

Serotonin Club Newsletter: Silver Anniversary Meeting

SEROTONIN CLUB



**Montpellier France,
Faculty of Medicine,
July 10-12, 2012**

An outstanding meeting!!!!

The local organizing committee (LOC), composed of Joel Bockaert, Michel Hamon and Philippe Marin organized a fantastic meeting. A huge thank you to them and their staff for producing a well organized meeting with fantastic food and the banquet held at a local winery. The venue, the Faculty of Medicine, was ideal, with two conference rooms and a center courtyard where breakfast, coffee breaks and lunch were served. And what incredibly delicious, interesting, varied types of food with four different stations with chefs serving and/or grilling assorted entrees, a

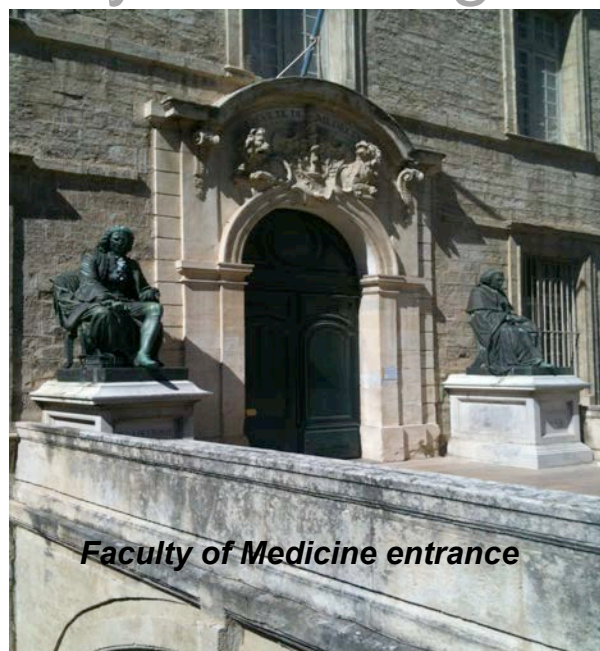


table filled with desserts, and at lunch local French wines! Many pictures were taken and can be seen on the Serotonin Club website under Previous Meetings tab and also on Serotonin Club on Facebook. Only a few select pictures are shown here.



The program was equally as successful. The Travel Awardee breakfast was first on the agenda where they were introduced and presented with their respective certificates. The first two days, meetings were held in the Theatrum Anatomicum and the Salles des Actes. Dr. Elaine Sanders-Bush was the Irwin Page lecturer and gave a talk outlining her life-long journey with serotonin. The journey began using fluorescent measurements of serotonin to her work using genetic strategies to identify novel targets and mechanisms controlling serotonin function. Included in the talk was a summary of her well known work on the 5-HT_{2C} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors and her ground-breaking identification of RNA editing process. The importance of RNA editing basically is that the pattern of 5-HT receptor RNA isoforms may not reflect the pattern of protein isoforms and hence the overall function of the receptor. The continuing use of various genetic strategies by Dr. Sanders-Bush laboratory

have led to the identification of various factors that are important in regulating serotonin levels and influencing mood disorders such as depression and anxiety and understanding such behaviors as hallucinations.

Ewan Mylecharane was the Maurice Rapport lecturer who provided an interesting historical account of his career working with serotonin in Australia. The majority of his work was conducted on the vascular, smooth muscle and cardiac tissues in vitro and in vivo. With the development of the 5-HT receptor



Ewan Mylecharane, Rapport Speaker



Poster session

nomenclature, new drug discoveries were made in the early 1980s. Finally he discussed 5-HT transporter affinities for pethidine and norpethidine and their potential role in serotonin toxicity.

