News from the President

James Gibbs
Cornell University Medical College

Let's get international!

From its organization ten years ago, SSIB had members from several countries, as well as strong advocates that we should one day become a truly international society. Progress has been steady, and the time is right for a special effort. This new year offers the opportunity for a major step toward the goal of internationalization.

Our meeting next July will be held in Pécs, Hungary in cooperation with the 12th International Conference on the Physiology of Food and Fluid Intake, a satellite of the International Union of Physiological Sciences. The local organizers, László Lénárd and Zoltán Karádi, are well into organizing an outstanding event. In keeping with our international theme, I am especially pleased to announce that Professor James Fitzsimons, of the Physiological Laboratory, University of Cambridge, will accept the Distinguished Career Award of our Society and will address the conference in Pécs.

Pécs is an ancient and picturesque University town in southern Hungary. It boasts excellent facilities in its Medical School, the site of our conference. Almost as close to Vienna as it is to Budapest, Pécs is an excellent point to begin a vacation in Eastern or Western Europe. SSIB is exploring ways to lower the cost of travel to Pécs, including a variety of group flight plans, and we should have news on this soon. You will find further details on Pécs and conference plans to date in this issue.

I strongly urge all of our members to begin making plans now to attend. This will be a memorable scientific meeting.

Speaking of internationalization, news of EuroSSIB also appears in this issue. Steve Cooper, at the University of Durham, has launched this group over the past few months in an effort to build SSIB membership and activities in Europe and to facilitate scientific collaborations among European members.

Your officers and Board members want to hear from you. Please forward ideas about how we can recruit new members for our society, not only in Europe, but globally. Becoming more international is a goal we all want, but it won't become a reality without specific steps. Finally, as we build our international presence, we can look forward to celebrating the new millennium—in 2000, SSIB is preparing plans to hold its first entirely independent foreign meeting at the invitation of Stelios Nicolaids, in Dijon, France.

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The Year in Review
Tim Moran, Past-President

During the past year, SSIB continued to grow, both in membership and in the range of activities in which we have become involved. SSIB is now widely recognized as an important society that can make contributions at many levels. We are now regularly contacted to join various national efforts dealing with nutrition and diet. These include the involvement of SSIB representatives in establishing the mission of the new NIH Office of Dietary Supplements and setting the agenda of the new Nutrition and Health Council of America. As president, I was frequently contacted for letters in efforts to influence various aspects of government or NIH policy.

One of the main issues that we, as a group of scientists interested in the controls of ingestive behavior, were faced with this past year was the decision of NIH to reevaluate and reorganize the review of neuroscience related grants. As I have reported previously, a number of our members voiced their concerns about the process to the Division of Research Grants and had a positive impact on what types of grants were included in this reevaluation process. The structure and expertise for new panels has been proposed and ingestive behavior is identified as a main focus of two of the panels. We now have to ensure that we have representation on these panels so that our work and ideas will get an informed review. I know that this is a priority of our new president, Jim Gibbs.

Important dates!

October 15, 1997—Dues due
October 27—Board Meeting at Neuroscience
October 29—Social at Neuroscience
December 1—SSIBlings material deadline
December 22—Nominations close
February 20, 1998—Abstracts close for Annual Meeting in Pécs, Hungary
February 27—Spring meeting at EPA, Boston, MA
March 27—Ballots due
April 15—SSIBlings deadline for May issue
April 27—Neuroscience abstract postmark deadline
July 5-8—Annual Meeting, Pécs, Hungary

Thanks to the efforts of Gary Schwartz, we had a terrific annual meeting here at Hopkins. Those of you who did not attend missed out an excellent scientific program, pleasant accommodations and outstanding receptions and closing banquet (you also missed the temperatures of over 100 degrees—fortunately everything was air conditioned). Unlike in the past, even those who did not attend the meeting were able to keep up with some of the progress in our field since we did send copies of the meeting program and abstracts to the entire membership for the first time.

A number of our US members visited with their congressional delegations in conjunction with the Baltimore meeting. Those who did reported that they found their representatives to be interested and responsive. I encourage more of you to "inform" your representatives about our important work.

As an international society, we need to look beyond the US for opportunities to shape government funding and policy decision as they affect the research of our members. Steve Cooper has initiated efforts to increase communication among our European members as a first step in this direction. His efforts along these lines are important and need support from all of us.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to work for the SSIB during the last year. There was more to being president than I realized when I agreed to run for the position. I encourage all of you to get involved in the activities of the society and support the efforts of Jim Gibbs during the coming year. I also want to strongly encourage everyone to attend our 1998 annual meeting which will be held in conjunction with ICPFII in Pécs, Hungary.

The call for nominations for the next election is enclosed with this issue. The Nominations Committee wants your input! SSIB is striving to expand the geographic range of its leadership, and welcomes suggestions for members outside the US.

SSIB's first book is in press, and it's a bargain! It's called Ingestive Behavior Protocols, and we have Paul Wellman and Bart Hoebel to thank for assembling and editing this useful volume. More information and an order form are enclosed with this issue.

SSIBlings
SSIB 1998 Annual Meeting with ICPFFI in Hungary

The 12th International Conference on the Physiology of Food and Fluid Intake (ICPFFI XII) and Joint Meeting with the Society for the Study of Intensive Behavior (SSIB Annual Meeting, 1998) will be held at the Pécs University Medical School in Pécs, Hungary, July 5–8, 1998. The purpose of the meeting is to foster communication among scientists interested in the regulation of ingestive behavior, from both basic science and clinical perspectives. The conference will include symposia, free presentations and poster sessions. There will also be plenary lectures by invited speakers. The Scientific Advisory Committee and the Organizers welcome suggestions for the program.

The First Circular for the Meeting has been sent by the organizers to all SSIB members. Please reply promptly to be placed on the mailing list and receive further details in the Second Circular. The registration deadline is February 20, 1998.

