



Serotonin Club Newsletter

Congratulations to our newly elected officers (some are returning for a second term - highlighted in yellow!!!)

Thank you all for voting! We had a great number of voters

Current officer Slate:

President:

Julie Hensler
(2011-2012)

Immediate Past President:

Theresa Brancheck
(2011-2012)

Vice President North America:

Lynette Daws
(2011-2014)

Vice President Europe:

Francesc Artigas
(2008-2012)

Secretary/Treasurer:

Sheryl Beck

Web page:

Rodrigo Andrade

Chairs Nomenclature Committee:

John Neumaier
Nicholas Barnes

Councilors:

Europe

Kevin Fone, Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

Umberto Spampinato, M.D., Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

Trevor Sharp

(2011-2014)

Mark Millan

(2011-2014)

North America

Kelly Ann Berg, Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

Kathryn A. Cunningham, Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

David E. Nichols, Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

Anne Andrews

(2011-2014)

Rest of the World

Mitsuhiro Yoshioka, M.D., Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

David Centurion, Ph.D.
(2009-2012)

Maarten van den Buuse, Ph.D.

(2011-2014)

Joel Boeckert Honored Opening of Institute of Functional Genomics

This year, on Feb 8th – 10th, J. P. Pin and a local committee, organised a symposium in Montpellier, entitled “NEUROBIOLOGY: From Molecules to Systems” to honour of our friend and colleague Joel Boeckert. The symposium was to celebrate the opening of Montpellier’s new Institute of Functional Genomics, or “Institut de Genomique Fonctionelle, IGF”, an enterprise that has taken well in excess of 10 years of Joel’s life to complete, not without some fight here and there; eventually IGF was born and there is little doubt that this Center will be a major asset for Montpellier and Science in general. The symposium was a

great success (this is a vast understatement): it started with a reception and a visit to the IGF with many guests from academic and industrial science as well as local and national politicians (in France nothing works without them). Foremost, many colleagues, students, scholars and friends of Joel assembled. The IGF visit was followed by the symposium proper; it took place in the Corum in Montpellier. The Corum is the Congress and Musical Center located in the middle of the



Someone speaking

City; every summer there is a famous and very popular music and opera festival in and London Proms, but very well attended). The symposium was open to the public and



New Institute of Functional Genomics; Joel Boeckert speaking top middle panel



Listening to the sessions

The Corum – PDF advertisement for meeting



for 2 days, a score of close to 400 colleagues, students and laymen attended the meeting: a full house for entire sessions (it rained outside and the winds were strong, so it took some dedication to get there).

Obviously, serotonin did feature on the programme, but many more themes were addressed by an international group of young and more mature scientists, to serve as a testimony to Joel's many interests: from 5-HT to metabotropic glutamate receptors, from transduction pathways to G-protein coupled receptor interacting proteins, from the brain to the gut, from depression to irritable bowel syndrome and back to the brain. In a way, the symposium was also a (late) celebration for Joel's election to the French Academy of the Sciences, that happened a few years ago (time flies), and a number of "academicians" were present: former mentors and colleagues from the College de France were well represented. Joel and Jean Philippe being who they are, the meeting was very international indeed, although it was not unusual to pick up the French accent here and there. And since it was in France, lunches and dinners played an essential part. Now J.P. Pin has taken over from Joel to lead the department, but Joel is still very much present (is anyone surprised?).

For that matter, the next 5-HT meeting will take place in Montpellier in a couple of years from now. In the meantime, let's congratulate Joel and his team, for their many and essential contributions to 5-HT research and Pharmacology in particular and Neurobiology, in general. About 30 years ago, Joel decided to go South: that is to leave the College the France in Paris,



a very prestigious place where to do research,

and get lost in Montpellier (to paraphrase his then Parisian colleagues).

Guess what? Joel did not get lost.

