

THE ORGAN

NEWSLETTER NO. 24 (Dec 2004)

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Presidential Remark

The Society has drastically changed its organization for the first time in its more than 20 year history. We formally signed a contract with a professional company, Kenes International, to act as the permanent office of the Society on August 1st, 2004. Officers and members of the Board of Directors (especially the Secretary Gitte Knudsen) have devoted some of their time to the contract with Kenes and to transferring society functions to Kenes. We have also decided to change the publishers of the Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism to the Nature Publishing Group. The working group (Chair: Tony Strong) responsible for selecting the new publishers made a great effort to choose the best from equally matched candidates. Under the new formation, the Society will be able to adapt to the demands of our highly competitive scientific field. I thank Graham Lees who helped in both processes.

With this new structure in place, perhaps it is time we reconfirm what the mission of this Society is. Brain function is tightly linked to cerebral blood flow and metabolism, and these things are regulated by cellular communication between neuron, glia and vessels. The cellular communication is controlled by the behavior of molecules and genes. Recently, attention has been shifting towards the latter level. The rapid development of technology appears to be tempting us deeper and deeper into territory where we may easily lose our way in the fine detail. From time to time we need to climb above the trees so that we can see the surrounding landscape. The mission of the Society is to provide systematic information about where we are standing and where we should go.

On another note, two important symposia with topics integral to the Society were held in the summer of 2004. The 10th International Symposium on Pharmacology of Cerebral Ischemia was organized by Josef Kriegelstein in July in Marburg, Germany. Over the last 20 years this biennial meeting has complemented our own biennial Brain symposia. I would like to thank Josef for his enthusiastic efforts. The second symposium was the Gordon Research Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism and Blood Flow held in August in Maine, USA. This meeting brought together top scientists from multiple disciplines so that they can concentrate together on the one aim. I thank Ulrich Dirnagl, Mike Moskowitz and Martin Lauritzen for organizing a stimulating meeting with well-focused topics.

Finally, please do not forget that Brain/BrainPET 2005 will be held in Amsterdam on June 7-11, 2005. A new feature of the symposium is the education courses that we have introduced to help refresh and re-energize the participants. I am confident that the Local Organizing Committee (Chair: Adriaan Lammertsma) and the Program Committee (Chair: Ulrich Dirnagl) will provide an invigorating scientific and educational program.



Hope to see you in Amsterdam in 2005.

Iwao Kanno, PhD, President ISCBFM

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Secretary's column

This issue of the Organ is a special edition that describes the profound changes incurred on the Society during the last year. As some of you may have noted, over the last years management of membership issues and journal subscription has been less satisfactory. When I took over the Secretary's office in 2001, I was surprised to find how difficult it was to keep an updated record of ISCBFM members. This was because the publisher, LWW, solicited the membership fees together with the subscription fees, and the information from the payments were not transferred to the Secretary. Even after investing quite some time together with the LWW staff to get things in order the difficulties remained. Therefore, further to the Board Meeting in Calgary it was decided to solicit proposals from Association Management Companies (AMCs) to which secretariat management functions could be delegated and a request for proposal was developed. At the Board meeting, Dale Pelligrino was assigned to lead the discovery process in conjunction with the Society's consultant Graham Lees and myself. In addition, frequent consultations were made with the Society's President Iwao Kanno, and the Treasurer Wolfgang Kuschinsky.

In the solicitation process we became aware that most companies that perform permanent secretariat functions of a Society, also organize recurrent Society meetings and the benefits from such an association became clear. Many successful organizers of previous Brain meetings have during the years expressed their frustrations over the lack of continuity from one Brain meeting to the next, leading to unnecessary and laborious 're-inventing the wheel' situations. For those reasons it was recommended that both secretarial functions (Association Management Company – AMC) and management of Society meetings be managed by a Professional Congress Organization (PCO). The board of directors supported this decision.

After many telephone interviews, interviews in person, and emails, a meeting with candidates in Osaka was held, with representation of the Local Organizing Committee for Brain05 & BrainPET05 and Brain07 & BrainPET07. At this meeting it was decided to negotiate with Kenes International, based on quality, financial aspects, international track-record, and flexibility (see below). The contract was finalized, approved by the Board of Members, and signed by the President and the Secretary on July 31, 2004.

The appointment with Kenes International implies that a permanent secretariat has now been established, and that solicitation of membership and subscription fees will be done by Kenes.



