

June 2006

From the Office of the
Club President
David Sibley PhD
Chief, Molecular Neuropharmacology
Section, NINDS
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892-9405
Tel: 301-496-9316
Fax: 301-480-3726
Email: sibley@helix.nih.gov

Catecholamine Club Chronicle

Volume 2, Issue 1

Editor: Graeme Eisenhofer PhD
Email: graeme@catecholamine.org

From the Club Archives

(TiPS vol 10, 1989 and other sources)

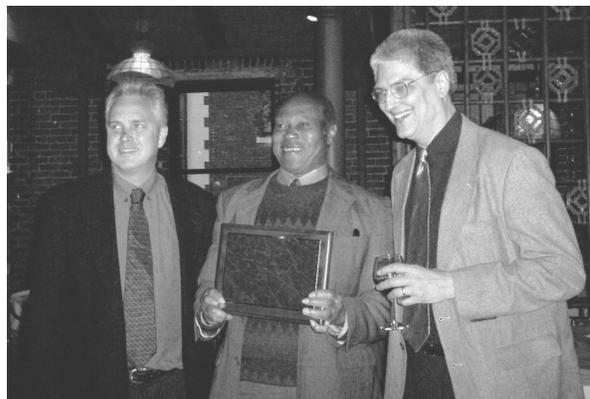
The founding members of the Catecholamine Club in 1968 included J. Axelrod, E. Braunwald, R. Crout, U.S. von Euler, W.M. Manger, G. Nahas, S. Udenfriend, K. Wakim, and H. Weil-Melherbe. Annual meetings of Club members, originally held in conjunction with FASEB meetings, remain centered around an annual dinner and featured talk, now also enlivened by the Club song. Since 1991 dinners have included presentation of the Axelrod Medal, a prestigious award honoring distinguished investigators for their contributions to the field of catecholamine research and more.

Axelrod Medalists (1991-2006)

1991	UllrichTrendelenberg
1992	Arvid Carlson
1993	Norman Weiner
1994	Robert Furchgott
1995	Irv Kopin
1998	Sidney Spector
1999	Sol Snyder
2000	Erminio Costa
2001	Toshi Nagatsu
2002	Sal Langer
2003	Richard Weinshilboum
2004	Richard Palmiter
2005	Marc Caron
2006	Susan Amara

2006 Club Dinner and Axelrod Award

The Club's 2006 dinner was held on the 4th of April in conjunction with Experimental Biology 2006 in San Francisco at the Mandarin at Ghiradelli Square. The evening was kicked off with a reception and a welcome introduction from the outgoing President, Graeme Eisenhofer, who limped in with scrapes, bruises, and broken ribs after a skiing accident in Colorado several days earlier. Introductions included presentation of the 2006 Catecholamine Club Distinguished Service Award to Walter Dixon, a long-term vital member of the club (President 1988-1989) who's services over many years as club secretary-treasurer, crooner, and much more are widely appreciated.



Walter Dixon (center), recipient of the 2006 Catecholamine Club Distinguished Service Award with outgoing Club President, Graeme Eisenhofer (left) and 2003-2004 Club President, Lee Eiden (right). Note: the fly on the outgoing presidents nose - actually the result of a skiing accident.

In addition to a seven course dinner, the evening featured presentation of the 2006 Axelrod Medal

to Susan Amara. Susan rallied over a behind-the-scenes hubbub to provide an intimate and uniquely interesting perspective about the background to her research from early in her career onwards (note to future club presidents: always consider availability of a microphone).

The dinner also included introduction of David Sibley as the incoming President. David brings to the club new energy, drive, and ideas. David also has close ties with ASPET, which will help facilitate transition of the Axelrod Award under the umbrella of that Society.

Message from the Club President – [David Sibley](#)

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as President of the Catecholamine Club for the 2006-2007 program year. Of course, succeeding Graeme Eisenhofer means that I have a hard act to follow, but I will certainly try to do my best. I would, indeed, like to thank Graeme for all of the hard work that he has performed for the Club over this past year and for his willingness to continue as Editor for the Club's newsletter.



