



ACNP Bulletin

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Moving Forward

Raquel E. Gur, M.D., Ph.D.

Spring is here, time of renewal and planting. And it is the time that we call on all of our members to recognize achievements of individuals who have made a contribution to the field, and to engage in creating next year's scientific program and college membership.

Award Nominations: I realize that we are all busy and perhaps nominations for awards seem less of a priority, so let me make a pitch for it. This is our opportunity to honor individuals under 50 years of age who have made significant contributions to basic (Efron Award) and clinical (Elkes Award) research and to recognize and encourage early career researchers who are no more than 12 years beyond their terminal degree for outstanding translational (Killam Award) research; domains critical to our mission. Receiving an award has impact on professional development and is looked upon favorably by promotion committees and leadership in departments, schools and universities. It is our way to advance talented investigators and it counts. In addition to research achievement, mentorship is an important part of the college and of academic settings. We recognize and honor individuals who have mentored and helped develop young scientists into leaders in the field (Axelrod Mentorship Award). Our organization has benefited from members who have made significant service contributions to the ACNP and they deserve recognition for their efforts and commitment (Hoch Distinguished Service Award). Finally, telling the story of complex brain disorders to the public impacts education and stigma reduction, and we wish to recognize an individual who has helped this valuable mission (ACNP Media Award). The application process is straight forward, so please nominate worthy candidates at www.acnp.org/programs/awards.aspx

Call for Proposals: The deadline is fast approaching. As you work on putting together panels, please pause and think about including young scientists and under-represented minorities. We are committed to diversity (age, gender, ethnicity) and we want the program participants to reflect that. This is your opportunity to include the best research by diverse panels, and I urge you to give it full consideration. <https://acnp.societyconference.com/>

Membership Nominations: We are also committed to diversifying our membership and if you nominate a woman or ethnic minority for associate or full membership, you will automatically get a second nomination. This is the time to identify individuals, from academia, government and industry, including full representation - age, gender, ethnicity - and enriching the ACNP by their scientific contributions in basic, translational and clinical research. www.acnp.org/membership/applications.aspx





The Minority Task Force of ACNP

Richard De La Garza, II, Anthony Ahmed, Victoria Arango, Carlos Bolanos-Guzman, Deborah Deas, Bankole Johnson, Gonzalo Laje, Francis Lotrich, Mauricio Tohen, Carlos A. Zarate, Jr.

The Minority Task Force (MTF) was established during a meeting of ACNP Council at the end of 2012 by President David Lewis. The creation of the MTF follows the success of the Women's Task Force where they reported on significant progress made the past several years in increasing female representation at ACNP on all fronts. The work of their committee serves to inspire the MTF that such initiatives set forth by Council can and do work. The initial charge for the MTF included: 1) to develop statistics on past ACNP Minority Travel Awardees and do follow-up to determine where they are in the field to date, and 2) to investigate how to bring more underrepresented minorities (URMs) into the College and to attend the annual meetings.

Before starting we asked, "What does the current ACNP membership look like with regard to URM representation?" For 2014, there are 823 active members (Associate, Full, and Fellow) and of these only 7 (0.8%) self-reported being Black, 28 (3.4%) are Hispanic, 0 are Pacific Islander, and 0 are Native American. These are frightfully low percentages not mitigated by including those who did not report their race/ethnicity (6.3%). We also inspected data from 2011, 2012, and 2013 and for the most part these percentages (~3% URMs) have been stagnant (**Figure 1**).