A number of tasks will now be taken over from the Secretary, the Publisher, and the Webmaster:

- Maintaining e-mail and mailing addresses of officers and members
- Coordination of applications from new members
- Maintenance of website
- Responding to inquiries from members
- Forwarding of requests and reporting necessary details from and to relevant ISCBFM Officers
- Preparation and distribution of agenda and meeting material
- Preparation and distribution of Newsletter in cooperation with the secretary
- Compiling, archiving & retrieving as necessary Society records
- Distributing and collecting voting ballots from ordinary members and officers

From 2009 and onwards, Kenes will also be professional organizing company for the Brain and BrainPET meetings. Their involvement will secure greater continuity between meetings, continuity of abstract submissions, program generation, on-line access and publishing. It will also allow the Scientific Program Committee and the local organizers to focus on the program. I trust that the incurred changes will be for the benefit of the members and the ISCBFM as a whole.



Gitte Moos Knudsen, MD, DMSc, Secretary ISCBFM

WHO IS KENES INTERNATIONAL?

Kenes International is a company that specializes in global congress organization and association management services, with particular emphasis on the scientific and medical fields. It provides total and on-going support to the efforts of national and international associations and permanent secretariats. It is one point in the royal triangle of client, participant and organizer, progressing the objectives and keeping a caring eye open for both these key partners. Currently handling some 25 congresses a year on 4 continents, its total experience resource counts over 1400 congresses over a period of close to 40 years. Kenes International serves as an operational administrative address for all requirements and needs from international and/or European associations. The establishment of a long-term working relationship between an international/European Association and Kenes International enables the Association to have control and continuity in all its activities. Furthermore, a Permanent Secretariat enables the Association to gain more time for its scientific - professional activities. The Permanent Secretariat, headed by an Executive Secretary, is based in the Geneva offices of Kenes International, and is in direct and permanent contact with the officials of the Association. The Executive Secretary serves as a liaison with all relevant international/European bodies related with the Association and this office acts as the sole address for contact.

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Nora Slutzky, Kenes International

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JCBFM News from the Chairman of the Publication Committee

As many members will know, there have been some exciting developments for the Journal since Calgary. First, the Society has been exceptionally fortunate in having been able to appoint Dr. Dick Traystman as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, from the beginning of January 2004. We owe an immense debt of gratitude to Jim McCulloch for his dedication and professionalism as Editor-in-Chief for the previous 6 years, and to his team of Mhairi Macrae, Debbie Dewar and Lindsey Towers, together with the Editorial Board.

Effective July 2004, electronic submission and review of manuscripts using Manuscript-Central (a product of Scholar-One, Inc.) has been in operation, and the routines appear to be running well, after a considerable amount of preparatory work by Candace Berryman with Dick Traystman in Oregon, and by Graham Lees (adviser to the Society on publishing). Any difficulties with operation of the online system should be reported to Candy at berryman@ohsu.edu.

Possibly most important of all, the Society has signed a new publication contract with Nature Publishing Group (NPG), who will assume responsibility for publishing the Journal with the first issue of 2005. We are particularly grateful to Graham Lees and also to Sue Deeley and her team in NPG, for the work they have done that has enabled us to launch what will in many ways be a new journal in 2005 rather than 2006. The Journal will take an important place in the NPG portfolio, together with a select group of other important society journals. This announcement has been on several NPG sites recently:

"*Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism* - official publication of the International Society for Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism - will be published by Nature Publishing Group beginning with the January 2005 issue. Visit www.nature.com/jcbfm to learn more about the new publishing partnership and to sign up for a free sample issue available January 2005."

Please note! During the whole month of Jan. (28.12.2004 – 31.1.2005), access to the online Journal will be free to everybody on www.nature.com/jcbfm

When our new contract negotiation group met with potential publishers in March 2004, we were particularly impressed with the critical analysis of the Journal undertaken by NPG, and with their constructive approach and vision for the future, both scientifically and commercially.

We believe that the emphasis of NPG on scientific publishing and the link for the Journal with titles such as Nature Neuroscience, Nature Neuroscience Reviews, and Nature Medicine, will be of great benefit. The Publications Committee, Editor-in-Chief and NPG are collaborating closely on plans for the new Journal, and are excited by the prospects and opportunities that are opening up.

Coupled with the new contract, a new subscription framework has been negotiated, for which details are given elsewhere in the Newsletter (Subscription Framework).

NPG will be working with Kenes to promote the Journal and Society, emphasising their special value as an important avenue for translation between basic and clinical neuroscience relating to cerebral circulation and metabolism in health and disease.

**Anthony Strong, MD, Chair,
Publications Committee**



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JCBFM News from the Editor

Change, as defined by Webster's Collegiate Dictionary means to make different in some particular way, or to make radically different, or to give a different position, course or direction, or to replace with another. For some, particularly in older individuals (like myself), change is difficult to accept and to adapt to, and causes great anxiety. Things that were once comfortable and well known become new, unknown and sometimes even uncomfortable. Nevertheless, change also represents new opportunities to make things more exciting and better, and now represents one of those times.

