The American Society of Pharmacognosy

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 40

No. 3

FALL

2004

International Congress On Natural Products Research (ICNPR - 2004)

A Resounding Success

More than 600 scientists from around the world gathered at the Westin Kierland Resort and Spa in Phoenix, Arizona, July 31 – August 4, for the International Congress on Natural Products Research (ICNPR)- 2004.

This meeting was jointly planned by the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP), Association Francophone pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie (AFERP),

Cheers... at ICNPR-2004 Banquet....(L-R): Drs. Otto Sticher (Switzerland), Rudolf Bauer (Austria), Verena Dirsch (Germany) & Wolfgang Kubelka (Austria)

Continued on page 8...

The Best Place to visit in the Summer of 2005...Corvallis, OR– See p. 11

The President's Message

Incoming President Jim McAlpine's Statement

President Jim McAlpine

First things first. Congratulations to David Slatkin, Pedro Chavez and the members of the committees involved in the organization and running of the 2004 International Congress on Natural Product Research (ICNPR). The Society's Annual Meeting is always our focal point for the year and requires a tremendous effort by a dedicated group of members.

An international congress, coordinating the wishes and needs of four different societies, increases the task

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Visit the American Society of Pharmacognosy's Website at:

www.phcog.org

Editor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Greetings!

It is again that time of the year when I reacquaint myself to the new members of the Executive Board of the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP), various committee chairs and the new members. With your support and cooperation, I hope that the coming year 2004-2005 will be as productive for the Newsletter as the past year has been.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the readers & contributors for providing useful feedback and submitting news items & relevant material on time. I especially acknowledge Drs. Doug Kinghorn, Tawnya McKee, Bob Krueger, John Porter & John Beutler. I am grateful for the compliments and encouraging words of appreciation for the newsletter offered by Drs. David Slatkin & Jon Clardy at the ASP Executive Board meeting.

The annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ was a grand success: not only was it intellectually stimulating, but also great fun. The International Congress on Natural Products Research (ICNPR)-2004, hosted by ASP, in collaboration with the European Societies was attended by over 600 participants from 49 countries...a unique accomplishment indeed!

One of the major highlights of the meeting was its opening day satellite symposium – "Classical Pharmacognosy Forum: The Critical Need for Pharmacognosy in Pharmacy Curricula," organized by Drs. Upton and Cardellina. The discipline of pharmacognosy is at an important crossroads. On the one hand, the pharmaceutical community is anticipating increasing demand for the skills that pharmacognosy education provides. On the other, pharmacognosy is facing virtual disappearance from the undergraduate pharmacy syllabus in major pharmacy colleges. This is an alarming trend!

Well known pharmacognosists from North America & Europe--Drs. Farnsworth(USA); Kubelka (Austria);Wagner (Germany); Bohlin (Sweden); Page (Switzerland) etc. shared their knowledge and wisdom with lectures on the history and techniques of pharmacognosy. The symposium stressed that Pharmacognosy, among other things, provides a platform to explore and integrate standardization methods; elucidation of total chemical and pharmacological profiles; scientific research on validation of claims made for health foods, dietary supplements,and complementary/alternative medicines; & offers characterization services to extracts and plant materials used in clinical trials. Thus, time is ripe to reintroduce pharmacognosy in undergraduate curricula.

Finally, I take this opportunity to reiterate the significance of the ASP Newsletter. This Newsletter has been & will be an important medium of communication among all participants of the ASP; ranging from members to executive committee, & from readers to chairs of various committees. The Newsletter is our "virtual" community which only augments and strengthens our "real" human community. Let us all strive to let this forum grow to newer heights & become even more productive.

Have a joyous and colorful Fall!

