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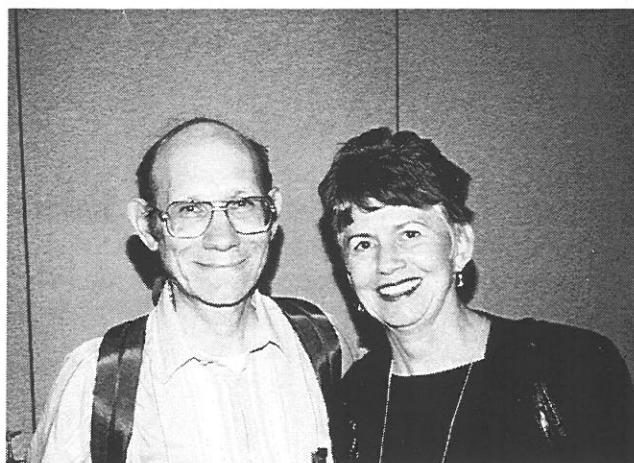
The Newsletter of the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior

President's Message

President Dorothy Gietzen
Univ. California-Davis

The major current news is the transition to a new Central Office for the management of the Society's business. We have been fortunate in obtaining the services of Marianne Van Wagner, at the University of Texas in San Antonio, to provide our office functions. Many of you already know Marianne, if you have been involved with the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society: she has served a similar function for that group since its inception. I know you will welcome Marianne as a charming and talented Executive Coordinator. To contact Marianne about dues, directory information updates, membership applications, etc., email her at ssib@utsa.edu, or see her address and phone numbers inside.

This big move is a tribute to our founding Executive Officer, Dr. Harry Kissileff, who has been taking care of the Society's business for so very long. Indeed, he was one of the original founders of the Society, and played a leadership role in developing the legal framework for our incorporation as a non-profit society. Dr. Kissileff then began keeping the Society's books at his home. The office later expanded to an Executive Office at St. Luke's in New York City, where Dr. Kissileff has been sharing space with the editorial staff of *Obesity Research*. Now, the Society has grown under Harry's leadership to the point that we need a professional office service. We all owe Dr. Kissileff a debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts in behalf of the Society. He continues to be an important source of guidance and advice, as we work through the arduous task of moving the office function to San Antonio. If there is anyone who knows the entire history of our Society and cares deeply about its well being, that one is Harry Kissileff. We know that we will continue to need his counsel as we proceed into the future.



Harry Kissileff and Dorothy Gietzen at the SSIB Neuroscience Social in Miami. (Photo by Marianne Van Wagner.)

The move to a professional Central Office is also a tribute to the leadership of our immediate Past President, Harvey Grill. Harvey really got the ball rolling, as he appointed an Intersociety Committee (made up of members who had experience in societies similar to SSIB in size and

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function) to compare how our fellow societies handle their offices and make recommendations to the Board. It was Harvey who recognized the need for this transition and kept the momentum going throughout his term of office, culminating in the Board's decision to obtain the services of a professional office. Mark Friedman chaired a committee to determine what functions such an office should provide for SSIB, bids were obtained, and Marianne was offered a contract to be our Executive Coordinator, as of November 1, 1999. We are indebted to Harvey for his determination and persistence in making this important step possible, and to Mark's committee for their careful and considered work to determine the duties of our new office provider.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Xavier Pi-Sunyer for his help in obtaining the space used at St. Luke's for our Executive Office. This precious space was invaluable to Dr. Kissileff in his operation of the Executive Office, and it would not have been possible without Dr. Pi-Sunyer's efforts.

For my own goals during this term of office as President, I have chosen to focus on revisiting the goals for SSIB's growth and development in the future. To that end, we had a Strategic Planning Committee meeting at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in Miami Beach. This was a long, but very productive session, in which we worked out a draft of a new Vision and Mission statement, along with a list of goals for the future. The members of that committee were: Danielle Greenberg, facilitator, Thomas Castonguay, Randall Sakai, Mark Bieber, Susan Aja, Marci Pelchat and Harvey Grill. We worked very hard, and I was very impressed with the outcome. According to protocol, we will present a working draft of our recommendations to the Long Range Planning Committee and the Board, with the goal of officially adopting the new Vision, Mission and Goals statements by the end of this fiscal year.

I would like to share my interpretation of the concepts that were developed by the Strategic Planning Committee, and invite the participation of all our members in the process, as we develop the final draft of these statements. I have taken

great liberties with the wording of our working documents here, but to summarize the ideas very briefly, the members of the Strategic Planning Committee see our Society as:

1. A leading scientific forum for information exchange about ingestive behavior,
2. Promoting scientific excellence,
3. Democratic, inclusive of all relevant disciplines, and having a diversity of membership,
4. Collegial and nurturing, as we recognize the accomplishments of our members, support their professional careers and support the development of our leaders for the future,
5. A resource for accurate information on ingestive behavior.

