



New Name for Serotonin Club

At the Montpellier Meeting, interest was expressed to change the name of the Serotonin Club. Many stated that the organization is not taken seriously because it is a "Club". This was seen as an issue in obtaining sponsors and funding for meetings. Some people also stated it was difficult to get travel approved because it is a "club". An email was sent to obtain suggested names, followed by a ballot to the entire membership to vote on whether the name should be changed and also to select the new name. There was an overwhelming response from our membership, the largest response I have ever seen in my eight years as secretary. There was a decisive choice, with the International Society for Serotonin Research receiving over half of the votes. The result was discussed among the Officers and Councilors and the decision was made to change the name, but adding "formerly known as the Serotonin Club" whenever possible. Our goal is to use the full name instead of an acronym, since there are many organizations that use that same acronym. Therefore, please try to use the full name, International Society for Serotonin Research whenever possible.

New Banner

Council decided that with the new name a new banner should be designed for the webpage, the newsletters, letters, etc. A very artistically talented graduate student, Lee Gilman, in Dr. Anne Andrew's laboratory was asked to provide the Council with some choices and the winner is at the top of the page of this newsletter. If you want to use the banner you should be able to click on it, copy and paste it. When Lee designed the banner she followed the requests of the officers and councilors by including the previous Serotonin Club logo and indicated the name change of the organization. She incorporated the current color scheme of the website, as well as a detailed molecular model of serotonin crafted by her colleague, Dr. Sarawut Cheunkar.

The website has been changed to reflect the name and banner changes by our Webmaster, Dr. Rodrigo Andrade. Also, Dr. Andrade has made it so if anyone is searching for our webpage, either the Serotonin Club or the International Society for Serotonin Research will get you there.

Roster of New Officers and Councilors

As of January 1, 2013 our new set of Officers and Councilors assumed their roles. We have added three new positions for Associate Councilors for North America, Europe and Rest of the World as recommended at the Montpellier meeting with a majority vote. Unfortunately we do not have the position for Rest of the World filled, so we would love to have a volunteer to fill that position. The Associate Councilor is a new investigator less than three years out

from obtaining their PhD, MD or other similar degree. Also with Dr. Kelly Berg taking over the secretary/treasurer role by summer we will need a new North America councilor and Kelly Berg will be holding the elections probably this summer. Thanks to the efforts of Sebastian Fernandez there are pictures associated with the names. Attached to this newsletter is the roster of Officers and Councilors that is also on the webpage.

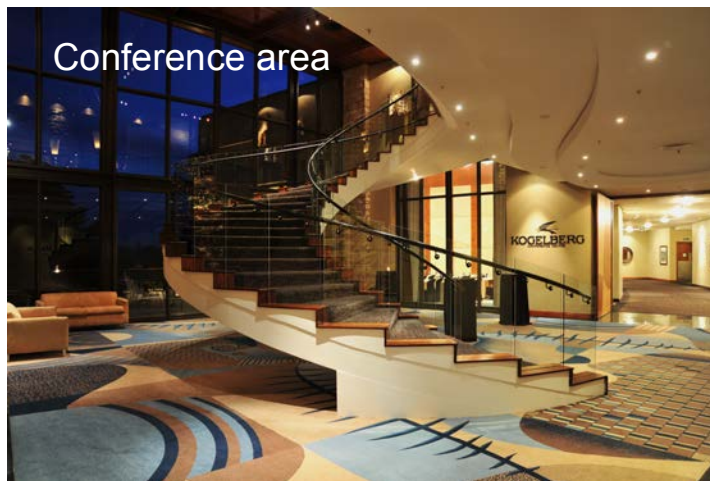
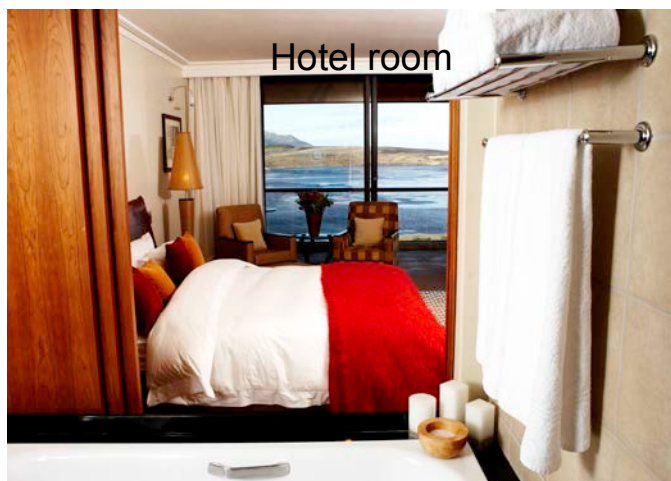
2014 Meeting in South Africa