The registration fee is $200, the late registration fee is $275, and the abstract fee is $30. A variety of accommodation facilities (from student dormitories to two or three star hotels) will be available to the participants of the conference.

For more information (or if you have not received the First Circular yet) contact the local organizers (Conference President: László Lénárd, Conference Secretary: Zoltán Karádi), the IUPS Commission Chairman Art Campfield or the SSIB Officers: President Jim Gibbs, Executive Officer Harry Kissileff, Program Committee Chairman Nori Geary.

ICPFFI XII - SSIB ANNUAL MEETING 1998
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European Institute for Chemical Senses hosts first meeting

The European Institute for Chemical Senses (I.E.S.G.C.A., CNRS UPR 9054) in Dijon, France will hold its inaugural scientific conference in July 1998. The dates of the 1st to the 3rd have been chosen specifically to coincide with two other major adjacent scientific events in Europe at the same time, the European Neuroscience Association (ENA) annual meeting in Berlin, Germany (June 27–July 1) and the joint SSIB/12th International Conference on the Physiology of Food and Fluid Intake (ICPFFI XII) meeting in Pécs, Hungary (July 5–8). Participants planning to attend one or other (or both) of these two conferences will thus also be able to be present in Dijon.

This inaugural conference of the I.E.S.G.C.A. (directly translated to European Institute for the Sciences of Taste and Consumatory Behaviors) will reflect the major interests of the Institute in holding sessions on Olfaction (from molecular biology of receptors, electrophysiology with neuronal coding, to modeling of olfactory active molecule structure), Taste (electrophysiology, aversion and learning, to motivated behavior), Feeding Behavior (human and animal studies in peripheral and central mechanisms of control of ingestion) and Ethnographic Sciences related to taste and feeding. There will also be an Industrial presence with the various Agri-Food partners of the Institute. The 3-day meeting will consist of a few plenary lectures, theme driven parallel sessions and poster displays. A social event (excursion into the wine area) will be organized on the second day of the conference.

Further announcements will follow providing full details of registration, accommodation, transport etc.

Group travel from North America to Europe

Anticipating the possibility that American members of SSIB might want to spend two weeks in Europe in July in conjunction with the opening meeting of Stelio Nicolaidis' European Institute for the Sciences of Taste and Consumatory Behaviors in Dijon and the SSIB/ICPFFI meeting next summer, Dr. Kissileff has begun to investigate group rates to Budapest or Vienna via Paris. Current group fares from JFK (New York) are $750. We would need a group of at least 25 people, with a commitment by December 1 to get reduced fares. If you are interested in taking advantage of group travel rates, please contact Dr. Kissileff (see "Staying in Touch", last page); he has already received at least 20 positive responses. Even better deals may be available; if you know of good possibilities, please pass the information along to Dr. Kissileff. Furthermore, if there are any related meetings that would affect this scheduling, tell him soon!
HIGHLIGHTS OF SSIB 1997 ANNUAL BOARD and BUSINESS MEETINGS

Carol Maggio, Secretary

The Board of Directors and Annual Business Meetings were held in conjunction with the scientific meeting at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and chaired by President Tim Moran. The Board met on July 17. Secretary Carol Maggio announced that, as of July 10, membership in the Society totalled 603. This includes 484 regular, 65 student, 30 corporate, 18 associate and 6 emeritus members. Forty-eight new members have joined, 17 members have been dropped for nonpayment of dues, and 76 members have failed to pay 1997 dues. The membership approved, by mail ballot, proposed amendments to Bylaw Article III, Section 1, which requires a membership vote on dues only when dues are changed, and Article VIII, Section 3, which specifies that the chair of the Membership Committee will be an individual appointed by the President for the purpose of coordinating the annual membership drive.

Treasurer Thom Castonguay presented the Finance Report. The Society’s assets, which are deposited in checking and savings accounts, three certificates of deposit and a money market account, total $48,500. For the period January 1–July 7, cash inflow totalled $53,000 and cash outflow $40,000. Since it is the Society’s policy to cover its operating expenses with funds collected as membership dues, Thom expressed concern, that as the expenses of the Society have increased, it is costing more to maintain the Society than is being collected in dues. The Board discussed several budgetary measures, including an increase of dues, which would be addressed at the Annual Meeting.

Joe Vasselli, Chair of the Executive Office Committee, outlined proposals for the future operation of the Executive Office, which is currently being housed (including record storage) and run entirely out of Harry Kissileff’s office and laboratory space at St. Luke’s Hospital, with the use of Harry’s telephone, E-mail and computer facilities. Alternatives were hiring a management organization, making use of volunteer help at several locations, hiring a part-time office assistant at another location, or consolidating the Executive Office in a location paid for by the Society. The Board approved the final alternative and voted to rent, at the cost of $400/month, part of the Obesity Research journal office being established at St. Luke’s Hospital by its new editor, Xavier Pi-Sunyer. The Board also approved purchase of a computer and printer and installation of telephone and internet connections.

President-Elect Jim Gibbs reported on the upcoming joint meeting with ICPFPI in Pécs, Hungary. James Fitzsimmons has been chosen to receive the Society’s Distinguished Career Award and will present a major address at the meeting. Meeting organizers László Lénárd and Zoltán Karádi have requested direction on the Society’s input to the program. Tim Moran moved, and the Board approved, the creation of an advisory committee to include Jim and Nori Geary, Chair of the Program Committee. Since it appears the Baltimore Meeting will accrue a surplus, Tim moved, and the Board approved, that Jim, as the new President, organize a committee to propose how these funds can be used to support the travel of members attending the Pécs Meeting.

