

# PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY NEWSLETTER

(Division 28 - The American Psychological Association)

FALL, 1977

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## APA IN SAN FRANCISCO

The annual meeting of the American Psychological Association was exceptional this year, due in part to the location of the meeting and in part to the attendance at events arranged and sponsored by Division 28. San Francisco is usually an exciting and enjoyable city, and this year was not atypical. Clear days provided views of the Bay area that were unimaginable, world-renowned restaurants offered memorable dishes, and shoppers were overwhelmed by the number of famous retail stores clustered in the heart of the city. The unusual thing about this annual meeting, however, was the increased attendance at Division 28 events. Recent years have seen a gradual decline in attendance and participation by the membership of the Division, a matter of concern to all who value the role of psychopharmacology in the behavioral sciences. Aware of this decline, Marian Fischman accepted the responsibilities of Program Chairperson with a determination to renew interest in the annual meeting, to stimulate in the Division membership a desire to contribute program material, and to arrange Division 28 activities that were stimulating, informative and attractive. Her year-long efforts were productive. The paper sessions, symposia, and invited addresses arranged by Marian were well attended and well received. The topics were contemporary and the presentations of excellent quality. Not to be overlooked are her accomplishments in recruiting such outstanding invited speakers as Peter Dews, Avram Goldstein and Larry Stein. Preparing a program for a meeting is a thankless job, yet Marian Fischman put together a superb program and deserves the appreciation and gratitude of the Division. Chris Johanson, the new Program Chairperson, is already at work in an effort to effect a repeat performance of this year.

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## DIVISION 28 MEMBER APPOINTED TO NIMH

Ron Schoenfeld has recently been appointed Chief of the Biological Sciences Section, Research Manpower Branch, NIMH. This section administers predoctoral and postdoctoral individual and institutional (training grant) awards to support training for research careers. The training must be multidisciplinary and directed toward the solution of biobehavioral problems consistent with the research priorities of NIMH.

A native New Yorker, Ron received his undergraduate training in pharmacy at Columbia University, graduate training in pharmacology at the University of Chicago and postdoctoral training in pharmacology at Harvard Medical School. He has served on the staffs of the Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston and the Departments of Psychiatry at Harvard and at Rutgers. He joined NIMH after several years as Senior Investigator at the Squibb Institute for Medical Research in New Jersey. Information concerning NIMH Training Grants can be obtained by contacting Ron at:

Biological Sciences Section  
Room 9C-09  
NIMH  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

(301) 443-3855

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## REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

The Executive Committee of Division 28 invites nominations for three offices. Nominations for President-Elect, Secretary and Members-at-Large (two) should be forwarded to Herbert Barry III, Division 28 Secretary, University of Pittsburgh.

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BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

A new program in behavioral pharmacology has been initiated in the Department of Psychology at the University of Iowa. This program of research consists of the initiation of systematic studies employing classical (Pavlovian) conditioning. Studies concerned with the behavioral actions of drugs have so far primarily concentrated on the use of operant techniques. While this research has been enormously productive, there have been no equivalent, systematic studies employing classical conditioning paradigms. Dr. I. Gormezano, who has developed several rabbit preparations for the study of both defensive classical conditioning employing the rabbit nictitating membrane response and appetitive classical conditioning employing the rabbit jaw movement response, and Dr. J. A. Harvey have combined their laboratories to initiate systematic studies, employing these two preparations. Three broad lines of research are currently in progress to examine: 1) the effects of drugs on classical conditioning; 2) the role of monoamines in conditioning; and 3) the neurochemical and electrophysiological changes occurring during conditioning. Our primary interest is to delineate effects on associative processes (learning) as opposed to effects attributable to sensitization, pseudoconditioning or alterations in base rate responding. Associative effects are being further examined with respect to alterations in response latencies, stimulus sensitivity (for both the conditioned and unconditioned stimuli), ISI functions and CS excitability upon the unconditioned reflex. In addition, effects of both conditioned excitatory and inhibitory stimuli will be examined as well as effects on differentiation and extinction. These behavioral analyses are being combined with correlated measures of electrophysiological and neurochemical changes.

One series of experiments is examining

the effects of various hallucinogens (LSD, DOM, etc.) on associative processes by measuring the acquisition of tone and light conditioned responses using the rabbit nictitating membrane response. LSD, in doses as low as 1 nmol/kg, produces an enhanced acquisition of the nictitating membrane response. Peak enhancement occurs at dosages of 30 nmol/kg (12.9 µg/kg of *d*-LSD tartrate). Learning to a criterion of ten successive conditioned responses requires 110 fewer conditioning trials at this latter dosage than for saline controls. This effect is not due to sensitization, pseudoconditioning or increased base-rate responding. Equivalent dosages of BOL had no effect on learning (*Fed. Proc.* 36, No. 3, Abstract #4077, 1977). In addition to the hallucinogens, studies are being initiated with *d*-amphetamine, neuroleptics and antidepressant drugs.

