

# INTAKE

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The Newsletter of the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior

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## President's Message

*President Dorothy Gietzen  
University of California-Davis*

This issue of the Intake Newsletter offers me an opportunity to wish you all a comfortable and safe journey to Dublin, Ireland, as we prepare to convene the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior at Trinity College on July 25, 2000. This Millennial meeting promises to be another in the long series of excellent gatherings of the Society. One of the hallmarks of SSIB is the quality of our annual meetings, and I am certain that the tradition will continue this year. Gary Schwartz and the Program Committee, including Wolfgang Langhans and Margriet Westerterp-Plantenga, have put together an outstanding scientific program of symposia, oral sessions and poster presentations. The venue is truly outstanding: Trinity College is remarkable for its history and beautiful setting in the heart of Dublin. Our local hosts, Steven Cooper and John Duggan, are overseeing the arrangements in Dublin, so we know they have everything well in hand. This year, there will be increased emphasis on our Young Investigators, as this group has been revitalized under the able leadership of Susan Aja, Mads Tang-Christensen, Jon Roth and Kath Curtis. They have a full schedule of events planned for our leaders of the future, including social events and opportunities for interaction with both academic and industrial representatives. I hope you will all be joining us for what promises to be a splendid experience, both scientifically and collegially.

We again thank our Corporate Sponsors for their generosity in contributing to the success of the Young Investigators Symposium and in providing Travel Awards for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the meeting. Special symposia are also supported by Corporate Sponsorship; this gives us the opportunity to invite non-member scientists who have been doing

outstanding work in related areas to present new ideas and data at the meeting. For a complete list of our Corporate Sponsors, please see the list elsewhere in this Newsletter.

A special word of thanks and appreciation also to Tim Moran and Gary Schwartz, who successfully applied for a grant in support of Travel Awards from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. In the name of the Society, they received \$10,000 to provide additional support for Travel Awards for Young Investigators to attend the Meeting. This is a new venture, and the success of Tim and Gary has enabled many Young Investigators to attend who otherwise might not have been able to make the journey to Ireland this summer.

This has been an eventful quarter for the Society. Our President Elect, Stylianos Nicolaïdis, is remarkably recovered from his devastating accident of last year. After a nearly fatal neck injury, he is walking and doing other things extraordinarily well. Some of us were fortunate enough to hear him present a full hour seminar on the neural control of food intake earlier this year at the European Winter Conference on Brain Research; it was considered by

*(continued on page 2)*

### Contents

- 2** Staying in Touch
- 3** *Drive* by Pfaff, reviewed by T. Houpt
- 4** Meetings and Forums
- 5** Member News
- 6** Positions Available
- 8** Calendar of Events
- 8** Corporate Sponsors

*(President's Message, cont. from page 1)*

all who heard it to be a truly brilliant presentation. Still, by early spring, Dr. Nicolaïdis, with his background as a neurosurgeon, determined that he was still not strong enough to take on the duties of President at Dublin in July. Dr. Nicolaïdis has accepted, however, the role of Honorary President for the next year. He will continue to serve on the President's Committee, which is made up of the Past President, the current President and the President Elect. I am certain that I speak for us all in wishing our esteemed colleague continued progress toward a full and complete recovery.

In the wake of Dr. Nicolaïdis' decision, your Board had a long and thoughtful discussion about the appropriate alternatives. We recognized the need to have a President Elect preparing to take over the leadership of the Society as President at our Annual Meeting this July. It was decided by a majority of the Board that the bylaws should be interpreted to direct our actions as follows: because the office of President Elect became vacant prior to the election of a new President Elect, the Board should appoint one of its members as the President Elect, to take office as President in July, 2000.

I am happy to report that Professor Tom Scott was willing to assume the role of President Elect, and he was appointed by unanimous approval of the Board. As a result of these actions, we will be installing Dr. Scott as your new President at the completion of our Annual Meeting in Dublin. The remainder of the officers for the next year, and subsequent years where the terms are more than one year, are about to be elected as this is written; please be sure to cast your ballot. We have a

remarkable slate of talented nominees for positions to be installed at our Meeting in Dublin, including a new President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and several board members. It is heartwarming that so many talented and busy people are willing to run for responsible positions in the service of our Society.