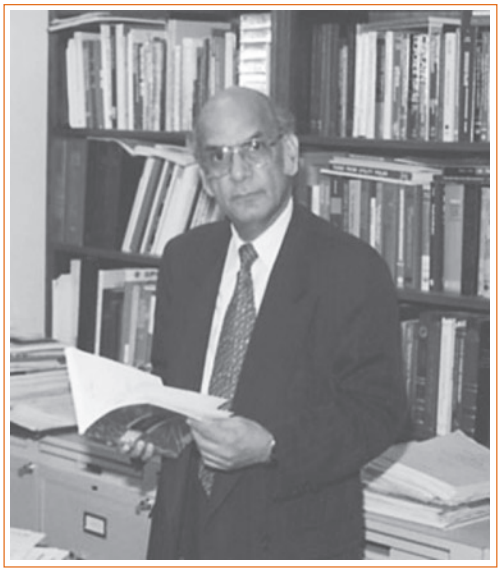
Renuka

ASP Members Honored in India

Drs. Ramesh Pandey and Hameed Khan Receive "Vaidya Ratna" Award-2004

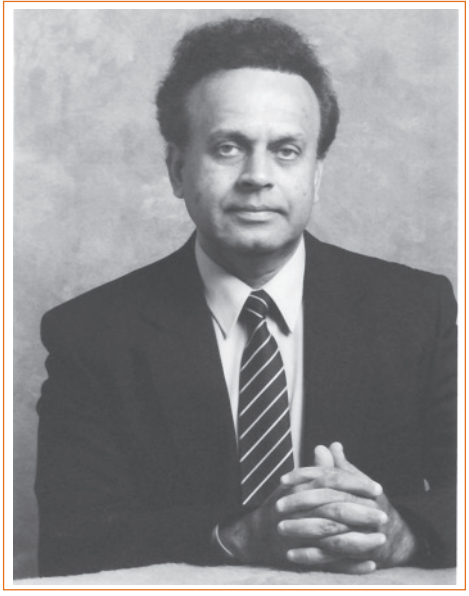
ASP members Dr. Ramesh C. Pandey and Dr. A. Hameed Khan were honored with the 2004 - "Vaidya Ratna" award in Herbal Medicine during the Fourth International Conference on Healthcare and Herbal Medicine, April 2-4, 2004, organized by the Voluntary Health, Education and Rural Development Society (VHERDS) in New Delhi, India.

Dr. Ramesh Pandey, Founder, Chairman & CEO of Xechem International, Inc. of New Brunswick, New Jersey was recognized for his work on Natural Products Research and bringing Quality Control and Standardization to Herbal Medicine. **Dr. A. Hameed Khan**, a scientist at National Institutes of Health (NIH), was honored for his discovery of AZQ (US patent 4,146,622) which is used for treating brain cancer.



Dr. Ramesh C. Pandey
Founder, Chairman & CEO
Xechem International, Inc., NJ

Dr. Pandey's work involved the discovery of useful herbal plants for treating a variety of diseases including Sickle Cell Disease (SCD). Dr. Pandey is presently guiding Xechem, Inc. in taking a phyto-pharmaceutical, HEMOXIN™/NICOSAN™ (NIPRISAN) through an Investigational New Drug (IND) application, US-clinical studies and New Drug Application (NDA) and submission to the United States Food & Drug Administraion (US-FDA) as the prescription phytopharmaceutical for the treatment of SCD. Xechem has worldwide license to this product from the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD), Government of Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria. US-FDA has designated an Orphan Drug Status to this product.



Dr. Hameed Khan
Scientist, NIH, Bethesda, MD

Dr. Khan's work involved synthesizing drugs to shut off genes that cause cancer. Over the years, he conducted over five hundred experiments, which resulted in two hundred novel drugs. Forty-five of those drugs are considered valuable enough to be patented by the U.S government. One of the drugs being used is AZQ (Invention License # L019-91/0), now used for treating brain cancer for which Dr. Khan received a 17-year royalty. Dr. Khan has been a member of NIH Scientific Staff for about 20 years.

ASP Congratulates Drs. Ramesh Pandey & Hameed Khan

❄ Winners of 2004 Awards & Grants ...

The American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP) recognized approximately 27 researchers at ICNPR-2004 in Phoenix, Arizona. The Gesellschaft fur Arzneipflanzeforschung (GA) awards were also given at this meeting. These awards were given to young professors and students, from USA, Australia, Italy, Germany, China, etc., for their outstanding scientific contributions at the annual banquet ceremony on August 4, 2004. The various award categories and their winners are listed as follows **...**

Research Achievement Award -2004
Jon C. Clardy, Ph.D
Harvard Medical School, MA

A Awards & Grants for Students

1. Undergraduate Res. Awards

- **Amanda Cordes**, *"Discovery of Neuro-regenerative Natural Products from Marine Algae & Cyanobacteria,"* Oregon State University. (Advisor: William Gerwick)

- **Nicholas B. Vidor**, "*Evaluation of Natural Products for Anti-Cancer Activity,"* University of Minnesota, Duluth. (Advisor: Leng Chee Chang)

- **Jared Bell**, *"Isolation and Study of Novel Compounds from the Cyanobacterium Schizothrix,"* Oregon State University. (Advisor: William Gerwick)

Harry Fong (L) receiving ASP Honorary Membership Award from President Clardy

Jon Clardy (President, C) receiving Research Achievement Award from Bill Gerwick (past Pr., L) and Bob Krueger (Tr. ASPF, R)

- **Shenouda Yacoub**, *"Development of the Marine Triterpenes Sipholanes as Angiogenesis Modulators,"* University of Louisiana at Monroe. (Advisor: Khalid El Sayed)

2. Kilmer Prize

- **Haidy Kamel**, *"Chemical Investigation of the Hybrid Soft Coral Sinularia maxima x Sinularia polydactyla."* University of Mississippi.