Steve Cooper updated the status of EuroSSIB. Steve is acting as Chair/Secretary and Martin Yeomans as the Recruiter/Membership Secretary of the EuroSSIB group, whose main aim is to recruit new members. The Board approved Steve’s motion to offer a year’s free membership to new European members.

Approximately 60 members attended the Annual Meeting on July 19. Tim Moran reported on membership statistics. Gary Schwartz, co-organizer of the scientific meeting, announced that meeting registration totalled 203. Fifteen to 20 of the 45 non-member registrants have joined the Society. Gary and Tim received a round of applause for their superb efforts in organizing the meeting.

Treasurer Thom Castonguay summarized the Finance Report. Although the Society is in good financial health, Thom highlighted a growing discrepancy between operating expenses and and dues revenues, which are expected to cover these expenses. Tim Moran explained that two reasons underlying this discrepancy are the cost of mailing the meeting program to the membership and the increased cost of running the Society as it has grown. Tim then presented the Board’s proposal to increase regular member dues from $25 to $40, while maintaining student dues at $10. After discussion, the members voted, with only 4 opposed, to approve the dues increase.

Paul Wellman announced the publication of two sets of protocols in ingestive behavior, which are on display at the current meeting. One of these is the Society’s first official publication. Paul was applauded for his efforts in implementing these publications.

Neil Rowland reported on the status of the 1999 meeting in Florida. Three alternatives were described: 1) to meet in Gainesville as originally proposed, which would involve low housing but high travel costs, 2) to meet in a resort area such as Clearwater, which would involve higher housing but less expensive travel costs, or 3) to hold a joint meeting with AChemS in Sarasota in April. By show of hands, the majority were in favor of meeting with AChemS.

Jim Gibbs reported on the 1998 meeting in Pécs. Jim announced that SSIB will have major input to the program and invited the submission of symposia. A 15-minute video on Pécs and its university was shown. Tom Scott, who visited Pécs in 1990, described its great hospitality and low cost.

I now complete my current term as Secretary and extend my congratulations and wishes for much success to incoming Secretary Suzanne Sunday.
Reorganization at the National Institutes of Health

At our recent meeting in Baltimore, NIH officers Dr. Susan Yanovski and Dr. Jules Selden presented preliminary plans for the organization of Study Sections reviewing Neurobiology-related grants. Dr. Yanovski and Dr. Selden urged SSIB members to communicate their comments to the newly-appointed Director of the Division of Research Grants, Dr. Ellie Ehrenfeld. President Jim Gibbs responded for the Society. His letter follows:

July 31, 1997

Dear Dr. Ehrenfeld:

I am writing to you about the impending restructuring of the Initial Review Groups at NIH.

As the current President of The Society for the Study of Digestive Behavior, I represent a 600-member international organization devoted to understanding the behavioral and biological mechanisms controlling food and fluid intake and their associated pathologies. As you know, this broad, strongly interdisciplinary field has made rapid progress in the past fifteen years, in major part due to the crucial support of the NIH. Rich opportunities for important, fundamental advances now exist.

First, the Society congratulates you on your new position as Director of the Division of Research Grants. We wish you outstanding success in pressing forward with the great goals of your institution.

Second, we appreciate the excellent progress of the reorganization now under way. I have reviewed the Draft Version for Public Comment of the five proposed Integrative and Functional Neurobiology Review Groups. At the Annual Meeting of the Society in Baltimore last week, Dr. Susan Yanovski (NIDDK) and Dr. Jules Selden (NI-AA) reviewed the current plans, particularly for those groups. The thoughtfulness and care underlying the contemplated changes were clear in their presentations. Both encouraged the membership to communicate our questions and comments to you as quickly as possible.

The issue of greatest concern to us is the perspective and experience of those Study Section members who will be selected to review ingestive behavior applications. We believe they must be individuals with a track record of conceptual expertise in this field, in addition to the requisite technical expertise in one or more neuroscience disciplines.

Our concern over this fundamental issue of reviewer selection grows, in part, from the Review Group descriptions in the Integrative and Functional Neurobiology Draft Version now being circulated. For example, the description of the relevant Specific Area for the proposed IFN-1 Group (III. Feeding, Drinking, Sexual, and Other Consummatory Behaviors) seems to relegate the conceptual questions that actually drive our work to a subsidiary role behind critical molecules, limbic circuits, and so forth. Examples of such conceptual questions might be: What determines the temporal pattern of eating? How are the metabolic controls of food intake and body weight integrated with short-term meal taking? Through what mechanisms does food ingestion cause a meal to end?

Our Society’s research goal is to understand the mechanisms that accomplish food and fluid intake. Realizing this goal will require the solution of intertwined problems involving the nervous system, chemical senses, the gastrointestinal tract, endocrine systems, and cognitive, social, cultural, and ecological relationships in animals and humans. The field of interest reaches beyond consummatory acts, and includes appetitive and post-consummatory metabolic and behavioral events. It may be that all of these issues are intended or implied under “predisposing factors” in the Draft Version, but I hope you will give some thought to our concerns.

Most ingestive behavior applications are clearly neurobiological—aimed at understanding the neural systems underlying the control of food, water, and salt intake. The work usually involves current neuroscience techniques, including cellular and molecular ones. Because of this, we are keenly aware that technical expertise is necessary in a capable reviewer. But it is not sufficient: If the behavioral concepts guiding research in motivation are given a secondary role in a technique-driven or discipline-driven review process, our field will stagnate.

Be sure that we appreciate the difficulties in forming first-class Review Groups of the kind needed for a balanced assessment of applications that are fundamentally interdisciplinary. Many of our members have served one or more rotations on the NIH Biopsychology, the NIMH Psychobiology, and other Study Sections. If you wish, we can work with the appropriate Scientific Review Administrators of the new Review Groups to suggest individuals for assignment and to help with their recruitment.

