



International Society for
Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism

Complex Heterogeneous

THE ORGAN

No. 20 – January 2003

www.cbfm.org

This Issue:

Call for Nominations

**Brain'03 & BrainPET'03
Program at a Glance**

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The **Complex Heterogeneous Organ** is the Newsletter of the International Society for Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism. The Newsletter takes its name from the opening line of a paper by the first president of the Society (see *J. Neurochem.* **28**:897-916, 1977). The title emphasizes the intricacy of our research area and the diversity in background of the members of our Society. The short title of the Newsletter, (The Organ), is defined by the Oxford dictionary as a medium of communication.

Officers and Directors (2001-2003)

President:	Michael A. Moskowitz	Directors:	
Past president:	Olaf B. Paulson	Frank Welsh	Dennis W. Choi*
President elect:	Iwao Kanno	Pak Chan	Stephen J. Warach*
Secretary:	Gitte Moos Knudsen	Adriaan Lammertsma	Toshiki Yoshimine*
Treasurer:	Wolfgang Kuschinsky	Wulf Paschen	Peter T. Fox*
Chair, Program Committee:		Martin Lauritzen	Pierre Magistretti*
	Joel H. Greenberg	I. Mhairi Macrae	Hiroyuki Kato*
Editor:	James McCulloch		

*Denotes Directors who will complete their present term on the Board in June 2003.

Election of Directors and Officers

Nomination of Directors:

Submit the name of the candidate (by mail or fax) to the assistant to the Secretary (Dorthe Givard) with the names of 6 members who support the nomination. Each member may nominate up to 6 candidates. The candidate must submit a signed statement that he/she accepts the nomination and is invited to provide a brief biography which will be published along with the ballots. In order to maintain a balanced geographical distribution of Directors, this time nominations of individuals from the Far East are encouraged. The deadline for receipt by the Secretary is March 9, 2003.

The biography for candidates should be short (5-8 lines) and should include age, position, affiliation, major research area, and possibly other relevant information.

Submit nominations to:

Dorthe Givard
Neurobiology Research Unit 9201
Rigshospitalet
9 Blegdamsvej
DK-2100 Copenhagen
Denmark
Email: dorthe@nru.dk
Fax +45 3545 6713

Suggestions for President:

Members should submit suggestions for the office of President-Elect (i.e. for 2005-2007) to any member of the Nominations Committee (see below) by fax, mail or telephone. From the list of suggestions, two candidates will be selected for the final ballot by the Nominations Committee.

Submit nominations to any member of the Nominations Committee:

Dr. Iwao Kanno
Div. of Rad. & Nuc. Medicine
Vice Director: Res. Section
Res. Inst. of Brain & Blood Vessels
6-10 Senshukubota Machi
Akita City, Akita 010, JAPAN
Tel: 81-18-833-0115
Fax: 81-18-833-2104
E-mail: kanno@akita-noken.go.jp

Dr. Olaf B. Paulson
Neurobiology Research Unit 9201
Rigshospitalet
9 Blegdamsvej
DK-2100 Copenhagen
Denmark
Tel: 45-3545-6710
Fax: 45-3545-6713
E-mail: paulson@nru.dk

Dr. Michael A. Moskowitz
Massachusetts Gen. Hospital
Neuroscience Center
149 13th St., Room 6403
Charlestown, MA 02129 U.S.A.
Tel: 1-617-726-8442
Fax: 1-617-726-2547
E-mail: moskowitz@helix.mgh.harvard.edu

Timetable for the elections

Stage of the Process	How	When
Call for nominations (Directors)	E-mail/letter The Organ	January 15, 2003
Call for suggestions (Officers)	Email/letter The Organ	January 15, 2003
Close of nominations (Directors)		March 9, 2003
Close of nominations (Officers)		March 9, 2003
Ballot papers distributed	Via the Organ	April 2003
Voting closes		May 16, 2003
Results declared	at General Assembly	July 2, 2003

