



INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY PEPTIDE SOCIETY

Scientific Societies Building, Mexican Academy of Science
km 23.5 de la carretera federal México–Cuernavaca,
14400, Mexico City, Mexico
Email: secretariat@irps-regpep.org

Acta

The IRPS General Assembly: Plenary Session (hybrid)

Date: 2021-08-18

Time: 15:00 - 17:00 GMT-5

Location: Amphitheater Atlantes

Princess Mundo Imperial, Acapulco Diamante, México

Zoom: Topic: RegPep23 Hybrid-F2F link (unique)

<https://zoom.us/j/99418214089?pwd=Wnl4ZCtlcXVqOUJJa3dXQ1R5RjB5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 994 1821 4089

Passcode: iQ711Y)

President of the Plenary Session:

Javier E. Stern

Co-Presidents of the IRPS:

Lee E. Eiden & Limei Zhang

Treasurer of the IRPS:

Vito S. Hernández

IRPS membership attendees:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Greti Aguilera | 14. Francesco Ferraguti | 29. Inga Neumann |
| 2. Rafael A. Barrio | 15. Ki A. Goosens | 30. Luis Paiva |
| 3. Colin Brown | 16. Dave Grattan | 31. Andrés Quitanar-Stephano |
| 4. Tays Camilo | 17. Valery Grinevich | 32. Rebeca Mendez |
| 5. Elba Campos-Lira | 18. Andrew Gundlach | 33. Mitchell Ringuet |
| 6. Aleph A. Corona-Morales | 19. Vito S. Hernández | 34. Esther L. Sabban |
| 7. Hélène Castel | 20. Sunny Z. Jiang | 35. Rick Samson |
| 8. Alexandra Castillo | 21. Mary R. Lee | 36. Javier E. Stern |
| 9. Tom Cunningham | 22. Gil Levkowitz | 37. Ryoichi Teruyama |
| 10. Margarita Curras-Collazo | 23. Mike Ludwig | 38. Veronica Trujillo |
| 11. Geert de Vries | 24. Danilo Lustrino | 39. Chun-Xia Yi |
| 12. Arpad Dobolyi | 25. Sushil Mahata | 40. Mario Zetter-Salmón |
| 13. Lee E. Eiden | 26. André S. Mecawi | 41. Limei Zhang |
| | 27. Julian Mercer | |
| | 28. Bob Millar | |

Agenda announced:

- 1. Declaration of quorum and selection of a President for the Plenary Session of the General Assembly (GA).*
- 2. Presentation by the acting Co-Presidents and Treasurer on Society's activity and finance.*
- 3. Endorsement of IRPS Distinguished Members.*
- 4. Election of the new Executive Body of the Society.*
- 5. Presentation of leaders/venues for future RegPep meetings*
- 6. Other business*

1. Declaration of quorum and selection of a President for the Plenary Session of the General Assembly (GA).

Based on the IRPS Statutes, Art. VII, sec. 4, the Extraordinary Assembly was installed at 15:10 (GMT-5) with 41 members of the IRPS present. According to the local law for *Asociación Civil* (civil association), where the IRPS is incorporated, a member of the General Assembly (GA) shall preside a given plenary session (PS). Dr. Javier Stern was selected as the President, with his consent as well as from the attendees.

2. Presentation by the acting Co-Presidents and Treasurer on Society's activity and finance.

Dr. Lee E. Eiden, on behalf of the Co-Presidents Dr. Limei Zhang and himself, presented the biannual activity report (see appendix 1) which was endorsed by the membership vote.

Ballot and result:

Do you endorse RegPep23 President's report?

35 responses



Dr. Vito S. Hernández, the treasurer of the IRPS, presented the biannual financial report, emphasizing the generous sponsorships received from the Journal of Neuroendocrinology (JNE)/British Society of Neuroendocrinology (BSN), the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), the International Brain Research organization (IBRO), the International Neuroendocrine Federation (INF) for RegPep23 organization. The detailed report on the Treasury

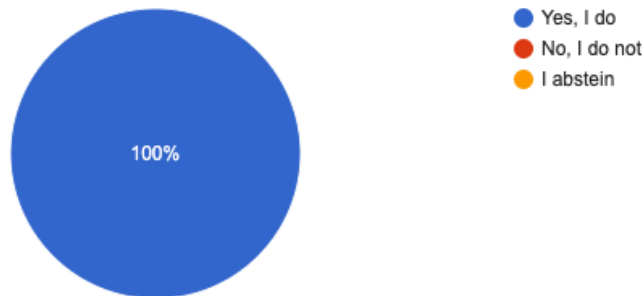
is not included here but is kept confidentially by the Treasurer. Please note that any member of IRPS has the right to inspect the financial records of the IRPS, by appointment, at any time.

The report was endorsed by the membership vote.

Ballot and result:

Do you endorse RegPeps23 treasurer's report?

35 responses



3. Endorsement of IRPS Distinguished Members

The IRPS council presented 19 distinguished members to the GA, in accordance with the Article V, section 4 of the current statutes.

This distinction recognizes the contributions of peptide research pioneers of our times, to the development of fundamental morphological, biochemical, cytological, and molecular insights, generating concepts useful in the integration of regulatory peptide function in systems biology, and translation into medical practice and treatments. It also expresses our gratitude to all our Distinguished members for their strong connection to and generous support of the IRPS-RegPep (see the complete list and legacy statement in the appendix 2).

Ballot and result:

Do you endorse RegPep23 list of "Distinguished Members of the International Regulatory Peptide Society?"

35 responses



4. Election of the new Executive Body of the Society.

Prof. Andrew Gundlach, on behalf of the IRPS Council, presented the nominees for the Executive Body of the Society for the period between the RegPep23 and RegPep24 meetings. Following interviews and question sessions with all nominated candidates and subsequent robust discussions amongst Council members and nominees, the final list of nominees below was presented to the GA with the acceptance letters and the candidates' statements on their experience and commitment. (See Appendix 3 and 4).

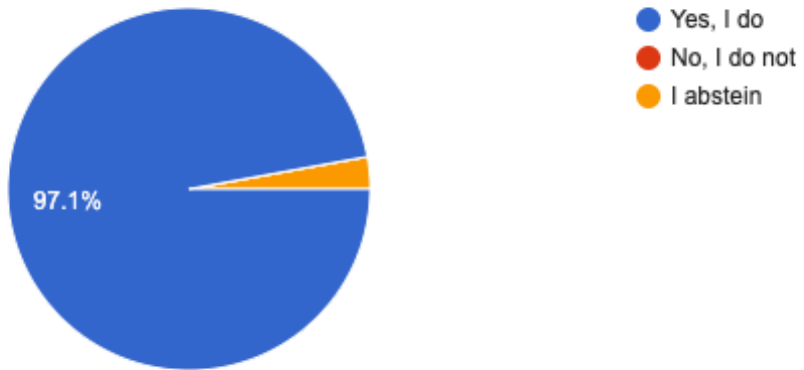
President – Limei Zhang
President-elect – Robert Millar
Treasurer – Mario Zetter
Secretary General – Esther Sabban

Each candidate briefly expressed their commitment to their position if elected.

