



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY

2000 Years of Natural Products Research Past, Present and Future

Joint Symposium to be held in Amsterdam in July

The American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP), the Association Française pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie (AFERP), the Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung (GA) and the Phytochemical Society of Europe (PSE) are holding their 5th Joint Symposium July 26 through July 30 at the Free University. See page 2 for additional information.



Amsterdam street scene

News from the Northern California Section of ASP

On April 22, Ray Cooper (Vice President of Pharmanex, Inc.) spoke at a joint seminar organized between the Northern California Section of the ASP and the Santa Clara Valley Section of the American Chemical Society. Dr. Cooper's talk was entitled "Dietary Supplements: Scientific Challenges and Perspectives" and was well received by an audience of about 60 comprised of ASP and ACS members, and students and faculty of San José State. This was the first joint meeting between the two groups, who share many members and common intertests, and future activities will be planned. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list for NCS-ASP events, please send contact. Roy Okuda at 408-924-2525 or by email at okuda@sjsu.edu

**2000 Years of Natural Products Research- Past, Present and Future -
Joint Meeting of the ASP, AFERP, GA and PSE
Amsterdam, July 26-30, 1999**

5th JOINT MEETING of the American Society of Pharmacognosy, Association Française pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en

Pharmacognosie, Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung and the Phytochemical Society of Europe

Date: July 26-30, 1999

Place: Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Venue: Main Building Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU), De Boelelaan 1105, Amsterdam, situated at 5 min walking distance from the Amsterdam-Zuid/World Trade Centre railway station, about 10 min by tram from the center of town, 10 min by train from Amsterdam Schiphol Airport (7 km by car).

There are several big hotels close to the university.

Registration: Registration will be handled by the VU Conference Service (address below). Your reservation for accommodation can be arranged through Carlson Wagonlit Travel (address below). Your abstract should be sent to the Organizing Committee (address below).

Registration fees after June 15:

- members of the organizing Societies--NLG 600
- member (PhD)-students--NLG 450
- non-members--NLG 700

The registration fee includes welcome drinks on Monday July 26, the reception on Tuesday July 27, coffee and tea during the breaks, the book of abstracts, and one public transportation ticket for use of bus, tram and metro in Amsterdam for the time of the meeting.

Meals: Lunches can be bought at one of the restaurants in the VU buildings. For dinner, ample restaurants can be found in Amsterdam city center.

Congress dinner: On Friday evening the congress dinner will be in Volendam, a small fishing village north of Amsterdam. The price of the dinner (NLG 120) includes a visit to Marken, a former island and fishing village in the IJsselmeer, a boat trip from Marken to Volendam, and transportation back by bus to Amsterdam.

Language: The official congress language will be English. There will be no translations.

Exhibition: There will be an exhibition during the meeting.

Excursions: Various excursions will be arranged during and after the meeting.

Further information can be obtained from the VU Conference Service.

Climate: In July the weather is mild with daily temperatures ranging between 18° and 30° C, with always a chance of rain.

Travel: Amsterdam can be reached by car, train and air plane. Schiphol Airport is 10 min by train from the congress venue. The Amsterdam-Zuid/World Trade Centre railway station is 5 min walking from the congress venue. By car the Vrije Universiteit can be reached from the Motorway A10, exit S108 Hospital Vrije Universiteit (H VU), Zuid/Amstelveen. Turn left at the end of the split road onto Amstelveenseweg, after about three hundred meters (at the Hospital VU) turn left again onto De Boelelaan. The VU can be reached via city routes S108 and S109. All participants will receive a ticket for free public transport in Amsterdam (bus, tram, metro) for the time of the meeting.

Parking: Parking in the city of Amsterdam is difficult. At the congress venue there are only limited parking facilities (all paid parking), there is a parking garage at the VU hospital close to the congress center. A number of parking places for the handicapped are reserved in front of the VU Main Building and within its grounds.

Currency: The Dutch currency is the guilder, the exchange rate is 1 US \$ for about NLG 2.00, 1 Euro for about NLG 2.20. All major credit cards are widely accepted.

Visa: Participants who need an entry visa are advised to make the application with the Dutch Embassy or Consulate in their home country at least two months before the intended arrival date. If required for a visa or for raising travel funds, a letter of invitation can be obtained from the Organizing Committee (address below); such a letter is not a commitment on the part of the organizers to provide any financial support.