Brain'03 and BrainPET'03

Program at a Glance

	Sunday June 29	Monday juni 30, 2003	Tuesday - July 1, 2003 Brain '03 BrainPET		Wednesday - July 2, 2003 Brain '03 BrainPET		Thursday - July 3, 2003 Brain '03 BrainPET		
08:00		Poster Setup	Posters Coffee & Danish		Posters Coffee & Danish		Posters Coffee & Danish	Posters Coffee & Danish	
09:00		Opening Ceremony Lassen Award	Oral A	Oral B	Presidential Symposium		Oral E	Oral F	Oral BP-D
10:30		Plenary session Coffee	Posters Coffee		Posters Coffee	Posters Coffee	Posters Coffee	Posters Coffee	
12:00		Plenary Talks (con't)	Box lunch Editorial Board Meeting		Lunch ISCBFM General Assembly		Lunch Board of Directors Meeting (12:00)		
12:30		Lunch	Intracranial Hemorrhage Symposium		Oral C	Oral D	Oral G	Oral H	Oral BP-E
01:30		Posters with coffee	FREE AFTERNOON		Break		Break		
03:00	Board of Directors Meeting				Symposium C	Symposium D	Symposium E	Symposium F	Oral BP-F
03:15	Registration	Symposium A							Oral BP-C
03:30		Symposium B							Oral BP-F
04:30		Free poster viewing			Free poster viewing	Free poster viewing			Closing Session
05:00		Wine and cheese			Wine and cheese	Wine and cheese			
05:30									
06:30	Western Welcome	Garden party			Gala Banquet		Stampede party		
evening			Wine, Cheese Hor D'Ourves						

For further information, please visit

www.brain03.org

Bursaries for young scientists will be offered by the International Society for Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism to researchers under 36 years of age who are members of the International Society and have an abstract accepted for a platform or poster presentation. Applicants for the bursaries are invited to include a curriculum vitae and a letter of request with their abstract submission. Visit the Society's website (<http://www.cbfm.org>) for a membership application form or contact Dr. Costantino Iadecola by e-mail (memberISCBFM@nru.dk). Deadline for application: February 1, 2003.

The Niels Lassen Award is presented by the International Society for Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism to recognize an outstanding scientific contribution made by a young scientist. The recipient is selected by the program committee based on an abstract submitted for presentation at the biennial meeting of the Society. The Lassen Award will consist of a bursary to partially defray the expense of attending the Brain/BrainPET meeting, an award ceremony prior to the abstract presentation, a certificate of recognition, and a \$1500 cash prize.

Minutes of the Goals & Planning Committee Meeting

July 23, 2002, Marburg, Germany

Participants

Koji Abe (invited), Joel Greenberg (Chairman Programme Committee), Iwao Kanno, Gitte Moos Knudsen, Wolfgang Kuschinsky, Adriaan A. Lammertsma, James McCulloch (Editor), Michael A. Moskowitz, Toshiki Yoshimine

Brain 03 - status

Joel Greenberg (JG) gave a brief status of the progress of Brain 03 preparations and a written report was distributed along with a list of Brain03 Symposia Topics and a meeting programme.

For the selection of chairmen, particular attention would be paid to invite qualified young investigators and Japanese colleagues. The Young Investigators Committee may assist in identifying suitable persons for the first category.

For the draft programme of Brain03 (excluding BrainPET03), it was noted that time should be allocated for two Board of Directors meetings and for the General Assembly. JG will keep in contact with the Secretary to ensure that sufficient time and space is allocated for these meetings.

Two issues would require an email ballot from the Board of Directors. The first one deals with the amount allocated for bursaries for Young Investigators. The second deals with substituting printed abstracts with electronic abstracts only.

Action to be taken: JG will formulate motions to be presented for the Board of Directors and the Secretary will forward these and collect the ballots.

