



*The Newsletter of the
International Behavioral
Neuroscience Society*

IBNS News

Spring 2003, Vol. 7, No. 1

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with pleasure and pride that I assume the mantle of the presidency of the IBNS for this year. I'm taking on this challenge at a pivotal time for both our Society and our field. Our Society has matured over the recent years and is now an established entity with a strong meeting history and membership base. Following upon Jacki Crawley's able leadership, my predecessor, John Bruno, has passed on the reins of a newly endowed IBNS that has never before been so secure. By virtue of his stewardship, we have been granted extended support from the NIH for our annual meetings, in the form of a 5-year R13 award now entering its second year. Certainly, John, Martin Sarter, and the other IBNS members who worked so hard to achieve this measure of credibility and security deserve our thanks and enduring gratitude. The IBNS has had a string of excellent and well-attended international meetings, which should be continued this year on the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico. It will be my pleasure to welcome you to the Wyndham Hotel in San Juan for our next meeting in April 2003. Juan Carlos Jorge and his colleagues have been working hard to organize the venue for this meeting, with Marianne Van Wagner's help, as always. Tim Moran and his Program Committee have been developing the scientific program, which promises to be rich and broad as befits the strength and breadth of our Society. I certainly hope many of you will have the opportunity to participate and share your most recent findings with us as we gather in Puerto Rico.

It is also a pivotal time for our field of behavioral neurosciences. Across the world, the wave of emphasis on molecular sciences has crested and the neurobiological sciences are once again recognizing the need to maintain a connection to the function of the whole organism that neural systems subserves: behavior. Our Society is fully prepared to communicate effectively with the more purely molecular sciences and to provide them with the critical insights and methods they need to realize the potential of their well-developed tools. Within the U.S., home for many of our members, our field is in flux as a result of the major transitions of leaders of the four main behaviorally relevant Institutes of the National Institutes of Health. The recent appointment of Dr. Tom Insel as the new director of the National Institute of Mental Health is a promising omen for the IBNS, as he is one who will appreciate the central role our members will play in the approach to understanding mental disorders. Similarly, the recent appointment of Dr. Nora Volkow as the new Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse confirms that the institute will have a strong scientific mission that incorporates a central role for behavioral neuroscience. As these appointees begin to exert their influence, we in the U.S. will witness the development of new priorities that will shape our field over the next several years. It is my belief that the prospects have never been brighter for either the field of behavioral neurosciences or the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society. Please join me as we move from an exciting present into an even more fulfilling future.

Mark Geyer



COME TO THE IBNS 2003 ANNUAL MEETING!

COME TO THE CARIBBEAN!

by Juan Carlos Jorge, Chair – Local Organizing Committee

Puerto Rico is the proud sponsor for the IBNS 2003 annual meeting. Even though “La Perla del Caribe” is only 100 miles long and 35 miles wide, you can find a wide variety of natural beauties within this small paradise. Among other things, we have: the only tropical forest in the U.S. forest system; the world’s deepest portion of the Atlantic Ocean a few miles north of the island; the oldest city in a U.S. territory, filled with architectural Spanish buildings along amazing cobblestone streets; the largest subterranean cave system in the Western Hemisphere and the third largest underground river; several bioluminescent bays; the world’s largest rum distillery; and several Spanish forts!

Puerto Ricans come in different shapes, sizes, and colors thanks to an interesting mixture of African and European descent (mostly from Spain), which has received additional influences from other European countries, Caribbean Islands, and the U.S. during the 20th century. In fact, Puerto Rico was transformed from the land of the Taíno Indians to a Spanish colony (when “discovered” by Christopher Columbus in 1493) to an U.S. territory after the Spanish-American

War in 1898. I should tell you that if you talk to a Puerto Rican about our current political status, you would probably spark a lengthy (and perhaps passionate) discussion about our dual – and sometimes clashing – identity as “American citizens” and “Puerto Ricans.” Depending on whom you ask, you will discover that: the official language of Puerto Rico is Spanish or English; we want to become the 51st state of U.S. or we want to become an independent nation; and our favorite side dish is “mofongo” (mashed green plantains) or french fries with ketchup. Despite these sociopolitical contradictions, we embrace our identity as “Puerto Ricans” and we love talking about and showing-off our beautiful island.