There are three Club-related objectives that I have for the coming year. The first is to develop a web site for the Catecholamine Club. At the moment, it is difficult for outsiders to find out about the Catecholamine Club – who we are and what we do (try googling “catecholamine club”). My vision is to have a web site that will serve as the main source of information about the Club. It will have lists of current and past officers, a membership directory, news of upcoming events/meetings, links to other web sites (including members' home pages), archived materials, and possibly a mechanism for paying dues on-line. We are hoping to have this up and running sometime during the coming Fall.

Secondly, I am hoping to build on recent efforts by Club officers and increase the membership of the Club. I would particularly like to see more of our younger scientists getting involved in Club activities. As discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, there are a number of benefits to being a paid member in the Club including the ability of (your) trainees to apply for travel fellowships. Please send in your registration form and dues today and please encourage your students and fellows to join as well.

Finally, as is the duty of every Club President, I will be spearheading the organization of the next Catecholamine Club dinner. The exact date and venue for this event has not yet been determined, however, it will take place during the Experimental Biology meeting which will be held in Washington, DC April 28th – May 2nd, 2007. In addition to the usual fun and good cheer, we will have an informal talk provided by the inaugural awardee of the ASPET Julius Axelrod Award. Please look for upcoming announcements about this event in the coming months.

Transition of the Axelrod Award under the Umbrella of ASPET

The initiative originally proposed by Lee Eiden of an annual Axelrod Award and Symposium held under the auspices of ASPET has slowly taken form. ASPET has agreed to sponsor the award, which will now incorporate the Catecholamine Club Axelrod medal. You can find out more about this award at the ASPET web site.

http://www.aspet.org/public/awards/axelrod_award.html

Currently, the award will include an honorarium, the Axelrod Medal, and travel for the recipient and spouse to attend the EB meeting. The recipient will also be invited to deliver the "Axelrod Lecture" at the annual meeting. Additionally, the recipient will be invited to attend and present our less formal talk at the annual Catecholamine Club dinner which will be held during the meeting. For the first few years, selection of the Axelrod Award recipient will be made by a committee chaired by the President of the Catecholamine Club and composed of three

Club members and three members of the ASPET awards committee. Nominations for the award can be made by paid members of the Catecholamine Club or ASPET. Instructions for the nominating process are described in detail at the ASPET website (see above). For this year the deadline for nominations is October 15th.

It is hoped that the endowment for this award will become large enough to support, not only the Axelrod Lecture, but also an Axelrod Symposium which will be organized by the Award recipient, much the way the ASPET Ray Fuller Lecture/Symposium is run now. Nevertheless, for the 2008 Award, ASPET has agreed to fund an Axelrod Symposium in association with the Award if the Catecholamine Club will provide the organization. This has been agreed and Lee Eiden will be responsible for outlaying the preliminary plans. Since 2008 will be ASPET's centennial year, something historical is envisioned.

2007 Club Dinner

The Catecholamine Club's 2007 dinner will be held in conjunction with Experimental Biology 2007 in Washington DC. EB2007 will take place at the Washington Convention Center from Saturday, April 28 to Wednesday, May 2. The precise date and venue for the dinner will be decided later this year.

News and Events

Special Issue of Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology: Juan Saavedra and Lee Eiden are the Special Editors for an issue of *Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology* (Springer; Juan Saavedra, Editor-in-Chief) commemorating the life and scientific achievements of Julius Axelrod. The issue subtitled "Celebrating Julie" features a foreword from NIMH Director Tom Insel, who hosted the May 23rd 2005 NIH Symposium of the same name commemorating Julie's achievements in Catecholamine Research. Contributors to the Special Issue include Catecholamine Club ex-Presidents Dona Wong,

Dave Goldstein, and Graeme Eisenhofer, Axelrod alumnae Vivian Hook, Fulton Crews, Chris Felder, Joe Coyle, Dick Wurtman, and Ron Holz, and Axelrod Medalists Sol Snyder, Jacques Glowinski, Dick Weinshilboum, Toshi Nagatsu and Irv Kopin, among many others. This issue should be out shortly. In the meantime, most of the contributions have been [posted online](#) under 'Online First'.

