



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY

ANNUAL MEETING IN ORLANDO WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

William J. Keller, Ph.D.

The 39th Annual Meeting of our Society kicked off on Sunday, July 19 at the very beautiful and spacious Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Florida. Being a Disney-owned resort, our meeting complex boasted of an impressive array of recreational activities for both children and adults. While the usual Disney characters were visible at every turn, the meeting was far from a Mickey Mouse – Donald Duck affair. For five great days, over 400 meeting registrants experienced cutting edge scientific presentations, natural products research discussions, and colle-

gial interactions that surely sparked ideas that will undoubtedly lead to future discoveries. Friendly social gatherings allowed meeting participants to renew old acquaintances and to establish new relationships.

The symposia focused on strategies of accessing biological and chemical diversity, descriptions of emerging technologies that aid rapid isolation and characterization of new natural products, and methods that provide an adequate supply of natural products for clinical development.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Following in the tradition established by previous incoming ASP presidents, I welcome the opportunity to present a short message to the membership.

The American Society of Pharmacognosy continues to thrive in all respects, with the total membership now approaching 1,300. With about 40% of our membership coming from outside the United States, we are truly an international society with all the benefits and strengths which emanate from such global character. Our Journal of Natural Products reflects this character, with the 1997 volume containing papers submitted by co-authors from about sixty countries. We hear constantly about globalization of economies and the interdependent relationship of the world's nations; to me, the continuing expansion of our overseas membership is a very welcome trend which should be promoted to include more members from our "developing" country neighbors. With the majority of the world's natural resources concentrated in "developing" nations, and the more sophisticated technology currently residing mainly in "developed" nations, all those involved in the science of natural products stand to gain from closer collaboration and interchange between these two sectors. Our Society can play a leadership role in fostering such interaction, and indeed, a significant number of ASP members have had, and continue to have, productive collaborative research programs involving scientists from these nations. The ASP recently published a set of

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Committee Assignments 1997-1998

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(Yr 2 of 5)
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1999- Amsterdam

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2000 - Seattle

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Scientific Program Committee 1999- Amsterdam continued

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2000 - Seattle

Heinz G. Floss
Raymond Andersen
William H. Gerwick
Bradley S. Moore
Jodi Laakso
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Edward J. Kennelly

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Additionally, there were five symposia speakers who described recent research associated with their International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups. A workshop on International Property Rights was conducted on the afternoon of Sunday, July 19 and was quite well received. A highlight of the scientific program was the ASP Research Achievement Award address by Dr. Sidney M. Hecht. A truly magnificent seminar was presented by Dr. Hecht that concerned his research into the mechanism of action of bleomycin. Professor Hecht discussed complex and thought provoking theories that were perceived as being easily understandable through a masterful delivery. Scientists from around the world presented their most important and salient current research in the form of poster papers and podium presentations. The entire scientific program was very interesting and quite intellectually stimulating.

The social events captured the essence of the ASP...friendly interactions amongst a rel-

atively small group of distinguished natural product scientists. On Tuesday evening, July 21, the Great American Barbecue was held at Disney's River Country at Fort Wilderness. Down home food, live music, and games were all part of a wonderfully entertaining evening. The Annual Banquet featured great cuisine and the induction of Dr. E. John Staba as an ASP Honorary Member. Additionally, Professor Harry Fong was an admirable substitute for Norman Farnsworth in saluting Bob Borris as he departed from the office of ASP President.

All ASP members would be remiss if they did not acknowledge a huge debt of gratitude to the meeting organizers who devoted so much of their time and effort to offer the Society such a meaningful conference experience. Our hats are off to Bill Baker and all of his colleagues in Florida. These key individuals all contributed to a highly successful meeting in Orlando!

Committees continued from previous page

Continuing Education Committee

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Organizing Committee, Interim Meeting on Herbal Medicine—Mississippi 1998

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Varro E. Tyler
Larry A. Walker

CALLS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ...

