News from the Chair (Tom Lohmeier)

Once again, the WEH Section of APS is in the midst of a busy and productive year. Next year’s EB 2003 meeting promises to be very exciting and this newsletter will highlight several pertinent events, issues, and deadlines. Please be especially aware of the deadline for abstracts (November 13) and the numerous awards related to EB 2003.

One of our most important goals this year has been to increase membership in our Section, and we have made some progress in this area. New membership is essential to the continued vitality of our Section. We need your help in recruiting new members to our Section. Please note that we have established the WEH Section New Membership Program (see below). If you have any suggestions for new members, you may forward them to me and I will do the rest.

Ernest H. Starling Distinguished Lectureship

We are truly honored to have present the Ernest H. Starling Distinguished Lectureship for 2003. Dr. Luft is Professor of Medicine and Head of the Nephrology and Hypertension section at the Franz Volhard Clinic, Chief of the First Clinic for Internal Medicine, Klinikum Buch, Medical Faculty of the Charite Humboldt University of Berlin. Dr. Luft trained in Internal Medicine and Nephrology at Indiana University School of Medicine, where he was a faculty member for 15 years. While at Indiana University, he was involved in genetic studies of hypertension and salt homeostasis long before such studies became in vogue. Dr. Luft’s current interests are broad and range from cellular to patient-oriented research. He is particularly interested in the molecular genetics of cardiovascular diseases. The title of Dr. Luft’s lecture is “The Role of Genetic Models in Elucidating Cardiovascular Reflex Function.” This lecture will be presented on Monday, April 14, at 10:50 AM.

Dr. Luft will also attend our annual business meeting/luncheon where he will receive his award and meet with students, fellows, and section members.
The Past:

The Young Investigator Award (YIA) in Regulatory and Integrative Physiology was established to encourage young investigators to continue research careers in regulatory and integrative physiology. The award was established in 1993 and has been presented annually to a young investigator (less than 40-years old) who has made important contributions to our understanding of the integrative aspects of cardiovascular, renal and neuroendocrine physiology in health and disease. Past recipients of this award are listed in the February 2002 issue of the *American Journal of Physiology: Regulatory and Integrative Physiology*. This issue also contains the first publication of the YIA lecture by Christine Schnackenberg. Robin Davisson, last year’s recipient of the YIA, will soon be submitting a manuscript on the lecture she presented at EB 2002. We are grateful to GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals for their generous support of this award over the years.

The Present:

The APS has recognized the importance of the YIA and has now established a new award to begin at EB 2003. This award will be referred to as “The APS Sectional New Investigator Awards of APS.” Each Section of APS (including WEH) will be able to give one award annually. The award will consist of $1,000 plus complimentary advanced registration to attend the EB meeting. At present, our plans are to continue to refer to this award as the Young Investigator Award in Regulatory and Integrative Physiology.

**Criteria:** Candidates should be investigators who have made meritorious contributions to the WEH 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. They should receive nominations from at least two regular members of the APS. Candidates will be judged on their publications, how the publications relate to the WEH Section, and evidence for independence and promise. Awardees are expected to attend EB and make an oral or poster presentation. The candidate must be an APS member in good standing.

**Application procedure:** Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, 2 nomination letters from APS members, and 3 reprints to Linda Allen at the APS Membership Office by **January 5, 2003**. Please contact Tom Lohmeier by **December 15** if you wish to apply for this award, and he will provide assistance in submitting your application.

**EB 2002 Student/Postdoctoral/Junior Faculty Abstract Based-Awards**

The APS will be offering a number of awards for EB 2003 to support travel expenses for students, postdoctorals, and junior faculty. These awards include *The Proctor and Gamble Professional Opportunity Award* (for predoctoral students—a section award), the *Caroline tum Suden/ Frances A. Hellebrandt Professional Opportunity Award* (for graduate students and
postdoctorals), and The Water and Electrolyte Homeostasis Section Young Investigator Travel Award (for predoctoral students, postdoctorals, and junior faculty—a section based award). Information about these awards can be found on the EB 2002 web site or in the Call for Abstracts. All three awards are for $500 and the first two include complimentary registration for EB. Please note the deadline for the first two awards is **November 13, 2002**. Nomination form and abstract should be sent to APS. The deadline for the WEH Section Young Investigator Award is **December 15, 2002**, and nomination forms and abstracts should be sent to Tom Lohmeier.

**Call for Nominations for Chair of the WEH Section**

As Tom Lohmeier is in the last year of his position as Chair, a new Section Chair must be elected by vote of our Section membership. According to the APS Operational Guide, “the Chair should have served on the Steering Committee prior to being elected to office.” Therefore, please nominate a current or past Steering Committee member to this very important position. Please e-mail nominations to Tom Lohmeier by **December 15, 2002**.