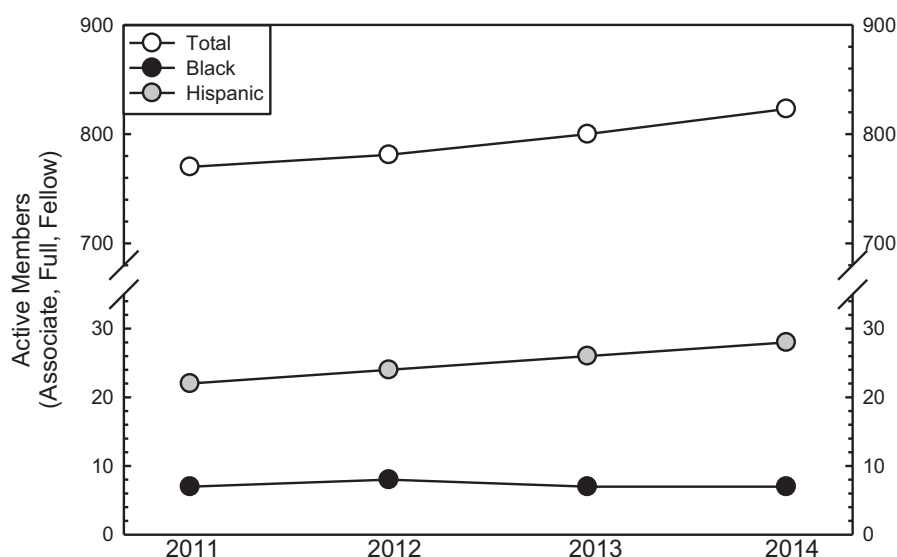


Figure 1. ACNP members (Associate, Full, and Fellow) for 2011-2014 shown as total (open symbols), and also by URM subgroups including Hispanic (gray symbols), and Black (black symbols).

Data from Emeritus members does not brighten the picture since in 2014 there are 224 individuals in this category and among them there are only 2 Hispanics (0.9%) and 0 from all other subgroups, though there were a larger number who did not report their race/ethnicity (29%).

Taken together, the need for a MTF for ACNP is clear and the importance of diversification coincides with the initiative described by NIH to promote diversity in the biomedical research workforce:

The NIH has long recognized the need for greater diversity in the ranks of scientific researchers and supports programs designed to recruit, train, and retain scientists from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in the fields of biomedical and behavioral science research on a national level, including underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and persons from disadvantaged backgrounds.



The Minority Task Force of ACNP

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It is also critical to elucidate the value of diversification of ACNP, and this can be readily appreciated by consulting the NIH rationale for the same:

Increasing the pool of researchers from diverse backgrounds who are available to participate in NIH-funded research is an important aspect of research capacity building. The NIH expects efforts to diversify the workforce to lead to the recruitment of the most talented researchers from all groups, to improve the quality of the educational and training environment, to balance and broaden the perspective in setting research priorities, to improve the ability to recruit subjects from diverse backgrounds into clinical research protocols, and to improve the Nation's capacity to address and eliminate health disparities.

It is worth noting that similar guidelines are followed by major institutions and universities around the country.

In an effort to address the charge by ACNP Council *to develop statistics on past ACNP Minority Travel Awardees*, we found that from 2011-2014, 33 of 218 total awardees (15.1%) were URM. That's a low percentage, yet improvements are already underway since for 2014, 12 of 58 (20.7%) travel awardees are URM. The success rate for this most recent year may reflect increased efforts to encourage URM to apply for travel awards (2014 - 39 URM applications versus 2013 - 7 URM applications). An exciting effort to increase diversity within the College emerged when Council recently approved sending an invitation from the Diversity Invitation Bank to all URM who were not selected to receive a travel award for 2014.

In our review of available data, it was disappointing to uncover that only 2 of the 33 (6.1%) URM travel awardees from 2011-2014 are current Associate or Full members. Even if we include prior years (2008-2010) the percentage does not improve, in fact it is lower (2 of 65; 3.1%). This outcome may simply be a function of these individuals choosing to not apply for membership, but it serves as a call to action for the MTF to track the progress of URM and to encourage them to apply for membership. For comparison, during 2008-2014, four times as many non-URM travel awardees are current Associate or Full members (31 of 257; 12.1%). In an effort to increase URM participation in the annual meeting and perhaps improve probability of URM becoming ACNP members, Council recently made available travel funds for eligible 2013 URM travel awardees for two additional years following their award year. Eligible awardees were asked to provide documentation of continued progress in the field (i.e., grants, publications and presentations in the past 12 months), and additional funds will be granted pending review by the Minority Sub-Committee of the Education and Training (E & T) Committee.

