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AChemS-XV
April 14-18, 1993
Hyatt Sarasota, FL
SEM taken from human olfactory epithelium illustrating dendritic knob and cilia of a sensory receptor cell that functions to detect odor molecules. Calibration bar = 1µm. Courtesy of Drs. Edward Morrison and Richard Costanzo
REPORT ON THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

JAMES B. SNOW, JR., M.D., DIRECTOR, NIDCD, APRIL 11, 1992

Thank you for the opportunity to bring news from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) to the Association for Chemoreception Sciences. It is always a special privilege for me to share information about the NIDCD with this group of scientists who are responsible for so much of its progress and accomplishments.

It has been a busy year for the NIDCD. Last month I appeared before the House Appropriations Subcommittee to testify on behalf of the President's Budget for the institute for FY 1993. The importance of research in the chemical senses was emphasized to the members of the subcommittee. I was pleased that Dr. Thomas V. Getchell was able to attend. Testimony on the President's Budget will be presented to the Senate on May 19, 1992. The NIDCD will continue to endeavor to keep Congress aware of the impact of research in the chemical senses.

In the three years since NIDCD was created the Institute has experienced an increase in funding and an increase in the number of applications it receives. The budget appropriation for FY 1992 increased from the FY 1991 level of $134,935,000 to this year's appropriation for $149,102,000, an increase of slightly over 10%. The President's budget for FY 1993 is set for $157,301,000, an increase of nearly 5.5% over this year's budget. I am confident that this dedication of our nation's resources will translate into advances in our understanding of normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech and language at an unprecedented rate.

Looking at the distribution of the FY 1991 portfolio, projects in smell represented 7% of the total funded and taste represented 8% for a combined total of 15% of the portfolio devoted to the chemosenses. Hearing represented the largest portion of the portfolio with 55% funding, followed by language with 10%, speech with 9%, voice with 6%, and balance with 5%. It should be emphasized that this distribution results from competition of applications in the various scientific areas on the basis of scientific merit and does not represent an allocation.

The legislation that created the NIDCD mandated the development of a plan to expand and intensify research in deafness and other communication disorders. The National Strategic Research Plan (NSRP) was developed in January 1989 by more than 100 distinguished scientists and clinicians to meet this mandate. It provides a three-year and longer-range statement of our national research goals and priorities. Expert panels update two of the six research sections in the NSRP each year. The vestibular system section and the language section were updated in January, 1991; the hearing and voice sections were revised in January, 1992; and the sections devoted to speech and the chemical senses will be updated in 1993. By repeating this cycle every three years, no part of the NSRP will be more than three years old. The process of updating the NSRP begins with an ad hoc subcommittee of the National Advisory Board which identifies changes in the scientific field since the NSRP was written, compares the research portfolio of the Institute with the priorities in the NSRP and suggests areas of emphasis, levels of activity and new initiatives. Dr. Getchell has agreed to chair this important subcommittee for the chemical senses. The subcommittee also recommends members who will serve on the panel which actually updates the chemosensory section of the NSRP. The NIDCD is pleased to have had members of AChemS serve on the expert panel that developed the plan on the chemical senses, and I hope that many AChemS members will again be willing to serve in the updating of this important document that charts research needs, accomplishments and opportunities.

The NIDCD hosted two conferences this past year that relate to research in the chemical senses. The most recent, held this past March 2 and 3 was entitled, "Development, Growth and Senescence in the Chemical Senses."
This meeting, which was co-sponsored by two other institutes of the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, presented an assembly of internationally-recognized scientists, many who are in this audience. The presentations at this conference were outstanding and generated stimulating discussions. Many areas for future research arose from this conference. The abstracts from the meeting are available here this week. I am grateful to all of you who participated in this conference. I would like to congratulate the conference planners and organizers, Drs. Gary K. Beauchamp, Thomas V. Getchell, Charlotte M. Mistretta and Jack Pearl, on a job well done. A monograph of the conference will be available later this year.

This past December, the NIDCD and the American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery co-sponsored a conference on the Impact of Pollution on the Upper Alimentary and Respiratory Tracts. While both noise and air pollution were discussed, special emphasis was placed on the impact of air pollution on the nose, paranasal sinuses, pharynx, larynx and lungs in indoor and outdoor environments.