Other studies have demonstrated that intraventricular injections of 6-HDA, producing large decreases in telencephalic norepinephrine (86%) but small decreases in dopamine (38%), also enhance acquisition of the conditioned nictitating membrane response to tone and light conditioned stimuli. Again, there was no evidence of pseudoconditioning, sensitization or increased base-rate responding suggesting that the effect was on associative processes, i.e., learning. Preliminary data suggest that larger decreases in dopamine result in retardation of learning. So far, decreases in serotonin have had no effect on learning. These studies are being continued to determine effects produced by more specific depletions of norepinephrine, dopamine and serotonin.

These studies are supported by grants from NIMH, NIDA and NSF. The research is being carried out in collaboration with several post-doctoral fellows, including Dr. M. Gimpl and Dr. F. Mis.

(John A. Harvey and I. Gormezano)

MINUTES OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 29, 1977

In accordance with the request by President-Elect Schuster, at the Executive Committee meeting the preceding day, the meeting was opened at 4:05 PM by Dr. Barry, who read the minutes of the prior business meeting (September 4, 1976, in Washington, D.C.) and announced that the 18 members present at the current meeting were short of the quorum of 25 specified by the Division 28 By-Laws as the minimum required for transacting business.

President-Elect Schuster, who presided over the remainder of the meeting in the absence of President Carlton, then announced that the report presented at the Executive Committee meeting on the preceding day, by the Treasurer (Dr. Beer), indicated a balance of approximately \$3800. Also, Lederle Labs is a new Corporate Affiliate; Dr. Beer has recently joined that Company.

Dr. Krasnegor, Chairman of the Membership Committee, announced that 252 new members and 18 new associates are joining Division 28 this year. Two Fellows of other APA Divisions are becoming Fellows of Division 28: Douglas P. Ferraro of the University of New Mexico and John L. Falk of Rutgers University. They were approved unanimously by the members present.

Dr. Schuster announced that Chris Johanson is the new Program Chairperson, responsible for the 1978 Division 28 program at APA, and George Bigelow has been appointed as her successor, responsible for the 1979 program. Dr. Schuster commended and led a round of applause for Marian Fischman, who is now the past Program Chairperson.

Dr. Schuster commented that the leaders who propose a new Division of Problems of Substance Abuse were invited to advance their program through Division 28, but that they rejected this cooperation. Dr. Barry announced that the Division 28 Executive Committee the day before voted against such a new Division. Dr.

Moskowitz noted that it is a clinically oriented group, interested primarily in treatment. Dr. Schuster stated that he is active in psycho-social research, and that the new Division would be divisive.

Dr. Schuster announced that he has appointed Dr. Krasnegor to serve the remainder of his term as Division 28 representative to the APA Council. Responsibilities for Division 28 activities in the future are to be spread more widely among the members. Accordingly, one of the changes to be sought in the By-Laws will be to delete the present specification that Chairpersons of all Committees must be appointed from among members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of Division 28 will meet in New York City this October to discuss By-Laws revisions and other activities. The new Membership Chairman, to succeed Dr. Krasnegor, will be appointed later.

In response to a question by Dr. Sepinwall about possible changes in the structure of the APA, a member stated that Division 6 was concurrently meeting to discuss that Division's precarious situation. Dr. Schuster said that Divisions 3 and 6 are worried about their decreasing influence in the APA due to the declining academic and scientific representation. The Academic Coalition failed to respond to an invitation to send a representative to the current Division 28 Business Meeting. The Division 28 Executive Committee on the preceding day voted to donate \$100 to the Academic Coalition.

Dr. Byrd encouraged Division 28 members to write to the members of the Committee for the Academic Coalition. They are listed in the Division 28 Newsletter.

A discussion followed about the APA rank-order preferential ballots. The members present were informed that voters are not required to vote for all the candidates but that their lower-rank choices are influential only after all their higher-ranked choices have been eliminated.

Dr. Schuster announced the plan formu-

lated by the Executive Committee on the preceding day to continue for an additional year the terms of three of the Members-at-Large (Boren, Cook, Overton) in order to prevent the terms of all five from terminating in the same year. The members present gave a unanimous vote of approval to this plan.

Information was given about a discussion by the Executive Committee the preceding day concerning the possible desirability for an increase in the Division 28 dues assessment. Dr. Barry pointed out that any increase would involve a new "special assessment", marked on the APA dues form, rather than simply a change in a current numerical value, and that if some current members of Division 28 were to resign their membership in the Division, the Division would lose not only their current \$2.00 yearly assessment but also in some cases their allotment to Division 28 of votes for APA Council representation. Dr. Schuster noted that Division 28 could ask for voluntary donations and also might increase the number of Corporate Affiliates, at \$200 apiece per year.