Contributed by Dan Hoyer

SfN Dinner in San Diego Roy's Restaurant

The Serotonin Club dinner was held at Roy's Restaurant in the Marriott Hotel this year. The venue was excellent with an elevated area for enjoying the appetizers and cocktails and the tables for eating were on a lower level near the exit to the outdoor lanai. Unfortunately, the weather was not conducive to a lot of outdoor time. The food was fantastic, (did everyone get one of those delicious filets which were replenished three times ?) and we had a wonderful turn out. Dan Hoyer gave a talk about the 5-HT_{2C} receptor. Although he did not give the talk



while standing on a table, he did use his crutches as a pointer adding to the enjoyment of the talk. The information was



very interesting especially to the students



who were provided some history of serotonin that they probably did not know about before. The pictures are of many of the people enjoying the food, wine, company and the talk. Serotonin Club dinner is always held on Monday night of the SfN meeting, so add it to your calendar now for next year.

Please send in any suggestions you may



have for next years speaker for the Serotonin Club dinner in Washington D.C. The talk should be approximately 20 minutes long.

Next Serotonin Club Meeting in Montpellier, France, July 10-12, 2012.

The local organizing committee composed of Joel Bockaert, Michel Hamon and Philippe Marin are already making arrangements for our next meeting. The meeting will be held at the Faculty of Medicine in Montpellier, France. The banquet will be held in a local wine chateau nearby. We also have companies contacting us to present at the meeting. Please let us know of any industry contacts you may have in any part of the world that would be interested in exhibiting or helping finance the meeting. The call for symposia will probably occur after the first of the year, so start thinking now of new, novel and exciting data that you want to present and symposia topics that you want to organize. **Remember that the symposia will be chosen based on new and novel information.** The dates of the Serotonin Meeting were chosen so that individuals may also attend the FENS meeting in Barcelona Spain, July 14-18th, 2012.

In addition, the officers of the Club are discussing arrangements for the 2014 meeting with the local organizing committee that will be held in South Africa as a satellite meeting to the World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR) in Cape Town, South Africa.

Other Meetings of Interest:

Winter Conference on Brain Research
Jan 22-27th, 2011

Keystone, CO

www.conferences.uiuc.edu/conferences/conference.asp?ID=318

Experimental Biology

April 9-13, 2011

Washington, D.C.

www.experimentalbiology.org

The College on Problems of Drug Dependence
June 18-23rd, 2011
Hollywood, FL
<http://www.cpdd.vcu.edu/>

European College of Neuropsychopharmacology
Sept. 3-7, 2011
Paris, France
www.ecnp.eu

CINP World Congress
June 3rd – 7th, 2012
Stockholm, Sweden
www.cinp2012.com

FENS Forum of Neuroscience
July 14-18, 2012
Barcelona, Spain
fens2012.neurosciences.asso.fr

World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology 2014
July 13-18, 2014
Cape Town, South Africa
www.iuphar2014.org

FYI: For those of your expressing an interest in Shatich's name change she was married this year!!! Congratulations to her and her husband Freedom!!!!

Pay your dues

Students who can document that they are still in their pre-doctoral training or in their first three years of postdoctoral training may pay only \$30/3 years in dues. Please have your current mentor send a letter documenting your current student status.

Regular members pay \$60/3 years.

You can pay for your dues using a credit card at



Go to serotoninclub.org website and click on the link for Pay dues for instructions. If you are receiving this newsletter then you are already a member. We will contact you when it is time to renew. **PLEASE URGE YOUR COLLEAGUES AND STUDENTS TO JOIN!!!!** Those members whose membership is due for renewal in 2011 will be contacted at the beginning of the year. You may also send a check for \$30 or \$60 USD payable to the Serotonin Club directly to Sheryl Beck (address at end of newsletter).

Address change?

If you have changed your address send it to us now while you are thinking about it – send to: livingstonesa@email.chop.edu

All communications with members are now carried out via the internet so if we do not have your current e-mail address you risk losing all contact with the Club

Sheryl G. Beck (Secretary/Treasurer)
ARC room 402A
3615 Civic Center Boulevard
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA 19104-4318
becks@email.chop.edu
Tel: 215-590-0651

Shatich A. Livingstone (Administrative Assistant)
Tel: 215-590-3381
livingstonesa@email.chop.edu