Publication Committee - status

James McCulloch (JMC) reported on the work of the Publication Committee. The major task of the committee was to ensure a continued contract with a publisher of the JCBF&M, since the current contract with LWW lapses December 31, 2005. The process of negotiation with the current publisher, LWW, had not been initiated yet. The Society's consultant on this matter, Graham Lees, has made a thorough analysis of the current relationship, and this analysis will be the basis for the future negotiations. A new addendum covering (or fixing) the relevant variables is recommended. The Publication Committee may wish to renegotiate

within the agreement but is not prepared to extend the term of the parent agreement (as LWW may be hoping for) because the addendum should be changed in order to better reflect current and proposed changes. Further, the current Editor's term ends by 2003, meaning that effectively a new Editor should be in place and prepared to receive manuscripts from July 2003. A list of possible candidates for Editors had been made and from a short list of 5 people, a suitable candidate with long-term relationship with the Society had been identified. The candidate has been approached and seems willing to take over the post, provided that consent is given by the Board of Directors.

Action to be taken: The Program Committee (Tony Strong) will formulate a motion for the new Editor to be presented for the Board of Directors and the Secretary will forward these and collect the ballots.

Professional assistance in secretarial business and at the biannual meetings

Gitte Moos Knudsen (GMK) summarized the decisions made at Brain01, namely that Michael Moskowitz, Tony Strong and GMK had been appointed the task to explore the possibility for the Society to have a permanent secretariat. The Secretary had had a meeting with the director of Kenes International and subsequently, a revised proposal from Kenes Int. was received, a copy of which had been distributed to the participants prior to the G&P meeting. Kenes Int. does not only serve as assistant at the biannual meetings, but would also be willing to take over tasks such as maintenance of membership lists and website, handling of membership fees, etc. The Secretary had also made contact with a competing company, Congrex, but had not received any material prior to the meeting. It was clear that references from scientists working with Kenes would be beneficial. Michael Moskowitz had made a few contacts re. Kenes, and the impression was positive, although the full aspect of their proposal, in particular re. the permanent secretariat functions were less well elucidated. Concerns were expressed that the future company should also be familiar with organizing meetings in Japan, China, or Africa. It was generally felt that the engagement of a professional company to assist with the biannual meetings, as well as with the permanent secretariat functions, is mandatory, but that the economical consequences to the Society were hard to overlook. It was decided to ask the Treasurer - together with whoever he may want to assist with this matter - to have a closer preview of the Society's budget and to analyse the economical consequences of engaging such a company. This analysis should ideally also involve the economical consequences for the registration fees for the Brain meetings and would require access to more detailed budgets from previous Brain meeting organizers. It was also felt that the decision should not be postponed but that the next months should efficiently be used to proceed with the plans. There were suggestions that a subcommittee should meet and negotiate an eventual contract, and that the company with the most appealing proposal be invited for Brain03 so that a final decision could be made in Calgary next year.

Action to be taken: The Treasurer will conduct an analysis of the Society's budget and analyse the economical consequences of engaging a company such as Kenes Int.

The Secretary will make some further explorative work by contacting references given by the company. She will also review any material received by competing companies and together with the President, the Treasurer and Tony Strong arrive at a recommendation to be presented to the Board of Directors.

Progress reports from the following committees

Prior to the G&P meeting a request had been forwarded to the committee chairmen asking for a progress report as well as the committee's view upon perspectives. Michael A. Moskowitz had received responses from the Education Committee (Chair Richard Traystman), Young Investigators Committee (Chair Matthias Endres), Membership Committee (Chair Costantino Iadecola). Their reports were distributed to the participants.

The chairman of the Finance Committee Peter Herscovitch had prior to the meeting indicated that he felt little justification for the existence of a Finance Committee since the accounts were revised by professional accountants. Further, there was no response from the Web Page Committee (Chair Lester R. Drewes) or the Liaison Initiative (Chair Martin Lauritzen), possibly due to the rather late notice given.

After this, a discussion evolved re. the need for sustained committees. It was the impression of some of the participants that the committees did not always serve their purpose well and that in some cases, they did not play the active role that one would like to see. This seemed to be a logical consequence of the limited interaction of the Board members only meeting every second year. It was decided to ask the committees to propose each at least 3 implementable ideas for improving the strength of the Society.

Action to be taken: The President will address the chairmen of the ISCBFM committees and ask them to propose each at least 3 implementable ideas for improving the strength of the Society within their particular assignment. These ideas should be reviewed by the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer before being presented to the Board of Directors.

