



# The American Society of Pharmacognosy

## The Changing Face of Natural Products Chemistry ...

### *Recap of 44th Annual ASP Meeting At Chapel Hill, NC.*

More than 400 participants descended on Chapel Hill, North Carolina, July 12-16, for the 44th annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP). Representatives from nearly 30 different countries explored the "Changing Face of Natural Products Chemistry" on the campus of the University of North Carolina.

Besides the 15 invited lectures, there was a moving tribute to the research and mentoring skills of the late D. John Faulkner. The contributed oral presentations, 44 in total, were held in the historic conference

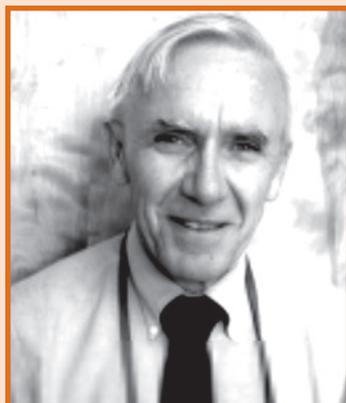


*Ms. Meryl Faulkner (center) with the 2003 ASP Research Achievement Award presented to her late husband Dr. D. John Faulkner. Others in the picture are speakers of the symposium held in honor of Dr. Faulkner, (L-R: Eric Schmidt, Bill Gerwick, Lyndon West, Tadeusz Molinski, Raymond Anderson, Chris Ireland and Carol Bewely)*

*Continued on page 11 ...*

*Great Opportunity to visit Grand Canyon  
in the summer of 2004... See page 7*

## ASP Honorary Membership Conferred on Gordon Cragg



*Scientist Par Excellence...  
Gordon Cragg winner of ASP  
Honorary Membership*

The ASP recognized the outstanding achievements of Dr. Gordon Cragg, Chief of the Natural Products Branch, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health (NCI/NIH), Frederick, Maryland, with the prestigious honorary membership of the ASP at the 44th annual banquet, Chapel Hill, NC on July 16, 2003. Gordon has contributed tremendously to the field of Natural Products/Pharmacognosy. He also has served as president of the Society from 1998-99.

ASP Executive Committee selects the honorary membership on the basis of meritorious service in the field of pharmacognosy. Honorary members constitute no more than 2% of the total membership.

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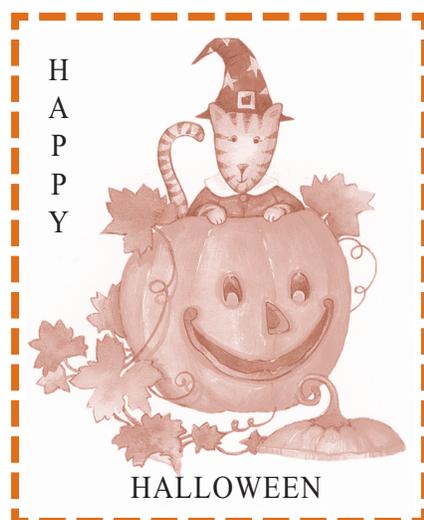


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2003

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## Editor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Greetings!

*It is time to reacquaint myself with new members of the Executive Board, various committees, and the membership at large. I hope the coming year 2003-04 will be as productive for the Newsletter as the past year 2002-03 was.*



*First, I must express my sincere thanks to all our readers and contributors for providing their unqualified support and submitting news items on time. Specially, I acknowledge Drs. Bill Gerwick, David Slatkin, Doug Kinghorn, Richard Powell, John Beutler, Roy Okuda, Nick Oberlies and Ramesh Pandey. I am extremely gratified by the compliments, messages of encouragement, and words of appreciation from Drs. Bill Pelletier, David Kingston, and Rolf Blomster for the quality of the ASP Newsletter.*

*The annual meeting at Chapel Hill, NC was an exhilarating experience and intellectually provocative. Apart from participants from the United States, it was also attended in large numbers by international delegates representing about thirty countries, mostly from South Asia- and South-East Asia. It seemed that the world had actually become a small village where we could meet scientists of various disciplines from different parts of the world in one place, right here at Chapel Hill, NC, USA.*

*A few interesting observations: The theme of the Congress- "The Changing Face of the Natural Products Chemistry", as represented by the modified ASP logo and Plenary lectures of the opening session.... "Metabonomics/ Metabolomics", dealing with relatively new disciplines, certainly opened my eyes to the Changing Trends in the Pharmacognosy Research. It also made me realize the emerging new frontiers in the Natural Products Chemistry. However, in the modern drug development, Classical Pharmacognosy still carries immense importance. Much has already been written on this subject in the Summer 2003 ASP Newsletter.*

*The Newsletter symbolises ASP. Through this, we strive to keep the membership informed of various developments in the Society and in the natural products area. It also serves as a channel of communication between ASP officials, chairs of various committees, and the membership at large.*

*It is your Newsletter. We, at the editorial office, look forward to hearing from you. With your input, feedback and suggestions we can further improve the quality and substance of the Newsletter and take it to a higher standard of excellence.*

**Have a Safe and Enjoyable Fall !**

**Renuka**

## JOIN ASP...via Web

### Become an Online Member

- **Pay by Credit Card (via Verisign)**
- **Or Send a Check to:**

**Treasurer Dr. David Slatkin**

(Mailing details ...Page 16)

**Application Forms Available**

**at: [www.phcog.org](http://www.phcog.org)**

## Professor Koji Nakanishi Wins .... 2003 King Faisal Science Prize

*Koji .... the undisputed leader of the biologically active natural products*

Koji Nakanishi, Centennial Professor of Chemistry, Columbia University has been named a recipient of the prestigious King Faisal International Prize in Science.

