

PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} Annual Committee Report

June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} Committee Members, 2017-2018

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International growth and dissemination of information about PNIRS in the Asia-Pacific rim continues unabated with the partnership between *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* and PNIRS that began in 2012. In 2016, the PNIRS^{China} committee was installed as a standing PNIRS committee, expanded and renamed as the PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} committee. Its goal is to continue to extend the global outreach that was initiated by PNIRS^{China} to all Eastern countries in addition to China, including Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and India. During the past year, the PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} committee developed themes, wrote proposals and recruited expert lecturers for BBI/PNIRS-sanctioned symposia in the People's Republic of China, Republic of China and Australia, as highlighted below.

People's Republic of China: Standing Room Only

Kudos to Yu-Ping Peng, M.D., Ph.D.! As a member of the PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} Committee, she once again organized perhaps the most successful BBI/PNIRS symposium that has been held in China. The symposium was entitled "*Brain, Behavior, and Immunity Brings Immunology to Neuroscience*" and was presented at the 12th Biennial Conference of the Chinese Neuroscience Society. It was held from October 12-15 in Tianjin, a major city around 100 km southeast of Beijing. This is the largest neuroscience meeting in China, attracting nearly 3,000 scientists.

Professors Rodney Johnson (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Chun-Lei Jiang (Second Military Medical University in Shanghai), Qiang Liu (Dalian Medical University Cancer Center), Yu-Ping Peng (Nantong University), Yunxia Wang (Second Military Medical University in Shanghai) and Keith W. Kelley (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) represented BBI/PNIRS. Professor Liu was unavailable for the photographs below. Nearly 150 participants attended this 3 h symposium, with standing room only for the entire session. Congratulations to Professor Peng for her devoted service to our science and PNIRS.



Mind-Body Interface International Meeting in Taiwan, province of China

On November 3 and 4, 2017, 170 registrants participated in the 7th Annual Mind-Body Interface Symposium held in Taichung, Taiwan, province of China. The meeting was very well organized, thanks to Kuan-Pin Su, M.D., Ph.D., Cherry Hui-Chih Chang, Ph.D. and graduate students. The excellent scientific program in which PNIRS was represented can be found at <http://www.tsnpr.org.tw/programme.php>. Insightful presentations, interactions and discussions about Western and Traditional Chinese Medicine occurred throughout the meeting.



Australasian Neuroscience Society Meeting in Sydney

The first PNIRS-sponsored symposium organized by the PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** committee was submitted by Professor Keith W. Kelley during the fall of 2016. The organizer at this meeting must be a member of the Australasian Neuroscience Society. The symposium entitled, "Getting Nervous About Immunity," was accepted as at the 37th Australasian Neuroscience Society meeting, which was held in Sydney from December 3-6, 2017. Professor Kelley chaired the session, and the speakers were Aysa Rolls (Israel), Erica Sloan (Australia), Peter Grace (USA) and Bill Banks (USA). Approximately 125 registrants participated in the symposium. Professor Mark Hutchinson organized a smaller by-invitation only scientific session in Sydney prior to the main neuroscience meeting. This was followed by another one-day post-meeting on December 7 that was organized by Professor Erica Sloan and Daniel Poole and sponsored by the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Melbourne. The meeting entitled, "Drug Discovery Biology Neuroimmune Symposium," featured eleven speakers including four international scientists (3 from the USA, 1 from Israel) and was attended by 81 scientists. The meeting provided a wonderful opportunity for researchers to network with leading global and local scientists engaged in neuroimmunology research.



Teaching in the People's Republic of China

Professor Ning Quan at The Ohio State University actively supports the work of the PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Committee. One way that he does that is by teaching a course in Neuroimmunology in China. During the summer of 2018, he will teach at ShiChuan University in Chengdu, China, the capital of Sichuan Province (<http://www.scu.edu.cn/en/>). The university enrolls more than 70,000 students.

Creation of PNIRS Asia-Pacific Expert Lecturers Database (PAPEL)

The PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Committee offered PNIRS members the opportunity to represent PNIRS at symposia presented in the Asia-Pacific rim. Scientists at all professorial ranks in academia, as well as those in industry, are eligible. Professors in the junior ranks were particularly of interest in order to increase their research networks and to meet international colleagues, both of which would enhance their promotion/tenure packages. We pointed out that the PNIRS does not reimburse any travel expenses, but sometimes our committee requests a waiver of meeting registration fees. As such, all travel expenses are the responsibility of invited speakers. A small Excel data base has now been created.

Scientific Exchange for New Editor-in-Chief of *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*

In an effort to continue the tremendous growth of submissions to *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* that has occurred since 2012, Professor Yu-Ping Peng welcomed Dr. Carmine Pariante to Nantong University. Professors Jian-Jun Wang and Jing-Ning Zhu, Dr. Wang's academic son, next hosted Carmine at Nanjing University. Professor Wang is the long-time past Editor-in-Chief of the most well-respected physiology journal published in China, *Acta Physiologica Sinica*.



Most Cited Paper in *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* in 2015 Published by Chinese Scientists

Haiyin Jiang, Zongxin Ling, Yonghua Zhang, Hongjin Mao, Zhanping Ma, Yan Yin, Weihong Wang, Wenxin Tang, Zhonglin Tan, Jianfei Shi, Lanjuan Li and Bing Ruan. 2015. Altered fecal microbiota composition in patients with major depressive disorder. *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*. 48:186-194. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbi.2015.03.016>.