There are a few short-term initiatives that we are working on for 2014, including:

1. Develop a breakfast meeting at the 2014 ACNP Annual Meeting for those interested in discussing and promoting diversity. Invitees will include ACNP URM travel awardees, ACNP URM members, and any young URM investigators interested in this topic.
2. Identify URM now and offer them mentorship throughout this and subsequent years.
3. Encourage URM associate members to apply for full membership and URM full members to apply for promotion to Fellow.

In addition, there are a number of long-term initiatives that we are working on, including:

1. Inform ACNP members on a regular basis of the importance of including URM in the College. Information would include important topics of diversity and efforts underway by the College to increase diversity and these could be



The Minority Task Force of ACNP

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disseminated via the ACNP website, the ACNP journal, and contacting NIH Institute Directors, Training Directors, and Chairs of Psychiatry and Neuroscience.

2. Create and maintain a database that tracks progress of URMs throughout the different levels of the College over the years.
3. Track acceptance and rejection rates for URMs who submit Panel, Mini-Panel and Study group proposals for the Annual Meeting. We already have data showing high success rates for URMs with 12 submissions and 8 accepted (75%) for 2012 and 18 submissions and 14 accepted (78%) for 2013. These outcomes are comparable, if not better, than overall acceptance rates – specifically, in 2012 and 2013, the committee reviewed and accepted 52% and 64 % panel submissions and 73% and 50% of mini-panel submissions, respectively.
4. Increase URMs representation on key Committees, including E & T, Membership and Program. At present, there are 247 members on committees and task forces, of which 10.5% are URM members.
5. Improve the visibility of URMs by recognizing their successes and nominating them for ACNP honorific awards (Axelrod, Efron, Elkes, Hoch, and Killam). It was eye-opening to learn that for 2014 there were 18 total nominees for these awards, and 0 (zero) of those nominated were URMs. This is a pressing concern since the number of nominations of URM candidates has routinely been very low, specifically 0 (2013) or 1 (2010, 2011, 2012).

The Pipeline Challenge. The MTF is excited about working on this initiative for ACNP, but unanimously agree that increasing URMs is a challenge that goes deep into the pipeline. To realize success, we must act earlier to attract young scientists to the College (e.g., create a travel award for an undergraduate interested in the field or develop a summer research program for URMs). We should consider NIH efforts along these lines, for example awards for “Enhancing the Diversity of the NIH-Funded Workforce” program. Those awards stem from the broad, trans-NIH strategy to address the need to promote diversity in the biomedical research workforce (<http://commonfund.nih.gov/diversity/index>), and includes a network to exchange ideas for innovative and creative strategies to engage a diverse student pool in the early phases of biomedical research training, sustain their interest, and enable success at each career phase (<http://commonfund.nih.gov/diversityblog/>). Lastly, the MTF plans to reach out to other scientific organizations who already have URM neuroscientists among their ranks with accompanying successful travel award programs (e.g., Society for Neuroscience, National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse) and to collaborate with NIH staff to increase URMs that we can recruit to ACNP.

Staff Spotlight - Meet the Office Administrator...Again!

She's baaack! Julie Cauthen rejoined the Executive Office in April 2015 after an almost 2 year hiatus where she explored other opportunities and gained new skills in the association management field. She is our office ambassador assisting in all areas of member services and office administration.

Hailing from Michigan, Julie is a true northerner moving to Nashville in 1988. And, she DID NOT come to be a musician! The majority of her career has been in various areas of the medical field. She and Michael have been married for 17 years. They have 2 dogs and, more recently, are the proud foster parents of 2 ducklings.





Director's Notes

We Finally Made It – 100 Percent

Ronnie Wilkins, Ed.D., CAE, ACNP Executive Director



As you know, we always ask the attendees at the annual meeting to complete an evaluation after the meeting. We collect and report a lot of data from those evaluations about the science presented, about topics for next year, and about a number of administrative and logistical issues. One of the questions that we always have on the evaluation is about the service provided by the ACNP staff. We are always hoping that attendees will respond to that question with a 4 or 5, indicating that they either agree or strongly agree that the staff provides excellent service.