A senior faculty whose research in organic chemistry is internationally recognized, Nakanishi is the author of 750 papers. The King Faisal Foundation cited Nakanishi's wide field of scientific accomplishment as criteria for the award.

Professor Nakanishi is an eminent Scientist who has a broad field of scientific accomplishments:

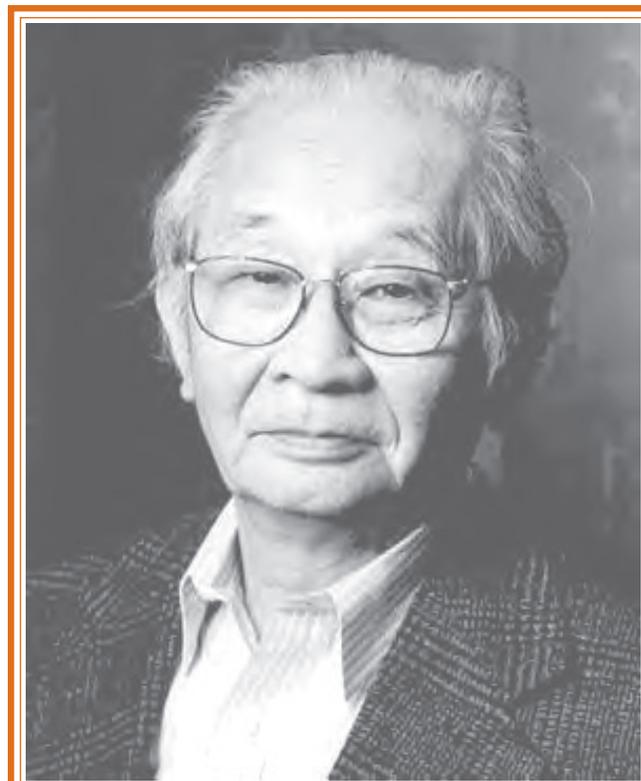
☉ "His research in biologically active natural products had exceptional scientific and economic value," the Foundation noted. "He has established the properties and elucidated the structures of many chemical compounds including antibiotics, carcinogenic materials and anticancer products."

☉ Nakanishi's recent research concentrates on the interaction of light with the molecules responsible for vision. These studies are likely to accelerate the development of a treatment for macular degeneration, which affects many elderly people and leads to the loss of sight.

☉ "Koji is an undisputed leader in the isolation and structure determination of biologically important natural products. He has designed unique methodologies for structure determination on submicroscale of diverse organic molecules. His methods have promoted natural product studies to a higher level," said Bruce J. Berne, Chairman and Higgins Professor of Chemistry. "In addition, his structure determination of over 250 compounds, many of which are new classes and/or endogenous, have had a huge impact in our understanding of nature and have opened new horizons in the student for the benefit of mankind."

Nakanishi was co-winner of the prize with Marion Fredrick Hawthorne, professor of chemistry at the University of California.

The King Faisal International Prize, considered one of the world's pre-eminent honors, is awarded annually in the fields of science, medicine, Arabic language and literature, Islamic studies and service to Islam. It is part of the King Faisal Foundation, Saudi Arabia's most prominent



*Koji Nakanishi, undisputed leader...*

philanthropic organization.

Koji Nakanishi, born in 1925 in Hong Kong is centennial professor at the Chemistry Dept., Columbia University, New York. He has had over 400 students and postdoctoral associates. About 130 of his former colleagues hold academic positions throughout the world. When Professor Nakanishi turned 70, his friends and former group members started a **Nakanishi Prize** to honor him. The prize alternates from year to year between America and Japan.

Among many other prestigious awards, he also received the American Society of Pharmacognosy Research Achievement Award in 1985. In fact, Koji was the first recipient of the "ASP Research Achievement Award," which was given to him in the annual meeting of the ASP at Chapel Hill, NC in 1985. His hobby is performing magic shows to entertain and mesmerize the scientific audience which won him high admiration.

**ASP Congratulates Professor Nakanishi for his achievements in the field of Natural Products Chemistry**



# Congratulations - Winners of 2003 ASP Awards & ••

The American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP) recognized approximately 27 researchers... young professors and students, from USA, Scotland, Australia, Mexico, UK, and Germany etc. for their outstanding scientific contributions at the annual banquet ceremony on July 16, 2003. The various award categories and their winners are listed as follows ...

## Research Achievement Award -2003

*Late D. John Faulkner*

Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
Univ. of California at San Diego

## **B** Awards and Grants for Students

### 1. Undergraduate Res. Awards

- **Navtej K. Dhaliwal**, “Microbial Transformations of Pseudopectins-The Potent Marine Derived Anti-Inflammatory Agents,” University of Winnipeg (**Athar Ata**), \$2,500

- **Mark Valdez**, “Identification of Novel Compounds Isolated from *Lyngbya majuscula*,” Hawaii Pacific University (F. David Horgen), \$2,500

- **Alexander Hoepke**, “Isolation of Bastadin O-Sulfate Esters from the Marine Sponge *Ianthella basta*,” University of California, Davis (Ted F. Molinski), \$2,500

- **Shayna McHugh**, “Investigation of the Bioactive Constituents of *Stylorella a urantium* from Guam,” Hamilton College (Robin Kinnel), \$2,500



Drs. Ted Molinski & Bill Gerwick presenting Meryl Faulkner with the 2003- Research Achievement Award honoring Late D. John Faulkner.

