

# The Microcirculatory Society, Inc. Newsletter

Volume 26, Number 2

Fall, 1998

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## *President's Message*

### *The Future of Meetings, Management and Money*

*Bruce Klitzman*

We are entering a new era of opportunity and challenge regarding the scientific, organizational, and financial success of all academic societies. In order to cope with these challenges, we must plan well in advance. I am confident that our talented, open-minded, and innovative Society will meet these challenges.

First, the meetings: At last year's Executive Council retreat hosted at Texas A&M, it was proposed that the Long-Range Planning Committee be empowered to investigate four years in advance which other societies we may want to meet with and to invite them to join us in our annual meeting. The Program Committee would take the names of the societies that express genuine interest and begin planning the annual meetings three years in advance. Various formats would be used, including meeting with EB (as we are doing for the current three year period), meeting in "series" with EB, and meeting separately from EB.

Second, the management: We recently were informed by Associated Management Services that after June, they will no longer be managing societies other than those that meet with the main plastic surgery group. We are therefore taking a thorough look at all options,

including other management companies and self-management (this time with appropriate financial compensation to the Secretary and Treasurer for the real administrative costs of performing their jobs). Any suggestions of management companies to contact should be forwarded to Drs. Klitzman or Ellsworth.

Third, the money: Our society (with or without professional managers) has done a poor job of collecting dues from our membership. Many members go several years without paying dues. It has not been in our nature to expel financially delinquent members. This may have to change in order for the officers to be responsible stewards of the Society resources. Also, we have done a poor job of recruiting corporate support of our society. One immediate goal is to solicit more companies to fund one or more of our numerous awards. If the football bowl games can do it, maybe we too can have the "Federal Express Travel Award" or, more realistically, the "Transonic Systems Young Investigator Award". Our Development Committee will start working on this very soon for our spring awards season.

Remember that our Society's future depends

on getting as many members as we can participating in its leadership. We will be relying on all members to help us in the upcoming elections of officers and councillors by nominating talented colleagues, by the nominees agreeing to stand for election to those positions, and by members casting their votes. Whether the individuals are elected or not, the nominee's agreement to give the membership a choice among quality people assures us of continuing a long history of creative and dedicated leaders.

Lastly, a word about our Journal, *Microcirculation*: We have now moved into the second half of the all important "probationary" period of journal publication. We have entered into an agreement with Stockton Press to publish the next five years of the journal. Mary Gerritsen did an outstanding job of getting the journal off to a great start and getting it listed in the databases. Its impact factor will be quite impressive for a relatively new journal, partly the result of excellent reviews that tend to be referenced at a higher rate than original articles. Neil Granger will be leading the Journal during its second five-year term. We are excited that the combination of Mary's initial success, Neil's proven leadership, members continued support by submitting some of their work, and Stockton's enthusiasm and confidence will lead to continued growth in subscriptions, quality, and prestige.

## *Past President's Message of Thanks*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Microcirculatory Society for the opportunity to serve as your President last year. I would especially like to thank the members and officers of the Society for all their help during my presidency. Fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of the President involves many forays into uncharted territory, particularly in cases where the President is required to call upon Society officers, committee members, or the membership for specific tasks or actions that are necessary to insure the smooth operation or the continued development and advancement of the Society. The support that I received from Society committees, officers of the Society, and the

membership at large was truly outstanding. In many cases, important committee functions were completed prior to any need for me to issue a call for action. When I had to call upon the MCS council, individual standing or ad hoc committees, or the membership at large for specific actions, the response was always prompt and enthusiastic. When I assumed the presidency and surveyed the composition of the executive council and the various committees of the Society, I immediately knew that I had been "dealt a mighty good hand" (to quote one of my favorite Chris LeDoux songs). However, the support and assistance I received from all quarters exceeded my wildest expectations. One of the most gratifying and rewarding aspects of my term as President was to get to know a large number of Society members with whom I only had a passing acquaintance in the past. The friendships that resulted will always be treasured.

As you can tell from the preceding paragraph, my original plan to individually recognize everyone who helped me during the past year and who contributed to the process of making my term as MCS President one of the most rewarding experiences of my entire life has been thwarted by the sheer magnitude of the task. However, I would especially like to thank the members of the Executive Council for their outstanding efforts and rapid responses in dealing with many crucial issues that had to be addressed during the past year; my predecessor Virginia Huxley, for her extremely valuable advice in how to conduct the duties of the presidency; my successor, Bruce Klitzman and the new President-elect, Ron Tuma for their efforts in insuring a smooth transition; Paul McDonagh for his outstanding service as Society Treasurer; and Mary Ellsworth for her outstanding service in the extremely difficult job of Society Secretary.

