

Report for ISN Symposium: **ISN SYMPOSIUM ON GPCR NEUROCHEMISTRY**

Organizers: Stephen Ferguson, Paul Albert, Patrick Gigure and Mario Tiberi

a) Basic Information:

18th Annual Joint Meeting of the Great Lakes GPCR Retreat and Club des Recepteur a Sept Domaines Transmembranaire held in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada October 19th-21th 2017 at the Westin Ottawa Hotel.

b) Speakers

Fang Liu University of Toronto (20 min talk, 5 min questions)

TITLE: "SynGAP Facilitates D1 Receptor-mediated GABAergic Interneuron Migration"

Andrew Tobin University of Glasgow (20 min talk, 5 min questions)

TITLE: "Exploiting novel GPCR paradigms in deciphering physiological function and clinical relevance"

Fabiola Ribeiro UFMG Brazil (20 min talk, 5 min questions)

TITLE: "mGluR5 plays an important role in the memory impairment exhibited by a mouse model of Huntington's disease"

c) Short Description

The meeting was focused on all aspects of G protein coupled receptor signaling and included six symposia and a two keynote speakers. The keynote speakers for the meeting were Dr. Michel Bouvier University of Montreal and Nobel Laureate Dr. Brian Kobilka Stanford University. The meeting was comprised of 24 speakers from North America, South America, Europe and Australia and included 8 student/postdoctoral presentations. The meeting also had two poster sessions where 91 posters were presented by the 171 participants at the meeting. The ISN Symposium featured 3 speakers Dr. Fang Liu discussed her recent data demonstrating that D1 dopamine receptors can influence interneuron migration via interactions with SynGAP. Dr. Andrew Tobin was to discuss activation of m2 muscarinic receptors in prion diseases but changed up his talk to discuss free fatty acid receptor signaling. Dr. Fabiola Ribeiro discussed her data concerning the use of positive allosteric modulators of mGluR5 to treat Huntington's disease mouse models.

d) Attendees: 171

e) Travel Subsidies for the Speakers

ISN funds were used to cover airfare and taxi expenses for Drs. Tobin and Ribeiro and car rental expenses for Dr. Liu.

f) Budget

Airfare: \$2200

Car Rental and Fuel: \$600

Hotel: \$2200

g) Attendee Comments:

Dr. Ali Salahpour: University of Toronto

To whom it may concern,

The 2017 Great Lakes GPCR retreat was a great meeting. The meeting had a very balanced portfolio of speakers including junior, mid-career and senior investigators, as well a good balance of male and female speakers. Another highlight was the trainee session which kicked off the meeting on Thursday.

With regards to the topics covered, the meeting had sessions from molecular/chemical pharmacology, all the way to physiology and neuro-pharmacology. Furthermore, the two key note speakers, Dr Bouvier and Kobilka, delivered great talks at the forefront of the field.

Lastly, the size of the meeting (175-200 individuals) was great for 'networking', including chatting between faculty and trainees. On a personal note, I also really enjoyed the poster session which allowed for great interaction between various trainees and faculty.

In sum, I can truly say that the 2017 Great Lakes GPCR retreat was a great meeting and the organizers should be commended for their great work.

Best regards

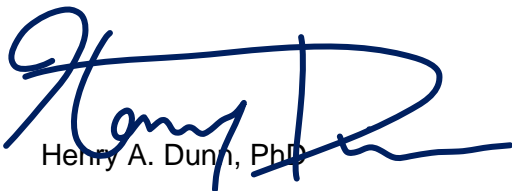
Ali

Dr. Henry Dunn: Scripps Institute

Dear Dr. Ferguson,

I very much enjoyed attending the 18th annual GPCR retreat in Ottawa, Canada from October 19th-21st that you and your committee organized. Over the years, this meeting has become a prominent gathering for internationally renowned scientists and this year was no different, hosting Dr. Michel Bouvier (University of Montreal), Dr. Brian Roth (University of North Carolina), and Nobel Laureate Dr. Brian Kobilka (Stanford University), to name a few. Many of the speakers presented exciting, unpublished data that allowed for a great discussion within the meeting. I particularly enjoyed the inaugural trainee symposium that allowed for trainees to concisely present their research in short oral presentations. It was a great opportunity for the trainees to present in the setting of an international meeting, and they collectively covered a breadth of topics over a short period of time for all the attendees. Personally, this meeting was also able to help facilitate collaboration with other labs in the field (including your own) after building relationships at this meeting over the past 10 years. Looking forward to next year's meeting.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Dunn, PhD

Department of Neuroscience
The Scripps Research Institute
Jupiter, FL 33408

Dr. Khaled Abdelrahman: University of Ottawa

The 18th great lakes GPCR retreat was a fantastic scientific gathering of world-class GPCR scientists. The venue was very well-chosen and the retreat was well-organized with all session running on time with convenient breaks. The scientific program featured talks covering a variety of topics in the GPCR field. Talks were delivered by experts in the field who provided a concise, compelling update on their research interests. The retreat started with a trainee session during which trainees had a chance to deliver 15-minute presentations on their own research projects. This session was very useful for trainees because presenters were involved in engaging discussions with experts in the field who provided very useful suggestions. The poster sessions were allocated enough time to allow participants to go through most posters and engage in fruitful discussions with presenting authors. Overall, the retreat was very successful and I had a great experience discussing my research interests with researchers in the field and was a great opportunity to establish few collaborations that will definitely boost my research outcomes in the upcoming year.

h) Speaker Budgets

Fang Liu:

Car Rental and fuel: \$650 Hotel (3 nights): \$920 Total: \$1570

Andrew Tobin:

Airfare from Glasgow Scotland: \$1800 Taxi: \$100 Hotel (3 nights): \$920 Total: \$2820

Fabiola Ribeiro:

Airfare from Belo Horizonte Brazil: \$1600 Taxi: \$100 Hotel (3 nights): \$920 Total: \$2620