HIGHLIGHTS OF EB 2007

The Carl Ludwig Lecture was presented by John Andrew Armor of University of Montreal. Dr. Armor’s talk entitled “A Little Brain on the Heart” drew a large, enthusiastic audience. The crowd stayed on after Dr. Armor’s presentation to hear several short tributes to him given by his colleagues and former trainees. The talks provided both humorous and heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Armor as he enters retirement from his academic appointment. It is doubtful that we have seen the last of Drew, as word has it that he and his colleagues are already planning another study to examine new questions on neural control of the heart.

2008 Carl Ludwig Distinguished Lecturer. The NCAR steering committee is pleased to announce that the 2008 Carl Ludwig Distinguished Lecturer will be Patrice Guyenet, Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Virginia. Dr. Guyenet has been a long-time member of NCAR and served on the NCAR steering committee from 2001-2004. Dr. Guyenet is an international renowned investigator, recognized for his contribution to our understanding of the CNS control of sympathetic and respiratory motor output. His rigorous approach is a model for young and established scientists in the field of neural control of circulation. He has published over 160 papers in leading physiology journals. His work has recently been published in top tier general science journals and has brought renewed attention to the importance of autonomic regulation in health and disease among all scientists. We are pleased to have this opportunity to honor his outstanding contribution to our current understanding of autonomic regulation.
The NCAR Social was a great success once again despite significant competition from the fully catered CNS reception and the party-ending fire alarm. If you didn’t hear, several of our NCAR members received awards for their work:

**Chris Madden**, post-doctoral fellow in the laboratory of Shaun Morrison, at the Neurological Sciences Institute of the Oregon Health and Sciences Center, received the distinguished Michael J. Brody award.

**Frank Dinenno**, Assistant Professor of Health and Exercise Science at Colorado State University, won the NCAR New Investigator Award.

NCAR research recognition awards were presented to:

**James Fisher**, doctoral student at the University of Missouri-Columbia  
**David Keller**, post-doctoral fellow at University of Texas, Southwestern  
**Wei-Zhong Wang**, post-doctoral fellow at University of Nebraska each received.

**PROGRAMMING FOR EB 08** is well underway. NCAR will host one symposium and three featured topics next year. Our symposium will address “Novel Therapeutic Targeting of the Autonomic Nervous System in Heart Failure and Hypertension”. Based on the overwhelming success and overflowing crowds at the past 2 trainee featured topic sessions, we will again reserve a featured topic slot for trainees in 2008. A second featured topic will focus on “Smarter Targeting of Genes for Cardiovascular Genomics” to be hosted by David Paterson of University of Leeds and Julian Paton of the University of Bristol. A third featured topic will focus on “Cytokines, Inflammation and Autonomic Regulation” with hosts to be determined in the near future.

**STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS** will be held to replace our outgoing international representative, Andrew Lawrence. Nominees for the position are Benidito Muchado, University of Sao Paulo, Susan Deuchars, University of Leeds and Tony Verberne, University of Melbourne. The APS office will be distributing ballots in the near future. Synopses of the candidates’ research interests and views on how they hope to promote the mission of NCAR are presented below.
Anthony J.M. Verberne PhD, DSc, University of Melbourne, Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics Unit, Department of Medicine, Austin Health, Heidelberg, Australia.

Dr. Verberne’s research has focused mainly on central cardiovascular control mechanisms with a view to understanding the brain pathways that control the sympathetic vasomotor outflow. In particular, he studies supramedullary structures that influence sympathetic vasomotor control as well as the neurocircuitry of several cardiovascular reflex pathways that are important for circulatory homeostasis. As an Australian neurophysiologist he will focus on maintaining the traditionally strong emphasis on central autonomic control physiology in the USA and Australia and encourage Australasian physiologists to seek APS membership and NCAR section affiliation as well as promote the benefits of attendance of Experimental Biology meetings.

Benedito H. Machado, Ph.D.  Professor, Department of Physiology, School of Medicine Ribeirao Preto-USP, Brazil

Dr. Machado is a physiologist working on the central neural control of the circulation for more than 20 years. He started his career in research on the cardiovascular physiology working with Eduardo Krieger and Hélio Salgado and focused his attention on the central neural control of the circulation during post-doctoral training with Michael Brody. Since returning to Brazil in 1988, he has kept close scientific relationships with colleagues in USA and also in France, UK and Australia and more recently in India. Therefore, considering that there is a large group of physiologists in Brazil working on the neural control and autonomic regulation and also that Dr. Machado is an active member of the international community of researchers involved with this field, he would be in position to contribute to making the scientific ties of NCAR in the international scene even stronger.

