



ACNP Bulletin

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NOVEMBER 2013

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 4

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ACNP President's Distinguished Lecture 2013



We are honored to have **Huda Y. Zoghbi, MD**, as the speaker for this year's Distinguished Lecture. Dr. Zoghbi is the Director of the Jan & Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute at Texas Children's Hospital, and Professor of Pediatrics, Molecular and Human Genetics, Neurology and Neuroscience at the Baylor College of Medicine, where she is also a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator. Dr. Zoghbi is well known for her discovery of the genetic basis for Rett syndrome, and the subsequent determination of the alterations in signaling pathways that underlie the distinctive clinical features of this illness. Her work has opened new areas of investigation into the neurobiology and epigenetic regulation of neurodevelopmental disorders. Her presentation will highlight both a compelling story of translational research and an inspiring pathway of career development.

Dr. Zoghbi's presentation is entitled **The Story of Rett Syndrome and the Insight it provides into Neuropsychiatric Disorders**. It is scheduled to take place at **1:30pm on Monday, December 9, 2013**.

ACNP President's Plenary 2013

David A. Lewis, M.D., ACNP President

Cognition, emotion and behavior are the emergent properties of the coordinated activity of distributed ensembles of neurons. Consequently, the signs and symptoms of brain disorders (i.e., the disturbance of these emergent properties) can be considered to be the product of impairments in neural circuits. Understanding the nature of disease-related alterations in neural circuitry requires an appreciation of how circuits are organized, and especially of how this organization changes during development and in response to experience. Using examples from four different types of cortical circuits, the plenary session at this year's Annual Meeting will focus on the molecular and cellular mechanisms that guide the development and refinement of circuits, the intrinsic features of circuits that provide for stable function in the face of a changing environment, and the ways in which alterations in these mechanisms and features confer vulnerability to brain disease.



The President's Plenary, entitled **Neural Circuitry Structure and Plasticity: Substrate for Brain Disorders and Novel Therapeutics**, will take place from **8:00am to 11:30am on Monday, December 9, 2013**.

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ACNP President's Plenary 2013

(continued from page 1)



The first plenary speaker, **Gina Turrigiano, PhD**, is Professor of Biology at Brandeis University, MA. Dr. Turrigiano has pioneered the field of homeostatic synaptic plasticity, a critical mechanism that neural circuits employ to maintain the essential balance between excitation and inhibition in the face of developmental (e.g., synaptic pruning) or environmental events (e.g. stress) that alter one or the other. She has received multiple awards for her research in this area and on the experience-dependent refinement of neocortical microcircuitry. The title of her ACNP talk is **Homeostatic Plasticity: Keeping Your Brain in Balance.**

Z. Josh Huang, PhD, will give the second plenary talk, entitled **Genetic Dissection of GABAergic Circuits in the Neocortex: Chandeliers Light up the Path**. Dr. Huang is a Professor at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. His work combines mouse genetic engineering, imaging, and electrophysiology to study the development, function, and plasticity of GABA inhibitory circuits in the neocortex and cerebellum. His talk will cover an elegant series of studies, focused on a specific cortical cell type, that provide fundamental insights into how the formation and maturation of specific circuits may provide the substrate for their alterations in disease states.



Carla Shatz, PhD, Professor of Biology and Neurobiology at Stanford, will be the third plenary speaker at this year's Annual Meeting. Dr. Shatz's ground-breaking research has shown how adult patterns of brain wiring emerge from dynamic interactions among neurons. Her recent work has illuminated the unexpected role of immune factors in these processes. The title of her talk for the plenary session is **Surprise at the Synapse: MHC Class I, Pruning and Plasticity.**