Research Achievement Award

The American Society of Pharmacognosy selects a recipient for the ASP Research Award annually. 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 of the ASP Research Award 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

Nominations for the 2000 award are due by April 1, 1999 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 accomplish-

ments. Nomination documents should be submitted in triplicate to: Jon Clardy, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-1301, FAX (607) 255-7583, EMAIL jcc12@cornell.edu

Awards and Grants for Students

To stimulate interest in all phases of natural products research, the American Society of Pharmacognosy is offering the following awards and grants:

1. ASP Student Research Award.

The ASP Student Research Award is designed to recognize outstanding research in the general area of natural products. The competition is open to all graduate and undergraduate students working for a member of the ASP. Students should submit a research paper describing his/her own work in the area of natural products. The applications will be reviewed by the ASP Awards and Funds Committee in a blinded competition. The research paper should conform in general to the format of the *Journal of Natural Products*, except that there should be no identification of the student, faculty, or school from

which the paper originated. The name and address of the contestant and his/her paper title should be provided in a separate letter accompanying the paper. Please include a self-addressed stamped postcard (no smaller than 3.25 by 5.5 inches) with the title of the proposal and name of the applicant. This postcard will serve as notification of receipt of the application. The award will consist of a \$500 cash gift and all expenses paid to present the paper at the annual meeting of the ASP (restricted to meetings held in the continental U.S.). The deadline for submission of the research paper is **March 1, 1999.**

2. Undergraduate Research Awards.

The ASP Undergraduate Research Awards consist of a stipend of \$2,000 to the student and \$500 to the advisor to help defray the costs of the research. There are no limitations on the type of research to be conducted other than that it should be in the area of natural products. Persons interested in submitting an application for consideration should send the following before **March 1, 1999:**

- a. An outline of the research to be conducted, written by the student submitting the

AWARDS AND GRANTS

application. This should include a statement of the problem and the goal(s) of the research, and a brief discussion of the methodology. This outline, with pertinent references, should not be longer than four double-spaced, typed pages.

- b. A transcript of all college work attempted.
- c. A curriculum vitae.
- d. A letter of agreement by the faculty advisor (a member of the American Society of Pharmacognosy) for the project, indicating a willingness to supervise the project, and provide the facilities and equipment for the conduct of the project. The letter should also include a statement about the student's academic performance and suitability to perform the work proposed.
- e. A self-addressed stamped postcard (no smaller than 3.25 by 5.5 inches) with the title of the proposal and name of the applicant. This postcard will serve as notification of receipt of the application.

Although not an absolute condition of the awards, students selected are highly encouraged to submit results of their research for presentation at an

annual meeting of the ASP.

3. Lloyd Library and Museum Grants.

This grant program was established in cooperation with the Lloyd Library and Museum. In keeping with the Lloyd Library's interest in promoting student activities, two \$500 travel awards to attend the national ASP meeting will be awarded. These awards will be made based on excellence in both scholastic and research activities in the field of natural products. Application can be made by submission of a short (1-3 pages) synopsis of the work to be presented, a curriculum vitae, a current transcript and a letter of recommendation from the advisor. Applications are due **March 1, 1999**.

4. Travel Grants for Graduate Students.

Graduate students under the supervision of a Society member are also eligible for a travel grant of \$300 to \$500 to enable them to attend a Society meeting and present a paper. Application can be made by submission of a short (1-3 pages) synopsis of the work to be presented, a curriculum vitae and a letter of justification/recommendation from the advisor. All awards are contingent on the acceptance of the paper for presentation

by the Scientific Program Committee. Applications are due **March 1, 1999**.

Awards and Grants for Active Members

1. Research Starter Grants.

ASP small research grants from \$2000 to \$5000 are available for active members in the first eight years after earning their Ph.D. and in the first five years of their first independent career position. These are one-time awards and are not subject to indirect costs.

Application can be made by submission of a research proposal of no more than four double-spaced, typed pages. A budget should accompany the proposal and the investigator should also provide a statement of his current funding. A curriculum vitae of the investigator must be included with the proposal and budget. The deadline for submission of application for these grants is **March 1, 1999**. Please include a self-addressed stamped postcard (no smaller than 3.25 by 5.5 inches) with the title of the proposal and the name of the applicant. This postcard will serve as notification of receipt of the application.