Gordon conferences

Wolfgang Kuschinsky suggested that for the long term perspective of the support of the scientific meetings a series of Gordon Conferences on cerebral blood flow and metabolism could be established in the year between the BRAIN-meetings (even years). He suggested that the Society should support up to \$30,000 for the first conference, similar to the amount provided to, e.g., the Marburg meeting in 2002. Gordon Research Conferences (GRC) are high-rank scientific conferences on a specific topic organised after approval by the Board of Trustees of the GRC. For a period of about 4 days the conference offers a unique atmosphere for excellent presentations, informal discussions, and the opportunity for a relaxed contact among the 100-150 participants between the presentations. The situation for an application is certainly promising since at the moment our president, Mike Moskowitz, as an American, could apply to this US based organization. The proposal found a positive judgement by the G&P committee members.

Action to be taken: The Treasurer will together with the Secretary formulate a motion to be presented for the Board of Directors. If the proposal is approved by the Board, the President will submit a proposal to the Gordon conferences in ample time before June 03, so that the Gordon Conference meeting can be announced (at the latest) at Brain03 in June.

Missing tax filing of the Society since 1990

Wolfgang Kuschinsky informed about the laboursome process of bringing the Society's tax filing back in shape. By some unfortunate mistake, the need for annual tax filing to keep the Society's tax exempt status had been missed during one of the change of Treasurer. That is, retrospective tax filing for the past more than 10 years had to be conducted. To avoid this

happening again the tax filing task has now been given over to a company in Boston. It was felt that the need for a permanent Secretariat was underscored by this event.

Action to be taken: None.

Other matters

Koji Abe raised the issue as to whether the Journal should charge less for color-prints. JMC responded that he thought that this would be worthwhile considering, but that he would recommend that a more thorough budget was produced in order to increase the visibility of economical consequences for the Society whenever new expenditures were considered. This proposal should be covered by the Action to be taken in Section 3.

Koji Abe also raised the concern that members may be less willing to travel to Japan for the binannual meetings and asked whether in the participants opinion, people would rather be going to, e.g., Australia. This was not the general impression of the participants, although the high expenses incurred from having meetings in Japan is a matter of concern.

The Secretary said that she had had feedback from previous members with longstanding relationship with the Society, that they felt it was too expensive to remain regular members if they had easy either physical or electronic access to the JCBF&M. Further, some organizations do not wish to cover personal memberships, even though this saves money by cutting expenses for registration fees, publication costs, etc. The Secretary was looking for implementable ideas to circumvent this unfortunate situation. Suggestions for this could be made by the Membership Committee and subjected to modification by the Treasurer before being presented to the Board.

Summer Schools

Two summer schools have taken place during the past half year: XIVth PET-Pharmacokinetic Course, July 16-18, 2002, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and Summer School 2002 on Molecular Mechanism and Epochal Therapeutics for Ischemic Stroke and Dementia, October 18-20, 2002, Okayama, Japan. Below are given some of the participant's comments regarding these Summer Schools.

XIVth PET-Pharmacokinetic Course
July 16-18, 2002
PET Centre University Hospital,
Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam,
the Netherlands



'Taking a break from the Equations'

Letters from the Students:

I was a participant in the Pharmacokinetic Course and would like to express my appreciation. I found the course to be very informative for someone like myself, a clinician with several years experience in PET, and wanting to deepen my understanding of PET methodology. I am sure it would also have been useful to someone entering the PET field and wanting to understand the basics.

The most valuable feature of the course for me was the presence of so many experts and the ease with which we could mix with them and ask questions both during and after the lectures. The practical experience on computer simulations was also invaluable.

I hope this course will continue in future years.

Dr Eugenio A Rabiner, GlaxoSmithKline PET Group, Addenbrooke's Hosp., Cambridge, UK

It is a pleasure for me to share with you my opinion on the XIVth PET-Pharmacokinetic Course that was held in Amsterdam on July 16th – July 18th, 2002.

I consider an extremely valuable experience having met, discussed scientific issues and spent enjoyable time with scientists who took part in the very first PET studies and are nowadays leading researchers in the most recent applications of this technique.