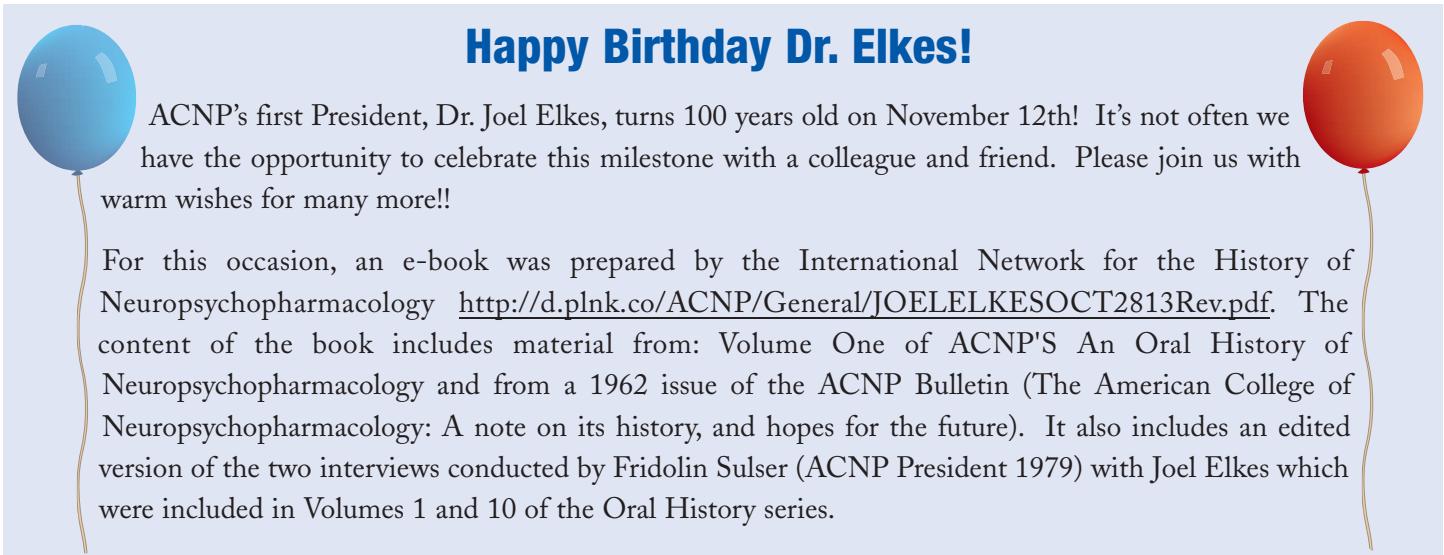
Amy Arnsten, PhD, Professor of Neurobiology and Psychology at Yale, will give the final talk, entitled **Dynamic Modulation of Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex Microcircuits: Focus of Vulnerability in Mental Disease**. Dr. Arnsten's research focuses on the molecular, cellular and synaptic basis for the higher cognitive functions mediated by the primate prefrontal cortex. Her work has led to the development of novel, rational treatments for cognitive disorders in mental illness.



Happy Birthday Dr. Elkes!

ACNP's first President, Dr. Joel Elkes, turns 100 years old on November 12th! It's not often we have the opportunity to celebrate this milestone with a colleague and friend. Please join us with warm wishes for many more!!

For this occasion, an e-book was prepared by the International Network for the History of Neuropsychopharmacology <http://d.plnk.co/ACNP/General/JOELELKESOCT2813Rev.pdf>. The content of the book includes material from: Volume One of ACNP'S An Oral History of Neuropsychopharmacology and from a 1962 issue of the ACNP Bulletin (The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology: A note on its history, and hopes for the future). It also includes an edited version of the two interviews conducted by Fridolin Sulser (ACNP President 1979) with Joel Elkes which were included in Volumes 1 and 10 of the Oral History series.





Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews Plenary *Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews: The Next Generation of Progress – Volume VI*

Biomolecular Discovery: Mechanisms, Therapeutics and Biomarkers in Neural Disorders

Volume Editors: Kathryn A. Cunningham, Ph.D., Carol L. Nilsson, M.D., Ph.D.