Insurance: Please arrange your own travel insurance. The organizers will not be liable for any accident, injury, theft, loss and property damage to any person.

Address for information on the programme, exhibition, and submission of abstracts

Organizing Committee 1999 Congress
Division of Pharmacognosy, Leiden/Amsterdam
Center for Drug Research
PO Box 9502, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands
tel: (+)31 (0)71 527 4510
fax: (+)31 (0)71 527 4511
Email: FCOGSYMP@LACDR.Leidenuniv.NL

Teller's Committee Report 1998 ASP Election

The Teller's Committee, appointed by President Gordon M. Cragg, now wishes to report on the following results of the 1998 election.

Vice President (1999-2000):

John H. Cardellina, II

Executive Committee Member (1999-2002)

John Clardy

Constitution and By-Laws Change Proposal--
Passed.

A total of 1096 ballots (647 USA and 449 non-USA) were mailed in early January 1999. Of this total, 404 ballots (303 USA and 101 non-USA) were returned and counted. Therefore, 37% of the qualified voting members of the ASP participated in the election.

Submitted by:

Dr. William J. Keller, Chairman

Dr. John G. Eley

Dr. T. Sam Roe

FROM THE PRESIDENT

WHEN IT COMES TO DIVERSITY, NATURE COMES OUT AHEAD

I'm sure many of you who receive *Chemical and Engineering News* saw the above headline in the March 29 issue (p. 28). As reported by Pamela Zurer, some researchers at Bayer in Germany have performed a statistical investigation into the structural similarities of natural products and synthetic compounds [reported in the March 1 issue of the International Edition of *Angewandte Chemie* (p. 643)]. The investigation was prompted by the observation that, with the recognition of the strengths of combinatorial chemistry, "quite a few people predicted that natural products will simply be substituted by synthetic compounds". On the basis of their evaluations, the Bayer scientists concluded

that there is a clear difference between the structural properties of natural products and synthetic compounds. The section head of natural products chemistry at Bayer, Dr. Thomas Henkel, states: "Nature is and will be the more efficient and talented source of innovative lead structures. Even anticipating strong progress in synthetic methodology, it is hard to imagine that combinatorial synthesis will ever substitute for natural products"

The group of eminent scientists who recently reviewed the NCI Developmental Therapeutics Program also noted that "natural products have proven to be the most effective small molecules in terms of their ability to alter the function

of proteins relevant to cancer", and that "by continuing the discovery of new anticancer natural products and by applying the insights derived from the study of these natural products to the design and construction of synthetic molecules, it should be possible to develop new anticancer agents".

To me, it is significant and encouraging that there continues to be the recognition by experts in industry, academia and government, of the immense value of natural products as an important source of leads in drug discovery and development. Rather than taking a confrontational attitude to technologies such as combinatorial chemistry, and feeling

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THE ASP WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS!!