On May 8th of this year, the NIDCD will sponsor a live, interactive video teleconference to disseminate information gained from the December meeting. The teleconference will allow multiple sites to interact and have questions answered by panelists who are otolaryngologists, other health care professionals, scientists, environmental advocates and lay persons. Dr. Susan S. Schiffman will be a member of the panel. After the teleconference, a videotape and workbook will be available to physicians, other health care professionals, scientists and the public.

The NIDCD is pleased to announce that it has established an Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) on deafness and other communication disorders. Representatives from 33 agencies of the Federal Government with activities in deafness and other communication disorders are meeting four times a year to share information about related activities in each agency. The ICC will create opportunities for interagency cooperation and collaboration.

Two program announcements were published in September of 1991: one entitled, "Genetics and Fundamental Mechanisms of Chemical Senses" and the other on the study of obesity. Also there was a Request for Applications on the "Transport of Substances in the Olfactory System."

The NIDCD proposed initiatives for FY 1993 includes three program announcements relating to the chemical senses that may be of interest to you. They include: biotechnology as it relates to the regulation of growth and differentiation of motor and sensory receptor cells; neurochemistry of the chemical senses in age-related disorders; and molecular medicine as it relates to the molecular basis of regeneration of sensory receptor cells. The NIDCD encourages scientists to contact the Institute's scientific program staff about research ideas to discuss potential applications. The staff can be helpful in identifying mechanisms and approaches to successful application. A publication entitled, "The Research and Development Mechanisms of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders 1991-92" is available from our Program Planning and Health Reports Branch. This reference is for investigators who have projects that they wish to pursue and who want to become familiar with the application mechanisms available to them.

David J. Lim, M.D., became the Director, Division of Intramural Research of the NIDCD, on January 1, 1992. Dr. Lim is a distinguished auditory scientist. By virtue of his research accomplishments and leadership, he is ideally suited to develop a world class basic and clinical research program. The search for the Clinical Director of the NIDCD is underway.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of a new addition to our staff in the chemical senses program. Dr. Rochelle Small has joined our staff as a Health Science Administrator in the Chemical Senses Program of the Division of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She will be joining Dr. Jack Pearl, who has made valuable contributions to our extramural chemo-sensory program, under the direction of Dr. Ralph F. Naunton, Director of the Division of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Dr. Small comes to us with a background well suited to her new responsibilities at NIDCD. She earned her Ph.D. in neuroscience at the City University of New York. She comes to us from London where she served for the past four and one-half years as the Division Head of Cellular Biology at the Institute of Neurology. Her areas of expertise include developmental and molecular neurobiology and axonal transport. We are indeed fortunate to have her as a member of our staff.

Thank you for allowing me to present this update. The staff of the Institute joins me in expressing gratitude to the members of AChemS for the contributions you have made to the work of the Institute.

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PRESIDENTIAL SYMPOSIUM AT ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY (ARO) TO INCLUDE CHEMOSENSORY RESEARCHERS.

The Presidential Symposium of ARO will take place February 7, 1993, at the Tradewinds Hotel, 5500 Gulf Boulevard, St. Petersburg Beach,
Florida. This will be an all-day symposium exploring developments in the neurobiology and biophysics of transducer processes across several sensory modalities. Speakers will be Dr. Sue Kinnamon of Colorado State University on taste; Dr. Doron Lancet of the Weizmann Institute of Science on smell; Dr. Harold Zakon of the University of Texas on electroreceptors; Dr. David Corey of Massachusetts General Hospital on hair cells; Dr. Joe Santos-Sacchi of Yale University on outer hair cell motility; and Dr. William Bialek of the University of California at Berkeley on commonalities of sensory systems. For further information about the meeting or about ARO contact Ms. Michele Johnson, ARO Business Office, 900 Des Moines St. Suite. 200, Des Moines, IA 50309 (515) 266-2189.

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AWARDS AT ACHEMS 1992

The following awards were presented at the 1992 meeting. The descriptions were abstracted from the presentations.