The Microcirculatory Society is an exciting and vibrant organization composed of outstanding individuals (in and out of the laboratory). The research activities of MCS members are on the forefront of modern science, and this is truly an exciting time to be affiliated with the Society.

Having the opportunity to serve as President of the Microcirculatory Society was truly an honor and a privilege. Thank you one and all!

# Secretary's Corner

## Meeting Information

The 1999 meeting of the Microcirculatory Society will be held April in Washington, D.C.. Our meeting is being held prior to and in conjunction with Experimental Biology '99 (EB'99). Posters will be presented Friday afternoon and Saturday morning and afternoon. The President-Elect's symposium entitled will be presented Saturday afternoon with the Landis Award lecture scheduled for Sunday.

**Abstract Deadline:  
Nov. 16, 1998**

EB'99 will again be handling the arrangements for the meeting. Therefore, you will be receiving abstract and meeting materials directly from them. It is important that you make note of the following:

1. There will be separate category codes for Microcirculatory Society sessions so members need to be sure and pick from those categories as appropriate and NOT from the regular EB list otherwise the abstract will be programmed into EB time slots (Sun-Wed) rather than within the Microcirculatory Society meeting (Fri-Sat).

2. The abstract form does NOT contain a box for you to check if you wish to be considered for the August Krogh Young Investigator Award described in detail elsewhere. Therefore, it is important for you to forward a separate copy of your abstract to Donna Williams, Chairman of the Awards Committee indicating your desire to be considered.

## *Please Help!*

I am in search of ideas for a site to hold the Society Banquet at our annual meeting in Washington in April. Anyone with experience in the D.C. area who knows of an interesting and/or unique environment to hold the banquet, please let me know as soon as possible.. All help will be greatly appreciated. Ellsworthm@slu.edu

## New Councilor

The results of our recent election to fill the Council seat vacated by Ronald Tuma as he assumed the duties of President-elect are in. The Nominating committee reported that Thomas Skalak received the most votes and will assume the duties of Councilor immediately. I would like to thank Walter Duran and his committee for another job well done!

## Nominations for New Officers

It is once again time to submit nominations for next year's officers. We will be electing a President-Elect, Secretary and two Councilors. A nomination form is provided in this Newsletter. Please consider these nominations seriously as the Society depends on strong leadership. Mail or FAX your nominations to Walter Duran, Chairman of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible but no later than December 4, 1998. An election ballot will be sent with the December Newsletter which will need to be returned by February 5, 1999.

*We need your involvement in choosing our Society's leaders. You can make a difference!*

Don't Forget to  
Pay Your  
Dues!



**Many of you have yet to pay your dues for 1998 which were due last December! Although everyone received the most recent issue of the Journal, unless you have paid your dues, you will not receive another!**

# Annual Awards of the Microcirculatory Society

The Microcirculatory Society requests nominations for 4 awards presented annually by the Society. These awards include the Eugene M. Landis Award, the Microcirculatory Society Travel Award, the August Krogh Young Investigator Award, and the Christian Crone Travel Award. For all awards, an original and 5 copies of all requested materials should be forwarded to:

**Dr. Donna Williams**  
**Department of Physiology**  
**University of Missouri School of Medicine**  
**MA415**  
**Columbia, MO 65212-0001**

The Awards Committee will select all awardees.

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL MATERIALS: DECEMBER 12, 1997**

## Eugene M. Landis Award

The Landis Award is given by the Society to an outstanding investigator who has published and continues to provide meritorious research related to the microcirculation in the United States and Canada. The nominator should provide:

1. a letter of nomination which included a brief summary of the major contributions of the nominee to the subject of the microcirculation.
2. a current *curriculum vitae* of the nominee.
3. a list of the nominee's 10 most significant publications in the last 10 years. The nominator may provide this list as part of his/her letter of nomination or may simply highlight these publications in each copy of the nominee's *curriculum vitae*.

## Microcirculatory Society Travel Award

The Microcirculatory Society Travel Award is given to support the recipient's travel to one or more overseas scientific laboratories of his or her choice. This award is intended for a person who has received a doctorate or completed a first residency within 12 years prior to the deadline for nominations. The nominator should provide:

1. a letter of nomination which includes a brief description of the reasons why the award will benefit the nominee's career and advance knowledge in the field of microcirculation.
2. a current *curriculum vitae*.
3. a letter from the nominee outlining a provisional itinerary listing the laboratories they would like to visit and a description of the benefits they would gain from visiting each listed laboratory.

