



ACNP Bulletin

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology 5034A Thoroughbred Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027
Tel: 615-324-2360 • Fax: 615-523-1715 • E-mail: acnp@acnp.org • www.acnp.org

MAY 2014

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 2

IN THIS ISSUE:

To Our Future	1
The Brain Prize	1
Interview with President-elect Raquel Gur	2
Staff Spotlight	4
ACNP Travel Award Program	4
2014 Annual Meeting	5
Opening Night	6
2015 Officer & Council Election Results	7
Member Nominations and Promotions	7
Annual Meeting Policies Changes	7
Dates to Remember	7
Upcoming Meetings	8
ACNP Honoric Awards – Call for Nominations	8

To Our Future

Peter Kalivas, Ph.D.

Everyone is aware that the ACNP is working in earnest to engage a more diverse (age, gender, ethnicity) group of scientists and clinicians and that this effort is critical for our thriving as a leadership organization. Our effort began with the Women's, Minority and Membership Advisory Task Forces, and this year we have initiated new policies/activities in order to engage our membership. Below I outline both the new and older opportunities that I hope you will partake in.

Membership Nominations: If you nominate a woman or ethnic minority for associate or full membership, you will automatically get a second nomination <http://www.acnp.org/membership/applications.aspx>

Mentoring: In addition to the mentoring program for travel awardees that many take part in, you will soon see a call from the Women's Task Force for an additional mentoring program. Last years attendees of the Women's Luncheon were clear in a follow-up questionnaire that they need more career mentoring from our women and men members. This new program will involve a reception for mentor – mentee teams to meet, drink and advise.

Call for Proposals: This is probably the best opportunity to advance careers of young scientists and under-represented minorities. This year consider how your panel submissions can be diversified, as well as present the very best research at http://acnp.submitabstract.org/conf_website/acnp.submitabstract.org

Award Nominations: This is an underutilized opportunity for our membership to honor individuals 50 years of age or younger who have made significant contributions to basic (Efron Award), clinical (Elkes Award) or translational (Killam Award) research. As well, we need nominations for awards that honor individuals who have mentored and developed young scientists into leaders of the field (Axelrod Mentorship Award), members who have made significant service contributions to the ACNP (Hoch Distinguished Service Award) and to recognize major contributions to education about neuropsychiatric diseases (ACNP Media Award). The application process is streamlined for your busy schedules, so please nominate worthy candidates at <http://www.acnp.org/programs/awards.aspx>



Trevor Robbins Awarded 'The Brain Prize'

ACNP Fellow, Trevor Robbins, was honored with the Grete Lundbeck European Brain Research Prize – 'The Brain Prize' – recognizing highly original and influential advances in European neuroscience. The recipients were distinguished for *'their pioneering research on higher brain mechanisms underpinning such complex human functions as literacy, numeracy, motivated behaviour and social cognition, and for their efforts to understand cognitive and behavioural disorders.'*

To read more about the prize and Dr. Robbins' work: www.thebrainprize.org
Congratulations Dr. Robbins!





ASSOCIATE & NEW MEMBER CONNECTION

Interview with Raquel Gur, President-elect of ACNP

Raymond Cho, ACNP Membership Advisory Task Force member

RC: What are the benefits of attending ACNP meetings?

RG: The ACNP provides an unprecedented opportunity for individuals at multiple levels, junior, mid-career and senior people, to interact with top scientists both in the basic, translational and clinical sciences. Such interactions are done in a relatively small and collegial setting with a program carefully selected to reflect progress in the field. The duration of the meeting and the relatively small size are ideal for informal interactions. So the benefits are enormous. And for young people, it is a learning and networking opportunity that is truly unprecedented compared with other neuroscience meetings because it's a relatively small meeting with a top program.

RC: Any advice for successfully networking with ACNP members and other colleagues at the meeting?

RG: Participants already established know how to network with colleagues in their field. For more junior people, look at the program, see who is attending...it might be from outside the ACNP, since we have a significant number of investigators who are coming for presentations. The effort in our program is to select top people in the field—regardless of membership. Some preparation can help with successful networking. For junior people, attending the meeting provides the opportunity for meeting mentors, travel awardees, attending special sessions geared towards career advancement such as journal publications and Institutes' Directors meetings. Preparation before the meeting can include establishing contact, introducing themselves, state they would appreciate the opportunity to meet. Taking the initiative will open the opportunity to meet people at different levels.