### 2. Kilmer Prize

- **Laura Johansmann**, “Phytochemical and Biological Investigation of *Zanthoxylum monophyllum* (Lam.) P. Wilson,” University of Mississippi (**Samir A. Ross**). The recipient received travel to the ASP Conference and Kilmer Pin.

### 3. Student Research Award

- **Esperanza Carcache de Blanco**, “Constituents of the Stem Bark of *Pongamia pinnata* with the Potential to Induce Quinone Reductase,” University of Illinois at Chicago (**A. Douglas Kinghorn**), The recipient received travel to the ASP Conference + \$500

### 4. Travel Awards...Grad. Students

- **Chen Li**, University of Iowa, \$600
- **Fredyc Diaz**, Univ. of IL, Chicago, \$600



Laura Johansmann receiving Kilmer Award

# •• Grants at the 44th Annual Meeting, Chapel Hill, NC

- **Deborah Thiem**, VCU, The City Univ. of NY, \$600
- **Nancy Booth**, Univ. of IL at Chicago, \$600

## **B** Awards and Grants for Active Members

### 1. Research Starter Grants

• **Professor Sylvia Urban**, "Investigation into the Chemistry and Biological Activity of the Orange-Rot Fungus, *Pycnoporus cinnabarinu*," Department of Chemistry, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia, \$5,000.

• **Professor Sergio R. Peraza-Sanchez**, "New Antigiardial Agents from Plants used by the Mayan People," Biotechnology Department, Centro de Investigacion Cientifica de Yucatan, Mexico, \$5,000.

### 2. Travel Grants for Active Members

- **Dr. Qiuwen Mi**, Univ. of IL at Chicago, \$600

### 3. Matt Suffness Award

- **Dr. Seiichi Matsuda**, Dept. of Chem. Rice Univ., Houston, Texas
- **Dr. Marcel Jaspars**, Dept. of Chem. Univ. of Aberdeen, Scotland,

The recipients received travel to the ASP Conference where they were plenary speakers in the Award symposium on Wednesday and \$500.



Matsuda receiving Matt Suffness award from the president

## **C** Other Awards

### 1. Lynn Brady Travel Awards

- **Moyosoluwa Oluwatuyi**, Univ. of London, \$600
- **Harald Gross**, R. Friedrich-Wilhelms Univ. \$600

### 2. 2002 Schwarting Award

• James A. Nieman, John E. Coleman, Debra J. Wallace, Edward Piers, Linette Y. Lim, **Michel Roberge\***, and **Raymond J. Andersen\***. Synthesis and antimetabolic/cytotoxic activity of hemiassterlin derivatives. *J. Nat. Prod.* 2003, 66, 183-99. (published online 12-31-02). \$1000 and plaque.

### 3. Honoraria for Research Achievement Award

Honoraria were provided to the following ASP members who participated in the Symposium honoring the 2003 - Research Achievement Awardee, Late D.

John Faulkner:

- **Dr. Eric Schmidt**, Univ. of Utah
- **Dr. Lyndon West**, Scripps Inst. of Ocean., UCSD
- **Dr. Raymond Andersen**, Univ of BC



President Bill Gerwick presenting the 2003 Student Research Award to Esperanza Carcache De Blanco



## Awards and Grants .... continued from page 6



Christie Boros receiving Jack Beal Award

### 5. 2002 Jack L. Beal Award

• **Christie Boros**,\* Barry Katz, Scott Mitchell, Cedric Pearce, Karra Swinbank, and Debra Taylor. Emmyguyacins A and B: Unusual glycolipids form a sterile fungus that inhibit the low-pH conformational change of hemagglutinin A during replication of influenza virus. *J. Nat. Prod.* 2002, 65, 108-114. \$1000 and plaque.

### 6. Nature's Sunshine Student Travel Award

• **Laura Grochowski**, Oregon State Univ. \$1000



Student Travel Awardees with President (L to R) Bill Gerwick, Chen Li, Fredyc Diaz and Nancy Booth

## 7. Student Poster Awards

Five Poster awards were presented at the meeting. The first author/presenter of the poster received a cash prize of \$150.00 and a ticket for the banquet.

• Differential Display Analysis of Gene Expression in the Induction of Pseudopterosin Biosynthesis. **Llanie K. Ranzer** and Russell G. Kerr, Florida Atlantic University.

• Identification of *Angelica sinensis* raw material by a studies of Analytical Techniques. **Shixin Deng**, Danial Fabricant, Guido F. Pauli, Harry HS Fong and Norman R. Farnsworth, Univ. of Il. at Chicago.

• The use of Historical Herbal Texts as a Collection Paradigm for the Identification of Anti-Cancer Compounds. **Margret E. Andrews**, John M. Riddle and Nicholas H. Oberlies, NC State Univ. and RTI.

• A New Polyhalogenated Monoterpene form the Red Alga *Plocamium cartilagineum* collected in Antatrica. **Kiran Kumar Avancha**, Sridevi Ankisetty, Charles D. Ansler, James B. McClintock and Bill J. Baker, University of South Florida and University of Alabama at Birmingham.

