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August 2005

**From the Office of the Club  
President**

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# Catecholamine Club Chronicle

Volume 1, Issue 1

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**From the Club Archives**

*(TiPS vol 10, 1989 and other sources)*

The Catecholamine Club was instituted in 1968 by Julius Axelrod and William Manger. Originally, meetings of club members were usually held at the FASEB meetings, at that time in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Richard Crout, Irv Kopin, Sol Snyder and Floyd Bloom successively followed Julie Axelrod as the first five Club presidents. The activities of the Club remain centered around an annual dinner, now held in conjunction with the ASPET and FASEB meetings. Dinners are enlivened by the Club song and diners are enlightened by a featured talk. Since 1991 these occasions have included the presentation of the Axelrod Medal, a highly prestigious award honoring distinguished investigators for their contributions to the field of catecholamine research.

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**2005 Club Dinner and Axelrod Award**

The Club's 2005 dinner was held on the 5th of April in conjunction with Experimental Biology 2005 in San Diego at Galileo 101, as organized by the Club's past President, Dona Wong. Marc G. Caron, the 2005 Axelrod Medalist, provided a wonderfully entertaining perspective on his experiences and research on G-protein coupled catecholamine receptors. Crooner Walter Dixon, accompanied by David Goldstein on guitar, led

the group in the traditional Catecholamine Club song (Catecholamine Club Idol auditions are now open for next year's event, with Paula more likely than Simon to judge). The night was recorded for posterity on video (available on request from Walter). Thanks are extended to Dona for her excellent organization of a most enjoyable event.



Dona Wong and Walter Dixon enjoying some post-Catecholamine Club Dinner festivities.

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## Transition of the Axelrod Award under the Umbrella of ASPET

The initiative proposed by Lee Eiden of an annual Axelrod Symposium held under the auspices of ASPET remains a proposal requiring formal submission to the ASPET Council and identification of a significant source of support. Next year's Axelrod Award and presentation will therefore carry on in the tradition as before, with the Catecholamine Club dinner to be held in conjunction with the ASPET/FASEB meeting in San Francisco, April 1-7, 2006. The most likely dates for the dinner will be Monday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> or Tuesday, the 4<sup>th</sup>, with a final decision scheduled for mid October.

As indicated earlier this year in the emailed responses to Pat Sonsalla's request for opinions, the initiative proposed by Lee appears fully supported by Catecholamine Club Council members, albeit with some concerns for the future of the Club. To further address these concerns, a small group of Club members (Dona Wong, David Sibley, Walter Dixon, Lee Eiden, David Goldstein, Irv Kopin, Graeme Eisenhofer) met informally on May 22. The following three sections of this newsletter provide an update about these issues as discussed at that meeting.

**1. Requirements for a formalized Axelrod Award selection process:** As suggested by Pat Sonsalla there is a need for defined guidelines and a more formalized selection process for awardees than has operated previously. There is also a need for an official nominating committee. For the Club to retain its identity it seems important that it maintain an active role in nominating and selecting awardees for the Axelrod Medal.

An interim nominating committee has been established comprising the below members:

- Dona Wong
- David Sibley
- Lee Eiden
- Walter Dixon
- David Goldstein
- Pat Sonsalla
- Chip Rutledge
- Graeme Eisenhofer
- Irv Kopin

Proposed guidelines for selection of awardees are listed as follows:

- Demonstrated major contributions towards advancement of catecholamine-related fields of research.
- Evidence of long-term and continuing commitment to catecholamine-related research.
- National and international reputation in catecholamine research.
- Demonstration as a mentor and role model for younger investigators in the field.

**2. Role of the Foundation for Catecholamine Research (FCR):** Finances of the Catecholamine Club will be accounted for separately, but under the umbrella of the FCR. It is proposed that the FCR will fund (under guidelines in place at <http://www.catecholamine.org>) an IJ Kopin award to a junior investigator selected to provide a short communication at the Axelrod symposium. FCR remains available to partly subsidize costs of the Catecholamine Club dinner as required.

**3. Catecholamine Club Dinner:** Club dinners (and song) will remain a fixture. These dinners will be held as a post-Axelrod Symposium event of ASPET/FASEB meetings, held in part to further honor the Axelrod medalist and provide additional encouragement to the IJ Kopin Awardee with a formal introduction and congratulations. At each dinner, the Axelrod Medalist will be invited to provide a short (20 to 30 minutes) talk covering historical and personal perspectives of the Medalist's career and catecholamine-related research interests. With due consideration of the typical scientist's salary, cost of dinner will be capped at \$50.00 whenever possible. This may be facilitated by a cash bar and subsidies from the FCR.



