

Cell and Molecular Physiology Section

Fall 2004 Newsletter

Message from the Chair

As the elected Chair of the Cell and Molecular Physiology Steering Committee, I want to thank the outgoing chair, Mike Jennings for his years of service as chair and to welcome him in his new role as Sage. I would also like to thank John Cuppoletti and Alicia McDonough for serving as councilors for the past three years. We welcome Eric Delpire as the new vice chair and Ana Pajor and Scott O'Grady as the two new councilors, Ana will serve for two year and Scott for 3 years. We thank Peter Lauf for agreeing to continue as councilor. Chahrzad Montrose has agreed to continue in the important role as our Liaison with Industry representative and Perry Chang is our recently elected Post-doctoral representative replacing Caroline Sussman. Caroline recently was asked to Chair the newly formed *Trainee Advisory Committee*.

Steering Committee

Chair:

Simon Lewis

Vice Chair:

Eric Delpire

Councillors:

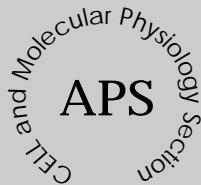
Ana Pajor
Scott O'Grady
Peter Lauf

Liaison with Industry:

Charzad Montrose

Post-Doctoral Rep:

Perry Chang



This years EB05 and the International Union of Physiological Scientists meeting will run concurrently. The IUPS starts March 31 and ends April 5 while EB05 runs from April 2-6. The IUPS theme is "From Genomes to Functions" is in keeping with the new NIH roadmap and offers all of us a chance to meet and interact with our international colleagues. I encourage all members of the Cell and Molecular Physiology section to attend not only EB05 and the IUPS but also to look at the satellite symposia that precede or follow the meeting. The range of symposia, featured topics of the IUPS meeting, and EB05 and IUPS satellites is truly impressive. Many of the symposia will be described later in this newsletter. I want to remind everyone about the Hugh Davson Distinguished Lecture given by Randy Schekman Monday April 4. Our Cell and Molecular Physiology dinner will be held that evening as will be the CaMP business meeting.

I hope to see all of you at the meeting this year.

Simon A. Lewis

Chair, APS Cell and Molecular Physiology Section.

The Combined APS/IUPS Meeting at EB2005:

As you may have noticed in the Experimental Biology Call for Abstracts booklet, the standard Topic Categories for abstract placement have been changed to meet the IUPS format. The categories will revert back to standard APS format for the EB2006 meeting.

Be aware that all programming of talks and abstracts through APS/IUPA will be finished on Tuesday April 5, with the Final Ceremony held that night.

Deadline for submission of abstracts for EB2005 is November 3, 2004. Hotel reservations should be made early at the following website:

<http://www.faseb.org/meetings/iups2005>

Call for Symposia and Featured Topics for the EB2006 meeting:

This is your opportunity to organize sessions on topics which are of current importance in your field. In April, the Cell Steering Committee will select 2 symposia and 3 featured topics sessions for the EB2006 meeting.

CELL SECTION MEMBERS:

Please begin to think about suggestions for symposia and/or featured topics for the Cell program for EB2006.

Suggestions should be sent to either:

Ron Lynch rlynch@u.arizona.edu or
John Payne japayne@ucdavis.edu

Formats are as follows:

SYMPOSIA last 2h and should feature 4 speakers.

Please supply the following information by March 1 2005, and consider the inclusion of women and under-represented minority groups.

Session Chairperson(s)*:

1. Chairperson's Name:
2. Co-chairperson's Name (optional)
3. Four Presenters/Discussants:
 - Speaker's Name:
 - Potential Title of Presentation:

APS provides \$4,000 to be used at the discretion of the Session Chair(s) in the following categories:

- * travel expenses (transportation, housing, meals) of presenter(s) or chairperson(s)
- * breakfast/luncheon to enhance junior/senior presenter interactions
- * refreshments during the session

Registration reimbursement for presenter(s) and chairperson is also provided. Membership in the Society is NOT a requirement for speaker participation or travel reimbursement.

FEATURED TOPICS last 2h and are coupled to Poster Sessions from which 4-6 speakers are chosen. Support for 1-2 keynote speakers is provided.

FT are selected from submitted proposals that reflect areas of strong current interest within the cell section such that more than 10 abstracts are likely to be submitted within this topic category. The FT Title will be listed in the Call for Abstracts, and several of the first authors from the submitted abstracts will be selected by the organizers for talks.

