

# Pharmacology of Natural Products Section Activity and ICMAP Liaison Report 2012-2013

## 1. Organization of the Second World Conference on the Pharmacology of Natural and Traditional Medicines

The conference was held in Macau, China, from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 and sponsored by the Section on Pharmacology of Natural Products (SPNP) of IUPHAR, co-sponsored by Chinese Pharmacological Society (CNPHARS), International Society for Chinese Medicine (ISCM) and the University of Macau (UM). The co-chairs of this conference were Prof. Yong-Xiang Zhang, current Chair of SPNP, IUPHAR, and Yi-Tao Wang, General Secretary of ISCM. The theme of the conference was **“Pushing forward the study of natural and traditional medicines with new ideas and technologies”**. About 160 participants from 13 countries or regions attended the conference. Among the many famous experts engaging in pharmacological studies on natural and traditional medicines attending the conference were Prof. Sam J. Enna, IUPHAR Secretary-General, Prof. Douglas Oliver, Councilor of the IUPHAR Executive Committee, Prof. Sue P. Duckles, IUPHAR Past President, and Prof. Paul M. Vanhoutte, IUPHAR Past President.

At the opening ceremony, Prof. Wei Zhao, University of Macau Rector, gave a welcome speech on behalf of local organizers. Prof. Yong-Xiang Zhang, Chair of this conference, delivered a welcome on behalf of the organizers. Then the distinguished guest cut the ribbon to start the conference. In turn, Prof.s Enna, Zhi-Bin Lin, Oliver, and Vanhoutte delivered their plenary lectures. Later twenty scientists gave oral presentations on basic and clinical pharmacological research topics related to new drug discovery and development on natural and traditional medicines.

In addition, competitions were held for young scientists in oral presentations and poster sessions. The top presentations and posters were selected by a jury based on the level of their research, reporting clarity, their responses to questions and the quality of the slides or posters. Seven winners were selected from the oral competition and fifteen from the poster presentations. The winners received their awards during the closing ceremony. The conference was very successful. It not only offered an outstanding opportunity for the delegates to present and communicate their research results, new ideas, and/or methods and technologies in pharmacological study on natural and traditional medicines, but it also made great contributions in facilitating international communication and collaborations. Such interactions are sure to boost progress in the field of pharmacological studies, new drug research, and the development of natural and traditional medicines.



Cutting the ribbon at the opening ceremony during the Second World Conference on the Pharmacology of Natural and Traditional Medicines

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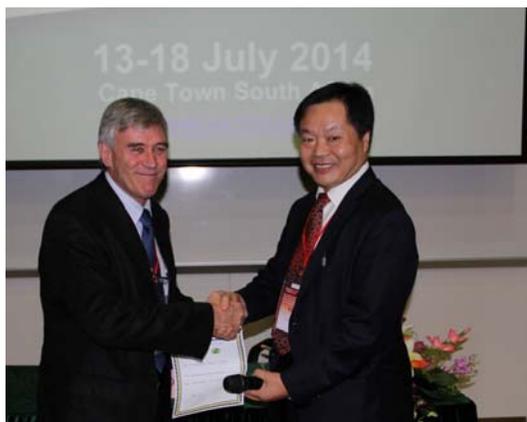
Participants of the Second World Conference on the Pharmacology of Natural and Traditional Medicines



Prof. Yong-Xiang Zhang chaired the scientific program



Prof. Sam J. Enna making his plenary lecture



Prof. Guan-Hua Du (right) presented the appreciation certificate to Douglas Oliver



L→R: Prof. Paul M. Vanhoutte and Prof. Sue P. Duckles at the conference

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### 2. Submission of the proposal on the pharmacology of natural and traditional medicines for 2014 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2014)

During the Second World Conference on the Pharmacology of Natural and Traditional Medicines, the PNPS executive committee met to discuss the future academic activities and how to organize the academic communications on natural products and traditional medicines for WCP2014. The Chinese Pharmacological Society submitted a full proposal of natural products and traditional medicines to the WCP2014 organizers.

### 3. The International Council for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (ICMAP)

As the IUPHAR liaison to ICMAP, I have established contact with Prof. K. Husnu Can Baser, the President of ICMAP in an effort to facilitate collaborations with IUPHAR in academic exchanges and activities. I invited him as a speaker on the progress on pharmacological studies in medicinal and aromatic plants during the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Asia Pacific Federation of Pharmacologists to be held in Shanghai, China, July 9-13, 2013. The face to face opportunity would also make possible discussions about the potential cooperation between IUPHAR and ICMAP. While Prof. Baser has indicated he has a conflict for that date, he has asked one of the ICMAP Vice Presidents to attend the meeting on behalf of ICMAP.

ICMAP will organize the Fifth World Congress on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (WOCMAP V) (<http://www.wocmap2014.org/>) on 17-20 August 2014 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC), Australia in parallel with the 29<sup>th</sup> International Horticultural Congress (IHC 2014). WOCMAP V will offer unique opportunities to present and discuss research findings on all aspects of research on medicinal and aromatic plants. Nine symposia will cover the breadth of the field. Selected keynote speakers will offer insight into cutting edge research in the field and the World Congress will be an ideal networking platform.

#### Main symposia of WOCMAP V:

- 1) Medicinal and Aromatic Plants The interchange between local, rural knowledge and their global applications
- 2) Medicinal and Aromatic Plants The developing role of public health research
- 3) Agriculture and Wild-crafting Challenges and opportunities
- 4) Aromatic Plants, Essential Oils and Health Future prospects
- 5) Medicinal and Aromatic Plants New analytical and pharmacological approaches
- 6) Quality, Safety and Efficacy of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
- 7) Food and Health
- 8) Biodiversity and Global Ecological Change
- 9) Infectious and Emerging Diseases Affecting Humans and Animals

#### Dates for participant's diary:

Submission of abstracts opens 1 June 2013

Registration opens 30 September 2013

Submission of abstracts closes 1 November 2013

Notification of abstract acceptance 10 January 2014

Early-bird registration closes 17 February 2014

Congress WOCMAP 17–20 August 2014

Congress IHC 17–24 August 2014

ICMAP hopes IUPHAR can participate in their meeting. Prof. Baser said in his email to me, "The participation and support of IUPHAR in WOCMAP V is of immense importance". I shall keep in touch with Prof. Baser and discuss possible options with the ICMAP Vice President during the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Asia Pacific Federation of pharmacologists in Shanghai this July.

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Yong-Xiang Zhang

Chair of the Pharmacology of Natural Product Section of IUPHAR and Liaison to ICMAP