

Report to ISN for support of the 39th Annual Meeting for the American Society for Neurochemistry

Contact Information

Monica J Carson (President, American Society for Neurochemistry)

monica.carson07@asneurochem.org

Terri Wood (2008 Program Chair)

woodte@umdnj.edu

1. Place and date of the main meeting

Hyatt Regency

San Antonio, TX

1-5 March 2008

2. Meeting Registration and Rationale for Funding Request

Number attending Meeting: 513

3. ISN supported categories:

a) Plenary speakers and "lunch with speakers" designed to give junior investigators direct access to ASN's high impact speakers in the absence of more senior investigators.

In our meeting exit surveys, this forum is cited repetitively by junior investigator attendees as a clear indication of ASN's support of their scientific development and career. This forum is cited for its unprecedented networking opportunities for these junior investigators AND for their real education opportunity at this early key juncture in their scientific development. Discussions at these lunches range from pure science, and advice concerning choices on career and research directions. Plenary speakers have also noted that the lunch format facilitated informal interactions initiated by the junior investigators in attendance.

Hotel, airfare and food for 3 plenary speakers (Drs Macklis, Rothstein and Filbin)= \$6,234

(Dr. Haydon was the Basic Neurochemistry lecturer and his costs were paid for by ASN).

The cost of hosting the "lunch with the plenary speakers" was \$45/lunch. This fee was entirely waived for all 69 students attending the lunch, and was reduced to \$20/lunch (subsidized \$25/lunch) for 19 junior investigators.

Total Cost of Subsidy=\$3580

Total Cost of Plenary Speakers and "lunch with speakers"= \$9814

b) Registration Fee support to introduce and recruit young junior investigators to the field of neurochemistry and to ASN. For the last several years, a major concern brought of ASN was the issue that active membership in ASN was declining (as judged from membership attendance to annual meetings) and that the membership as a whole was "greying". To directly address this issue, for the last 3 annual meetings, ASN has dramatically increased its subsidy of

registration fees for all junior investigators. In addition, to introduce the field of neurochemistry and the society of neurochemistry to new junior investigators, ASN completely subsidizes the registration fees of junior investigators in the region in which the annual meeting is being held. To aid and direct this support, the program and local chair for the last three annual meetings have actively targeted publicity and recruitment to junior investigators in the local region.

The registration fees of students and post-doctoral fellows at the member rate is nominal and does not cover the costs of associated with their attendance to the meeting. The success of this year's outreach-subsidy program is demonstrated by the number of students who attended the 2008 meeting: 138! This is nearly a 3-fold increase over the number attending the 2003 meeting.

31 student registrations completely waived: (\$6200)

107 student registrations subsidized: (\$13,375)

Total registration subsidy= (\$19,575)

c) CAENLA and Junior Investigator Travel Awards: ASN provides small travel awards to encourage junior investigators (domestic and international) from regions or research groups with insufficient funds to attend and present at the annual meeting. Twenty awards of \$500 were made. An additional three awards were made based on a separate application by Susan McGuire to ISN (I include the total list of 23 awardees in the list below, but I am not including the associated \$1500 expenses in either ASN costs or ISN sponsorships for the purpose of this report). All awardees were able to attend the annual meeting.

ASN's committee for advancement and encouragement of neurochemistry in Latin America (CAENLA) performs an additional service. It solicits and reviews applications from Latin America linking applicants with US research laboratories. \$2000 is provided to each awardee to aid their attendance to the ASN meeting and travel to the US host lab. Three \$2,000 CAENLA awards were made, but due to a medical emergency only two of the awardees could attend.

CAENLA Awards: \$4,000

Celeste Leal

Institute Lius Federico Leloir—Buenos Aires, Argentina

Lucas Silvestroff

University of Buenos Aires—Buenos Aires, Argentina

ASN Junior Investigator Travel Awards: \$20,000

Rena Baek, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, USA

Tamara Blutstein, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Woosung Cho, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Rochelle Coelho, Richmond, Virginia, USA

Gustavo da Costa Ferreira, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Tamar Eviatar-Ribak, PhD, Vermillion, South Dakota, USA

Christopher Gregg, PhD, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

Ramya Kapadia, Madison, Wisconsin, USA
Michael Kiebish, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, USA
Kelly Levano, Staten Island, New York, USA
Yun Li, Dallas, Texas, USA
Shuliang Liu, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA
Jungsoo Min, Newark, New Jersey, USA
Pablo Paez, PhD, Los Angeles, California, USA
Bruno Pereira, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA
Kimberly Petro, Hershey, Pennsylvania, USA
Sudarshn Purkayastha, New York, New York, USA
William Renthal, Dallas, Texas, USA
Dorothy Schafer, Farmington, Connecticut, USA
Patricia Schuck, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Seema Shroff, Richmond, Virginia, USA
William Tyler, PhD, Newark, New Jersey, USA
Jihong Xu, PhD, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA
Total Travel Awards: \$24,000

4. ISN's generous and critical support of ASN's 39th annual meeting, and specifically of each category discussed above was announced in the 2008 program, in posted signs, on repeating slide presentations and public announcements each day of the meeting. A summary of requested support and actual costs of each meeting category is presented below.

a) Plenary speakers and "lunch with speakers"

Total cost to ASN: \$9814 Amount sponsored by ISN: \$4500

b) Registration Fee subsidy support to introduce and recruit young junior investigators to the field of neurochemistry and to ASN.

Total cost to ASN: \$19,575 Amount sponsored by ISN: \$10,000

c) CAENLA and Young Investigator Meeting/Travel Awards.

Total cost to ASN: \$24,000 Amount sponsored by ISN: \$9500

Total ISN Sponsorship: \$25,000

On behalf of the ASN officers, council and program committee, I thank the ISN officers for their support of their sister society.

Date

May 30, 2008



Monica J Carson, PhD
President, American Society for Neurochemistry
monica.carson07@asneurochem.org