

Message From the President



As we conclude another productive year for our society, I would like to highlight several developments that have taken place since my message in the autumn 2002 issue of the Newsletter.

Following approval of the Council, a Scientific Program Committee for the ASP annual meeting has been established. It consists of representatives from each of the five ASP divisions who agree to serve for 2-3 years and will be chaired by the immediate past-president. This insures input from members of all divisions and continuity in program planning.

The members of the newly established Scientific Program Committee are listed below.

John Spudich, current chair of the Scientific Program Committee, is busy preparing for the 2003 annual meeting. This meeting will be at the Baltimore Inner Harbor Hyatt Regency on July 5-9, 2003. John and the Scientific Program Committee are putting together an outstanding series of symposia on current photomedical and basic photoscience topics. In response to our membership survey conducted last year, they are also scheduling time for participants to present talks in contributed papers sessions.

To further enhance interaction of the ASP with other photobiology societies, I had the privilege of representing our society at the First Latin American Congress of Photobiology, which was in Lima, Peru, on August 29-30, 2002. The ASP was well represented and it was a well-organized meeting in a most hospitable setting.

As the world's largest photobiology society, it is important for the ASP to continue its active role in the international photobiology community. We are currently actively participating in the early stages of planning for the International Congress of Photobiology meeting (Jeju, Korea, June 10-15, 2004). Our own 2004 annual meeting will take place on July 10-14 in Seattle, WA.

On the administrative side, transition to our new secretariat has progressed very smoothly. Please contact

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Linda Hardwick (tel: 785-843-1235 ext. 216, e-mail: phot@allenpress.com) with any questions about membership.

With best wishes for a very happy and joyous holiday season.

- **Henry W. Lim**, ASP President

Scientific Program Committee Divisional Representatives for 31st Annual ASP Meeting

- Chair: Immediate Past-President of ASP
John Spudich
- Div 1: Photochemistry, Photophysics &
Phototechnology
Lisa Kelly
- Div 2: Photosensory & Circadian Biology
Kevin Ridge
- Div 3: Photosynthesis, Bio- and Chemiluminescence
J. Woodland Hastings
- Div 4: Photomedicine
Hasan Mukhtar
- Div 5: Environmental Photobiology & UVR Effects
Donat Häder

ASP Annual Meeting

The 31st ASP Annual Meeting will be held July 5-9, 2003 in Baltimore, Maryland at the Hyatt Regency in the scenic Inner Harbor area. The Scientific Program Committee is in the process of organizing an exciting program, covering hot topics in many fields of photobiology. The topics include: Photoageing and Photoprotection, Photoimmunology, Photocarcinogenesis, DNA Repair, Photodynamic Therapy, Vision Research & Retinitis Pigmentosa, Photosensory Receptors & Signaling, Circadian Biology, Bioluminescence, Photobiotechnology, Ecological Effects of Solar UVR and Global Climate Change, and Atmospheric Photoscience. Contributed Papers platform sessions will be organized to give ample opportunity for participants to present their work orally, as well as in poster format.



Hyatt Regency Baltimore
(photo courtesy of www.baltimore.to)

The registration links will be available by January 8, 2003 from the ASP web site, www.photobiology.org. Student travel fellowships will be available to students who will present their research and are members now or would like to join the ASP.

In addition to an exciting scientific experience at the meeting, the Baltimore Inner Harbor offers a wealth of attractions for entertainment, shopping, and exciting things to see. Harborplace, in the heart of Baltimore's Inner Harbor, is a true urban market with more than 160 popular shops, as well as wining & dining, music, and live waterfront performances. The Harborplace Amphitheater offers beautiful views of the harbor. Nearby are the world-renowned National Aquarium, the Maritime Museum, and the Science Center with its IMAX 3-D five-story theatre, and Davis Planetarium. In addition, there are public sails available on the tall ship Clipper City and, for American history buffs, a walk through the USS Constellation, the last Civil War vessel still afloat.

-John Spudich, ASP past-president

Letter from the Editor

Peter A. Ensminger

Numerous ASP members have written to say they could not access the ASP web site at www.photobiology.org. In particular, Mac users and PC users with certain versions of Netscape have had problems. Thus, we have greatly simplified the coding so that our web site can be read on more diverse platforms. Please let me know if you still have problems. I am continuing the biweekly updates of "Photobiology News" and "Recent Publications by ASP Members", so feel free to send your suggestions.