3. Student Research Award

- **Kaleem A. Mohammed** , *"Laurenditerpenol, a New Diterpene from the Tropical Marine Alga* ***Laurencia intricata*** *Potently Inhibits HIF-1 Activation-Mediated Hypoxic Signaling in Breast Tumor Cells,"* University of Mississippi, $500.

... Ceremony at ICNPR 2004, Phoenix, AZ

4.Travel Awards...Grad. Students

- **James Sims**, University of Utah, $600
- **Angela A. Salim**, Univ. of Queensland, $600
- **Laura Beer**, University of Arizona, $600
- **Alberto Plaza**, Seconda Universita di Napoli, $600

B Awards and Grants for Active Members

1. Research Starter Grants

- **Dr. Leng Chang**, *"Evaluation of Natural Products as Protein Kinase Inhibitors."* University of Minnesota, $5000.

- **Dr. John Berger**, *"Validation and Implementation of Bioassays Detecting Heme Detoxification Inhibitors."* Montclair State University, $5000.

2. Travel Grants for Active Members

- **Leng Chee Chang**, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, $600

3. Matt Suffness Award

- **Dr. Jorn Piel**, *"Uncultivated symbionts: prospects for the sustainable production of animal-derived pharmaceuticals."* Max Plank Institute for Chemical Ecology.

- **Dr. Jon S. Thorson**, *"Natural Product Glycorandomization."* Univ.of Wisconsin.

(L-R)Bob Krueger, Tawyna McKee & the two awardees with President Clardy

(L-R) John Cassady, Doug Kinghorn, John Daly & Bob Krueger...Schwarting Award

C Other Awards

1. Lynn Brady Travel Awards

- **Janine N. Copp**, University of New South Wales, Australia, $600
- **Flor Mora**, Univ. of Mississippi, $600

2. 2003 Schwarting Award

- R.W. Fitch, H.M. Garraffo, T.F. Spande, H.J.C. Yeh, and **J.W. Daly**, *"Bioassay-guided isolation of epiquinamide, a novel quinolizidine alkaloid and nicotinic agonist from an Ecuadoran poison frog,* ***Epipedobates tricolor****."* ***J. Nat. Prod.*****, 2003, *66*, 1345-1350.**

3. 2003 Jack L. Beal Award

- **N.C. Veitch**, P.S.E. Sutton, G.A. Kite, and H.E. Ireland, *"Six new isoflavones and a 5-deoxyflavonol glycoside from the leaves of* ***Ateleia herbert-smithii****."* ***J. Nat. Prod.*** **2003, *66*, 210-216.**

4. Nature's Sunshine Student Travel Award

- **Marwa Donia**, Univ. of Mississippi, $500

...Awards & Grants continued from page 5

(R-L): Dr. Alexandra Deters receiving Egon-Stahl-Award from Dr. Rudolf Bauer

5. Student Poster Awards

Five Poster awards were presented at the meeting. The first author/presenter of the poster received a cash prize of $150 and a ticket for the banquet. The Awardees are:

• **Cynthia Andjelic**, "*Papuamide A, Inhibitor of Human Immunodeficiency Virus Fusion.*" University of Utah.

D Egon-Stahl-Award Winner...

Dr. Alexandra Deters (C), Univ.of Erlangen, Germany, received Egon-Stahl-Award in Bronze - 2004 from Dr. Rudolf Bauer (R) GA President at award ceremony, ICNPR-2004, Phoenix, AZ

• **Stefan Schwaiger**, "*In Vitro Leukotriene Biosynthesis Inhibitory Activity of Leontopodium alpinium Cass. Constituents.*" Leopold-Franzens-Universtat Innsbruck.

• **Laura Beer**, *"Proposed Biosynthesis of the Marine Natural Product Salinosporamide A: A Novel 20S Proteasome Inhibitor."* University of Arizona.

• **Sandra Kipke**, "*Proanthocyanidins form Apocynum venetum L.."* University of Muenster.

