

Report to the ISN for support of
The Third ISN Special Neurochemistry Conference, Beijing China
8th International Meeting for Brain Energy Metabolism
“Neurodegeneration and Regeneration”

Contact Information:

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I. About the Meeting

1. Place and date of the meeting:

Beijing Fragrant Hill Hotel, Beijing, China 100093.
June 27 - July 1, 2008

2. Local organizers:

The conference was co-organized by:
The Neuroscience Research Institute, Peking University;
The Beijing Society for Neuroscience; and
The Chinese Society for Neuroscience.

3. Meeting registration and attendance:

This conference was attended by 353 participants including 42 accompanying persons. They were from Australia, Belarus, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, UK, and USA.

4. Scientific sessions:

There were three keynote speakers (Mary C. McKenna, Philip G. Haydon and Yi Rao), 48 speakers and numerous special guests in the field of brain energy metabolism to chair the scientific sessions (please refer to www.isnbeijing2008.org for details). Students from 7 countries had delivered 11 excellent oral presentations in a student data blitz session.

The conference focused on one important topic - “Brain Energy Metabolism” - initiated with a discussion on glucose, pyruvate, lactate, glutamate, glutamine and glycogen as metabolic substrates for cells in CNS with data from both in vitro and in vivo models collected by direct content determination and NMR studies. This leads to a profound important question whether these substrates move among these cell types through diffusion, gap junctions and/or from one cell to another. Gliotransmission have been discussed with very much of interest. Now gliotransmitter release has been demonstrated in the brain as discussed in the ability of ATP released from astrocyte being converted to adenosine to induce sleep in intact animals.

Epilepsy and drug development including ketogenic diet and abnormalities in glucose metabolism have also been discussed. We have learnt the roles of reactive oxygen species, calcium, mitochondria fission and fusion, and NADP oxidase in neurodegenerative processes; microglia, Tau and oxidative stress in Alzheimer's diseases; glutamate dehydrogenase variant in Parkinson's disease; transglutaminase in Huntington's disease; and HP012 isolated from traditional Chinese medical plants in spinal cord injury. As for ischemia, we have discussed oligodendrocytic and myelin damage by glutamate; and the protective roles of CD36, 14-3-3 gamma, inhibition of cAMP-activated protein kinases and new neuron formation.

5. Poster presentation and student participation

There were 137 poster presentations set up at two poster sessions during the conference. Around 31% of poster presentation was made by student participants. Student data blitz presenters were selected based on student poster abstracts. The topics of the poster presentation centered on topics such as disorders of the nervous system, glia, synapse and excitability, metabolism, neurodegeneration, development, learning and memory, apoptosis and cell death, sensory and motor systems.

6. Other activities

The social events included a reception featured with Chinese cultural dances, a visit to the world-famous "Great Wall", and a farewell banquet featured with Peking Opera, Sichuan Face Changing Art and Chinese Lion Dance. In order to create a higher impact of the ISN special conference to the future development of neurochemistry in China, the speakers were introduced to and spoke with Chinese high school students and teachers through a Chinese popular science web site:

www.dnaq.cn/isn/index.html.

Many scientists took the opportunity to tour around China before and after the conference. Conference high-lights are available in a photo album at www.isnbeijing2008.org.

II. ISN Supported Categories

The aim of the Third ISN Special Neurochemistry Conference is to offer an opportunity for bringing neurochemists, postdoctoral fellows, trainees, and graduate students together and to enable the establishment of contacts and collaborations between outstanding researchers from different fields.

1. Accommodation

The conference was held in a four-star hotel located in the famous scenic spot Fragrant Hill Park, which is 20km from the city. Beijing Fragrant Hill Hotel is the only hotel designated for the conference. It was designed by one of the world's famous architects, I.M. Pei and had received an award from the American Institute of Architects in 1984. ISN has subsidized part of the costs for the accommodation of the participants, which is USD \$63,000.

2. Venue for the Conference

The Secretariat, the hall and the garden for the Banquet and Reception Dinner, the Conference Room and the Multi-purpose hall for the poster exhibition were utilized during the conference. Total subsidy by the ISN for venue rental is USD \$12,000.