Baltimore's Inner Harbor
(photo courtesy of www.baltimore.to)

I hope to see you all at our annual meeting in Baltimore on July 5-9, 2003. If you're looking for things to do while in Baltimore, check out the Baltimore Inner Harbor web site at www.baltimore.to. One of my favorite links is "Inexpensive Things to do in Downtown Baltimore". Among its many suggestions are the Walters Art Gallery, the Maryland Science Center, and the Edgar Allen Poe Grave. If you like seafood (or even if you don't), you will certainly want to click on the link to "Dining in the City of Steamed Crabs". There are many fine restaurants right near our Inner Harbor hotel. Lastly, if you're at the meeting but want to play hooky for a half a day, why not take in a baseball game at Baltimore's famed Camden Yards? The Orioles and its great utility player, Melvin Mora, will be playing the Toronto Blue Jays on July 4, 5, and 6.

ASP News

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Top Science Award for Tito Scaiano



Tito Scaiano, Editor-in Chief of *Photochemistry and Photobiology*, was recently awarded the Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering for his many years of outstanding research in photochemistry. The Herzberg Medal is given annually to a Canadian researcher in the natural sciences or

engineering whose research work has exhibited sustained excellence and outstanding overall influence. The prize is in honor of **Gerhard Herzberg** (1904-1999), Canada's first Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry.

The Herzberg Medal awards Dr. Scaiano \$250,000 over the next five years to supplement his existing research funding of \$1 million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. Dr. Scaiano is the Distinguished University Professor at the University of Ottawa, founder of Luzchem Research, and a prolific author, having written more than 500 articles in refereed research journals. He is the most widely cited chemist in Canada and among the 100 most-cited chemists worldwide.

Requesting Help With a Photobiology Questionnaire

BACKGROUND: I posted a question on the POLdiscussion-list: "Do we need a photobiology study section at NIH and NSF?" Several people expressed mild enthusiasm, but one reply said NO. Irene Kochevar said that there definitely needs to be a photobiologist on every study section that handles photobiology grants, but there also needs to be people on the study section who have knowledge in the fundamental area (e.g., immunology, metabolism, DNA repair, etc.). She recommends that ASP make photobiology expertise available for study sections, either as members of ongoing panels, as special reviewers, or as writers of outside opinions. I heartily agree!

In discussions with **Ed DeFabo** and **Irene Kochevar**, the conclusion was that the first thing we need is feedback from the ASP members on questions like those listed below.

With the results from this questionnaire, a summary report will be generated that will be used to inform NIH and NSF which study sections ASP considers to be good, and which are not so good for handling photobiology grants, and will also suggest photobiologists as members of ongoing panels, or as special reviewers, or as writers of outside opinions in the different areas of photobiology

QUESTIONS:

1. What study section or unit do your grants go to?
2. Is there a special problem for photobiology grants, i.e., have your grants (or those you know about) suffered from lack of photobiological expertise on a review panel? Which panel?
3. What study section (or other unit) have you served on that included photobiology grants?
4. Are you willing to be listed as an expert in a particular area of photobiology (please specify area)?
5. Do you have other comments or suggestions? (Use additional sheets as necessary)

Please mail your answers to:

Kendric C. Smith
927 Mears Court

Stanford, CA 94305-1041

OR send e-mail to kendric@stanford.edu

Donation Program for *Photochemistry and Photobiology*

The ASP is dedicated to making *Photochemistry and Photobiology* available to people in need and would appreciate help in making our new donation program a success. There are two ways that members can help. You can either donate your hardcopy of *Photochem Photobiol* to be shipped to someone in need or, for an additional \$50 donation, we will provide someone in need with a separate subscription to the journal. As a member of the ASP, you will continue to have on-line access to the journal.

You can provide us with the name of someone in need and we will send issues directly to that person. Alternatively, we can select a candidate from our request list and set you up as a sponsor. Sponsoring is easy. Just complete the request form below and return it to the secretariat.

In Need Journal Transfer Request

In order to transfer your journal to a needy colleague, please complete and return to the Society at the following address:

American Society for Photobiology
Attn: Linda Hardwick
PO Box 1897
Lawrence, KS 66044
Phone: 785-843-1235
Fax: 785-843-1274

1. I would like to contribute my copy of *Photochemistry and Photobiology* to a needy colleague from another country.
2. I would like to purchase and donate an extra copy of *Photochemistry and Photobiology* for a colleague from another country.

Journal should be mailed to the following:

Name: _____
Institution: _____
Department: _____
Address: _____
City, State & Zip: _____
Country: _____

I would like the ASP to locate someone in need for me.

