PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY NEWSLETTER

(DIVISION 28 - THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION)

WINTER, 1979

## APA COUNCIL APPORTIONMENT

Division 28 has retained its one seat on the Council of Representatives for another year, but barely. The minimum point-votes necessary for a division to have at least one representative is 0.50% of the total APA vote, and members apportioned only 0.55% to Division 28. The balloting is getting to be so critical for the Division that fewer than fifteen members could have reversed the outcome this year and left the Division with no representative. It is informative to note that only 54 of the approximately 1,100 members of Division 28 apportioned all ten votes to the Division, and more than 62% of the 352 who supported Division 28 apportioned only 1 or 2 votes to the Division.

Apathy toward balloting was not restricted to Division 28. Only 50% of the APA members eligible to vote did so. As a result, half of the membership effected changes in Council representation for thirteen divisions. Divisions 10, 12, 34, 35 and 38 (a new division) each gained a Council seat, and Divisions 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 14, 29 and 32 lost seats. With its recent gain, Division 12 now has eight Council seats, which is at least twice that of any other division except for Division 29 which has five. More than 97% of the members of Division 12 supported their division by apportioning one or more votes for Division 12; only 32% of the members of Division 28 supported their division by apportioning one or more votes. Somehow, Division 28 must be stimulated to greater interest, concern and action if we are to retain a voice in Council proceedings and have our interests represented within APA. Members must apportion more votes to the Division and, thereby, assure at least one seat on the Council.

## MEMBER RECEIVES AWARD

Philip Teitelbaum, a Fellow of Division 28, has been named a recipient of the APA Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award for 1978. Teitelbaum was cited "for his highly original and creative concepts of how the brain works to yield behavior, based on the soundest empirical data collected in his own ingenious experiments". In addition to the citation, the award includes a check for $1,000 and an opportunity to address the 1979 APA Convention. A native New Yorker, Teitelbaum received his undergraduate training in psychology at the City College of New York, then went to Johns Hopkins University to study physiological psychology. At Johns Hopkins, he began working on hypothalamic hyperphagia as a release phenomenon under the guidance of Eliot Stellar. Interest in the hypothalamus has remained with him over the years. After graduate school, he joined the faculty at Harvard for four years before moving to the Neurological Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. He remained at Penn, first in the Neurological Institute and then in the Psychology Department until 1973 when he moved to the University of Illinois

In selecting Teitelbaum, the APA Committee on Scientific Awards noted that "a common thread of ideas runs through his work ranging from hypothalamic control of feeding and motivation, and their sensory control, to the operant control of reflexes and the nature of voluntary response. All are tied together in a conceptualization of the hierarchical organization of nervous system structure and function". Division 28 congratulates Phil Teitelbaum for his scientific achievements and for the recognition he has received.

## BEHAVIORAL PHARMACOLOGY RESEARCH AT THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF VIRGINIA

There are two laboratories in the Pharmacology Department engaged in behavioral research. One, headed by John Rosecrans, has a more neuropharmacological orientation and the other, headed by Robert Balster, is more behaviorally oriented. John Rosecrans has a wide range of research interests which include the neuropharmacology of opioids, the behavioral neuropharmacology of nicotine and the study of discriminative stimulus properties of drugs. I will leave a more detailed description of Dr. Rosecrans' laboratory activities to him for a future issue.

My laboratory is principally oriented towards operant research with mice, rats, squirrel monkeys and rhesus monkeys. The research can be roughly broken down into the following areas.

(1) Intravenous drug self-administration in rhesus monkeys. We have twelve live-in self-administration cubicles. This laboratory is essentially the responsibility of a post-doctoral fellow, William Woolverton. Currently, four projects are underway. We are studying the self-administration of phencyclidine and local anesthetics, carrying out abuse potential evaluation studies and investigating drugs which may block the reinforcing properties of cocaine. This latter research involves the use of a choice procedure in which animals are given the opportunity to choose between cocaine infusions or food.

(2) Behavioral pharmacology of phencyclidine. In addition to phencyclidine self-administration, we are interested in the broader area of the effects of phencyclidine on the behavior of laboratory animals. We have used a variety of behaviors, both operant and non-operant, to characterize the effects of this drug in several species. We are studying drug interactions with phencyclidine and tolerance and dependence development. Recently, we have extended this work to include the study of phencyclidine analogs. Much of this latter research is being conducted by a graduate student, Kathleen Brady. We are now beginning an extensive study correlating the behavioral effects of phencyclidine with tissue levels using gas chromatography - mass spectrometry. This collaboration is with Dr. B. R. Martin of our Department.

(3) The behavioral effects of cannabinoids. We have a modest program of research on the behavioral pharmacology of marihuana constituents. Much of this work in recent years has been to relate drug dispositional factors to behavior. We are convinced that these factors are important determinants of the effects of various cannabinoids. We have also been studying the behavioral effects of novel cannabinoids to which we have access because of this Department's major research effort in that area.

(4) Behavioral toxicology. We have had a grant to study the behavioral effects of drinking water contaminants in mice. We use both operant and non-operant procedures. We are also studying the effects of these contaminants on neurobehavioral development.