3. Meals

We provided daily American or Chinese breakfast at the hotel, Chinese lunch, snacks during the conference break and delicious Chinese cuisine in local Chinese restaurant during this memorial four-day event. Total subsidy by the ISN for meals cost is USD \$42,939.

4. Reimbursement to Chairs/Speakers

Three keynote lecturers, 48 speakers and many special guests in the field of brain energy metabolism students have given speeches and presentations during the conference within 12 sessions. Registration, hotel and food fares are fully waived for all Chairs/ Speakers. A total of USD \$19,906 have been reimbursed from ISN subsidy to chairs and speakers on their air flight expenses. Please refer to Appendix One for a complete list of invited chairs and speakers.

5. Travel Awards & Scholarships

In order to assist young and emerging investigators such as postdoctoral fellows, trainees, and graduate students and encourage them to establish contacts and collaborations with outstanding researchers from different fields, we offer travel awards for scientists below 35 years of age from all over the world to attend this meeting. Moreover, we offer scholarships for local students who has assisted in organizing the conference and worked as volunteers during the conference.

A total of USD \$12,155 have been supported by the ISN in this respect. Please refer to Appendix One for a complete list of students and young scientists who have received travel awards, and a list of local students who have received scholarships.

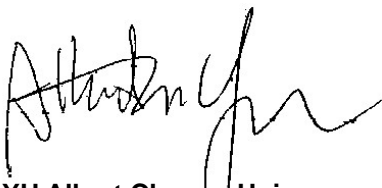
6. Summary of the above categories

Accommodation:	USD\$63,000 (42%)
Venue for the Conference:	USD\$12,000 (8%)
Meals:	USD\$42,939 (29%)
Reimbursement to Chairs/Speakers:	USD\$19,906 (13%)
Travel Awards & Scholarship:	USD\$12,155 (8%)

Total ISN Subsidy: USD \$150,000 (100%)

Our very first ISN conference in Beijing, China was a huge success which has provided an unprecedented networking opportunity for all neurochemists, postdoctoral fellows, trainees, and graduate students from around the world. On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would like to hereby express our sincere appreciation to ISN for your generous and critical support for this highly successful event.

Date: October 6, 2008



YU Albert Cheung Hoi
Professor and Vice director
Neuroscience Research Institute, Peking University, China.

Appendix One: List of All Scientists & Students who Received Funds Directly from the ISN

Invited Chairs and Speakers:

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| 1. Vera Adam-Vizi (Hungary) | 26. Susanne Keiding (Denmark) |
| 2. Jan Albrecht (Poland) | 27. Kathryn F. Lanoue (PA, USA) |
| 3. Lasse K Bak (Copenhagen, Denmark) | 28. Mary C. Mckenna (MD, USA) |
| 4. Vladimir J. Balcar (Australia) | 29. Torun M. Melø (Norway) |
| 5. Luis F. Barros (Chile) | 30. Astrid Y. Nehlig (France) |
| 6. Philip M. Beart (Australia) | 31. Michael D. Norenberg (Miami, USA) |
| 7. Kevin L. Behar (USA) | 32. Tae H. Oh (Korea) |
| 8. Roger F. Butterworth (Canada) | 33. Vladimir Parpura (Birmingham, USA) |
| 9. Monica J. Carson (Riverside, USA) | 34. Luc Pellerin (Switzerland) |
| 10. Sebastian Cerdan (Spain) | 35. Andreas Plaitakis (Greece) |
| 11. Sunghee Cho (New York, USA) | 36. Caroline Rae (Australia) |
| 12. Arthur J.L. Cooper (USA) | 37. Bruce R. Ransom (USA) |
| 13. Jean De Vellis (Los Angeles, USA) | 38. Ian J Reynolds (PS USA) |
| 14. Gerald A. Dienel (USA) | 39. Philip J. Robinson (Australia) |
| 15. Marie E. Gibbs (Australia) | 40. Gabriele V. Ronnett (Lutherville, USA) |
| 16. Gary E. Gibson (New York, USA) | 41. Arne Schousboe (Denmark) |
| 17. Rolf Gruetter (Switzerland) | 42. Katsuei Shibuki (Japan) |
| 18. Asta Haberg K. (Norway) | 43. William C. Shuttleworth (USA) |
| 19. Bernd Hamprecht (Germany) | 44. Neil R. Sims (Australia) |
| 20. Philip G. Haydon (USA) | 45. Helle S. Waagepetersen (Denmark) |
| 21. Simon J. Heales (Uk) | 46. Jian Zhi Wang (Wuhan, China) |
| 22. Henry Pierre-Gilles (Minneapolis, USA) | 47. Steve H. White (Utah, USA) |
| 23. Leif Hertz (Canada) | 48. H. Ronald Zielke (MD, USA) |
| 24. Fahmeed Hyder (USA) | 49. Claudia Zwingmann (Montreal, Canada) |
| 25. Tomoyuki Kanamatsu (Japan) | 50. Jun Chen (Xi'an, China) |