Signed: _____
Please Print Name: _____
Date: _____

Potential New Members

If you know someone who would like information on becoming a member:

Name: _____
Institution: _____
Department: _____
Address: _____
City, State & Zip: _____
Country: _____

International Symposium on Light and Human Health

The Lighting Research Office of the Electric Power Research Institute sponsored an international research symposium entitled "Light and Human Health" on November 3-5, 2002 in Lake Buena Vista, FL. There were about 80 attendees. Some of the most notable presentations are reviewed below.

Mark Rea, director of the Lighting Research Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, presented the keynote lecture, "Light — Much More than Vision." He presented an overview of the impact of light upon the circadian rhythm. The scientific presentations on Monday and Tuesday covered several areas, from the impact of light upon ocular growth to neuroendocrine effects of light. **Myron L. Wolbarsht** presented an argument that lighting could influence the development of myopia and that myopia could be prevented through better lighting. **Richard Vincent** spoke on the revival of UV germicidal irradiation for airborne disease control. He noted that this approach, which was common in the 1940s and 1950s, should be reintroduced because of the increasing incidence of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis and AIDS. **Giovanni Agati** spoke on the use of new LED illuminators for phototherapy of neonatal jaundice and explained that the absorption spectrum of bilirubin, with a maximum in the blue, did not match the action spectrum for phototherapy, which has a maximum near 490 nm.

George (Bud) Brainard began the session on human circadian and neuroendocrine regulation by describing the new action spectrum, which peaks at 464 nm. The most likely chromophore(s) are cryptochrome and/or melanopsin. **David Berson** reported on his studies that support melanopsin as the most likely chromophore. He showed that phototransduction takes place in the retinal ganglion cells, which in turn influenced the clock, melatonin levels, pupil size, and other responses. **David Blask** spoke on the role of melatonin in cancer development and argued that melatonin could suppress cancer growth. He speculated that excessive light might be a risk factor for cancer development through the suppression of melatonin. Several other speakers also addressed this topic.

John Marshall spoke about the effect of light upon age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and the complex pathophysiology in the retina. **Joan Roberts** also spoke about light interactions with the human eye

as a function of age, but with an emphasis on the photochemistry of UV and light in ocular tissues.

Jean-Pierre Cesarini spoke about the role of solar UV in the development of melanoma and the importance of pheomelanins in skin cancer risk.

In the last session, the four session chairs (**Myron Wolbarsht, David Sliney, Bob Levin, and Richard Stark**) served as a panel to lead a closing discussion.

- **David H. Sliney**



Photochem and Photobiol Editorial Board Changes

Four Associate Editors will be retiring from *Photochemistry & Photobiology* - **Sylvia Braslavsky, Margaret Kripke, Tom Moore** and **Manfred Tevini**. Their services and expertise have been of great value to the journal. Several appointments have been made in order to maintain a good breadth of coverage. **Cornelia Bohne** (University of Victoria) will cover photochemistry, supramolecular systems, and some *in vitro* chemiluminescence and related processes. **Antony Young** (St. John's Institute of Dermatology, London) will cover photoimmunology and photodermatology; we will also benefit from his expertise in sunscreens. **Lisa Kelly** (University of Maryland) will cover electron transfer and DNA chemistry. **Neal Woodbury** (Arizona State University) will cover photosynthesis. **Alan Teramura** (University of Hawaii) will cover environmental photobiology.

John Simon of Duke University has been appointed the new Editor-in-Chief starting January 1, 2004. Until that time John will serve as an Associate Editor.

-**Tito Scaiano**, Editor-in-Chief, *Photochem Photobiol*

Committees of the ASP Council (2002-2003)

Contact information for ASP Councilors and Committee members are available from the ASP web site. Go to the ASP homepage (www.photobiology.org), click on "Membership" in the right column, then click on "Membership Directory Online" and type in the person's name. ASP Officers and Councilors (2002-2003) were given in the autumn, 2002 Newsletter, available at: www.pol-us.net/ASP_Home/Newsltrtr/asp_nls.html

Executive/Sec Liaison

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Editor, Newsletter • D. Häder

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Editor, Newsletter, *ex officio*

Historian

I. Kochevar

Mentoring

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Contributors to Quebec City ASP Meeting

The ASP would like to thank the Gold, Silver, and General contributors for their support of our 2002 annual meeting in Quebec City. We look forward to their continued support in the coming years.

Gold Contributors

AGI Dermatics
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Empix Imaging, Inc.
Lumenis Corporation
Mini Mitter Co., Inc.
The Proctor & Gamble Company
Varian Canada, Inc.