• Potential Cancer Chemopreventive Agents from *Aglaia ponapensis*. **Alison D. Pawlus**, Juliana K. Choi, Kyung Hee Chai, Young Hwa-Kang, Norman R. Farnsworth, John Pezzuto, Rajendra Mehta and A. Douglas Kighorn, University of Illinois at Chicago.



Avancha receiving Poster Award from the President

You can access the sample issue of the *Journal of Natural Products* at: <http://pubs.acs.org/journals/jnprdf/>

The link to the *ASP Newsletter* is now on the ASP web page: <http://www.phcog.org/newsletter.html>



2004  
I C N P R



## 2004 International Congress on Natural Products Research

(Sat. July 31- Wed. August 4)

### A joint meeting of the

American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP)

Association Francaise pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie (AFERP)

Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung (GA)

(Society for Medicinal Plant Research) Phytochemical Society of Europe (PSE)

#### ❑ VENUE & ACCOMODATION

• The Westin Kierland Resort and Spa – Phoenix, Arizona ([www.kierlandresort.com](http://www.kierlandresort.com)). Room rates for the meeting will be \$119 (single/double) and \$139 (triple/quad). Adjacent to this hotel is Kierland Commons, containing excellent restaurants and shopping.

#### ❑ PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

• The Congress will officially convene at a reception on the evening of Saturday, July 31, 2004. The Opening Session will occur on the morning of Sunday, August 1. Symposia, award, oral and poster presentations will be held from Sunday, August 1 through Wednesday, August 4. Tuesday afternoon (August 3) will be available for local excursions and the Closing (Awards) Banquet will be held Wednesday, August 4. A Pre-Congress Satellite Symposium on Classical Pharmacognosy will be held on Saturday, July 31. A post meeting tour to visit the Grand Canyon will be arranged through a local Travel Agency.

#### ❑ SCIENTIFIC HIGHLIGHTS:

- Classical Pharmacog. Satellite Symposium
- Biotechnology Symposium
- Herbal Symposium dedicated to Tip Tyler
- Sea and Sand Symposium

#### ❑ SCIENTIFIC CONTACT:

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Phone: 623-572-3573 Fax: 623-572-3550

E-mail: [pchave@midwestern.edu](mailto:pchave@midwestern.edu)



*The Westin Kierland Resort and Spa ...Venue of the Meeting*

#### ❑ MEETING, HOUSING, REGISTRATION AND EVENT UPDATES, Visit ....

“ICNPR -2004” on the ASP website  
[www.phcog.org](http://www.phcog.org).

#### ❑ FOR GENERAL & LOCAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

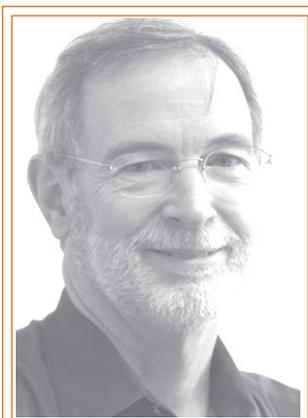
### *Incoming President Jon Clardy's Statement at the Annual Banquet in Chapel Hill, NC on July 16, 2003*

Being ASP President is both a tremendous honor and a challenge. It is an honor to be trusted with helping to lead a society that is in such strong shape. The strength of the ASP lies in its members. Serving on the Executive Committee for these Past few years has given me a chance to meet the people who really make the society work, the dedicated volunteers who gather to find new opportunities to expand the society.

While the people on the committee change, the enthusiasm, energy level, and willingness to work don't.

Another testament to the ASP's membership is our annual meetings. It is nothing short of miraculous that a program and local committee can be formed each year and bring forth a scientific and social program that's first-class. This meeting's theme, "The Changing Face of Natural Products Research", symbolizes the challenge to ASP.

As most of you know all too well, the recent past has not been an especially good time for natural products research. While increasing numbers of structures, many with fabulous properties, emerge from our laboratories at an impressive pace, the rest of the scientific world appears less and less interested. Why? There are several reasons, but for the sake of brevity, I'll blame high-throughput screening of the sort that's become so popular at major pharmaceutical companies. A screen that needs to blow through several hundred thousand molecules looking for, say, a XYZ kinase inhibitor, cannot spend much time or money on the molecules being screened. Few big companies leave screens in place for long and all seem to believe that size, at least of



President Jon Clardy

compound libraries, matters. That philosophy leaves little room for natural products, which seem in comparison to be slow, expensive, and old-fashioned.

In spite of this recent history, I'm very optimistic about the future. Why? Paradoxically the answer lies in the spread of high-throughput screening, which is no longer the exclusive provenance of industries. Government laboratories, most notably the NIH/NCI lab, and many

universities are setting up their own screening facilities.

These facilities are operated on a patient and broad basis. They are looking for small molecules that will control a wide variety of biological processes; they are not constrained by a limited number of drug targets and a vision of what a desirable molecule must look like. Many of these laboratories are now screening natural products, and whenever natural products have been screened on an equivalent basis, they've done exceptionally well. The evolutionary history possessed by a natural product allows it to compete well with any other class of molecules. There are many challenges. My favorites are:

- ❖ Making natural products compatible with high-throughput screening,
- ❖ General methods for identifying the targets of natural products (and other molecules) selected by phenotypic screens, and
- ❖ Insights that natural products can provide to understanding 'chemical space'.