As you will appreciate, this is a critical issue for us. We are eager to work with you or assist you and your staff in any way we can. If you wish, we will meet with you at any time. I am always available.

Sincerely,

James Gibbs, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry
President, The Society for the Study of Digestive Behavior
Many of the students and postdocs who attended the Baltimore meeting were the recipients of SSIB travel awards. (And some of those that didn’t get awards were ineligible because they received them last year.) Everyone gave great, professional presentations, and the Society is proud to be able to sponsor them.

Elizabeth Bell (Pennsylvania State University; Barbara Rolls, sponsor) *Energy density and sensory-specific satiety.*

Joanne Cecil (University of Sheffield; Nicholas Read) *Contribution of oral, gastric and intestinal signals in the control of appetite.*

Louise A. Dibsdall (University of Birmingham; David Booth) *Learning of expected satiation by food as identified from post-oral effects of its contents.*

Lisa Eckel (Cornell University; Nori Geary) *Chronic administration of OB protein reduces the body weight of female rats by decreasing the size, but not the frequency, of spontaneous meals.*

Ingrid Federoff (University of Toronto; Darrin Lehman) *The specificity of restrained eaters’ responses to food cues.*


Mary Hagan (University of Texas at El Paso; Donald Moss) *Peptide YY infusion into the hypothalamus alters acetylcholine release in the hippocampus.*

Wan Huang (University of Pittsburgh; Edward Stricker) *Impaired neurohypophyseal secretion of oxytocin and vasopressin after intravenous NaCl loads in conscious rats with area postrema lesions.*

Andrea Kahler (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology; Wolfgang Langhans) *Chronic administration of OB protein reduces food intake in male rats by selectively decreasing meal size.*

Jacquelyne Lavin (University of Sheffield; Nicholas Read) *The effect of carbohydrate utilisation during high intensity exercise on eating behavior.*

Stacy Markison (University of Florida; Alan Spector) *Lysine deficiency increases number of ingestive bouts to lysine.*

Marty Porter (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology; Wolfgang Langhans) *TNF tolerance blocks LPS hypophagia but not vice versa.*

Sean Reilly (University of Cincinnati; Robert Frank) *Measuring approach to novelty with the Food Attitudes & Activity Attitudes surveys: Reliability and validity issues.*

Paul Rushing (Cornell University; James Gibbs) *Prolongation of the postprandial intermeal interval by intravenous gastrin-releasing peptide 1-27 in spontaneously feeding rats.*

Derek Snyder (Florida State University; James Smith) *Perinatal salt experience influences adult salt preferences in rats.*

Juan Villalba (Utah State University; Frederick Provenza) *Energy- and nitrogen-conditioned preferences in lambs.*

Marcia Young (Pennsylvania State University; Rebecca Corwin) *Impaired food intake and body weight regulation in aged rats.*

Ellen Zimmerli (Columbia University; B. Timothy Walsh) *Pain sensitivity in patients with bulimia nervosa: A signal detection study.*
EuroSSIB at Baltimore

Martin Yeomans

Plans for SSIB to increase its membership and activities in Europe progressed through a number of formal and informal meetings of SSIB members from Europe at the excellent Baltimore meeting. Chaired by Steve Cooper, who earlier this year had solicited comments from SSIB members on the idea of establishing a EuroSSIB group, a provisional committee was established with the following aims:

- promoting the current activities of SSIB
- attracting new members
- fund raising to allow greater subsidies for postgraduates wishing to attend future SSIB meetings
- organizing regular meetings in Europe.

The provisional EuroSSIB committee is: Steve Cooper as chair, Martin Yeomans as membership secretary, John Duggan agreeing to set up a EuroSSIB web site (to be launched shortly) and Marion Hetherington agreeing to act as treasurer. In the meetings it became clear that EuroSSIB was not in any way meant as a breakaway from the parent SSIB organization, but was instead an attempt to use the SSIB format to try and promote greater cooperation and interaction between researchers working on ingestive behavior within Europe. Increased co-operation between researchers in Europe was likely to be of increasing importance as more research funding becomes organised through the EU. The formalization of EuroSSIB would, it was felt, enhance the ability of researchers in ingestive behavior to respond to these opportunities, all of which require collaborators in several countries for a proposal to go forward.

It was also felt that it was important to have national representatives through whom potential new members could be approached. If any SSIB member reading this knows of someone who might like to take on that role, or who themselves would like to do so, please contact Martin Yeomans (email martin@biols.sussex.ac.uk).

Students’ impressions of a SSIB meeting

Lynda Marie Brown
University of Maryland, College Park

The first shock of being at a SSIB meeting was the need to completely revamp my views of scientific meetings. I attended FASEB in Washington DC last April and thought I would be wearing suits everyday. I had the pleasure of meeting Micah Leshem during the reception the first evening and was impressed as he presented the first talk. He was relaxed and talked to his colleagues as friends. I also noticed on numerous occasions that people were laughing, joking and having fun. I watched as others caught up with each others’ research and lives. The hardest thing was deciding when to get some sleep. Everyone was quick to invite me out with whatever group was going out to the Harbor or to seafood restaurants. I had wonderful conversations and even managed to get to the Aquarium while the baseball fans went to Camden Yards.

My task was to present a talk for the first time outside of UMCP. I was part of an 8 am symposium on Sunday morning. I daydreamed that everyone would either leave early or sleep in after the Banquet so I could present to the other presenters and go home. There was even a parallel talk session that could take away those who made it out that day. The best thing about talking Sunday morning was that I had steadily relaxed as the conference progressed and started feeling as if I were talking to a group of old friends. Although I had a major case of jitters before I spoke, I eventually relaxed and enjoyed the process of discussing my project.

I came away from SSIB with wonderful memories of who I met—from names I had to know on exams (you know who you are), to post-docs and other students. I learned more than I can express about posters and slides and networking. It was a glimpse beyond the walls of my University that left me truly happy that I came. Before I left Baltimore I had already asked about Hungary and the process of applying for travel grants. I hope to see you there.

