

Chair: Assoc Prof Elizabeth Davis – elizabethweth.davis@monash.edu
Deputy Chair: Dr Clare Guilding - clare.guilding@newcastle.edu.my
Secretary: Prof Helen Kwanashie - helenkwanashie@gmail.com
Treasurer: Assoc Prof Robert Likic - robert.likic@mef.hr



IUPHAR Education Section Report

November, 2019

This report provides an update of the major ongoing projects under the umbrella of the Education Section of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR-Ed), and introduces a project developing the core concepts in pharmacology.

The Education Section continues to be in a good financial state, with a current bank balance of 10.600,00 EUR

iUPHAR Pharmacology Education Project

There continues to be an increase in the number of “hits” on the Pharmacology Education Project (PEP; www.pharmacologyeducation.org) - with more than 20,000 new sessions for the month of October, 2019 (compared to 15,000 in the same period in 2018 and 5,000 in 2017). New content continues to be added.

Analytics from the associated slideshare account (<https://www.slideshare.net/PharmacologyEducationProject>), which hosts some of the resources linked to from PEP, is also attracting increased hits, with >12,600 views year-to-date.

A survey has been embedded on the webpage, to gain some feedback from users. To date, 25 responses have been received from 15 countries, with half of the respondents identified as learners and half as faculty. Overall, the response has been positive and attests to the value of the resource.

Members of IUPHAR committees and sections are encouraged to use and publicize the website, and follow PEP on twitter (@PharmacologyEd). PEP has been, or will be promoted via presentations at a number of National Pharmacological society conferences: including that of the Japanese Pharmacological Society and the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Pharmacologists.

Contributions have been received from the Pharmacological Societies of China, Japan and Hungary. However, the future of PEP, which is dependent on ongoing funding, primarily for a curator, remains tenuous.

IOSP (*Integrative and organs systems pharmacology*)

The IOSP project, led by Dave Lewis (Leeds University), has created and delivered 3 Train the Trainer courses in 2019 (1 in India and 2 in Africa). A number of courses are planned for 2020, including in India and Egypt.

All educational resources are created and shared with participants as open educational resources, with IUPHAR badging. The resources will be uploaded either onto ETRIS (www.etriss.leeds.ac.uk), Dave’s lab animal educational resource repository or a new one created specifically for purpose in 2020.

IOSP was involved in the development of the first guidelines, for the establishment and functioning of animal ethics committees (IACUC’s) in Africa. This initiative was a collaboration with B Mohr (Univ Cape Town/SAALAS), O Souileman (ENMV, Tunisia), ICLAS and Pan African Network of Lab Animal Sciences and Ethics (PAN-LASE). The guidelines are available at: <https://www.saalas.org/guidelines-for-animal-ethics-committees-iacucs-in-africa/>

A total of £152,709 GBP funding has been obtained in 2019.

Core and threshold concepts in Pharmacology

An International collaboration between Pharmacologists working at Monash University (Australia), University of North Carolina (USA) and University College London (UK) is working on developing core and threshold concepts for pharmacology in a project entitled “**Revolutionising what pharmacology graduates need to know: core concepts in pharmacology education**”. Presentations on this project will be given by Paul White at the BPS meeting (Edinburgh) and the Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA) meeting (Melbourne). The long term plan is to develop and validate the concepts and produce MCQs that address each concept. Stay tuned for update on this project.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Davis
Chair, IUPHAR Education Section 2018-2022