

Report of the Drug Metabolism and Drug Transport Section (DMTS) to the Executive Committee of IUPHAR – April 20, 2012

Report for 2011/2012

1. Fundraising efforts, which were a major priority from the previous year, have been extremely disappointing. Solicitations to personal contacts at several US-based biotechnology companies failed to elicit a positive response. We will try to widen the net in the coming year, but the global fiscal situation remains poor.
2. The DMTS is a sponsor of the 9th Xenobiotic Metabolism and Toxicity Congress of Southeastern Europe (Budva, Montenegro, July 2012), organized by Prof. Duborija-Kovacevic Natasa. A grant of \$5000 will be provided by the DMTS to the organizers, and several current and past members of the Section continue to be active participants in the meeting.
3. The DMTS, in collaboration with Prof. John Miners, has assembled a symposium proposal on the topic of 'Active Metabolites' for IUTOX2013. Again several Section members are actively involved in giving lectures. We hope to hear soon from the organizers regarding acceptance (or not) of this proposal.
4. Current (Dr. Masimirebwa) and past (Dr. Walubo) members of the DMTS Executive in conjunction with Professor Obolaji from Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria are organizing a 2 hr drug metabolism/transporter symposium at the All Africa Congress of Pharmacology in Accra, Ghana in July of this year. Focus will be on lectures addressing the clinical importance of drug metabolism, drug transport, pharmacogenomics and screening for enzyme and transporter interactions during drug discovery. The DMTS has provided input on program content and helped the organizers identify potential speakers. The intent is to use the symposium as a 'primer' for these topics at the WCP in 2014.

Planned future activities

1. In recognition of the fiscal stringencies outlined above, the DMTS is working on developing a new funding strategy for supporting those initiatives that fall within its mandate. This should be completed soon and will of course feature on the new web-site that is a priority for the Section to provide input on in the coming year.
2. Another priority for the coming year is to follow up on the initiative demonstrated by Drs Masimirebwa and Walubo in early preparation for WCP2014 by beginning to flesh out potential workshops and/or focused conferences around Drug Metabolism and Transport topics that we can propose for inclusion at our 4 yearly international meeting in Cape Town.
3. The Section is also in discussions regarding closer collaborations with other Drug Metabolism or Transporter focus groups such as those in AAPS, ASPET and ISSX with which many of our current committee members have associations. This has not reached any firm conclusions as yet, but it seems feasible to work closer together and arrange joint events (self financing or cash positive).

Prof. Allan Rettie, Chair
Prof. Amin Rostami, Secretary