2. Travel Grants for Active Members.

Travel grants are available to

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enable active members who are in the first five years after earning their Ph.D. to travel to an American Society of Pharmacognosy meeting and present the results of their research. These awards of \$300 to \$500 are made on a competitive basis.

Application can be made by submission of a short (2-3 pages) synopsis of the work to be presented, a curriculum vitae and a letter of justification for the request. All awards are contingent on the acceptance of the paper for presentation by the Scientific Program Committee. The deadline for submission of applications is **March 1, 1999**. Please include a self-addressed stamped postcard (no smaller than 3.25 by 5.5 inches) with the title of the proposal and name of the applicant. This postcard will serve as notification of receipt of the application.

KILMER PRIZE

Beginning with the 1994-1995 awards cycle, selection and presentation responsibility of this prize was transferred from the APhA Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science Awards Committee to the American Society of Pharmacognosy Awards Committee.

Criteria: Both undergraduate and graduate students in

schools or colleges of pharmacy are eligible for this award. The student does not have to be a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association or the APhA Academy of Students of Pharmacy or the American Society of Pharmacognosy to qualify. Student applicants should submit a full research paper (introduction, experimental, results, discussion and references, with figures and tables as appropriate) and a letter certifying status from the university registrar or graduate dean. The deadline for submission of applications is **March 1, 1999**.

Nature of Award: The Kilmer Prize consists of a gold key, suitably inscribed, bearing the likeness of Dr. Kilmer. The APhA makes

available a complimentary registration and up to \$300 to enable the winner to attend the meeting at which the award will be given. The American Society of Pharmacognosy also provides an honorarium of \$300 for the named recipient.

Applications for the student and member grants and awards can be sent to:

John H. Cardellina II,
Chairman, Awards and
Funds Committee
American Society of
Pharmacognosy
Council for Responsible
Nutrition
1300 19th Street NW Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036-1609
phone (202) 872-1488
fax (202) 833-1750

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued from page 1

guidelines for members embarking on such collaborative programs (*J. Nat. Prod.*, 1997, 60, 654-655), and the symposium on the International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups, held at the recent ASP meeting in Orlando, illustrated the achievements of several such programs.

Continuing on the international theme, most of us are aware of the upcoming joint meeting of the ASP and our European counterpart societies, to be held in Amsterdam from July 26-30, 1999. The theme of this meeting is "2000 Years of

Natural Products Research - Past, Present and Future", and it promises to be an exciting and stimulating event. Details are available on the ASP Website (www.phcog.org) and in the Newsletter, and I encourage you to attend. Then, in late July, 2001, our colleagues from Mexico will be hosting the 42nd ASP Annual Meeting in Oaxaca, a beautiful city which is a center of pre-Columbian and colonial history and culture, located a 30 minute flight from Mexico City. The anticipated attendance of many delegates from Central

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and South American countries will add to the value and interest of this meeting. Plans for the 41st Annual Meeting, to be held in Seattle from July 22-26, 2000, are already well under way. The venue of Seattle will also make this meeting a major attraction for international participation, particularly from the Pacific Rim countries. All in all, the next three years' meetings promise to be great scientific and cultural events!

Last year, our President, Bob Borris, in his message to the Society, mentioned natural products coming to "a fork in the road", with the escalating use in the U.S. of natural substances in the form of alternative or herbal medicines, nutraceuticals and food supplements. He referred to the need for graduates of pharmacognosy and chemistry programs to have a sound grounding in quantitative chemical analysis to handle the standardization of herbal extracts. The emergence of this area of natural products as an important player in the U. S. health care arena, while boosting the image of natural products in the eyes of many members of the U. S. public, poses challenges to all of us determined to ensure that the high standards of natural products science are maintained in the development and promotion of these products. While standards for their production and use have been in force in Europe and some Asian countries for

some time, such regulatory control is still lacking in the U.S. An Ad Hoc Organizing Committee, under the leadership of Alice Clark, is planning an ASP Interim Meeting on Botanical Dietary Supplements in Tunica, Mississippi, in the Spring of 1999. Symposia focusing on the science being applied, and still required, in this area will be held. These symposia will serve as a forum for ASP members and other members of the natural products community to provide leadership in the recommendation of sound scientific guidelines for the development of safe and effective products. Keep in contact with the Website and Newsletter for further details.

