



**Template for Division Reports to Council
(Due in September and March)**

Name of Division: **Neuropharmacology Division**

Status of Division Activities:

A. Annual Meeting Programming and Events:

At **EB2015**, the Neuropharmacology Division sponsored 4 Symposia, a post-doctoral competition and co-sponsored 13 additional symposia.

At **EB2016**, the Neuropharmacology Division will sponsor 3 Symposia listed below. ***Rearrangement of the EB program likely contributed to the declining allocation from four (EB2015) to three (EB2016) primary symposia for NEU division.***

In preparation for EB2016, 14 proposals for symposia were received by the division and many were judged to be of high quality. One of the symposia was organized by Dan J. Lodge - University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, winner of the NEU Division 2015 Early Career Independent Investigator Award.

1. New Twists on Neurotransmitter Transport: Unraveling Novel Therapeutic Targets for Addiction and Psychiatric Disorders
Chairs: L.C. Daws—Univ. of Texas Hlth. Sci. Ctr. at San Antonio H.H. Sitte—Medical Univ. Vienne
2. Cannabinoid Signaling in Pain and Addiction: Translating Preclinical Basic Research to the Clinic
Chairs: D. Morgan—Penn State Univ. Col. of Med. J. Guindon—Texas Tech Univ. Health Sciences Ctr.
3. Central Mechanisms Contributing to Novel Antidepressant Efficacy
Chair: D. Lodge—UT Health Science Ctr., San Antonio Central Mechanisms Contributing to Novel Antidepressant Efficacy

At **EB 2016** eleven Symposia will be Co-sponsored by Neuropharmacology Division

1. Securing NIH Intramural Fellowships to Enhance Your Pharmacology Training
Chairs: Janet E. Clark—Nat'l Inst. of Mental Hlth./NIH

- A. Reid—*Nat'l Inst. of Mental Hlth./NIH*
2. Emerging Roles for the Ubiquitin-Proteasome System in Therapeutics
Chairs: B. Sjogren—Michigan State Univ. H.L. Paulson—Univ. of Michigan Health System
3. Drugs of Abuse and Antiretrovirals: Interactions and Toxicities
Chairs: S. Kumar—Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City K. Jordan-Sciutto—Univ. of Pennsylvania
4. Newly Recognized GPCRs in Health, Disease and as Therapeutic Targets
Chairs: Ross Corriden—Univ. of California, San Diego Paul A. Insel—Univ. of California, San Diego
5. From Ligands to Signaling: Recent Advances in Adhesion GPCR Pharmacology and Biology
Chairs: X. Piao—Boston Children's Hospital R.A. Hall—Rollins Res. Ctr.
6. Hear It from the Editors: Navigating the Course through Journal Submission and Publication
Chairs: M. Vore—Univ. of Kentucky E. Morgan—Emory Univ.
7. Beyond Traditional Assessments of Pain: Implications for Drug Discovery of Novel Pain Therapeutics
Chairs: Carol A. Paronis – McLean Hosp. Harshini Neelakantan – Univ. of Texas Med. Branch Galveston
8. Nicotinic Agonist/Antagonist Drug Development: Implications for Treatment of Neurodegenerative and Addictive Disorders
Chairs: Annette Fleckenstein—Univ. of Utah M. Quik—SRI International
9. Patient-Specific Stem Cells as Models for Gene-Disease, Drug, and Environment Interactions
Chair: J. Richardson—Northeast Ohio Medical Univ.
10. Intracellular GPCR and Lipid Signaling
Chairs: A. Marchese—Loyola Univ. Chicago
11. Keep Calm and Target Peptides: Modulation of Stress-Related Behaviors by Neuropeptide Systems
Chairs: S. Clark—Univ. at Buffalo, SUNY V. Sabino—Boston Univ. Sch. of Med.

At **EB 2016** the Neuropharmacology Division will again hold a post-doctoral competition and will award an Early Career Independent Investigator Award.

At **EB2015** The Neuropharmacology Division held an Executive Committee Meeting and a Business Meeting as well as a Joint Mixer with the Behavioral Pharmacology division during EB

At **EB 2016** similar meetings are planned
ASPET Council of Division Chairs Meeting
Friday, April 1, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM,
Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, Room Torrey Pines 1.

Neuropharmacology Division Executive Committee Meeting:
Monday, April 4, 30, 7:00 AM – 8:15 AM,
Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, Room Torrey Pines 2.

Neuropharmacology Division Business Meeting:
Tuesday, April 5, 5:30 pm- 6:30 PM
San Diego Convention Center Rm. 16B

Behavioral Pharmacology and Neuropharmacology Divisions Joint Mixer
Monday, April 4, 6:30 pm–8:00 pm Presidio
Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina

B. Division Awards:

EB2015: The Neuropharmacology Graduate Student Best Abstract Awards and the Neuropharmacology Postdoctoral Scientist Awards were all supported by division funds.

Presentation awards in the graduate student category were awarded to
1. **Alex Nackenoff** - Vanderbilt University (\$750 + 1 yr appointment to the NEU Executive Committee), 2. **Nathan Mitchell** - University of Texas HSC-San Antonio (\$500), 3. **Branden Stansley** - University of Toledo College of Medicine (\$250).

Presentation awards for postdoctoral scientist were awarded to
1. **Karen Tonsfeldt** - Oregon Health and Science University (\$750 + 1 yr appointment to the NEU Executive Committee), 2. **Rheaclare Fraser** - University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (\$500), 3. **Erin Bobeck** - Mount Sinai School of Medicine (\$250).