Joel Siegel
University of Pennsylvania

Thanks to Dr. Harry Kissileff, I had the opportunity last summer to attend the annual SSIB meeting in Baltimore. Since I had never before participated in a scientific conference, being a Penn undergraduate, I was curious to discover if my preexisting notions of such a gathering would be confirmed. Generally they were, but in a few instances I was simply astonished. Specifically, I was amazed by the high level of fascinating research being done worldwide by members of SSIB. But the single aspect of the meeting which most impressed me was the camaraderie among all the scientists at the meeting. Everyone seemed not only to get along, but to have a genuine interest in producing long lasting friendships, in addition to assisting each other with their research. But then again, witnessing world class scientists reach a lightheaded state of mind at the banquet was definitely unexpected and probably just as striking!
Reports from Washington

At the annual meeting in July, David Ramsay arranged a trip to Washington DC for SSIB members who were interested in meeting with their congressional delegations to promote the support of research in ingestive behavior. Tom Scott and Jim Gibbs report.

Carlos Plata-Salmán and I visited the entire congressional contingent from the state of Delaware on July 16. The NIH appropriation had just passed the House the evening before, so the discussion with Rep. Mike Castle’s (R-DE) aide drifted a bit. Senator Joe Biden’s (D-DE) aide was the most enthusiastic and curious about our field, particularly the work on obesity (though he himself was an ectomorph). However, Biden is not a member of the appropriations committee, and so would not see the NIH authorization until it was difficult to change it. Senator Bill Roth (R-DE) is the chair of the appropriations committee, and so the key figure to reach. Roth has been a strong supporter of NIH funding, and his aide was the best informed—and most challenging—of our discussants. We left that meeting feeling that substantial issues had been broached, and that whatever degree of influence that legislative aide has on Roth would be used to NIH’s advantage. The Senate version of the HHS authorization bill subsequently turned out to be generous to the NIH.

—Tom Scott

On July 16th, I met with Senator Ernest F. Hollings (D-SC). Hollings is a ranking member of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, and a member of the Appropriations Committee. He has a long record of effective leadership in health-related issues. Most recently, with Senators Harkin and Spector, he was instrumental in pressing for a 7-9% increase in the new NIH budget. His special interests include cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension, and it was clear in our discussion that he was well aware of the links among diet, obesity, and these illnesses. (In fact at moments I felt I was preaching to the choir: Senator Hollings is the author of The Case against Hunger, a book calling for improved nutrition for low income pregnant women, mothers, and children) Given this background, he was naturally interested in the varied goals of our Society. He was particularly curious about basic research issues—Senator Hollings has been influential in securing increased funding for basic cancer research over many years, and he commented on the major advances in the treatment of childhood leukemia which have resulted from those efforts. In closing, he emphasized his interest and continuing work for research, and I offered the help of our Society to him in that effort.

—Jim Gibbs

Member News

On the 1st of September Jason C.G. Halford left Leeds to take up the position of Lecturer of Health Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of Central Lancashire. His new address is:
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Harrison Building
University of Central Lancashire
Preston
PR1 2HE, UK
Tel: (+44) 1772 893442 or 893420
Fax: (+44) 1772 892925
He can still be contacted at his Leeds email address, jasonh@psychology.leeds.ac.uk

Randy Seeley is moving to the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Cincinnati at the end of September. His new office number is 513-558-6664 and his new e-mail address is rseeley@psyche.uc.edu

In the last year or so, three members have moved to sunny, warm Fargo, North Dakota. Dean Krahm and Blake Gosnell moved from Madison, WI, and Jim Mitchell moved from Minneapolis MN. (No wonder they think Fargo is sunny and warm.)

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Everyone at the Monell Chemical Senses Center will be changing e-mail addresses from monicker@pobox.upenn.edu to surname@monell.org. For the next few months, both the old and new addresses will work, but now is as good a time as any to update your records. Watch for Monell’s new home on the internet at www.monell.org in October.
Nutrition seeks manuscripts

Nutrition, The International Journal of Applied and Basic Nutritional Sciences announces an expansion in its scope. Nutrition is interested in increasing the publication of articles related to the control of feeding, appetite regulation, hunger and satiety in health and disease involving animals or humans. This initiative in Nutrition will include original research articles, editorials and reviews under the section heading "Nutrition, Immunology, Neuroscience and Behavior". An Associate Editor (Carlos R. Plata-Salaman) will coordinate this section heading, and editorial board members with expertise in ingestive behavior will be appointed. For further information and to receive the guidelines for authors, please contact Carlos R. Plata-Salaman, School of Life and Health Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19716-2590. Tel: 302-831-2647; fax: 302-831-2647; e-mail: 04189@udel.edu. Nutrition presents an original and interesting format for basic and clinical investigators and clinicians. The internet address for Nutrition is: http://www.hscsr.edu/~nutrition/

Obesity Research welcomes manuscript submissions

Obesity Research, the official journal of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity (NAASO), under the newly appointed editorship of F. Xavier Pi-Sunyer, M.D., is actively seeking original scientific articles in clinical and basic research related to obesity for publication. For further information and to receive guidelines for authors, please contact Helene Rosenhouse-Pomero, R.D., Managing Editor, Obesity Research, 1111 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10025 USA, tel 212-523-4161, fax 212-523-4830. Obesity Research is a bimonthly peer-reviewed journal. The internet address for NAASO, which features information regarding Obesity Research as well as the journal’s Table of Contents, is http://aesop.rutgers.edu/~naaso.

SSIB/ings is published three times a year. Your contributions to the newsletter are welcome!

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How to INGEST

There are two e-mail addresses associated with the INGEST mailing list; one is for sending messages to all the subscribers, and the other is for administrative matters.