This represents a capsule survey of current research in our laboratory. This laboratory is part of the CNS Division of the Pharmacology Department which includes six full-time faculty in addition to Dr. Rosecrans and myself. There is considerable interaction among these laboratories. Other Divisions of the Department are Cardiovascular, Biochemical and Toxicology. The Pharmacology Department has a graduate program leading to the Ph.D. degree. Students interested in behavioral pharmacology or behavioral toxicology can work with either Dr. Rosecrans or myself. In general, our training philosophy is to give broad training in pharmacology as well as other basic biomedical sciences prior to extensive specialization. In the first year, students are exposed to a wide variety of laboratory situations and do not begin research in their area of specialization until their second year. We also have

an active post-doctoral training program in both pharmacology and toxicology. Currently, we have pre-doctoral and post-doctoral training grants from NIH General Medical Sciences, the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Students interested in behavioral pharmacology and/or toxicology are potentially eligible. For more information, contact Dr. Rosecrans or myself.

(Robert L. Balster)

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EPA SPONSORED WORKSHOP

During the period April 1-4, 1979, a workshop on "Test methods for definition of effects of toxic substances on behavior and neuromotor function" will be held in San Antonio, Texas. The workshop will include sessions on sensory and motor effects of toxicants, effects of toxicants on development and affective behavior, effects of toxicants on cognitive behavior and effects of toxicants on the central nervous system. The workshop will provide a scientific assessment of currently available methods for determining the toxic threat of chemicals to human health and the environment. Additional information is available from Dr. Irvin Geller, Southwest Foundation for Research and Education, San Antonio, Texas 78284.

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THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH SUPPORT

An overall trend toward conservatism in the government is the manifestation of several conditions, not the least of which is the shift in the Democratic Party's emphasis from social programs toward curing inflation. Scientific research and educational training are included in the programs which may suffer under President Carter's cuts in domestic spending. Many academicians believe that these programs are likely to be at the top of the list of expendables, primarily because of the relationship between the government and research, which deteriorated noticably during the Ford administration and has not regained territory in the present administration.

In a recent interview, Dr. Edward Zigler, a trustee of the Association for the Advancement of Psychology and director of Yale's Bush Child Development and Social Policy, maintained that we cannot blame others given the fact that we have not made the right kind of case for ourselves. The failure of behavioral researchers to lobby and be more aggressive on their own behalves plus the budgetary contractions now being promised by the Carter administration indicate that we are in for austere funding during the next four or five years.

(Advance, December, 1978)

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SYMPOSIUM TO HONOR J. B. WATSON

To commemorate the centennial of John B. Watson's birth and to make the naming of the psychology laboratory in his honor, Furman University (from which Watson graduated in 1899) is sponsoring a symposium April 5-6, 1979.

April 5:
  John B. Watson: Man and Myth --
    James V. McConnell (8:15 p.m.)

April 6:
  Applied Behaviorism Since John B.
    Watson -- Fred S. Keller (4:15 p.m.)
  What John B. Watson Meant to Me --
    B. F. Skinner (8:15 p.m.)

All lectures will be held in McAlister Auditorium on the Furman University campus and are open to the public without charge. Contact: Charles L. Brewer, Department of Psychology, Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina 29613.

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EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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

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  Center
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TRENDS IN DIVISION 28 MEMBERSHIP

During the last decade, total membership in Division 28 has experienced interesting changes. In 1967, the number of fellows, members and associates numbered 328; in 1978, the total was 1194. Therefore, the overall increase in members during this period represents a growth of 264.02%, which is a substantial and impressive increase. For the eleven-year period, membership increases averaged 24% per year. During this same period, the membership of APA increased from 25,417 in 1967 to 46,891 in 1978 for an increase of 84.49% or an average of 7.68% per year. From these statistics, it is tempting to conclude that Division 28 and APA are growing, that the Division is growing faster than APA, and that Division 28 has a rosy future.

In reality, APA membership has experienced a small but remarkably consistent increase each year since 1967, whereas Division 28 has not. The largest percentage increase for APA was 6.64% and occurred between 1975 and 1976; an increase of 7.68% comparable to the per annum increase for the eleven-year period was never experienced. The smallest increase for APA was 3.72% and occurred between 1970 and 1971. In contrast, Division 28 has experienced losses in membership during six of the last eleven years. Between 1973 and 1974, membership decreased by 12.32%; the smallest decrease, 3.91%, occurred between 1976 and 1977. The rapid increase in membership that occurred prior to 1972 stands in contrast to the decrease that has occurred since.

In graphic form (below) Division 28 membership during each of the last eleven years reveals trends less evident otherwise. The rate of growth in Division 28 membership paralleled that for APA during the period 1967-1970, and rate of growth exceeded that of APA during the period 1970-1971. However, the membership in Division 28 steadily decreased during 1971-1977, whereas APA maintained its previous rate of growth. The membership would probably have decreased in 1978 also had there been no campaign to attract new members to the Division. Norman Krasnegor, the membership chair that year, conducted a campaign by mail that resulted in 270 new members and associates and, as a result, there was a net increase of 138 between 1977-1978. It is doubtful that this increase in membership can be maintained unless there is a similar concerted effort each year. Even with an annual membership campaign, it remains to be seen whether the rate of growth in the Division can equal that of APA and, thus, protect the Division from an eventual death.