



NEWSLETTER

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ASP - Newsletter

Finsen Medal



Kendric C. Smith
Finsen Medalist

Dr. Kendrick C. Smith, founding President of the American Society for Photobiology (1972-1974), received the Finsen Medal at the 9th International Congress on Photobiology, on July 3, 1984 in Philadelphia. Dr. W. Haupt (Germany) also received a Finsen Medal at the same meeting.

This award is presented every four years by the Association Internationale de Photobiologie on behalf of the Neils Finsen Foundation (Denmark), for outstanding contributions to the science of photobiology. The Finsen Foundation was established to honor the Danish scientist Neils Finsen (1860-1904). Finsen received the Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology in 1903 for his work on the healing and damaging effects of sunlight on skin.

The previous Finsen Medalists from the U.S.A. were C. S. Rupert and A. Kelner (1964), A. Hollaender (1968), H. F. Blum and S. B. Hendricks (1976), and R. B. Setlow (1980). Dr. Smith, Professor of Radiology (Radiation Biology), Stanford University School of Medicine, has written or edited several books and journals on photobiology. His research deals with the genetic control and biochemical basis of the repair of the DNA of cells damaged by ultraviolet radiation (and by X-rays), and the role of DNA repair in both spontaneous and radiation mutagenesis. Dr. Smith is the Immediate Past-President of the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

Nominations for Offices

The Nominating Committee of ASP, headed by John Jagger, is soliciting nominations for President-Elect and Councilors. Nominations can be made by the Committee and also by petition from the membership. Each petition for President-Elect must be signed by ten members and must contain a written statement by the nominee of willingness to serve. In order that the names of persons so nominated may appear on the ballot, petitions must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer before October 31st. The final list of nominees arranged as a ballot, and containing more than one name for each vacancy to be filled, shall be mailed to the members. The candidate for each office receiving the highest number of votes will be elected.

The election of Councilors shall follow the same schedule as for the election of Officers. The slate of the Nominating Committee shall contain at least one more name than the number of vacancies for both full and unexpired terms. Additional nominations for Councilor may be made by petition. Each petition for Councilor must be signed by five members and must contain a written statement of willingness to serve.

All Officers and Councilors shall take office at the end of the Annual Business Meeting.

Please address all petitions to:
Dr. Leonard I. Grossweiner
Biophysics Laboratory
Physics Department
Illinois Institute of Technology
Chicago, Illinois 60616

New Officers

The results of the last election are now completed:

President-Elect - Paul A. Loach, Professor of Biochemistry, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

Secretary-Treasurer - Leonard Grossweiner, Professor of Physics, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Ill.

Councilors -

Albert Girotti, Associate Professor of Biochemistry, The Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.

A. Fred Janzen, Project Manager, Photochemical Research Associates, London, Ontario, Canada.

David Kessel, Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI.

C. David Lytle - Research Biophysicist, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, FDA, Rockville, MD.

Still Available

More copies of the Jezu Workshop volume "Trends in Photobiology" are available for distribution. Please write Pill-Soon Song, Dept. of Chemistry, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409.

Positions Available

Molecular Biologists. Two tenure-track assistant professorships anticipated for January (or August) 1985. In a department of 37 full-time faculty in a comprehensive university of 25,000 students. Ph.D. required and postdoctoral experience is preferred. Faculty are to maintain a vigorous research program and direct M.S. and Ph.D. students in an area of biology complementary to other faculty and present programs. Position 1: Expertise in recombinant DNA technology. To teach two courses per year in areas of interest, including a laboratory course in recombinant DNA techniques. Position 2: Expertise in plant molecular genetics and tissue culture. To teach two courses per year on topics such as tissue culture, cell biology, or cellular/molecular biology methods. For either position, apply by 15 September 1984; send curriculum vitae, statement of research goals, and names, addresses, and phone numbers of at least three references, to: Jerrold H. Zar, Chair, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, IL 60115-2861. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Senior Researcher - Sunscreen Evaluation. MS/Ph.D. with 5-10 years experience. In-depth knowledge of UV, IR, GC, HPLC. Broad knowledge of skin biology and photochemistry is a real benefit. Send C.V. to: Kenneth Klein, Van Dyk & Company, Inc., Main & William Streets, Belleville, New Jersey 07109.

