

The FASEB Summer Research Conference: “**Translational Neuroimmunology: From Mechanisms to Therapeutics**” was held from July 13-18, 2013 in Big Sky, Montana, USA. The meeting drew a total of 81 attendees, which included 8% international and 25% trainees (predoctoral and postdoctoral). ISN’s critical support was acknowledged as the only platinum supporter of the conference in the program booklet, on slides displayed before each session and when announcing specific ISN-supported speakers.

Funds generously provided by ISN were used to provide travel award stipends for seven outstanding individuals, including 4 pre-doctoral and 3 post-doctoral trainees. Award recipients were selected based on publications and evidence of scholarly activity by attendance at previous international/national meetings. A list of each recipient and their institutional affiliations are as follows and a group picture is attached.

Dr. Zhihong Chen, Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Dr. Joshua Dearborn, Washington University School of Medicine
Dr. Katja Piltti, University of California, Irvine
Chandra Kroll, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Matthew Kan, Duke University School of Medicine
Rachel Rice, University of California, Irvine
Francisca Benavente, University of California, Irvine

Each travel award recipient was rewarded with a 15 minute presentation during the main meeting and support from ISN was acknowledged prior to each talk.

A pre-meeting course on neuroimmunology was held on Sunday, July 13 prior to the start of the main meeting later that evening. A total of 39 individuals attended the pre-meeting course, which equated to 49% of attendees for the main meeting. This turnout was outstanding and exceeded expectations, since this was the inaugural pre-meeting course prior to a FASEB meeting. Feedback from trainees attending the course was uniformly positive and a survey to collect opinions is currently being drafted. Copies of PowerPoint presentations from each speaker are being made available to all pre-meeting attendees, to enhance trainee knowledge in the neuroimmunology field.

ISN funds were essential in supporting the travel of three invited international speakers. Indeed, without ISN funds, we would not have been able to invite the following top tier international speakers:

Dr. Jonathan Cooper, Kings College London
Dr. Nick Platt, Oxford University
Dr. Klaus Nave, Max Planck Institute of Experimental Medicine

Remaining funds were used to support the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Jenny Ting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, internationally recognized for her expertise in neuroinflammation and inflammasome activation, as well as partially offsetting the travel fees of other invited speakers (distributed equally).

We sincerely appreciate the support provided by ISN for our meeting. This was invaluable for trainee support and as noted by our statistics, a significant number of participants in our meeting were trainees (25%). Lastly, we are happy to announce that the primary speakers for our meeting have all agreed to participate in generating a special issue of JNC on Neuroimmunology with Dr. Tammy Kielian as the Special Issue Editor.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Kielian, Ph.D.
Co-Chair of 2014 FASEB Neuroimmunology meeting and Chair of 2016 meeting

ISN Travel Award recipients: “**Translational Neuroimmunology: From Mechanisms to Therapeutics**” July 13-18, 2013 in Big Sky, Montana, USA



From Left to Right:

Back row: Dr. Zhihong Chen (Postdoc awardee) and Dr. John Bethea (Conference organizer)

Middle row: Dr. Joshua Dearborn (Postdoc awardee) and Matthew Kan (Predoc awardee)

Front row: Dr. Tammy Kielian (Conference organizer), Chandra Kroll (Predoc awardee), and Rachel Rice (Predoc awardee)

Not pictured: Dr. Katja Piltti (Postdoc awardee) and Francisca Benavente (Predoc awardee)