New Active Members

- Laura L. Ashlock
Ventura, California
- Everaldo G. Attard
University of Malta
- Kimberly Pratt Basden
Duke Medical Research Center
- Gail L. Becker
Boca Raton, Florida
- Mark Blumenthal
American Botanical Council
Austin, Texas
- Pamela Cochran
National Cancer Institute
Frederick, Maryland
- Bill Cohen
The Haworth Press
Binghamton, New York
- Marlene Frances Cox
University of Bradford
West Yorkshire, U.K.
- Ping Dai
Merck Research Laboratory
Rahway, New Jersey
- Silvia L. Debenedetti
University of Belgrano
Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Hongfeng Gao
University of Mississippi
- J. P. Gerber
University of Natal
Durban, Republic of South Africa
- Luis D. Gomez
Org. Tropical Studies
Miami, Florida
- Antonio Gonzalez
Madrid, Spain
- Angel Guerrero
Nutratech, Inc.
Fairfield, New Jersey
- Reynald Hocquemiller
Chatenay-Malabry, France
- Lin Hongxiang
P.R. China
- Nagatoshi Ide
Wakunaga Pharm. Co.
Hiroshima, Japan
- Muhammad Ilias
University of Mississippi
- Akira Inada
Setsunan University
Hirakata, Osaka, Japan
- Ting-Ting Jong
National Chung-Hsing University
Taichung City, Taiwan
- Daniel Joulain
Robertet S.A.
Grasse, France
- Yuto Kamel
Saga University
Karatsh, Saga, Japan
- Charles Kamenka
Accutec Technologies, Inc.
Point Roberts, Washington
- Catherine Lavaud
University of Reims
Reims, France
- Ik-Soo Lee
Chonnam National University
Kwangju, Korea
- Robert M. Levin
Albany College of Pharmacy
Albany, New York
- Shwu-Juan Lin
Taipei Medical College
Taipei, Taiwan
- Zimin Liu
Nocturnal Alternatives, Int'l.
San Marcos, California
- Peter Lorenz
Kaden Biochemicals GMBH
Hamburg, Germany
- Taifo Mahmud
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
- H.A. Mahomed
University of Natal
Durban, Republic of South Africa
- Gilbert D. Martin
Merck and Company, Inc.
Boyertown, Pennsylvania
- Zlatko Mehmedic
University of Mississippi
- Rita M. Moraes
University of Mississippi
- Dharmika Nanayakkara
University of Mississippi
- Bhairab D. Pandey
North Brunswick, New Jersey
- Greg Pennyroyal
Leiner Health Products
Carson, California
- Jat Rana
Ada, Michigan
- Manyam B. Rangavalli
University of Mississippi
- Pascal Richomme
UFR Sciences
Angers, France
- Jeanette C. Roberts
University of Utah
- Samir Anis Ross
University of Mississippi
- Vitalina Rozenfeld
Easton, Maryland
- Pamela Seefeld
Clearwater, Florida
- Young Geun Shin
University of Illinois
Chicago, Illinois
- Monique S. J. Simmonds
The Royal Botanical Gardens
Kew Richmond, Surrey, U.K.
- Cameron J. Smith
OSI Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- R. William Soller
Cons. Healthcare Prod. Assn.
Washington, D.C.
- Maria Julia Verde Star
San Nicolás de los Garza,
Mexico
- Sidney Sudberg
Alkamists Pharmaceuticals
Costa Mesa, California

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Hao Howard Sun
Pharmanex Laboratory
Los Angeles, California
Sudhakararao Thammana
University of Rhode Island
Jorge Molina Torres
Irapuato, Mexico
Ngeh J. Toyang
University of Mississippi
Louis Williams
University of Houston
Mary Alice Yund
Berkeley, California
Yu-Dong Zhou
University of Mississippi

Associate Members

Nektarios Aligiannis
University of Athens
Greece
Scott Baggett
Lehman College
Bronx, New York
Gail L. Becker
Boca Raton, Florida
Jennifer Ann Carroll
University of California
Santa Cruz, California
Kyle Craig
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia
Rohan Davis
Mt. Gravatt, Australia
Faith Demirci
Anadolu University
Eskisehir, Turkey
Christine J. Duncan
University of Mississippi
Sherweit El-Ahmady
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas
Maria Elena Y. Francisco
Clark University
Worcester, Massachusetts
Ahmed A. Hussein
Inst. de Quimica Organica General
Madrid, Spain

Annual Meeting (continued from page 2)



Centraal Station in Amsterdam

Patrick F. Jonas
University of Illinois
Chicago, Illinois
Wilson C. Julio
University of Brussels
Brussels, Belgium
Laura Mydlarz
University of California
Santa Barbara, California
Sandra Maria Newton
Bradford University
Lancashire, U.K.
Fokialakis Nikolas
University of Athens
Greece
Magiatis Prokopios
University of Athens
Greece
Ira Rajbhandari
University of Mississippi
Jennifer Schmidt
University of Alabama
Huntsville, Alabama
H.F. Smit
Utrecht, Netherlands

Websites of organizing Societies

American Society of
Pharmacognosy:
<http://www.phcog.org/>
Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung: <http://www.uni-duesseldorf.de/WWW/GA/>
Phytochemical Society of Europe:
<http://www.dmu.ac.uk/ln/pse>

Schedule of activities:

Monday, July 26

Evening: registration, welcome drinks

Tuesday, July 27

Opening, lectures
Reception at the Rijksmuseum

Wednesday, July 28

Lectures and poster session

Thursday, July 29

Lectures and poster session

Friday, July 30

Lectures and poster session
Congress dinner

Future ASP Meetings

- 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
- 2002 - New Brunswick, NJ, joint with Monroe Wall Symposium

Future AAPS Meetings - 1999

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

Other Meetings of Interest—1999

September 12-16, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, Second Euroconference on Marine Natural Products Contact: Prof. Carlos Jimenez Gonzalez Departamento de Quimica Fundamental e Industrial Facultad de Ciencias, Campus da Zapateira, s/n Universidade da Coruna, 15071 A Coruna. Espana, Tel: 34-981-167000 Ext. 2170, Fax: 34-981-167065 , e-mail: carlosjg@udc.es.