But there are many others that will engage the creative talents of ASP-members.

I look forward to the next year.

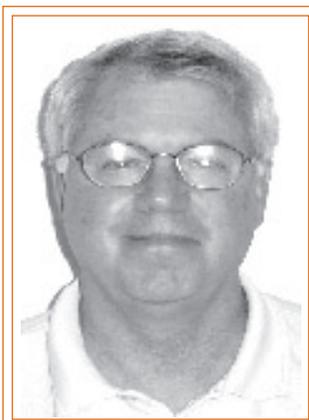
## IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

### *Outgoing President Bill Gerwick's Comments at the Annual Banquet in Chapel Hill, NC on July 16, 2003*

It was eighteen years ago this week, about one week before the birth of my son Erik, that as a young Assistant Professor at Oregon State University I attended my first ASP meeting - right here in Chapel Hill. I remember meeting quite a few of the established natural products scientists at that first meeting; in particular, Koji Nakanishi and David Kingston. I remember quite keenly how both went out of their way to welcome me to the Society and to introduce me around to a few other folks.

In my experience, the ASP is quite distinguished in this way in that we truly seek to get to know each other, build and develop our scientific society, and promote each others success while at the same time engaging in lively debate and scholarly interchange. At that time, the "marine crowd" was somewhat limited at ASP meetings – most notably including Bob Pettit, Yuzuru Shimizu and Chris Ireland. Now, marine natural products chemistry is deeply integrated into the society and contributes substantially to its scholarship and vigor. So, as you can see, it is a very special honor for me to return to Chapel Hill, as the current President, and participate in and give back to a society that has had such a deep and profound impact on my life.

I would like to thank the members of the ASP Executive, Standing, and the Ad Hoc Committees for their wholehearted support. The Society functions because of your efforts! At last years wonderfully organized annual ASP meeting in New Brunswick, N.J, I discussed at the banquet some of the goals I had for the coming year. I have been



Outgoing President Bill

surprised how fast the year had gone by, indeed!

As I review my speech and ensuing notes, I feel a mixture of fulfillment and dissatisfaction. On the positive side, the Society remains a highly vital organization. Membership currently is at 1180, up from last year. We have a very active professional organization, with annual, mid-year, and regional meetings. The scientific vigor and energy demonstrated here this past week illustrate how new frontiers in natural products chemistry continue to

emerge and be explored by a creative and dynamic group of investigators.

Next year we will hold an international Annual meeting with our European colleagues and their societies. In these days of international uncertainty and new tensions between nations, what we do in the international arena to promote positive collegial relations may be one of the more important things we do! Next year will be a special opportunity to make advances in this area.

On the negative side, I would have liked to have spent more time helping with the organization of the various activities of the Society - it's been very tricky balancing my day jobs, night jobs, and family life!

Well, with these few thoughts then, I again want to thank all of you and the Society for honoring me with this year's opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to assisting Jon Clardy as our incoming president as well as Jim McAlpine our incoming Vice-President, and wish you all well and a safe and productive year to come.

Visit the American Society of Pharmacognosy's website at:  
[www.phcog.org](http://www.phcog.org)

# ASP Welcomes New Members

## FULL MEMBERS

**Mark E. Jones**  
NaProTherapeutics, Inc.  
Littleton, CO

**Narendra Bhatt**  
Zandu Pharmaceuticals.  
Bombay, India

**Guangxiong Zhou**  
Univ. of CA, Davis  
Davis, CA

**Sopheak Son**  
Div. of Nutritional  
Sciences  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY

**Melissa M. Wagenaar**  
Wyeth  
Nyack, NY

**Antonio Vilaseca**  
Cochabamba, Bolivia

**Raiz A. Khan**  
Florida A&M Univ.  
Tallahassee, FL

**Xihou Yin**  
Dept. of Pharm.  
Sciences,  
College of Pharmacy,  
Corvallis, OR

**Tyler Nelson Graf**  
Research Triangle  
Institute  
Raleigh, NC

**Eric W. Schmidt**  
Univ. of Utah  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Ken Rice**  
GlaxoSmithKline Pharm.  
King of Prussia, PA

**Nkechi M. Enwerem**  
Howard University  
Hyattsville, MD

**Waqar H. Bhatti**  
Butler University  
Indianapolis, IN

**Michael Kalchman**  
York, Canada

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

**Nargis Ismail**  
Montreal, Canada

**Shengmin Sang**  
Food Science  
Department,  
Rutgers Univ.  
New Brunswick, NJ

**Kyle S. Craig**  
Chem. Dept.,  
Walla Walla College  
College Place, WA

**Shenouda S. Yacoub**  
Monroe, LA

**Makoto Nishizawa**  
Tokyo Univ. of  
Agriculture  
Abashiri, Japan

**Jennifer M-Salguero**  
U.S. Pharmacopeia  
Rockville, MD

**Alan J. Worsley**  
School of Pharmacy,  
Univ. of Sunderland  
Sunderland, UK

**Sara L. Crockett**  
University, MS

**Bradley A. McElya**  
Avon, IN

**ASP invites new members to get involved in the activities of the Society. See you all at Phoenix, AZ ...July 31-Aug. 4, 2004**

## Honorary Membership Conferred on Gordon Cragg .....continued from page 1

Gordon Cragg, born in Cape Town, South Africa, obtained his undergraduate training in chemistry at Rhodes University before proceeding to Oxford University where he obtained his D. Phil. in organic chemistry in 1963.