RC: Ok, great, so taking some initiative before the meeting to establish contacts and set up meetings. Next, how can trainees and junior faculty get involved in the ACNP?

RG: Learn more about the organization. Email the ACNP and if they see committees of interest and when the call comes for committee membership, to volunteer when there is an opportunity. Taking the initiative is the most important step. Many times committees would like to have the input of junior investigators who are vital for our future. The ACNP is eagerly taking the role of mentorship and educating the new generation of basic and clinical neuroscientists. This is part of our mission. In addition to interacting with ACNP committees of interest, letting the faculty in their own department know of their interest can be helpful as they can advocate for them.

RC: Are there benefits to becoming an ACNP member?

RG: I see tremendous benefits. In addition to a great meeting, the people that you meet—across the membership, will help you throughout your career. These are going to be people that you can turn to for letters of support, when you put in a grant or for promotion. They are going to be the colleagues that review your grants and papers (when there is no conflict of interest of course). You are joining a highly respected organization and it helps you professionally.

Besides, it's commonly done in nice and warm places and it's a welcoming atmosphere and a great opportunity to interact outside a structured academic setting. I think it's one of the best things that I've done.

RC: What makes for a strong membership application and what might help to distinguish an application from the others to make it a successful one?

RG: Reading online what is required is important; sometimes people apply a bit prematurely. They are excited, they get a few papers, they don't have an R01 yet. So clearly, it is important to know what is required. To prepare a strong application and have members who strongly advocate for the candidate. Working together on the application well before the deadline is necessary. In the process a decision may be made to wait as a few more papers can strengthen the application. Attending the meetings and networking prior to application for membership also facilitates interacting with established ACNP members from other institutions. Common research and knowing members leads them to advocate for you, do not hold back and look for input.





ASSOCIATE & NEW MEMBER CONNECTION

Interview with Raquel Gur, President-elect of ACNP

(continued from page 2)

RC: How could one get feedback on readiness to apply for membership? Are there drawbacks to submitting applications multiple times?

RG: The application for membership is a process that builds on career development. Getting input from members in the applicant's institution is very helpful as is guidance from individuals in the applicant's field who are at other institutions. If rejected the first time, which may happen, take a deep breath. Look at it carefully, get more input, and wait a couple years—after you've more papers and opportunity for more grants. Submitting applications too early in an individual's career, or not waiting long enough for re-application, without evidence of significant progress, reduces the likelihood. It should be a thoughtful process and with input from established members locally and from outside the institution.

RC: Are there ways in which the ACNP encourages the participation of women and minorities?

RG: We are working on it diligently. There has been a big effort to create opportunities for women. Such efforts have included the women's lunch as an opportunity to discuss barriers, increased participation of women as members on committees, encouraging women to apply for membership. Similar efforts are done for minorities. And so, the number and involvement of women and minorities has increased, but not sufficiently. We will vigorously push towards more diverse representation with an additional sponsorship slot for a minority candidate. It will take time, but as we examine our efforts annually, we can move forward in the direction we have already taken faster. It is for our collective membership to send out the word and encourage those with expertise within the scope and mission of the ACNP to apply.

RC: Any personal anecdotes or remarks about your earlier growth as a scientist and how ACNP may have played a role in this process?

RG: The ACNP played a major role in my professional development. Some people are more nuanced about what you need to do. I didn't have this mentorship when I was starting out. The first time I came I was invited as a discussant, I was writing grants and papers, I had young children, I felt overwhelmed. I had so much to do and I didn't think!

Becoming a member significantly impacted my career development. Not that it changed my life, but it definitely enriched it. The opportunity to meet people to write collaborative grants. In the Society for Neuroscience, it's do-able, but it's so, so large...less opportunity to network. Here, it's easy to approach people, I think we strike just the right balance between stimulating scientific sessions and the ability to talk to people: 'I'm working on this...I'm replicating...can you send me this?...we're not replicating this...' It's a wonderful opportunity.

RC: So it sounds like you're highlighting the relative intimacy of the meeting. Any thoughts about the potential tension between making it more open and accessible vs. retaining the smaller, more intimate nature of the meeting?

