

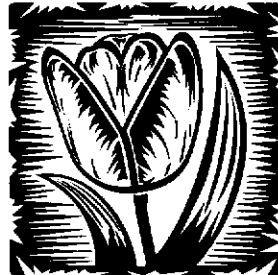
The Microcirculatory Society, Inc. Newsletter

Volume 25, Number 4

Spring, 1998

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Problems or General Questions,
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President's Message

Julian H. Lombard

Warmest greetings to the members and friends of the Microcirculatory Society. Spring will soon be upon us, and this time of year has traditionally been viewed as one of new beginnings full of bright promise. At this time, the MCS is experiencing some new beginnings of its own. As in nature, these new beginnings hold the promise of a bright future. In this final message, I would like to reflect upon the bright future of our Society and of our discipline, and to highlight some challenges for the future.

The members of the Microcirculatory Society have always been at the cutting edge of cardiovascular research, either through the development of innovative experimental techniques and instrumentation to study the structure and function of the microcirculation, or in the application of sophisticated mathematical analyses to understand microcirculatory function. These historical strengths of microcirculatory research will serve us well in the future with the widely heralded emergence of physiological genomics as a discipline. The entire human genome will soon be completely sequenced, and there will be a major shift in emphasis from the sequencing and mapping of genes to the identification of the function of specific genes. As a result, there will be a tremendous need for capable researchers with innova-

tive scientific approaches to accomplish the goal of taking these nucleotide sequences to the functional level in the whole organism. Our challenge for the future is to continue to develop and expand our cutting edge research capabilities and to maintain our leadership role in the cardiovascular research community.

The position of leadership in the cardiovascular research community has brought some challenges to the MCS as well, particularly in maintaining the character of our annual meeting and the strong financial footing of our Society. As I mentioned in an earlier President's message, the Microcirculatory Society was a major contributor to the success of the Vascular biology '97 meeting in New Orleans. We also have a large number of abstracts for the Experimental Biology '98 meeting in San Francisco, in addition to our President's Symposium and our Landis Award lecture. It is clear that our Society will continue to make important contributions to any meetings that we either attend or sponsor, and that we will be welcome everywhere we go. Therefore, we will continue to have to face questions related to the nature and character of our meeting. Foremost among these are how to insure the continued growth and development of our annual meeting while maintaining its intimate and collegial atmosphere and

our tradition of nurturing trainees and young investigators. Another important goal is to plan our meeting strategies carefully so that our meetings will continue to generate sufficient revenue to maintain the high quality of our programs.

Another challenge for the Society is to explore new avenues to attract outside support from corporate sources and other donors, so that Society programs can be maintained and expanded in this time of ever increasing costs. This year, we have been fortunate to receive several generous donations to our society. Special thanks to Living Systems, Inc. of Burlington, Vermont for sponsoring this year's Innovative Instrumentation Award, and to the Cardiovascular Research Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin for the donation that it recently pledged for the Society. In order to respond to the challenge of attracting outside support for our activities on a continuing basis, the Society's Development Committee has been expanded, and is starting to take a much more active role in exploring and attracting sources of outside support for the Society. The current Development Committee chaired by Akos Koller consisting of Paul Kubes, Jan Schnitzer, Rick Klabunde, Mike Flessner, and Ron Kortius has been doing an outstanding job. Many thanks!

The other activities of the Society are proceeding smoothly, thanks to the outstanding work of our standing and ad hoc committees, Executive Council, Secretary, and Treasurer. Thanks to all, with special recognition to the Nominating Committee (chaired by Walter Durán and consisting of David Zawieja, Donna Carden, and Roger Adamson) for the smooth and efficient handling of the recent election of officers, and to the Awards Committee (chaired by Matt Boegehold and consisting of Cindy Meininger, Donna Williams, Geert Schmid-Schoenbein, Fay Hansen-Smith and Richard Schaeffer, Jr.) for their outstanding job in selecting the winners of this year's MCS awards from an impressive field of candidates.

In closing, I would like to propose a general goal for the Society and its members, using the only Japanese word in this West Texan's vocabulary. That word is "kaizen," which means "constant improvement." This constant improvement will take the Microcirculatory Society to the next level which, given the illustrious history of our Society, should be glorious indeed.

We have a WEB SITE!

Thanks to the efforts of Bob Gore and his colleagues, the Society has its own Web site at:

<http://microcirc.org>

Check it out.