Ballot and result

Do you endorse the new Executive candidates?

35 responses



5. Presentation of leaders/venues for future RegPep meetings.

Dr. Mike Ludwig presented the proposal for RegPep24, August 5-6, 2022, in Glasgow, Scotland, UK with slides and a video. The summary of his presentation is as follow:

"Dear members of the International Regulatory Peptide Society,

As the chair of the local organising committee I am pleased to invite you to attend the 24th Regulatory Peptide meeting to be held August 5th and 6th, 2022 in Glasgow, Scotland.

RegPep24 will precede the 7th International Conference of Neuroendocrinology held August 7th-10th, 2022 also in Glasgow. I am planning to organise an up to date and interesting programme independent but complementary to the ICN, to showcase the wider recognition of peptides in the regulation of brain and body function. Information regarding registration, accommodation booking, and abstract submission will follow soon.

The members of the society are welcome to propose symposium topics and potential speakers (please send directly to my email below). By putting the program together, I will support overlapping topics but try to avoid direct repetition. I will not invite members to speak at RegPep24 who are on the speakers list of ICN, but that does not mean that the exciting work of your laboratories cannot be presented by other more junior members of your group.

Glasgow is a very friendly city, easy to reach from around the world. Glasgow is 50 miles away from Scotland's capital Edinburgh, which runs the famous Edinburgh Festival in August. Scotland has some incredible breath-taking scenery with 250 castles to explore, 282 Munros (hills and mountains over 3000 feet) to climb, 500 golf courses to play, and over 100 whisky distilleries to sample.

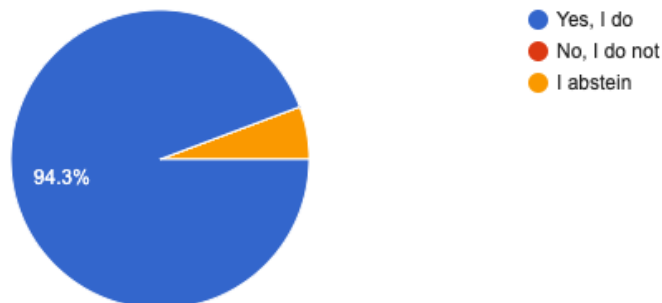
Interesting, engaging and innovative programmes for both meeting and a splendid location will hopefully attract you to attend both meetings and personally I hope to have the honour of welcoming you next year at the 24th Regulatory Peptide Meeting here in Scotland.

All the best

Mike Ludwig
mike.ludwig@ed.ac.uk

Do you support the proposal for the next RegPep meeting?

35 responses



6. Other business

Drs. André Mecawi, Valery Grinevich and Bob Millar expressed their will to organize future RegPep meetings in Sao Paolo, Brazil, Germany, and Kruger National Park in South Africa. Proposals will be formulated and presented during the next RegPep GA.

Dr. Geert de Vries made a brief comment to invite the General Membership to participate in the 14th WCNH, which will be hosted by Geert de Vries, Javier Stern, Larry Young in the US, date and venue will be announced in the near future.

The General Assembly concluded at 17:00 local time.

Prepared by

IRPS Co-Presidents Limei Zhang & Lee E. Eiden
&
General Assembly Plenary Session President: Javier E. Stern

To be approved by the General Assembly

Appendix 1



International Regulatory Peptide Society IRPS

Scientific Societies Building, Mexican Academy of Science
km 23.5 de la carretera federal México–Cuernavaca,
14400, Mexico City, Mexico

Biennial report of the state of the Society to the General Assembly of the IRPS

Elaborated by

Lee. E. Eiden and Limei Zhang, Co-Presidents

18 August, 2021

© 2019 Sociedad Internacional de Péptidos Reguladores A. C., RFC: IPR190225MT6 (registered charity)

Email: secretariat@irps-regpep.org, Website: www.regpep.org

Some history

For members not familiar with the early as well as past history of the IRPS, we offer the following informal introduction. The IRPS sprang from a series of informal international meetings among leaders in regulatory peptide biology and chemistry during the years leading up to 1977, when Guillemin and Schally received the Nobel Prize for structural elucidation of the hypophysiotropic hormones LH-RH, TRH and somatostatin, along with Rosayn Yalow for development of the radioimmunoassay technique. Realizing that regulatory peptides would be a critical part of the landscape of medical science for the foreseeable future, Daniel Fourmy created the Society with a simple mission statement-to hold a RegPep meeting biennially-and Statutes that describe how to do this in an open and democratic way that would value new ideas, and new participants, accelerating progress in the field.

In 2018, at RegPep2018 in Acapulco, Mexico, the membership in General Assembly re-affirmed the intent of the original Statutes of the IRPS by voting to hold election for IRPS Councilors, the governing body of the IRPS, with self-nominations arising directly from the general membership. As a result, twelve Councilors were chosen and took their places on Council at the end of 2018, and immediately began the legal incorporation and application of non-for-profit status of the IRPS.

IRPS-relevant activities 2019 - 2020 (1/5)

NIMH Workshop:

Peptide Neurotherapeutics

March 25 - 26 2019, Bethesda, USA

Workshop on Peptide Neurotherapeutics was held at the NIMH in Bethesda Maryland bringing together participants in RegPep2018 with additional internationally recognized regulatory peptide scientists, with a unifying intellectual theme of translational opportunities for drug development, spurred in part by the historical fact that metabolic disease-related peptides were being approved by the FDA and other agencies at a record pace, that the neurotherapeutics pipeline for non-peptide drugs was almost at a standstill, and that regulatory peptide translational science needed the full attention of like-minded stakeholders.

IRPS relevant activities 2019 – 2020 (2/5)

IRPS-UNAM School of Medicine RegPep-2019 Workshop:
Peptide regulation in systems biology and its translational opportunities
August 9, 2019, México City, México



On August 9 at the School of Medicine of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, the RegPep-2019 Workshop was held: Peptide regulation and translational opportunities in medical practice.

The participation of scientists Valery Grinevich, Lee E. Eiden, Andrew Gundlach, Mary Lee, Duan Chen, André de Sousa Mecawi and Ruud Buijs, who presented new information on neuropeptides and peptide hormones to 60 students awarded by the UNAM.

The event allowed students, researchers in training, residents and clinicians to acquire broader knowledge about the field of regulatory peptides and interact with international scientists, leaders in the field.

Once the workshop was over, the participants received a certificate and had the opportunity to meet and interact with the specialists in an informal lunch.