Upcoming Events

January 12-17, 2003;

March 16-21, 2003

Protein Purification: Isolation, Analysis, and Characterization of GFP

Cook College, Rutgers University,
New Brunswick, NJ

Contact: Prof. William W. Ward

Tel: 732-932-9562 ext. 216 or 212

E-mail: crebb@rci.rutgers.edu

Web site:

www.rci.rutgers.edu/~meton/protein.html

January 13-16, 2003

Biophotonics: Principles, Practice and Applications

An intensive workshop with formal instruction and advanced research seminars on biophotonics research presented by leaders in the field.

The East-West Center

Manoa Valley, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Contact: Prof. Gerard Marriott

E-mail: gm@physiology.wisc.edu

Web site:

biophotonics.physiology.wisc.edu/seminar03/

February 23-28, 2003

Seventh International Conference on Solar Energy and Applied Photochemistry

[SOLAR '03] combined with

Fourth International Training Workshop on Environmental Photochemistry

[ENPHO '03]

Luxor, Upper Egypt

Contact: Prof. Sabry Abdel-Mottaleb,

Director, Photoenergy Centre Fac. of Science

Ain Shams University

Abbassia, 11566 Cairo, Egypt

Cell: + 2012-216-9584

Fax: + 202-484-5941 or + 202-634-7683

E-mail: solar@link.net or solar@gega.net

or solar@photoenergy.org

March 20, 2003

Annual Meeting of the Photomedicine Society

San Francisco, CA

Contact: Suzy Milberger

Tel: 214-648-6743

Fax: 214-648-0280

E-mail: photomed@utsouthwestern.edu

June 10-11, 2003

7th International Conference on Sun Protection: A time of change

The Royal Society, London

Tel: +44(0)20-8399-2197

Fax: +44(0)20-8693-1943

E-mail: info@summit-events.com

June 22-25, 2003

European Conference on Biomedical Optics

Munich, Germany

Web site:

spie.org/Conferences/Calls/03/ebo/index.cfm

July 5-9, 2003

31st Annual Meeting of the American Society for Photobiology

Inner Harbor Hyatt

Baltimore, MD

Contact: Prof. John L. Spudich

E-mail: John.L.Spudich@uth.tmc.edu

July 26-31, 2003

XXIst International Conference on Photochemistry

Nara, Japan

Contact: Prof. N. Nakashima,

Department of Chemistry,

Osaka City University,

Sugimoto, Sumiyoshi,

Osaka 558-8585 Japan

Tel and Fax: +81-6-6605-2552

E-mail: icp21@sci.osaka-cu.ac.jp

Web site: dolphin.ap.eng.osaka-u.ac.jp/icp21.html

August 30 - September 4, 2003

10th European Conference on the Spectroscopy of Biological Molecules

Szeged, Hungary

Web Site:

www.ecsbm2003.hu/ecsbm2003.html

September 3-6, 2003

Plant Photobiology Meeting

Philipps-University Marburg

Marburg, Germany

Contact: Prof. Alfred Batschauer,

Chair of the Scientific Program

Tel: +49-6421-28-27064

Fax: +49-6421-28-21545

E-mail: batschau@mail.uni-marburg.de

Birte Dohle, Secretary

Tel: +49-6421-28 22073

Fax: +49-6421-28 21545

E-mail: dohle@mail.uni-marburg.de

September 6-13, 2003

10th Congress of the European Society for Photobiology

Vienna, Austria

E-mail: office@esp2003.org

Web site: www.esp2003.org/

October 7-11, 2003

5th International Symposium on Photodynamic Diagnosis and Therapy in Clinical Practice

Brixen/Bressanone, Italy

Contacts: Prof. Herwig Kostron

Tel: +43-512-5042621

Fax: +43-512-5042641

E-mail: Herwig.Kostron@uibk.ac.at

Prof. Giulio Jori

Tel: +39-049-8276333

Fax: +39-049-8276344

E-mail: jori@bio.unipd.it

Web site:

neurosurgery.uibk.ac.at/PDT2003.html

June 10-15, 2004

14th International Congress on Photobiology

International Convention Center

Jungmoon, Jeju (Cheju), Korea

Web site: photos.or.kr/ICP2004/

July 10-14, 2004

32nd Annual Meeting of the American Society for Photobiology

Westin Seattle

Seattle, WA

August 2-6, 2004

13th International Symposium on Bioluminescence and Chemiluminescence

Conference Center of Pacific Yokohama
Yokohama, Japan

Contact: Prof. Akio Tsuji

Tel: +81-3-3784-8194

Fax: +81-3-3784-8247

E-mail: BXP02045@nifty.ne.jp

Web site:

www2.unibo.it/isbc/Files/BC_Symnf.htm

August 29-September 3, 2004

13th International Congress on Photosynthesis

Montreal, Canada

E-mail: ps2004@uqtr.ca

Web site: www.uqtr.ca/ps2004/