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## Other News and Events

### **NIH Symposium Celebrating Julius Axelrod:**

A symposium celebrating the life and achievements of Julius Axelrod was held at the NIH on Monday, May 23. The all-day event brought together fellow scientists, family members and friends. Speakers included several Nobel Laureates and dignitaries and numerous colleagues and former students of Julie's, many now today's leaders of neuroscience. Presentations ranged from personal anecdotes and accounts of scientific achievements to spirited political commentaries (e.g., Mike Brownstein's "Magic Kingdom"), the latter inspired by recent policy changes within the NIH intramural program. It was later remarked by one of the key organizers, Lee Eiden, that May 23<sup>rd</sup> would henceforth be known at the NIH as "Free Speech Day". A videocast of the symposium, complete with political commentaries and responses by NIH Director, Elias Zerhouni, is available on the Web (<http://videocast.nih.gov/PastEvents.asp>).

### **Gordon Research Conference on Catecholamines:**

The Gordon Research Conference on Catecholamines was held at the Proctor Academy, Andover, New Hampshire on July 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The conference, organized by Dave Sulzer (Chair) and Jill Becker (Vice-Chair), featured a strong scientific program with many leading experts in the field of catecholamine research. The Foundation for Catecholamine Research assisted with sponsorship through travel awards to five junior attendees selected from a field of 23 applicants. Dr. Carrie E. John, of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, and Dr. Habibeth Khoshbouei, of Vanderbilt University Medical Center, were chosen from among the 5 finalists to receive I.J. Kopin fellowship awards. Honorable Mention went to: Donita Robinson, Siobhan Robinson, and Zsuzsunna Pearson.

**1st International Symposium on Pheochromocytoma:** The first International Symposium on Pheochromocytoma (ISP2005)

will be held in Bethesda, Maryland, from October 20<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005. The Symposium follows from a previous workshop on malignant pheochromocytoma and neuroblastoma held at Cold Spring Harbor (November 16-18, 2003) at the behest of William Manger and James Watson. The present event is organized by members of the Pheochromocytoma Research Support Organization (PRESSOR), a consortium of scientists and clinicians formed as an outcome of the Cold Spring Harbor meeting. The deadline for receipt of abstracts for ISP2005 has passed, but the deadline for registration is September 1. Further details can be found at the Symposium website (<http://www.pressor.org/ISP2005>).

### **New Perspectives in Neurotransmitter Transporter Biology:**

This satellite conference to the 2005 meeting of the Society for Neuroscience will be held November 9<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, Virginia (Washington DC). The deadline date for discounted registration is September 19<sup>th</sup>. Further details are available at the Conference website (<http://www.neuropharmacology-conference.elsevier.com>).

### **13th International Symposium on Chromaffin Cell Biology:**

The 13<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Chromaffin Cell Biology (ISCCB) is being held at Pucón, Chile, from January 7<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The highly successful ISCCB meetings are held every 2 years, often in beautiful and interesting locations. This particular meeting promises to be no exception. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Further details about the meeting can be found at the symposium website (<http://www.cnv.cl/isccb13>).

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## Catecholamine Club Positions, Awards and Membership

**Positions vacant:** (1) Catecholamine Club Secretary-Treasurer — the candidate for this position must be a non-NIH employee (i.e., someone who can be trusted) with responsibilities for organizing and overseeing collections for memberships and fees for club dinners. (2) Catecholamine Club President for 2006-2007. Nominations for both positions should be sent to

the Club President by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Please consider that unless you nominate, it is possible you will be a nominee.

**New Award:** A new Distinguished Service Award (DSA) has been proposed to honor exceptional duty and service to the Catecholamine Club. The recipient of the DSA will have the honor of leading the refrain for the Club Song at the annual dinner.

**New Appointments:** Irv Kopin, a founding member of the Club, has kindly volunteered to serve as Membership Secretary. Dr. Karel Pacak, a catecholamine researcher and former post-doctoral student of Irv Kopin and Dave Goldstein, recently (August 2005) received tenure in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH. Jacques W.M. Lenders, a long-term clinical investigator of catecholamine systems, was recently appointed to full Professorship and Deputy Chair positions in the Department of Internal Medicine at St. Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Congratulations go to both Drs. Pacak and Lenders on their new appointments.

**Membership:** Membership fees are now being maintained separately from cost of the Club dinner, voluntary and currently set at \$10.00. The membership listing requires updating.



Jacques WM Lenders

You could be receiving this newsletter because you are on a listing of members passed on to the current President (see listing at the end of newsletter). To assist in updating and reinvigorating membership, please consider sending copies of this newsletter to others you know who might wish to be listed.