After two years of postdoctoral research in natural products chemistry at the Univ. of California, LA, he returned to South Africa to join the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. In 1966, he was appointed to the staff of the Dept. of Chemistry at the Univ. of South Africa, and transferred to the University of Cape Town in 1972. In 1979, he returned to the United States to join the Cancer Research Institute at

Arizona State Univ. to work with Prof. Bob Pettit on the isolation of potential anticancer agents from plant and marine invertebrate sources. In 1985, he moved to the NCI/NIH in Bethesda, MD. He was appointed Chief of the Natural Products Branch in 1989.

His major interests lie in the discovery of novel natural product agents for the treatment of cancer and AIDS. In 1991 he was awarded the NIH Merit Award for his contributions to the development of the drug, taxol. He has established collaborations between the NCI and organizations in many countries promoting drug discovery from their natural resources. He has published over 100 papers related to these interests.

**Congratulations Gordon On Your Outstanding Achievements !!!**

## The Changing Face.....Continued from page 1

headquarters – the Carolina Inn.

The Inn, with its antebellum architecture, also housed the more than 250 poster presentations. This year, five awards were presented to the best posters from undergraduate and graduate level students. Judging



*Nick & Bill at the poster session in the conf. headquarters ... the Carolina Inn*

occurred throughout the poster sessions by interviews from some of the leaders in pharmacognosy. This new feature will certainly continue in future meetings, as the feedback was superb.

The meeting began Saturday, July 12, with a workshop on modern NMR methods by William Reynolds from the University of Toronto. More than 80 people participated and forwarded many favorable comments.

The opening session on Sunday focused on the emerging area of metabonomics/metabolomics. Several members of the ASP work in this new field, which seeks to understand the interactions of metabolites with proteins.

On Monday, the presentations looked at recent developments in the NCI-funded National Cooperative Drug Discovery Groups. This included a keynote address by Professor Samuel Danishefsky from Sloan-Kettering, which illustrated the

power of using medicinal chemistry to develop natural product lead compounds. The evening featured a traditional North Carolina BBQ at the Ferrington Village. With straw hats, square dancers, and black-and-white belted Galloway cows, the evening leant itself to great photography opportunities and joviality all around.

Tuesday's program began with a session on the new tools of technology for natural products drug discovery. In the afternoon, participants toured several area sites, including the Duke University Primate Center, Research Triangle Institute, canoeing on a nearby river, and rounds of golf.

Concluding Wednesday, the meeting honored D. John Faulkner posthumously with the Research Achievement Award. Professor Faulkner's legacy spanned over 30 years of research at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego until his untimely death in

November 2002. These studies pioneered much of the marine natural products chemistry that we know today. Former students and postdocs (Raymond Andersen, Chris Ireland, Ted Molinski, Carol Bewley) gave



*Dancing at the Barn ....North Carolina BBQ at the Ferrington Village*

*Continued on page 12 ....*

*...continued from page 11*

presentations that covered some of the highlights of John's career and the people who worked as his



*Fun-time for two former presidents ... Cardellina & Gloyer*

associates. New research results were also presented by John's postdoc. Lyndon West, now at Sequoia Biosciences, CA, and former student Eric Schmidt, now an assistant professor at University of Utah, Department of Medicinal Chemistry. The session concluded with presentation of the Research Achievement Award to John's widow, Meryl Faulkner, by President Gerwick.

The closing banquet included a presentation by

Dr. Victoria Haynes, the president of Research Triangle Institute (RTI). Although we are all familiar with the work of RTI via camptothecin and taxol fame, this is the first time they have hosted the Annual Meeting. Many awards were presented, and the evening concluded with the traditional roast of the outgoing president, William



*A warm "hello" from the organizers... Nick & Linda*

Gerwick, by the always-humorous Norman Farnsworth.

The 2003 Organizing Committee appreciates all the participants who came to explore new areas of natural products research. With the conclusion of the North Carolina meeting, we are all setting our sights on the 2004 meeting in Arizona.

## *The ASP Foundation News*

### Welcome Dr.Chavez to ASPF Board

The American Society of Pharmacognosy Foundation (ASPF) Board of Directors are pleased to announce the confirmation of Dr.Pedro Chavez to the position of Secretary of the Board. Pedro was unanimously confirmed by a recent board poll.

Furthermore, the Board would like to express its sincere gratitude to Dr. Bill Keller who has served as Board Secretary since its inception. Bill will remain on the Board , but has requested to have his secretarial duties rescinded due to increased job responsibilities.

**ASP- Foundation Board of Directors express their heartfelt thanks to Dr. William Keller for many years of outstanding service**

## MEETINGS

### Future ASP Meetings

**2004 -**

International Research Cong. on Natural Products  
(Hosted by ASP)

*July 31-August 4, Phoenix, AZ*

**2005 -**

46th Annual ASP Meeting

*July 23-27, Corvallis, Oregon*

**2006 -**

47th Annual ASP Meeting, **Baltimore, MD**

### AAPS Meetings

**October 26-30, 2003,**

*2003 AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition*

Salt Palace Convention Center

**Salt Lake City, UT**

### Other Meetings

**January 26-31, 2004 – New Delhi, India**

*International Conference on Biodiversity and  
Natural Products: Chemistry and Medical  
Applications (combining ICOB..4  
and ISCNP-24)*

**For more details, contact:**

**Dr V .S. Parmar**

Dept. of Chemistry,

University of Delhi,

Delhi, 110 007, India.