The course was very carefully organized from any perspective. Lessons covered all the essential issues in PET pharmacokinetics, primarily theoretical assumptions, mathematical modeling and biological implications of results obtained with most common tracers. Particular attention was given to glucose metabolism, cerebral blood flow and neuroreceptor models. Throughout the whole course students were offered stimulating explanations and questions. Didactics was given with clarity and synthetic fashion that enabled students with very different backgrounds to obtain the best profit. High level technical explanations were also given when appropriate. Teaching quality was excellent in consideration of the limited amount of time available. As a medical doctor I particularly appreciated the clarifications on the math that links the biology to the color images commonly seen on scientific journals. Computer facilities were well adequate and enabled optimal student-to-tutor interaction. A precious manual was given in advance for learning optimization.

Participation of students was large not only for the reasonable a priori high expectations, but also for the cheap registration fee. I doubt this sizeable participation could occur without such an elegant encouragement. Timing and location of the course reflected a good choice of the organizing committee to promote student participation to the Neuroreceptor Meeting held in Oxford on the following days.

Socializing was an essential part of the course. I had the opportunity to meet several researchers of about my age, potential future colleagues. Having dinner or just coffee with a teacher while asking for questions and sharing opinions has been very nice. As a result of this meeting I widely and deeply improved my scientific knowledge, I was reinforced in my motivation in pursuing my research expectations, and I applied for a Junior membership to the International Society for Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism. I was also informed about the upcoming Brain03&BrainPET03 meeting in Calgary, which I am now planning to attend.

Last, but not least, each tutor proved to be an extremely nice person deeply committed to the

course mentoring aim and successful in communicating the strength and the passion needed for being a scientist.

Giampiero Giovacchini, PET Department, NIH, Bethesda, USA

I would like to thank organizer and colleague course tutors for the excellent organization among the XIV Annual PET pharmacokinetic course. The course manual was clearly written and it was very good that it was already available on your web-site before the course started, so that we were able to appear well prepared. It was great to meet all these famous modellers from all over the world (New York, Bethesda, Montreal, Copenhagen, Michigan, Amsterdam, Groningen, Germany). It is really remarkable how they were able to learn a simple nuclear medicine physician like me, about this kind of mathematical techniques and pharmacological concepts. The way they explained things was excellent. The computer exercises and simulations encouraged us to think about and to discuss the topics (learned during the preparatory presentation) with the tutors and with other course participants. It really helped to merge theory with practice. I also enjoyed the interaction between physicists, chemists, neurologists, nuclear medicine physicians, pharmacologists and students. Not only during the course, but also during the informal part e.g. lunches, dinner at the veranda and the dinner cruise. I hope many more people will be able to follow this course in the near future!

Lioe-Fee de Geus-Oei, Nuclear Medicine Physician, UMC St. Radboud Nijmegen

I am writing to express my gratitude for organising the above course. It was a real privilege for me to study under those who have written key papers in the field of PET PK, alongside colleagues from all over the world. Although this course focussed on applying PET PK to the brain, the material was founded on an introduction to the PET tracer method and the mathematical principles of modelling, and so it was not difficult to see how these methods could be applied to other organs. I found the sessions covering the two compartmental model and the linearisation of this model most useful, as they gave me a greater understanding of the techniques appropriate to my own work. However, I consider all of the sessions to have been of benefit, as I now know how best to approach quantifying processes as diverse as blood flow and receptor kinetics using PET, even when compartmental models have yet to be established for the tracer under study. All sessions included informal lectures, discussions and Matlab exercises, thus ensuring that the principles were communicated, demonstrated and understood. I personally found that the computer exercises particularly helpful, as they increased my confidence in performing kinetic analysis and gave opportunity to discuss the practicalities of PET PK with the course tutors. Further opportunities for interaction arose over meals, all of which were of a good standard. One was served during a canal cruise, and it was nice to feel that I hadn't sacrificed 'seeing the sights' of Amsterdam by visiting as a student rather than a tourist!

In summary, I returned from the course with a much deeper understanding of PET PK, a greater confidence in my ability to apply the appropriate techniques to my data, and a wider circle of friends and contacts within my field of specialty. Thank you for providing me with so much, in such a short space of time and at such an affordable rate!