Don Tucker Award

The Don Tucker Memorial Award goes to the graduate student making the outstanding presentation at the annual meeting. The winner is awarded a check in the amount of $500.00, and the awardee's name is added to a plaque in the Don Tucker Memorial Conference Room at Florida State University.

The winner of the 1992 Don Tucker Award was Debra Ann Fadool of the Whitney Laboratory and the Departments of Zoology and Neuroscience, University of Florida, for her presentation entitled: "Single Channel and Immunochemical Evidence for Inositol 1,4,5-triphosphate as a Second Messenger in Lobster Olfactory Neurons." Congratulations and best wishes!

Nakanishi Award for Research in Olfaction

The Kenji Nakanishi Award, made possible by the Takasago Corporation, is awarded annually by ACheMS to an outstanding scientist in the field of olfaction. This is a $5,000 cash award. Awardees must be members of the Association whose research record clearly distinguishes them among the emerging leaders in olfaction. The winner of the 1992 Nakanishi Award is Dr. Linda Buck.

Dr. Buck's initial training was in cellular immunology, where she studied cell-surface molecules in antigen recognition. She became interested in olfaction during a post-doctoral project with Dr. Richard Axel. She recognized that the olfactory system, like the immune system, is able to specifically recognize a multitude of different molecules and that identifying the odor receptor would provide the tools to investigate the mechanisms underlying this recognition diversity. After two years of intense work she cloned and characterized 18 members of an immense multigene family that is almost certain to encode olfactory receptors on olfactory neurons. Her work has been described as one of the most significant contributions to the understanding of olfaction in the last 20 years. We are pleased to recognize her contribution by awarding her the 1992 Nakanishi Award for research in olfaction.

Frito-Lay, Inc. Award for Research in Taste

The Frito-Lay Award is administered by the Association for Chemoreception Sciences for research excellence in the field of taste. Sponsored by Frito-Lay, Inc., it consists of a $5,000 check awarded to an individual who has made a significant impact on the scientific understanding of the chemical, physiological or perceptual nature of taste. The winner of the 1992 Frito-Lay Award was Dr. Steven Roper.

Dr. Steven Roper has studied the events occurring when taste cells are activated by chemical stimuli. His strategy has been to develop simple preparations where individual cells can be seen in the living isolated tissue and to focus attention on the role of ion channels in transduction. This type of work has shown that taste cells possess a veritable smorgasbord of voltage-activated, ligand-activated, and passive ion channels that contribute to taste transduction. Dr. Roper has also investigated the process of transmission to other cells in the taste bud. Dr. Roper and his associates have concentrated on how serotonin, which is found in a subset of taste cells, modulates taste cell activity.

Moskowitz-Jacobs, Inc. Award for Psychophysical Research on Human Taste and Olfaction.

This year we are pleased to announce a new award for research in taste or olfactory psychophysics, sponsored by Moskowitz-Jacobs, Inc. The sponsors wish to promote research in the psychophysics of human taste and olfaction. They initiate this $2,000 with the hope that it will become an annual event. The award honors an emerging leader who has begun to make significant contributions to the understanding of taste and olfaction utilizing psychophysical techniques.

This year we are very pleased to honor an individual who has made significant contributions to both taste and olfactory psychophysics, someone whose contributions range from the basic to the clinical to the applied. She has done important research on the development and senescence of both taste and olfaction in the following areas: the development of salt preference in infants and children; taste and smell losses in old age; oral irritation. In directing the Monell clinical center, she has greatly contributed to our understanding of clinical phenomena, particularly dysosmia. Dr. Beverly Cowart of the
Monell Chemical Senses Center is a truly exceptional scientist well-deserving of the first Moskowitz-Jacobs Award.

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THE SECOND ANNUAL BOOK DISPLAY AND SALE AT ACHEMS

Last year's exhibit of books was a success. All of the books on hand were sold with the proceeds going to support student travel. The Association will conduct a similar exhibit at the next meeting. Any members wishing to make suggestions about potential book exhibits should send a note about the title and publisher to AChemS, 229 Westridge Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32304-3639.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PAST EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON

We have just completed one of our most successful and scientifically stimulating annual meetings ever, an appropriate culmination to a year of hard work and dedication by many of our members. As the excitement of the meeting subsides, I would like to pause and formally thank our officers and members who staffed the various standing and ad hoc committees of the Association for their willing support during my term as Executive Chair.

