



# Renal Section Newsletter

## Fall 2009

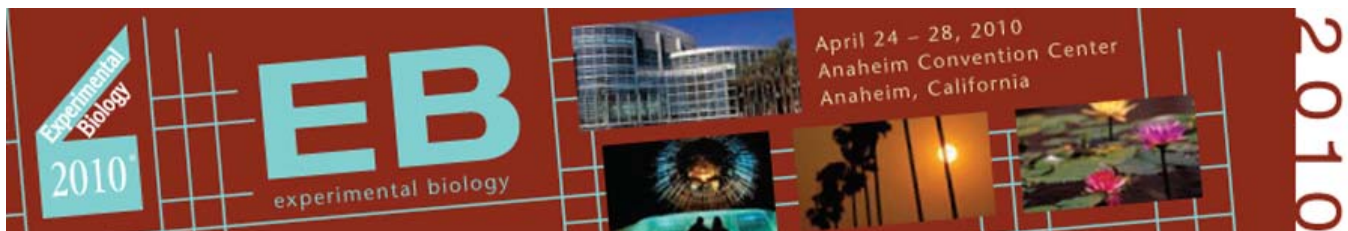


János Peti-Peterdi, Editor

### Message from the Renal Section Chair *Bill Welch*

The Renal Section has a long tradition of activity and scientific excellence that is demonstrated by high level of participation at the annual EB meeting. While we all should be proud of this, now more than ever we need to concentrate on our support of this meeting. The Council has decided to evaluate each Section's participation based on the abstract submission to their own topics. Therefore, when Renal Section members submit abstracts to topics in other Sections, their participation as Renal Section members is not counted. Based on this system the Renal Section lost a Feature Topic oral session for 2010. A session may be restored for 2011, as we extend the meeting to 4 days, but this demonstrates the value of **supporting Renal Section topics** when submitting abstracts. I ask that you review the Topics list and determine if your abstract fits one of these, before you prepare your submission. The Topics are:

- 1211-APS Diabetic renal disease
- 1212-APS Hormones and autocooids effects on the kidney
- 1213-APS Oxidative stress and the kidney
- 1214 APS Renal epithelial acid-base mechanisms
- 1215-APS Renal hemodynamics and glomerular filtration rate
- 1216-APS Renal ion transport, trafficking, and regulation
- 1217-APS Renal organic solute transport
- 1218-APS Renal pathology, toxicology, and cystic diseases
- 1219-APS Renal water transport, urea transport, and countercurrent mechanisms
- 1220-APS Sex differences in renal function and disease



#### **Berliner Award.**

Last year, the Renal Steering Committee expanded the eligibility of the Berliner Award to International scientists. This award recognizes a senior scientist who has contributed to renal physiology and to the APS. Please go to the APS website and nominate deserving candidates for this award. Alternatively you can send me a nomination letter. The deadline (**November 5**) is approaching and the award is presented at the Renal Dinner held during EB 2010 at Anaheim.

#### **Gottschalk Lecture.**

This named lecture is one of the highlights of the Annual Meeting that honors Dr Carl Gottschalk, a pioneer in renal physiology. The lecture often provides new and exciting information on an important area of renal function. The deadline for nominations is in April 2010 for the 2011 lecture. You can make your nomination on the APS website or send me a nomination letter.



## ASN

The American Society of Nephrology meeting is October 28 to November 1 in San Diego. There are numerous sessions that will interest Renal Section members. However, the Renal Section is co-sponsoring the “Meeting-within-a-Meeting” track on “Epithelial Transport and Cell Biology”. The track includes symposia and free communications.

### *Symposia:*

10/29/09 Thick Ascending Limb Function and Dysfunction: The Steven C. Hebert Memorial Symposium. 1:30 PM  
10/30/09 The Renal Basis of Hypertension and Edema. 1:30 PM  
10/31/09 Tight Junctions in Kidney Health and Disease 1:30 PM  
11/1/09 Flow Regulation of Nephron Function 10:00 AM

### *Free Communications (4:00 PM):*

10/29/09 ENaC and ROMK  
10/30/09 Trafficking and Phosphorylation: Regulation of NaCl transport  
10/31/09 Urea Transporters, Aquaporin and Water Balance

Finally, I want to encourage the members to submit abstracts ([www.eb2010.org](http://www.eb2010.org)) and attend the 2010 meeting in Anaheim, CA, April 24-28. In addition, please take advantage of the various **awards for your trainees and young faculty** in your departments or units. Information on these awards is available on the APS website ([www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb10/awards/renal.htm](http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb10/awards/renal.htm)) and the deadlines are at the time of abstract submission. Participation and recognition of the trainees are valuable exercises of the Renal Section in order to support the future of our discipline.