November 3-5,--Silver Spring, Maryland International Conference on Ethnomedicine and Drug Discovery.
Contact: Magnus A. Azuine, Ph.D.
Bioresources Development and Conservation Programme, 11303 Amherst Avenue, Suite #2 Silver Spring, MD 20902, USA Phone (301) 962-6201, Fax (301) 962-6205 E-mail: azuine@bioresources.org

Other Meetings of Interest—2000

January 18-22, -- Karachi, Pakistan. 8th International Symposium on Natural Product Chemistry. For information contact: Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman (Chairman), Director, International Center For Chemical Sciences, H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry, University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, Pakistan. Telephone: 92-21499-0007; 92-21-496-8497; Fax: 92-21-496-3373; 92-21-496-3124. E-mail: hejric@digicom.net.pk

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

THE MATT SUFFNESS SYMPOSIUM

As many ASP members know, the late Matt Suffness was a driving force behind establishing the "Young Investigators' Symposium" as a forum for younger natural products scientists to present the results of their research and gain timely recognition from their colleagues for their contributions to the science.

At the annual meeting of the ASP in Orlando in 1998, several members questioned the use of "young" in the title, and after thorough discussion, the ASP Executive Committee has unanimously decided to rename the Symposium, "The Matt Suffness Symposium." The Symposium will be held at annual Society meetings in the United States, with the first one being in Seattle in 2000.

The Awards and Funds Committee has been charged with the selection of speakers according to the following procedure:

- 1) The number of speakers per year shall be limited to two, but may be one or none if suitable nominations are not received in a particular year.
- 2) Nominees must be ASP members.
- 3) The age limit of nominees shall be 40 years.
- 4) Nominees shall be within 12 years of receiving their Ph.D., and within 10 years of gaining their first independent position (e.g., Assistant Professor or equivalent position in industry and government).
- 5) Nomination paperwork shall be kept as simple as possible. The Awards and Funds Committee will prepare a Nomination Form for use in soliciting nominations.
- 6) A nomination must be accompanied by the nominee's CV, an abstract of the presentation proposed by the nominee, and relevant reprints. Selected speakers will be invited to submit a short review paper to the *Journal of Natural Products*.
- 7) Nominations will be solicited in the Newsletter, on the Website, and from recipients of the Research Achievement Award. Self-submissions will not be accepted.
- 8) Nominations will only be accepted from active ASP members.
- 9) The Awards and Funds Committee must keep in close contact with the appropriate ASP meeting Scientific Program Committee.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Maktoob Alam,
University of Houston
College of Pharmacy

R. Bryan Miller,
University of California at Davis

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued from page 3

threatened by such developments, I feel we must recognize that our respective disciplines complement each other; we should strive to form multidisciplinary collaborations with experts in these areas in order to maximize the contribution of our natural products to the development of efficacious drugs and other bioactive agents.

I'm sure that the upcoming joint meeting in Amsterdam will address many of the issues critical to the continued progress of our important, and indispensable, discipline. I look forward to seeing you there!

Gordon Cragg

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

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FIRST CLASS

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



David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer
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 are as follows: United States: \$59 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$86 (Both Print and Web); Canada and Mexico: \$79 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$106 (Both Print and Web); Europe: \$92 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$119 (Both Print and Web); All other countries: \$99 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$126 (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, and dues are \$15.00 per year. In order to receive the *Journal of Natural Products* the subscription rates are as follows: United States: \$44 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$71 (Both Print and Web); Canada and Mexico: \$64 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$91 (Both Print and Web); Europe: \$77 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$104 (Both Print and Web); All other countries: \$84 (Print edition), \$65 (Web edition), \$111 (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 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

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