



November 2005

**From the Office of the Club  
President**

Graeme Eisenhofer PhD  
Building 10, Room 6N252  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD 20892-1620  
Tel: 301-496-8925  
Fax: 301-402-0180  
Email: [ge@box-g.nih.gov](mailto:ge@box-g.nih.gov)

## Catecholamine Club

# Chronicle

Volume 1, Issue 2

### **Susan G. Amara PhD to receive the Axelrod Medal for 2006**

Dr. Susan Amara received her BS in Biological Sciences from Stanford University in 1976 and her PhD in Physiology and Pharmacology from the University of California, San Diego in 1983. Her doctoral work with Michael G. Rosenfeld established alternative RNA processing as a mechanism for regulating gene expression in the nervous system and identified a novel neuropeptide, CGRP, encoded within the gene for the peptide hormone, calcitonin. In 1985, she joined the Section of Molecular Neurobiology at the Yale University School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor and in 1986 was appointed as an Assistant Investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. At Yale she and her colleagues worked to isolate the genes encoding the norepinephrine transporter, a primary site of action for therapeutic antidepressants and psychostimulants, and the dopamine transporter, the molecular target associated with the addictive and euphoric properties of cocaine and amphetamines. Dr. Amara moved to the Vollum Institute at Oregon Health Sciences University as an Associate Professor in 1991 and was appointed Professor and Senior Scientist in 1996. She became an Associate Investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in 1994 and was promoted to Investigator in 1999.



In the fall of 2003 Dr. Amara left the Vollum and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to become the Thomas Detre Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurobiology and Co-director of the Center for Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh. Work in her laboratory has examined the impact of psychostimulant and antidepressant drugs on the signaling properties, physiology and acute regulation of biogenic amine transporters. Her group has also addressed the structure, function and physiology of glutamate transporters. This work has demonstrated that such proteins can serve dual functions as transporters and as substrate-gated ion channels, revealing additional mechanisms by which carriers regulate neuronal excitability. Dr. Amara is a recipient of the George Herbert Hitchings Award for innovative methods in drug discovery from the Burroughs

Wellcome Fund, the Young Investigator Award from the Society for Neuroscience, the John Jacob Abel Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, a McKnight Neuroscience Investigator Award and a MERIT Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. She is a member of the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives and of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. She has served as a member of the National Advisory Council for the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and as a Councilor and a Treasurer of the Society for Neuroscience. She was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2004. She currently serves on editorial boards of several journals including *Annual Reviews of Pharmacology and Toxicology*, *Trends in Pharmacological Sciences*, and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. She also is a member of the Board of Scientific Counselors for the intramural program at the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

---

## 2006 Club Dinner and Axelrod Award

The Catecholamine Club's 2006 dinner will be held in conjunction with Experimental Biology 2006 in San Francisco. EB2006 will take place at the Moscone Convention Center from April 1-5 (<http://www.faseb.org/meetings/eb2006>).

The date for the dinner is set for the evening of April 4th (Tuesday at 7:00 PM). The venue is the Mandarin at Ghirardelli Square (<http://www.themandarin.com>). The historic Ghirardelli Square and nearby famous Fisherman's Wharf area are easily accessible by short cab drive or cable car from Union Square, close to the Moscone Center and surrounding hotels (see map on page 7 for details).

In keeping with tradition, the evening will feature a dinner talk from the recipient of the 2006 award, Dr. Susan Amara, and presentation of the Axelrod medal. There will also be the usual live music and entertainment to follow.

Cost of the dinner — subsidized by the Foundation for Catecholamine Research — has been capped at \$50.00 per person for the first 40 registrants. The cost is otherwise \$75.00. Register early to receive the discounted rate. Don't miss out on this important occasion and musical extravaganza. A flyer and registration form for the dinner are appended (pages 5 & 6).

---

## News and Events

**First International Symposium on Pheochromocytoma:** The first International Symposium on Pheochromocytoma (ISP2005) took place in Bethesda, Maryland, on October 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005. Over 180 people attended the two and a half day event, more than twice the number originally projected. The opening address was provided by Dr. William M. Manger, who along with the late Dr. Julius Axelrod, were two of the original founders of the Catecholamine Club.