Plans are well underway for the meeting to be held in South Africa as a satellite meeting to the World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2014) in Cape Town, July 13-



18, 2014. The Officers have been working with a local organizing committee in South Africa. The members include Professor Brian Harvey from Potchefstroom, Professor Soraya Seedat from Cape Town, Dr. Sian Hemmings from Cape Town, Professor Douglas Oliver from Potchefstroom and Professor Tiaan Brink from Potchefstroom.

The venue that has been chosen is Arabella Golf Estate and Spa in Kleinmond, South Africa. Our meeting will be held July 9-11, 2014. Arabella is situated in a secluded golf estate roughly 2 hours by bus or car from Cape Town in the beautiful Kogelberg Region of the Cape and has panoramic views of the Kleinmond Lake and the Atlantic Ocean. Arabella is a five-star conference facility, and is already world renowned for its ability to host functions and conferences on a grand scale, and offers competitive conference packages. Furthermore, it offers world-class rooms and suites with cuisine to match. For those individuals that will be accompanying people attending the meeting there are lots of activities available. A number of



activities in this region can be booked directly at the Arabella hotel, including shark diving, hiking, visits to nearby Hermanus and Cape Agulhas (the Southern most tip of Africa), wine tasting, tree topping (canopy tours), canoeing and kayaking, abseiling, horse riding and much more.

The call for symposia will go out soon to all the members who have paid their dues. However we will also be distributing the call for symposia through the IUPHAR and the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society databases, and hopefully a few others like ACNP. Please follow the instructions carefully, since there is a requirement that you get confirmation from your symposia members that they will attend the entire meeting. Chairs and co-chairs must be members of the International Society for Serotonin Research. In addition, as in past years, the fourth speaker in each symposium will be a Travel Fellow. Funding has already been acquired to support the travel of the fellows through a grant from NIDA that was successfully obtained by Dr. Lynette Daws. Last year we also instituted a new session called "Pioneers and Prodigies" that included 15 min presentations from Travel Awardees and was chaired by past and present Page and Rapport lecturers. This session will also be included in the 2014 meeting.

Arabella swimming pools



MIXER at Society for Neuroscience Meeting



Sequestration, budget cuts, feeling like you've hit rock bottom??? Well, think again! Join us at "Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery" in the Gaslamp District in beautiful San Diego, just a short stroll from the Convention Center. Here you will find great company, fine food and bountiful brews that will brush those blues away. As tradition has it, you can count on being entertained by amusing anecdotes from a surprise guest speaker, and yes, serotonin will assuredly be mentioned.

When: Monday, November 11, 6:00 – 8:30 pm.

Where: "Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery", 401 G St., San Diego, CA9210

A charge of \$25 (for those who pre-register, \$35 at the door) includes a scrumptious appetizer buffet and two drink tickets. A cash bar will also be available. Payment can be made by sending a check made out to "International Society for Serotonin Research" to Kelly Berg at berg@uthscsa.edu, or by PayPal at www.serotoninclub.org through the International Society for Serotonin Research website under the membership tab.

Joint International Society for Serotonin Research and British Pharmacological Society (BPS) symposium Tuesday 17th December 2013, London.