RG: Something that is a continuous challenge. So one thing that has been done successfully: senior members that are not academically active—and for some of them, they're not attending—is to offer them emeritus status. And with this status they don't have to pay the membership but they can come to the meetings. A growing number have chosen to do that. It's changing some of the rules of engagement and has opened up slots for new membership, without a marked increase in the numbers so that the intimacy, the ability to network and meet new colleagues is maintained. Within this framework we can also increase women and minorities resulting in a more diverse society while maintaining its size, and high scientific quality doesn't have to be compromised.

RC: Are there any new initiatives or existing directions for the ACNP that you would like to highlight?

RG: We spoke about women and diversity. Increasing involvement of junior people is important. And also considering new initiatives—perhaps some more global where it aligns with the NIH, and with the government, related health outreach and to increase quality of science as well. These directions will be further discussed, and probably after the summer meeting more will be formalized.

RC: Ok, I think in a relatively brief period we've covered quite a lot. Thanks so much for sharing your thoughts, insights and advice.

RG: I think your questions were very thoughtful. My pleasure.



Staff Spotlight – Meet the Senior Meeting Manager

Heather McCroskey joined the ACNP and PMG teams in August 2013 as the Meetings Manager; and congratulations are in order as she has just been promoted to Senior Meetings Manager. Her role for ACNP is to ensure you have a flawless annual meeting each December by working with the hotels and vendors to make it a great experience for everyone.

Over the past 14 years, Heather has planned hundreds of successful meetings and loved every moment of it! Her previous experience includes working as a Senior Convention Services Manager for the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans and the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville. After years as a supplier, Heather decided to look for an opportunity that was equally challenging, but with also a chance to give back to the community. She enjoys working with ACNP and other societies and associations that are making a difference in the world by achieving better communication and research in the neurological fields.

When Heather is not working, she enjoys spending time with her husband, Clinton, their 5 year old son, Carter, and playing with their 2 Boxers, Fred and Marilyn. They root for the New Orleans Saints and certainly believe “Laissez les bons temps rouler” (Let the good times roll)!



ACNP Travel Award Program

Scott Rauch, M.D., Chair, Education and Training Committee

Kathleen Merikangas, Ph.D., Co-Chair, Education and Training Committee

Each year the College sponsors a group of distinguished young scientists to attend the Annual Meeting as part of our Travel Award program. The Education & Training Committee is tasked with selecting 55 of the best and brightest young investigators in the field of neuropsychopharmacology research from a highly competitive field of applicants. Not an easy task!

In order to keep the standard high for our awardees as well as to accomplish greater diversity, we rely on our members to spread the word to potential applicants throughout their institutions. If you know a deserving early career investigator that is within 6 years of their final training, please take the time to discuss this opportunity with them. As you know, many past travel awardees are now members of the College, and a substantial proportion have gone on to serve the college in leadership roles.

Along with travel support, awardees have the opportunity to attend and present a poster at ACNP's outstanding general scientific program in clinical and basic research. Additionally, recipients have the special opportunity to present their poster in a smaller, more intimate setting, during a reception attended by mentors, committee chairs, and ACNP leadership.

We hope that you will help the College identify the best possible pool of applicants for the 2014 Travel Award Program. Early career investigators are the future of the College and we hope to engage them during this formative stage. In this way, we aim to foster their affinity for ACNP, while enhancing their trajectory toward making major contributions to the field.

Additional information regarding the Travel Award Program is available on ACNP website at <https://www.acnp.org/annualmeeting/travelawards.aspx>.

The deadline to apply is May 15th. If you have questions, please contact Laura Hill (lhill@acnp.org) or Kelly Phy (acnp@acnp.org) at the ACNP office.



ACNP 53rd Annual Meeting, December 7-11, 2014

Registration for the 53rd Annual Meeting will begin in June. We are looking forward to welcoming members and their guests to Phoenix, Arizona.



The JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa is an award-winning, AAA 4-Diamond property with a stunning 316 acres in the Sonoran Desert. This premier resort also has a variety of activities for all ages including an award-winning spa and championship golf club.

Guest rooms and suites feature private balconies or patios with dramatic desert vistas, mountain views, and tech-friendly amenities. Phoenix has a desert climate with temperatures in December ranging from an average high of 66°F to an average low of 41°F.