Dr. William Manger providing the ISP2005 opening address.

ISP2005 featured presentations from participants travelling to the meeting from as far away as South Africa, the Philippines, China and Japan. Attendees included basic scientists and clinicians from a diverse array of disciplines, with additional vital input from close to 30 patients. Apart from the usual oral communications and chaired poster tours, the symposium included four breakout sessions designed to foster resolution of issues and problems in the form of generally agreed upon recommendations from leaders in fields of genetics, biochemical diagnosis, imaging, management and treatment of the tumor. Those recommendations, presented papers and overviews of the field will be available in the Proceedings of the meeting to be published in 2006 (<http://www.nyas.org/IPS2005>).



Past and present catecholamine analytical chemists and clinical experts in the field of pheochromocytoma at ISP2005. From top left: Morris Brown, Harry Keiser, Jacques Lenders, Gyorgy Csako, William Manger, Robert Peaston, Jacques Willemsen, Richard Crout, Graeme Eisenhofer, Ravinder Singh, Patricia Sullivan.

**13th International Symposium on Chromaffin Cell Biology** — Pucón, Chile, January 7-12 2006. The International Symposium on Chromaffin Cell Biology (ISCCB) gathers a group of about 150 scientists worldwide for the meeting every 2 years. The symposium covers recent progress in molecular biology of chromaffin cells and research on the biogenesis and trafficking of secretory vesicles, synthesis, storage and release of secreted products (catecholamines, chromogranins, ATP), and mechanisms of excitation-secretion coupling, membrane ion channels, intracellular calcium homeostasis and exocytosis. Development of new technologies for accurate

measurements of catecholamines, vesicle trafficking, exocytosis, and other chromaffin cell processes represent other topics. For further information please visit the ISCCB web site (<http://www.cnv.cl/isccb13/>).

**New Perspectives in Neurotransmitter Transporter Biology:** This satellite conference to the 2005 meeting of the Society for Neuroscience will be held November 9th to the 11th at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, Virginia (Washington DC). Further details at the conference website (<http://www.neuropharmacology-conference.elsevier.com/>).

**Society of Neuroscience:** An informal get-together of club members is being arranged for the evening of November 14th (Monday) in conjunction with the Society of Neuroscience meeting. Contact Walter Dixon for information (email: [Croonerwd@aol.com](mailto:Croonerwd@aol.com)).

---

## Catecholamine Club Positions and Membership

**New Appointments:** Dr. Esther L. Sabban of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the New York Medical Center was unanimously confirmed by Catecholamine Club Councilors to the position of Club Secretary-Treasurer. Now that this crucial position is filled, the Club is in a position to receive dues from members for 2006. Annual membership dues (\$10.00) in the form of check payable to the "Foundation for Catecholamine Research/CFNCR", should be mailed to Dr. Esther Sabban at the address below (see also attached membership form).

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](mailto:Sabban@nymc.edu)

**Membership:** The current club membership listing is detailed below. If this requires correction or you are not listed (but should be), please contact the Membership Secretary, Dr. Irwin J Kopin, to have the listing updated.

To assist in reinvigorating membership please consider sending copies of this newsletter to others you know who might wish to be listed.

Irwin J. Kopin, MD  
Catecholamine Club Membership Secretary  
Building 10, Room 6N252  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD 20892-1620

Tel: 301-496-4297  
Fax: 301-402-0180  
Email: [kopini@ninds.nih.gov](mailto:kopini@ninds.nih.gov)

---

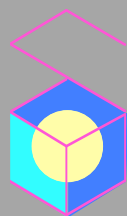
## Catecholamine Club Membership Listing — November 2005