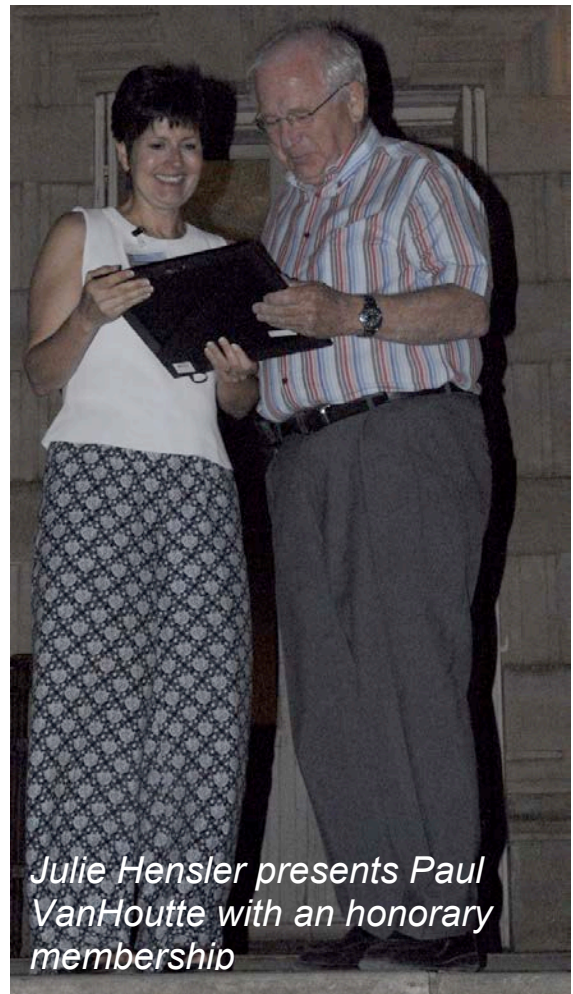
There 12 very successful symposia (Please go to www.serotoninclub.org, click on previous meetings to find PDF for entire meeting) with topics ranging from drugs of abuse, to development and peripheral systems. New this year was a session called ***Frontiers in Serotonin Research:***

Pioneers and Prodigies chaired primarily by Elaine Sanders-Bush but also assisted by Ewan Mylecharane, Joel Bockaert, Richard Green, Dennis Murphy and Michel Hamon, current and former Page and Rapport lecturers. The speakers were some of the Travel Awardees. A poster session, complete with wine and cheese was held on the evening of the first day with fifty-three posters being presented.



Banquet

The meeting participants and accompanying others were bused out to a local winery for the banquet, held on the winery grounds. The meal started with an incredible assortment of appetizers including raw oysters and snails and continued with a four-course meal complete with local French Wine. Honorary memberships were presented to Dr. Paul VanHoutte, the first President of the Serotonin Club, and to Dr. Charles Marsden in absentia (see below). The business meeting was held on the last day, with lots of input from the meeting attendees. See attached minutes of the meeting at the end of the Newsletter.



Julie Hensler presents Paul VanHoutte with an honorary membership

Honorary Membership award to Charles Marsden

During the evening Banquet on Wednesday 11th July at the Montpellier Serotonin Club meeting Charles Marsden was a recipient of an Honorary Membership from the Club “in recognition of both his distinguished contribution to serotonin research, and his long and valuable service to the Club. Unfortunately Charles was unable to attend the meeting so, as President, Julie Hensler presented the award to Richard Green who like me has worked with Charles for many years. Not only did Richard take on the onerous and delicate responsibility of returning the glass framed certificate to Nottingham he also agreed to take it to the British



Honorary Membership award to Charles Marsden

Association for Psychopharmacology (BAP) Summer Meeting in Harrogate to enable us to pass the award onto its true owner. In addition to his contribution to serotonin research, Charles founded the tradition of holding an evening meal open to all Nottingham based staff, students, and collaborators past & present at the BAP meeting. The tradition is still going strong and this year (Monday 23rd July) 23 people came to the Le Bistrot Pierre, many of whom had worked with or been trained by Charles. It was a perfect opportunity to re-iterate Julie’s warm appreciation of Charles’ contribution to the Club and, as you can see

from the photograph, a very welcome surprise to the delighted recipient. Privately afterwards Charles jested where he was going to hang the award; suffice to say it is a private but yet public place where the wooden frame won’t clash with the porcelain pot! *Contributed by Professor. Kevin Fone*