The responses we get to that question have always been really great, with the number of people who respond with either a 4 or 5 being around 97 or 98 percent. But it seems that there have always been just 3 or 4 people who give us a lower rating than that. You may remember a few years ago that I wrote in this column that we were looking for the 4 people who disagreed that our level of service was excellent, just so we could figure out what we needed to do to make them happy!

Well, I am so proud to report that 100 percent of the 879 respondents to the 2014 meeting evaluation gave ratings of either 4 or 5 to the ACNP staff! Wow! It took a long time, but we finally did it!

I hear so many nice compliments about the ACNP staff from members and meeting attendees that I worry sometimes that I might begin to take them for granted, but I know what an exceptional group of people they are. They set a very high bar for professionalism and excellent service. And, I realize how fortunate I am to be able to work with them.

Among the many nice things that people have said about our staff, there have also been occasional serious questions from people who want to know how we find, train, and keep such a great group of people. I am not sure how to answer that question. I wish I could say that there is some secret formula to it, and for a nice consulting fee we will share it! But, I actually think it is pretty simple. We look for people who are reasonably smart (but not so smart that they make the rest of us look bad!). We explain to them that we work really hard and that we will not accept anything less. And finally, we only hire people that we like and that we will enjoy hanging out with. We assume that if we find them to be likeable and fun folks, then you will too.

So there you have it. We just had 879 people at the 2014 annual meeting tell us that our staff does excellent work, and no one said that we don't. We have been aiming for that target for a long time, and we are very proud of having attained it...at least for this one meeting!

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 members and colleagues. The Honorific Awards Committee, chaired by Dr. Peter Kalivas, 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 24, 2015. Award recipients will be announced and honored at the Annual Meeting during the President's Plenary on December 7, 2015.

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



Conference for the Advancement of Neuropsychopharmacology

Nina Engelhardt, Ph.D.

"I hope this Conference will yield very valuable information and I hope that periodically ...this conference can again be repeated, and that such conferences as we are having here today and tomorrow could be the nucleus of scientific research, evaluation and dissemination of information in the field." (1)

– Paul Hoch, Commissioner, State of NY, Department of Mental Hygiene;
Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University

On November 12, 1960, at the Hotel Barbizon-Plaza, New York City, 38 psychiatrists met to discuss the current state of psychopharmacologic research and practice. The participants represented what was at the time a "Who's Who" of psychopharmacologists, though they would not have referred to themselves as such. What was the purpose of such a gathering? A decade earlier, in the 1950's, the concept of brain transmission as primarily electrical gave way to the finding that neurotransmission was chemical. This was a game changing idea, fueled less by a refusal to accept the status quo than by research, in particular, that of the Nobel-laureate J.C.Eccles, working with the Renshaw cell in the spinal cord. (2) Eccles, who held the conviction that transmission was electrical, demonstrated that transmission was chemical—paving the way for the soon to be discovered antipsychotic agents reserpine, chlorpromazine and haloperidol with their mediating effects on serotonin and the catecholamines, particularly dopamine.

Many refer to this period as the birth of neuropsychopharmacology. (3) As with any "birth" there is much cause to celebrate and, in the ensuing days, weeks, months and years, many new challenges to confront. A transcript of the proceedings of the 1960 meeting was made and, in the words of one of its participants, "This was the founding meeting which gave rise to the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology." The transcript transports the modern day reader into Studio K of the Barbizon and conveys as much about the challenges and issues facing this fledgling organization as it does about the extraordinary personalities and style of discourse that continue to define the Council.