Please contact our new Membership Secretary Irv Kopin ([kopini@ninds.nih.gov](mailto:kopini@ninds.nih.gov)) with full contact details if you wish to be listed.

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## Membership Listing

Amara, Susan G., PhD  
Aruoma, Okezie I, PhD  
Axelrod, Felicia B., MD  
Bamford, Nigel S., MD  
Bargas, Jose  
Becker, Jill B., PhD  
Berridge, Kent C., PhD  
Blakely, Randy D., PhD  
Caine, S. Barak, PhD  
Carelli, Regina M., PhD  
Caron, Marc G., PhD.

Chikaraishi, Dona, PhD  
Cragg, Stephanie J.  
Creveling, Cyrus R., PhD  
Crout, Richard, MD  
Cunningham, Kathryn A, PhD  
Dauer, William T., MD  
DeFelice, Louis J  
Deupree, Jean D., PhD  
Dixon, Walter R., PhD  
Dubocovich, Margarita L., PhD  
Duckles, Sue P., PhD

Ebert, Steven N. PhD  
Edwards, Robert  
Eiden, Lee E., PhD  
Eisenhofer, Graeme F., PhD  
Ernsberger, Paul, PhD  
Esbenshade, Timothy  
Esler, Murray  
Etgen, Anne M., PhD  
Evinger, Marian J., PhD  
Fleckenstein, Annette E., PhD  
Fox, Aaron

Galli, Aurelio, PhD  
Gillis, Kevin  
Goldstein, David S., MD, PhD  
Grace, Anthony A., PhD  
Graybiel, Ann M., PhD  
Greengard, Paul  
Haber, Suzanne N, PhD  
Haining, Robert  
Hall, Randy, PhD  
Haycock, John W., PhD  
Hen, Rene, PhD  
Hoffer, Barry J., MD, PhD  
Holz, Ronald, MD, PhD  
Javitch, Jonathan, MD, PhD  
Kennedy, Brian P.  
Kim, Ok Jean, MD, PhD  
Kim, Kwang-Soo, PhD  
Kopin, Irwin J., MD  
Krause, Diana N., PhD  
Landsberg, Lewis, MD  
Lee, Jean, PhD  
Lenders, Jacques W.M., MD, PhD  
Lewis, Elaine J., PhD  
Lindau, Manfred  
Lindquist, Susan, PhD  
Mahapatra, Nitish R. PhD  
Mahata, Manjula, PhD  
Mahata, Sushil K., PhD  
Manger, William M., MD, PhD  
Manji, Hussein K., MD, FRCPC  
Montague, Read, PhD  
Moore, Robert Y., MD, PhD  
Morilak, David, PhD  
Nagatsu, Toshiharu, MD, PhD  
O'Connor, Daniel T., MD.  
O'Donnell, Patricio, MD, PhD  
Pacak, Karel, MD, PhD, DSc  
Palkovits, Miklos, MD, PhD, DSC  
Palmiter, Richard D., Ph.D.  
Parmer, Robert J, MD  
Paronis, Carol A  
Paul, Steven M., MD  
Pollard, Harvey B., PhD, MD  
Prinster, Steven, PhD  
Przedborski, Serge, MD, PhD  
Redgrave, Peter  
Robertson, David, MD  
Robinson, Terry E, PhD  
Roth, Bryan L, MD, PhD  
Rothenberg, Florence, MD  
Rutledge, Charles O.  
Sabban, Esther Louise, PhD  
Seamans, Jeremy K., PhD  
Serova, Lidia, PhD  
Sesack, Susan R., PhD  
Sibley, David R., PhD  
Snyder, Solomon H., MD.  
Sonsalla, Patricia K., PhD  
Spedding, Michael, PhD  
Sulzer, David, PhD  
Surmeier, D. James, PhD  
Tai, Tze-Chun, PhD  
Tank, A. William, PhD  
Taupenot, Lauren T.  
Thomas, Steven A, MD. PhD  
Torres, Gonzalo E  
Uhl, George R., MD, PhD  
Viveros, O Humberto, M.D., Ph.D.  
Volkow, Nora D., MD  
von Zastrow, Mark, MD, PhD  
Vulliet, Richard, PhD, DVM  
Wakade, Arun R.  
Waymire, Jack  
Weiner, Norman, MD  
Weinshilboum, Richard M., MD  
Westhead, Edward W.  
Wightman, R. Mark, PhD  
Williams, John, PhD  
Wong, Dona Lee, PhD.  
Zahniser, Nancy R., PhD  
Ziegler, Michael G.  
Zigmond, Michael J., PhD  
Zigmond, Richard E, PhD

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