Please consider this an invitation to participate in the planning for the future of SSIB. I sent out an email just prior to the Strategic Planning Meeting, and received several thoughtful and carefully considered messages in return. These were most welcome, and were important in our initial discussion. An issue brought up by several responders was the need to focus more on human eating and broaden our experimental models to include animals other than rats and mice. We have incorporated the concept of increasing the diversity of our membership in the vision statement summarized above, and the minutes of the Board meeting reflect these concerns as well. Indeed, we will be having a day of overlapping sessions with the Food Choice congress, in Dublin next July. Other breaks from the "rat eating society" image will also be fostered in the Dublin meeting.

It is clear that the excellence of our annual meeting is the single most distinguishing feature of SSIB. We agree that this meeting should be promoted widely; every effort should be made to bring our young investigators to the meeting to display and discuss their work, to interact with each other (the future leaders of our field), and to meet the current leading scientists in the several disciplines represented by our membership.

We must have a secure financial foundation to assure the success of the activities of the society. Traditionally, we have enjoyed the support of several Corporate Sponsors. Please see the list of

these generous individuals and corporations displayed prominently elsewhere in this issue. These sponsors are the backbone of our Young Investigator's Award program, and it is hard to overstate their importance to our Society. In addition, for the first time support for the Young Investigators Awards, travel and participation in the annual meeting has been sought from NIH in the form of a grant proposal written this year by Tim Moran and Gary Schwartz; these two valiant individuals have assumed the roles of Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator, respectively. We also plan to have more exhibitors at our annual meeting, a move that should benefit those of our members and colleagues who have products or services to promote. As an example along this line, Elsevier will be participating in our meeting in Dublin, by way of a generous contribution, and they will be displaying examples

of their publications there as well. Additional creative fundraising ideas will always be welcome. If you have ideas for increasing our financial base, please do not hesitate to share them with me, Marianne, or any of the members of the Board.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to invite every one of our members to come to Trinity College in Dublin for our Millennial meeting. This meeting is being organized by the Program Committee, with Gary Schwartz, Chair, and members, Wolfgang Langhans and Margriet Westerterp-Plantenga, and the Local Meeting Chairmen: Steve Cooper and John Duggan. Under their able leadership, we can look forward to a dynamic and exciting meeting in a wonderful venue. Please plan to come and bring your students and colleagues!

Member News

The symposium "Anorexia during disease - from research to clinical practice" will be held in Ascona, Switzerland, September 10-15, 2000. In this symposium clinicians and basic scientists from various fields (i.e. molecular biology, immunology, neurophysiology, nutrition, psychology) will take an integrated bench-to-bedside approach to advance our knowledge in this clinically important area of research. For the preliminary program and more information contact wolfgang.langhans@inw.agrl.ethz.ch or visit <http://www.csf-anorexia-symposium.ethz.ch>

Gary Schwartz is now an Associate Professor at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University. His new address is:

Gary J. Schwartz, Ph.D.
Bourne Research Laboratory
Weill Medical College of Cornell University
21 Bloomingdale Rd.
White Plains, NY 10605 USA
Tel: 914-682-9100 x 2690, Fax: 914-682-3793
Email: gjs@jhmi.edu

Simon Thornton's email address has changed again. It is now:

Simon.Thornton@nancy.inserm.fr

Erratum

In the last newsletter, Dr. Satya Kalra [Univ. Florida] was inadvertently omitted from the list of speakers in the NIH-sponsored symposium entitled "Current Perspectives on Hypothalamic Neuropeptides in Feeding and Energy Regulation." He spoke on his recent and innovative work employing gene therapy to study ingestive behavior.

Knut Schmidt-Nielsen, *The Camel's Nose: Memoirs of a Curious Scientist*. Illustrations by K.K. Davis. Island Press, Washington, DC, 1998. ISBN 1-55963-512-6

Reviewed by Doug Fitts, Dept. of Psychology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.

As a new postdoc in the early 80s, I worked up several lectures on "Weird Animals", in which I discussed water and food economy and metabolism in all sorts of animals other than laboratory rats and humans. Much of the inspiration for the lectures came from the many field researches of Knut (and Bodil) Schmidt-Nielsen. How could kangaroo rats survive in the desert without drinking any water? How could sea birds survive in the ocean environment where they rarely encountered any fresh water? Why do camels not rapidly lose their body water to evaporation during prolonged exposure to the hot desert environment like the rest of us? What about desert molluscs, who may go years without food or water? What about penguins, who incubate their eggs many kilometers across the ice from their food sources in the sea?

Thanks to Knut Schmidt-Nielsen (James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of Physiology in the Department of Zoology at Duke University) and his coworkers, many of these questions have been answered through the years. For example, the kangaroo rats live on metabolic water derived from a diet high in carbohydrate and fat and relatively low in protein. They have enormously powerful kidneys that excrete urine almost devoid of water, and have numerous other adaptations that greatly reduce evaporative losses. If the kangaroo rat is forced to eat a diet high in protein, free water is obligated for the excretion of excess nitrogen in urine, and these tiny beasts can then drink and survive quite well on sea water as a supplement to their diet. (The question of how the animal selects a diet that maximizes its metabolic water usage is still open!)