What was the climate these men found themselves working in? A shifting one, to be sure. The "lean" years of psychiatry appeared to be over. Compounds were being produced much faster than they could be tested, and the pressure to obtain data was acutely felt by psychiatrists and general practitioners as well as by the companies who developed the drugs in the first place. The field of clinical evaluation of drugs did not exist, nor did a cadre of trained investigators. How would the need for information by practitioners be filled? Pharmaceutical companies varied widely in the amount and quality of basic animal data they produced. Big firms would "...come around to you with 4 or 5 mimeographed pages of data on a drug and asking you to give this to human beings and there isn't ample information in there to help you in any way, shape or form." Larger fish to fry emerged from this discussion, such as what should be the nature of the relationship between the future ACNP and the pharmaceutical industry? Should the FDA be involved in authorizing a drug for investigational use after it has been studied in animals? (This recommendation produced strong opposition, with one participant prefacing his disapproval by stating "First of all, it would take forever and a day!")

In 1936, in a paper entitled *The Relationship between General Medicine and Psychiatry*, the author Trevor Owen concluded that "all mental phenomena, normal or abnormal, in sickness and in health, are organic, represented surely by concrete chemical and physical states in particular cells of the brain." (4) The emergence of neuropsychopharmacology had the effect of bringing the two previously separate disciplines of psychiatry and medicine closer together, if not fully integrated. This chasm manifested itself in many ways at the time, but it is safe to say that a significant number of psychiatrists felt threatened by the emphasis on drug research and treatment, preferring to keep treatment where it belonged (on the couch) and their identity as "non-medical" as possible.

By the end of the first day of the conference, it was decided that the group form a permanent organization that would devote itself to tackling such problems, and that it would have "some status and exercise some influence."

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Conference for the Advancement of Neuropsychopharmacology

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Raising standards was a recurring theme throughout the two-day meeting. Raising standards of medical training by including courses in research methodology, raising standards of the dissemination of knowledge to the medical community by filling the void with “good research” conducted by conference members and their staff, raising the standards of clinical drug evaluation, including tackling the not insignificant problem of placebo effect; and contributing to research by obtaining and granting funds to researchers and helping the government be more “flexible” in subsidizing research.

Listening to the founding fathers (the first women to hold Council positions were Eva King Killam, who later became the first female President in 1988, and Nancy Mello in 1981) articulate their hopes for the future of psychopharmacology and witnessing their ability, despite sometimes dramatically conflicting viewpoints, to build consensus around the necessary steps, is inspiring. Here, in the promise of this future association to become a model of cutting edge scientific discovery is also a model of “stimulating scientific discussion, where ... [one] can sit down together and discuss.”

In memory of David M. Engelhardt, Treasurer of the ACNP from 1980 to 1994

1. In the Beginning...The Origin of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, 1990. American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Inc.
2. Eccles JC, Fatt P, Koketsu K. Cholinergic and inhibitory synapses in a pathway from motor-axon collaterals to motoneurons. *J Physiol.* 1954;126:524-562.
3. Carlsson, A. (1999). Birth of neuropsychopharmacology—impact on brain research. *Brain Research Bulletin*, 50(5/6), 363.
4. Owen, T. (1936) The relationship between general medicine and psychiatry. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 107, 557-562.

List of participants:

Frank Ayd	Dr. Falmonic	John Kinross-Wright	Dr. Saunders
Henry Brill	Paul Feldman	Nathan Kline	Arnold Scheibel
Bernard Brodie	James Ferguson	Lou Lasagna	Joe Tobin
Eugene Caffey	Danny Freedman	Joseph Lazerte	Jim Toman
Dr. Carpenter	Bernard Glueck	Heinz Lehmann	Bill Turner
Jonathan Cole	Douglas Goldman	Nolan Lewis	Klaus Unna
Erminio Costa	Milt Greeblatt	Sidney Malitz	Dr. Von Munger
Wilfred Dorfman	Paul Hoch	Sidney Merlis	Joe Zubin
Edwin Dunlap	Abram Hoffer	Ted Rothman	
Joel Elkes	Leo Hollister	Anthony Sainz	

Member Nominations and Promotions

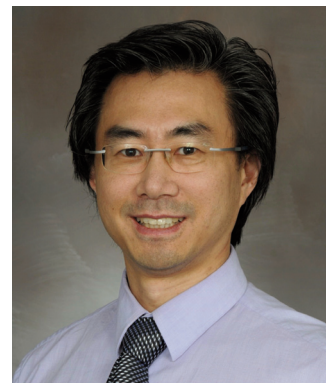
Nomination materials for new Member, Associate Member, and Fellow promotion candidates will be available in July under the Membership tab on the ACNP website at www.acnp.org. The submission site will open with an announcement to membership in late July. New membership nominations and promotion applications must be submitted by the September 16th deadline. Should you have question or need assistance, please contact Laura Hill lhill@acnp.org.