—The "list address":

INGEST@CUVMB.COLUMBIA.EDU

Send a message to everyone currently on the list by mailing it here. LISTSERV makes copies for all the people who have subscribed.

—The "LISTSERV address":

LISTSERV@CUVMB.COLUMBIA.EDU

Send all administrative commands here, formatted as separate lines in the body of the message because they are handled automatically by the server. These are the commands:

SUB INGEST to subscribe. You will be placed on the list within a few days.

REVIEW INGEST to receive a list of current list members and their e-mail addresses.

UNSUB INGEST or SIGNOFF INGEST to unsubscribe (leave the list).
Postdoctoral Positions - Monell Chemical Senses Center

NIH-sponsored postdoctoral positions are available to conduct studies on (1) the physiology of salt or calcium intake in rats, or (2) the genetics of alcohol intake in mice. We are particularly interested in applicants experienced with biochemical analyses of CNS steroid receptors, gustatory electrophysiology, or molecular genetics. However, applications from individuals with other backgrounds are also invited. Please send CV and names of references to Dr. Michael Tordoff at the Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19104-3308, phone (215)-898-9680, e-mail: tordoff@monell.org

(3) A postdoctoral position is available immediately to study the role of pre- and post-natal sensory experiences on later flavor preferences in human infants. Send letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names of three references to: Julie Mennella, Ph.D., Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3308; e-mail: mennella@monell.org.

(4) A postdoctoral position is available to study cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in the generation, transduction and neural transmission of metabolic signals that control food intake. Send letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names of three references to: Dr. Mark Friedman, Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3308; e-mail: friedman@monell.org.

Monell provides a strong multidisciplinary environment for basic research, with over 50 Ph.D.-level scientists studying chemosensory issues, including animal and human ingestive behavior and nutrition. The Monell Chemical Senses Center is an Equal Employment Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer and encourages applications from women and minorities.

Assistant/Associate Professor-Neuroscience

The Florida State University Department of Psychology, Program in Neuroscience invites applications for two tenure-track positions, one at the Assistant or Associate Professor level and a second at the Assistant Professor level. Applicants in all areas of Neuroscience are encouraged to apply but preference will be given to candidates with expertise that amplifies or complements existing strengths in developmental and regenerative plasticity, sensory processes and regulatory processes. Candidates should demonstrate a strong commitment to undergraduate and graduate teaching and a potential for developing a funded independent research program. Send curriculum vitae, a statement of research goals and the names of three references by December 1 to: Neuroscience Search Committee, 209 Psychology Building, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1270. For information about the Department and the Neuroscience Program, see: http://www.psy.fsu.edu/EOAAE.

Laboratory Researcher IV

Laboratory researcher needed to supervise Sensory Analysis laboratory in Food Science Department at Rutgers University.

Responsibilities: The incumbent will conduct research relating the sensory properties of foods to nutrition. Major responsibilities include subject testing, data analysis and preparation of manuscripts for publication. The incumbent is also expected to assist in the teaching of a small laboratory course.

Challenges: The laboratory director maintains an active research and teaching program including supervision of several graduate and undergraduate students. The incumbent must be able to manage several projects simultaneously and must be flexible with regard to shifting priorities.

Experience: B.S. or M.S. (preferred) in food science, nutrition or psychology and at least 2 yr of research experience. Experience with word processing, spreadsheet (Excel) and data analysis software (SAS) essential. Advanced course work or experience in statistics or sensory analysis of foods highly desirable.

Mail or fax resume to: Dr. Beverly Tepper, Dept. of Food Science, Rutgers University, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0231. Fax (732) 932-6776. Position offers a competitive salary and full university benefits.

Postdoctoral Positions

We are currently looking for post-doctoral fellows to work in a new laboratory at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine with Dr. Randy Seeley. Fellows will work on one or both of two NIH-funded projects looking at the actions of leptin and GLP-1 in the CNS in the control of food intake and metabolism. Some background in molecular biology or immunostaining would be helpful but motivated individuals with interests in the CNS controls of food intake and metabolism with other backgrounds (behavior, nutrition, neuroscience or physiology) are encouraged to apply. Until September 30th, interested parties can contact Randy Seeley at the University of Washington (tel: 206-616-7165; email: rseeley@u.washington.edu). After that, inquiries should be directed to the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Cincinnati: tel 513-558-6604, e-mail rseeley@psyche.uc.edu.

Research Associate In Biopsychology

A position is expected to be available beginning September 1, 1998 for a full-time Research Associate (RA) in the lab of Don Coscina. The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. in Biopsychology / Behavioral Neurosciences; post-doctoral research experience is also desirable. The research thrust is on the neurochemical bases of food intake and body weight regulation using animals. Current projects focus on the role of brain serotonin and its interactions with other neuroactive compounds in the regulation of food intake, diet selection, brain reward mechanisms, whole-body metabolism, and other behavioral, genetic or physiological states related to these processes.

This is a 12-month position paid by the College of Science and is dedicated solely to research. Job duties include the day-to-day operation of the laboratory, collaboration with Coscina and his students on current projects, generating and publishing original research findings, plus contributing to
new and ongoing funding efforts, including the development of the RA’s own line of funded research. This position carries an annual salary of $40,000 plus a good fringe benefits package and is renewable.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter describing their research interests and career goals, an up-to-date c.v., copies of recent publications and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent to: Donald V. Coscina, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Psychology, Wayne State University, 71 West Warren Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202. Applications will be accepted until January 31, 1998 or until the position is filled. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply immediately. For information about the department and Don Coscina, visit http://www.science.wayne.edu/~psych/. WSU is an equal opportunity /affirmative action employer. Wayne State University - people working together to provide quality service. All buildings, structures and vehicles at WSU are smoke-free.