The Program Committee will meet on July 12th to determine the program for December. For those who submitted a proposal, decision letters will be sent by July 25th.



Please contact the ACNP Executive Office at 615-324-2360 or acnp@acnp.org with any questions you may have regarding the meeting.

Registration and Hotel Reservations:

The 2014 process will again be a two-step process where members and guests will first register for the meeting and then make a hotel reservation using a link received in the meeting registration confirmation email.

Member Registrations:

To access the registration site, members must login to the ACNP website, www.acnp.org, select "Annual Meeting" and click "Registration."

Invited Guest Registrations:

Guests will receive a link to the registration site in their invitation letter.

Hotel Reservations:

All hotel reservations will be completed on the hotel site. To reserve your hotel room, click on the link contained in your registration confirmation email. The link will take you directly to the hotel website where you will can access the ACNP rooming block and make your reservation directly with the hotel.

The final day for hotel reservation acceptance at ACNP's discounted rates will be October 31; however rooms at these rates are limited and may sell out before the deadline. Please be sure to secure your hotel room early to ensure availability.



ACNP 53rd Annual Meeting, December 7-11, 2014

(continued from page 5)

Air Travel for the Annual Meeting

ACNP has partnered with Caldwell Travel, Inc. for airline and car rental reservations. Please contact Lead Travel Consultants, Javonna Williams, javonnaw@travelcaldwell.com, or Sue Shapiro sues@travelcaldwell.com at 615-277-9067, toll-free 800-229-3344, between the hours of 9:00a.m. and 5:30p.m. Central Monday-Friday.

Invitation Banks

General Invitation Bank: This bank is fixed with 100 invitations that members may request to use for an early career researcher who is within 10 years of their last training or someone with a first time R award or K award. Invitees from this bank may present a poster.

Diversity Invitation Bank: This invitation bank allows ACNP members to offer an additional meeting invitation to a scientist from an underrepresented minority group including Pacific Islander, African-American, Native American, or Hispanic. Members who request the invitation should vouch for the minority status of the scientist they are inviting. Invitees from this bank may present a poster.

Policy Reminders

Council recognizes that many people who attend our meeting find it a convenient place to network and to connect with colleagues from other academic, government, or industrial organizations. This informal networking has historically been an important aspect of the meeting that many of our members believe has helped further scientific progress. However, organizing competing activities (e.g. satellite sessions, scientific board meetings, or social functions) that take attendees away from the meeting site detracts from other important goals of the meeting, such as fostering an atmosphere that encourages both formal and informal scientific discourse throughout the week and providing opportunities for travel awardees, trainees, and other young scientists to interact with leaders in the field. Therefore, Council asks that you refrain from organizing activities that take our members and meeting attendees away from the meeting site.

Many of our supporting corporations and academic institutions are large organizations with many people involved in planning meetings, and we realize that sometimes people organize meetings in conflict with this policy simply because they are not aware of it. If you are invited to attend any such functions, please help us by reminding the person issuing the invitation that this would be a violation of ACNP policy.

Additionally, the ACNP name, logo, or the name of the Annual Meeting should not be used in association with any CME activity without the approval of the College. To seek permission to use the name of the College, please contact Laura Hill (lhill@acnp.org) who will have your request reviewed by the appropriate committee and/or Council. If someone asks you to write a report of sessions you attend at the meeting, please let them know that publishing such a report would be a violation of this policy.

Opening Night – You don't want to miss this!

We have BIG plans for the opening night reception. Our own 2010 Past-President extraordinaire, David Rubinow, and his band mates will be our opening night reception entertainment. The six member band features our friend and colleague on guitar and his wife on the drums. The band morphs between two bands that merged — *Bobb B. Soxx and the U-trou*, formed in 1968, playing 50's and 60's rock & roll and the *Bad Business Blues Band*, formed in 1981, playing Chicago Blues. Whatever you call them it's sure to be fun! As you make your December travel plans, be sure to arrive in time for the BIG event.





2015 Officer & Council Election Results

Congratulations to the newly elected leadership.

President-Elect



Alan Frazer, Ph.D.

Council (Three-Year Term)



James Meador-Woodruff, M.D.



Maria Oquendo, M.D.