IRPS relevant activities 2019 – 2020 (3/5)

IRPS council meeting and resolutions

Mexico City on 10th of August 2019



IRPS Lee E. Eiden (USA) (Co-President); Ruud M. Buijs (Mexico, President-elect); Andrew L Gundlach (Australia); Vito S. Hernández (México, Treasurer); Limei Zhang (Mexico, Co-President); Andrés Quintanar-Stephano (México); André de Sousa Mecawi (Brazil); Mary R. Lee (USA); Valery Grinevich (Germany); Duan Chen (Norway).

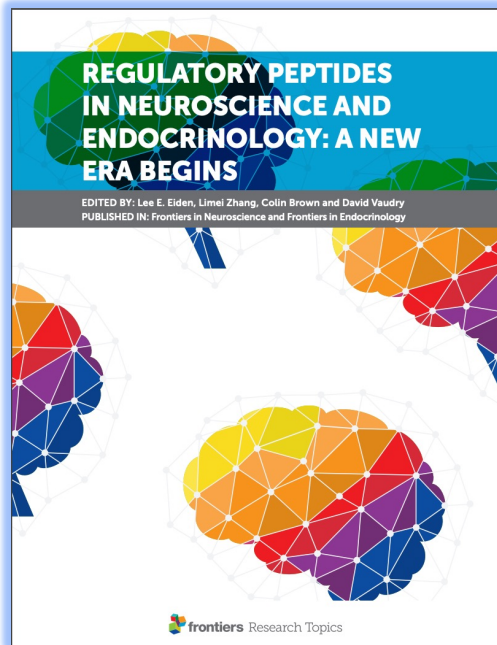
Council Meeting 10 August, 2019 (left to right):
Not pictured: H el ene Castel (France)(Secretary); Sushil K. Mahata (USA); Seiji Shioda (Japan), Laura Vivas (Argentina).

The Council of the IRPS met in full on August 10th, 2019 to accomplish the following in the name and in the interests of the Society's membership.

1. Professor Ruud Buijs was elected as the Chair of the upcoming RegPep World Conference, the *23rd International Symposium on Regulatory Peptides*, RegPep2020, and is therefore the President-elect of the IRPS.
2. The Council has invested in the Co-Presidents and President-elect the power to take all necessary legal and administrative actions to establish the IRPS as the sole legal possessor of the name of the International Regulatory Peptide Society (IRPS) and its historical legacy and logo.
3. The Council of the IRPS formally announces the dates and location of RegPep2020 as Acapulco Diamante, Mexico September 19-23, 2020 and invites all scientists, clinicians and students interested in regulatory peptide actions in systems biology to register as members of the IRPS (see the Statutes of IRPS for categories), which entitles submission of symposium proposals, nominations for plenary lectureship and prize lectureships and travel awards for RegPep2020, and participation in all aspects of the Society, including self-nomination for the IRPS Council and executive body members, and for organization of future RegPep world conferences.
4. The Council approved an initial slate of candidates for Distinguished Membership in the IRPS, and a short bibliography and photograph of those who have confirmed their acceptance appears on website <http://www.regpep.org/international-regulatory-peptide-society/membership/distinguished-members>
5. The Council meeting had extensively discussed the bylaws of the IRPS which will be submitted for approval in the next IRPS General Assembly.

IRPS relevant activities 2019 – 2020 (4/5)

Two special issues dedicated to RegPep2018 completed and published.
A third for RegPep22 is now completed and published in July, 2021. A fourth for RegPep23 is currently being assembled.



The IRPS secretariat proposed to adopt the
Journal of Neuroendocrinology
as its official journal

March 2020, approved by the Council Oct. 2020

<regpep.org>

IRPS relevant activities 2019 – 2020 (5/5)

IRPS biennial councilors election (Completed on 8th of January 2021)

IRPS council election results

Dear members of the Society,

As electoral commissioners of the International Regulatory Peptide Society, Professors Manning, Antunes Rodrigues and Pittman are pleased to endorse and communicate the results of the recent election of members of council.

For this election, 73 voting codes were issued, 45 votes were cast and 28 voting codes were not activated.

Council members elected for a term of 4 years (Jan 2021-Dec 2024) are:



Arpád Dobolyi
(Hungary)



Francesco Ferraguti
(Austria)



Ki Goosens
(USA)



Gil Levkowitz
(Israel)



Bob Millar
(South Africa)



Chunxia Yi
(The Netherlands)

We congratulate the successful councilors and extend our thanks to the other members who agreed to stand for council

Sincerely,,

IRPS 2021 Electoral Commission

Quentin J Pittman (Canada), Maurice Manning (USA) and José Antunes Rodrigues,

regpep.org

2020: A COVID interlude

Also in August 2019, the IRPS Council met to approve plans to hold RegPep2020 again in Acapulco, given favorable conditions for the meeting in that location. As planning for RegPep2020 continued through the remainder of 2019, COVID-19 intervened, and contingency plans were made, revised, and made again, with safety, opportunity, and fiscal responsibility the main topics of conversation. When UNAM, part of the sponsoring troika of the meeting, reluctantly imposed travel restrictions that made the meeting impossible, the meeting was postponed to Spring 2022, with an agreement with the Acapulco Diamante venue sparing financial loss that would otherwise have accrued.

With the decision about RegPep2020 made, the Society arranged to hold elections to expand the Council to 18 members, allowing the work of keeping the Society's mission coherent in the absence of the biennial meeting, until 2022. The decision was made to convene a Special Issue of JOURNAL OF NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY, now the Society's official journal. Contributions have since been submitted, and the Special Issue and commentary on it will featured on the IRPS website <regpep.org>. A second critical decision was to enhance online opportunities for younger members whose activities were on 'temporary hold' with COVID work and travel restrictions. A third was to increase outreach with pharmaceutical and clinical partners to make sure the IRPS mission triad, physiology, medicine and pharmacology continued apace in 2021. Finally a fourth goal, to enhance activities with our affiliates has resulted in stronger links with INF, IBRO and IUPHAR, as detailed on the IRPS website.