**The WEH Section New Membership Program**

The WEH Section will pay the first year’s fees for any individual who wishes to become either a student member or a regular member of APS and designates the WEH Section as their primary affiliation. Simply contact Tom Lohmeier and he will do the rest. While there are many advantages to membership, one especially nice benefit is that all members have access to all APS Online Journals.

**APS Committee Nominations (Mike Brands)**

The procedure for nominating oneself or another to serve on an APS committee has changed significantly. A few members of the Committee on Committees were unhappy with the current system and, therefore, the committee was called together in Bethesda on July 15 to draft a modification. The bottom line is that the number of supporting nominations from a Section will no longer be a factor in the decision making process. That is, we will no longer be able to promote our nominees for APS committees by submitting multiple supporting nomination forms.

There is now one form submitted by the nominee and one form submitted by a supporting endorsee. The nomination and endorsement forms are currently on the APS website. The new nomination form now requests biosketch-type information which will be used in the selection process. The nomination and endorsement forms are sent to APS directly, with a **January 15 deadline**. What does this all mean? One point of the change was to enable any APS member to be nominated and be on equal footing with other nominees that are heavily supported by their Sections. **HOWEVER**, it still is most beneficial to anybody interested in serving on a committee.
to work through our Section. So, if you are interested in serving on an APS Committee, please contact either me as early as possible, but before **December 15.**

Interested in what, you say? Please consider these: Animal Care and Experimentation, Awards, Ray G. Daggs Award, Education, International Physiology, Membership, Senior Physiologists. The description of committee duties is listed on the APS web site. We're in for a big drop in WEH Section representation across the APS committee lineup if we don't put up good nominees for all these positions this year.

**Congratulations to our new appointments to APS committees:**

- David Brooks – Long-Range Planning
- Lori Woods -- Awards

**Dates to Remember EB2003**

- **Meeting Dates:** April 11 - April 15, 2003
- **Abstract Deadline:** November 13, 2002
- **Advanced Registration Deadline:** February 13, 2003
- **Housing Registration Deadline:** March 7, 2003.

**Programming-EB 2003 (Rich Roman)**

We have a diverse and exciting program for the upcoming EB 2003. The WEH Section will sponsor **3 Featured Topics:**

1. **Hypertension (1203-APS).**

   As indicated above, **Dr. Fred Luft** will be giving the Starling Lecture on Monday morning, April 14. The title of his presentation is “The Role of Genetic Models in Elucidating Cardiovascular Reflex Function.” The Young Investigator Award Lecture will precede Fred’s presentation.

   There will be a featured topic session associated with this presentation entitled **Hypertension.** Four abstracts submitted by our membership in the area of hypertension and hypertension-associated end organ damage will be selected for oral presentation in the session. I encourage everyone in this area to consider submitting his or her best work for presentation in this session.

2. **Neurohumoral Control of Body Fluid Volume and Arterial Pressure (1202-APS).**

   The featured speaker will be **Dr. Terry Thrasher.** The title of his presentation is “Neurogenic Hypertension, the Demise and Resurrection of an Old Hypothesis.” The focus of Terry’s presentation will be on the sustained impact of baroreflexes on arterial pressure. Given our sections long standing strength in this area, I expect the membership to submit abstracts of their very best work so we will be able to program an exciting session.
3. Insights on Renal Function and Blood Pressure Control from Genetically Manipulated Animals (1204-APS).

The featured speaker will be Dr. Tom Coffman. The title of his presentation is “Targeting Genes that Regulate Blood Pressure and Kidney Function.” Again, I encourage the membership to submit work they are doing studying renal function and blood pressure control in knockout mice, overexpression models, congenic or consomic rat models etc. for presentation in this session. I also ask you to be proactive and invite others in your institution to submit a paper for possible presentation in this session. With all the interest surrounding Physiologic Genomics this topic should become a potential growth area and strength of our section.

Please remember that poster sessions will be associated with all 3 of the above Featured Topics Sessions.

Abstracts selected for oral presentation will also be presented as posters.

The WEH Section will also sponsor the following additional poster sessions:

**Gender Differences in Body Fluid and CV Regulation (1205-APS).**
**Mechanisms of End Organ Damage in Hypertension and Diabetes (1206-APS).**
**NO, Oxygen Radicals and Lipid Mediators in Arterial Pressure and Fluid Volume Control (1207-APS).**
**Renin-Angiotensin System in Volume and Arterial Pressure Regulation (1208-APS).**

**Symposium:**

We have an exciting symposium on the program on Saturday, April 12 dealing with Redox Regulation of Renal Function and Arterial Pressure. The Symposium was organized by Dr. Ai-Ping Zou and Dr. Davis Manning and some of the best work on the role of ROS in the control of kidney function and blood pressure control will be presented.