At the ASP meeting in Orlando, there were several presentations from colleagues in the industrial sector on promising developments in natural product drug discovery, I was impressed by the enthusiasm and unequivocal support expressed by the speakers for the continued, important role of natural products in the drug discovery process. Nature remains the ultimate source of unique combinatorial libraries, but it is clear that innovative approaches to source selection, screening, compound purification and dereplication, and structural modification are essential in order to remain competitive with other methods of molecular diversity generation - and

also to remain competitive in the arena of research funding! While Institutional natural products programs cannot be expected to compete with industry in all these areas, they can continue to play a vital role in the basic research, and the scope for the formation of productive, multi-disciplinary collaborations with groups having expertise in the other essential components of the discovery and development process needs to be explored in order to optimize the chances for success. One thing is certain, future success is very much dependent on a willingness to adapt to the changing paradigms and circumstances.

I really feel privileged and honored to serve as President of such a fine Society. The Society owes its present dynamic and excellent condition to the strong commitment and dedicated service of many members over the past nearly 40 years. I want to thank those who have served, and continue to serve, ASP in various capacities, and all of you who support the Society through your membership and attendance of meetings. We can look forward to a stimulating and challenging year as we approach the new millennium!

I will welcome receiving comments and suggestions. It is easiest to reach me by e-mail (cragg@dtpax2.ncifcrf.gov), but I may also be reached by phone at (301)-846-5387 or fax at (301)-846-6178. Very best wishes for a successful year, and I look forward to hearing from you.

MEETINGS

Future ASP Meetings

1999 - April 29-May 1 - ASP Interim Meeting, Tunica, MS Botanical Supplements: State of the Science

1999 - July 26-31 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands. International meeting with the Phytochemical Society of Europe, the Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung, and the Association Française pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie.

2000 - July 22-26, Seattle, Washington

2001 - Oaxaca, Mexico

Future AAPS Meetings - 1999

November 14-18 - New Orleans Hilton, New Orleans, Louisiana

Other Meetings of Interest—1999

February 28-March 3, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Second International Symposium on the Chemistry, Biological and Pharmacological Properties of African Medicinal Plants. For further information contact: Professor K. Hostettmann, Chairman, IOCD Working Group on Plant Chemistry, Insititue of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, University of Lausanne, B.E.P., CH-1015 Lausanne-Dorigny, Switzerland. Telephone: 41/21 692 45 61; FAX: 41/21 692 45 65; E-mail: kurt.hostettmann@ipp.unil.ch

ANNOUNCEMENT

From 26-30 July 1999 the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP), the Association Française pour l' Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie (AFERP), the Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzen-forschung (GA) and the Phytochemical Society of Europe (PSE) will organize in the Main Building of the Free University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands their 5th Joint Symposium entitled:

2000 Years of Natural Products Research – Past, Present and Future

Four symposia on the following topics will be held during the conference:

Theme 1:--New biologically active plant constituents per continent

Theme 2:--Flavonoids and anthocyanins

Theme 3:--Ecological functions of secondary metabolites

Theme 4:--Analytical methods in natural product research

Additionally there will be 12 highlight lectures on various topics such as antibiotics, alkaloids, terpenoids, polysaccharides, exploiting biochemical diversity, natural products and art, yew, hallucinogenics, herbal books and industrial usage of natural products.

A number of travel grants will be available for Ph.D. students presenting a poster or short lecture. Also for younger staff members and post-docs presenting a poster of short lecture some grants are available. Applications should include a C.V., a budget for attending this symposium, and a letter of the supervisor confirming the Ph.D. student status.