Congratulations to Bing Ruan, Ph.D. and Lanjuan Li, M.D., corresponding authors and first author Hai-yin Jiang, M.D. (and co-first authors Zongxin Ling and Yonghua Zhang) for publishing the most cited paper that appeared in *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* in 2015. The authors conducted this research as part of the Collaborative Innovation Center for Diagnosis and Treatment of Infectious Diseases at the State Key Laboratory for Diagnosis and Treatment of Infectious Diseases in the First

Affiliated Hospital in the School of Medicine at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. These authors are the winners of the 2018 *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* Award. They will be recognized at the annual PNIRS meeting in Miami and will receive an award check in the amount of \$5,000. This honor is consistent with the rapidly rising quantity and quality of manuscripts from China that are now being submitted and published in *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*. This achievement reinforces the efforts of PNIRSC^{China} for the past seven years and encourages the committee to work even harder to encourage and expand involvement in Society activities in the international global community.

Plans of the PNIRSC^{Asia-Pacific} Committee for 2017-2018

Professor Yu-Ping Peng submitted a proposal for another PNIRSC^{Asia-Pacific} sponsored symposium at the 25th Physiological Conference of Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences. Her proposal was recently approved, with the meeting being held in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province, China from November 1-4, 2018. The speakers will be Professors Keith W. Kelley, Yu-Ping Peng, Carmine Pariante, Li Tian, Ebrahim Haroon and Michelle Erickson. All PNIRS members are welcome to attend.

Another PNIRSC^{Asia-Pacific} symposium is now being planned for the 2018 Mind-Body Interface meeting that will be held from October 26-28 in Taichung, Taiwan, province of China. The theme of this meeting will be "From Molecule to Mind: Bridging the Gap Between Research and Practice in Mental Health." It will be the 8th Mind-Body Interface (MBI) International Symposium and will be held jointly with the International Stress & Behavior Society (ISBS). The PNIRSC^{Asia-Pacific} committee has received approval to organize a full-day session at this meeting. Committed speakers will be all of those at the Nanchang meeting listed above except Professor Peng will be replaced by the incoming president of PNIRS, Dr. Deborah Hodgson. Professor Chris Coe will also be a lecturer, and one final speaker is now being recruited. Although PNIRS is not an official sponsor of this meeting, all PNIRS members are invited to submit abstracts and participate in the meeting. New developments for this meeting can be found <http://www.tsnpr.org.tw/symposium.php>. Professor Quan will also teach Neuroimmunology at ShiChuan University in Chengdu.

The Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies will host the 10th International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) World Congress of Neuroscience from September 21-25, 2019 in Daegu, South Korea, with 4,000 participants expected (<http://www.ibro2019.org/>). There are 15 major Asia-Pacific neuroscience societies that will compete for 8 symposia that will be accepted at

this meeting (see <http://www.faons.org/About-FAONS/> for a list of the societies). A symposium proposal has been submitted to the organizers of this meeting entitled, "Dialing in the Dialogue Between Inflammation and the Brain."

Dr. Atsuyoshi Shimada, M.D., Ph.D., at the Kyorin University Faculty of Health Sciences is actively searching for leading meetings in Japan where the PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** committee might submit symposia applications for 2019 and beyond. He has contacted Hitoshi Okamoto, M.D., Ph.D., the President-elect for the 2019 Japanese Neuroscience Society, to learn if he might be interested in a symposium proposal for their meeting in 2019. Atsuyoshi has also contacted the Japanese Association of Anatomists (JAA) to ask about the potential call for symposia proposals for their 2019 meeting

Finally, the committee is actively searching for immunology and psychiatry meetings as well as neuroscience in countries throughout the Pacific rim.

All current committee members have agreed to serve on the 2018-2019 PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

PNIRS **Asia-Pacific Committee Members, 2017-2018**

History of Development of PNIRSChina

- 2012 Prof Kelley initiates concept of PNIRSChina with Prof Peng, Liu and Bai following lectures in Nantong, Dalian and Beijing, China
- 2012 PNIRS President Manfred Schedlowski officially establishes PNIRSChina
- 2013 Prof Kelley to discuss PNIRSChina with Prof Lutgendorf at the U. Iowa
- 2013 1st official PNIRSChina established and organized by Prof Liu in Dalian
- 2014 Unofficial PNIRSChina meeting organized by Prof Hutchinson Sydney
- 2014 2nd official PNIRSChina symposium organized by Prof Peng in Shanghai
- 2015 3rd official PNIRSChina symposium organized by Prof Peng in Wuzhen
- 2016 4th official PNIRSChina symposium organized by Prof Kelley in Beijing
- 2016 5th official PNIRSChina symposium organized by Prof Coe in Zhanjiang
- 2017 6th official PNIRSChina symposium organized by Prof Peng in Tianjin
- 2017 Prof Kelley introduces PNIRS in Taichung, Taiwan Region
- 2017 Prof Pariente introduced as incoming EIC of BBI in Nantong and Nanjing
- 2017 7th official PNIRASia-Pacific symp. organized by Prof Kelley in Sydney

History of Development of PNIRSChina (cont)

- 2017 Unofficial PNIRASia-Pac meeting organized by Prof Hutchinson Sydney
- 2017 Unofficial PNIRASia-Pac meeting organized by Prof Sloan in Melbourne