The human story of how Knut Schmidt-Nielsen and his colleagues cracked the mysteries of the kangaroo rats, the camels, penguins, and the rest are chronicled in this memoir. The globetrotting scientist takes us from his native

home in Scandinavia to the desert southwest in America, to Africa, the Amazon, Australia, the Dead Sea, and just about anywhere else that the environment is hostile and yet supports animal life. In studying the titled camel, Schmidt-Nielsen had to make use of a tiny humidity detector that he could incrementally push up the nares of a suitably agreeable animal. He discovered that the large surface area of the lining of the camel's nose evaporated most of its water and cooled considerably with each inspired breath. Thus, when the warm, saturated, expired air flowed back over this surface it tended to condense and be absorbed back into the mucosal lining rather than being passed out into the environment. He was even able to construct a model of such a nose that saturated air as it flowed in and then recaptured the moisture as the air flowed out.

This is a story of a life, not a scientific document, so we learn of his early years and family life, education, his marriage to and divorce from Bodil, his children, psychoanalysis (with mercifully few details), his second marriage to a much younger woman, how his studies of the camel's nose were scooped in publication by Charles Schultz in the comic strip *Peanuts*, and his various accolades. Especially memorable are his experiments with various dietary customs throughout the world, including scrambled turtle eggs and a tropical fruit, durian, that smells like an outhouse the first time you try it. (Later, he claims,



Schmidt-Nielsen in Béni Abbès, Algeria, 1954.

you come to perceive the aroma of durian as fruity and quite attractive.) Nevertheless, the science is all there in brief, and told in the crystal clear and simple language that is his hallmark. Anyone could read this book and easily understand why he wanted to do each study, the technical problems and their solutions, and the importance of what he learned. Above all, he expresses the joy of biological research, and he lets the reader share in the fun of exploration and discovery.

[Editor's Note: SSIB member T. Richard Houpt accompanied Schmidt-Nielsen on his 1954 expedition to Algeria.]

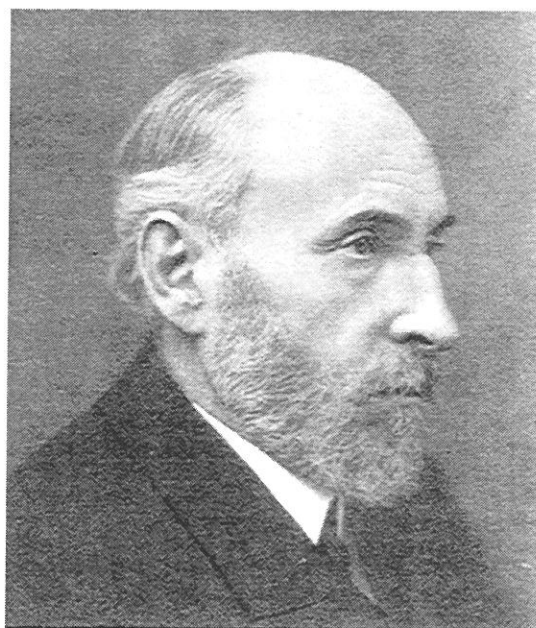
Santiago Ramón y Cajal, *Advice for a Young Investigator*. Translated by N. Swanson and L.W. Swanson. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 1999. ISBN 0-262-18191-6

Reviewed by Gerard P. Smith, E.W. Bourne Lab., Weill Medical College of Cornell University.

Of the three founders of modern neuroscience – Cajal, Pavlov, and Sherrington – Cajal wrote the most about his experience as a scientist. His autobiography, *Recollections of My Life*, is a justly famous classic. In contrast, the *Advice for a Young Investigator* is less well-known outside of Spain (where the sixth and last edition is still in print). Although an English translation appeared in 1951, it has had little impact. For these reasons, this new translation by the Swansons is especially welcome.

The book has nine chapters and their titles range from “Beginner’s Traps” and “What Newcomers to Biological Research Should Know,” to “Stages of Scientific Research” and “The Investigator as Teacher.” The usual trap in this kind of book is the accumulation of platitudes. Cajal avoids this by peppering his advice with apt quotations from a variety of scientists and by tempering his generalizations with candid reminders of his fallibility. I thought three chapters were especially good.

The first was chapter 2, “Beginner’s Traps.” They are: undue admiration of authority, the belief that the most important problems are already solved, preoccupation with applied science, and



Santiago Ramón y Cajal, 1912.

perceived lack of ability. His comment on the belief that the most important problems are already solved is vintage Cajal: “This is often indolence masquerading as modesty.”