• **Ka-Lee Law**, *"Molecular Authentication of the Herb Radix stemonae."* The Chinese Univ. of Hong Kong.

6. Travel Money for 2003 - Undergraduate Research Award Recipients

• **Alexander Hoepker**, Univ. of California at Davis, $600.

Dr. Bombardelli(C) receiving Pharmanex Prize from Bob Krueger (L) & John Cardellina (R)

7. The Varro E. Tyler Prize for Research in Botanical Dietary Supplements sponsored by Pharmanex

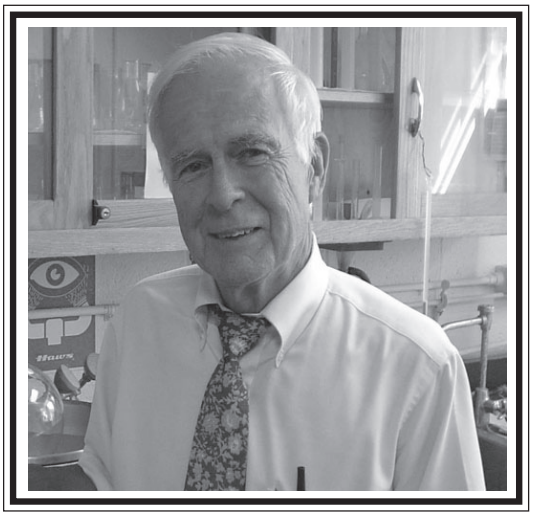
• **Ezio Bombardelli**, Indena S.p.A. Italy. Dr. Bombardelli received a plaque, $5000 & travel expenses to the meeting.

IN MEMORIUM...
William Scott Chilton
(1933 -- 2004)

NCSU Professor Passes Away Unexpectedly

Dr. William "Scott" Chilton passed away unexpectedly on August 5, 2004 while on a hiking trip to Mount Adams in Washington State. Scott leaves behind his wife, Dr. Mary-Dell Chilton, and two sons, Mark and Andrew, who are both attorneys.

Scott was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, the son of a chemical engineer and educator. He attended Duke University majoring in chemistry. After graduating *summa cum laude* in 1955, he studied at the University of Tubingen in Germany on a Fulbright Fellowship. He did his graduate work at the University of Illinois where he studied the structures of neomycin antibiotics. After receiving the Ph.D. in 1963, he rose in rank to full professor at the University of Washington. In 1980 he moved to Washington University in St. Louis and in 1983 to North Carolina State University.



Scott Chilton ... "hiking could be a jarring experience..."

During his 41 years of professional life, Scott taught a diversity of classes and distinguished himself in research on the natural products chemistry of plants, fungi, and plant-associate microbes, on the structure of novel amino acids, and on the chemistry of medicinal plants and ethnobotanical uses of plants. He was well known for his work on mushroom toxins, crown-gall metabolites, the corn toxin DIMBOA, novel fungal metabolites, pathogenic perylenequinone toxins, and medicinal plant characterization. He was a member of several societies including the American Society of Pharmacognosy and the American Chemical Society.

Hiking with Scott Chilton could be a jarring experience. There you would be, out in the wilds watching Chilton tug the stuffing out of one strange plant after another and plunking it between his lips to see if this tongue could identify the natural chemicals.

Although he retired in December of 2003 from NC State University, he continued to work in his phytochemistry laboratory. Upon his retirement, he and his wife Mary-Dell established the Chilton Undergraduate Research Endowment in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at NC State. This endowment provides support for undergraduates from any discipline to conduct research in botanical sciences. This endowment fittingly recognized his considerable contributions and dedication to providing research opportunities for students throughout his career.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Chilton Undergraduate Res. Endowment through the NC Agricultural Foundation Inc., Box 7645, NC State Univ., Raleigh, NC 27595-7645 or (919) 515-7678

Our deepest condolences to his family & friends

Recap of International Congress on Natural ...

...Continued from page 1

Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung (GA) (Society for Medicinal Plant Research), and the Phytochemical Society of Europe (PSE).

Representatives from 49 nations explored the past, present and future on Pharmacognosy and natural products research.

Attendance statistics indicated that the 624 registrants came from 49 nations. They consisted of 288 ASP members, 92 GA members, 41 PSE members, and 11 AFERP members. Included in the registrants were 81 postdoctoral associates, 150 students, and 82 non-members.