As part of the IBNS 2003 - San Juan meeting we will have our banquet in a beautiful outdoor setting in the Old City: “El Paseo La Princesa.” We want you to dress comfortably for the occasion, while Puerto Rican drinks and music fill the air and excite your limbic pathways! Bring your camera, as two live shows will be part of the occasion. The musical group “Arpeggio” will offer great live music for dancing! You will listen to Latin American top hits from “merengue”, “salsa”, “bolero”, and “calypso” music. In addition, the dance company “Puerto Rico Te Recibe” will show you how to dance in Puerto Rico. Do not be shy...they might lift you from your seat and ask you to dance with them! You will also enjoy authentic Puerto Rican food during the banquet. We suggest that you forget all about hypothalamic function and body weight regulation for just that night...our food is delicious! There will be plenty of food for vegetarians, too.

We have arranged two separate tours for those of you who might be interested in exploring Puerto Rico. On Wednesday, April 23, you can take a tour of the Old City, the San Cristobal Spanish Fort, visit Bacardi Rums, and then take a short boat ride across San Juan Bay. You will have some free time to do some shopping and to discover the beauties of this interesting city, so pamper your hippocampus and put those place cells to work! The cost of this tour is \$36.00, it will depart from the Hotel at 1:00 P.M. and you will be back by 5:00pm. A second tour is scheduled for Sunday, April 27. This one will leave the Hotel at 1:00 P.M., and will travel to the rainforest - “El Yunque.” You will have the opportunity to visit Coca Falls, Yokahu Tower, Caimitillo Trail, and, briefly, Luquillo Beach. There will be stops for you to try our tropical fruits and Puerto Rican food (at your expense). The cost of this tour is \$40.00. Bring your camera, comfortable shoes, and sunscreen lotion to these tours! There will be some walking in both tours, but you do not need to be an athlete. You can write to royalcoach@prtc.net to reserve a space in either of these tours. Please identify yourself as an IBNS attendee to guarantee the special rates. They will honor these prices if at least 18 people register for each tour. Visit www.gotopuertorico.com for additional information on tourist attractions in the Island.

Most importantly, during the IBNS 2003- San Juan meeting new synaptic connections will consolidate in your brain thanks to a superb scientific program. You will meet neuroscience colleagues from University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, Rio Piedras Campus, and Institute of Neurobiology, Universidad Central del Caribe, Universidad del Este, and Ponce School of Medicine. About 30% of our community of 250 neuroscientists use behavioral approaches to study endocrine behaviors, drug addiction and relapse, learning and memory, fear conditioning, and anxiety. IBNS 2003-San Juan promises to be an enjoyable meeting for us all!

I look forward to greeting you at this exciting event.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

IBNS HEEDS THE CALL FOR GREATER TRAINING IN ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN TODAY'S SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY by Vickie Risbrough, IBNS Graduate Student Councilor.

The consequences of poor ethics training on an international scale are only too apparent in the number of recent and amazingly flagrant cases of ethical breaches in research. A 2002 report on two recent cases of fraud at Bell Laboratories and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory states that these cases “confirm that the cancer of fraud now confronts all scientific disciplines...stressing the [need for] training in standards of scientific conduct...” (R Dalton, *Nature* 420:728, 2002). The author continues, “those who have studied misconduct say that miscreants often start with minor infractions, building up to widespread falsification of data should their earlier misdeeds go undetected...rais[ing] doubts about the research community's ability or desire to confront such spiraling mendacity.”

These cases bring to light a need to revise the past customs of leaving ethical training up to the student community on an as-needed or “trial by fire” basis. A group at the University of Pittsburgh headed by Zigmond and Fischer have begun work to shift ethical training to a more specific and formal training program, via classes and workshops meant to engage students specifically to think critically and assess issues and dilemmas of research ethics and professional conduct that they will surely face in their own careers.