In particular, I would like to recognize the efforts of our outgoing officers and thank them formally for their service to the Association. Tom Getchell (Past Executive Chair) who worked hard to facilitate a smooth transition to my administration. Tom Finger (Treasurer) who maintained our solvency throughout the transition to professional management. Chuck Wysocki (Membership Chair) successfully expanded the membership and engineered the transfer of our records to our professional managers. Joe Brand (Program Chair) ran a meeting that was successful far beyond all the praise he will ever get. Sue Kinnamon (senior Councilor) wisely dispersed limited student travel dollars against growing demand. The collective effort was synergized by the professional management skills of Panacea Associates. Pat Meredith and Susan Lampman of Panacea worked extremely hard on behalf of the Association throughout the year and their efforts do not go unappreciated. Thank you Pat and Susan for a job well done.

We leave the Association on a stable financial footing and poised to launch new initiatives to further understanding and appreciation of the chemical senses, both within academe and society. I see the upcoming years as holding great promise for AChemS. To John Caprio, our new Executive Chair, and our new officers, I wish you the best of luck as you lead the Association into its 15th year.

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GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE CHAIR

Dear Members of AChemS:

I hope you had an enjoyable summer of research and recreation, and I look forward to the presentation of your new findings at AChemS XV.

Your Executive Committee for 1992-93 is continuing its efforts to maintain a strong, financially stable, professional organization and to address long-term goals of the society. Thanks to the leadership of Barry Ache, Past Executive Chairperson, and to the support from both the Executive Committee and each of you, our Society is recovering from its negative cash position. The Executive Committee is committed to preserving this trend for 1993.

For AChemS to begin to achieve its educational goals, the public affairs committee is being reactivated with the help of Inglis Miller, Executive Chairperson-Elect. Charged with increasing public awareness of research accomplishments in the chemical senses field, the committee will provide information to the NIDCD Clearing House for Information and press releases to newspapers and to newsletters of other related scientific societies, such as the Association for Research in Otolaryngology. The committee will also organize a speakers bureau to provide names of AChemS members and associated topics available for presentation to academic and other organizations. The public affairs committee will be the "voice of AChemS" in disseminating information to the general public concerning all aspects of chemical senses research and its possible implications.

The Educational Workshop, "Teaching the Chemical Senses: From Elementary School to College" organized by Wayne Silver, Chuck Wysocki and David Hill at AChemS XIV was an important initial step in getting the membership thinking about how to reach students at various academic levels. I was encouraged to see the large turnout of AChemS members at the afternoon workshop as it was direct evidence of support for this educational directive. I want to remind members who would like to share teaching lab experiments to contact Wayne Silver (on sabbatical leave until late December in the laboratory of Tom Finger).

I know all of us have full (and even over-full) schedules, but I encourage each of you, whether you work at a university, medical school, research center, or in industry, to take the time to interact with students by volunteering to speak to undergraduate students at meetings of Tri-Beta, the national
biological science honor society, and Alpha Epsilon Delta, the national premedical honor society. I have found that a number of freshmen and sophomores and even some senior undergraduates in premedical curricula were not aware of research careers or of M.D./Ph.D. possibilities. It is these direct interactions with undergraduates that can often influence these students' career decisions. Your interactions with undergraduates can also lead to those students obtaining both research experience and academic credit in undergraduate honors research courses in your laboratory and to their choosing graduate education and research in biomedical fields. Your participating in career days or speaking to science clubs or classes will enable us to influence students, even through the elementary school level. They are all the future—scientists and voters. If you have other specific suggestions that could help us in achieving our educational directive, please pass them on to Wayne Silver.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge both Max Mozell, who as of July 1 joined Al Farbman as Executive Editor of Chemical Senses and the new (Gary Beauchamp, Robert Bradley, Judy Van Houten, Bruce Jafek and Bob O'Connell) and continuing (Bill Cain, Marion Frank, Bruce Halpern, David Laing and Frank Margolis) board members of Chemical Senses. I also want to acknowledge service to the society and Chemical Senses by the outgoing board members, Dietrick Muller-Schwartz, Carl Pfaffmann, Gordon Shepherd, James Snow and the late Rose-Marie Pangborn. The Society greatly appreciates their efforts to maintain the quality of Chemical Senses.