This will be my last letter to our membership as President of the Society. I hope to leave a new set of Vision and Mission Statements for the Society as my chief contribution for the year. We convened a Strategic Planning Committee last October, made up of representatives from each of our constituencies, with the goal of framing these statements. Your input to that meeting was invited, and several insightful letters were received from members, which contributed to the discussion from the beginning. The Strategic Planning Committee worked very hard to draft documents that are forward-looking and reflect the many aspects of the Study of Ingestive Behavior to take us into the new millennium. These statements have been published in draft form in earlier issues of this Newsletter. They were forwarded to the Long-Range Planning Committee, which under the leadership of Alan Spector will be presenting final drafts to our Board for approval prior to our Meeting in July. I hope that these documents, which have had such careful and well-considered fine-tuning, will provide the framework for the goals of our Society to carry us forward as the third millennium unfolds.

Again, I hope to see you all in Dublin in July and I thank you for the honor of serving as your President this year.

### Staying in Touch...

#### **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](mailto: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, TX 78249-0662  
Tel: 210-458-4610, Fax: 210-458-4510, Email: [ssib@utsa.edu](mailto: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: 302-831-2436, Fax: 302-831-3645  
Email: [trscott@udel.edu](mailto:trscott@udel.edu)

#### **SSIB Website:**

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

**Donald W. Pfaff, *Drive: Neurobiological and Molecular Mechanisms of Sexual Motivation***. MIT Press, Cambridge MA, 1999. ISBN 0-262-55147-0 *Reviewed by Tom Houpt, The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.*

To demonstrate how to approach the molecular neurobiology of behavior, I have occasionally given students and colleagues a series of review papers on reproductive behavior written by Don Pfaff and colleagues at the Rockefeller University. Almost three decades ago, Pfaff and McEwen stated the long-term goal: to characterize the behavioral changes at the level of sensorimotor integration (e.g. the lordosis reflex of the female rat during estrus), then trace the circuit modifications within spinal cord and brain, then identify the site at which estrogens and other steroids alter neuronal function to promote sexual receptivity (*Front. Neuroendocrinol.*, 1973). Pfaff has written many review papers, so one can jump forward at five-year intervals to see how the problem progressed. At first, the research relied on filming behavior with motion-picture cameras, steroid-binding autoradiography, and extracellular electrode recording. Today, Pfaff and others have pushed the analysis and the techniques to the extremes of interacting transcription factors in cultured cells, and manipulating gene expression in the whole animal.

Pfaff has now saved me the trouble of finding and copying the reviews by publishing a comprehensive survey of his work. He divides the book into three broad divisions: "Questions and Arguments", discussing the concepts of drive and motivation and the general principles of hormone influences; "Findings and Proofs", which leads from early studies on tropism to neural explanations of hormone influences (focusing on changes in responses to sensory stimuli such as pheromones or pressure on the flank that reveal hormone mediated changes in the CNS) to genetic influences and molecular analyses. This last topic allows an inventory of the molecular armamentarium: transient transfection, in situ hybridization, gel-mobility shift, transgenic models, antisense blockade, retroviral gene transfer, etc. Pfaff stops to point out many

roadside attractions that have been found along the way, such as the migration of GnRH cells from the nose to the hypothalamus. The final section is entitled "Beyond Sex", on the effects of steroids outside the reproductive system, e.g. affiliation and aggression, cognition, learning and memory, and neuronal growth. This section contains a nice essay on principles of neuropeptide action.

The scattering of small essays is characteristic of the book. Indeed, at times the format approaches that of an annotated outline. This allows Pfaff to concisely address multiple issues on each subtopic in a discrete way, with points and facts brought up where appropriate, even at the risk of repetition or discontinuity. The formalism of the book appeals to me, since it is rare that working scientists take the time to lay out the convergence of discrete experiments with the conceptual motivation of their work, and how they see general principles emerge that can be applied to other neuroscience disciplines. On the other hand, the structuralism of the book has resulted in some sacrifice of narrative flow.