As for those who believe they lack the necessary ability to discover things, Cajal is skeptical: “But are the great majority of those professing incompetence really so? Might they exaggerate how difficult the task will be, and underestimate their own abilities? I believe that this is often the case, and would even venture to suggest that many people habitually confuse inability with the simple fact that they learn and understand slowly, or perhaps are sometimes even lazy or they don’t have a secondary trait such as patience, thoroughness, or determination – which may be acquired rapidly through hard work and the satisfaction of success.”

The second chapter that caught my eye was the fifth, “Diseases of the Will.” This is a pungent discussion of the kinds of personal attitudes and interests that prevent original investigation. Cajal identifies six major syndromes: Contemplators, Bibliophiles and Polyglots, Megalomaniacs, Instrument Addicts, Misfits, and Theorists. Cajal even proposes a cure: “If none of the advice in

this chapter seems to help those for whom it is intended, they should examine their conscience and decide whether or not they would benefit from undergoing a spiritual cure abroad. The laboratory of a scholar is an ideal sanatorium for wandering attention and faltering will. Here, old prejudices vanish and new contagions that are both enlightening and sublime are contracted."

In the last chapter, "The Investigator as Teacher", Cajal has some wise advice for the older investigator, whatever her age. Conceding that identifying "creative talent and an irrevocable calling for scientific research" is difficult, Cajal suggests, "True vocation always consists of a special activity for which the young man (or woman) sacrifices time and money, scorning the distractions of our age....Vocation does not imply aptitude, nor does aptitude necessarily guarantee success. The latter has a complex genesis because complementary elements enter into it. They include the shrewdness to track down rich lodes of knowledge, a gift for assimilating new ideas, a sure and penetrating critical sense, a good bibliographic and methodological orientation, and even a certain philosophical turn of mind."

Having identified a potential scientist, the mature scholar must develop her. Cajal is hard on investigators that abuse their students (and postdocs): "It also seems unnecessary to recommend that professors avoid taking undue

advantage of a docile student's energy under the pretext of directing and preparing him. This abuse reveals an offensive egotism and thrives in some schools abroad, where the novice in certain professions pays for his schooling with the exploitation of an apprenticeship....Scholars occasionally descend to such reprehensible exploitation because of hard times, but more often in eager pursuit of honors and awards, which are incompatible with a peaceful life and with thorough and persevering work. Having arrived with honor, one must fall with honor, and personal merit should be enough for anyone. The master is repaid amply by the satisfaction of having awakened latent abilities and shaped creative minds."

The book closes with advice to the scholar beyond maturity: "If weakened senses and failing will deprive the aging man (or woman) of the vigor necessary for research work, he should resolutely abandon his active professorship....Gracián has pointed out that the ultimate in discretion is 'to know when to stop.'"

The great and passionate Spaniard has poured the wisdom he distilled from the years he spent looking at brains through a microscope into this book. In this new translation, it will continue to challenge, instruct, and inspire scientists of all ages.

New Investigators Forum: *Plans for 2000*

We represented the New Investigators Forum at the SSIB Board meeting last October at the Society for Neuroscience meeting. Respondents to our questionnaire have expressed interest in workshops on topics scientific and otherwise, mentoring programs, regular bulletins to new investigators, job placement assistance, socials, and the list goes on. We have decided to focus on a few of many worthy projects for the coming year. First, it is our view that we should host a social for new investigators at the SSIB meeting in Dublin. This event would provide a forum to discuss ways in which the group might develop, as well as a fun opportunity to get to know each other

better. Second, the idea of hosting a career seminar/job fair at the meeting has been well received. We would like to invite representatives from academia (research and education), industry, and government to bring the newest group of young scientists up to date on developments in these areas, and to focus on how current trends may affect those of us in fields related to ingestive behavior. It could also provide an opportunity for job-seekers to meet with those offering positions, with the particular aim of uniting people from the US with those from other countries. Third, we have found that contacting all new investigators is not as easy as one might think, so we are working

on strategies to enhance communication among new investigators via *Intake*, the website, and a listserver.

Now that some ideas are on the table, the time has come for the practical work that it takes to produce results. We have established three committees. People who are interested in working with these committees should contact the following people:

Social: Ayman Sayegh (ayman@vetmed.wsu.edu)

Career Seminar/Job Fair: Johnathan Roth (jd Roth@vet.upenn.edu) or Stacy Markison (markison@cattell.psych.upenn.edu)

Communications: Beckie Moore (beckie.moore@mrc-hnr.cam.ac.uk) or Kath Curtis (curtis@darwin.psy.fsu.edu)

We envision the group as a forum for free exchange of ideas, a vehicle for gaining practical experience in leadership and teamwork, and a valuable resource of information for new investigators in SSIB. Our work is in the formative stage, so we encourage input and active participation by all new investigators in SSIB.