I hope to see everyone in Anaheim.

**Call for Nominations**  
**The Robert W. Berliner Award**  
**for Excellence in Renal Physiology**  
*Sponsored by Abbott Laboratories*

The Robert W. Berliner Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology is the most prestigious award of the APS Renal Section. The award recognizes distinguished lifetime achievement in renal physiological research by a living American scientist. Candidates should satisfy the following criteria:

- A world-renowned, distinguished scientist who has been a major contributor to the field of renal physiology over a lifetime, including accomplishments in research, teaching, training and activities within the APS.
- U.S. citizen, at least 60 years of age.
- Must be able to attend EB2010.



The 2009 Robert W. Berliner Award recipient Jürgen Schnermann.



All application/nomination materials must be submitted online (<http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps>) by **November 4<sup>th</sup>**. Questions should be directed to Pablo Ortiz at [portiz1@hfhs.org](mailto:portiz1@hfhs.org). Nominations are automatically carried forward for consideration in the following years. The 2010 award recipient will be selected by the Berliner/Abbott Award Committee; composed of the Renal Section Awards Committee Chair (Pablo Ortiz), the Chair of the Renal Section (Bill Welch), and the Editor of *AJP-Renal Physiology* (Thomas R. Kleyman).

Recipients of the Robert W. Berliner Award					
1993	Carl W. Gottschalk	2001	Joseph S. Handler	2009	Jürgen Schnermann
1994	Gerhard H. Giebisch	2002	Floyd C. Rector		
1995	Heinz Valtin	2003	Donald J. Marsh		
1996	Maurice B. Burg	2004	James A. Schafer		
1997	Franklyn G. Knox	2005	Juha P. Kokko		
1998	Bodil M. Schmidt- Nielsen	2006	Kenneth R. Spring		
1999	Erich E. Windhager	2007	L. Gabriel Navar		
2000	Thomas E. Andreoli	2008	Gerald F. DiBona		



**2009 Renal Section Awards**  
*Pablo Ortiz, Awards Committee Chair*

The Pfizer Predoctoral and Amgen Postdoctoral Awards for Excellence in Renal Research are presented each year for outstanding presentations by students and postdoctoral fellows at the Experimental Biology meeting. The awardees were selected from a pool of student and postdoctoral finalists, who were judged on their presentations at the meeting.



Predoctoral winners of the Pfizer Excellence in Renal Research attending the 2009 Renal Dinner. On the left is P. Richard Grimm (1<sup>st</sup> place winner) with Pablo Ortiz (Awards Chair).

There were two awardees in the graduate student category this year. The 1<sup>st</sup> place award went to P. Richard Grimm for his presentation entitled “Potassium-Sensitive Hyperaldosteronism in *Kcnmb1*<sup>-/-</sup> Mice (  $\beta$ 1 KO)”. Rick recently obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center under supervision of Dr. Steve Sansom. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place award was presented to Megan Greenlee for her presentation entitled “Alterations in renal sodium and acid-base transport in



On the right is Megan Greenlee (2<sup>nd</sup> place winner) with Pablo Ortiz (Awards Chair).

*H,K-ATPase null mice*”. Megan is a doctoral student at the University of Florida, and her mentor is Dr. Charles Wingo.



Postdoctoral winners of the Amgen Excellence in Renal Research attending the 2009 Renal Dinner in New Orleans, LA. On the left is Dr. Romer Gonzalez-Villalobos with Pablo Ortiz (Awards Chair).

There were two awardees in the postdoctoral category for 2009. One award went to Romer Gonzalez-Villalobos for his abstract entitled "Intrarenal RAS expression during Ang II-infusions and ACE inhibition". Romer's research was done under the guidance of Dr. Gabby Navar at Tulane University. The second award went to Zhengrong Guan for her abstract entitled "Anti-inflammatory treatment improves renal autoregulation in DOCA-salt hypertensive rats". Zhengrong is a post-doctoral fellow at the



On the left is Dr. Zhengrong Guan with Pablo Ortiz (Awards Chair).

Medical College of Georgia in the laboratory of Dr. Ed Inscho.