NEU Division also extended \$3000 in travel awards for EB2015.

All awardees also receive complimentary registration for EB2016.

The winner of the 2015 Early Career Award was: **Daniel Lodge, PhD**,
Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio

EB2016:

The Neuropharmacology Graduate Student Best Abstract Awards and the Neuropharmacology Postdoctoral Scientist Awards were all supported by division funds

\$250 travel awards to EB2016 each have been granted to 1 undergraduate student (**Nicole Colon Carrion**), two graduate students (**Mikaela Sifuentes** and **Anantha Ram Nookala**), and four postdoctoral fellows (**Erin Calipari, Matthew James Robson, Cody Siciliano, Erin Bobeck**).

2016 Early Career Award **Ryan M. Drenan** – Purdue University has been selected as the winner of the NEU Division 2016 Early Career Independent Investigator Award. Dr. Drenan will receive: \$1000 travel award, free meeting registration to Experimental Biology, one year free membership to ASPET, and an invitation to submit a symposium proposal (with the help of a committee member as a mentor) for the EB2017 meeting.

In total, NEU Division bestowed \$9130 in awards in 2015. A similar awards schedule is planned for EB2016.

C. Nominations for Officers:

Dr. John Traynor, Professor of Pharmacology and Associate Chair for Research, Department of Pharmacology, University of Michigan Medical School has been elected chair-elect of the division.

Dr. Styliani-Anna (Stella) E. Tsirka, Professor, Department of Pharmacological Sciences, Stony Brook University has been elected secretary/treasurer-elect of the division. Both will take office on June 30, 2017.

D. Non-ASPET meetings supported/sponsored by Division:

The Neuropharmacology Division hosted a social at the Society for Neuroscience (SFN) 2015 Annual meeting in Chicago on Sunday October 18, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency with **102** attendees.

E. Marketing and Communications Efforts:

We have added a link to external conference website announcements to our page. We have also appointed a Communications Officer, Dr. Anil Kumar, who will help to maintain our web page. The Division of Neuropharmacology regularly communicates with members regarding their achievement for publication in "The Pharmacologist". The information received from the members is forwarded to the Publication Office that reviews the information and determines its suitability for publication. The NEU division has also awarded numerous travel grants to Graduate students and Post-docs to attend 2016 EB meeting which we plan on highlighting in an upcoming addition of The Pharmacologist. In addition,

the division will use The Pharmacologist to feature the winner of the 2016 Early Career Award.

F. Executive Committee Communications:

An Executive Committee Meeting was held by teleconference on December 2, 2015 with the following members invited: Eric Barker, Laura Bohn, Carla Burns, Christopher Cottingham, Lynette Daws, Lakshmi Devi, Charles France, Beverley Greenwood-Van Meerveld, Anil Kumar, Charles Nichols, Dennis Paul, Abigail Schindler, Misty Smith, Judith Siuciak, Loc Thang, Karen Tonsfeldt, Rita Valentino, Harel Weinstein and Michael Wood.

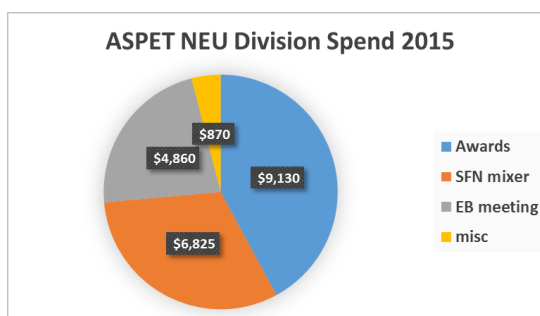
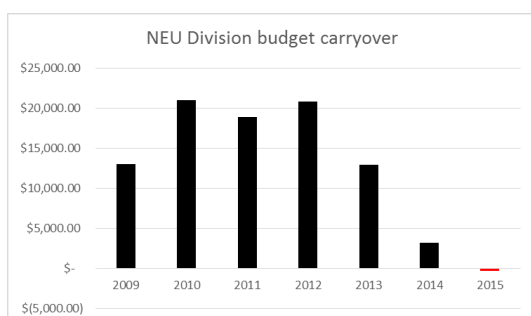
Our future plans are to arrange a regular TC with the Neuropharmacology Division executive committee July 2016 and Oct. 2016

Beverley Greenwood-Van Meerveld (NEU President) and Michael Wood (NEU Secretary/Treasurer) held 10 separate 30 minute teleconferences (6/22/2015, 7/27/2015, 8/10/2015, 8/24/2015, 9/21/2015, 10/5/2015, 11/3/2015, 11/16/2015, 11/30/2015, and 12/14/2015) to discuss division issues/plans.

G. Upcoming Projects, Events, Ideas and Proposals:

H. Other:

The NEU Division spend was able to exceed division income for the past few years because of a budget surplus. In response to ASPET Council requests to reduce budget carryover, NEU Division spending has outpaced NEU Division income (see bar chart). Some adjustments will need to be made in 2016. The major expenditures under control of the NEU Division are the “Awards” and “SFN Mixer” categories. NEU Division awards are relatively generous in comparison to other divisions, however, the NEU Division Executive Committee has not agreed to make any changes to the current award schedule. It appears most likely that a NEU Division mixer at SFN 2017 will not be possible without additional support.



Name of persons preparing report:

Beverley Greenwood-Van Meerveld, Ph.D.

Chair, Neuropharmacology Division

Michael Wood, Ph.D.

Secretary/Treasurer, Neuropharmacology Division

Date of submission: March 1, 2016