Greetings from the New Section Chair

It is my pleasure to greet you as the new Section Chair. After 4 years of dedicated service, David Goldstein turned the helm of CEPS to myself. On behalf of the section, I’d like to extend my thanks to David for all of his efforts as Section Chair and I hope to do as well as he did!

We welcome two new members to the leadership of the section: Tom Ecay (East Tennessee State University) as the new secretary, and Stan Hillyard (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) as the new representative to the Committee on Committees. Ken Olson (Indiana University) is re-elected as our representative to the Physiologists in Industry Committee. I want to thank all three candidates for their willingness to run for the office and for their support of CEPS. We look forward to their input as well as new and fresh ideas for our future activities.

For the Experimental Biology 2011 meeting in Washington, D.C., all Comparative Physiology programming will occur within just 2 days, Monday and Tuesday. This is an experimental schedule and its success will depend on the members acceptance of this format. After the meeting, please let the Steering Committee members know about your experiences or concerns.

I look forward to working with you over the next few years to keep CEPS moving forward. Feel free to send along your ideas or questions (Sinya-Benyajati@ouhsc.edu).

2011 Krogh Distinguished Lecture:

“Life in the wild: applying the Krogh Principle to marine birds and mammals”

Tuesday, April 12 — 8:00 AM, Washington DC Convention Center, 146A

Dr. Kooyman received his Ph.D. in 1966 from University of Arizona. He has spent almost all of his professional career at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, California, where he is Research Professor at the Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine. Dr. Kooyman pioneered studies of diving in Antarctic birds and mammals, including development of the isolated ice-hole for study of free-diving wild seals and penguins. His research innovations have spawned a major research focus for comparative physiology. Dr. Kooyman has disseminated his work widely via scientific and popular publications, photography, and cinematography. His accomplishments have been recognized in many ways, including being named a Fellow of the Zoological Society of London, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and of The Explorer’s Club. In 2005, Dr. Kooyman received the first Kenneth Norris Lifetime Achievement Award from the Marine Mammal Society.

CEPS is honored to recognize Dr. Kooyman’s excellence in contributions to the field of Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology with our highest award, the 2011 August Krogh Distinguished Lectureship.
Monday, April 11

- “Elucidating Nature’s Solutions to Human Disease” (Featured Topic, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM, 146A) – Rudy Ortiz, chair
- “What Fuel are You Burning? Comparative Physiology of Metabolic Substrate Utilization” (Symposium, 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM, 154A) – Eldon Braun and Wayne Willis, chairs
- Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology Poster Session (including Scholander presentations)

Tuesday, April 12

- August Krogh Distinguished Lecture by GERALD L. KOOYMAN (8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, 146A)
- “Grand Challenges in Organismal Biology” (Special Session, 9:15AM - 10:00 AM, 146A) - Hannah Carey
- “Comparative Physiology of Brown Adipose Tissue” (Featured Topic, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM, 155) – Martin Klingenspor, chair
- “Cardiac pH Regulation” (Symposium, 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM, 154B) – Daniel Warren and Holly Shiels, chairs
- Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology Poster Session

Additional Topics of Interest

Saturday, April 9

- “How to Be an Advocate: A Workshop for Scientists” (APS Workshop, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, 147A) - William Talman and Joseph Haywood, chairs
- “Communicating Science as a New Career Path: Physiology Beyond the Lab” (APS symposium, 3:00 PM - 5:00PM, 154A) - James Hicks, chair
- “The Fate of Fat: the Use of Knockout Mice to Examine Lipid Partitioning” (Hot Topic Seminar ASN Energy & Macronutrient Research Interest Section, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM) - Rosalind Coleman

Full Program and Information for Experimental Biology 2011 Online:

- General EB2011 Information: http://experimentalbiology.org/content/AboutEB.aspx
2011 CEPS Dinner and Business Meeting

Thunder Grill Restaurant at the Union Station
(50 Massachusetts Ave., Washington DC, 20002)
6pm, Monday April 11th

Join ~100 of your fellow comparative and evolutionary physiologists to celebrate this year’s Krogh Distinguished Lecturer and honored guest, Dr. Gerald L. Kooyman. We will also be celebrating the achievements of this year’s recipients of the CEPS Research Recognition Award, New Investigator Award as well as the Novo Nordisk Foundation Travel Fellows.