The modification of 2019 IRPS Statutes was endorsed
by majority of the IRPS members in July 2021
<regpep.org>

Relevant IRPS – related publications (1/6)

From Brown and colleagues: with commentary and article posted at <regpep.org>

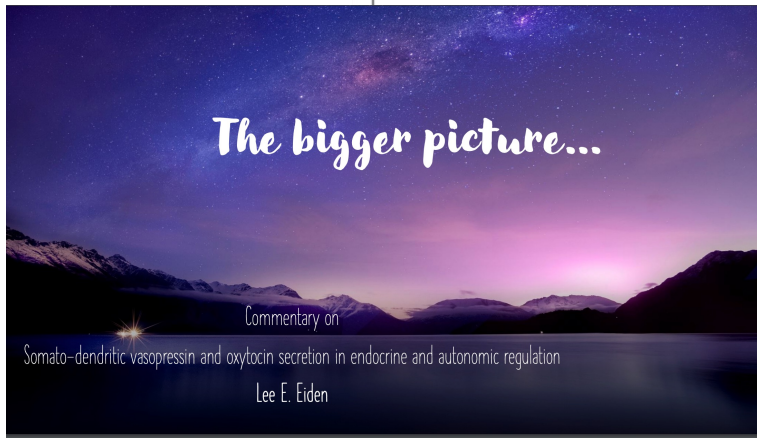
Received: 13 January 2020 | Revised: 29 March 2020 | Accepted: 11 April 2020
DOI: 10.1111/jne.12856

REVIEW ARTICLE

Journal of Neuroendocrinology

Somato-dendritic vasopressin and oxytocin secretion in endocrine and autonomic regulation

Colin H. Brown¹ | Mike Ludwig^{2,3} | Jeffrey G. Tasker⁴ | Javier E. Stern⁵



Dendritic secretion of regulatory peptides: The bigger picture
by Lee E. Eiden

regpep.org

Relevant IRPS – related publications (2/6)

Proceedings of RegPep2019: Workshop celebrating incorporation of IRPS as non-profit incorporated Society

REVIEW ARTICLE

Journal of Neuroendocrinology WILEY

Regulatory peptides and systems biology: A new era of translational and reverse-translational neuroendocrinology

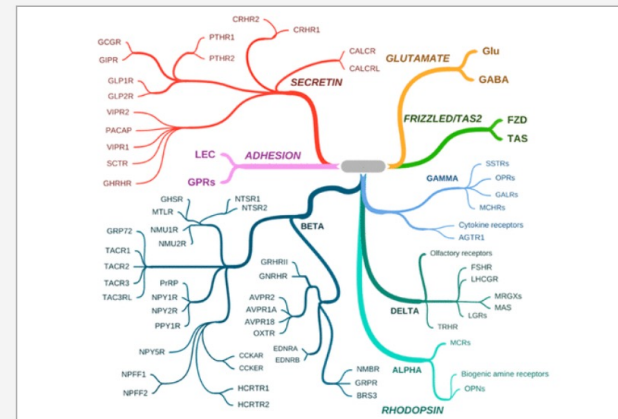
On August 10th, 2019, the Council of the International Regulatory Peptide Society (IRPS) met on the campus of the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico City, to **inaugurate the IRPS as a non-profit society** and to plan future meetings of RegPep, the Society's biennial meeting. **A workshop held the previous day, and co-sponsored by UNAM and the IRPS, gathered together Council members to define the Society's vision for supporting and nurturing basic and translational regulatory peptide science.** This vision was developed by considering some prototype regulatory peptides and approaches to their pharmacology. The workshop, entitled "Peptide Regulation in Systems Biology and Its Translational Opportunities" was designed to create a framework within which common goals of regulatory peptide physiologists, pharmacologists, biochemists, and structural biologists could be defined and future strategies developed. During the two days of activities, the IRPS also decided to seek an appropriate sponsoring journal with which to collaborate in publishing the Society's future proceedings. Accordingly, JOURNAL OF NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY was identified, the stated mission and scope of which closely matches that of the IRPS. To this end, **this Perspective is intended as a manifesto for the IRPS and an announcement of its association with JOURNAL OF NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY**

Relevant IRPS – related publications (3/6)

Proceedings of March 2019 NIMH Workshop on Peptide Neurotherapeutics

Abstract

Peptide-liganded G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) are a growing fraction of GPCR drug targets, concentrated in two of the five major GPCR structural classes. The basic physiology and pharmacology of some within the rhodopsin class, for example, the enkephalin (μ opioid receptor, MOR) and angiotensin (ATR) receptors, and most in class B, all the members of which are peptide receptors, are well-known, whereas others are less so. Furthermore, with the notable exception of opioid peptide receptors, the ability to translate from peptide to “drug-like” (i.e., low-molecular-weight nonpeptide) molecules, with desirable oral absorption, brain penetrance, and serum stability, has met with limited success. Yet, peripheral peptide administration in patients with metabolic disorders is clinically effective, suggesting that “drug-like” molecules for peptide receptor targets may not always be required for disease intervention. Here, we consider recent developments in GPCR structure analysis, intracellular signaling, and genetic analysis of peptide and peptide receptor knockout phenotypes in animal models. These lines of research converge on a better understanding of how peptides facilitate adaptive behaviors in mammals. They suggest pathways to translate this burgeoning information into identified drug targets for neurological and psychiatric illnesses such as obesity, addiction, anxiety disorders, and neurodegenerative diseases. Advances centered on the peptide ligands oxytocin, vasopressin, GLP-1, ghrelin, PACAP, NPY, and their GPCRs are considered here. These represent the spectrum of progress across the “virtual pipeline”, of peptide receptors associated with many established drugs, those of long-standing interest for which clinical application is still under development, and those just coming into focus through basic research.



Relevant IRPS – related publications (4/6)

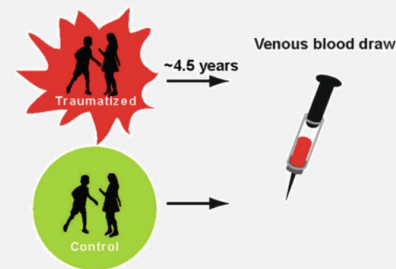
Contributions by laboratory of Councilor Ki Ann Goosens, a suite of publications on ghrelin translational research

Ghrelin and PTSD

A recent publication from the Goosens lab extends previous translational research on the use of **ghrelin as a marker for traumatic stress exposure in human adolescents, demonstrating significant increases in acyl-ghrelin levels in blood in trauma-positive PTSD-positive, but not in trauma-positive PTSD-negative adolescents.** Acyl-ghrelin is released from endocrine cells of the gastrointestinal tract and acts at receptors both peripherally and in the central nervous system.

Previous data from studies in rodents suggest that antagonism of the ghrelin receptor attenuates freezing following cue re-exposure after fear conditioning, but only if antagonist is administered both at the time of, and following, fear learning.