Similarly, IBNS has decided to offer workshops at our annual meetings. These workshops will benefit both the students and the Society, as we hope to encourage our members to implement similar training programs at their own institutions.

IBNS boasts a truly international and diverse membership, including foreign and domestic academic faculty and industry scientists. The Society members, therefore, offer a wide range of career experiences and perspectives and are an excellent resource for training young scientists. IBNS already invests in its more junior trainees by awarding travel bursaries from an NIH meeting grant. The Society hopes to enrich the careers of its student members further by not only offering the benefits of scientific discourse at annual meetings but also contributing to the ethical training of “up and coming” researchers. We have developed “breakout” luncheon workshops that will allow small groups to discuss cases of ethical dilemmas with the help of a regular member, after which the groups converge to present their analyses of the issues involved with their case and the best resolution. If this model works well, we will hold similar workshops in subsequent conferences. We are currently still looking for discussion leaders as well as additional funding for this year's workshop in San Juan in April.

Ethics training should go beyond “is it bad to falsify data?” a question that everyone would answer correctly. The workshop should help us recognize and evaluate the more gray ethical issues that do not necessarily have a “right” answer, or that have a number of different resolutions depending upon the context of the situation. One example of such a gray area is the rising number of collaborations between academia and industry, two bodies with different goals and obligations. Many groups are beginning to insist upon government regulation of such collaborations if scientists do not begin to formulate policies of appropriate conduct and self regulatory bodies (P Smaglik, *Nature* 406:817, 2000).

Without consistent and good communication between student and mentor, as well as with the scientific community, of which IBNS is a member, scientists may not get enough exposure and training to recognize and resolve some ethical dilemmas. A lack of training in this area would not only hurt young scientists' careers, but

reduce the value of research in the field as a whole. Last and most important, cases of ethical misconduct seriously erode the public trust in the value of *all* scientific endeavors.

If you are interested in volunteering for this year's workshop as a discussion leader, or would like to contribute to funding our workshop, please contact me at vickie@mag.ucsd.edu. For more information on the San Juan workshop, see our website at <http://www.ibnshomepage.org/>.

CALLS FOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS IN SAN JUAN - IBNS REACHES OUT TO SAN JUAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

IBNS is planning an outreach for local students from the UPR high school during our meeting in San Juan on Wednesday, April 22. Students will come to the hotel for a lecture and workshop on drug abuse and animal research ethics and then attend a mini poster session and lunch with the graduate students. We are looking for graduate student volunteers to help with the workshop and mingle with the students. This is a great opportunity to learn more about your host country and give to the community, as well as learn valuable teaching and mentoring skills. Contact Vickie Risbrough (vickie@mag.ucsd.edu) or Kyle Frantz (biokjf@langate.gsu.edu) if you are interested in being a part of our outreach program.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS FOR REGISTRATION NEEDED

Want to meet all those famous scientists that you have heard or read about? Now is your chance! Be a part of the student team helping to greet and register our members at the IBNS meeting in San Juan on Wednesday April 22. This is your opportunity to get the ball rolling on improving your networking skills. What better introduction to that potential employer than helping to get them registered and showing your commitment to the Society! To volunteer, contact Marianne Van Wagner at ibns@ibnshomepage.org.

REPORT ON 2002 AAALAC BOARD MEETING

The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International held its 36th Annual Board of Trustees Meeting in Bethesda, Maryland, USA, on September 14-15, 2002. IBNS is a voting member of the AAALAC Board. IBNS member Jacqueline Crawley attended the meeting as IBNS representative. Dr. Sue Carter had graciously served as IBNS representative to the AAALAC Board for several years. When Dr. Carter moved to Chicago last year, President John Bruno appointed Dr. Crawley to replace Dr. Carter.