Councilor elections are being held

New councilors are needed for North America (one), Europe (two) and Rest of World (three). In addition at the business meeting it was unanimously decided that an Associate Councilor would be added for each region. The Associate Councilor would be a new investigator less than three years out from obtaining their PhD, MD or other similar degree. The duties of the councilor are outlined below:

1. Help recruit additional members to the Serotonin Club using personal contacts and associates.
2. Respond to emails usually dealing with voting on symposia to be included in the next international meeting (next one to be held in South Africa), selection of travel awardees, discussions regarding development of committees to help out with planning of Society for Neuroscience yearly dinner, planning of British Pharmacological Society symposia and potential dinner, etc..
3. Volunteering and participation in committees formed to help with various functions of the club, i.e., raising money and obtaining sponsorship for the next meeting, planning receptions, increasing registration, increasing the visibility of the Club to increase membership, making a survey to membership regarding Serotonin Club.
4. Help to recruit symposia suggestions for next international meeting.
5. Provide information for the quarterly newsletters regarding meetings upcoming and recent

awards of interest to Serotonin Club members.

6. Increasing publicity regarding the club and its activities through social media such as Facebook and LinkedIn.

You may nominate yourself. If you nominate someone else we need confirmation from that individual that they would be willing to serve as a councilor. In addition, of course, the nominee must be a dues paid member of the Serotonin Club.

New Name for Serotonin Club????

At the Montpellier Meeting, interest was expressed to change the name of the Serotonin Club. Many stated that the organization is not taken seriously because it is a "Club". This may be an issue in obtaining sponsors and funding for meetings. It is also difficult to get travel approved because it is a "club". Some suggestions that have been made include the International Serotonin Research Society, Serotonin Research Society, Society for Serotonin Research International (SSRI), Society for Serotonin and Serotonin Society; these suggestions are not exclusive and suggestions are needed for a new name. Please send your suggestions to Shatich Livingstone at livingstonesa@email.chop.edu by September 24th. Suggestions will be sent out for a vote from the membership.

Serotonin Club Reception at Society for Neuroscience Meeting Monday October 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Cafe

Searching for your lost shaker of salt??? Then the MARGARITAVILLE CAFÉ, 1104 Decatur St, New Orleans is the place for you! Please join us for food, drink and relaxation with friends and colleagues in our very own "Serotoninville" section of Jimmy Buffett's paradise. There will be a brief presentation (we guarantee that serotonin will be mentioned) that you will not want to miss. The cost is only \$20 (for those who pre-register; \$30 at the door) and includes a delicious appetizer buffet and two drink tickets. You may pay by sending a check to Sheryl Beck made out to "The Serotonin Club" at the address listed at the end of the Newsletter or directly through Paypal. Go to our website www.serotoninclub.org for the Paypal link.

New Dues Amount

At the Montpellier meeting it was unanimously voted to increase the dues for regular members to \$100 USD/3 year period and \$50 USD/3 year period for graduate students and postdoctoral students less than four years from obtaining their degree effective immediately. To join the Serotonin Club go to www.serotoninclub.org and click on the membership tab for instructions on how to pay your dues, or see below.

New Information on Webpage

Please visit the webpage of the Serotonin Club and explore all the new information it contains. Historical documents (original minutes of the first meeting of the Serotonin Club, the Constitution, list of former Page and Rapport speakers), pictures from the Montpellier meeting, the entire program book from Montpellier meeting, and a new tab for job listings. In order to list a job, the individual must be a member of the Serotonin Club. The job will be

posted for a three-month period as well as the job should be related to some aspect of Serotonin research.

Serotonin Club Symposium at British Pharmacological Society Meeting in 2013

Trevor Sharp, Kevin Fone, and Nick Barnes are involved in planning a symposium sponsored by the Serotonin Club to be included in the BPS December 17-19th 2013 meeting. Participants in the symposium will have their travel and registration paid by BPS. The symposium will have 4-5 speakers who will talk for 30 min each. A call for symposia proposals by the BPS has been made and the symposium chairs, i.e., Kevin, Trevor and Nick will propose a topic to BPS for acceptance. In addition Serotonin Club members will get a reduced registration rate of £65 instead of the non-member rate of £115.