This election was carried out in accordance with Article VII, Section 3 and Article IX, Section 2 of the ACNP By-Laws, and its results are binding. Terms for the newly-elected officers will begin at the conclusion of the ACNP Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Member Nominations and Promotions

Nomination materials for new Member, Associate Member, and Fellow promotion candidates are available under the Membership tab on the ACNP website at www.acnp.org. The submission site will open with an announcement via email to membership in late July. The deadline for nominations and applications will be September 18, 2014. Please contact the Executive Office with any questions at acnp@acnp.org

REMINDER: Annual Meeting Policies Changes:

The following policies were new in 2013 and are in effect for the 2014 meeting:

- A member may only invite a guest to the meeting if the member is also attending the meeting. When we receive information regarding an invited guest, the Executive Office staff will ask the member to attest that he/she will attend the meeting before we will process the guest invitation.
- An invited guest will be allowed to present a poster if he/she chooses to do so. The guest invitation will constitute sponsorship by the inviting member. No other rules for poster sponsorship will be required.
- A member who invites a guest will only be allowed to present one poster since his/her guest invitation is considered to carry one poster sponsorship with it.
- Conflict of interest disclosure policy FOR POSTERS ONLY is that the presenting author must disclose only conflicts that are relevant to the poster, and the presenting author should enter disclosures for all co-authors.

Dates to Remember

May 8, 2014	Deadline for Chair Overall Session Proposals (panel, mini-panel, & study group)
May 15, 2014	Deadline Travel Award Applications
May 22, 2014	Deadline for Individual Presenter Abstract Submissions (panel, mini-panel, & study group)
June 2014	Registration Materials Distributed
June 18, 2014	Deadline for Honoric Awards Nominations
August 14, 2014	Deadline for Posters/Hot Topics/Data Blitz
September 18, 2014	Deadline for Membership Nominations/Promotions
October 31, 2014	Annual Meeting Early Registration Deadline; fees increase by \$50

**ACNP EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

5034A Thoroughbred Lane

Brentwood, TN 37027

Main Phone: 615-324-2360**Fax: 615-523-1715****E-mail: acnp@acnp.org****Upcoming Meetings**

Society of Biological Psychiatry
69th Annual Scientific Convention
May 8-10, 2014
Hilton, Midtown
New York, NY, USA
www.sobp.org

13th Annual Pharmacogenetics in Psychiatry Meeting (PIP)
June 15, 2014
(prior to ASCP Annual Meeting)
Hollywood, Florida
www.pharmacogeneticsinpsychiatry.com

ASCP Annual Meeting (NCDEU)
June 16-19, 2014
The Westin Diplomat
Hollywood, Florida, USA
www.ascpmeeting.org

13th Annual Workshop on Clinical Trials in Psychopharmacology
June 19-20, 2014
(after ASCP Annual Meeting)
Hollywood, Florida
www.ascpp.org/ascp-meetings/ctw-spring-meeting

The 2nd International Conference of OTIS – ENTIS
September 19-21, 2014
Toronto, Canada
www.mothertobaby.org

XXIInd Word Congress of Psychiatric Genetics
October 12-16, 2014
Copenhagen, Denmark
www.ispg.net

ACNP Annual Meeting
December 7-11, 2014
JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort
Phoenix, Arizona, USA
www.acnp.org

The Psychiatric Research Society 53rd Annual Meeting
February 4-7, 2015
Park City, Utah
www.SignUp4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=PSYC27E

ACNP Honorific Awards – Call for Nominations

It's time to honor the scientific and mentorship accomplishments of a select few from a very long list of our distinguished scholars. The Honorific Awards Committee, chaired by Dr. David Lewis, is requesting nominations for the following ACNP honorific awards:

- Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award
- Daniel H. Efron Research Award
- Joel Elkes Research Award
- Paul Hoch Distinguished Service Award
- Eva King Killam Research Award
- ACNP Media Award

Detailed nomination information is available on the ACNP website under the Programs & Initiative tab. The nomination deadline is **Wednesday, June 18, 2014**. Award recipients will be announced and honored at the Annual Meeting during the President's Plenary on December 8, 2014.

The committee urges you to nominate a deserving colleague and encourages the nomination of women and minorities.

www.acnp.org

To submit items to the Bulletin, please e-mail Laura Hill at lhill@acnp.org