Experimental Psychologists

Unilever Research requires experimental psychologists (Ph.D. level) to join a team investigating the psychological determinants of food and drink preferences. The research will be concerned with the effects of foods and drinks on cognition, mood, and behaviour, as well as the determinants

regulatory mechanisms of neuropeptides in control of appetite and reproduction. The applicant should be experienced in molecular biology and neuroanatomical tracing techniques and have interest in in vivo experiments. Knowledge of tissue culture methodology is desirable. Send Curriculum Vitae and three references to Dr. Satya P. Kalra, Department of Neuroscience, University of Florida Brain Institute, College of Medicine, University of Florida College of Medicine, P.O. Box 100244, Gainesville, FL 32610 USA.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

The Edward W. Bourne Behavioral Research Laboratory, Department of Psychiatry, Cornell University Medical College, invites applications for an NIMH-sponsored, multidisciplinary training program in the behavioral neuroscience of food intake and body weight regulation. The faculty integrate behavioral, physiological, neurochemical, and molecular approaches to determine the peripheral and central mechanisms mediating ingestive behavior and its disorders. Research interests include genetics, development, neuropeptides, steroids, taste and visceral sensory systems, and learning. Two positions are available immediately. Applicants must be citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents of the United States. Women and minority members are encouraged to apply. Send inquiries to Dr. James Gibbs, Bourne Laboratory, Cornell Medical Center, White Plains, NY 10605 (fax 914 682-3793).

FREE Division 6 APA Membership

Division 6 of the American Psychological Association—Behavioral Neuroscience and Comparative Psychology—is once again offering a FREE one year’s membership. You DO NOT have to be a member of APA to join Division 6. Membership is open to students as well. As a member, you will receive the Division newsletter and the division e-mail. After the free year, you pay only $9 per year (again, you don’t need to join APA) to keep your membership.

Suzanne Sunday is currently the membership chair, so if you are interested, send her the following information via postal mail or e-mail (sunday@rs1.med.cornell.edu): Name, Address, Telephone, Fax, E-mail, whether you are an APA member (if so, provide your membership number). Once she receives that information, you are a Division 6 member.

SSIB’s history, on blue paper...

Complete sets of SSIBlings (Vol. 1-10, 1987-1997) are available for $20. Contact Dr. Harry Kissileff to order.
Calendar:

Commercial Weight Loss Products and Programs — What Consumers Stand to Gain and Lose, a public conference, will be held October 16-17, 1997 at the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC. Representatives from the scientific community, weight loss industry, consumer groups, and government will discuss consumer research on and consumers’ notions about weight loss, prescription drugs, weight loss regimens, advertising, and information consumers need to evaluate products and programs. The meeting is sponsored by the FTC, the American Society of Clinical Nutrition, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Although it is free and open to the public, space is limited. To register, contact Gwen Williams: tel 202-326-3311, fax 202-326-3392, or e-mail gwilliams@ftc.gov

The Society for Neuroscience (SN) meets October 25-30, 1997 in New Orleans, LA. A combined Ingestive Behavior/Autonomic Nervous System social will be held at SN October 29, 1997, 5:30-7:30pm. The topic of brief presentations and open discussion is “Neurobiology of OB Protein (Leptin)—1997 Update”. Steve Woods will chair the presentations, with speakers Art Campfield (Neurobiology of OB Protein (Leptin): Update on Central Mechanisms and Pathways) and a second speaker selected from the submitted abstracts to discuss the direct effects of OB protein on central neural circuits.

The annual meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity (NAASO) will be held in Cancun, Mexico November 9-13, 1997. This is the first meeting of that society outside the United States. The abstract deadline was July 1, 1997. For more information, fax the conference secretary, Dr. Blanca Miller at (525)-598-3058. NAASO can be visited on the web at http://aesop.rutgers.edu/~naaso.

The Winter Conference on Brain Research (WCBR) will be held in Snowbird, UT, on January 24-31, 1998. This is an ideal meeting for neuroscientists who enjoy skiing. For information about the meeting, visit http://www.conted.ceps.uiuc.edu/ci/wcb or contact Bart Hoebel (email: hoebel@princeton.edu).

Ingestive behavior is a featured topic at the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) meeting February 27-March 1, 1998 in Boston, MA. (See story on page 13.) The deadline for abstracts for the main meeting is October 13, 1997. For information, contact Gary M. Brosvic, EPA Executive Officer (tel 609-895-5437, fax 609-895-5782, e-mail epaco@com). Robin Kanarek is arranging a SSIB dinner on Friday February 27, 1998. Watch for the call for 5-min talk titles in the next SSIBlings.

The tentative dates for next year’s British Feeding and Drinking Group meeting are April 27 and 28, 1998. Jo Neill will host the meeting in Bradford, England.

The European Institute for Chemical Senses in Dijon, France will hold its first scientific conference July 1-3, 1998. See page 3 for details.

The 1998 meeting of the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior will be held with the 12th International Conference on the Physiology of Food and Fluid Intake (ICPFFI), July 5-8, 1998 in Pécs, Hungary. The First Circular has been sent to all SSIB members (see page 3 of this issue). This is a fine opportunity for greater involvement of European members and a great way for non-Europeans to come in and enjoy Hungarian hospitality!