Requests for more information, registration forms, accommodation forms and applications for travel grants, should be sent to:

Organizing Committee 1999 Congress, Division of Pharmacognosy, Leiden/Amsterdam Center for Drug Research, P.O. Box 9502, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands, Tel. + 31 71 527 4510, Fax + 31 71 527 4511, E-mail FCOGSYMP@LACDR.LeidenUniv.NL

NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Nominations for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Pharmacognosy are now being accepted by the Honorary Membership Committee. If you would like to nominate a member for this distinguished honor, please forward your nomination and supporting biographical data as well as two letters of recommendation from experts in the field to: **Yuzuru Shimizu**, Ph.D., Department of Biomedical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island, 41 Lower College Rd., Kingston, RI 02881; Phone: 401-874-2752, Fax: 401-874-2181, E-mail: yshimizu@uri.edu

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The American Society of Pharmacognosy offers a placement service to aid our members in seeking positions or employees. This service is available only to ASP members and is free to both the applicant and the prospective employer. Once an application is submitted, it will remain on file for one (1) year, at which time it will be destroyed. The applicant should realize that this is not a resume service and that the application will be submitted to the prospective employer exactly as submitted (i.e. the submitted form will be photocopied, then sent to the prospective employer). All information submitted will be held in the strictest confidentiality.

Forms and further information may be obtained from:

Joseph M. Betz, Ph.D.,
Division of Natural Products, Food and Drug
Administration (HFS-347),
200 'C' Street, S.W.,
Washington, DC 20204-0002 U.S.A
Fax: (202) 205-4422; Phone: (202) 205-4060 E-
mail: jbetz@bangate.fda.gov

NEW MEMBERS

Active Members

Pamela J. Bolton
Forest Grove, OR

Daniel Alfredo Bustos
Universidad Nacional de San Juan
San Juan- Argentina

José Maria Barbosa Filho
Universidade Federal da Paraiba
Joao Pessoa-PB, Brazil

JMahanandeeshwar Gattu
Schering-Plough Research Institute
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United Kingdom

Mingfu Wang
Rutgers University

Stephen T. Watts
Boulder, CO

Dr. E. John Staba
2840 Stinson Blvd NE
Minneapolis MN 55418



David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer
The American Society of Pharmacognosy
P.O. Box 12548
Glendale, Arizona 85318-2548

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 \$25.00 per year. In order to receive the *Journal of Natural Products* the subscription rates (print version) are as follows: United States: \$55.00; Canada and Mexico: \$65.00; Europe: \$76.00; All other countries: \$80.00. Internet version \$63.00.

Associate Membership

Associate membership is open to students of pharmacognosy and allied fields. These members are not accorded voting privileges, and dues are \$15.00 per year. In order to receive the *Journal of Natural Products* the subscription rates (print version) are as follows: United States: \$38.00; Canada and Mexico: \$48.00; Europe: \$59.00; All other countries: \$63.00. Internet version \$44.00.

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 Institute of Health, MD
- Dr. David P. Carew, University of Iowa
- Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Illinois
- Dr. R. Hegnauer, Leiden, Netherlands
- Dr. Albert Hofmann, Switzerland
- Dr. S. William Pelletier, University of Georgia
- Dr. James E. Robbers, Purdue University
- Dr. Richard E. Schultes, Harvard Botanical Museum
- Dr. E. John Staba, University of Minnesota
- Dr. Varro E. Tyler, Purdue University
- Dr. Hildebert Wagner, University of Munich
- Dr. Monroe E. Wall, Research Triangle Institute, NC
- Dr. Heber W. Youngken, Jr., University of Rhode Island

*Additional information about memberships may be obtained by writing to the Treasurer of the Society:

David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer
The American Society of Pharmacognosy
P.O. Box 12548
Glendale, AZ 85318-2548

ASP Newsletter

Joy B. Reighard, Ph.D.
Editor

Barbara H. Grissani
Editorial Assistant

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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