Conference on “Renal Hemodynamics: Biomolecular Control Mechanisms Integrating Vascular and Tubular Function” is scheduled for July 7-12, 2007, Vermont Academy, Saxtons River, VT. The meeting is being organized by William J. Arendshorst (Chair) and Jeffrey L. Garvin (Co-Chair). Further information will become available through FASEB (www.faseb.org/meetings).
It is hard for me to believe that we are in our sixth and final year as the editorial team for *AJP - Renal*. The selection process for the next editor-in-chief is underway, and the new editor is likely to be named by the time of the ASN meeting. I look forward to working with whomever is chosen to ensure a smooth transition. In contrast, the transition to the newer version of APS Central has been anything but smooth. I appreciate the patience of our authors and reviewers during this transition, and want to thank our managing editor, Ms. Amy McEver, for her invaluable help to everyone involved.

*AJP* - Renal continues to thrive, with our 2005 Impact Factor remaining stable at ~4.3. The time from submission to initial decision is approximately 26 days. We are very pleased that submissions to *AJP* - Renal in 2005 were the highest since the start of APS Central. I want to thank my team of associate editors (Pam Carmines, Douglas Eaton, Tom Hostetter, Tom Kleyman, and Susan Wall) for their hard work and for making *AJP* - Renal so successful. I also want to thank you, the readers, authors, and reviewers, who have made serving as *AJP* - Renal Editor-in-Chief a pleasant and rewarding experience.

Finally, I want to congratulate the winners of the "Papers of the Year" for 2005. They were:


We will soon be choosing the "Paper of the Year" for 2006. The winner will be announced at the Renal Dinner on Tuesday, May 1, during the 2007 Experimental Biology meeting in Washington.
Dear Renal Section,

This past year, I have taken over as the Renal Section Representative for the Trainee Advisory Committee (TAC), replacing Ryan Morris. The TAC’s charge is to help APS to assist and support trainees (students, postdocs, and junior faculty, as well as trainee positions in industry and government). I’d like to fill you in on two of the major projects we are working on:

1. The new Trainee Website is up and running at http://www.the-aps.org/trainees. Please bookmark this site, and remember to direct your students/postdocs to this resource! The APS Trainee website provides valuable information about a variety of trainee-relevant issues, including trainee associations, trainee newsletters, EB symposium information, awards, career planning, families and science careers, finding a job, funding resources, lab management, and mentoring.

2. Please keep an eye out for the Symposium at EB 2007 sponsored by TAC, entitled “Multiple Career Paths for a Physiologist: Understand your options and how to get there.” This symposium will cover topics that were requested by multiple attendees at the TAC symposium at EB ‘06. It will feature speakers from diverse career areas, such as a Small Biotech company, a Small College, and a Government Lab. This symposium is sure to be a great resource for students and postdocs (as well as their advisors!).

Many thanks, and please feel free to contact me with any questions!

Jen Pluznick
Trainee Advisory Committee Representative
Jennifer.pluznick@yale.edu

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Call for Nominations – APS Committees

It is always a good time to submit your name into nomination for an APS Committee. We are urging all Renal Section members to get more involved in the workings of APS. These committees are what determine the future of our society and there is no better way to have your voice heard. A description of the committees, member qualifications, and nomination forms can be found at: http://www.the-aps.org/committees. You can also find a link that lists which committees have open positions. Individuals fill out a candidate form and one other person needs to fill out an endorsement form. The application process is very simple and does not take much time at all. The deadline for applying is January 15, 2007 for January 2008 appointments.

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The American Society of Nephrology will hold its annual meeting in San Diego this year, from November 14-19, 2006. We expect this to be another great program and hope that many of the Section members will be able to attend.

ASN Symposium
Co-Sponsored by the APS Renal Section
Sunday, November 19th

“Lipid rafts and Cell Function”
10:00 a.m. Role of Glycosphingolipids in Phospholipase C Regulation
10:30 a.m. Lipid Rafts and EGF Receptor Signaling
11:00 a.m. Lipid Rafts in G Protein-Coupled Receptor Signaling
11:30 a.m. Lipid Rafts and the Regulation of Proximal Tubule Phosphate Transport