The previous report as well as the recent clinical report are linked here. Together the two reports represent a step forward in regulatory peptide research, providing a critical long-term marker for trauma exposure with implications for PTSD monitoring and support



Links to the full articles:

[Ghrelin is a persistent biomarker for chronic stress exposure in adolescent rats and humans \(2018\)](#)


[Association of Acyl-Ghrelin With Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Adolescents Who Experienced Severe Trauma \(2020\)](#)

Relevant IRPS – related publications (5/6)














Contributions from laboratory of Valery Grinevich, Councilor, IRPS, and colleagues, including other IRPS members:

**nature
neuroscience** **ARTICLES**

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41593-020-0674-y>



Social touch promotes interfemale communication via activation of parvocellular oxytocin neurons

Yan Tang^{1,9,10}, Diego Benusiglio ^{1,10}, Arthur Lefevre ^{1,2,10}, Louis Hilfiger ^{2,10}, Ferdinand Althammer^{1,3}, Anna Bludau⁴, Daisuke Hagiwara¹, Angel Baudon², Pascal Darbon ², Jonas Schimmer¹, Matthew K. Kirchner ³, Ranjan K. Roy ³, Shiyi Wang¹, Marina Eliava¹, Shlomo Wagner ⁵, Martina Oberhuber⁶, Karl K. Conzelmann ⁶, Martin Schwarz⁷, Javier E. Stern³, Gareth Leng ⁸, Inga D. Neumann^{4,11}, Alexandre Charlet ^{2,11}  and Valery Grinevich ^{1,3,11} 

Oxytocin (OT) is a great facilitator of social life but, although its effects on socially relevant brain regions have been extensively studied, OT neuron activity during actual social interactions remains unexplored. Most OT neurons are magnocellular neurons, which simultaneously project to the pituitary and forebrain regions involved in social behaviors. In the present study, we show that a much smaller population of OT neurons, parvocellular neurons that do not project to the pituitary but synapse onto magnocellular neurons, is preferentially activated by somatosensory stimuli. This activation is transmitted to the larger population of magnocellular neurons, which consequently show coordinated increases in their activity during social interactions between virgin female rats. Selectively activating these parvocellular neurons promotes social motivation, whereas inhibiting them reduces social interactions. Thus, parvocellular OT neurons receive particular inputs to control social behavior by coordinating the responses of the much larger population of magnocellular OT neurons.

Relevant IRPS – related publications (6/6)

Contribution by laboratories of L. Zhang and Lee E. Eiden

Behavioral role of PACAP reflects its selective distribution in glutamatergic and GABAergic neuronal subpopulations



Limei Zhang [✉], Vito S Hernandez, Charles R Gerfen, Sunny Z Jiang, Lilian Zavala, Rafael A Barrio, Lee E Eiden [✉]
National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico; National Institute of Mental Health, United States; National Institutes of Health, United States

Research Article · Jan 19, 2021

Cited 0 Views 259 Annotations

Cite as: eLife 2021;10:e61718. DOI: 10.7554/eLife.61718

Article

Abstract

Figures and data

Abstract

Article and author information

Metrics

The neuropeptide PACAP, acting as a co-transmitter, increases neuronal excitability, which may enhance anxiety and arousal associated with threat conveyed by multiple sensory modalities. The distribution of neurons expressing PACAP and its receptor, PAC1, throughout the mouse nervous system was determined, in register with expression of glutamatergic and GABAergic neuronal markers, to develop a coherent chemoanatomical picture of PACAP role in brain motor responses to sensory input. A circuit role for PACAP was tested by observing fos activation of brain neurons after olfactory threat cue in wild type and PACAP knockout mice. Neuronal activation, and behavioral response, were blunted in PACAP knock-out mice, accompanied by sharply down-regulated vesicular transporter expression in both GABAergic and glutamatergic neurons expressing PACAP and its receptor. This report signals a new perspective on the role of neuropeptide signaling in supporting excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmission in the nervous system within functionally coherent polysynaptic circuits.

Of interest

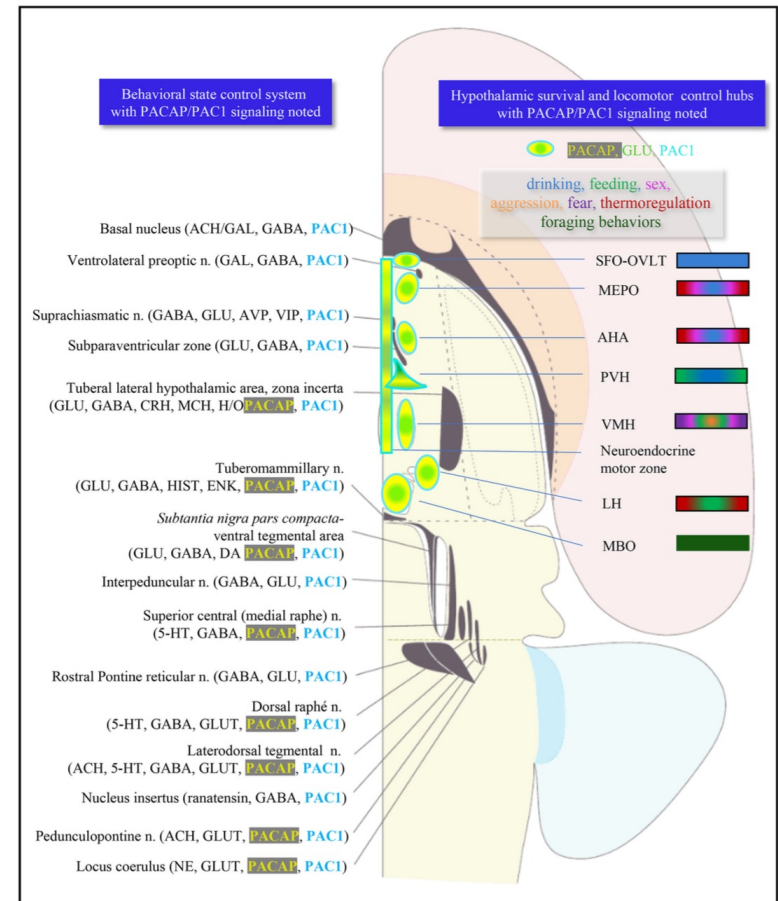
Performance in even a simple perceptual task depends on mouse secondary visual areas

Hannah C Goldbach et al.

Research Article · Feb 1, 2021

Further reading »

Arising from a collaboration begun at RegPep2018, this report documents a role for the neuropeptide PACAP in modulating behavioral responding to predator odor, based on its assignment within a sensory processing circuit in which PACAP is co-expressed with, and modulates, glutamatergic neurotransmission.



Appendix 2

Executive Candidate Nomination and Evaluation

Dear IRPS Members,

At the recent Council Meeting on August 2, 2021, Council undertook an evaluation of the candidates that had nominated for the Executive positions of IRPS. Following interviews and question sessions with all nominees and subsequent robust discussions amongst Council members and nominees, the final list of nominees below will be provided for the IRPS membership to consider for election/endorsement at the upcoming General Assembly:

President – Limei Zhang

President-elect – Robert Millar

Treasurer – Mario Zettler

Secretary General – Esther Sabban

Further details of the candidates and members' eligibility to vote and how to vote will be provided separately.