I hope to see many of you at the Neuroscience Meeting this month and all of you at AChemS XV in April.

Sincerely,
John Caprio, Ph.D.
Executive Chairperson

GORDON CONFERENCE ON TASTE AND SMELL

Gail Burd (GBURD@ARIZVMS) and John Caprio (ZOCAPR@LSUVM) request your suggestions for topics and speakers for the 1994 Gordon Conference on the Chemical Senses.

RESEARCH PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE NIDCD

The first organizational meeting of the Research Program Advisory Committee to the NIDCD was held in mid-October, 1991. The NIDCD now has an advisory forum equivalent to that at the other NIH institutes. This Program Advisory Committee makes recommendations that serve the Directors of NIH and the NIDCD. The specific purposes are to make recommendations and provide advice on the development of proposed requests for applications, requests for proposal, program announcements, conferences and task forces to help achieve the Institute’s objectives.

The committee is composed of over a dozen scientists and NIDCD administrators. Although the Chemical Senses are only a small part of the total NIDCD endeavor, this committee hopes to provide a good forum to introduce new research programs and activities for all the communication sciences. The AChemS representatives on this committee include Drs. Bob O’Connell of the Worcester Foundation, Susan Schiffman of Duke University, and Ed Orna of the Whitnay Lab. The committee members openly invite suggestions from all workers in the chemical senses. These suggestions may be formal or informal, written or verbal, and may be communicated at any time.

Funding News from the NIH

There is a new Request For Applications (RFA) on the subject of Olfactory Evoked Potentials in human subjects. The deadline for applications for this one time is Nov. 30. Interested persons should contact Dr. Jack Pearl at NIDCD (301) 402-3464. Ongoing programs at NIDCD announced within the last year include one in Genetics and Fundamental Mechanisms of Chemical Senses.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. David Laing has moved to a new position. His new address is Department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Western Sydney, Bourke Street, Richmond NSW, AUSTRALIA 2753
The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm on 4/11/92 by Executive Chairperson Dr. Barry Ache.

I. Granting Agencies
   A. The chair conveyed greeting from Dr. Kathy Fite of the Sensory Sciences Program at NSF, who was unable to attend.
   B. Comments from Dr. James Snow, Director of NIDCD.

Dr. Snow recognized the following members of AChemS for service on various committee and panels of NIDCD:

1. Dr. Thomas F. Getchell - the National Advisory Board.
2. Dr. Lloyd M. Biedler - the National Advisory Council.
3. Dr. Charlotte M. Mistretta - Board of Scientific Counselors which oversees and guides our intramural research programs.
4. Drs. Albert I. Farbman (Chair), Linda M. Bartoshuk (out-going) and Robert Contreras (incoming) - Communication Disorders Review Committee.
6. Dr. Richard M. Costanzo - Clearinghouse Coordinating Panel.
7. Drs. Williams S. Cain, John DeSimone, Charles A. Greer, David V. Smith, and Judith Van Houten - Sensory Disorders and Language Study Section of the Division of Research Grants.

Other comments from Dr. Snow are printed above.

II. Program committee report
   A. Dr. Joe Brand thanked the members of his committee (John DeSimone, Heather Duncan, Barry Green, Don Leopold, Frank Margolis, Ann Noble and Teresa Vollmecke).
   B. A total of 326 abstracts were presented. This was an increase of about 20% over the previous year.
   C. The later abstract deadline was a success, with 90% of abstracts having a January 10th postmark. This later deadline gave the committee little working time, and it was recommended that the deadline be strictly enforced in the future.