Susan Aja (susanaja@hotmail.com)

Mads Tang-Christensen (M.Tang@mai.ku.dk)

Summary of the Minutes of the SSIB Board meeting

October 25, 1999 Miami, FL. Submitted by Suzanne Sunday, Secretary

In attendance: Susan Aja, Dorothy Gietzen, Danielle Greenberg, Harvey Grill, Tom Hout, Harry Kissileff, Ellen Ladenheim, Wolfgang Langhans, Neil Rowland, Randall Sakai, Gary Schwartz, Ken Simansky, Alan Spector, Suzanne Sunday, Simon Thornton, Joe Vasselli.

1. Executive Coordinator Marianne Van Wagner presented her proposal to serve as Executive Coordinator of SSIB. She pointed out that she is currently serving the same function for the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society (which she has done since 1992) and she was asked questions about security, time, etc. She believes that SSIB would occupy about 25% of her time. After Marianne left, the report concerning the Executive Office was reported on by Joe Vasselli. The committee first prepared the responsibilities of the Executive Office and then got bids from Panacea and Marianne Van Wagner. The final costs were estimated at \$13,000 for Marianne Van Wagner and \$17,300 for Panacea. MOTION: To accept Marianne Van Wagner as the provider of the Executive Office services. This was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. MOTION: The duties of the Executive Officer will be redefined. That has been moved, seconded, and passed. MOTION: Marianne Van Wagner should begin her services with SSIB on Nov. 1, 1999. That was moved, seconded, and passed.

2. Treasurer's Report The 1999 Treasurer's report was presented by Joe Vasselli. The expenses are higher because St. Luke's finally billed us for Executive Office rent (for 1997-1999) and Karen Ackroff was paid for being newsletter editor. The deficit will be

paid from our money market account. The 2000 budget was presented. The projected surplus will be put back into the money market account (since money was removed from there this year). A question was asked about subsidizing student travel to Dublin. Tim Moran and Gary Schwartz have applied to NIH-NIDDK for \$15,000 to further support student travel; they should hear about this grant in early 2000. Duggan and Cooper were also asked to raise additional money to support student travel. The 1999 budget was approved. The total cost of the 2000 budget was amended to \$44,000 (the costs of Marianne Van Wagner, deleting the Web costs, \$500 to obtain insurance to cover liability for the Society, and adding \$500 for Ellen Ladenheim's travel for Archive committee) and the income will be \$51,892 leaving a surplus of \$7892. This was passed.

3. Committee Reports

a. The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) report was presented by Alan Spector. A motion was passed by the LRPC to have the 2001 meeting at U. Penn hosted by Harvey Grill and colleagues. Gary Schwartz presented the results from the questionnaires from the Clearwater meeting. The responses were mostly positive with 2 complaints-not enough human work and the symposiums overlapped with other sessions. The LRPC suggests that symposia be offered with no conflicts. They also will be pursuing 2002 and 2003 meeting locations.

b. Gary Schwartz reported on the Program Committee report. There was a recommendation for the establishment of time and space for industry,

investigators, and students at our annual meeting to discuss careers in the field. It was also recommended that there be exhibitors at the Dublin meeting. The housing and meeting sites arrangement are progressing well and publicity is also proceeding. The Program Committee will convene in late spring to get out the programs by May 1 (the abstract deadline will be April 15). The establishment for procedures to chair an annual meeting should facilitate future meetings. The form is quite long but the Board has requested this information. Programs will again be available via email and available in hardcopy form for attendees.

c. Ellen Ladenheim reported on the Women's Forum meeting at the Clearwater meeting, which was very successful. Attendees completed a questionnaire. Issues such as career development, sexual harassment, and gender bias were discussed. Perhaps a workshop on career development and a mentoring program could be established for a future SSIB meeting.

d. Susan Aja reported on the New Investigators/Students group. They spoke with Nancy Rawson (the previous chair of this committee) and they sent a questionnaire on INGEST. They have gotten 16 responses but many students may not be on INGEST. Susan summarized the results of the questionnaire. They will have a social meeting at the Dublin meeting. Ideas such as a job fair were presented. They are planning to have an article in each newsletter. They will also be doing an outreach to EuroSSIB and non-members who attend annual meetings.

e. Ellen Ladenheim presented on the Historian's report. She stated her need for guidance and direction from the Board about what we believe should be archived. Harry Kissileff has an archive established at Columbia University and will send Ellen a copy of the list. Ellen and Harry will work together with an Archive Committee to combine the two collections. MOTION: Establish an Archive Committee to coalesce the Archives and manage and publicize the contents of the archives with a chair and members appointed by the President and approved by the Board. This was moved, seconded and passed.

f. Tom Houpt reported that he has completed his first newsletter. He would like to have regional reviews of work in future issues. A question was asked about putting the newsletter on the Web page. It wouldn't be a problem and Tom will discuss it with Gary Schwartz.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Sunday, Secretary

Staying in Touch...

