



ISN
International Society
for Neurochemistry



IBRO
INTERNATIONAL BRAIN RESEARCH ORGANIZATION



PCI Programa de Cooperación Internacional



REPORT TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR NEUROCHEMISTRY

VIII LASBRA INTERNATIONAL MEETING: “Neurobiological basis of alcoholism: from molecules to behavior”

Latin American Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism (LASBRA)

A Satellite of the Annual meeting of the Sociedad de Farmacología de Chile (SOFARCHI)

Puerto Varas, Chile

November 20-22, 2017



Report on the VIII LASBRA INTERNATIONAL MEETING: “Neurobiological basis of alcoholism: from molecules to behavior”.

The **VIII LASBRA INTERNATIONAL MEETING: “Neurobiological basis of alcoholism: from molecules to behavior”** took place at the Hotel Cabañas Del Lago (Puerto Montt, Chile) as a Satellite of the Chilean Society for Pharmacology Annual Meeting, and began on November 20th and adjourned on November 22th, 2017. Attendance at the meeting was close to 65 people, comprising researchers and graduate and undergraduate students from Chile, Brazil and Argentina. Scientists at the meeting were from Sweden, Germany, USA, Argentina, Brazil and Chile.

This meeting was organized by scientists of the Latin American Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism (LASBRA), with support from the International Brain Organization (IBRO), the International Society for Neurochemistry (ISN), LASBRA, PCI/Conicyt and the Universidad de Concepción.

The meeting included five keynote conferences given by outstanding researchers in the field of alcohol addiction. Dr. Yedy Israel (Chile) opened the meeting focusing on results that determine alcohol intake, from initiation to maintenance and relapse binge-drinking. Emphasis on genetic and molecular engineering was given and it also opened the discussion on translational opportunities for treatments. Dr. Karl Mann (Germany) discussed clinical evidence for ethanol treatment including approaches that aid in either abstinence or reduced drinking in the patients. Dr. Bo Soderpalm (Sweden) made a review on the role of ligand gated ion channels and how their modulations can be a future form of pharmacotherapy. Changes occurring in the physiology and structure of hippocampus after exposure to ethanol during early development were discussed during Dr. Fernando Valenzuela’s (USA) keynote talk. During the closing conference, Dr. Tamara Philips (USA) proposed a strong link between alcohol and nicotine abuse. Photographs taken during the keynote conferences follow:

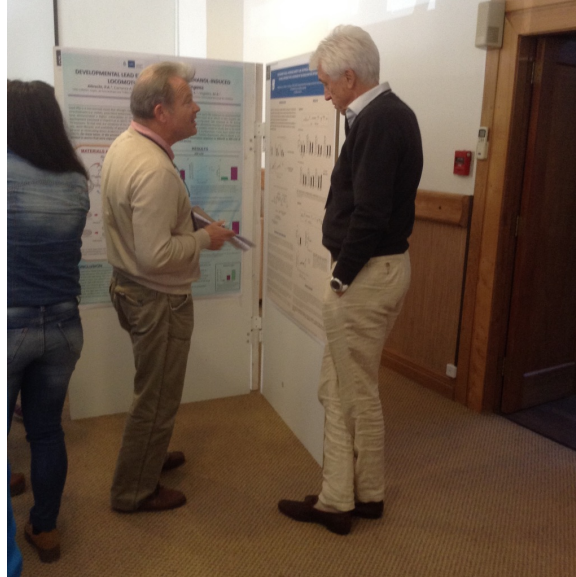




In addition to the keynote speakers, there were three symposiums of two hours each featuring high level presentations given by local, regional and international speakers, such as Ricardo Pautassi (Argentina), Rosana Camarini (Brasil), Miriam Virgolini (Argentina), Paola Haeger (Chile) and Jose Guzman (Chile), among many others. These activities we focused on issues such as effects of ethanol during development, anxiety and emotions, molecular targets of alcohol in the brain, ethanol-induced motivation, plasticity and learning, genetic traits associated with alcohol abuse and dependence, etc. Photographs taken of Dr. Valenzuela (USA) and Dr. Camarini (Brazil) follow:



Almost 40 posters were presented during a dedicated poster session by graduate students from Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. It should be noted that thanks to our supporting organizations, **all students (20)** who applied for scholarships were awarded one (US\$ 400, 300 and 150 depending on distance) to help in the costs of attendance. The photograph below shows the poster “Prenatal ethanol exposure affects learning and extinction in adolescent rats” by Pautassi and Fabio (Argentina).