ASSOCIATE & NEW MEMBER CONNECTION

Summary of ACNP 2014 Surveys

*Raymond Y. Cho, M.D., M.Sc., Associate Professor,
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston*



(PLEASE NOTE: The below summary is based only on Associate Member survey results and Past Travel Award recipient survey results from early 2015.)

Sample Demographics

Surveys were sent via email invitation link to Associate Members and Past Travel Awardees who attended one or more of the past three meetings. A total of 260 people responded, representing 41% of the targeted Past Travel Awardees (233 out of 571) and 61% of Associate Members (27 out of 44). For the entire sample of respondents, 48% were female and 19% identified themselves as members of an underrepresented minority group. 48% of the sample pool belonged to less than 3 professional organizations, 44% belonged to 4-6 professional organizations, and 7% belonged to greater than 6 organizations. 39% of the sample pool attended 1-2 meetings annually, 39% attended 3, 14% attended 4, and 8% attended 5-6 meetings. The majority of the sample pool was under 45 (67%), had children (65%), and had a partner/spouse who worked fulltime (73%). Of those with children, 47% bring their child/children to the annual meeting (every time or sometimes).

Logistics for Annual Meeting

59% rated the location of the meeting as a determinant in their attendance. Interest in a potential program to match meeting attendees who might share the cost of the hotel room was 39%. Of those with children, 31% said that subsidized childcare services would impact their decision to bring their child/children.

Associate Members' Feedback

The 2015 survey response rate for Associate Members decreased from 64% last year to 61% this year. Respondents included 15 women and 12 men. 55% were PhDs, 22% were MDs, and 11% had both MD & PhD degrees. 20% had applied for Associate Membership more than once before it was granted. The majority of Associate Members (65%) indicated that the price of annual ACNP dues do not influence their desire to maintain or acquire full membership.

With regard to perceptions about the college, 82% rated ACNP as "high" or "very high" on being "welcoming" to potential new members, a substantial increase from last year's 55%. 86% indicated they found ACNP staff "high/very high" on a scale rating "ease of contacting" and 74% endorsed a "high" or "very high" rating on "feeling comfortable asking more senior members about membership and participation". 89% say they visited the ACNP website to address questions and when asked if their academic institution placed high value on ACNP membership status when evaluating faculty, 54% responded affirmatively. When asked to identify things that would make ACNP membership more appealing or valuable, 48% endorsed "not making attendance mandatory", and 56% endorsed "decreased dues and meeting registration cost".

The majority of Associate Members (78%) were aware of the work of the Membership Advisory Task Force. With regard to projecting their trajectories toward full membership, 96% intend to apply for ACNP full membership in the future. While only 21% indicated they anticipated achieving full membership with the first application attempt, the majority (80%) of Associate Members indicated they do anticipate they will eventually be successful in becoming regular Members (15% remained unsure). When asked why they have not yet applied for full membership, nearly all respondents indicated they felt they were not confident that they will be accepted. When asked what interests/needs/desires they have within the context of ACNP, the most-often endorsed items were "access to latest/most exciting research methods or findings" (63% of the group) and "networking for potential scientific collaboration" (70% of the group for both responses). They also indicated a desire for "networking for career/professional development" (52% of the group). Current membership dues were perceived to be reasonable by 60% of the Associate Membership.



ASSOCIATE & NEW MEMBER CONNECTION

Summary of ACNP 2014 Surveys

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Past Travel Awardees' Feedback

Data from 233 Past Travel Awardees is summarized here. These include 56% PhDs, 22% MDs, and 22% with combined MD/PhD degrees. 73% rated ACNP as “high” or “very high” on being “welcoming” to potential new members. Data for their feelings on easily able to contact ACNP or senior members with questions was very similar to that of the Associate Member respondents. 58% of Past Travel Awardees knew that about the Membership Advisory Task force.