Please provide with your proposal a descriptive session title, name of chairperson and names of not more than two featured presenters. Featured, or invited speakers, may present work not represented by a submitted abstract and will talk for 30 min (including question time). All other presentations are selected from the submitted abstracts.

APS provides \$1,000 for each featured topic to be used in support of travel or activities related to the featured topic session.

John Payne and Ron Lynch

AJP Cell Physiology, Message from the Editor

It seems only yesterday that I interviewed for the job as Editor-in-Chief of AJP Cell Physiology before the esteemed APS Publications Committee in Bethesda. Now, two years after taking the helm in July of 2002, my first performance evaluation is already pending, with the possibility of renewing my Editorship for a further three years. Perhaps it is time to look carefully not only at the achievements of myself and our team of Associate Editors, but also at some areas that are still in need of improvement or change. As I write this message, I am looking at the September 2004 issue of AJP Cell Physiology, which I think epitomizes the hard work and effort that the editorial team is putting into constantly improving the journal.

The September 2004 issue of AJP Cell Physiology contains:

A) Three invited reviews:

1. ***“Hypothesis: one rate-limiting step controls the magnitude of both phases of glucose stimulated insulin secretion” by Susanne Straub and Geoff Sharp (AJP Cell Physiol, 56:C565, 2004).***
2. ***“Endothelial progenitor cells for postnatal vasculogenesis” by Takayuki Ashara and Atsuhiko Kawamoto (AJP Cell Physiol, 56: C572, 2004).***
3. ***“Functional expression of heterologous proteins in yeast: insights into Ca²⁺ signaling and Ca²⁺-transporting ATPases” by Van-Khue Ton and Rajini Rao (AJP Cell Physiol, 56: C580, 2004).***

B) Two Editorial Focus pieces:

1. ***Dick Murphy; three decades as the touchstone of smooth muscle physiology. Written by Patrick Dillon***
2. ***Rounding up the usual suspects in atherosclerosis. Written by Matthew Whalin and W. Robert Taylor***

C) One Translational Physiology article:

Cooperative attachment of cross bridges predicts regulation of smooth muscle force by myosin phosphorylation” by Chris Rembold et al (AJP Cell 56: C594, 2004: this is the subject of the first editorial focus article cited above)

As an added bonus in September, we also printed a letter to the editor and the authors’ response to the letter.

Thus, the editorial team is continuing to attract authoritative reviews and focus pieces that provide timely insights into the areas of Cell Physiology covered by the journal. As I have mentioned in previous messages, please contact either myself or any of the Associate Editors if you have any ideas for review articles, either by your own group, or by others.

What can be improved?

First, and perhaps most importantly, we like to receive feedback from our readers and contributors about both positive and negative aspects of their AJP Cell experience. You can write to me at ajpcell@rcn.com. You can also find more information on the journal website at: <http://www.the-aps.org/publications/journals/ajpcell/index.htm>)

What are my own priorities?

1. To attract and publish top-of-the-line papers in the selected fields that are listed on our contents page.
2. To ensure fair and timely reviews of your submissions. We constantly work to speed up the decision-making process, but we are ultimately at the mercy of you – the reviewers.
3. To ensure rapid dissemination of accepted manuscripts to the scientific community. This process has been helped enormously by the APS immediate online publication process. However, this also has had a negative impact on the urgency with which hard copies of accepted manuscripts are being submitted to the APS head office for the print version of the journal. Some authors are not respecting the request for submission of the hardcopy paper and electronic files within 48 h of acceptance, and in some cases multiple reminders have been necessary. We would like your thoughts as to why this is the case – your job as an author is not finished just because your article has appeared as a PDF file under the Articles in Press banner on the AJP website. I urge everyone to realize the importance of sending the requested material immediately upon acceptance of your manuscript – in some cases we have even had to defer publication of accepted manuscripts into a later issue of the print journal because of this tardiness.
4. To continue to improve the appearance of the journal, by increasing the number of color illustrations permitted, by altering pagination and by changing front covers more frequently. These are all being discussed, but we are restricted by APS policies that disallow the “nonscientific” use of color. Obviously, there are cost issues involved with color publication, and this area is under constant review.
5. To continue to explore the categories of manuscripts that we solicit. For example, we have submitted a proposal to APS to allow a new “Perspectives in Cell Physiology” or “Opinions in Cell Physiology” category that would allow novel ideas and concepts to be explored in 4 or 5 journal pages.