The International Society for Serotonin Research has organized a joint symposium entitled "New Insights into Serotonin Receptor Modulation and Signaling" chaired by Trevor Sharp and Kevin Fone to be held on Tuesday 17th December 2013 during the British Pharmacological Society Winter meeting (17–19 December 2013) at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre London, UK. This symposium will describe exciting new advances in understanding the signaling mechanisms utilized by some of the major serotonin (5-HT) receptors, knowledge of which may lead to new therapeutic targets for the treatment of common disorders of the CNS and periphery. These advances range from recent discoveries of serotonin receptor interacting proteins and trafficking chaperones, to the application of challenging new concepts in ligand-dependent selectivity for signal transduction pathways. The four speakers are well known to our society members and their talks are:

Professor Nicholas Barnes, School of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Birmingham University, UK: "Molecular studies discovering the therapeutic potential of allosteric 5-HT₃ receptor ligands"

Professor Joel Bockaert, Institut de Genomique Fonctionnelle, Montpellier, France: "New Insights into Serotonin Receptor Modulation, Signaling and Pathophysiology"

Dr. Adrian Newman-Tancredi, NeuroAct Communications, Castres, France: "5-HT_{1A} receptor biased agonist to target distinct receptor sub-populations"

Dr. Per Svenningsson Dept. Clinical Neuroscience, Karolinska Institute, Sweden: "5-HT receptor chaperones"

Online registration with the BPS will open on 1st July and members of the International Society for Serotonin Research who are not members of the BPS will be eligible to the reduced affiliate registration rate of £65. For further details visit

<http://www.bps.ac.uk/meetings/13a5092985f>

Submitted by Dr. Kevin Fone



Special Issue of ACS Chemical Neuroscience Celebrating 24 years of the Serotonin Club Proceedings of Montpellier 2012 meeting

The special journal issue based on the proceedings of the meeting held in Montpellier, France in July "Celebrating 25 Years of the Serotonin Club" is available on line. The editors for this special issue were Drs. Anne Andrews and Lynette Daws

who did a fantastic job. The issue contains not only manuscripts based on talks that were given at the meeting but also includes Viewpoints from original club members and authoritative Viewpoints from other distinguished members of the Society. Many of the NIDA Travel Awardees also have significant contributions to the issue. Please access the issue through the following link: <http://pubs.acs.org/toc/acncdm/current>. The link is also available on the International Society for Serotonin Research webpage, Facebook page and LinkedIn page.

Laurent Descarries

One of Canada's leading neuroscientists and a pioneer in the field of serotonin research, Dr. Laurent Descarries, passed away this past October. An obituary can be found in *Frontiers of Synaptic Transmission* doi:[10.3389/fnsyn.2012.00007](https://doi.org/10.3389/fnsyn.2012.00007).

Many of us will have lasting recollections of the quality of his science, his influence as a mentor and the enthusiasm he brought to his work. Professor Harry Steinbusch was kind enough to provide the following remembrance of his good friend.

Dear members of the Serotonin Club,

It is Wednesday evening, April 22, 2013 and I have just finished my abstract for the forthcoming Society for Neuroscience meeting in San Diego. My thoughts immediately turn to Laurent Descarries, whom I met every year at one of his posters since the first time I visited this meeting in 1981 in Dallas, Texas. I met Laurent because he was, like me, working in the serotonin field. He worked exclusively with autoradiography, while I had started applying serotonin-immunohistochemistry in my research. At that time he was working with his young student Alain Beaudet. Over the years I visited him several times at the University of Montreal at Laval and had the privilege to stay in his house.

What did Laurent Descarries mean to the serotonin field and me? I considered him a neuroanatomist-*par excellence*. He was inspiring and focused on getting more information on the neuroanatomy of serotonergic systems, from the level of the serotonin neuron, with both light and electron microscopy. To highlight the broad areas in which he worked during his scientific career, these included: structure – function of synaptic transmission; neurotransmitters in CNS; localization and properties of neuromodulators; morphology of neurons and glia; cellular and subcellular localization of transmitters, and receptors and transporters. He also focused on the monoamine (DA, NA, A, 5-HT) and acetylcholine neurons, their topographical distribution, hodology, cytology, ultrastructure, cellular relationships and functions.