### **Congratulations to all the awardees for their outstanding contributions to kidney research!**

We would like to thank the judges who contribute their time and expertise to evaluate the abstracts and judge presentations at the meeting. These individuals support these young scientists and the renal section by their efforts both before and during the meeting. The success of this year's program is a tribute to their commitment. This year's judges were Hayo Castrop (Regensburg, Germany), Robert Fenton (Aarhus, Denmark), Jennifer Pluznick (Yale), Jennifer Sullivan (Medical College of Georgia), Brooks Robey (Dartmouth, Co-Chair), and Chair Pablo Ortiz (Henry Ford Hospital).

### **APS-Sponsored Renal Section Awards 2009**

The Renal Section Research Recognition Award was presented to Drs. Claire M Peppiatt-Wildman (The Royal Veterinary College, UK), Reena Rao (Vanderbilt University Medical Center), Timo Rieg (UCSD and VA San Diego Healthcare System) and Alexander Staruschenko (Medical College of Wisconsin).

The APS New Investigator Award for 2009 was given to Dr. Nuria Pastor-Soler (University of Pittsburgh). The 2009 Young Investigator Award went to Dr. Heddwen Brooks (University of Arizona).



The 2009 Renal Research Recognition Award winners at the Renal Dinner in New Orleans, LA. From left to right are Drs. Timo Rieg, Pablo Ortiz (Awards Chair), Alexander Staruschenko, Claire M. Peppiatt-Wildman, and Reena Rao .



The APS New Investigator Award Winner, Dr. Nuria Pastor-Soler at the 2009 Renal Dinner (left) with Pablo Ortiz (Awards Chair).



The 2009 Renal Section Young Investigator Award Winner Dr. Heddwyn Brooks (right) with Lee Hamm (Renal Section Treasurer).

We are once again inviting students and postdoctoral fellows to submit their first author, kidney related abstracts to the Renal Awards Program, regardless of the programming topic to which the abstract is submitted. We remind all Renal Section members to encourage their students and postdoctoral fellows and new investigators to apply and participate in the Renal Section Awards Program.

We also encourage renal section members to submit applications and nominations for the Renal Section Research Recognition Awards and the Renal Section New Investigator Award. The deadline for submission is November 4, 2009 and a brief description of each award is given below.

**The Renal Section Research Recognition Award** recognizes the meritorious research by young investigators (junior faculty) who participate in the annual Experimental Biology Meeting. To qualify for this award, the applicant must have finished post-doctoral work, may not be a senior faculty member. Candidates must author an abstract for the EB meeting.

**The Renal Section New Investigator Award** recognizes an outstanding investigator in the early stages of his/her career. Candidates should be investigators who have made meritorious contributions to the scientific areas represented by the APS Renal 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.

Instructions for applying for all Renal Section awards are provided in the EB 2010 call for abstracts and through the APS Renal Section Website <http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb10/awards/renal.htm>. All EB2010 awards will be applied for on-line.

## **PABLO A. ORTIZ WINS 2010 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD**

The Renal Section of the American Physiological Society is pleased to announce that the 2010 recipient of the Young Investigator Award for Excellence in Renal Physiology is Dr. Pablo A. Ortiz. He is an Associate Professor in the Hypertension and Vascular Research Division of the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Pablo received his PhD from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) after completing work for his dissertation under the supervision of Jeff Garvin at the Henry Ford Hospital. His research during these



first years focused on the mechanism by which NO inhibits NaCl reabsorption by the Thick Ascending Limb (TAL). He continued his training at Henry Ford Hospital describing the effect of the free radical superoxide on TAL transport and the effect of luminal flow on NOS3 activation and trafficking in this nephron segment. In 2005 he moved to an Assistant Professor position and begun studying the molecular mechanisms by which the apical cotransporter NKCC2 is regulated in the TAL. Pablo was one of the first to combine the isolated perfused nephron segment technique with confocal microscopy to study protein trafficking in the kidney. He was also instrumental in the development of an *in vivo* gene transfer method to transduce renal medullary tubules. His current research addresses the regulation of NKCC2 trafficking into and out of the apical membrane of TALs by hormones that modulate cAMP, cGMP and other kinase-dependent mechanisms. He is also focusing his research into the role of NKCC2 trafficking and altered cGMP signaling in the development of salt-sensitive hypertension.