New Serotonin Club LinkedIn Page

Adam Halberstadt has set up a Serotonin Club LinkedIn Page. Please join both our LinkedIn Page and the Facebook site. In addition he will be starting several discussions on the LinkedIn Page so if you have any ideas, please go to the site and add your comments. We already have 87 members. Invitations to join the LinkedIn site have been sent to all current Serotonin Club members. In addition, remember we now have a Facebook page as well. Make sure you visit the site at www.facebook.com/pages/Serotonin-Club/170600399644105 and "like" the Club to join. Information about meetings, publications and pictures from previous meetings and the SfN dinners/receptions are posted. Any questions should be addressed to Adam Halberstadt at ahalberstadt@ucsd.edu.

1960-1999 Hard copy files and Endnote file available

We have a previous member of the Serotonin Club who is retired and no longer active in serotonin research. He has hard copy of 14,423 references mostly on serotonin that can be searched and retrieved on End Note. They range between the 1960s and 1999. Many of them probably cannot be obtained as hard copies via PubMed. He is disposing of his hard copy files and was wondering if any one in the Serotonin Club would be interested in having these hard copy files of serotonin references. If someone is interested they could look at the references on End Note prior to committing to the expense of shipping the hard copy. In addition he is willing to share the Endnote file. Please contact Shatich Livingstone at livingstonesa@email.chop.edu.

Other Meetings of Interest:

10th International Catecholamine Symposium (XICS)

September 9-13, 2012.

Pacific Grove, California

<http://10thintcatsymp.org/>

25th ECNP Congress

October 13-17, 2012.

Vienna, Austria

<http://www.ecnp.eu/Congress2012/ECNP%20Congress.aspx>

British Pharmacological Society Winter Meeting 2012
London, England
18–20 December 2012
<http://www.bps.ac.uk/meetings/BPSWinter>

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

Join the Club – Renew 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 \$50/3 years in dues. Please have your current mentor send a letter documenting your current student status. Regular members pay \$100/3 years.

You can pay for your dues using a credit card at



Go to www.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 2011/2012 will be contacted by Shatich Livingstone. You may also send a check for \$30 (student) 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 now while you are thinking about it 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

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Serotonin Club



Business Meeting Montpellier July 12th, 2012

1. Secretary/treasurer's report – Sheryl Beck, secretary/treasurer, reported on the current balances in the Serotonin Club accounts, equaling \$144,238. We have been dipping into the Club accounts to subsidize the Society for Neuroscience meeting dinner/receptions, the meetings in Montreal and Oxford, and to pay for Shatich Livingstone's time/effort, etc. Membership dues do not cover expenses.
 - a. There was a motion to increase the dues to \$100/3 years for regular members and \$50/3 years for students. The motion was seconded and approved.
2. New officers were announced:
 - a. Maarten Van den Buuse is the new President, with Julie Hensler becoming Past-President
 - b. Kevin Fone will be the new VP for Europe
 - c. Lynette Daws continues as VP for North America
 - d. It is time to start thinking about a new secretary treasurer to replace Sheryl Beck by July 2014 at the latest
3. Call for nominations for councilors –
 - a. North America – 1 needed
 - i. Kathryn Cunningham, Kelly Berg, and Anne Andrews continuing
 - b. Europe – 2 needed
 - i. Mark Millan and Trevor Sharp continuing
 - c. Rest of the World – 3 needed
4. A recommendation was made to add an Associate Councilor to each of the regions. The Associate Councilor should be a new investigator with less than 10 years experience after obtaining their advanced degree, i.e., PhD, MD. The recommendation was approved.
5. Ideas to increase membership in the club were discussed. The travel awardees from the Montpellier meeting were made members for one year. Ideas are needed to increase enticement to join the Club. There was a suggestion to send out a survey to the membership to ask people what would make it more attractive to join the Club.
6. The meeting to be held tentatively in South Africa in 2014 was discussed. There was a lot of discussion regarding where the Serotonin Club Satellite meeting will be held, due to the cost of travel to South Africa. In addition, we currently do not have a local organizing committee (LOC) identified. The need to have a LOC identified soon was emphasized. Alan Frazer, Nick Barnes, and Danny Hoyer volunteered to contact Brain Harvey and Douglas Oliver in South Africa regarding the satellite meeting. Other locations for the satellite meeting that were suggested included Australia (Maarten Van Den Buuse, Lynette Daws) and Vienna (Harald Sitte).
7. The British Pharmacological Society (BPS) meeting has agreed to renew links with the Serotonin Club. Trevor Sharp, Kevin Fone, and Nick Barnes are involved in planning a symposium sponsored by the Serotonin Club to be included in the BPS December