38% of individuals from this group had applied for membership in the past. When asked about reasons they had not yet applied, 29% reported that they were not confident they would be accepted, much lower than last year's 60%. There were 53% who indicated they do not ever intend to apply in the future, a large increase from last year's 18%. The survey showed that 25% of the group believed they will eventually achieve full membership status even if it requires several rounds (32% remained unsure; 33% were already Associate or full Members). High value placed on ACNP membership for faculty evaluation and promotion within their academic institution was endorsed by 51% of Past Travel Awardees.

Networking for potential scientific collaboration and mentorship were the most popularly endorsed areas of interest/need by the Past Travel Awardees (76% of the group), followed by access to the latest science (67%) and 1:1 interactions with senior researchers (62%). While 38% of this group also endorsed a desire for a more transparent process for successful membership application, the most popular item for increasing the value of the college to Past Travel Awardees was “*decreased dues and meeting registration cost*” (reported by 57% of the group). Roughly half stated the cost of the hotel (48%) and registration (52%) influenced their decision to attend the conference.

Summary

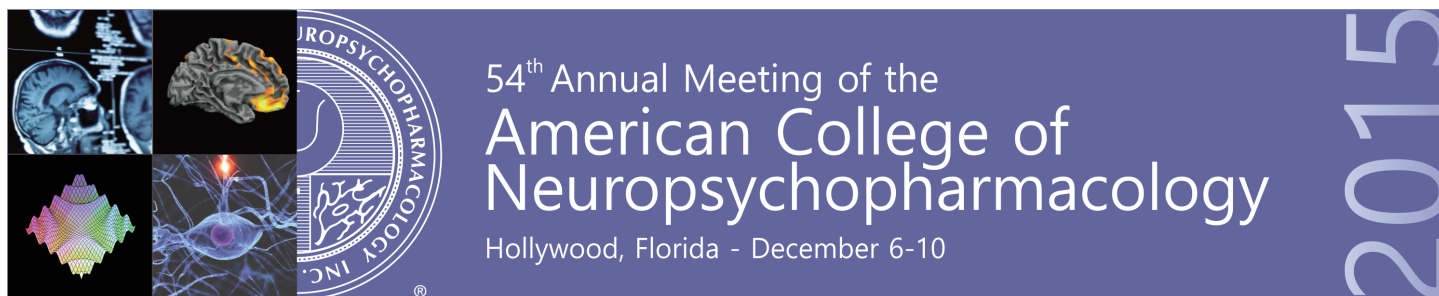
Overall most respondents were positive about how welcoming and accessible the ACNP is to potential new members. Meeting attendance is viewed as very positive for access to high quality, exciting science and networking opportunities with senior researchers. Almost all of the Associate Members intend to seek full membership; in contrast half of Past Travel Awardees intend to do so despite their perception of the ACNP as welcoming. Consistent with prior survey years, the need for reduced costs (meetings and dues) and removal of mandatory meeting attendance were identified by a majority of Associate Members and Past Travel Awardees as things that would make membership more appealing.

Feedback regarding the survey or these results should be sent to the ACNP Membership Advisory Task Force chaired by Christina Barr and Vaishali Bakshi, email: stimm@acnp.org.

Opening Night (round two) ***You still don't want to miss this!***

In 2014 we had big hopes and plans to showcase our own 2010 Past-President extraordinaire, David Rubinow, and his band mates as our opening night entertainment. Although the logistics just didn't work out for Arizona 2014, we are happy to announce our next BIG plan to have the six member band featuring our friend and colleague on guitar and his wife on the drums play at the opening reception in Hollywood. The band morphs between two bands that merged --- *Bob 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 this can't miss event.





ACNP 54th Annual Meeting, December 6-10, 2015

Registration for the 54th Annual Meeting will begin in June. We are looking forward to welcoming members and their guests to the Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood, Florida.