AAALAC is the organization that inspects and accredits animal care and use programs at universities, research institutions, and companies. Site visits are designed to evaluate compliance with internationally recognized guidelines for the welfare of animals used in research. AAALAC is not an official regulatory body; it serves an educational and advisory function. However, AAALAC accreditation requirements often coincide with those of federal agencies that are responsible for laboratory animal welfare.

A major advance discussed at the meeting was the increasing international scope of AAALAC accreditation. The number of member organizations (649) and their international diversity (18 countries) is expanding, including new members in Brazil and China. Dr. Egil Berge, AAALAC Assistant Director for European Activities, coordinates activities with the U.K. House of Lords Select Committee on Animals in Scientific Procedures, the Spanish (SECAL), German (GV-SOLAS), and Scandinavian (Scand-LAS) laboratory animal science associations, and many others.

Dr. Chester Gispen, Assistant Director at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, discussed the U.S. Animal Welfare Act. Past litigation by the Animal Research Defense Fund had demanded the inclusion of rats, mice, and birds within the Animal Welfare Act. However, responses by the research community and biomedical research advocates successfully argued against this lawsuit. The 2002 Farm Bill "definition of animal" does NOT include rats, mice, or birds that are bred for research. Current issues under discussion at USDA include the regulatory definition of "distress," and the website postings of AAALAC inspection reports. Dr. Gispen's office (301-734-4980) is open to comments on proposed rules.

Dr. Nelson Ganett, Director of the U.S. National Institutes of Health Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, discussed the Regulatory Burden Committee. This committee is designed to streamline the regulatory process, and to reduce regulatory burden without compromising animal protection, through communications with the scientific community.

Dr. Ganett and AAALAC Executive Director Dr. John Miller discussed “Just-in-Time” procedures. Investigators now submit Institutional Animal Care and Use animal protocol approvals to NIH *after* their grants have been reviewed and a fundable priority score has been communicated, rather than within the submitted application package. Protocols can be sent to the NIH Program Office any time up to the award of funding. Any major changes in protocols during the funding period are supposed to be communicated back to NIH.

The agenda also included discussions of marketing AAALAC educational books and CDs, appeals of revoked accreditations, approval of new AAALAC members, including the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, and congratulations to AAALAC on winning the 2002 Bennett J. Cohen Animal Stewardship Award, presented by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. Issues specific to behavioral neuroscience research were not extensively discussed at this year’s AAALAC Board of Trustees meeting.

Reported by Jacqueline N. Crawley, Ph.D.
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MARK GEYER – 2002/03 PRESIDENT OF IBNS

Mark Geyer is a Professor of Psychiatry and Neurosciences at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine, where he has worked since completing his Ph.D. in Psychology in 1972. He is actively involved in both the Ph.D. Group in Neurosciences and the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program. Dr. Geyer’s laboratory uses behavioral measures and psychopharmacological manipulations in rodents and humans to examine the roles of



monoamines in behavior, to develop animal models of human drug effects, and to explore information-processing deficits in schizophrenia. He uses startle measures of habituation and prepulse inhibition, which are deficient in schizophrenics and mimicked in rats by manipulations of glutamatergic, serotonergic, or dopaminergic systems. He also uses a Behavioral Pattern Monitor in rats and video tracking in mice to provide multivariate assessments of spatio-temporal patterns of exploratory behavior, including nonlinear dynamical measures of behavioral organization. Much of this work addresses the effects of hallucinogens, psychostimulants, and serotonin agonists and releasers to reveal the involvement of specific monoamine systems in arousal and behavioral responses to environmental stimuli. His recent work focuses on phenotypic characterizations of gene knockout mice,

including mice lacking specific receptors for dopamine, glutamate, and serotonin.

Dr. Geyer is supported by multiple grants from the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. A pioneer in the translational study of sensorimotor gating deficits in schizophrenia and related animal models, Dr. Geyer is the Director of the Basic Neuroscience Unit of the Veteran’s Administration VISN 22 Mental Illness Research, Clinical, and Education Center that focuses on the treatment of schizophrenia. He has published over 250 peer-reviewed papers and many invited reviews and chapters. Dr. Geyer is currently an editor for two highly respected international journals, *Psychopharmacology* and *Neuropharmacology*, and is on the Editorial Board of several other journals. He is a founding member and Fellow of the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society, a Fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Vice-President of the international Serotonin Club, and a member of the Scientific Council of NARSAD.