SSIB Website:

<http://lshome.utsa.edu/SSIB>

General inquiries and suggestions:

President, Dr. Dorothy Gietzen
c/o Labo Nutrition Humaine, Institut
National Agronomique, 16, rue Claude Bernard,
75231 Paris, Cedex 05, FRANCE.
Email: dwgietzen@ucdavis.edu

Dues, directory updates, & membership applications:

Marianne Van Wagner,
Executive Coordinator
SSIB Central Office,
Division of Life Sciences
The University of Texas at San Antonio
6900 North Loop 1604 West
San Antonio, Texas 78249-0662
Tel: 210-458-4610, Fax: 210-458-4510
Email: ssib@utsa.edu

Support for animal care concerns:

Animal Care and Use Committee Co-Chair,
Dr. Thomas R. Scott
201 Elliot Hall, University of Delaware
Newark, DE 19716
Tel: 302-831-2351, Fax: 302-831-26451
Email: Thomas.Scott@mvs.udel.edu

Material for the SSIB newsletter:

Editor, Dr. Thomas A. Houpt
Dept. Biological Sciences, BRF 209 MC 4340,
The Florida State Univ., Tallahassee, FL 32306
Tel: 850-644-4907, Fax: 850-644-0989
Email: haupt@neuro.fsu.edu

SSIB Annual Meeting in Dublin, July 2000

The year 2000 SSIB Annual Meeting will be held at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, July 25-29, 2000. Ireland and especially Dublin are in the midst of a big cultural and economic upswing, and it's going to be great to be there. Comfortable, renovated on-campus housing is available, and the campus is in the heart of scenic Dublin. We are hoping for a big turnout to usher in the new millennium.

Our SSIB meeting will be followed by the Food Choice meeting (July 28-31), also at Trinity College, and preceded by both the International Symposium on Olfaction and Taste (July 21-24, Brighton, UK) and the International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience Congress (July 17-21, London).

NOW is the time to be thinking about and submitting your suggestions for Symposia to the SSIB Program Committee (gjs@jhmi.edu). Symposia proposals should include:

- Symposium title
- Brief description of topic
- Names and contact information for chair(s) and speakers
- Individual presentation titles with brief abstracts.

The Program Committee will convene soon to determine final symposia. The symposia form a critical component of our annual meeting, so please give us your suggestions.

For further meeting information, pictures, maps, and related links, visit the SSIB Web page at <http://lshome.utsa.edu/SSIB/dublin.html/>

- Gary J. Schwartz

How to INGEST

All members of SSIB can subscribe to the INGEST mailing list, which allows you to broadcast and receive messages from everyone on the list. There are two relevant e-mail addresses: one is for sending messages to all subscribers, the other is for administrative matters.

- Email ingest@runner.utsa.edu to send messages to everyone currently on the list.
- Email majordomo@runner.utsa.edu to send the following commands, formatted as separate lines in the body of the message.
- SUBSCRIBE INGEST To place your name on the list.
- UNSUBSCRIBE INGEST To remove your name from the list, and you will stop receiving messages posted to the list.
- HELP To obtain additional help or commands.
- If your email address is changing, please UNSUBscribe using your old email address before your old address expires, and SUBscribe using your new address to continue receiving INGEST messages.

Calendar of Events

April 15, 2000 - Abstracts due for SSIB annual meeting in Dublin.

April 15, 2000 - Deadline for materials for the May 2000 issue of the SSIB Newsletter.

April 24, 2000 - Abstracts due for Society for Neuroscience meeting in New Orleans, Nov. 2000.

The 20th European Winter Conference on Brain Research will be held in Villars sur Ollon, Switzerland, March 11-18, 2000. Contact Promotion des Neurosciences Europeenes, 34 rue Victor Carmignac, 94110 Arcueil, France Fax: 01 49 69 96 57 e-mail: ewcbr@citi2.fr, or e-mail Simon.Thornton@nancy.inserm.fr.

The 22nd annual meeting of the Association for Chemoreception Sciences (AChemS) will be held in Sarasota, FL, April 26-30, 2000. For more information check the AChemS website at <http://www.neuro.fsu.edu/achems/>.

The International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience will hold its millennium congress in London, UK, from July 17-21, 2000. For more information check the ISAN website at <http://www.physiol.ucl.ac.uk/isan2000/index.html>.

The XII International Symposium on Olfaction and Taste (ISOT) will be held in combination with the XIV Biennial Congress of European Chemoreception Research Organisation (ECRO) in Brighton, UK, from July 20-24, 2000. For more information check the ISOT/ECRO website <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/~psraw/>.

July 25-29, 2000 Annual Meeting of SSIB in Dublin, Ireland. For more information, check the website: <http://lshome.utsa.edu/SSIB/dublin.html>.

The symposium "Anorexia during disease - from research to clinical practice" will be held in Ascona, Switzerland, September 10 -15, 2000. For

more information see <http://www.csf-anorexia-symposium.ethz.ch>.

The Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA, Nov. 4-9, 2000. See <http://www.sfn.org> for more information.

The 34th International Congress of Physiological Sciences will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand, August 26-31, 2001. The theme of this participatory congress is "From Molecule to Malady" and will bring together individuals and ideas from all areas of the physiological sciences. For further information, visit www.iups2001.org.nz.

The Columbia University Seminar on Appetitive Behavior 1999-2000

February 10: Joanne E. Cecil, Monell Chemical Senses Center, *Oral, Gastric and Intestinal Influences on the Regulation of Appetite and Feeding Behavior in Humans*.

March 9: Terry L. Davidson, Dept. Psychol. Sciences, Purdue Univ., *Pavlovian Occasion Setting: A Link Between Physiological Change and Appetitive Behavior*.

April 13: Gerard P. Smith, Bourne Lab., NY Hospital - Weill Medical Center, *The Current Status of the Theory of Direct and Indirect Controls of Meal Size*.

May 11: Leonard A. Rosenblum, SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn, *Individual Patterns of Fluid Ingestion within Monkey Social Groups*.

June 15: Nori Geary, Bourne Lab., NY Hospital-Weill Medical Center, *Estradiol and Feeding*.

All meetings are on Thursday evenings in the Faculty House. For further information contact: Dr. Harry R. Kissileff, Seminar Chairman or Janet L. Guss, Rapporteur, St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital, 1111 Amsterdam Ave., New York, NY 10025 Tel: 212-523-4206 (w), 212-316-0255 (h). JLL20@columbia.edu

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES at the University of Pennsylvania with Harvey Grill and Joel Kaplan to study the neural basis of energy homeostasis. The laboratory emphasizes the contribution of caudal brainstem mechanisms, with attention to functional interactions between hindbrain, forebrain and peripheral systems. The interactions are evaluated in terms of a range of behavioral, gastrointestinal, autonomic-metabolic, and endocrine variables evaluated. The interested candidate could take advantage of ongoing collaborations with Steve Fluharty's [e.g., cellular analysis of receptor function, expression profiling] and with Rex Ahima's [e.g., molecular biology of adipose tissue, neural-adipose interaction] laboratory. Contact Harvey Grill (grill@psych.upenn.edu) or Joel Kaplan (jmk@psych.upenn.edu) or mail vita, selected papers and names of references to either at University of Pennsylvania, 3815 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION is available immediately in an interdisciplinary project to characterize the regulation of behavioral and neuroendocrine responses to psychological stimuli by the ventral hippocampal formation. The research will be conducted in collaboration with a large center of basic and clinical scientists investigating the neurobiology of severe mental illness. The Psychiatric Institute is a collaboration between the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Chicago, and provides a rich environment for postdoctoral training and more advanced career development in fundamental neuroscience and its relationship to neuropsychiatric disorders. The successful candidate will have experience in one or more of the following areas: neuroanatomy, neuropharmacology, behavioral assessment, neuroendocrinology, and be able to design his/her own experimental studies. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, list of three references, and a statement of interests to: Morris B. Goldman, M.D., email: m-goldman@uchicago.edu

RESEARCH SPECIALIST POSITION: Studies in regulation of body weight, food intake, and energy metabolism. Experience with rats, tissue culture, and laboratory assays helpful. Call: Dr. Richard Atkinson, University of Wisconsin, 1415 Linden Dr., Madison, WI, 53706; Tel: 608-265-5306; email: rla@medicine.wisc.edu

POSTDOCTORAL & GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES in Animal Behavior at Indiana University. The Program in Animal Behavior at Indiana University seeks outstanding candidates for training in animal behavior that combines approaches from biology, neuroscience, and psychology. POSTDOCTORAL candidates should apply by March 1, 2000 for a one-year position (renewable) contingent on federal funding. PREDOCTORAL candidates should apply by Jan. 15th for fall 2000. Inquires to: CISAB, 402 N. Park Ave., Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN 47405; Tel: (812)855-9663; fax: (812) 855-0411, email: lisummer@indiana.edu, website: www.indiana.edu/~animal/academics/

CISAB_postdoc.html Applications by minorities and women are encouraged. AA/EOE. US citizenship is not required.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP on NIH training grant available immediately. The goal is to provide multidisciplinary training in basic neurobiology related to Neurological Disorders and Recovery of Function for individuals interested in research careers in these fields. This subproject studies the role of serotonergic and other receptor subtypes in supporting transplant-mediated recovery of motor function after spinal cord damage in rats. *Related work addresses the role of serotonin in modulating motor patterns associated with other behaviors including ingestion.* The environment is very collaborative and supported by Program Project, individual federal and foundation grants. Applicants with experience in using in vitro pharmacological and molecular methods to study receptor function are particularly encouraged. Candidates should be US citizens or permanent residents with PhD, MD or comparable degree. Send CV, statement of research interests and 3 references to Kenny J. Simansky, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, MCP Hahnemann University, 3200 Henry Avenue, Phila., PA 19129, email: Simansky@Drexel.Edu. MCP Hahnemann University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION is available immediately for NIH-sponsored neurophysiological research on cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in the generation, transduction, and neural integration of metabolic signals that control feeding behavior and energy balance. An ability and interest to work in a multidisciplinary environment is essential. Send CV, statement of interest and past research experience, and names and e-mail addresses of three references to: Dr. Gary J. Schwartz, Weill Medical College Cornell University, Bourne Lab, 21 Bloomingdale Rd., White Plains, NY 10605 USA.. Fax: 914-682-3793, email: gjs@jhmi.edu. AA/EOE.