President Jon Clardy (5th from left) and Ramesh Pandey (3rd from left) with Nigerian Delegates

Slatkin Family (4th from Left-R): Stephanie, David & Judy Slatkin busy at the Registration desk

The scientific program consisted of four symposia including 16 invited presentations, 7 award presentations, 43 contributed oral presentations and 588 contributed poster presentations.

The meeting began Saturday, July 31, with a special satellite symposium - Classical Pharmacognosy Forum: The Critical Need for Pharmacognosy In Pharmacy Curricula. Almost 300 people participated in that excellent program. That evening the Welcome Reception, held at the Westin featured foods from around the world.

Monday evening featured a visit to Rawhide Western Town and a traditional cowboy steak dinner. Many attendees learned to western line-dance and some great photos were taken at the event.

(L-R): Dr. Roy Upton and David Slatkin at Satellite Symposium- Classical Pharmacognosy Forum.

... Products Research (ICNPR)-2004, Phoenix, AZ

During the free afternoon on Tuesday, a large group visited the Desert Botanical Garden. The tour was on the hottest day of the meeting and gave all in attendance a true "desert" experience. Others visited the outstanding facilities of the Arizona State University Cancer Research Center. That evening a group of participants attended the Arizona Diamondback baseball game with the world champion Florida Marlins. They got to witness a rare Diamondback win.

The Closing Banquet on Wednesday included presentations of awards by the ASP and GA. Honorary Membership in the ASP was

Precious Moments... Dr. Farnsworth (R) spending quality time with his good friend Dr. Wagner (L)

presented to Dr. Harry H.S. Fong and the ASP Research Achievement Award was presented to Dr. Jon Clardy. The evening concluded with the traditional "roast" of the ASP outgoing president, Jon Clardy, by the inimitable - Norman Farnsworth.

The 2004-ICNPR Organizing Committee appreciates all the participants who came from around the world to attend this congress and contributed to

(L-R): Koji Nakanishi, Olga Gupta, Renu Misra, Mahavir Gupta, Ramesh Pandey & Ramila Wani...Enjoying the banquet

the success of the meeting. We look forward to the next joint meeting in Europe.

Warm Greetings from...
The organizers of ICNPR-2004

(Standing L-R): Mary & Pedro Chavez, (Sitting): David & Judy Slatkin

at Rawhide Western Town & Traditional Cowboy Steak Dinner

President's Message

...Continued from page 1

geometrically rather than arithmetically and this small group of less than 20 people rose to the challenge magnificently with David and Pedro and their families taking on the bulk of the responsibility.

More than 600 attendees enjoyed a stimulating intellectual program and a great flavor of the American Southwest from the social program. The quality of the speakers and posters, well-equipped and classy facilities of the Westin Kierland Resort, and the midsummer weather, all conspired to assure near 100% attendance at sessions and maximal scientific exchange and collegial interactions. Well done!

It is a great honor and an awesome responsibility to assume the Presidency of the Society; a great honor in part because one is walking in the footsteps of giants, most of which have strongly established records in academia of a caliber, to which I aspired in my youth, before I became entrenched in the pharmaceutical industry. Also contributing is the fact that the society encompasses such a breath of individual scientific disciplines, from nutrition to spectroscopy and crystallography, from botany to drug metabolism, to cite just a few. All of these features also influence the responsibility, but perhaps a greater factor here is the rapidly changing milieu in which we find ourselves.

"The Society has a wonderful tradition of mentoring its younger members... "

Within the last decade we witnessed the pharmaceutical industry, one of the principal employers of our members, undergo radical changes. Acquisitions and mergers greatly reduced the numbers of large companies and the vast majority of such companies remaining have either severely trimmed or eliminated their natural product discovery programs. Many of us, myself included, sort refuge in the burgeoning number of small biotech companies, some of which are focused on natural products.

Large pharmaceutical companies can be seen as relying more on biotech companies to take on the more innovative basic research and to change their paradigm from a proactive research mode to a reactive one, whereby their clinical candidates are as likely to come from purchase of, or license from, a small company, as to come from their own internal research programs. Nowhere has this shift in strategy been more evident than in our area. This provides those of us in the drug discovery area with the opportunity to tackle our profession from several different viewpoints, admittedly always at the call of fairly demanding venture capitalists. We approach this situation as added incentive to greater innovation and efficiency.

In the nutraceutical and herbal product area the USFDA has made its presence felt with increased scrutiny of product such as evidenced by the recent banning of ephedra-containing herbals and also with the offer to allow therapeutic claims following appropriate clinical trials for well-established preparations. Despite these changes this area remains haunted, as it always has been by the difficulties in standardization, the identity of active components and most especially by that of demonstrating, often claimed, synergy in multi-component mixtures. The challenge to science here is a formidable one, and again calls for innovation and the best methodology available.