2002 MEETING IN CAPRI

The IBNS 2002 Meeting in Capri, Italy was a huge success by any standards. A total of 262 individuals registered for the meeting, of whom 51% were regular and student members of the Society.



The full program contained three keynote addresses, six special symposia, three satellite activities, and a total of 211 poster and slide presentations (up from an average of 144 for the previous four years).

Thirteen of the 74 students that attended had been awarded \$1000 IBNS travel grants for the Capri meeting.

Capri and its magnificent vistas cooperated with a period of sultry but brilliant weather that had a continuous undertone of intoxicating aromas from magnificent flowers and superb food. Everyone was captivated.



Robert Isaacson is presented Marjorie A. Myers Lifetime Achievement Award in Behavioral Neuroscience by John Bruno, IBNS President, during the banquet at the annual IBNS meeting in Capri, Italy.



2002 Travel Award winners included: *(Listed alphabetically)* Walter Adriani, Suzanne A. Brody, Nicole Cameron, Elissa J. Chesler, Elena Choleris, Lisa Jackson, Anna Lee, Miranda Lim, Sara Morley-Fletcher, Jennifer J. Quinn, Victoria Risbrough, Daniela Ruedi-Bettschen, Holger Russig.

Robert Glen Johnson, PhD, a former IBNS member, died recently in Florida. Robert received his PhD in Pharmacology from the University at Buffalo and did postdoctoral research with Dr. Greg Rose, also an IBNS member, at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Recently, Robert had been teaching high school science in Florida. He was a kind and caring person and will be deeply missed. He is survived by two sons living in Denver, Colorado.

BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE WEBSITES

COMPILED BY M.B. KRISTAL, EDITOR

<http://brainmuseum.org/> is a useful teaching tool. It contains information on the evolution and development of brains, on brain functional neuroanatomy, and comparative brain images.

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/neurok.html>, design-ed primarily for 4th grade through 8th grade, is maintained by Eric Chudler at the University of Washington. It provides a terrific entry into the world of neuroscience. It has a mirror site in England, and contains portions in a number of different languages.

<http://www-sci.lib.uci.edu/HSG/RefCalculators3.html>. Originally described in *SCIENCE* "Netwatch", the site provides indexed access to over 16,800 calculators for areas like chemistry, statistics, navigation, medicine, biology and cooking. No lab should be without it.

majordomo@listlink.berkeley.edu is the e-mail address for Marc Breedlove's daily behavioral neuroscience and biopsychology news briefing. It can be ordered in various forms. For abstracts, enter "subscribe biopsychodigest" in the text (NOT the subject line). For full stories all in one e-mail, enter "subscribe biopsychologydigest". The information can also be accessed at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BehavioralNeuroscience/>.

<http://www.neuroguide.com/index.html> (Neurosciences on the **Internet**) is probably the most complete searchable database available for neuroscience links and information. It is an invaluable resource.

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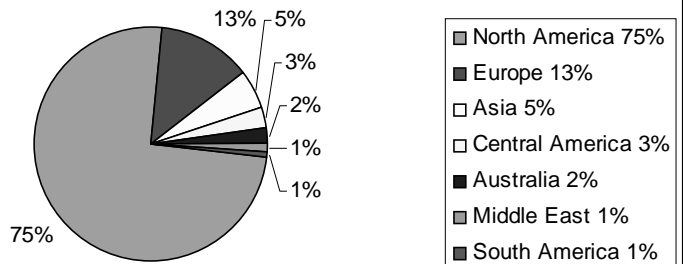
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2002 IBNS Membership by Area



NEW IBNS EDITOR

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Articles for the next issue of IBNS News should be submitted directly to the Editor prior to July 15, 2003.

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