- 17-19th 2013 meeting. Participants in the symposium will have their travel and registration paid by BPS. The symposium will have 4-5 speakers who will talk for 30 min each. The symposium chairs, i.e., Kevin Fone and Nick Barnes will propose a topic to BPS for acceptance. Call for symposia proposals by BPS will be occurring soon.
8. Pharmacological Reviews has contacted Stephanie Watts about a new review on Serotonin. John Neumaier and Nick Barnes, our Nomenclature committee chairs, are working with Stephanie Watts and are reaching out to people to write the review.
 9. Julie Hensler has been in contact with Maurice Rapport's daughter to obtain his papers. Charles Marsden and Kevin Fone are working to have them archived at the Wellcome Trust.
 10. Suggestions were made for new content on the Serotonin Club Website. New content will include historical information, i.e., the Serotonin Club Constitution, past Page and Rapport lecturers, minutes of the biennial meetings, pictures from meetings, a tab for posting job opportunities, and programs and abstracts from the biennial International meetings. Rodrigo Andrade stated he will work on instituting changes,
 11. Adam Halberstadt said that he could make a Serotonin Club LinkedIn page and continues to update the Facebook page. Please join and "like" both websites.
 12. Energetic membership and councilor volunteers are needed for various Serotonin Club activities:
 - a. Society for Neuroscience reception/dinner planning
 - b. "Special edition" publications following Serotonin Club meetings; Anne Andrews is doing this for the current meeting via an *ACS Chemical Neuroscience* special issue due out in January 2013
 - c. Obtaining funding and sponsorship for future meetings
 - d. Increasing publicity regarding the club and its activities through social media
 - e. Organization of dinner at British Pharmacological Society meeting
 13. There was interest expressed to change the name of the Serotonin Club. Many stated that the organization is not taken seriously because it is a "Club". This may be an issue in obtaining sponsors and funding for meetings. It is also difficult to get travel approved because it is a "club". Suggestions are needed for a new name.
 14. The Serotonin logo at the top of the Newsletter can be copied and used by members if they go to the website and get the minutes that are in word or .dox for posters and presentations.

Addendum: Since the Montpellier meeting, a LOC for the meeting in South Africa in 2014 has been identified and includes:

Prof. Brian Harvey, North-West University, Potchefstroom (Chairperson)
Prof. Sandra van Dyk, North-West University, Potchefstroom
Mr. Dewet Wolmarans, North-West University, Potchefstroom
Prof. Soraya Seedat, University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town
Dr. Sian Hemmings, University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town
Mr. Jacques Joubert, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town

A phone conference was held with the new LOC, Danny Hoyer, and Nick Barnes (who helped initiate the formation of the LOC by working with Brian Harvey and Douglas Oliver), Sheryl Beck (Secretary/treasurer of SC), Maarten Van Den Buuse (President SC), Julie Hensler (Past-President), Douglas Oliver (President of the WCP 2014 meeting). Issues

discussed during the teleconference included meeting venues, committees to work on finding monetary support while working with the LOC, the format of the meeting, timing for the request for symposia to occur in February 2013 with the goal of having the program set by July 2013, and a recommendation for the Serotonin Club to hire an event manager to help with the organization of the meeting.