Andrew L. Gundlach (Council Member, assisting Executive Nominations/Election)

Appendix 3



FACULTAD DE MEDICINA
DEPARTAMENTO DE FISILOGIA
UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO
APARTADO POSTAL 70-250
MEXICO, D.F. C.P. 04510



FAX 56-23-22-41
FAX 56-23-23-95

Limei Zhang, MD PhD
Professor of Physiology

limei@unam.mx

29th of August 2021

Chun-Xia Yi MD PhD

Associate professor | Principal Investigator

Amsterdam University Medical Center (UMC)

Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism

Location AMC | K2-284 | Meibergdreef 9, 1105 AZ Amsterdam

T: +31 20 5664807 | E: c.yi@amsterdamumc.nl

<https://www.chun-xia-yi.nl>

Dear Dr. Yi,

Thank you for your nomination to be a candidate for the President of IRPS position in the upcoming General Assembly election, which I accept formally.

Please find my experience and commitment statement attached.

Yours sincerely,

Limei Zhang

Limei Zhang, MD, PhD

Professor of Physiology
Head, Lab. Systems Neuroscience
Department of Physiology
School of Medicine
National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7422-5136>
email: limei@unam.mx



Experience in service to scientific community:

- I co-founded the IRPS on 2019-02-25, as an incorporated nonprofit civil association and have been the Co-President and the *Apoderado Legal* (legal representative) of the Society since its incorporation.
- I have worked as the President of the Local Organizing Committee and Co-Chair for RegPep2018, RegPep2020+1 (RegPep23); have submitted more than 10 grant applications for RegPep2018 and RegPep2020+1's organization and 10 have been successfully awarded.
- I am currently an elected member of the *University Council* of the National University of Mexico), representing the School of Medicine, UNAM, faculty members.
- I am currently a member of a SfN committee (newly elected).
- I was a member of IAC of 12th World Congress of Neurohypophysial Hormones (WCNH, 2017).
- I have proposed and chaired Symposia on *Neuropeptides in Systems Biology topics* for WCNH2017, PANAM1 (Pan-American Physiology Society, 2014) and FALAN1 (Federation of Latino-American and Iberic Neuroscience Associations, 2013).
- I have been Guest Associate Editor for Special issues of ANYAS, JNE, Frontiers in Neuroscience.
- I am currently a senior editor of the JNE (Fundamental and Mechanist Neuroendocrinology) and in the Editorial Board for JNE (Translational and Clinic Neuroendocrinology).
- I was the principal organizer of "International symposium on Dynamical Behavior of Complex Systems" 2010.
- I was elected secretary/treasurer of Mexican Chapter of Society for Neuroscience (2012-2013); elected Councilor for Neuroscience, Mexican National Society of Anatomy (2000-2002).
- I was an elected member of the Technical Council of the School of Medicine 2006-2013) representing the graduate school tutor.

Statement of Commitment: Born in Beijing, China, I am a Mexican neurophysiologist working for the UNAM for the last 28 years. I am married to a Mexican Theoretical Physicist, and I am mother of 3 children. I hold MD, MSc and PhD (Physiological Sciences) degrees from UNAM and completed postdoctoral training (Biomathematics) at Oxford University/UK (1992-1993). I have been long-term Visiting Professor to Oxford University (as IBRO Research Fellow and as UK MRC Research Fellow), to NIMH/NIH Bethesda, as International Fulbright Scholar. I have also spent numerous research sojourns over the years, including to the Max-Planck Institute (MPIImF), Heidelberg, NanKai University, Tianjin, and Univ. Castilla-La Mancha, Albacete; NIDA/NIH, Baltimore and have made numerous academic journeys to Brazil and Argentina. I have participated extensively in University and Scientific society's related issues, with extensive, relatively, knowledge on academic legislative, democracy procedures. I consider that my experiences across different countries, economic-political-cultural systems, can constructively promote the international understanding, co-operation, and translation for biomedical research, in an honest, humanistic environment. If I am re-elected as the President (or Co-President) of the IRPS, I will do my best for the society with enthusiasm, honesty, and transparency to further the aims and objective of IRPS, stated in its Statutes. I will collaborate with the Council, and of course, I'll be happy and collaborative in subjecting my works to the surveillance established by the Statutes.



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Centre for Neuroendocrinology
PO Box 2034, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa
Tel: +27-12-356-3100
Email: robertpetermillar@gmail.com

17 August 2021

To: IRPS election committee

RE: Nomination for President-elect IRPS

I accept my nomination by Lee Eiden and Limei for consideration for President-elect.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Millar', with a horizontal line underneath.

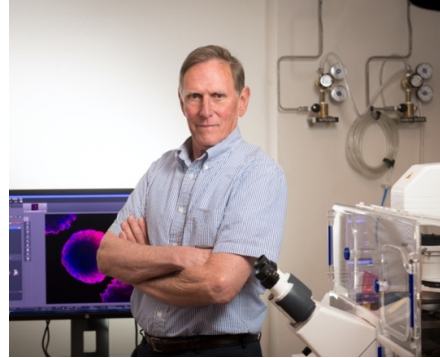
Professor Robert Millar FRSE, FRSSA

Director, Centre for Neuroendocrinology, University of Pretoria

Commitment Statement for President-elect IRPS

Robert P. Millar, Ph.D.

Professor, FRSE, FRSSA
Director Centre for Neuroendocrinology, University of
Pretoria, South Africa
Senior Research Scholar, University of Cape Town
Senior Research Fellow, University of Edinburgh, UK
Professor Emeritus, University of St Andrews, UK
Editor in Chief, Translational and Clinical
Neuroendocrinology, Journal. of
Journal of Neuroendocrinology
bob.millar@up.ac.za



Experience in Service to the Scientific Community:

Robert (Bob) Millar was the President of the International Neuroendocrine Federation until Summer 2020. Bob grew up in Zimbabwe and studied Zoology, Botany and Chemistry at the University of the former Rhodesia and Nyasaland. He then obtained a master's degree in Biochemistry in London and a PhD in reproductive biology in Liverpool before moving into human biomedical research at the University of Cape Town where he became Professor ad hominem and directed four MRC Units. For twelve years he served as Director of the prestigious MRC Human Reproductive Sciences Unit at the University of Edinburgh, UK, and in 2011 he joined the University of Pretoria to take up the Directorship of the Mammal Research Institute (till 2016) when he took up his current position as Director of the Center for Neuroendocrinology. He has published over 400 peer reviewed articles which have been cited over 30,000 times and has an H-index of over 90 (Google scholar)

Background and Suitability for the Position:

Bob has had a long history of research in peptide biology having isolated the first novel GnRH peptides, somatostatin-28 and cloned the GnRH receptor as well as the type II GnRH receptor and pioneered the development of GnRH, Kisspeptin and NKB analogues which have gone on to enter the clinic and create new therapeutics for cancer, endometriosis, polycystic ovarian syndrome and hot flashes. He has worked extensively with Andrew Schally, Wylie Vale and Jean Rivier as well as others in developing the field. His research has involved a continuum of molecular and cell biology, structural biology, physiology, evolutionary biology of peptides, chemical design and synthesis in analogue development through to clinical application. This spectrum of knowledgebase is rare in this era of specialisation. In addition to a long involvement in academe and the development of young scientists he has worked extensively with Pharma and biotech in drug development. This breadth of expertise will allow him to contribute to the development of existing and new initiatives in the IRPS and particularly a closer relationship with pharma and biotech in the translation of regulatory peptide discovery into drug development. He believes that the advance of IRPS will be intimately connected to a strong relationship with industry both in the translation of peptide discovery and reduction to practice but also in the financial support of IRPS meetings. His extensive consultation for industry and founding of the biotech company, Ardana, position him to accomplish this for the IRPS. His credentials as an insightful contributor to the success and growth of IRPS are also in his organizational and leadership skills. He has been chair of numerous meetings including programme chair of the 2018 International Conference of Endocrinology, member of the US Endocrine Society programme organising committee and chair of the British Pharmacological Society's James Black meeting amongst others. He was president of the International Neuroendocrine Federation until 2010. He will also bring communication and publication 'know how' to the IRPS to promulgate the outputs of the society through his extensive knowledge and experience as Editor in Chief of Neuroendocrinology where he increased the IF

from 2.2 to 6.8 and his new role as Editor in Chief of the Journal of `Neuroendocrinology's Translational and Clinical Neuroendocrinology arm which is the official journal of the IRPS.

Collectively the above credentials indicate he has the experience and insight to serve as President-elect/President of the IRPS.

Statement of Intent:

While I will deliver the tasks of the President as articulated in the IRPS statutes my management style will be different from that of the current Presidents who are deeply involved in running **all aspects** of the IRPS. Instead I shall be looking to harness the expertise and talents of the secretary general and treasurer, the council and the membership at large to grow and strengthen the IRPS. To this end a number of strategic actions committees will be set up from the membership. A series of twelve such committees is articulated in the statutes. I will prioritise these to four more strategic committees:

Finance and Fund-raising Committee, who will be responsible for making grant applications, interaction with industry for partnering, regulating and collecting of dues and negotiation of contributions to bodies to which IRPS is affiliated. It is crucial that a sustainable revenue flow is generated by IRPS. The aim is to accumulate about \$100,000 as a secure source for bank rolling meetings and workshops. During my tenure as president of INF I pursued this aim and achieved an increase of the bank balance from ~\$20k to >\$100k.

Membership Committee with an aim to increase membership to 200 (current <100) over three years with an emphasis of recruiting young researchers. They will also examine dues to ensure these are not impacting membership of young/developing researchers

Conference, Workshop and Training committee charged with assisting in the organisation of RegPep and identifying new workshops to meet unmet needs. This committee will also look to arranging training especially through the vehicle of workshops.

Publications and Communications Committee responsible for promoting publications arising from conferences, workshops and other sources. This committee will interact with the EICs of the Journal of Neuroendocrinology which is the official journal of IRPS and look to enhance the profiles of IRPS and JNE. This committee will also manage the web site, create social media vehicles and promotion of IRPS to influential bodies and the public. The INF publishes a series of high impact books which promote our science and provide a revenue stream. This committee will look to publishing an additional book/s on Neuroendocrine regulatory peptides contributed by IRPS and pursue other possibilities.

Composition of Committees. Committees will be small (4-6 members) to facilitate agility and outputs. They will reflect the diversity of IRPS members and especially seek to appoint young researchers who will carry the baton in the future. They will report at 6 monthly intervals to the executive, council and membership and look for synergies to add value between the committees.



NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

WWW.NYMC.EDU

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
VALHALLA, NEW YORK 10595 TEL 914-594-4055 FAX 914-594-4058

July 24, 2021

Limei Zhang, MD, PhD
Department of Physiology
Faculty of Medicine
National Autonomous University of Mexico

Dear Dr. Zhang:

I am honored by your nomination as secretary-general of the International Regulatory Peptide Society (IRPS). I accept your nomination and if selected will do my utmost for the continued success and expansion of the IRPS.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Esther Louise Sabban".

Esther Louise Sabban, PhD

Professor

Esther Louise Sabban, PhD

Affiliation: Professor,
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology,
New York Medical College, Valhalla New York
Director of Laboratory for Stress-related Disorders
Email: Esther_Sabban@nymc.edu



Experience in service to the scientific community:
Editorial board member of Stress, American Journal of Hypertension; Biomolecules; previous handling editor for Journal of Neurochemistry, past president, secretary/treasurer of Catecholamine Society (worked on writing mission statement, obtaining tax exempt status and in organizing, 10th International Catecholamine Society, Asilomar, CA); Member International Organizing Committee for several Symposium on Catecholamines and Other Neurotransmitters in Stress, Smolenice, Slovakia; past secretary/treasurer of Endocrine and Metabolism Section of American Physiological Association; past member of American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Education and Professional Development Committee; reviewer for NIH, AHA, NSF etc; past member study sections.

Statement of commitment:

I have an extensive history of studying the effects of neuropeptide Y (NPY) and selective NPY agonists in the regulation of molecular and behavioral responses to stress. Our studies are laying the groundwork for translation to humans. The diversity and the range of actions of neuropeptides has exploded in the past few years. However, many of the principles of therapeutic administration and stabilization in the brain can be shared and advanced synergistically among different regulatory peptides.

I have international experience based on long-term collaboration with close colleagues in Slovakia, Japan and in Israel. I have been committed to the teaching and training of young scientists from medical and graduate students to PhD students (11 completed thesis in my laboratory) and postdoctoral fellows. I believe that the IRPS is an excellent forum to bring together colleagues from all over the world with diverse levels of experience to advance the field of regulatory peptides. Having participated in three previous RegPep meeting, I realize the consequential work that is accomplished in this area, as well as the challenge of covering the diverse range of neuropeptides and the expanding information. Future meetings should highlight advances and help to simulate collaborations and novel approaches. I feel that IRPS should also facilitate the dissemination of information regarding publications, international funding sources, and assist with career development of young scientists in the area of regulatory peptides. If selected as Secretary General, I would be honored to use my expertise, enthusiasm and commitment to facilitate the achievement of these goals



July 29, 2021

Dr. Vito S. Hernández
Associate Professor
Department of Physiology
School of Medicine
National Autonomous University of Mexico

Dear Dr. Hernández

I am honored by your nomination as a candidate for *treasurer* of the International Society of Regulatory Peptides which I accept, and if elected, will advocate for maintaining healthy, transparent, and uncorruptible finances of the IRPS in accordance with its statutes.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Mario A. Zetter-Salmón', is positioned below the text 'Sincerely yours,'.