Dr. Seiden asked whether a joint meeting with ASPET at the Federation meeting is planned. Dr. Schuster replied that April, 1978, three years after the last prior such joint meeting, might well be feasible but that unfortunately it might already be too late to schedule it. He promised a rapid inquiry about this possibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

(Recorded by the Secretary of the Division, Dr. Barry)

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#### EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Material of interest to the membership of Division 28 should be forwarded for inclusion in the Newsletter to:

Dr. Larry D. Byrd  
Yerkes Regional Primate Research Ctr.  
Emory University  
Atlanta, Georgia 30322

#### APA COUNCIL APPORTIONMENT

The apportionment ballot distributed to APA members in November provides an opportunity for the membership to determine the number of Council Representatives each APA Division, State Association or Coalition will have for the year 1979. Members of Division 28 are urged to apportion their votes in support of the Division and to persuade colleagues and fellow members of APA to lend the Division their support, also. Please respond promptly and in support of psychopharmacology when your ballot arrives.

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#### CALL FOR PAPERS

Members are reminded that APA will be issuing the annual Call-for-Papers in December. The announcement will initiate the opportunity for members to submit papers, proposals for symposia, etc., for presentation at the annual APA meeting in Toronto, August 28 - September 1, 1978. Program material must be submitted to Chris Johanson at the University of Chicago prior to February 15, 1978.

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#### NEW PUBLICATIONS

Grinspoon, L. and Bakalar, J. B.: Cocaine. A Drug and Its Social Evolution. Basic Books, Inc.: New York, 1977.

Thompson, T. and Dews, P. B. (eds.): Advances in Behavioral Pharmacology, Vol. 1. Academic Press: New York, 1977, 288 pp.

Usdin, E., Hamburg, D. A. and Barchas, J. D. (eds.): Neuroregulators and Psychiatric Disorders. Oxford University Press: New York, 1977, 640 pp.

Vesell, E. S. and Braude, M. C. (eds.): Interactions of Drugs of Abuse. The New York Academy of Sciences: New York, 1976, 489 pp.

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## SCIENTIFIC AWARDS PROGRAM FOR 1978

The Committee on Scientific Awards is accepting nominations for its award program. The Committee will select up to three persons as recipients of the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award who, in its opinion, have made the most distinguished theoretical or empirical contributions to scientific psychology in recent years.

The Distinguished Contribution for Applications in Psychology Award will be given for the sixth time this year. This award will be presented to an individual who, in the Committee's opinion, has engaged in a program of research that is systematic and applied in character.

A new award, the Early Career Award, has been established to recognize the large number of excellent young psychologists. For purposes of this award, psychology has been divided into nine areas (human learning/cognition, psychopathology, physiological, animal, personality, developmental, methodological, social, and sensation/perception), and three awards are given in 3-year cycles. The titles of the areas were chosen not to stereotype the field but only for convenient identification. The titles should not be restrictive, and the Committee will be very inclusive in considering nominees. Nominations of persons who received their Ph.D. after 1970 are being sought this year from the areas of human learning/cognitive, psychopathology and physiology. The Committee would appreciate receiving a statement on the worthiness of the nominee, along with a vita, list of publications, and reprints of his or her outstanding, youthful contributions to science.

The awards are subject to the following limitations: (a) members of the Committee, former recipients of the awards, and the President and President-Elect of the APA shall be ineligible; and (b) the Committee shall seek diversity in selecting recipients, avoiding as far as possible the selection of more than one person representing a specialized topic,

a specific material, a given method, or a particular application.

Names and appropriate information that will guide the Committee on Scientific Awards in conducting an intensive career review and evaluation should be forwarded to the Office of Scientific Affairs, American Psychological Association, 1200 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The deadline for nominations is January 13, 1978.

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## APA FACTS

The APA Central Office has released statistics on the current membership of the organization. There are 44,500 Fellows, Members and Associates, 10,000 Student Affiliates, 550 Foreign Affiliates and 650 High School Teacher Affiliates. APA has 34 divisions and 52 affiliated state associations. Of those holding membership in APA, 37% are in clinical areas, 10% in counseling, 9% in educational and school, 7% in engineering and industrial/organizational, 7% in experimental, psychobiology and psychopharmacology, 5% in physiological and developmental, 5% in social and personality, 2% in community, 0.3% in systems and methods and 17.7% fall in other areas. Universities and colleges employ 34.4% of the membership, independent practice 11.6%, other human service settings 14.2%, hospitals and clinics 9.9%, government civil service 3.5%, schools 2.9%, other educational settings 6.4%, business and industry 2.6%, independent research 1.7%, other setting and unknown 12.8%. Know the professional organization that represents you and your interests.

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## NEW JOURNAL

Pergamon Press has announced the initiation of a new journal in psychopharmacology entitled Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology. The journal is intended to provide for rapid publication of papers and review articles dealing with clinical and experimental work in neuro-psychopharmacology.

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