For students and people who visited him, he was inspiring concerning the high quality of his work, detail of his observations, and the description of his observations in his large number of high quality papers. Of course, over the years the field has moved away from neuroanatomy towards the molecular level and, lately, systems neurobiology. He focused his efforts on the *in vitro* and *in vivo* approaches to integrate all these observations into coherent functional neuroanatomical data. Laurent was in his element and his data were greatly appreciated.

Personally, I will miss this year in San Diego with his greetings and hearing him say "Comment ca va!" He was for me an inspiring neuroanatomical mentor, always striving for the highest quality in your work, never go for 6 since there is 9, 10 is for God. These were some of his words I will not forget. In addition, I will remember sitting together behind the discussion microscope and comparing his autoradiographic slides and my immunohistochemical slides. He would mention that one method is not better than the other but that we should combine and

learn from them both. He laughed with me when he mentioned 'I have to come to your country, the Netherlands, to purchase the new equipment from Philips'. He drove his car from Paris to the Netherlands with 40 live rats so we could perfuse them together. So many memories, and suddenly our searches together are over. Friendship will remain. I lost a good friend and will remember his enthusiasm and inspiration to work in the field of serotonin research. Laurent was for me "Professor Serotonin".

Laurent, thank you.

My Farewell

My tenure as secretary/treasurer of the Serotonin club started in 2005 after serving as a councillor for four years. I took over the position from Dr. Richard Green who also held the position for 8 years and was one of the cofounders of the Serotonin Club. During my tenure I was able to help organize the Serotonin Club meetings held in Japan (2006), England (2008), Montreal (2010), and Montpellier (2012) and have been assisting with the planning of the South Africa meeting (2014). As a result I was afforded the opportunity for some international traveling. The planning of each of those four meetings was individually very interesting. I was lucky enough to have a fantastic trip to Japan to inspect the venue a year before the meeting thanks to Dr. Mitsuhiro Yoshioka. In addition I have seen two sets of councillors come and go and worked with four different presidents. It is a challenge to keep track of all the emails as they fly back and forth, especially during the planning of the meetings. I have also been involved in the change of the name of the Serotonin Club to the International Society for Serotonin Research formerly known as the Serotonin Club. It is my hope that the Serotonin Club name will always be prominent in the background of our new Society. We have a new banner and the webpage, through the expertise of Dr. Rodrigo Andrade, has developed and grown with the advice of the officers and councillors.

Unfortunately under my tenure, the membership has decreased and I pose this as a new challenge to the officers, councillors and members to find a way to entice our fellow serotonin investigators to join.

After eight years in office it is time for me to hand over the position of secretary/treasurer to the capable hands of Dr. Kelly Berg who resides at the University of Texas Health Science Center. Texas appears to be a hub for the International Society for Serotonin Research with our North America Vice President Lynette Daws, our Past-President Julie Hensler, councillor Kathryn Cunningham and new secretary/treasurer Kelly Berg all residing in Texas! The next newsletter will be from your new secretary/treasurer. Thank you all for your support; it has been a challenging and fun ride.

Join the Society – Renew your dues

Students who can document that they are still in their pre-doctoral training or in their first three years of postdoctoral training may pay only \$50/3 years in dues. Please have your current mentor send a letter documenting your current student status. Regular members pay \$100/3 years.

You can pay for your dues using a credit card at



Go to www.serotoninclub.org website and click on the link for Pay dues for instructions. If you are receiving this newsletter then you are already a member. We will contact you when it is time to renew. **PLEASE URGE YOUR COLLEAGUES AND STUDENTS TO JOIN!!!!** You may also send a check for \$50 (student) or \$100 USD payable to the Serotonin Club directly to Sheryl Beck (address at end of newsletter).

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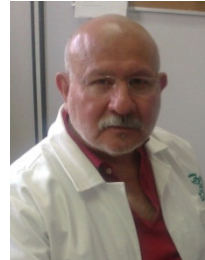
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