Mario A. Zetter-Salmón, MD, PhD

Mario A. Zetter-Salmón, MD, PhD

Postdoctoral fellow,
Laboratory of Systems Neuroscience
Department of Physiology, School of Medicine
National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
e-mail: zetter.salmon@gmail.com
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7132-5345>



Experience in service for scientific community:

- Reviewer for Journal of Neuroendocrinology and Journal of Leukocyte Biology.
- Voluntary logistic staff of the 22th RegPep (Acapulco, Diamante, 2018)
- Lecturer of Histology, School of Medicine, LaSalle University, Mexico (2017-2021).
- Lecturer of Neuroanatomy, School of Medicine, LaSalle University, Mexico (2021).
- Recipient of the prize Jose Antonio Martin Mora for the best PhD (Biomedical Sciences) dissertation, by the National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition Salvador Zubirán, Mexico (2020).
- Recipient of FENS-IBRO/PERC young investigator grant award (2020).

Statement of commitment: I obtained an MD degree from the Autonomous University of Aguascalientes, Mexico (2016) and a PhD in biomedical sciences from UNAM (2020). I have attended previous meetings of different scientific societies, as the International Congress of Immunology (Cancún, Mexico, 2017), the 13th World Congress of Neurohypophysial Hormones (Ein Gedi, Israel, 2018) and the IBRO meeting (Daegu, Korea, 2019) as well as being part of the staff of the 22th RegPep (Acapulco Diamante, Mexico 2018) allowed me to see the importance of a rigorous organization of scientific meetings and I have the conviction that, as in any another enterprise, healthy finances are a mandatory necessity in the scientific societies, for their engagement in linking academic groups, and allowing the communication of science and contributing to the consolidation of young investigators. Currently, I have been participating in the organization of the virtual and hybrid meeting of the 23th RegPep and working together in some duties with the actual treasurer, Dr. Vito Hernandez, and realized that the proceedings of the treasury of IRPS are crucial for the adequate functioning of the society.

If elected as the treasurer of IRPS, I will advocate and survey for continuing an ordered, transparent, and incorruptible management of the resources from the International Society of Regulatory Peptides, firmly attached to its statutes.

Appendix 4

Distinguished Member of the International Regulatory Peptide Society

The IRPS secretariat is delighted to announce the proposal of 19 distinguished members was approved by the council on August 2nd, 2021, in accordance with the Article V of the current statutes:

- **Section 4. Distinguished Members (DM):** shall be individuals whose contributions to the regulatory peptide field and/or to the Society are judged significant according to criteria established by the Council. Distinguished members shall be nominated by 10 members of the Society **and a letter of acceptance from the nominee to the Membership Committee is required.** Nominations for DM can be approved by Council majority vote at any time. The DM will receive a diploma in recognition of his/her contribution to the field and/or the Society during the next available General Assembly at a RegPep meeting. Recognition of Distinguished Member of the International Regulatory Peptide Society

We wish to recognize the contributions of our Distinguished Members to the development of fundamental morphological, biochemical, cytological, and molecular insights generating concepts useful in the integration of regulatory peptide function in systems biology, and translation into medical practice and treatments. The achievements of our Distinguished Members serve to inspire new students and practitioners in the field alike, that curiosity disciplined by the scientific method allows experimentation that is its own reward, and can lead to the betterment of human health, and an improved perspective on the proper place of humankind within the animal kingdom.

It is also our wish to express our gratitude to all our Distinguished Memembers for their strong connection to and generous support of the IRPS-RegPep.

Greti Aguilera

Recognized for her contributions to understanding how physiological and signaling mechanisms by corticotropin releasing hormone and other hormones regulate cardiovascular and HPA axis activity.

José Antunes-Rodrigues

Recognized for his pioneering explorations of the physiology of mineral and water balance by neurohypophyseal hormones.

Sue Carter

Recognized for her pathbreaking explorations of the role of oxytocin, vasopressin and other hormones in mammalian reproductive and social behavior.

Richard Di Marchi

Recognized for his translational breakthroughs in incretin pharmacology and medicinal chemistry.

George Fink

Recognized for expanding the concept of temporal endocrine regulation through pulsatile secretion of reproductive hypophysiotropic hormone, and the characterization of the release of hypothalamic neuropeptides into the hypophysial portal vessels.

John Furness

Recognized for pioneering work in defining the functional chemoanatomy of the enteric nervous system.

Hal Gainer

Recognized for integrating dynamics of hormone processing and axonal transport in neurosecretory cells.

Tomas Hokfelt

Recognized for revealing the extent and meaning of neuropeptide and aminergic co-transmission in neurons and neuronendocrine cells in mammalian brain.

Jens Holst

Recognized for providing principles guiding the translation of incretin action into therapeutic intent.

Luis de Lecea

Recognized for his discovery of the hypothalamic hormone hypocretin/orexin, and its role in the transduction of convergent physiological stimuli into altered behavioral states.

Gareth Leng

Recognized for his insights into paracrine and autocrine mechanisms that tune neurosecretory cell electrophysiology for optimal homeostatic performance.

Maurice Manning

Recognized for perfecting chemical tools for synthesis of peptide analogs for oxytocin, vasopressin, and other neuropeptides, and dissecting their structure-function properties.

Robert Millar

Recognized for determining the ribosomal synthesis of GnRH, identification of novel GnRH structures, design of novel analogues and cloning of the GnRH receptor leading to development of peptide and small molecule analogs extensively employed in treating hormone-dependent diseases such as prostate cancer.

John Morris

Recognized for astute morphological observations at the ultrastructural level leading to a refined understanding of the function and diversity of peptide-secreting neuroendocrine cells.

Quentin Pittman

Recognized for electrophysiological and pharmacological investigation of synaptic behavior and its modulation by regulatory peptides as well as steroid hormones and inflammatory mediators.

Jens Rehfeld

Recognized for exploration of peptide and peptide receptor co-evolution, providing insights into the evolutionary basis for ligand specificity and receptor specialization to physiological purpose.

Rick Samson

Recognized for innovative approaches to peptide receptor deorphanization and understanding of peptide receptor participation in physiological regulation.

Dick Swaab

Recognized for his pathbreaking work in experimental contextualization of the crucial importance of regulatory peptides and other hormones in influencing brain development.

Carmen Sandi

Recognized for her work in identifying the roles of regulatory peptides in the neurobiological processes that determine individual differences in behavior and personality, and of brain bioenergetics in the regulation of stress and anxiety.

Summary

We thank all of our Distinguished Members for providing inspiring example, and intellectual and practical encouragement to the members of our Society and their many other colleagues at their own institutions, and throughout the world.