From someone as cutting-edge as Pfaff, the historical emphasis is also refreshing, ranging from Loeb in the early 1900s to Beach in the 1940s to the present. However, the historical sweep is grand, and there is little or no detail of the evolution of Pfaff's personal thinking or the actual sequence of experiments. The book places a philosophical framework around a very up-to-date review (many of the citations are still "in press", and many of the figures are recognizable from Pfaff's current slide carousel.) The narrative is lacking, however, in describing the deadends that required new hypotheses; often the response of a scientist to unexpected data is more telling than the smooth fulfillment of predictions. That is one virtue of reading the old review papers together: to see where Pfaff and the rest of the field got it right, and where their concepts were right but the facts different, and finally where the accumulation of facts forced a revision of the guiding concepts.

This will be an important reference for those pursuing the effects of steroids on ingestive behavior, who are already familiar with the book's

content: the analysis of estrogen and feeding, for example, may largely parallel (conceptually and anatomically) the approach to lordosis. The book could easily serve as the basis of a seminar course on molecular neurobiology of behavior, with examples brought in from other behavioral paradigms to complement the text. The book should also be curative to many grad students and postdocs overwhelmed by all of the *Nature*, *Science* and *Journal of Neuroscience* papers

published by the big labs: inspection of the bibliography shows that the success of Pfaff and colleagues stands on innumerable *Physiology & Behavior* and *Brain Research* papers (albeit punctuated with increasing tempo by big league articles). The lesson is clear, and reveals the true meaning of the title: pursue a problem with focus and drive (and publish as you go!) and you'll pass through many interesting places.

### Women's Forum 2000

Last year, the SSIB conference in Clearwater, FL, marked the fledging meeting of the SSIB Women's Forum. This meeting was intended to establish whether there was adequate interest in the formation of the Forum and, through a brief questionnaire, to identify issues that were of greatest importance to the group. This initial meeting was met with great enthusiasm and it was decided that we should make it a yearly venture. This year the agenda will include a presentation on the results of the questionnaire and general information on career development issues for women in science. We will then proceed with roundtable discussions to determine concrete means to effectively address those issues within the Society. The location and time of the meeting will be posted as soon as it is available on the ingest listserv and SSIB webpage. If you would like any additional information please contact Ellen Ladenheim, Coordinator, SSIB Women's Forum, 410-614-1750, e-mail [laden@jhmi.edu](mailto:laden@jhmi.edu).

### Food Choice Millennial Special Offers

The 9th annual Food Choice Conference will be held Friday, July 28, to Monday, July 31, at Trinity College Dublin. Details are available from Rose, the Conference Administrator (email: [R.G.Platts@Bham.ac.UK](mailto:R.G.Platts@Bham.ac.UK)). There are two special offers from Food Choice to registrants of the SSIB meeting:

(a) By booking with Rose *in advance*, SSIB delegates can have Day Registration with the full 3.5 days program and abstracts booklet for either or both Saturday and Sunday for UK£30 / US\$48 per day (and Monday morning for UK£15 / US\$24).

(b) Any SSIB attendees having the accommodation package through Saturday night at the TCD dorms can arrange to hold their rooms through Sunday night, by advance payment to Rose. This might suit any who do not intend to leave Dublin until the Monday. – *David Booth*

### New Investigators Forum 2000

The New Investigators Forum Social will be on Wednesday, July 26, 3:30-5:30 (following the Young Investigator Symposium, 1:30-3:30). Later that evening, the Career Seminar/Job Fair will be from 7:00-10:00 pm. For that event, speakers (to date) for the Career Seminar are Britt Burton (Amgen-industry), Tom Houpt (FSU-academic research institution), and David Ramsay (Univ. Maryland at Baltimore-medical school). After the career seminar, an informal job fair will take place.

### Neuroscience Ingestive Behavior Social

If you will be at the Society for Neuroscience Meeting in New Orleans, please plan to attend the Ingestive Behavior Special Interest Social on Wednesday Nov. 8, 5:30-7:30 pm (location to be announced). The topic will be "Context-Dependent Controls of Food Intake", chaired by Linda Rinaman, University of Pittsburgh. e-mail: [Rinaman@neurosci.bns.pitt.edu](mailto:Rinaman@neurosci.bns.pitt.edu).

