BPS Focused Meeting on Neuropeptides
In Association with the European Neuropeptide Club and American Summer Neuropeptide Conference

Date: 7 – 9 June 2012
Venue: Franklin-Wilkins Building, King’s College London, UK
Local organizers: Professors Susan Brain and Helen Cox (King’s College London, UK)
International advisers: Professors Erika Pinter, Barbara Kofler, Illana Gozes, Piero Geppetti, Jan de Hoon, David Vaudry, Eberhard Weihe and Drs Julie Keeble, David Poyner.

Draft Programme

Thursday 7 June

10:00-10:40  Registration and refreshments

10:40-11:00  Welcome and Fleur Strand Memorial
Professors Susan Brain, Helen Cox, Erika Pinter, Barbara Kofler, and Illana Gozes

11:00-13:00  Symposium: VIP and PACAP
Chaired by Professors Illana Gozes and David Vaudry
11:00-11:30  VIP/PACAP signalling and new insights into brain protection
Professor Illana Gozes (Tel-Aviv University, Israel)
11:30-12:00  PACAP neuroprotection and possible therapies
Professor David Vaudry (University of Rouen, France)

12:00-12:30  VIP/PACAP and multiple sclerosis
Dr James Waschek (University of California Los Angeles, USA)

12:30-12:45  Oral Communication
C001 – Burkhard Schutz. PACAP signaling in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: friend and foe?

12:45-13:00  Oral Communication
C002 – Dora Reglodi. Effects of PACAP on signaling pathways in the retina exposed to oxidative stress or ischemia

13:00-14:45  Lunch break and posters (1) – American Summer NP Conference AGM (13:45)

14:45-17:15  Symposium: TRP and the regulation of pain and vascular conditions
Chaired by Professors Piero Geppetti and Stuart Bevan
14:45-15:15  TRP channels in migraine and neuropathic pain
Professor Piero Geppetti (University of Florence, Italy)
15:15-15:45  TRPV1 and A1 in joint and vascular conditions
Professor Susan Brain (King’s College London, UK)

15:45-16:15  Coffee and tea
16:15-16:45  TRPA1 and paracetamol  
Dr David Andersson (King’s College London, UK)

16:45-17:00  Oral Communication  
C003 – Romina Nassini. Transient Receptor Potential (TRP) Ankyrin 1 (TRPA1) and Vanilloid 4 (TRPV4) mediate paclitaxel-induced peripheral neuropathy in mice

17:00-17:15  Oral Communication  
C004 – Khadija Alawi. A characterisation of the hyperthermic, anti-nociceptive and vascular effects of the TRPV1 antagonist, AMG9810.

17:45  London Duck Tour
19:30  Dinner at Waterloo Brasserie

Friday 8 June

09:00-10:00  Bayliss and Starling Lecture – Gut, peptide structure, brain control, death and money  
Professor Sir Steve Bloom (Imperial College London, UK)

10:00-12:15  Bayliss and Starling Symposium: Ghrelin  
Chaired by Professor Helen Cox

10:00-10:35  Nutrient sensing of the Ghrelin cell  
Professor Inge Depoortere (Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium)

10:35-11:05  Coffee and tea

11:05-11:40  Ligand bias at the Ghrelin receptor  
Professor Birgitte Holst (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

11:40-12:15  A re-appraisal of the neurobiology of motilin  
Professor Gareth Sanger (Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, UK)

12:15-14:15  Lunch break and posters (2) European NP Club AGM (13.00)

14:15-17:15  Symposium: CGRP receptor and vascular mechanisms  
Chaired by Dr David Poyner and Professor Jan de Hoon

14:15-14:45  How does CGRP activate its receptor?  
Dr David Poyner (University of Aston, UK)

14:45-15:15  New insights into CGRP signalling  
Dr Debbie Hay (University of Auckland, New Zealand)

15:15-15:45  Coffee and tea

15:45-16:15  Proteolytic Regulation of CGRP Receptors: Implications for Migraine  
Dr Graeme Cottrell (University of Bath, UK)

16:15-16:45  Arterial anti-endothelinergic effects of CGRP  
Professor Jo de Mey (University of Maastricht, Netherlands)

16:45-17:00  Oral Communication  
C005 – George Leung. Age and testosterone-dependent change in the expression of...
calcitonin-gene related peptide receptors in rat basilar arteries

17:00-17:15  Oral Communication
C006 – Sarah-Jane Smillie. αCGRP plays a protective and sustained role in angiotensin-II induced hypertension and vascular inflammation/remodelling.

Saturday 9 June

08:30-10:40  Symposium: Elucidating roles for neuropeptides in pathophysiology
Chaired by Professors Erika Pinter and Barbara Kofler

08:30-08:40  Neuropeptides and inflammation
Professor Erika Pinter (University of Pécs, Hungary)

08:40-09:10  Evidence for a substance P-mediated protective effect of TRPV1 in sepsis
Dr Beth Fernandes (King’s College London, UK)

09:10-09:40  Smoking and involvement of TRP receptors and neuropeptides
Professor Zsuzsanna Helyes (University of Pécs, Hungary)

09:40-10:10  Neuropeptides and diabetic retinopathy
Professor Robert Gabriel (University of Pécs, Hungary)

10:10-10:25  Oral Communication
C007 – Sabine Schmidhuber. Galanin is a potent activator of neutrophils

10:25-10:40  Oral Communication
C008 – Alan Nimmo. Post-Injury Administration of an NK1 Receptor Antagonist Ameliorates the Neuroinflammatory Response in a Rodent Model of Traumatic Brain Injury

10:40-11:15  Coffee and tea

11:15-13:00  Symposium: Translating into human-relevant drugs – overcoming the problems
Chaired by Dr Julie Keeble

11:15-11:45  Can neuropeptides treat obesity?
Dr Kevin Murphy (Imperial College London, UK)

11:45-12:15  Using skin for quantitative human studies in the CGRP/TRP field
Professor Jan de Hoon (Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium)

12:15-12:45  TRPs: lost in translation?
Dr Peter Cox (Pfizer Neusentis, UK)

12:45-13:00  Oral Communication
C009 – Julie Keeble. An analysis of the activity-temperature relationship in TRPV1 wild type mice for the study of TRPV1-antagonist-induced hyperthermia.

13:00  Close of meeting – Prize Giving