

Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology 2019 Leadership Retreat Highlights

The Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology (ACDP) held its annual Leadership Retreat at Hotel Casa Santo Domingo in Antigua, Guatemala, on December 5-8, 2019.

President Patricia E. Molina, M.D., Ph.D. (Louisiana State Univ. Health Sci. Ctr.) developed a program focused on different issues facing physiology leaders today: serving as institutional strengths, conducting cutting-edge research, engaging in collaborations among and between disciplines, and training the next generation of physiologists.

Research talks this year were given by several new chairs in the TED talk format, instead of a single chair as in previous years, allowing attendees the opportunity to learn more about the new members. David Eisner (University of Manchester) also gave a well-received talk on his research in cardiovascular physiology. The 13th annual Arthur C. Guyton Lectureship was given by John E. Hall, Ph.D. (University of Mississippi Med. Ctr.) and was entitled “Obesity, Hypertension and Kidney Dysfunction.”



ACDP President Patricia E. Molina (l) presents John E. Hall (r) with the 2019 ACDP Arthur C. Guyton Distinguished Lectureship Award.

The 2019 ACDP Distinguished Service Award was presented to Gary C. Sieck, Ph.D. (Mayo Clinic Coll. of Med.) who gave a talk highlighting his career as a physiologist (see accompanying article).

Three interactive workshops were held. Workshop I was “Physiologists as pillars of institutional strengths,” in which initiatives from various departments were discussed that helped place the discipline at the forefront of their institution. Workshop II was “Building Bridges,” at which several chairs led the discussion of how they are conducting invigorating research and engaging in collaborations with other departments and disciplines. Workshop III was “Leading Physiology

Training,” at which undergraduate, graduate, and medical educations were discussed along with several innovative degree-conferring programs. All attendees were able to contribute to the discussions and share ideas and programs that worked for them at their institutions, as well as ask questions of the presenters and other attendees.

Other presentations included a dinner talk by Nora Volkow (Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH) on what physiologists can do to assist in the opioid epidemic and a presentation by Scott Steen, Executive Director of APS, giving an update on APS initiatives.

In addition, Molina and Lucrecia Hernandez, M.D., Ph.D. (Universidad Francisco Marroquín) organized an afternoon “Physiology Updates for Physicians in Training” session for local medical students. Members Diego Alvarez, Nancy Carrasco, T. Richard Nichols, YS Prakash, Santiago Schnell, and David Zawieja presented update talks on their fields of research for the students.

Officer elections were held with the following results: Christopher Hardin, Ph.D. (Univ. of Missouri) was elected President-elect. V. Gustavo Blanco, M.D., Ph.D. (Kansas Univ. Med. Ctr.) was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Merry L. Lindsey, Ph.D. (Univ. of Nebraska Med. Ctr.) and Y.S. Prakash, M.D. (Mayo Clinic) were elected to three-year terms as Councilors.



ACDP Officers. Back (l to r): Dale Buck Hales, Merry L. Lindsey, Gaylen L. Edwards, C. Lee Cox, Christopher Hardin, Santiago Schnell. Front (l to r): Janice H. Urban, Patricia E. Molina, Elsa I. Mangiarua, V. Gustavo Blanco. Not pictured: Walter Boron, Toni Pak, Y.S. Prakash, Nick Delamere.

Janice H. Urban, Ph.D. (Rosalind Franklin Univ. of Med. & Sci., Chicago Med. Sch.) was thanked for her service as Past President. Elsa I. Mangiarua, Ph.D. (Marshall Univ.) was thanked for her two terms of service as Secretary-Treasurer. V. Gustavo Blanco, M.D., Ph.D. (Kansas Univ. Med.

Ctr.) and Christopher Hardin, Ph.D. (Univ. of Missouri) were thanked for their service as Councilors.

President-elect Dale Buck Hales, Ph.D. (Southern Illinois Univ. Sch. of Med.) announced the 2020 ACDP Leadership Retreat will be held Dec. 3-6 at the Renaissance Curacao Resort in Otrobanda, Curacao. As details are available, they will be added to the 2020 meeting web page at acdponline.org/Home/Meetings.



ACDP President Patricia Molina prepares to hand over the leadership of the Society to incoming President Dale Buck Hales.

The Leadership Retreat is open to chairs of departments of physiology or related areas, graduate directors in physiology or related areas, medical/osteopathic/veterinary physiology course directors and undergraduate program directors. The meeting will build upon this year's topics and will continue to focus on leadership issues and other areas of broad interest to those audiences.



ACDP 2019 Leadership Retreat participants and the custom-made sign made by hotel staff.