A delicious dinner of salad, a duet of chicken AND steak, rice and vegetables will be served along with a refreshing sorbet for dessert. Of course soda, tea and coffee are included as well. If you are vegetarian, no problem, just let The APS office (Linda Allen) know before the dinner. There will be a cash bar at our meeting as well.

If you have not already purchased a ticket, you may stop by The APS office at EB to purchase them in-between visiting posters and seminars! Approximately 10 tickets are available for the super low price (for DC) of only $20 for students and $40 for faculty! NO tickets will be sold at the door of the event.

If you have any questions, please visit The APS office at EB. We look forward to seeing you there!

-Karen Sweazea, Treasurer

CEPS Special Session at EB: Hannah Carey

The CEP Section is hosting a discussion session at EB 2011 on the Grand Challenges in Organismal Biology. This initiative is designed to encourage dialogue on emerging priorities for research that require the uniquely integrative approach of studies that focus on the organism. The premise of the Grand Challenges is that organisms are the key to understanding both biological phenomena and implications beyond their biological boundaries. Similar “grand challenge” projects have emerged from other disciplines including the plant biology, ecosystems and evolutionary biology communities. The session will begin on Tuesday, April 1 at 9:15 AM in Room 146A following the August Krogh Distinguished Lectureship by Dr. Gerald Kooyman. Hannah Carey will open the session with some background on the initiative and lead discussion on how CEP members can contribute to the process of identifying and implementing the Grand Challenges. Hannah represented the American Physiological Society at a Grand Challenge workshop held in January, 2010 at the annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Slide presentations from the Workshop have been posted at http://www.sicb.org/gch/index.php. Also on that website are several Grand Challenge articles that represent heuristic contributions by various investigators, meant to stimulate thinking about the most important topics in organismal biology to help guide future research into the most fruitful avenues. Please take a look prior to the Grand Challenge session at EB and come with your comments and suggestions.
The APS PIC is sponsoring a Symposium at EB 2011 entitled “Stem Cells in Physiology and Drug Discovery” (chaired by Magdalena Alonso-Galicia, Ph.D. and Cheryl Watson, Ph.D.) on Sunday, April 10, at 8:00 – 10:00 am in the Convention Center, Rm. 145A. Recent breakthroughs have allowed the generation of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS cells) from somatic cells which maintain all the potential of embryonic stem cells without using embryos, eliminating ethical concerns. These findings have generated excitement and interest in the biomedical research community as well as the pharmaceutical industry. The first stem cell trial in the US has recently been approved by the FDA for severe spinal cord injury. Beyond therapeutics, the promise of using differentiated human stem cells in drug discovery as disease relevant and toxicology models is maturing. Stem cells and cell lines derived from iPS cells of patients can accelerate the development of existing targets for different diseases and provide opportunity to explore innovative treatments in regenerative medicine. This symposium will review the current use of pluripotent stem cells as enabling technology in drug discovery as well as provide examples of therapeutic approaches.

In addition, the APS Translational Physiology Group and the PIC are co-sponsoring a Symposium entitled “The Cardiac Sarcomere as a Therapeutic Target” (chaired by John Liles, Ph.D. and Kelly R. Pitts, Ph.D.) on Wednesday, April 13, at 3:15 – 5:15 pm in the Convention Center, Rm. 145A. The cardiac sarcomere is the core structure responsible for active mechanical heart function and dynamics. A better understanding of the interactions at the crossbridge level has led to the discovery of novel pathways and to the development of new clinical targets. In this symposium, key opinion leaders in the field will a) review the sarcomere components associated with regulating basic cardiac function; b) discuss the effect of calcium signaling on sarcomere proteins; c) address the clinical consequences of certain genetic mutations of the sarcomere; and d) review the successes and challenges that sarcomeric modulators are experiencing in the clinic. Attendees will gain an appreciation for the translational nature of studying and targeting the cardiac sarcomere.