Postdoctoral Positions. Two postdoctoral positions available in the Photobiology Group, Division of Biological and Medical Research, Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago, Illinois. One is to study the biological effects of the reactive species of oxygen generated in cells by solar ultraviolet radiations. The incumbent will study DNA damages and mutagenesis caused by reactive oxygen species. The other is to study DNA damages caused by solar ultraviolet radiations in the human genome. The research will include DNA cloning and sequencing techniques. The positions are for one year, renewable for two more years. Send application to Dr. Meyrick J. Peak, Photobiology Group, Division of Biological and Medical Research, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL 60439 or call him at 312/972-3850.

Postdoctoral Positions. Organic/bioorganic chemist to investigate photochemical mechanisms for photosensitization of DNA and membrane damage. Photosensitizers bound to proteins and compounds causing cutaneous phototoxicity will be studied. Cell biologist/biochemist to study photosensitization of membrane damage to mast cells and keratinocytes. Studies are directed toward understanding the mechanisms of UV-induced and photosensitized reactions in human skin. For more information contact: Irene Kochevar, Ph.D., Department of Dermatology, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 02115; 617-726-8828.

Postdoctoral Position. The Research Division of the Lovelace Medical Foundation in Albuquerque, New Mexico, has a postdoctoral position open in the field of photodermatology. The areas of interest are the effects of ultraviolet radiation on mammalian (marsupial) skin at the molecular, cellular and whole animal levels. The appointment will be for two years at a salary of \$16,000 per annum and has the potential of becoming a permanent staff position. For additional information contact: R.D. Ley, Research Division, Lovelace Medical Foundation, 5400 Gibson Boulevard, SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108; (505-262-7155).

Meetings

1984

Oct. 31-Nov. 2 - The New York Academy of Sciences conference on Medical and Biological Effects of Light: Implications for the Design of Interior Lighting Enviroments. The Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York City. Environmental light produces numerous biological effects related to health beyond simply affecting vision and cutaneous pigmentation. Some of these involve direct responses of circulating or cutaneous chemicals to light waves; others are mediated by the brain and neuroendocrine organs. Understanding of these effects may be important for the design of interior environments that optimize health. The conference will feature a limited number of poster presentations. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 15 July 1984. The abstracts should include the name of the author(s), institution, and a 100- to 200-word summary of the work to be presented. Send abstracts to: Richard J. Wurtman, M.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, E25-604, Cambridge, MA 02139. Chairs: John T. Potts, Jr., M.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, and Richard J. Wurtman, M.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology. For conference program and registration information, contact: Conference Department, The New York Academy of Sciences, New York, N.Y. 10021.. Telephone: 212-838-0203.

1985

May 1-4 - International Meeting on Porphyrins as Phototherapeutic Agents for Tumors and Other Diseases. Topics to be covered include: Photophysical and photosensitizing properties of porphyrins in model biological systems, cells, and in vivo; Interaction of porphyrins with organized biological systems in vitro; Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of porphyrins; Photodynamic therapy of transplanted and spontaneous animal tumors in the presence of porphyrins; Present clinical applications and new prospects of photodynamic therapy of tumors in the presence of porphyrins; direct and endoscopic procedures; Interaction between photodynamic therapy and other therapeutic modalities for tumors; Diagnostic techniques based on porphyrin luminescence; Light propagation and dosimetry in tissues; Phototechnology in photodynamic therapy of tumors; Novel potential application of photodynamic therapy with porphyrins (e.g., psoriasis, bacterial infections, atherosclerosis etc.). The meeting will be held in Alghero, a marine resort area in the north-west side of Sardinia island in the Mediteranean sea. Contact: Prof. Carlo Perria, Clinica Neurochirurgica, Dell'Universita' Di Sassari, 07100 Sassari (Italy).





Peptide, polymer or immunochemist with experience in protein modification to conjugate large numbers of chromophores to monoclonal antibodies. The work will be done in a multi-disciplinary laser medicine group. Postdoctoral or senior postdoctoral level. Send curriculum vitae and three letters of reference to: Professor John A. Parrish, Wellman Laboratories, Department of Dermatology, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 02114. (An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer)

Post-Doctoral Position - Fluorescence Spectroscopy. Studies of artificial and biological membranes and interactions with drugs etc. using fluorescence techniques. Experience either in membrane studies or fluorescence would be required. For additional information contact: C.D. Stubbs, Dept. of Pathology, Hahnemann University, Philadelphia, PA, (215-448-8313).

Post-Doctoral Positions. Two Post Doctoral positions are available to examine cellular mechanisms and preclinical parameters of Porphyrin Photoradiation Therapy. Experience in areas of mammalian cell biology or in-vivo tumor biology are desired. For more information contact: Charles J. Gomer, Ph.D., USC School of Medicine, Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles, 4650 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90027, (213-669-2335).

