Minutes of the Combined Annual Meetings of the Iowa and Nebraska Physiological Societies

September 8, 2007

A combined meeting of the Iowa (IPS) and Nebraska (NPS) Physiological Societies was held on Saturday, September 8, in the Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. It was the eleventh and tenth annual meeting of the IPS and NPS, respectively, and included participants from South Dakota. Attendance at the meeting totaled 120 and 67 research posters were presented by undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty members representing 11 institutions. The meeting began at 8:00 am with welcome and introductory remarks from Harold D. Schultz, Ph.D., NPS President and Professor, Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), and Robert L. Dunbar, Ph.D., IPS President and Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Buena Vista University. Drs. Schultz and Dunbar thanked this year's sponsors for their support. Sponsors included: the American Physiological Society (APS), the Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, UNMC, the Dean's Office of the College of Medicine, UNMC, and The Nebraska Medical Center. Corporate sponsors were: AD Instruments, Data Sciences International, EMD Chemicals, Inc., Fisher Scientific, North Central Instruments, World Precision Instruments, and VisualSonics.

The scientific portion of the meeting began with the NPS keynote address by Peter Wagner, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego. The title of Dr. Wagner's presentation was "Angiogenesis in Exercising Muscle."

Dr. Wagner's address was followed by Young Investigator Presentations by Sean P. Didion, Ph.D., University of Iowa, J. David Holtzclaw, Ph.D., UNMC, Jessica R. Meendering, Ph.D., University of Nebraska at Omaha, and Julia A. Moffitt, Ph.D., Drake University. The finalists were selected to present their research projects based on the quality of their submitted abstracts. Each presenter was allowed a 15 minute session followed by a short question/answer period.

Following the Young Investigator Presentations, Marsha Lake Matyas, Ph.D., Director of Education Programs for APS, presented an overview of APS Resources for Education. Dr. Matyas' discussion was followed by a luncheon and State of the APS address by Irving H. Zucker, Ph.D., President-Elect of APS and Chairman of the Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, UNMC.

The afternoon portion of the meeting began with the IPS keynote address by Paul G. Mermelstein, Ph.D., Department of Neuroscience, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. The title of Dr. Mermelstein's presentation was "Emerging Mechanisms of Estrogen Action". Poster viewing and judging followed Dr. Mermelstein's address, and a concurrent educational software workshop was conducted by AD Instruments. Poster judging was done in the undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral categories from
institutions that included: Buena Vista University, Drake University, University of Iowa, University of Nebraska at Kearney, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and UNMC. Posters were also presented by faculty and other professionals representing Creighton University, University of Iowa, UNMC, University of South Dakota, and Wayne State College.

After compiling scores from poster judges, Drs. Schultz and Dunbar presented awards to individuals in the judged categories. In the undergraduate category, award recipients were: 1st place, Sumit Kar, UNMC; 2nd place, Stephanie Brady, UNMC; 3rd place (tie), Amanda Dorale, Buena Vista University, and Kyle Glienke, Buena Vista University. Award recipients in the graduate category were: 1st place, Sarah Clayton, UNMC; 2nd place (tie), Carmen Troncoso-Brindeiro, UNMC, and Allison Kleiber, UNMC. In the postdoctoral category, award recipients were: 1st place (tie), Cheng Wang, UNMC, and Wei-Zhong Wang, UNMC; 2nd place, Rasna Sabharwal, University of Iowa; 3rd place, Aparajita Chowdjury, UNMC. Recipients received certificates and monetary awards of $250 (1st place), $100 (2nd place), or $50 (3rd place).

The IPS and NPS business meetings were conducted at the conclusion of the poster awards. Drs. Schultz and Dunbar thanked the staff for their essential contributions to the organization and coordination of the combined meeting: Cindy Norton, Dorothy Burgin, Pearl Sorensen, Linda Tegeder, and Marie Maruca.

The NPS business meeting was called to order by Dr. Schultz. George J. Rozanski, Ph.D., NPS Secretary-Treasurer and Professor, Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, UNMC, briefly presented the current financial status of NPS. Dr. Schultz presented a plaque in recognition of prior NPS president, William G. Mayhan, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, UNMC. The assembled NPS members discussed the meeting format for next year and agreed that the combined meeting with IPS was a success.

Officers for the coming year:

**President:** Thomas E. Pisarri, Ph.D., Creighton University.
**President-Elect:** Kaushik P. Patel, Ph.D. UNMC.
**Secretary/Treasurer:** George J. Rozanski, Ph.D., UNMC.
**Councilor:** Jessica Meendering, Ph.D., University of Nebraska at Omaha
**Councilor:** Robert A. Cushman, Ph.D., USDA Meat Animal Research Center
**Councilor:** Janet E. Steele, Ph.D., University of Nebraska at Kearney

The meeting concluded at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

George J. Rozanski, Ph.D.
Secretary/Treasurer NPS