The great joy lies in the fact that ASP and its members are up to all of these challenges. The Society has a wonderful tradition of mentoring its younger members and of fostering collegial relationships among the more established. (You may notice, I hesitate to use the word "older") ASP currently has almost 1200 members, and my rough estimate is that less than 100 are actually involved in the running of the Society.

That is probably a greater participation rate than most professional societies, but my concern here lies in the fact that it tends to be the same group from year to year. I hope to expand the group mainly with the aim of bringing in new faces, new approaches and new ideas and active recruiting members willing to serve on the various standing and ad hoc committees. This should be a fun year!

Corvallis, Oregon to Host 46th Annual ASP Meeting (July 23 - 27, 2005)

❒ *Theme ... Frontiers In Bioorganic And Natural Products Chemistry*

Hilton Garden Inn... Main venue for the ASP 2005 Meeting

The Scientific and Local Organizing Committees, along with the sponsoring Oregon State University College of Pharmacy, are looking forward to hosting the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP) annual meeting in Corvallis, Oregon on July 23-27, 2005.

❒ VENUE & ACCOMMODATION:

Main venue of the meeting is the Hilton Garden Inn. Accommodations are planned at the Hilton Garden Inn, the Holiday Inn Express, the newly constructed OSU dormitory, many other hotels, motels, Bed and Breakfast Inns, and campgrounds in and around Corvallis.

❒ SCIENTIFIC HIGHLIGHTS:

A series of 'frontier' topics in the natural products sciences for five symposia which represent areas of general interest to the society's members have been planned. These include biosynthesis, structural characterization, pharmacology, metabolic engineering, and synthesis of marine, microbial and terrestrial natural products besides various ASP award addresses, the contributed oral sessions, and poster sessions.

Five Symposia & Their Organizers ...

1. Contemporary Approaches in Natural Products Biosynthesis (Mahmud/Zabriskie)
2. Chem. & Pharm. of Marine Nat. Prod. (Gerwick/McPhail)
3. Metabolic Eng. of Nat. Products in Plants (Stevens/Proteau)
4. Synthesis in the Dev. of Natural Products (Horne/Molinski)
5. Natural Products Chem. of Microorganism-Host Interactions (McPhail/Zabriskie)

❒ MEETING, REGISTRATION & HOUSING UPDATES:

Visit ASP web site ... www.phcog.org

❒ SOCIAL EVENTS:

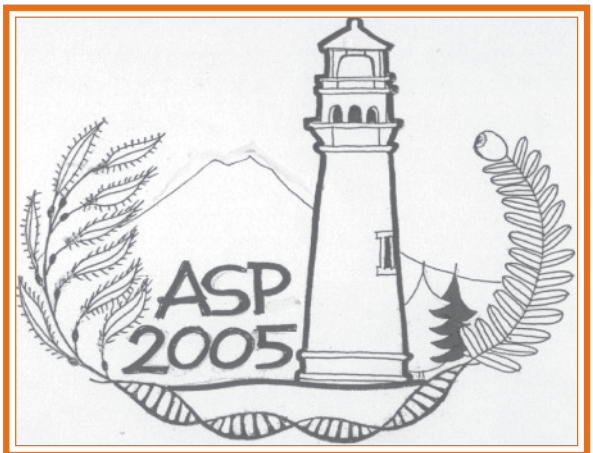
Four nights of organized entertainment & food... The saturday night opening reception, sunday night Oregon Coast Aquarium dinner and viewing, a local winery and salmon bake (Tyee Winery), and our final ASP banquet on wednesday night have been arranged.

❒ CONTACT:

Bill Gerwick (Overall Meeting Chair)

Tel: (541) 737-5801; Fax:(541) 737-3999

Email: bill.gerwick@oregonstate.edu



News Alert

LASOPERIN™.... A Break Through Cognition & Memory Product from Unigen Pharmaceutical

Unigen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a leading research & development facility & supplier of proprietary, biologically active plant-derived ingredients to the natural products & pharmaceutical industries, made an oral presentation on May 27, 2004, highlighting its groundbreaking Polyphenol compound, Lasoperin™, shown to aid in speed of processing and retention of information for brain function. Unigen's Director of Discovery & Screening, Dr. Bruce Burnett, released the human clinical test results on Lasoperin's™ unique blend of Free-B-Ring Flavonoids and Flavans at the 12th International Conference on Polyphenols, August 25-28, 2004 in Helsinki, Finland.