Tel: (91) (11) 2766 6555

Fax: (91) (11) 2766 7206

E-mail: [virparmar@yahoo.co.in](mailto:virparmar@yahoo.co.in)

**Announcement - Chem. Int. 25(3),2003**

**July 18-23 2005 --Vienna, Austria**

XVII IBC 2005

*XVII International Botanical Congress*

*Nomenclature Section 13-16 July 2005*

UNI-CAMPUS, University of Vienna

**For more details contact:**

**Dr. Josef Greimler, Sec. General**

XVII IBC 2005

Inst. of Botany, Univ. of Vienna

Rennweg 14

A-1030 Vienna, Austria

Tel: (43) (1) 4277-54123

Fax: (43) (1) 4277-9541

Email: [office@ibc2005.ac.at](mailto:office@ibc2005.ac.at)

## DID YOU KNOW



### □ That... FDA unveiled a new grading system for qualified health claims in the area of foods & dietary supplements?

.....Food & Drug Administration (FDA) recently launched an initiative to help consumers obtain accurate, up-to-date & science based information about the health consequences of foods & dietary supplements. This initiative will categorize the quality & strength of the scientific evidence– through the equivalent of A,B,C or D grading system – to every proposed qualified health claim. The highest grade, “A” or the equivalent, means that there is **Significant Scientific Agreement (SSA)** about the health claim through well-designed studies conducted in a manner consistent with generally recognized procedures and principles. **Such a claim requires no disclaimer.** Health claims “B”, “C” & “D” are referred to as qualified health claims because they need a disclaimer or other qualifying language to ensure that they don’t mislead consumers.

### □ That... In May 2003, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) & the FDA announced a crackdown on unproven claims about products that supposedly treated Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) ?

.....Manufacturers, distributors, and website operators who make such claims are breaking the law. According to the FTC, “although health authorities are searching for effective vaccines and treatment drugs, currently no products are known to protect against, treat, or cure the virus thought to cause SARS.... and no dietary supplement claiming to prevent, treat, or cure SARS have yet been tested against the virus.” Consumers should ask, “If a medical breakthrough for SARS has occurred would I be hearing about it for the first time through an advertisement or sales pitch?” To find out more, go to [www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/news/2003/new00904.html](http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/news/2003/new00904.html).

### □ That ... FDA allows PeptoZin™ sale?

... FDA recently allowed the sale of PeptoZin, a new dietary supplement from Lonza, Basel, Switzerland. PeptoZin is a complex of zinc and the dipeptide L-Carnosine with unique biological activity different than that of zinc mixed with carnosine. In Japan, PeptoZin has been sold for over a decade as an ulcer-healing drug under the name Polaprezinc®

## ASP Research Achievement Award - 2005

The American Society of Pharmacognosy selects annually a recipient for the ASP Research Achievement Award. Candidates must be members of the Society who have made outstanding contributions to research on natural products. The award consists of an honorarium of \$2,500 and travel expenses to present the award lecture at an annual meeting of the Society.

### Previous winners are:

1985 - Koji Nakanishi  
1988 - Heinz G. Floss  
1989 - Kenneth L. Rinehart  
1990 - Monroe E. Wall  
1991 - S. William Pelletier  
1992 - Henry Rapoport  
1993 - A. Ian Scott  
1994 - Paul J. Scheuer  
1995 - George Robert Pettit  
1996 - Meinhart H. Zenk  
1997 - John W. Daly  
1998 - Sidney Hecht  
1999 - David G. I. Kingston  
2000 - C. Richard Hutchinson  
2001 - Tom Mabry  
2002 - Richard Moore  
2003 - (Late) D. John Faulkner

### Call for Nominations for 2005

Nominations for 2005 Award are due by **May 15, 2004** to the Chairman of the Research Achievement Award Committee and should consist of a **nominating letter, a curriculum vitae of the candidate, and letters from three individuals** who are familiar with the candidate's scientific accomplishments.

**Nomination documents should be submitted in triplicate to:**

#### Dr. James Gloer

Department of Chemistry,  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, Iowa 52442  
Phone: 319-335-1361  
Fax: 319-335-1270  
[james-gloer@uiowa.edu](mailto:james-gloer@uiowa.edu)



## ASP -- Employment Service

The Society offers a placement service to aid our members in seeking positions or employees. **This service is available to ASP members and is free** to both the applicant and the prospective employer. The following services are available :

(1) Prospective employers can have positions posted for free at the ASP Employment site <http://www.phcog.org/positions.html>. The ad is typically 300 words or less, and should include appropriate contact information. Ads should be sent to Ed Kennelly as attached files (**Microsoft Word is the preferred format**). You may also send a logo to be included in the ad. Ads can often be posted within 2-3 business days.

(2) When the ASP Employment website is updated, members can be notified by e-mail if they so desire.

(3) ASP members can send resumes to Ed Kennelly. Resumes should be 1-4 pages, and may be

submitted electronically as attached files either as Microsoft Word document or as a PDF file. Resumes will remain on file for one (1) year, at which time it will be deleted. **All information submitted will be held in strict confidence.**

(4) ASP Employment Service will share resumes with prospective employers.