K. Cunningham

This year a special plenary session for Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews will be held on Sunday, December 8 from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. This year's review volume is devoted to biomolecular discovery and the implications for mechanisms, therapeutics and biomarker development in neuropsychopharmacology. The articles in this issue focus on recent advances in the detection, subtyping and monitoring of complex neural disease progression, the definition of new molecular targets for therapeutic intervention and biomarkers,



C. Nilsson

with an emphasis on the use of genome-wide analytical technologies. The plenary session presents an overview of these exciting developments in new measurement technologies and related discoveries.

The field of neuroscience is embracing the power of modern bioanalytical technologies to interrogate the dynamics of normal and diseased central nervous system function. The intent of this Plenary Session is to provide our field with comprehensible introductions to several state-of-art technologies, insightful demonstrations of their success in the study of brain disorders, and speculation on the promise for neuropsychopharmacology. Scientists on the forefront of these initiatives will discuss integrative explorations in systems biology, proteomics and protein:protein interactions, metabolomics, glycomics, gene expression, and statistical modeling in neuroscience. Examples of investigations of relevance to neural disease will be drawn from brain cancer, neurodegenerative disease and psychiatric disorders. The goal is to enrich and broaden thinking about the powerful suites of genome-wide analytical technologies and increase exposure to the new cross-disciplinary collaborations that are required to impact the management of major neural disorders in the future.

This year's program will provide an overview of the emerging contributions and advances in biomolecular discovery in neural health and disease. **Mark R. Emmett** (University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston) will outline an integrated approach (transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, glycomics) to provide deep biological knowledge of neural disease derived from cells, animal models and clinical materials with the goal to deliver new therapeutic targets and biomarkers for personalized medicine. **Jonathan Sweedler** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) will present recent developments in bioanalytical methodology for characterizing the neurochemistry and intercellular signaling molecules found in defined brain regions, down to individual neurons. **Susan George** (University of Toronto, Canada) will review the emerging neurobiology and physiological relevance of known dopamine receptor heteromers, discuss their potential role in neuropsychiatric disease and their value as targets for future drug development. **Kaj Blennow** (University of Gothenburg, Sweden) will discuss the significance of 'theranostic' CSF biomarkers in early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease pathogenesis, and the present status (both partial success and failure) of A_β immunotherapy. The plenary session will conclude with **Steven Hyman** (Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard University) who will integrate the obstacles and shortcomings in drug discovery and development for neuropsychiatric disorders into a discussion of how new technologies and scientific approaches to neuropsychiatric disorders promise to revitalize discovery strategies for neurotherapeutics.



Director's Notes – ACNP Financial Update

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

In my early years with ACNP, a frequent topic of discussion in the Finance Committee and in Council was the large percentage of our total revenue that came from the pharmaceutical industry. We were averaging around 65% of our total revenue from pharmaceutical companies at that time, a clear indication that we needed a broader revenue stream. We set out to change that, and I am pleased to report that we have done so. In our most recent Fiscal Year, which ended March 31, 2013, the percentage of total revenue that came from pharmaceutical companies was 28%. And, it is important to note that this only represents revenues from operations, before considering any revenue from our investment portfolio. This change in percentage has resulted from decreasing real dollars from drug companies as well as increasing revenues from other sources.