Ninth Symposium on Catecholamines and other Neurotransmitters in Stress: The 9th Symposium of this well-organized series of meetings will be held at the historic Smolenice Castle, Slovakia, June 16 - 21, 2007. The meeting is being organized through the Institute of Experimental Biology in Bratislava, Slovakia, by Richard Kvetnansky and others, including Irv Kopin, Karel Pacak, Gretti Aguilera, David Goldstein, Daniela Jezova, and Esther Sabban. Held in a rustic East European country-setting, this meeting promises to be, as before, an enjoyable and intellectually-stimulating event for anyone with interests in stress, catecholamines, and old castles. Further information is available at the meeting website: <http://www.stress.sav.sk>



Smolenice Castle, Slovakia

Gordon Research Conference on Catecholamines: The next Gordon Research Conference on Catecholamines will be held August 5-10, 2007 at Oxford in the United Kingdom (Magdalen College). For information contact Jill B. Becker (Email: jbbecker@umich.edu).

World Conference of Stress: The 2007 World Conference of Stress will be held in Budapest, Hungary, August 23-26, 2007. This meeting, to be

held in conjunction with the 3rd Cell Stress Society International Congress on Stress Responses in Biology and Medicine, will celebrate the centennial birth anniversary of Hans Selye. Further information is available at the meeting website: <http://www.stress07.com/>

Catecholamine Club Positions and Membership

Executive Committee: The membership of the Catecholamine Club Executive Committee for 2006/2007 program year was finalized on June 5th 2006 as detailed below.

- Dave Sibley, President
- Esther Sabban, Secretary/Treasurer
- Irv Kopin, Membership Secretary
- Graeme Eisenhofer, CCC Editor
- Susan Amara
- Walter Dixon
- Margarita Dubocovich
- Lee Eiden
- David Goldstein
- Gonzalo Torres
- Dona Wong

Membership: Dues received from members for the 2005/2006 calendar year have been greatly appreciated, enabling us to move forward with the plans of our President for a website and other related developments.

Membership fees run from the date of the each club dinner to the next (Usually April to April). This year sees an increase in membership fees from \$10 to \$20 per annum, which may also be paid at the reduced rate of \$50.00 for three years

(see attached membership form). Currently, dues can only be paid by check, payable to the "Foundation for Catecholamine Research/CFNCR", and mailed to Dr. Esther Sabban (address below). Moves are in motion to provide a more versatile system allowing payment by credit card, which will be particularly helpful for those overseas.

Esther L. Sabban, PhD
Catecholamine Club Secretary-Treasurer
Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Basic Sciences Building
New York Medical College
Valhalla, New York 10595

Tel: 914-594-4068,
Fax: 914: 594-4058
Email: Sabban@nymc.edu

Benefits of Membership: What are the benefits of membership in the catecholamine club — what is the incentive to paying the yearly membership fee?

1. Eligibility for Catecholamine Club Dinner subsidy
2. Eligibility for Foundation for Catecholamine Research I.J. Kopin young investigator travel fellowship (Note: both the trainee applicant and mentor supporting the application must belong to the Club).
3. Ability to nominate for ASPET Axelrod Award.
4. Continued receipt of Club Newsletters and ability to contribute to the News and Events forum.
5. Certain web site privileges - posting lab links, job advertisements, etc (web site will be forthcoming).



FOUNDATION for
CATECHOLAMINE
RESEARCH

Catecholamine Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Contact Information

Name:

(First Name)

(MI)

(Last Name)

Institute/Company:

Department/laboratory:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Country:

Phone No:

Fax No:

Email:

Payment details (please check one)

I include payment of my membership dues of \$20.00 for one year (May 06 - May 07)

I include payment of my membership dues of \$50.00 for three years (May 06 – May 09)

Please mail form, with check payable to the "Foundation for Catecholamine Research/CFCNR", to the Club Secretary Treasurer, Dr Esther L. Sabban, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, New York Medical College, Valhalla, New York 10595.

Benefits of membership

- Subsidy for annual club dinner
- Eligibility for Foundation for Catecholamine Research I.J. Kopin young investigator travel fellowships (Note: both trainee-applicant and sponsoring mentor must be Club members).
- Ability to nominate ASPET Axelrod Awardee (if not already a member of ASPET).
- Receipt of Club newsletters
- Club web site privileges - posting lab links, job ads, etc.