

Report of the Neuropsychopharmacology Section to the Executive Committee of IUPHAR

Activities during 2015

1. The Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP) section was approved in 2015 with the aim of encouraging international co-operation in preclinical and clinical neuropsychopharmacology. Prof. Filippo Drago (Italy) was appointed as Chair for the Governance of the Section. The Executive Committee included the following outstanding scientists well known in the field of neuropsychopharmacology: Sam Enna (USA); Robert Belmaker (Israel); Wim van den Brink (The Netherlands); Siegfried Kasper (Austria); George Koob (USA); Charles Nemeroff (USA); Carmine Pariante (UK); Pier Vincenzo Piazza (France); Giorgio Racagni (Italy); Kiyofumi Yamada (Japan); Joseph Zohar (Israel).

2. An online section website within the IUPHAR website was developed and started at the end of 2015. The website topics includes governance, bylaws announcements of meetings and events, how to join the section, bylaws, reports and home page.

3. Started to register new members of the section on the section's website.

4. Started to distribute information about the section during related meetings, conferences.

6. A paper entitled "The future of neuropsychopharmacology: which role for the new IUPHAR Section ?" (F.Caraci, G.M. Leggio, F.Drago) has been published in the December 2015 issue of "Pharmacology International" to describe the objectives of the new IUPHAR NPP Section.

7. The NPP Section contributed to the working-group on the neuroscience-based nomenclature (NbN) of psychotropic drugs (i.e.. the NC-IUPHAR/ECNP Project) headed by Joseph Zohar (ECNP). The NbN is a new pharmacologically driven (rather than indication based) nomenclature that embeds contemporary neuroscience understanding how medicines act. This nomenclature will be adopted by the most relevant in the field of neuroscience in the next 12 months.

8. The Chair of NPP section, Filippo Drago, organized a lecture on the NbN nomenclature for the next XVIIIth World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology 2018 (WCP2018) that will be in July 1 - 5, 2018 in Kyoto, Japan. The lecture will be held from Prof. Joseph Zohar and moderated by the Chair of the NPP Section.

9. The NPP section organized in Catania (20-21 March 2016) the first Winter School of Neuropsychopharmacology entitled "Drug discovery in schizophrenia" directed both to PhD students in Neuroscience and psychiatrists. The goal was to provide the Italian scientific community with the most relevant findings in the neurobiology of schizophrenia and the new approaches to translational neuropsychopharmacology in the field of psychoses.

10. The section organized in Catania (11-15 July 2016) the International Catania Summer School of Neuroscience [Presidents: Prof. Filippo Drago (Catania) and Dr. Giovanni Marsicano (Inserm U1215 Bordeaux)], focused on "CB receptors in physiology and pathology, where the outstanding neuropsychopharmacologists in Europe working in this field will be invited. This event will be dedicated to European PhD students working in the field of neuroscience.

Planned Fundraising efforts

Approach different organizations and Pharma interested in the field of Neuropsychopharmacology in attempt to raise funds to maintain the section until sufficient members have been attracted.

Funds in Bank: None

Prof. Filippo Drago, Chair
March 30, 2016