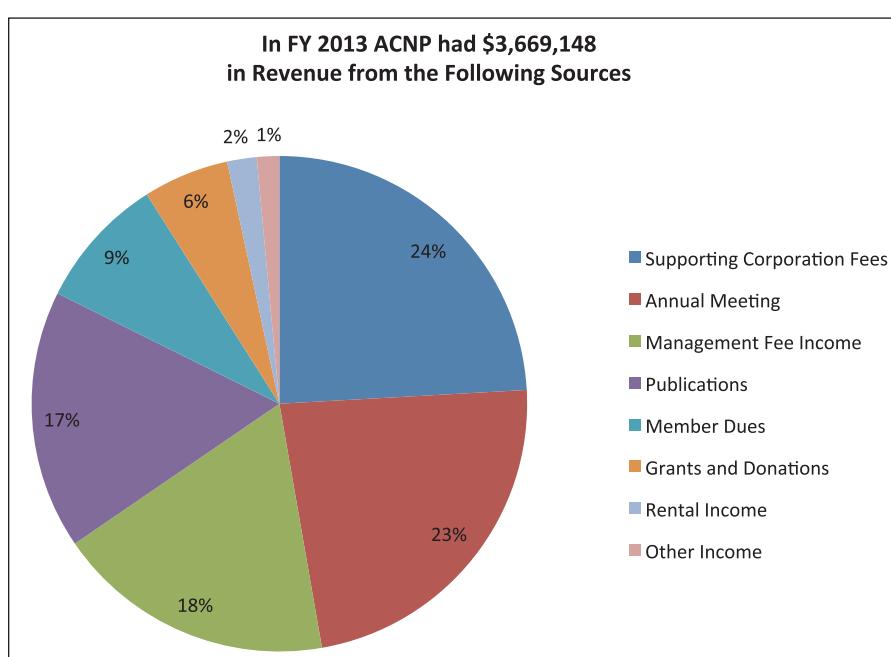


The pie chart below illustrates the diversity of our current revenue stream, and presents a nice picture of a financially healthy College. If we should experience a decline in any one area we would have other sources of revenue to help us as we make appropriate adjustments and to move forward, perhaps a little leaner but still in pretty good shape.

But, this change in revenue percentages is not the only positive change we have made relative to our pharmaceutical company relationships. Over the past eight years we have initiated new policies and procedures, and have fine-tuned them as appropriate, to make clear to our members, to our participating corporations, and to any other interested party the guidelines for participating in the College and its annual meeting. These guidelines have been crafted to manage both real and perceived conflicts of interest and to separate financial issues from operational decisions. The “About Us” page on the ACNP Website (<http://www.acnp.org/aboutus/default.aspx>) provides basic information about our financial disclosures and conflict of interest guidelines, and by following the embedded links in that information a reader will find complete details of our Participating Corporation program and of the firewalls we have in place to protect the College and those corporations from any perception of inappropriate financial relationships.

Further, by following the embedded links on the webpage listed above and the succeeding pages, one will find a complete list of all funds received by the College from pharmaceutical companies. We have chosen to make this full financial disclosure publicly available on our website, but in a manner that will cause an interested person to at least navigate through

an explanation of our guidelines and firewalls on their way to the financial data. We cannot guarantee that they have read that information, but they at least had to go through it to get to the data.



Financial relationships between industry and an academic society are, and will continue to be, an issue that has to be monitored carefully. But the potential for problems and the need for careful management should not out-weigh the benefits derived from the healthy interaction of academic, government, and industry scientists at our meeting. That has historically been a highly valued aspect of the ACNP meeting, and I am happy that Council has implemented procedures to preserve that important part of the ACNP.



ACNP 52nd Annual Meeting



December 8-12, 2013 • The Westin Diplomat • Hollywood, Florida

Annual Meeting Information

Annual Meeting Preliminary Program: An online schedule of events detailing all sessions and events may be viewed at www.acnp.org.

Annual Meeting Badges will be sent to each registered attendee prior to the meeting. Please watch your mailbox and bring your badge to the meeting to reduce your wait time during registration. If you do not bring your badge to the meeting, you will be required to provide identification at registration.

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.

Posters: The maximum area per poster is **4 feet high by 6 feet wide**. Please remember to bring push pins or tacks to mount your poster on the poster board.

E-Posters: All poster presenters will have the opportunity to share their poster with those ACNP members and 2013 meeting attendees who did not have the opportunity to see the poster during the sessions. An E-Poster website will be available for poster presenters to upload and share their poster. The site will only be accessible to ACNP Members and registered meeting attendees. The site will go live prior to this year's meeting. If you are a poster presenter, please watch for email correspondence on how to upload your poster.