During the meeting, three prizes were given by the organization to outstanding young scientists. The best three poster presentations on alcohol research were awarded with the “Harold Kalant Award”. The Award Committee was composed of three professors (Drs. Phillips, Soderpalm and Valenzuela). The

winners were Paola Palombo (Sao Paulo Federal University, Brazil) with her work "NEURONAL ENSEMBLES" IN CONTEXT-INDUCED REINSTATEMENT OF ALCOHOL SEEKING IN RATS. The second place Award was to Ms. Scarlet Gallegos (University of Concepcion, Chile) with her poster entitled "EXPRESSION OF ETHANOL-SENSITIVE GLYCINE RECEPTORS IN BRAIN REGIONS OF THE REWARD SYSTEM. The third place winner was Florencia Anunziata (University of Cordoba, Argentina) with the poster "HUMAN NEONATES PRENATALLY EXPOSED TO ETHANOL EXHIBIT RESPIRATORY DEPRESSIONS WHEN EXPOSED TO THE OLFACTORY CUES OF THE DRUG". A photograph of the awardees follows:



Last but not least, the meeting offered the possibility of exchanging new data and discussing new paradigms on ethanol research (see closing photograph). In summary, the meeting was a very important event that served as a forum of discussion, update and exchange between scientists of Latin America and throughout the world.

Financial Report for the \$10,000 Award from ISN year 2017

N°	Name	Country	Category	Scholarship US\$
1	Vanesa Ortiz	Argentina	Postdoctoral	300
2	Florencia Anunziata	Argentina	Graduate student	300
3	Génesis D'aloisio	Argentina	Graduate student	300
4	Stefanía Castello	Argentina	Graduate student	300
5	Paul Ruiz	Uruguay	Graduate student	300
6	Paola Palombo	Brazil	Graduate student	400
7	Sheila Antonagi Engi	Brazil	Graduate student	400
8	Aranza Wille-Bille	Argentina	Graduate student	300
9	Scarlet Soledad Gallegos	Chile	Graduate student	150
10	Rodrigo Viveros Ahumada	Chile	Graduate student	150
11	Larisa Guttlein	Argentina	Graduate student	300
12	Ana Macchione	Argentina	Postdoctoral.	300
13	Marina Gomes de Almeida	Brazil	Graduate student	400
14	Caroline Riberti Zaniboni	Brazil	Graduate student	400
15	Nívea Karla	Brazil	Graduate student	400
16	Jaqueline Moreira	Brazil	Graduate student	400
17	Gabriel de Araujo Costa	Brazil	Graduate student	400
18	Pablo Berríos Cárcamo	Chile	Graduate student	150
19	Paula Albrecht	Argentina	Graduate student	300
20	Macarena Fernandez	Argentina	Graduate student	300
TOTAL				USD\$6,250

OTHER EXPENSES:

COSTS	CLP (PESOS)	\$US
HOTEL ROOMS	527.170	833
CONFERENCE ROOM RENTAL	640.220	1011
AUDIOVISUALS/COFFEE BREAK/ ROOM RENTAL FOR POSTER DISPLAY	1.100.000	1737
AIRPORT-HOTEL TRANSPORTATION	126.000	199
TOTAL	2.393.390	3780

GRAND TOTAL

USD\$10,000

Luis G. Aguayo (Chile)

Concepcion, December 18, 2017