Heather Williams, MSc DipIPEM, PET Physicist, Manchester PET Centre

**Summer School 2002 on
Molecular Mechanism and
Epochal Therapeutics for
Ischemic Stroke and
Dementia, October 18-20,
2002, Okayama, Japan.**



Letters from the Students:

It was a good opportunity for me to have a summer school according to cerebral blood flow and metabolism. I could catch up to the up-to-date in cerebrovascular research. Also, I could find my weak points. And, in the same time, it was a good chance to meet the senior scientists and the others. I had a great time there in Okayama. I greatly appreciate you to have this kind of summer school.

Naohisa Hosomi, MD, PhD, Kagawa Medical University School of Medicine, Second Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Stroke and Atherosclerosis, Kagawa, Japan

I fully enjoyed the scientific program of the school and thought it was also exceptionally well organized in all of the social events.

The speakers for the school were of extremely high caliber. Their talks were at the cutting edge of the current research in neurodegenerative disorders. It was a rare treat to be able to talk directly to those leaders in the field of stroke research. It was also a rare opportunity to see the showcase of Japanese stroke research. The poster session was well attended and I was able get very positive feedbacks for my posters from many colleagues. I thoroughly enjoyed the symposium organized by the school.

The social event was exceptionally well organized. I have enjoyed the hospitality of the Japanese colleagues. There were many opportunities provided to mingle with meeting attendees and I was able to make many new friends during this time. Some of us have already decided to meet each other again in the Brain 03 meeting in Calgary.

This school is an important medium for young researchers to learn the current trend in research and be able to forge new collaborations with their peers. I have benefited from this school and will have no hesitation to recommend this school to other colleagues in my institute.

Congratulations for organizing such a successful event.

Sheng T. Hou, Ph.D., Research Officer, Institute for Biological Sciences, National Research Council Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada

During a warm weekend in the early autumn of 2002, I joined the “Summer School” of the International Society of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism. It was arranged by the Department of Neurology of Okayama University and located at a very scenic spot on the northern coast of the Inland Sea of Japan. However, the natural beauty of the place and the breathtaking view of the impressive Seto-ohashi bridge, that links together two of Japans four main islands, could not compete with the attraction exerted by the great number of interesting presentations given by both Japanese and non-Japanese scientists during the meeting. But I admit, it was the combination that made me want to travel from my far-away country, through many time zones, to come to Okayama.

The schedule of the symposium was tight, but very well planned so that time was spent in the most efficient way. Every detail in and around the meeting was carefully organised, allowing participants to focus on the scientific information presented.

I appreciated the mixture of topics that were included in the symposium; it was a wide but still focused theme, bringing up the most up-to-date knowledge in the field of cerebral ischemia and dementia. I also appreciated the fine balance between formal and less formal occasions. It created an open and relaxed environment, very well suited for discussions and for making new contacts.

To conclude, I would like to direct my sincere gratitude to the organisers for their excellent work, for creating such a pleasant and stimulating environment for the scientific meeting and for showing overwhelming generosity and hospitality.

Ulrika Hallin, PhD student, Perinatal Center, Dept. of Physiology and Pharmacology, Göteborg University, Göteborg, Sweden

Brain'05 and BrainPET'05

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

The Netherlands

June 6-11, 2005

For future mailings please provide name and address to:

Adriaan Lammertsma

PET Centre, VU University Medical Centre

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The Netherlands

Fax +31 20 444 3090

Email: aa.lammertsma@vumc.nl

Brain'07 and BrainPET'07

Are you interested in hosting the Brain'07 and BrainPET'07 Meeting?

The Board of Directors will decide the venue for Brain'07 at their meeting in Calgary in June 2003. Individuals or groups interested in hosting the biennial meeting in 2007 are hereby invited to submit a simple expression of interest to the Secretary (Dr. Gitte Moos Knudsen, gitte@nru.dk) by March 15, 2003.

The deadline for receipt of a full proposal will be May 1, 2003.

A template for the bid can be found at <http://penguin.d.umn.edu/cbfm/information.asp>.