Free Wireless Access will be provided throughout the lobby of the conference center.

Itinerary Planner: The itinerary planner will be available in early November. Please watch your email for availability. The itinerary planner will allow you to browse the abstracts and plan your time at the Annual Meeting. Contact the ACNP at 615-324-2360 or acnp@acnp.org if you have any questions on accessing or using the itinerary planner.

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet the ACNP Meetings Content Manager

John White joined PMG in August 2013 as Meetings Content Manager where he manages the scientific content for the ACNP and SIRS meetings. Thus far, he enjoys communicating with the scientific community as the sciences are his passion.



John has always been fascinated by technology, and his fascinations have only grown over the years. After graduating from MTSU with a degree in Computer Information Systems and a minor in Business Administration, you might assume John would have started a career in Information Technology. But, instead, he moved into the non-profit world. From 2010 to 2013 he operated a social enterprise in Nashville, TN employing men that had recently been released from Tennessee State prisons.

John was born, raised, and lives in Murfreesboro, TN. In his free time you will most likely find him doing something active or reading a good book. He loves to hike, walk the dogs, exercise, swim, and just have adventures in general. John has an amazing 8 year old daughter named Abby who is probably the greatest child yet born of this Earth. He also has 2 dogs: Remy the old and regal, and Bailey the young and brash.

Stop by and meet John at registration during the upcoming meeting in Florida.

ASSOCIATE & NEW MEMBER CONNECTION

Ask the Experts: Funding Strategies in the Current Climate



Linda Brady, Ph.D.



Dennis Charney, M.D.



Maurizio Fava, M.D.

This year's career development session on Tuesday, December 10th from 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m., will address an issue central to launching a successful research career: How to obtain grants in today's stringent funding climate. In a tightly constricted economic time, ideas for funding strategies will be discussed. The session will be geared towards early-career individuals who are beginning their independent research trajectories and trying to establish themselves. This year's panelists include, Linda Brady, Dennis Charney, Maurizio Fava, Steve Hyman and Bita Moghaddam. In addition to concrete suggestions for maximizing funding success, the panel will discuss the role funding plays in overall career development (for example, getting a position, obtaining tenure/promotion, etc.). A range of perspectives (MD, PhD, and clinical vs. basic research) will be represented by this diverse group of panelists with a variety of experience: study sections, scientific advisory boards, NIH staff, and department chairs/deans. Our panelists have broad expertise in reviewing and obtaining grants from a variety of sources, as well as successfully 'shepherding' trainees through the complex funding terrain. The session will begin with structured questions (solicited in advance from junior ACNP attendees) followed by an open question and answer period, moderated by members of the Membership Advisory Task Force. Topics to be covered include: recent funding information from NIH (who is getting funded and when, and what is the plan for retaining junior talent/new investigators); when is it best to apply and how to select the optimal grant mechanism based on career level (K-award versus R21 versus R01 versus K99/R01); NIH versus private foundation grants; academia-industry funding collaborations; individual grants versus being part of a multi-PI team and how that is viewed for career development. We look forward to your participation in this session.



Steve Hyman, M.D.



Bita Moghaddam, Ph.D.



Annual Meeting Information

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Annual Meeting App - the Annual Meeting program will be available on a free downloadable application for iPhones, iPads, and android phones. The app will be available for download a week prior to the start of the meeting. Watch your email for additional information.

Meeting Evaluation: All meeting attendees are urged to complete an evaluation of the meeting. Attendees requesting CME credit **are required** to complete the evaluation. You may complete the evaluation in the ACNP Computer Center located in the Diplomat 1 & 2 foyer or on-line at www.acnp.org (click the Annual Meeting tab). The evaluation is available online only. All evaluations must be completed by January 23, 2014.