Meeting News

Scheduled Events

Executive Council Meeting:

Friday, April 17, 1998, 8:00 A.M.
S.F. Marriott, Suite 1154

General Business Meeting:

Friday, April 17, 1998, 4:00 P.M.
S.F. Marriott, Rm 304/306

Poster Sessions: April 17-18, 1998

Friday: 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.
Saturday: 8:30-11 A.M. & 1:00-3:00 P.M.
Moscone Convention Center, Rm. 305

President-Elect's Symposium:

Saturday, April 18, 1998, 3:30-5:20 P.M.
"Vascular Development in Engineered
Tissues"

Moscone Center, Rm.304/305

Banquet at Exploratorium:

Saturday, April 18, 1998, Buses will
depart from Moscone Center beginning at
5:00 P.M. Return between 9 and 10 P.M.

Landis Award Lecture:

Sunday, 1:30 P.M.
Moscone Center, Rm 103

**Meeting registration opens at 9:00 A.M. on
Saturday, April 18, 1998. Anyone who did not Pre-
register, must do so at this time.**

Society Banquet

There is still time to obtain tickets for the Society Banquet at the Exploratorium. The cost is \$50.00 @ and can be obtained from Paul McDonagh. Please obtain them prior to the meeting so we can have an accurate count to give to the caterer the week before the meeting.

Bus transportation will be provided from the Moscone Center beginning at 5:00 P.M. It should be an evening to remember so bring your friends. All are welcome.

Society Awards

The 1998 MCS Awards are:

Eugene M. Landis Award

Dr. Neil Granger

Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics
LSU School of Medicine, Shreveport

Innovative Instrumentation Award

**Drs. Rajiv Baveja, Zian Zhang and Mark
Clemens**

Dept. of Biology
UNC - Charlotte

August Krogh Young Investigator Award

Dr. Mayumi Kajimura

Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics
University of Louisville

Microcirculatory Society Travel Award

Dr. Jeff Falcone

Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics
University of Louisville

The Society thanks Matt Boegehold and the members of the Awards committee for their efforts. We congratulate all the winners.

Living Systems, Inc. Supports Society's Innovative Instrumentation Award

The Society would like to thank Bill Halpern of Living Systems, Inc. in Burlington, VT for providing financial support for this year's Innovative Instrumentation Award. Their support of the Society is greatly appreciated.

**DESIGNING THE MICROCIRCULATION
PHYSIOME PROJECT : Working Group Meeting**

April 16-17, 1998
ANA Hotel
San Francisco, California

This working group meeting is designed to explore the creation of a World Wide Web accessible database of the microcirculation that encompasses anatomical and functional data, spanning levels from the gene to the tissue, with mathematical models, computational engines, and tools for integration. The proposed database would include information on microcirculations in the heart, brain, skeletal muscle, lung, kidney, liver, pancreas, spleen, bone, eye, and other organs in health and disease.

The specific goals of this working group meeting are:

1. To discuss concepts of the project.
2. To discuss standards for the curation of data and models to the microcirculation databases.
3. To explore mechanisms for publicizing and expanding access to the database.
4. To produce an action report summarizing the meeting and its recommendations.

For more information check out our Web site or contact Andrew S. Greene, Ph.D., Medical College of Wisconsin (agreene@mcw.edu) or Aleksander S. Popel, Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University (apopel@jhu.edu).

**9th International Symposium
on
Vascular Neuroeffector Mechanisms**

**August 2-5, 1998
Porto, Portugal**

This meeting is a Satellite Symposium of the XIII Congress of Pharmacology, IUPHAR, München

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Celebration of Benjamin W. Zweifach

Symposium to be held during the Spring Meeting of the Microcirculatory Society in San Francisco. The latest scheduling information will be made available on our Web Site prior to the meeting. Please plan on attending this tribute to the life of this great supporter of Microcirculation, the Microcirculatory Society and its members.

New Society Officers

The Nominating Committee reports the following results of the recent election:

President-Elect: Ronald Tuma
Treasurer: Paul McDonagh
Councillors: Edward Messina
James Faber

The Society thanks Walter Durán and the members of the nominating committee for their efforts. Congratulations to all the winners We look forward to utilizing the talents of the incoming officers.

**PLEASE
PAY YOUR DUES!**

As mentioned in the Winter Newsletter, only those members who have paid their dues on time will be guaranteed a copy of the Society's Journal Microcirculation. Dues payment should be sent to our Society Office c/o Cathy Lynch, Associated Management Services, 444 E. Algonquin Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

Thank you to all those who have paid their dues and those who are about to!