Inflammation is one of the leading causes of brain dysfunction as people age, and that reducing these innate inflammatory responses is key to retaining proper brain function. The mechanism of action of Lasoperin™ is related to the suppression of inflammation in the brain.

Polyphenols are major antioxidants commonly found in fruits, vegetables, cereals, legume seeds, chocolate and beverages such as tea, coffee or wine. These compounds possess anti-proliferative & enzyme-modulating activities that have been shown to naturally down-regulate damaging molecules associated with aging and some of its respective health concerns.

For more information visit: www.unigenpharma.com

News For Researchers

NCCAM's Strategic Planning Update

Are you interested in the future direction of National Center for Complementary & Alternative Medicine's (NCCAM) research on CAM? The Center invites your input as it continues its strategic planning for the years 2005 to 2009. The written draft plan will be posted on NCCAM's Web site in Oct. 2004, with public feedback again invited. NCCAM thanks those who attended its Strategic Planning Stakeholder Forums, in Spring 2004, Bethesda, MD & Seattle, WA. For more info visit: **nccam.nih.gov/about/plans/2005**.

Pharmacognosy Network - WORLD WIDE

Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide is a non-profit network dedicated to Natural Products Research in order to develop promising drugs. Natural products are the most consistent and successful source of drugs in India. Ayurveda remains one of the most ancient and yet living traditions, which is practiced for the treatment of diseases and disorders. India has many plant species and medicinal properties that have been assigned to thousands of people. Many major institutes and research centers are currently involved in exploring this opportunity to investigate newer drugs from ancient principles of ayurveda. Further, researchers believe in combining the strengths of ayurveda with modern scientific techniques such as NMR, MS and chromatographic techniques to provide new functional leads with high therapeutic value in a short span of time. But Natural products research often comes across many hurdles which dims the drug development goals. **For information visit: www.phcog.net**

MEETINGS

A Future ASP Meetings

2005 -

46th Annual ASP Meeting
July 23-27, **Corvallis, Oregon**

2006 -

47th Annual ASP Meeting
July 22-26, **Crystal City, Virginia**

B Other Meetings of Interest

Oct 25 - 27, 2004 -- Iowa City, Iowa

13th Biocatalysis & Bioprocessing Conference.
Environmentally Beneficial Biocatalysis

For more information

Dr.Marvin Scher, Director of Operations
Center for Biocatalysis & Bioprocessing
2501 Crosspark Road
Iowa City, IA 52242-5000
Tel: (319) 335-4905 ; Fax: (319) 335-4901
Email: marvin-scher@uiowa.edu

November 22-27, 2004 --New Delhi, India

International Conference on Chemistry, Biology Interface: Synergistic New Frontiers (CBISNF - 2004)

For more details Contact:

Prof. Ramesh Chandra (Chairman)
University of Delhi, India
Tel: 91 -11-27666272; Fax: +91-11-27666248
E-mail:ramesh_vc04@rediffmail.com

Dr. Ramesh Pandey (Secretary)
Xe Chem International Inc., New Brunswick, NJ
Tel: 732-247-3300; Fax: 732-247-4090
E-mail: Xechem@erols.com

Dec 15 - 20, 2005 -- Honolulu, Hawaii

PACIFICHEM...2005

Six Natural Products-related symposia including Medicinal plants, Natural Products Biosynthesis, Marine Microbial Products, Marine Natural Products, Marine Toxins, Natural Product Synthesis

For more information

Visit us at: **www.pacifichem.org**

DID YOU KNOW ?

❒ **That... NIH Has Roadmap Initiatives For Medical Research?**

...An initiative spearheaded by National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D, is a strategic plan to speed the progress of discoveries in biomedical research and translation of that knowledge into effective prevention strategies and new treatments. The Roadmap brings together the work of many NIH Institutes and Centers through various initiatives, including collaborative funding opportunities. ***(see nihroadmap.nih.gov).***

Stephen E. Straus, M.D, Director of NCCAM, co-leads the steering committee for "Re-engineering the Clinical Research Enterprise," a key part of the Roadmap ***(see nihroadmap.nih.gov/clinicalresearch)***. Watch for more information soon about the NIH Roadmap on the NCCAM Web site.

❒ **That... Green Tea Plus Theaflavin Lowers LDL Cholesterol ?**

...According to a study a green-tea extract that is enriched with theaflavin can be useful as one of the means of addressing high cholesterol. The study was a double-blinded, randomized, placebo-controlled parallel-group trial involving 240 men and women drawn from outpatient clinics from six urban Chinese hospitals.