Opening Night Reception: Join your colleagues for the Opening Reception on Sunday evening, December 8th, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Restaurant Guide: Be sure to pick up your area restaurant guide at registration.

Childcare: Childcare options will be available at the Westin Diplomat for all Annual Meeting attendees with children one year of age to 12 years of age. More information about childcare times and costs is available on the ACNP website www.acnp.org/annualmeeting/registration.aspx or at www.kiddiecorp.com/acnpkids.htm.

Annual Meeting Women's Luncheon

For the past two years, the Women's Task Force has planned and hosted a Women's Luncheon focusing on career issues specific to women and young scientists in the field while also addressing ways to increase involvement and participation for them in the College. The luncheon has garnered much interest and has been attended by well over 250 annual meeting attendees each year.

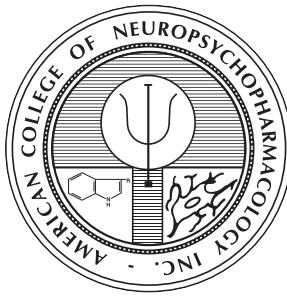
This year's luncheon will be held on Monday, December 9th from 11:30am – 1:00pm in Great Hall 5 & 6 and is open to all Annual Meeting attendees. Luncheon attendees will be seated with senior ACNP members affording opportunities for new professional contacts, career advice and involvement in College activities. In addition, the task force co-chairs will provide an update on the statistical standing of women in the College. Reservations are requested so that appropriate seating is available to all luncheon attendees. Please contact Laura Hill, lhill@acnp.org, with questions or to reserve your seat at the luncheon.

ACNP Member, Dr. George Koob, named Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

NIH Director, Dr. Francis S. Collins, announced Dr. Koob's appointment stating: "With his distinguished reputation and vision, I am confident that George will encourage innovative ideas in the basic neurobiology of addiction, and will be dedicated to bridging the gap between our understanding of alcohol abuse, alcoholism, and addiction and developing new, targeted treatments."

Dr. Koob is expected to join the NIH in January 2014. To read more about his appointment: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/oct2013/od-31.htm>

Congratulations Dr. Koob!



ACNP EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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2014 Nominating Committee

We are pleased to announce the following individuals have been elected to the 2014 ACNP Nominating Committee:

- Victoria Arango, Ph.D., *Chair*
- Athina Markou, Ph.D.
- Kathleen Merikangas, Ph.D.
- John Neumaier, M.D., Ph.D.
- Susan Sesack, Ph.D.
- Rita Valentino, Ph.D.

Upcoming Meetings

NAMI

Inspiring Hope Through Research
November 14, 2013
Washington, DC, USA
www.nami.org

ACNP Annual Meeting

December 8-12, 2013
The Westin Diplomat
Hollywood, Florida, USA
www.acnp.org

ISCTM Annual Meeting

February 18-20, 2014
Fairmont Hotel
Washington, DC, USA
www.isctm.org

Training in Neurotherapeutics Discovery & Development for Academic Scientists

February 19-22, 2014
Bethesda North Marriott Hotel
Bethesda, Maryland, USA
www.neurotherapeuticscourse.org/

ADAA 2014 Annual Conference

March 27-30, 2014
Chicago Marriott Downtown
Chicago, Illinois, USA
www.adaa.org/conference

4th Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference

April 5-9, 2014
Firenze Fiera Congress Center
Florence, Italy
www.schizophreniaconference.org

World Congress on Brain, Behavior and Emotions

April 7-9, 2014
Montreal, Canada
www.wcbbe2014.com

Society of Biological Psychiatry 69th Annual Scientific Convention

May 8-10, 2014
Hilton, Midtown
New York, NY, USA
www.sobp.org

ASCP Annual Meeting (NCDEU)

June 16-19, 2014
The Westin Diplomat
Hollywood, Florida, USA
www.ascpmeeting.org

www.acnp.org

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