Post-Doctoral Position. If you are interested in a postdoctoral position to do picosecond work on biological systems (photosynthesis, phytochrome, energy transfer, etc.) please contact: A. Holzwarth/K. Schaffner, Max-Planck-Institut fur Strahlenchemie, Stiftstr 34, F-433 Mulheim/Ruhr, West Germany. Experience with lasers and/or biological systems required.

Post-Doctoral Position. Two year appointment to study the effects of melanin at shielding DNA from damage. Some experience in photobiology or photochemistry is desirable but not required. The work will be performed at the New Jersey Medical School in Newark, NJ approximately 30 minutes from downtown Manhattan. Contact Helene Z. Hill, Dept. of Radiology, 100 Bergen St., Newark, NJ 07103.

Post-Doctoral Position. A postdoctoral position will be available for one to two years beginning fall of 1984. The research program involves optical and magnetic resonance studies of nucleic acids and protein-nucleic acid complexes. In addition to optically-detected magnetic resonance (ODMR) studies, selected systems will also be investigated using high-field NMR and pulsed EPR. A magnetic resonance background is preferred, although experience primarily in optical spectroscopy may also be appropriate. Please contact: A. Kwiram, Department of Chemistry, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195 (206-543-1613).

Announcement of Professor/Chair Position, University of California at Davis. Title: Professor and Chair in the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (63%) and Biochemist in the Agricultural Experiment Station (37%); full time (11 month/year) tenured position. Responsibilities: To conduct research in biochemistry, preferably in cellular and molecular biology. To direct graduate students, participate in academic advising and to teach courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. To serve as chair of a dynamic department of 15 tenure-track faculty, 430 undergraduate majors, 33 graduate students and 24 postdoctoral fellows and visiting scientists; with opportunity to recruit new faculty. Qualifications: Ph.D. (or equivalent) in biochemistry or closely related field. Demonstrated excellence in research, teaching and leadership qualities. Salary and Rank: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Chair stipend. Available: July 1, 1985. To Apply: Send resume including a complete dossier of research, teaching and administrative experience, publication list, and names and addresses of five references to: Professor John R. Whitaker, Chair, Search Committee, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California, Davis, CA 95616 (Tel. 916-752-3611). Closing Date: Open until filled; in order to be assured of consideration, applications must be received by October 1, 1984.

In accordance with applicable State and Federal laws and University policy, the University of California does not discriminate in any of its policies, procedures, or practices on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, handicap, age, veterans status, medical condition (as defined in Section 12926 of the California Government Code), ancestry, or marital status; nor does the University discriminate on the basis of citizenship, within the limits imposed by law or University policy. In conformance with applicable law and University Policy, the University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Position Wanted

Dr. Aditya Kumar Gupta, Plant Research Laboratory, School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-100 067, INDIA, mailing address - 15/201 Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110-017, INDIA. Research Interests: (1) Control of gene expression in eukaryotic/prokaryotic systems. Gene regulation in differentiating systems and also by various modifiers such as hormones, cyclic nucleotides and biochemicals. (2) Enzyme regulation at the molecular level. Identification, isolation, sequencing of specific mRNAs, cDNA preparation and transfer of genes. Cloning of such genes and their expression in other suitable hosts. (3) Immunological problems involving recent techniques of immunoassays, enzyme linked immunoassays hybridoma systems and monoclonal antibodies.

From P&P

The Editorial Board of Photochemistry and Photobiology welcomes members' suggestions on topics and writers for Review Articles and Yearly Reviews. Please send your suggestions to Dr. P.-S. Song, Editor, Department of Chemistry, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409.

News from the Annual Meeting

Deceased members - five ASP members died during the last year:

Warren Butler - Biology Dept, University of California-San Diego, La Jolla, CA.
Boris Cumpelik - Hillsdale, NJ
Donald Kimeldorf - Portland, OR
Shih Y. Wang - Division of Environmental Chemistry, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, MD
Niina Valanne - University of Turku, Finland

Sigma Xi Lecturer

James Longworth will be our Sigma Xi lecturer for July 1985 through June 1986. His topic is "Lasers in Photobiology". This year's lecturer is Howard Seliger whose topics are "Optimization of Vision Bioluminescence in Fireflies" and "Plankton Transport Mechanisms in Estuaries". His term ends in June 1985.

More news from this meeting will appear in the October issue.

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PHOTOBIOLOGY

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