The Carl W. Gottschalk Distinguished Lecturer, Rene Bindels (right) and Bill Welch (Renal Section Chair, left) at the 2009 Renal Dinner. Dr. Bindels discussed his groundbreaking work on the roles of renal calcium and magnesium channels.

**Dr. Rene Bindels delivered  
the  
2009 Carl W. Gottschalk  
Distinguished Lecture  
of the APS Renal Section**



***AJP-Renal Physiology***  
**NEWS FROM THE EDITOR**  
***Tom Kleyman***

The number of manuscripts submitted to the *American Journal of Physiology: Renal Physiology* continues to remain robust. This year, to date, submissions have increased by one percent. Our 2008 impact factor remains strong at 3.89, and is among the highest of the journals published by the American Physiological Society that present original work. This month we published two review articles



that highlight areas of renal physiology pioneered by Steve Hebert, a former Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal* who passed away in 2008. Karl Nath joined the *Journal* in July as an Associate Editor. I wish to thank Susan Wall, who stepped in to serve as our editor-in-chief for several months while I was recuperating from an injury.



### **Joint Programming Committee Report** *Tom Pallone, David Weiner*



We had excellent submissions for symposia this year. Some proposals that could not be programmed were held over from EB 2009 to the current year. We are grateful to everyone for their interest and contributions.

#### **EB 2010 featured topics and symposia will include:**

*Young Investigator Awardee - Featured Topic*

**Pablo Ortiz, Ph.D.**, Henry Ford Hospital

***Signaling and protein trafficking in renal epithelium: focus on NKCC2 and the TAL***

**Janos Peti-Peterdi, Ph.D.**, University of Southern California

***Update on Prorenin and its Receptor***

**Lisa M. Harrison-Bernard, Ph.D.**, Louisiana State University

***Mouse Models of Diabetic Renal Disease***

Please continue to submit symposium proposals for the Experimental Biology Meetings. This is a great opportunity to ask four friends, enemies, or scientific competitors to give talks highlighting their work. Everyone gets complementary registration and there are additional funds to help with travel expenses. The process is easy. There is a form available for download at the following website: <http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb.htm>. Simply send (email) the completed form to one of us. Please note that we especially encourage junior investigators to organize these sessions. No grey hair required. Thanks to all!!



### **APS Trainee Advisory Committee Report** *Rick Grimm*

Dear Renal Section,

Greetings from your Trainee Advisory Committee (TAC) Representative! The TAC's charge is to help APS assist and support trainees (students, postdocs, and junior faculty as well as trainee positions in industry and government). Here are a few highlights from the TAC's current projects:

- The TAC has developed an award known as the "**Early Career Professional Service Award**," for an early career APS member who has made outstanding contributions through professional service. Information on this award can be found at <http://www.the-aps.org/awards/society/earlycareer.htm>. The deadline is January 24, 2010, and the award includes \$1000 and complimentary registration for EB. Please consider applying for this award if you are eligible, or forward this information to anyone who



may be a candidate for this award. For those of you submitting 1<sup>st</sup> author abstracts, don't forget to apply for the Amgen Postdoctoral or Pfizer Predoctoral Excellence in Renal Research Awards. Additionally, many other awards and travel grants are available through APS. A complete list can be found at <http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/eb10/awards/index.htm>

- **Trainees:** Please visit the Trainee Web Page (<http://www.the-aps.org/trainees/>) and sign up for the Trainee Listserv as well as the Renal Listserv. Both the Trainee Web Page and the Trainee and Renal Listservs will keep you up-to-date on information regarding Awards, Job Postings, Mentoring, and other helpful information. Become of a fan of American Physiological Society and APS Trainees on Facebook.

- We hope to see you at our **EB 10 Symposium** entitled "Publish, Not Perish: How to Survive the Peer Review Process" (Monday, April 26, 3:15-5:15). You can find the powerpoint presentations from our **previous sessions (with audio) on-line on the APS website** at <http://www.the-aps.org/careers/careers1/mentor/wrkshp.htm> Furthermore, I encourage any of you that have suggestions for a Symposium topic relevant to trainee issues to contact me.

I look forward to meeting many of you at EB 2010. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions ([pgrimm@inmc.edu](mailto:pgrimm@inmc.edu)).



## Physiologists in Industry Committee (PIIC) Report *Craig F. Plato*

The Physiologists in Industry Committee (PIIC) is committed to fostering interactions between the APS and industry. Below are some PIIC-sponsored events for Experimental Biology 2010 that Renal Section members won't want to miss!