TWO POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS are open to study the genetics of human obesity at the Behavioral Genetics Laboratory, Center for Neurobiology and Behavior, University of Pennsylvania. One postdoctoral position focuses on the collection of family resources suitable for genetic analysis, and is a good opportunity for an individual with a strong background in human experimental psychology to learn human genetics. The second postdoctoral position focuses upon linkage and linkage disequilibrium analysis and the development of new methods to investigate the genetics of obesity and other complex traits. Those individuals with a strong statistical background are encouraged to apply. **RESEARCH ASSOCIATE / RESEARCH COORDINATOR:** Opportunity to conduct research in human genetics, implement and develop methods of family collection, database management and administration, and data analysis. The qualified candidate will have a strong background in

human experimental methods, either a Masters or a Ph.D. in Psychology or Genetics, and have experience in management of long-term data collection projects. Please address all inquiries to R. Arlen Price, 415 Curie Blvd, #135b, Philadelphia PA 19104 Email: arlen@bgl.psycha.upenn.edu, website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgl/>. An Equal Employment Opportunity Company/ Minorities Women.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION IN GUSTATORY NEUROBIOLOGY available immediately to study functional organization of brainstem gustatory nuclei. Experiments in NIDCD-sponsored projects focus on topographic segregation and convergence in the processing of taste and oral somatosensory information and their relationship to efferent circuitry and neurotransmitter phenotype. Additional studies focus on brainstem circuits mediating ingestion and rejection responses and peptide modulation of motor patterns elicited by gustatory stimuli. Experience in neurophysiology, immunohistochemistry, or in situ hybridization desirable. Send or email your research interests, vitae to Dr. Susan Travers (Travers.3@osu.edu) or Dr. Joseph Travers (Travers.1@osu.edu), Section of Oral Biology, College of Dentistry, Ohio State University, 305 W12th Ave, Columbus OH. 43210.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Louisiana State University. One NIH-funded postdoctoral Research Associate position is available for participating in the study of visceral afferent pathways involved in the control of food intake and body weight. Research goals include identification of sensory-specific vagal afferent pathways from the periphery to the various integrative brain sites, characterization of their neurochemical features, and their role in ingestive behavior and autonomic regulation. Experience with either neuroanatomical, electrophysiological, neurochemical or behavioral methods is necessary. One NIH-funded postdoctoral Research Associate position is available in autonomic physiology, for studying the vagal efferent-enteric interface. Research goals include identification of function-specific vagal efferent pathways from the brain to the gastrointestinal tract, liver and pancreas, at the anatomical, neurochemical, and functional level. Experience with either electrophysiology, neuroanatomical or immunohistochemical, including hybridization, methods is required. For both positions, the interest and ability to work in a small research team but interact and grow in the multidisciplinary environment of a much larger group of researchers involved in the molecular, genetic, behavioral and nutritional aspects of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, is essential. Send letters of interest with a statement of past research experience, CV and names of three references to: Dr. H.-R. Berthoud, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, 6400 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808; email: berthohr@mhs.pbrc.edu.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION(S) in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Tordoff at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia, USA. Areas of particular interest include the physiology of mineral appetite, and the genetics of taste perception. However, applications from independently-minded individuals with interests in any area of ingestion research will also be entertained. There are many opportunities for collaborations with other groups studying smell and taste (www.monell.org). Address inquiries to: Michael Tordoff, Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19104-3308, USA., or e-mail tordoff@monell.org.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS The Department of Psychiatry, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, invites applications to an NIMH-sponsored, multidisciplinary training program in the behavioral and molecular neuroscience of food intake and body weight regulation. The faculty integrates behavioral, physiological, neurochemical and molecular skills to investigate the peripheral and central mechanisms mediating ingestive behavior and controlling body weight. Research perspectives and interests include molecular genetics and molecular biology, development, neuropeptides, steroids, taste, visceral sensory systems, and learning. Applicants must be citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents of the United States. Women and minority members are encouraged to apply. Send letters of inquiry to James Gibbs, MD, Bourne Laboratory, Cornell Medical Center, White Plains, NY 10605. Fax 914-682-3793, email: jgibbs@med.cornell.edu.

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