

Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology Meeting Highlights

The Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology (ACDP) held its annual meeting in Curaçao on December 4-6, 2008.

President Nicola C. Partridge (UMDNJ-RW Johnson Medical School) developed a program based on current cutting-edge research presentations and issues dealing with the independence of departments.

The second Arthur Guyton Lectureship was given by Eric Olson (Univ. of Texas Southwestern Medical Center) on "Micro RNA, Heart Development and Disease." Other research presentations were given by Jianjie Ma (UMDNJ-RW Johnson Medical School) on "Calcium Signaling and Membrane Repair," and new chair Zofia Zukowska (George Washington Univ.) on "Stress, Fat and Neuropeptide Y."



The pros and cons for centers vs. departments were presented by Charles Moldow (administrative centers), Vice Dean at the University of Minnesota (in place of Dean Deborah Powell) and Muthu Periasamy (Ohio State Univ.) on research centers.

In addition, Olaf Sparre Andersen, who is serving on the NBME's Comprehensive Review of the USMLE Task Force (Weill Cornell Medical College) gave an update on the ongoing revision process for the US Medical Licensure Exams (USMLE) and the implications for MD and MD/PhD training by physiology departments. Howard H. Garrison, Deputy Executive Director of Public Affairs for FASEB, gave an update on the recent US election and what that could mean for science in general and biomedical research funding in particular.

Officer elections were held with the following results. R. Clinton Webb (Medical College of Georgia) was elected President-elect, Nicholas A. Delamere (Univ. of Arizona School of Medicine) and Marshall H. Montrose (Univ. of Cincinnati College of Medicine) were elected to three-year terms as Councilor, and L. Gabriel Navar (Tulane Univ. School of Medicine) was re-elected to another three-year term as Council of



Eric Olson, 2nd Guyton Lecturer congratulated by Nicola Partridge, ACDP President.

Academic Sciences representative. William S. Spielman (Michigan State Univ.) was thanked for his service as Past President, as were Susan L. Hamilton (Baylor College of Medicine) and R. Clinton Webb for their service as Councilors.

President-elect Meredith Bond (Univ. of Maryland School of Medicine) announced that the 2009 ACDP annual fall meeting will be held in Tucson, AZ, on December 3-5, 2009. ❖

Zucker Honored at Annual ACDP Meeting

Nicola C. Partridge, President of the Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology (ACDP), presented the ACDP's highest award, the Distinguished Service Award, to Irving H. Zucker, Univ. of Nebraska Medical Center during the organization's 2008 fall meeting in Curaçao.

Zucker was selected to receive the ACDP Distinguished Service Award for his long and illustrious service to ACDP, to science, and to physiology.

Zucker was born in New York City. He graduated from City College of New York in 1965, received his Masters Degree in 1967 from the Univ. of Missouri at Kansas City, and his PhD from New York Medical College in 1972. He did a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Physiology & Biophysics at the Univ. of Nebraska Medical Center before being hired as an Assistant

Professor in that department.

Zucker moved through the ranks in the department and in 1989 was named Chair of the department. He now holds the Theodore F. Hubbard Chair of Cardiovascular Research in the Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology.

The research in Zucker's laboratory focuses on the role of central brain mechanisms on neurohormonal adjustments in cardiovascular regulation in the setting of experimental chronic heart



ACDP President Nicola Partridge presents Irving Zucker with the Distinguished Service Award.