It is with great sadness that we report the news of the death of Professor Darrell Abernethy on 18 November after a short illness.

With previous experience as Editor-in-Chief of Pharmacological Reviews, Darrell made a very substantial contribution to the development of the joint American Society of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics and British Pharmacological Society journal, Pharmacology Research & Perspectives; first as Deputy Editor, and most recently as Editor-in-Chief. Darrell was a good friend to the Society in other ways, well connected to many of our members, and a regular attendee at Society meetings.

As a clinical pharmacologist and physician scientist (MD PhD), he trained in internal and geriatric medicine before pursuing a career in academic medicine at Tufts, Baylor, Brown and Georgetown. At Georgetown (where I undertook a sabbatical with him), he held the Frances Cabell Brown Chair of Medicine and Pharmacology. He then joined the research programme at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) where he directed a programme to better understand the effects of drugs in older patients.

Most recently, he worked at the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), while holding an academic position at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore. At FDA, he took a lead role in using systems pharmacology to predict adverse drug reactions and so enhance patient safety in drug development and clinical practice.

Globally, Darrell has given leadership to the Clinical Division of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR), working closely with the Executive team to promote clinical pharmacology and support the forthcoming World Congress of Pharmacology to be held in Kyoto (WCP2018).

For his wisdom, collegiality, intelligence, dry wit and passion for his many interests, Darrell will be much missed by his family, friends and colleagues.