The PIC Novel Disease Model Award is now sponsored by Plato BioPharma, Inc., a world leader in in vivo model development and execution.

Ken Olson
CEPS Representative

The PIC Novel Disease Model Award will be granted to each a graduate student and a postdoctoral fellow who submit the best abstracts at EB 2011 that describe a novel disease model. The model can be in vitro or in vivo but should clearly emphasize the potential utility of the system for future research related to a disease. The award is $500 for the graduate student and $800 for the postdoctoral fellow categories, respectively, is sponsored by the PIC and the APS, and will be presented at the APS Business Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 5:45 – 7:00 pm in the Convention Center, Ballroom B.

You’re invited! Come meet, eat and socialize with your fellow Physiologists who are working in the corporate, industrial, or academic sector. The APS PIC meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, room 302 Convention Center – this is the committee’s annual opportunity to have a face-to-face meeting to discuss committee business and new initiatives. Please feel free to contact your PIC section representative if there are issues to be brought to the attention of the PIC.

Finally, we had a number of very competitive abstracts from CEP members for the Novel Disease Awards. I will be at the CEP dinner and would like to congratulate those that submitted an abstract and offer suggestions/answer questions on how to make these abstracts as competitive as possible.
News from Trainee Advisory Committee

Kelly Hyndman, CEPS Representative

The APS TAC has many ways to keep trainees up to date on resources available to them, such as courses on how to give a dynamic presentation or training in publication writing. Please encourage your trainees (undergraduates to new faculty) to join CEPS and sign up for our listserv, or follow us on Facebook, twitter or on the APS website. Our Facebook Fan page can be found by searching for “American Physiological Society Trainees”, our Twitter account: APSTrainees, and our regular APS page http://www.the-aps.org/trainees/index.htm. As well, graduate students and post doctoral fellows have a reduced membership fee for joining the APS; $10 for students and $75 for post docs.

I would like to point out a couple of Trainee relevant sessions that will be held at EB2011:

• “Publishing 101: Dos and Don’ts of Publishing in APS Journals” by Kim E. Barrett and Rita Scheman. Sunday April 10, 8:00-10:00am, Room 147A, Convention Center.

• “New Opportunities in Non-traditional Academic Positions” by Tom Cunningham and John Immig. Monday April 11, 3:15-5:15 pm, Room 146B, Convention Center.

• “Work/Life Balance: Every Choice Matters” by Sue Duckles and Sarah Lindsey. Wednesday April 12, 8:00 - 10:00 am, Room 146C, Convention Center.

• “Developing an Individual Development Plan – A Roadmap to Success” by Melissa Bates and Grant Simmons. Wednesday April 12, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm, Room 147B, Convention Center

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me: khyndman@georgiahealth.edu

Submit Proposals for Future CEPS Meetings

The Experimental Biology 2012 meeting will be held in San Diego, CA, April 21-25, 2012. Proposals for ideas for symposia or featured topic are being accepted NOW! For more information about submitting proposals see http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb.htm or contact Barney Rees at brees@uno.edu. Proposals will be discussed and decided upon at the CEPS Steering Committee meeting at the EB2011 meeting.

We need to begin planning the next APS Intersociety in Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology. Following tradition, the next one would be in 2014 (4 years after last year’s Denver meeting). The CEPS Steering Committee would like to invite persons interested in potentially organizing or helping to organize the next APS Intersociety meeting to forward their ideas for theme, venue, and potential symposium topics to Barney Rees at brees@uno.edu. These short proposals (1 page) should be submitted NOW. We will discuss the submitted proposals at the business meeting during the EB2011 meeting.
Other Topics of Interest

Other Meetings of Interest:

- 8th International Congress of Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry, June 1-5, 2011, Nagoya, Japan, see http://www.iccpb2011.com/

Book of Interest:

In this engaging book physiologist Donald Jackson shares a lifetime of observation of this curious creature, allowing us a look under the shell of an animal at once so familiar and so strange.

“A clear and informative exposition of physiological concepts using the turtle as a model organism, the book is as interesting for what it tells us about scientific investigation as it is for its deep and detailed understanding of how the enduring turtle “works.”