## 22nd Winter Neuropeptide Conference

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Winter Neuropeptide Conference will be held at the Beaver Run Resort in Breckenridge, CO, February 3-6, 2001. Special sessions include "Peptide signal transduction", "Peptide processing and sorting", and "Neuropeptides and gene therapy". Abstracts for presentations and posters on neuropeptides and ingestive behavior are welcome. Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words and follow the Society for Neuroscience format. Send abstracts either electronically or on disk **by October 1** to Dr. Bill Flynn, Univ. of Wyoming, P.O. Box 3415, University Station, Laramie, WY 82071 (Tel: 307-766-6446; Fax: 307-766-2926; email: [flynn@uwyo.edu](mailto:flynn@uwyo.edu)). Again in 2001, a **postdoctoral competition** will be established. Investigators in early stages of their career (less than 5 years post-doctoral) are invited to submit (2 copies each) outlines/summaries of their peptide-related research and its significance (4 pages double-spaced including selected references), CV and two letters of support. Also submit a 300 word abstract in the required format. Four winners will be selected to give oral presentations of their work in a symposium dedicated to this competition. A cash award of \$800 to cover travel and accommodations and a certificate of recognition will be presented at the meeting. The registration fee will be waived. An abstract of the proposed oral presentation must be included and will be published if the author is selected as a winner. Three runners-up, whose registration fee will also be waived, will be invited to present posters. Submit your materials, **by September 1**, to Dr. Bibie Chronwall, Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City, School of Biological Sciences, Div. of Cell Biology & Biophysics, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110, (Tel: 816-235-1868; Fax: 816-235-1503; email: [chronwall@umkc.edu](mailto:chronwall@umkc.edu)). Meeting and accommodation inquiries should be directed to Debra Edwards, P.O. Box 7518, Breckenridge, CO 80424, (Tel: 970-453-5970; Fax: 970-453-1423 or email: [sumfound@colorado.net](mailto:sumfound@colorado.net)).

## Member News

Dr. Tim Moran has been named the Paul R. McHugh Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences within the Department of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

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Dr. Tim Kowalski has moved. His new address is:  
Timothy Kowalski, PhD, Senior Scientist  
Schering-Plough Research Institute  
CNS/CV Pharmacol., 2015 Galloping Hill Rd  
Kenilworth, NJ 07033-1300  
Tel: 908-740-4956,  
email: [timothy.kowalski@spcorp.com](mailto:timothy.kowalski@spcorp.com)

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Dr. Jeong Won Jahng has been appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea. Her email address is [jwjahng@yumc.yonsei.ac.kr](mailto:jwjahng@yumc.yonsei.ac.kr).

*CHANGES AT THE BOURNE LABORATORY.*  
Dr. Gerard P. Smith, who developed the E.W. Bourne Behavioral Research Laboratory, Department of Psychiatry at Weill Medical College of Cornell, into a leading center of research in eating behavior, stepped down as Director of the Laboratory on January 1, 2000. Dr. Smith will maintain his research program. Dr. Nori Geary has been named Director. In addition, Dr. Gary Schwartz joined Drs. Smith and James Gibbs on the Laboratory's faculty in November, 1999. Finally, Dr. Jack Davis effected his second retirement on June 1, 2000, by leaving the Bourne Laboratory for Tallahassee, FL, where he plans to be a frequent visitor to laboratories of the numerous SSIB members at Florida State University.

**FACULTY POSITION** in human sensory research. The Monell Chemical Senses Center invites applications for a full-time faculty position. Individuals with interests in the psychophysics of olfaction, taste, or somatosensation; cognitive processes; or food selection/preferences are encouraged to apply. Candidates must possess a Ph.D. or M.D. degree and have relevant postdoctoral experience, but may not necessarily have had direct research experience with the chemical senses. The successful Candidate will be expected to develop an independent research program, collaborate with colleagues within the Center, and successfully fund their own program via government, foundation, and industrial grants. The Monell Center, founded in 1968, is the world's premier institute devoted to basic, multidisciplinary research on the mechanisms and function of the chemical senses. The Center maintains a major Chemosensory Clinical Research Center with Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University. Research facilities at the Monell Center include a newly constructed human research laboratory complex which houses computerized individual testing rooms as well as a group testing facility, a research kitchen, two environmental chambers, and two olfactory test chambers. Applicants should send their curriculum vitae, a list of publications including three representative reprints, a statement of research interests and the names and addresses of three individuals willing to provide references to the Personnel Officer, Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3308. *The Monell Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages applications by women and minorities.*