Hollywood is located on the Florida coast approximately 15 minutes south of the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport and 45 minutes north of the Miami International Airport. The Diplomat, site of four previous annual meetings, rises 39 stories above the Atlantic Ocean and features an oceanfront pool, on-site dining options, and a full-service spa. South Florida has the only sub-tropic climate in the United States mainland; temperatures in December range from an average high of 74°F to an average low of 65°F.

The Program Committee will meet on July 11th to determine the program for December. For those who submitted a proposal, decision letters will be sent by July 17th.

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 2015 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 registration confirmation email.

Member Registrations:

To access the registration site, members should visit 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, use 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 30th; 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.

Air Travel for the Annual Meeting

ACNP has partnered with Direct Travel, Inc. for airline reservations. Please contact consultants, Javonna Williams, jawilliams@dt.com or Sue Shapiro sshapiro@dt.com at 615-277-9067, toll-free 800-229-3344, Monday-Friday from 9:00AM-5:30PM Central.

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. There will be an initial limit of one extra invitation per member. Only members attending the meeting may request an invitation from the bank.

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.



ACNP 54th Annual Meeting

(continued from page 10)

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.

Dates to Remember

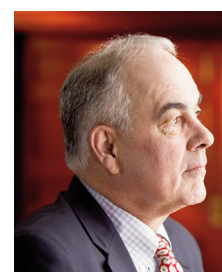
May 14, 2015	Deadline for overall proposals by chairs (panel, mini-panel, & study group)
May 21, 2015	Deadline for submission of individual presenter abstracts & disclosures (panel, mini-panel, & study group)
May 28, 2015	Deadline for chairs to finalize proposed sessions
June 2015	Registration materials distributed
June 24, 2015	Deadline for Honorific Awards nominations
August 13, 2015	Deadline for Posters/Hot Topics/Data Blitz
September 16, 2015	Deadline for membership nominations/promotions
October 30, 2015	Annual Meeting early registration deadline; fees increase by \$50

2016 Officer & Council Election Results

Congratulations to the newly elected and reelected leadership.



President-Elect
Anissa Abi-Dargham, M.D.



Secretary
Joseph Coyle, M.D.



Treasurer
David Kupfer, M.D.



Council
Antonello Bonci,
M.D., Ph.D.



Council
Rita Valentino,
Ph.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 9, 2015.

**ACNP EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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Brentwood, TN 37027

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

Upcoming Meetings

**17th Annual Conference of the
International Society for Bipolar Disorders**

June 3-6, 2015

Toronto, Canada

www.isbd2015.com
ASCP 2015 Annual Meeting
*Staging Illness and Treatment: From**Prevention to Recovery*

June 22-25, 2015

Loews Miami Beach Hotel, Miami, FL

www.ascpp.org/ascp-meetings/ascp-annual-meeting/
2015 Australasian Schizophrenia Conference

23-25 September, 2015

Melbourne, Australia

www.AustraliaSchizophreniaConference.com
2015 ASCP Fall Update Meeting

October 3-4, 2015

Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City

www.ascpp.org
**2015 International Summit on
Suicide Research**
Preventing Suicide: Progress through Research

October 11-14, 2015

Waldorf Astoria Hotel

New York, NY

www.suicide-research.org
**10th International Congress of the
International Neuropsychiatric Association
(INA)**

October 14-16, 2015

Jerusalem, Israel

www.ina2015.com
25th Neuropharmacology Conference 2015

15-16 October 2015

Chicago, USA

www.neuropharmacology-conference.elsevier.com
**The XXIIIrd World Congress on Psychiatric
Genetics**

October 16-20, 2015

Toronto, Canada

www.ispg.net/annual-world-congress/2015-world-congress/
ACNP 54th Annual Meeting

December 6-10, 2015

The Diplomat

Hollywood, FL

www.acnp.org
**5th Biennial Schizophrenia International
Research Society Conference**

2-6 April, 2016

Florence, Italy

www.schizophreniaconference.org
CINP 2016 World Congress

July 3-7, 2016

Seoul, Republic of Korea

www.cinp.org/congress/2016-world-congress-seoul-korea/

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