The subjects, all of whom were over 18, were on low-fat diets and had mild-to-moderate hypercholesterolemia. These patients were randomized to receive a capsule that contained either 375 mg of a theaflavin-enriched green-tea extract or placebo for a period of 12 weeks.

The theaflavin-enriched green tea extract reduced Low Density Lipoprotein-C (LDL) in the patients and was well tolerated. The researchers concluded that the tea was an effective adjunct to a low-fat diet for treating hypercholesterolemia. For information see: Arch. Intern. Med. 2003;163; 1448-1453

ASP Research Achievement Award - 2006

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 - (Late) S. William Pelletier
1992 - (Late) 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
2004 - Jon C. Clardy

Call for Nominations for 2006

Nominations for the 2006 Award are due by **May 15, 2005**. Nominations may be sent 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

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**

Visit the ASP Job Service Website at:
www.phcog.org/employment.html

The ASP Foundation News

A Foundation aims to raise $1 Million by 2009

American Society of Pharmacognosy Foundation (ASPF) Chairman, Dr. John Cassady announced the $1M goal for the Foundation at the recent ICNPR-2004 Meeting in Phoenix. This deadline corresponds to the Golden Anniversary celebration of the Society to be held in Hawaii in 2009. Currently the Foundation's balance is at approximately $450,000, having more than doubled in the last five years. The implications of this goal require a commitment on the part of ALL the members of the ASP to donate to their Foundation when the next annual campaigns are announced.

With this money, we will be able to increase the number and value of our awards assisting graduate students and members to travel to the meetings, as well as do the same with our research starter awards, undergraduate research awards, etc. Additionally new awards can be named, and there is preliminary planning to develop a 'Founders Fund' for the Golden Anniversary of the Society.

Please consider increasing your donation during this year's annual campaign, which will commence shortly. If you are one of our previous awardees, and now are able to support the Foundation please do and continue the benefits you were successful in receiving. Currently about 5% of the Society members donate regularly to the Foundation. If every member would donate, this goal would not only be reached with ease but easily surpassed!

B The D. J. Faulkner Award Announcement

The ASP and the ASP Foundation formally accepted a proposal to set up an award fund in memory of Dr. Faulkner, the 2003 ASP Lifetime Research Achievement Award winner. Specifics will be announced in forthcoming newsletters. In general, the award will focus on recent graduates and will consist of an engraved plaque and travel expenses to an annual meeting for presentation of the awardee's research. Funds generated from donations will be supplemented by a $10,000 allotment from the Foundation.

Please look for this on the fall Annual Campaign donation form if you wish to contribute to the fund and to the memory of John.

Journal of Natural Products Archives.... Available on the Web in 2005

We are pleased to report that all issues of the Journal of Natural Products from 1979 have now been archived for the web. Starting in 2005, you will have two web edition subscriptions options. Web Edition A will include the current and previous four years (2001 – 2005) for **$60** or Web Edition B which will include all archived issues of JNP from 1979 - 2005 for **$120**. Look for these two subscription options in your 2005 Dues Notice.

For more information contact David Slatkin...

Tel: (773) 995-3748 or E-mail: asphcog@aol.com

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

To

David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer
The American Society of Pharmacognosy
853 Sanders Road, # 260
Northbrook, Illinois 60062

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: $114 (Print Edition), $60 (Web Edition), $120 (Archive Web Edition); All other countries: $170 (Print edition), $60 (Web edition), $120 (Archive Web Edition).

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: $86 (Print Edition), $60 (Web Edition), $120 (Archive Web Edition); All other countries: $142 (Print Edition), $60 (Web Edition), $120 (Archive Web Edition).

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 (NIH), MD* • Dr. David P. Carew, *Univ. of Iowa,* IA
- Dr. Gordon C. Cragg, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Frederick, MD
- Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth, *Univ. of IL at Chicago,* IL • Dr. R. Hegnauer, Leiden, Netherlands
- Dr. Albert Hofmann, *Switzerland* • Dr. Harry H. S. Fong, *University of Illinois,* Chicago, IL
- Dr. James E. Robbers, *Purdue University, West Lafayette,* IN
- Dr. E. John Staba, *University of Minnesota,* MN • Dr. Hildebert Wagner, *Univ. of Munich,* Germany
- 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,
853 Sanders Road, #260, Northbrook, Illinois 60062. **Email: asphcog@aol.com**

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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