Altar Anthony C., PhD  
Amara, Susan G., PhD  
Aruoma, Okezie I., PhD  
Axelrod, Felicia B., MD  
Bamford, Nigel S., MD  
Bargas, Jose  
Jill B. Becker  
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, J. Richard, M.D.  
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 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, PhD  
Kim, Kwang-Soo, PhD  
Kopin, Irwin J., MD  
Krause, Diana N., PhD  
Landsberg, Lewis, MD  
Lee, Jean, PhD  
Lenders, Jacques WM MD, PhD  
Lewis, Elaine J., PhD  
Lindau, Manfred  
Lindquist, Susan, PhD  
Mahapatra, Nitish R. PhD  
Mahata, Manjula, PhD  
Mahata, Sushil K., PhD  
Richard B. Mailman, Ph.D.  
Manger, William M., MD, PhD  
Manji, Hussein K., MD, FRCP  
Montague, Read, PhD  
Moore, Robert Y., MD, PhD  
Morilak, David, PhD  
Nagatsu, Toshiharu, MD, PhD  
Nihal, Tumer, Ph.D.  
O'Connor, Daniel T., MD.  
O'Donnell, Patricio, MD, PhD  
Karel Pacak, MD, PhD  
Palkovits, Miklos, MD, PhD, DSC  
Palmiter, Richard D., Ph.D.  
Parmer, Robert J, M  
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. PhD  
Thomas, Steven A, MD. PhD  
Torres, Gonzalo E  
Uhl, George R., MD, PhD  
Ellen M. Unterwald, Ph.D.  
Viveros, O Humberto, M.D., Ph.D.  
Volkow, Nora D., MD  
von Zastrow, Mark, MD, PhD  
Vulliamt, 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





FOUNDATION for  
CATECHOLAMINE  
RESEARCH

# Catecholamine Club Dinner 2006

**When:** **April 4<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday evening - 7:00 pm**

Held in conjunction with Experimental Biology 2006  
([www.faseb.org/meetings/eb2006](http://www.faseb.org/meetings/eb2006)).

**Where:** **The Mandarin at Ghirardelli Square**

900 North Point St., San Francisco.

**Featuring:** **Presentation of the Julius Axelrod Medal  
for 2006 to Susan G. Amara PhD**

The medalist will provide a dinner talk. This will be  
followed by live music and entertainment.

**Cost:** **\$50.00 per person**

Note: Cost of the dinner — subsidized by the Foundation  
for Catecholamine Research — is capped at \$50.00 per  
person for the first 40 members and guests who register.  
Cost of the dinner is otherwise \$75.00.

**To register:** **Registration deadline is March 20<sup>th</sup> 2006**

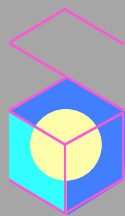
Early registration will guarantee the reduced cost. Make  
check payable to the "Foundation for Catecholamine  
Research/CFNCR" and mail to Dr. Esther L. Sabban,  
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, New  
York Medical College, Valhalla, New York 10595. If you  
reside overseas or are otherwise unable to send a check,  
please contact Dr. Sabban to arrange alternative payment  
- email: [sabban@nymc.edu](mailto:sabban@nymc.edu).



THE MANDARIN  
NORTHERN CHINESE CUISINE

Open Daily  
11:30 am to 10:00 pm  
Validated Parking Available  
Ghirardelli Square Garage

Ghirardelli Square – Woolen Mill Building  
900 North Point Street San Francisco, CA (cross street Larkin St)  
(415) 673-8812  
[themandarin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:themandarin@sbcglobal.net)



FOUNDATION for  
CATECHOLAMINE  
RESEARCH

# Catecholamine Club

## 2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DINNER REGISTRATION 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\*

- I include payment of my 2006 membership dues (\$10.00):

YES

NO

- I plan to attend the 2006 Catecholamine Club dinner:

YES

NO

- I also plan to bring a guest or guests to the dinner:

YES

NO

If yes, please provide name(s)

- I include a check for \$US

**Deadline for registration is March 20, 2006**

**Note:** Cost of dinner is \$50.00 per person for the first 40 members or guests who register. For all others the cost is \$75.00 (for information email [Sabban@nymc.edu](mailto:Sabban@nymc.edu)). Early registration will guarantee the reduced cost.

\*

New members should fill out all fields of this form and mail 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 (email: [Sabban@nymc.edu](mailto:Sabban@nymc.edu)). Complete contact details should also be forwarded by email to the membership secretary, Dr. Irwin J. Kopin (email: [kopini@ninds.nih.gov](mailto:kopini@ninds.nih.gov)). Registered members: please include with your check a copy of this form with the minimum information (e.g., name and email) required for follow-up contact.