Susan Deuchars Ph.D. RCUK Fellow, Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology, University of Leeds, Yorkshire, UK

Since the start of Dr. Deuchars PhD, her research has focused on unravelling the circuitry involved in control of sympathetic preganglionic neuronal activity, with particular attention on the role of interneurones in the spinal cord. She has applied a variety of techniques from nerve recording in vivo to whole cell patch clamp recording, as well as immunohistochemistry, PCR and in situ hybridization to identify novel groups of neurons in the spinal cord and determine the influence of various neuromodulators on sympathetic activity. She believes that a crucial part of her research involves promoting new collaborations, increasing the impact of research and keeping up to date with new areas of interest and techniques. She is acutely aware of the importance of integrating scientists from all over the world to allow discussion, interaction and advancement of science. She was the governor of the Cardiovascular; Respiratory and Autonomic Control (CRAC) group of the Physiological Society (UK) for seven years during which time the activity of this group was substantially increased. She was invited to speak at a symposium at the Experimental Biology Annual meeting (2006) which was partly funded by The Physiological Society (UK). She will be keen to make the most of her links with The Society to promote such joint ventures and continue to bring together international scientists.

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FUTURE MEETINGS

2007 FASEB Summer Conference

Neural Mechanisms in Cardiovascular Regulation

Save the date

July 18-23

Bondi Beach, Sydney Australia

The FASEB Summer Research Conference on Neural Mechanisms in Cardiovascular Regulation to be held in Bondi Australia from July 18-23 is rapidly approaching. The meeting program can be found at: https://secure.faseb.org/faseb/meetings/Summrconf/Programs/11812.pdf

Registration and abstract submission can be done on the summer conference website: http://src.faseb.org/ . Registration and abstract submission will be open through the end of June. If you have any questions or need any additional information, contact Alan Sved (sved@pitt.edu) or Julie Levin (jlevin@faseb.org).

The International Society of Autonomic Neuroscience (ISAN) will hold its congress this year in Kyoto, Japan, Oct 5-8. Visit the meeting website for more information. http://isan2007.jtbcom.co.jp.

The American Autonomic Society will hold the 18th international Symposium on the Autonomic Nervous System in conjunction with the joint meeting of the European Federation of Autonomic Societies in Vienna, Austria, Oct 10-13. For more information visit the AAS website http://www.americanautonomiesociety.org/
Hi fellow trainees. My name is Chris Madden and I am your trainee representative on the NCAR Steering Committee.

Well, Experimental Biology (EB) 2007 in Washington D.C. was another fantastic meeting. The NCAR Trainee Featured topic was a phenomenal success, all of the trainee talks were of exceptional quality and the session was so well attended that many in attendance had to stand at the back of the room (I guess we’ll need to reserve a larger room next year). The Steering Committee has decided to continue the Trainee Featured topic again at the EB 2008 meeting in San Diego. We should thank our Steering Committee for demonstrating their commitment to supporting and promoting trainees by appropriating an entire Featured topic to trainees. Thank you! The speakers for the NCAR Trainee Featured Topic at EB 2008 will again be chosen from abstracts submitted by trainees (e.g., students, postdocs, and junior faculty, or their equivalent in government and industry), so come November get those abstracts submitted (don’t worry, I’ll remind you again closer to the deadline, but now is the time to start collecting the data so you have something to write about come November).

If you didn’t attend EB 2007 check out the APS website where there are actual powerpoint presentations of some of the sessions from EB. Here’s a link to one on alternative career paths [www.the-aps.org/trainees/symposia/2007symposium.htm](http://www.the-aps.org/trainees/symposia/2007symposium.htm).

I also encourage you to make every effort to attend EB 2008. I would suggest that one of the best ways to advance your career is to get involved and get to know people in the field. Furthermore, in addition to all of the networking opportunities and all of the great scientific sessions, the EB meeting provides many resources to help guide you in achieving your career aspirations. These resources include sessions on how to choose a post-doc position, to how to make your interview count, how to find a good mentor, how to craft a resume, how to network, how to find alternative careers; and that’s just a partial list from just one day of the meeting! I understand the pressure to attend the scientific sessions at EB but I strongly encourage you to make the effort to attend some of these other career building sessions as well. Trust me these sessions can be every bit as important to your development as the scientific sessions.

Are you subscribed to the Trainee Listserv? If not, I strongly encourage you to subscribe. The listserv is basically a trainee newsletter that contains valuable information on Committee activities, resources, awards/grants, positions available. Subscribe online at [http://www.the-aps.org/committees/trainee/Traineenewsletter.htm](http://www.the-aps.org/committees/trainee/Traineenewsletter.htm).

Another good source of information for trainees can be found at [http://www.the-aps.org/trainees/index.htm](http://www.the-aps.org/trainees/index.htm).

Finally, please feel free to contact me ([maddench@OHSU.edu](mailto:maddench@OHSU.edu)) if you have any questions or suggestions or issues that you would like the committee to address.