

## **REPORT ON USE OF ISN GRANT IN SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN OPIOID CONFERENCE (EOC 2013) HELD IN GUILDFORD, UK 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2013.**

### **Use of grant**

The ISN grant (\$9500) was used exclusively to support the attendance of young scientists attending the European Opioid Conference (EOC) 2013. Bursaries were awarded to 28 junior scientists (at PhD or early postdoctoral level) from the following countries: Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Spain, UK. 28 bursaries were awarded which provided waiver of registration plus an additional contribution to travel, and accommodation costs for the meeting. The organising committee targeted larger bursary sums to those European countries where national support and salary levels are lowest. The total cost of bursaries was £11,300 (\$17,000).

### **Overview of the meeting**

90 participants from eleven European countries as well as from the Australia, Brazil, Mexico and the USA spent two days presenting and discussing the very latest developments in opioid science, the treatment of pain, drug addiction and mood-related disorders. In addition to support from the ISN, a grant from the British Pharmacological Society as well as support from pharmaceutical industry and scientific companies enabled £11,300 to be awarded as bursaries. The Mayor of Guildford hosted the opening reception that was held in the 15th century Guildhall in Guildford welcoming the conference back to the town that hosted the inaugural and millennium meetings in 1997 and 2000. A conference dinner was held in the evening of the final day and provided the opportunity for discussion of the future activities of this forum of scientists, as well as presenting prizes for the best posters and the best talks at the junior scientists symposium. Prizes were donated by Interfocus Ltd.

### **Scientific programme**

The scientific programme and abstract book is attached and posted on our website ([www.eocweb.com](http://www.eocweb.com)). Plenary lectures on the neurobiology of compulsivity and neural mechanisms of obesity were given by Professor Trevor Robbins and Professor Sadaf Farooqi respectively, and in the tradition of EOC, these topics from outside of the opioid field enriched the scientific discussions at the meeting. In addition to three symposia covering imaging techniques and opioid neurobiology, opiates and other addictions, and opioid receptor desensitization a junior scientists prize symposium enabled nine young scientists to present their latest data. Two poster sessions were held with 50 posters presented over the two days.

Professor Ian Kitchen  
Chairman, European Opioid Conference  
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