

## **Stephen Alexander - Chair: NC-IUPHAR Motivation Letter**

For the past six years, I have chaired NC-IUPHAR and have greatly enjoyed the role. I've edited publications on drug target nomenclature for over 20 years, including the Concise Guide to Pharmacology 2021/22 published recently.

For the various committees in which I participate or chair, my mission is to simplify life for others (as others have done for me). In the context of the Nomenclature and Standards Committee, the purpose is to avoid confusion and waste in pharmacology (and related biomedical sciences), by identifying a common terminology, together with logical, systematic naming of drug targets and the listing of 'Gold Standard' compounds to allow identification of individual drug targets (or group of targets) in complex mixtures.

For the future, I would pursue a wider awareness of the activities of NC-IUPHAR through closer associations with national pharmacological societies, together with an increased inclusivity of membership of NC-IUPHAR. While we have had traditional strengths in the areas of receptors and ion channels, there is ground to be made up in reflecting the pharmacology of transporters, enzymes and other targets of drugs, as well as other aspects represented within IUPHAR (similar to the immunopharmacology initiative). I would wish to make some of high-level scientific sessions associated with NC-IUPHAR meetings more widely available, to allow access for colleagues in resource-limited parts of the world. The [GuidetoPharmacology.org](http://GuidetoPharmacology.org) website already provides a tremendous resource available to anyone, but continuing the funding stream to maintain and expand its content will be a priority.