Marcia Sanders moves on:

Finally I would like to extend a huge thank you to one of the APS staff whose help has been a critical part of the journal’s growing success over the past few years. We are sorry to lose the services of our Journal Supervisor, Marcia Sanders, who will be moving with her husband to New York State at the end of October, where she hopes to continue working in the area of scientific publication as a freelance editor. As we say in England, Marcia has been “a brick”, and has worked tirelessly to ensure that each issue of the journal appears on time, and in great shape. We exchange several e-mails each day on subjects as diverse as the use of color (mentioned above), table of content assignments, and synchronizing the appearance of reviews and focus articles. Many of you have probably had direct dealings with Marcia, and have seen for yourself her efficiency and devotion to the journal. I hope that you all will join me in saying goodbye, and wishing her and her husband (and her beloved Corgi dogs) all the best for this new phase in their lives. Thank you Marcia – I couldn’t have done this without you.

And finally, finally – I am pleased to report that our submissions are up by almost 20% compared to last year, so thank you for your support, and keep the manuscripts rolling in.

Regards to all on behalf of myself and the Associate Editors,

Dennis Brown
Editor-in-Chief, AJP Cell Physiology

***** Awards *****

The Cell and Molecular Physiology Section will be modifying its rules for its Awards presented at the 2006 Experimental Biology Meeting.

The Cell and Molecular Physiology Student Awards (\$300) are available for up to two pre-doctoral candidates, depending on applicant pool. One award (A) will be given for work done while enrolled as a medical or graduate (doctoral or masters) student. A second award (B) is reserved for undergraduate researchers. Applicants must be first author on an abstract. The student or their mentor must be a member in good standing of the APS, with a primary affiliation in the Cell and Molecular Physiology section. **Members of the CAMP Steering Committee as well as former CAMP awardees at the junior faculty level will evaluate all submitted abstracts and then select 3 posters/category for a final evaluation during the Experimental Biology Meeting. The final evaluation will occur during a special poster session to be held on Sunday.** Winners will be announced, and awards presented, at the Cell and Molecular Physiology Section Banquet at the EB Meeting. Applicants must complete the Student Award Certificate form. Email or FAX a copy of the submitted abstract, the Student Award Certification form, and letter to TO BE NAMED, E-MAIL, PHONE, FAX NUMBERS, Deadline is November 30, 2005.

The Cell and Molecular Physiology Research Recognition Awards (\$500) will be given to two successful candidates for work performed while in the first through third postdoctoral year or medical residency. Applicants must be first author on an abstract submitted to EB. The trainee or their mentor must be a member in good standing of the APS, with a primary affiliation in the Cell and Molecular Physiology section. **Members of the CAMP Steering Committee as well as former CAMP awardees at the junior faculty level will evaluate all submitted abstracts and then select 3-4 posters for a final evaluation during the Experimental Biology Meeting. The final evaluation will occur during a special poster session to be held on Sunday.** Winners will be announced, and awards presented, at the Cell and Molecular Physiology Section Banquet at the EB Meeting. Applicants must complete the Award Certificate form. Email or FAX a copy of the submitted abstract, the Student Award Certification form, and letter to and letter to TO BE NAMED, E-MAIL, PHONE, FAX NUMBERS, Deadline is November 30, 2005.

The Cell and Molecular Physiology Section New Investigator Award (\$1,000) recognizes outstanding investigators in the early stages of their career. Candidates should be investigators who have made meritorious contributions to the scientific areas represented by the APS Cell & Molecular Physiology Section. They should not be above the rank of Assistant Professor or a comparable position in a research track at an academic institution or in industry (e.g. Scientist, Sr. Scientist, Research Investigator, etc.). They should receive nominations from at least two regular members of the APS. Candidates will be judged on their publications, how the publications relate to the APS section to which they have applied, and evidence for independence and promise (grant funding, peer review activities, etc.). Although this is not an abstract-based award, awardees are expected to attend 2006 EB Meeting and make an oral or poster presentation. The candidate must be an APS member in good standing. Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, 2 nomination letters from APS members, and 3 reprints to The American Physiology Society, Membership Office, by **January 31, 2006**. Applications will be forwarded to the appropriate section for review.

Peter Lauf
Councillor