**POSTDOCTORAL POSITION** is available for participation in a project investigating the role of the lateral hypothalamus in the regulation of feeding behavior. The project is examining brain mechanisms involved in communication between specific neuropeptides within the lateral hypothalamus and neuromodulators in other hypothalamic and extra-hypothalamic nuclei. Desired qualifications include animal handling, a background in feeding behavior, neurobiology and molecular biology experience. The position is available beginning June 2000. Send letters of interest, curriculum vitae, and names of three references to [kotzx004@tc.umn.edu](mailto:kotzx004@tc.umn.edu) or Catherine Kotz, Department of Research, Mpls VA Medical Center, One Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417, USA.

**POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Investigate the neural bases of reward using gustatory stimuli and ingestion as a model system. Experiments involve acute and chronic recording, experimental neuroanatomy, microdialysis, central lesions, and behavioral analysis. Stipends follow NIH guidelines with a \$2000/yr departmental supplement. Send a CV and two letters of recommendation to: Dr. Ralph Norgren, Dept. of Behavioral Science, H181, College of Medicine, The Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA 17033, Email: [RXN5@psu.edu](mailto:RXN5@psu.edu).

**RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP** A three-year Ph.D. Research Studentship is available at the Psychology Department of Liverpool University to work on the effects of neuroleptic drugs on food intake and body weight in rodents. This work will be jointly supervised by Drs J.C.G. Halford and A.J. Goudie. The successful student will be supported with a maintenance grant of £6,6290 p.a. He/she will be expected to undertake undergraduate teaching and to take part in standard University Training Courses. The studentship will commence in October 2000 or as soon thereafter as Home Office approval has been obtained for this work. Enquires about this studentship should be directed by e-mail to either Dr Halford ([j.c.g.halford@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:j.c.g.halford@liverpool.ac.uk)) or Dr Goudie ([ajg@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:ajg@liverpool.ac.uk)) or by post to one of the supervisors at:- The Psychology Department, University of Liverpool, Eleanor Rathbone Building, Bedford Street, Liverpool, L69 7ZA. U.K.

**POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP** in clinical health psychology. The Pennington Biomedical Research Center, a research facility with Louisiana State University is seeking applicants for a Post-Doctoral Researcher position. The primary responsibilities associated with this position are: 1) assistance in the conduct of research for the Department of Defense related to healthy nutrition and environmental factors, 2) assistance in clinical activities related to cognitive-behavior therapy for obesity and eating disorders, 3) assistance in conducting research studies of the efficacy of internet-based interventions for obesity, 4) management of an eating behavior laboratory, and 5) preparation of research grant applications and research papers. The fellowship will be available for at least two years with the expectation that by obtaining external funding, advancement and continuation of employment may be possible beyond the initial two years. Incumbent will perform other activities as assigned by the Chief of Health Psychology. Supervision will be performed by Donald A. Williamson, Ph.D. Chief of Health Psychology, for clinical activities that can be used for gaining licensure. It is anticipated that over the course of two years, the incumbent of this position will develop an independent program of research including application for external funding. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Ph.D. in Clinical or Health Psychology with specialization in the fields of obesity, eating disorders, and/or health problems associated with obesity, e.g., diabetes or cardiovascular disease. Applicants should have completed an internship in clinical or health psychology. Resumes will be accepted until a suitable candidate is found. Submit curriculum vita with cover letter and three letters of references to: Evelyn P. Bennett, Assistant Director/HRM Ref: Williamson - 025454 Pennington Biomedical Research Center 6400 Perkins Road Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4124 LSU/PBRC is an EEO/AA Employer

**POSTDOCTORAL/RES. ASSOCIATE POSITION** will be available, pending final budget approval, to participate in a project investigating the psychobiology of learned flavor preferences. The project is examining how nutrients act in the mouth, gut, and postabsorptively to condition flavor preferences, the brain mechanisms that mediate flavor-nutrient learning, and pharmacological influences on nutrient-conditioned preferences. The one-year position, which may be renewable, is available beginning June or July 2000. Send letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and names of three references to *Asclafani@gc.cuny.edu* or Dr. Anthony Sclafani, Department of Psychology, Brooklyn College of CUNY, New York, 11210 USA.