*For further information, contact:*

#### Edward J. Kennelly, Ph.D.

*Department of Biological Sciences*  
Lehman College, City University of New York  
250 Bedford Park Blvd. W., Bronx, NY 10468  
Phone: 718-960-1105; Fax: 718-960-8236  
E-mail: [kennelly@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:kennelly@lehman.cuny.edu)

*Visit the ASP Job Service Website at:*  
[www.phcog.org/employment.html](http://www.phcog.org/employment.html)

## *News For Researchers*

### **Funding Opportunity --- A Concept For BRC from NCCAM**

#### *Request for Applications (RFA)*

At the September National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) Council meeting a concept for **Botanical Research Centers (BRC) Program** was approved. The concept is based on the recommendations provided by an Expert Panel which evaluated the BRC Program, (briefly listed below). NCCAM now funds six BRCs; those up for renewal will be eligible to recompete. It will be several months before the RFA for this five-year award is issued. **Funding Mechanism: NIH Specialized Center P50 award.**

The purpose of the RFA is to “promote interdisciplinary study of botanicals and to support research of high potential [which can be] translated into practical benefits for humans,” i.e. to gain more knowledge on efficacy and safety.

#### *Briefly the four objectives of the program are:*

- 1 “Advance botanical research by conducting **primarily preclinical studies** (emphasis added), (e.g. botanical characterizations, in vitro, and animal model studies) to provide a strong science base and rationale for potential clinical studies.”
- 2 “Conduct interdisciplinary research and cultivate the use of contemporary technologies and innovative approaches (e.g. genomics, proteomics, informatics, systems biology) in botanical research.”
- 3 “Provide training and career development opportunities in botanical research through mentored research experiences.” NCCAM believes it is important to have a next generation of scientists in this area.
- 4 “Foster progress in botanical research by taking advantage of shared resources to achieve economies of scale in the centers program, possibly by incorporating BRCs into a network to collectively address emerging research opportunities.”

#### *Expert Panel Recommendations*

Recommendations by an Expert Panel, chaired by Dr. Bernard Goldstein, Dean, Graduate school of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, on NCCAMs BRCs, briefly include:

“While commending the progress of the BRCs to date, the panel called on NIH ...to work closely with investigators to foster higher standards of research productivity and efficiency throughout the BRC program by issuing guidelines and taking steps to strengthen oversight. More attention be paid to quality assurance and quality control in botanical products, fostering collaborations with scientists conducting botanical research at other sites, and incorporating a broader range of relevant research technologies and approaches to the centers’ research. Panelists agreed that future centers should be organized around coherent, well-justified themes and increasingly focus on the effects of botanicals in humans.”

TO

David J. Slatkin, Ph.D. Treasurer  
 Treasurer, The American Society of  
 Pharmacognosy, PO Box 28665,  
 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255-0161

**MEMBERSHIP** Membership in the American Society of Pharmacognosy is recognized in several categories

#### Full Membership

Full membership is open to any scientist interested in the study of natural products. Dues are \$35.00 per year. In order to receive the Journal of Natural Products the subscription rates are as follows: United States, Canada, and Mexico: \$86 (Print Edition), \$60 (Web Edition), \$146 (Both Print and Web); All other countries: \$129 (Print edition), \$60 (Web edition), \$189 (Both Print and Web).

#### Associate Membership

Associate membership is open to students of pharmacognosy and allied fields only. These members are not accorded voting privileges. Dues are \$20.00 per year. In order to receive the Journal of Natural Products the subscription rates are as follows: United States, Canada, and Mexico: \$65 (Print Edition), \$60 (Web Edition), \$125 (Both Print and Web); All other countries: \$108 (Print Edition), \$60 (Web Edition), \$168 (Both Print and Web).

#### Emeritus Membership

Emeritus membership is open to retired members of the Society who maintained membership in the Society for at least five years. Dues are \$5.00 per year. These members receive the ASP Newsletter. Emeritus members may subscribe to the Journal of Natural Products at the Full Member rates.

#### Honorary Membership

Honorary members are selected by the Executive Committee of the American Society of Pharmacognosy on the basis of meritorious service to pharmacognosy.

#### Present Honorary Members are:

- Dr. Arnold Brossi, *National Institutes of Health, Maryland* • Dr. David P. Carew, *University of Iowa*
- Dr. Gordon C. Cragg, *National Cancer Institute/NIH, Frederick, Maryland*
- Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth, *Univ. of Il at Chicago* • Dr. R. Hegnauer, *Leiden, Netherlands*
- Dr. Albert Hofmann, *Switzerland* • Dr. S. William Pelletier, *University of Georgia, Athens*
- Dr. James E. Robbers, *Purdue University, West Lafayette*
- Dr. E. John Staba, *University of Minnesota* • Dr. Hildebert Wagner, *University of Munich*
- Dr. Mansukh Wani, *Research Triangle Institute, NC*

#### Additional information about membership may be obtained by writing to the Treasurer of the Society:

David J. Slatkin, Ph.D, Treasurer, The American Society of Pharmacognosy,  
 PO Box 28665, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255-0161

#### ASP Newsletter

Renuka Misra, Ph.D, Editor

#### Deadlines for submission of information are as follows:

Spring Issue — *March 1st*  
 Summer Issue — *June 1st*  
 Fall Issue — *September 1st*  
 Winter Issue — *December 1st*

#### Send information to:

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 Editor -- *ASP Newsletter*  
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