During my short tenure as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (JCBFM)*, there have been several important and exciting changes made (and being made) to our journal. The first of these had to do with bringing the journal into the 21st century by making *JCBFM* all electronic. With great thanks to Tony Strong, Graham Lees, and myself, all manuscript submissions, reviews, and correspondence are now handled completely electronically via the Manuscript Central/ScholarOne system. On the whole, this system is functioning extremely well, and while on occasion a glitch in the system occurs, it has been corrected very quickly and easily. I hope you will enjoy this change and making use of this system.

The second change has to do with the manuscripts being considered for publication by *JCBFM*. I am trying to broaden the base areas of scientific interest for *JCBFM* in considering manuscripts from genetic, molecular, and cellular interest all the way to *in vivo* animal and human research, all, of course relating to brain. It would appear that we are, thus far, receiving manuscripts of very high quality in all these areas, and hopefully these excellent manuscripts and reviews will help to increase the impact factor and visibility of the journal.

The third major change is in expansion of the Editorial Board. I have greatly expanded the Editorial Board with individuals of broad interest in order to handle the increased flux of manuscripts in many areas. Members of the Editorial Board have been offered appointments for a two (2) year time period, at which time they can be asked to continue, or not. I must admit that with the Manuscript Central system, I easily know how many times you decline to review manuscripts, for which reason, how long it took you to respond to the Editor-in-Chief to say yes or no to a request to review, how long it took you to review a manuscript, and how late you were with your review. And, since I am reading all reviews and many manuscripts, I feel that I have some idea about the quality of the review itself. These kinds of data make it easy for the Editorial Board to be carefully modulated over the years. To all of you (Editorial Board Members and others) who are reviewing for *JCBFM*, I thank you for your hard work. I know that it takes time and great effort to review a manuscript properly, and I am grateful to all referees who participate in this important function.

The final change, and a very notable one, is that *JCBFM* has changed publishers, thanks to Tony Strong, Jim McCulloch, Graham Lees, Ulrich Dirnagl, and myself. Our new publisher is the Nature Publishing Group (NPG). NPG is an outstanding publisher and is involved with many outstanding journals. We are pleased to have entered into a contractual agreement with NPG. As a result, you will see significant changes in the Journal: the cover page, a new cover page figure monthly, a new publishing style for our manuscripts, and new guidelines for authors. Being affiliated with NPG will clearly help *JCBFM* as indeed it already has with its forward thinking approach to publishing in general.

We have moved ahead with these changes with great thought and some concern. With change comes anxiety, but also opportunity. I hope you like and enjoy the changes being made to the Journal and continue your support for both the Journal and the Society it represents. I am grateful to the previous Editors-in-Chief, now Emeritus Editors (A. Murray Harper, Konstantin-A. Hossmann, Myron D. Ginsberg, and James McCulloch). Through their efforts, a journal was born in 1981 which now maintains a solid position among neuroscience journals in the world today. I hope I can continue in their footsteps and achieve even greater recognition for our Journal in the future. Change means opportunities, and we certainly have plenty of opportunities now.

Richard J. Traystman, PhD, Editor-in-Chief, JCBFM



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Membership types and benefits ISCBFM

The call for dues 2005 will be sent to all members shortly!
Below please find a list of membership and subscription types.

| Type of Membership | Benefits | Price for 2005 | Remark |
|--|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| Regular Member | 1. Membership 2. Printed version of the Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism 3. On line access to the Journal 4. A reduced registration fee for Brain/BrainPET | 200 \$ | |
| | 1. Membership 2. Online access to the Journal 3. A reduced registration fee for Brain/BrainPET | 100 \$ | |
| Junior Members (Up to the age of 35 at enrollment) | 1. Membership 2. A reduced registration fee for Brain/BrainPET 3. Advantage to apply for bursaries for the symposia | 15 \$ | Max. 4 year period |
| | 1. Membership 2. Printed version of the Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism 3. On line access to the Journal 4. A reduced registration fee for Brain/BrainPET 5. Advantage to apply for bursaries for the symposia | 200 \$ | Max. 4 year period |
| | 1. Membership 2. On line access to the Journal 3. A reduced registration fee for Brain/BrainPET 4. Advantage to apply for bursaries for the symposia | 100 \$ | Max. 4 year period |
| Emeritus | Newsletter | 0 | |
| Sustaining Associate Members (Society, Industry Company, or Foundation only) | 1. Listing in the Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism and in the Organ 2. Listing on ISCBFM website with the option of a link to own website, listing in the membership directory 3. One complementary registration at the Brain meeting and ability to other employees to register at the members rate 4. If exhibiting at Brain, a sign at your exhibit indicating that you are a sustaining associate member 5. Receipt of the Organ | 2,000 \$ | |

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