**TWO POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS** in gustatory electrophysiology / feeding. Two postdoctoral positions available 7/1/2000 to study the effects of feeding on gustatory evoked responses of cortical neurons in nonhuman primates. Expertise in extracellular recording essential. Familiarity with taste, feeding, and chronic recording techniques in monkeys desirable, but not essential. For further information contact Dr. Thomas C. Pritchard (*tcp1@psu.edu*), The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Behavioral Science, 500 University Drive, Hershey, PA 17033, or Dr. Thomas R. Scott at the University of Delaware (*trscott@udel.edu*), or Dr. Gary Schwartz at the Bourne Laboratory, Cornell University (*gjs@jhmi.edu*).

**PERMANENT FACULTY POSITION** in integrative/behavioral neuroscience at the Monell Chemical Senses Center. Investigators with interests in central nervous system processes as they apply to the chemical senses, appetitive behaviors and nutritional physiology are encouraged to apply. A technical focus on neurochemistry and/or neuroanatomy is desirable. The Monell Center is a non-profit research institute devoted to the multidisciplinary study of taste and smell. See web site, *www.monell.org*. Send a letter of interest, C.V., and names of three references to Personnel Officer, Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

**POSTDOCTORAL OR JUNIOR FACULTY POSITION** to study a new eating disorder, the "night eating syndrome", with the person who first identified it. This NIH-funded research program will attempt to more fully characterize the disorder by studies of behavior, sleep and neuroendocrine measures. It will be conducted on both an outpatient and inpatient (Clinical Research Center) basis. Applicants should have a M.D. or Ph.D. with at least three years of clinical experience. Interested candidates should send a letter of application, a curriculum vitae and three references to: Dr. Albert Stunkard, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, 3600 Market Street, Suite 734, Philadelphia, PA 19104, (215) 898-2878 (FAX) or e-mail *stunkard@mail.med.upenn.edu*.

**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 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*.

## Calendar of Events

September 1, 2000 - Deadline for materials for the Fall 2000 issue of the SSIB Newsletter.

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 9th annual Food Choice Conference will be held July 28 to July 31 at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. Details are available from the conference administrator, Rose. email: [R.G.Platts@Bham.ac.uk](mailto:R.G.Platts@Bham.ac.uk).

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 22<sup>nd</sup> Winter Neuropeptide Conference will be held in Breckenridge, CO, February 3-6, 2001 See announcement in this issue for more details.

The tenth annual meeting of the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society (IBNS) will be held in Cancun, Mexico, April 25-29, 2001. Abstract deadline is January 15, 2001. The Program Committee is now accepting proposals

for special symposia and satellite meetings. These should be submitted by August 1, 2000. For more information contact the IBNS Central office, Marianne Van Wagner; Email: [ibns@utsa.edu](mailto:ibns@utsa.edu); <http://lshome.utsa.edu/ibns>.

The 2001 Annual Meeting of SSIB will be held at the University of Pennsylvania from June 26 to June 30, 2001. More details will follow.

The International Conference on the Physiology of Food and Fluid Intake (XIII) will be held at the Radisson Treetops Resort, Port Douglas, Far North Queensland, Australia, August 22-24, 2001. The conference organizers are Michael McKinley [mmck@hfi.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mmck@hfi.unimelb.edu.au), Brian Oldfield [b.oldfield@hfi.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:b.oldfield@hfi.unimelb.edu.au), Dick Denton [d.denton@hfi.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:d.denton@hfi.unimelb.edu.au), and Rich Weisinger [rsw@hfi.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:rsw@hfi.unimelb.edu.au).

The 34<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.iups2001.org.nz).

### Current Corporate Donors to SSIB

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SSIB relies on corporate sponsorship to help with the cost of meetings and young investigator travel. If you know of potential sponsors, please contact Dorothy Gietzen, Harvey Grill, or Joe Vasselli.