**Symposia 2010:** The PIIC is continuing its tradition of sponsoring high quality symposia relevant to industry and academic scientists. The annual PIIC Symposium at EB '10 is entitled "Novel Opportunities for the Treatment of Heart Failure". The symposium will highlight recent insights into mechanisms of cardiac function and failure while highlighting novel emerging therapies to treat heart failure. The program has commitments from Dr. Eva van Rooij, Ph.D. (UTSWMC and Miragen Therapeutics), Dr. John Burnett, M.D. (Mayo Clinic) and Dr. Daniel Bloomfield, M.D. (Merck Research Laboratories).

The committee has also successfully competed for the EB '10 Translational Physiology symposium; it is entitled "Integrins: New Insights and Therapeutic Targets". The symposium will highlight recent advances regarding the structure, activation and signaling cascades in both physiological and pathological conditions as well as potential treatment approaches for a wide range of disorders including, inflammatory diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and antiplatelet/anticoagulant therapies. Speakers for the Translational Physiology Symposium include Dr. Mark Ginsberg, M.D. (UCSD – Dept of Medicine), Dr. Eric Fedyk, Ph.D. (Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.), Dr. David Schlaepfer, Ph.D. (UCSD – Moores Cancer Center), and Dr. Motomu Shimaoka, M.D., Ph.D. (Harvard University Medical School).

**Novel Disease Model Award:** A reminder that abstract submissions to EB '10 are NOT that far away! The Novel Disease Model Award, sponsored by the PIIC and the APS, recognizes one graduate student (\$500) and one postdoctoral fellow (\$800) who submit the **best abstract** describing a disease model that is novel or has significant potential to be applied to the drug discovery process. The application for the award can be found on by visiting the APS website and following the "Section



Awards” link (“Physiologists In Industry”) from the EB’10 page, or by clicking on the “Committees” tab on the APS homepage and going to the PIIC page.



## **APS Committee on Committees Report** *Heddwen Brooks*

**Congratulations to the Renal Section members who were selected to serve on the following APS Committees.**

There is no better way to have your voice heard than to serve on APS Committees, they determine the future of our society.

### **Animal Care and Experimentation**

Jennifer Gooch, Emory University

### **Awards**

Kenneth Hallows, University of Pittsburgh

### **Career Opportunities in Physiology**

John Imig, Medical College of Wisconsin

### **Finance**

Paul Welling, University of Maryland

### **Membership**

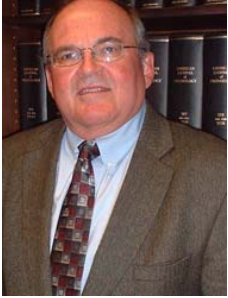
Mitsi Blount, Emory University

Overall we had eleven renal section members apply for a committee. For those who did not get selected please try again this year. Some tips, Education and Women in Physiology are usually very popular (Education, 38 applied for 4 slots). If you are interested in those committees the application and endorsements need to be strong with respect to details on why you would be good for that specific committee.

The application process does not take much time at all and I am happy to help so please contact me.

The description of the 15 APS committees on which you could serve along with qualifications, and nomination forms can be found at: <http://www.the-aps.org/committees/>

Send both the application and endorsement forms electronically to [nominations@the-aps.org](mailto:nominations@the-aps.org) before **January 15, 2010** and to me at [brooksh@email.arizona.edu](mailto:brooksh@email.arizona.edu). Sending your application to me ensures that I am aware of it before the meeting at Experimental Biology.



## APS Conferences *Darwin Bell*

The purpose of the APS Conference Committee is to facilitate, improve, and energize APS Conferences. To simplify the application process, an online submission site within the APS website is now up and This site contains information on APS Conferences, instructions on how to organize a meeting, and the application procedure, which consists of providing an overall meeting abstract and minimal additional details. Application deadlines will be April 1, August 1, and December 1. Anyone who is a member of APS can submit an application for an APS Conference. For more information please contact: P. Darwin Bell, Chair at [BellPD@muscc.edu](mailto:BellPD@muscc.edu) or Linda Allen, APS Representative at: [LAllen@The-APS.org](mailto:LAllen@The-APS.org).

## News and Announcements



The American Society of Nephrology will hold its annual meeting between October 27-November 1, 2009 in San Diego, CA. We expect this to be another great program and hope that many of the Section members will be able to attend.



## RENAL SECTION STEERING COMMITTEE

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