The 7th multidisciplinary Food Choice Conference (FCC-7) will be at the San Francisco Hilton during the International Congress of Applied Psychology (hosted by APA) on August 9-14, 1998. ICAP attracts thousands from around the world to hear reviews of 3- to 5-year programs of research. Among the areas that the ICAP Food Choice sessions will review are research into human or animal ingestive behavior which is relevant to health and/or to economic consumption, i.e. nutrition and the food industry. The Abstract submission deadline (May 1 1997) has passed; INGEST subscribers received information in early April. For further information contact the Food Choice Conferences series coordinator: David Booth, School of Psychology, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, U.K. Tel 44 121 414 4938 direct, 4932 secretary. Fax 44 121 414 4897, e-mail D.A.Booth@bham.ac.uk
Measuring Behavior '98, an international workshop on methods and techniques in behavioral research, will be held in Groningen, The Netherlands, on August 18-21, 1998. The workshop will integrate advanced behavioral research with physiological measurements. The development of techniques and generic software tools enables a bridge between disciplines. For example, data analysis methods from ethology are now being used by applied psychologists, and path analysis techniques originated by entomologists are useful for behavioral pharmacologists studying rodents. Moreover, recent developments in radiotelemetry, brain imaging, chip technology and biosensor techniques are now being used for simultaneous recording of physiological processes and behavior. For a report on the first workshop in 1996, see Trends in Neurosciences 20: 187-189, 1997 or http://www.noldus.com/events/mb96/mb96.htm. To receive the second announcement, contact: Measuring Behavior '98, Workshop Secretariat, Attn: Rosan Nikkelen, P.O. Box 268, 6700 AG Wageningen, The Netherlands. Tel: +31(0)317-497677; fax: +31-(0)317-424496; e-mail: mb98@noldus.nl

The 8th International Congress on Obesity will take place in Paris, August 29–September 3, 1998. For more information, contact the organizer, Bernard Guy-Grand, at the Congress Office, 120, avenue Gambetta, F-75020 Paris, France. Tel (33) 1 43 64 77 77, fax (33) 1 40 31 01 65

EPA in Boston in 1998!
Suzanne Sunday

The Eastern Psychological Association will be holding its annual meeting at the Boston Copley Place Hotel February 27–March 1, 1998. EPA is attempting a renaissance, reaching out to sister organizations like ours. Bart Hoebel will be a speaker and Robin Kanarek will be organizing our traditional 5 minute talk and dinner meeting. Robin has done this each time EPA is in Boston and she always does a wonderful job combining great science with great food (what could be better?). Kathy Halmi and David Jimerson will conduct an evening symposium on eating disorders which will be open to the general community as well as to EPA participants. I am organizing a possible Continuing Education Course concerning Eating Disorders which, if approved, would be co-sponsored by APA. EPA is expanding the types of programming offered, and we hope that it will be an exciting meeting with a large SSIB presence. Hope to see many of you in Boston.

The Columbia University Seminar on Appetive Behavior
Scheduled Speakers for the Academic Year 1997-1998

September 11, 1997    Carol Boozer
Determinants of energy balance in rats selectively bred for susceptibility or resistance to diet-induced obesity

October 9, 1997    Suzette Middleton
Scientific update on oestra

November 20, 1997    John Glendenning
Plasticity in the gustatory system and how it affects feeding

December 11, 1997    Michael Meguid
Food intake = Meal size x meal number

January 22, 1998    Randy J. Seeley
Leptin and GLP-1: A tale of two peptides

February 12, 1998    Danielle Greenberg
Fats, rats, and satiety

March 12, 1998    Judith Stern
Obesity and aging in obese Zucker rats: Focus on renal disease

April 9, 1998    Lisa A. Eckel
Ingestive behavior in female rats: Influence of the ovarian cycle

May 14, 1998    Anthony Sclafani, Richard J. Bodnar, and Andrew Delamater
Pharmacology of food conditioned preferences

June 11, 1998    Emmanuel Pothos
Plasticity of quantal size in ventral midbrain dopamine neurons: Possible implications for the neurochemistry of eating and reward

For further information contact:
Dr. Harry R. Kissileff or Lisa Dixon
Seminar Chairman
St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital
1111 Amsterdam Ave.
New York, NY 10025

Sponsored in part by Hoffman-La Roche, Miles Inc./Bayer AG, McNeil Specialty, and the New York Obesity Research Center, at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center.
From the editor’s desk

The recent meeting in Baltimore was top-notch. Gary Schwartz made sure that all activities proceeded smoothly. At times it seemed that either he’d been cloned, or had learned to defy the laws of physics by being in two places at once. Thanks, Gary, for a great job!

SSIBlings has added an editor: Sandra Frankmann will be coordinating the book reviews in the newsletter. Please let her know (e-mail spf3@cornell.edu or fax 719-549-2103) if you want to review a book. Publishers of ingestive behavior books are generally glad to provide review copies so that potential buyers will get peer reviews, so send her your suggestions!

Dues notices for 1998 have been mailed. The deadline for payment is October 15 (Do It Now!). Please submit your dues on time to save the Society the expense of a second mailing. SSIB is a growing organization, and to support our increasing activities and new executive office expenses, dues for regular members have been raised to $40 (the student dues remain unchanged at $10). If your dues differ (e.g., $15), you previously sent a multiple year payment, and are now billed for the difference.

The funds will also be used on the updated SSIB Directory for 1998. Please check your personal information carefully on the dues notice and update it as necessary. The keyword list has been revised, so be sure to select the ones that best describe your interests.

Many people have gotten new e-mail addresses since the last directory, and these are particularly valuable for quick communication. If yours has changed, you may also need to update your membership on the INGEST mailing list. Some members are listed multiply; if this is accidental, please sign off from the redundant accounts. (See instructions in “How to INGEST”.)

By the way: If a member wants to send mail to the SSIB membership, the appropriate method is to obtain the mailing list from the executive office. This is done to respect the wishes of those members who have indicated that they do not want to receive other mailings.

An improvement in the executive office is a separate e-mail address for SSIB business. This will allow Dr. Kissileff and his assistants to respond more efficiently to members’ inquiries. Please use the new address, SSIB@co1umbia.edu, for this purpose. This does not replace the INGEST mailing list, which is for communicating with the entire (subscribed) membership of SSIB.

Staying in Touch...

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