Students and Young Scientists who received the Travel Award:

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Ana Isabel Amaral (Portugal) | 9. Qing Wang (Australia) |
| 2. Li Gu (China) | 10. Ma Luisa HACES del Blanco (Mexico) |
| 3. Elizabeth Beauchesne (Canada) | 11. Alin Stelian Ciobica (Romania) |
| 4. Ying Jin (Ireland) | 12. Kim San Tang (Canada) |
| 5. Anne Byriell Walls (Denmark) | 13. Radovan Murin (Germany) |
| 6. Fuquan Huo (China) | 14. Haitao Wu (China) |
| 7. A. Maite Castro (Chile) | 15. Xiaojin Lai (China) |
| 8. Tiago Brandao Rodrigues (Spain) | |

Scholarship for Local Students:

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Yan Hui Nie (China) | 10. Rui Zhao (China) |
| 2. Chun Zhang Yang (China) | 11. Fengbo Sun (China) |
| 3. Ye Zhou (China) | 12. Le Fei (China) |
| 4. Yan Dong (China) | 13. Wen Yuan Cao (China) |
| 5. Xin Yue (China) | 14. Xian Zhi Liu (China) |
| 6. Hao Rui Sun (China) | 15. Chun Yan Shan (China) |
| 7. Jun Hui Wang (China) | 16. Kai Gao (China) |
| 8. Zhen Wei (China) | 17. Yun Li (China) |
| 9. Li Tao Yang (China) | 18. Xian Jian Liang (China) |

Appendix Two: Selected Photos during Conference



Travel Award Recipients Award recipients on stage.



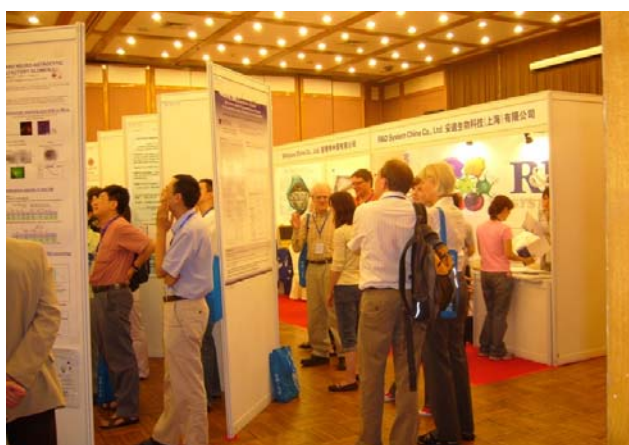
Grand Banquet Featured with Peking Opera, Sichuan Face Changing Art and Chinese Lion Dance.



Scientific Session 1 A view of the conference.



Scientific Session 2 Keynote speaker Dr. Mary McKenna asking questions in the scientific session.



Poster Session Conference participants at the poster session, which made up of 137 poster presentations at 2 poster sessions.



Trip to Great Wall A group photo taken on the Great Wall on a rare foggy day, with the Flag of ISN being waved the very first time on this World Wonder. Despite the weather, participants were extremely excited and found this a memorable trip.