## August Krogh Young Investigator Award

This award is given to a young investigator (graduate student or a person who has received a doctorate or completed a first residency within 3 years prior to the deadline for nomination) in the field of microcirculation. Those persons wishing to apply for this award should provide:

1. the original and 5 copies of a short manuscript (strict limit of 6 pages total for text, tables, and figures).
2. 6 copies of the abstract on which the manuscript is based.
3. the original and 5 copies of a sponsoring letter from a regular member of the Society. The evaluation is based on the originality and competence of the submitted paper.

## Christian Crone Travel Award

The Christian Crone Travel Award is a new Award which is given to a young scientist from overseas to support the recipient's travel to one or more scientific laboratories of his or her choice in North America. This award is intended for a person who has received a doctorate or completed a first residency within 12 years prior to the deadline for nominations. The nominator should provide:

1. a letter of nomination which includes a brief description of the reasons why the award will benefit the nominee's career and advance knowledge in the field of microcirculation.
2. a current *curriculum vitae*.
3. a letter from the nominee outlining a provisional itinerary listing the laboratories they would like to visit and a description of the benefits they would gain from visiting each listed laboratory.

# The Microcirculation Physiome Project

Summary of Working Group Meeting, April 16-17, 1998, San Francisco, California

*Organizers: Aleksander S. Popel and Andrew S. Greene Johns Hopkins Univ, and Med. College of Wisconsin*

Approximately one hundred life scientists, including physiologists, biomedical engineers and bioinformatics specialists, met in San Francisco in conjunction with the Microcirculatory Society and Experimental Biology meetings, to discuss possibilities of creating a database of experimental data and theoretical models in the area of microcirculation. The meeting served as the inauguration of a working group of the Microcirculation Physiome Project. The goal of the project is to create 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 will include information on microcirculations in different organs and tissues in health and disease. The program consisted of presentation sessions followed by small group discussions. A.S. Popel, Johns Hopkins University, in his introduction proposed that the database should consist of three parts: experimental data, conceptual models, and quantitative mathematical/computational models. Conceptual models are essentially physiological hypotheses expressed in the form of connections (pathways, flow charts) between different structural and functional elements of the system. Making such models available would facilitate further development of complex physiological hypotheses. J.B. Bassingthwaite, University of Washington, who conceived the physiome concept and its name, presented general concepts of the Physiome Project. The project is described as an integrated multi-centric program to design, develop, implement, test and document, archive and disseminate quantitative information and integrative models of the functional behavior of organelles, cells, tissues, organs, and organisms. The long-range goal is on the human organism, its physiology and pathophysiology, but much or most of what must be learned will come from other species. The project aims toward providing models that summarize information on physiological systems and integrating the observations from many laboratories into quantitative, self-consistent, comprehensive descriptions. A.D. McCulloch, University of California - San Diego, discussed challenges of the Cardiome project, probably the most advanced effort within the Physiome Project. K.H. Fasman, then at the Whitehead/MIT Center for Genome Research and currently at Astra AB, presented his thoughts about building a public biological data-

base based on his experience with the Human Genome Database. P.D. Karp of Pangea Systems, Inc. gave an overview of the E. coli Metabolic Pathways database. P.J. Tonellato, Marquette University and Medical College of Wisconsin, and A.S. Greene, Medical College of Wisconsin, discussed a genomic/physiological database created for a "high-throughput physiology" project on hypertension. T.C. Skalak, University of Virginia, described issues of quantitative description of microvascular networks and their remodeling. His colleague, K.F. Ley, discussed how studies and database developments in functional genomics are relevant to microcirculation. Finally, two scientists from the San Diego Supercomputing Center, P.E. Bourne and D. Sutton, gave examples of biological and non-biological databases and visualization tools. These presentations were followed by small discussion group sessions (coordinated by C.G. Ellis, K.F. Ley, T.C. Skalak, P.J. Tonellato); summaries of the discussions were subsequently presented to the entire group. The participants concluded that the proposed database would contain numerical records, text, and images describing spatial and temporal (3D and 4D) anatomical, biophysical, and physiological characteristics. The database will be a resource for overview and further development of concepts, generation of new hypotheses, mathematical and computational modeling, particularly integrative models. It will benefit both suppliers and users of the information and will facilitate collaborations. The database will serve research communities in microcirculation and physiology and beyond, such as biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. The database should use modern multimedia technology to be useful as an educational resource for students from K-12 to undergraduate and graduate.

Further information about the project will be presented at: [www.bme.jhu.edu/news/microphys/](http://www.bme.jhu.edu/news/microphys/).

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