III. Councilor's report (Student Travel and Support)
   A. Dr. Sue Kinnamon reported that 48 students requested travel support. A total of 35 travel awards were made at a cost of $6081.
   B. There were 42 housing requests, of which 34 were funded at a cost of $2140.
IV. Membership Committee (Dr. Chuck Wysocki)
   A. We now have 662 paid up members: 519 regular, 140 students, and 3 emeritus.
   B. The Executive Committee voted to drop 131 individuals from the roll who were in arrears.
   C. The Membership Committee is preparing an outreach program for advertising AChemS to members of other associations who may be interested in the chemical senses.

V. Treasurer's report (See Box Below)

VI. Elections committee (Past Executive Chairperson Dr. T. Getchell)
   About 225 votes were cast for each of the various offices. The newly elected officers are:
   Executive Chair Elect - Inglis Miller; Treasurer - Barry Green; Membership Chair - Rob Contreras; Program Chair Elect - Judith Van Houten; Councilor - Gail Burd.

VII. John DeSimone, Program Chair for the 1993 meeting, lead a discussion of the time and space needs for the meeting in coming years. Changes in the meeting arrangements may be necessary if the number of submitted abstracts continues to grow at the current rate. The Executive Committee considered it desirable to hold the meeting duration to the present Wednesday even through Sunday morning and to continue the practice of leaving afternoons free. The following recommendations were made:

(1) Sunday morning should be used for poster sessions in addition to platform sessions. This will allow us to accommodate another 40 abstracts.
(2) The Sunday morning session should end at 10:30 or 11:00 in order to make airline connections easier.
(3) Space for the poster sessions should be expanded to provide for more posters and to help reduce the noise level.
(4) Platform presentations should be held to about 100, and it is proposed that each laboratory limit itself to 1 or 2 platform presentations.
(5) Some provision should be made to prevent large numbers of poster and platform presentation on the same subject from being simultaneous.

After the discussion a show of hands was asked for on the general proposal of greater use of posters, fuller use of Sunday mornings, keeping the afternoons relatively free of formal sessions, and avoiding the adding of extra days. The attendees showed strong support for this combination.

VIII. Dr. Max Mozell was announced as a new editor for Chemical Senses. It was announced that the Editorial Board of Chemical Senses will be revamped so that each member will serve a 4 year term and these terms will be staggered so that half of the Board is renewed each 2 years. Active negotiations are going on to improve the quality of the paper and photographs in the journal.

IX. The 1993 meeting is scheduled for April 14-18 in Sarasota.
New Business

A question was raised of the possibility of considering other locations for the meeting, at least for some years, because travel to the Florida site is very expensive for members in the West. It was pointed out that the present arrangement is made 4 years in advance at a considerable saving to the Association. The discussion touched on problems of finding flights to Sarasota, the fact that most western labs cannot afford to bring graduate students to the meeting, the possibility of special travel grants for western graduate students, and the necessity to have some definite proposals if the membership is to be asked for its feelings on this issue. Executive Chair Elect John Caprio was asked to set up a committee to prepare a survey of the membership of the Association about future meeting sites.

The AChemS gavel was presented to the new Executive Chairperson, John Caprio, who expressed the appreciation of the group to outgoing Executive Chairperson Barry Ache.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

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Notes
* Reflects dues increase to $50 regular (@435 Members)
** $10 student (@110 Members)
*** 4 members in 1991 @ $1,000, 4 members in 1992 @ $2,000; estimated 5 member in 1993
**** Includes $3,125 of management fee from fiscal year '90
***** Includes Oxford Univ. Press payments to Chemical Senses editors

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The Executive Committee, made up of the officers, councilors and committee chairs met April 8, 1992. Many of the items discussed at the meeting of the Executive Committee were reported at the Association's business meeting April 11, however, the following additional pieces of business are worthy of note.

(1) AChemS-ECRO traveling scholars. AChemS has agreed in principle to fund four people every two years, although this will not be implemented until the funds are available. Candidates for support will submit an application with letters of recommendation. Candidates must be no more than five years post-doctoral.

(2) After discussion of the number of nominations that are received for awards, it was decided to retain all nominations for each award for a period of two years. The Awards Committee will be responsible for soliciting updates on those nominations.

(3) Susan Lampman reported on the activities of Panacea Associates, who handle most of the arrangements for the meeting. The hotel has reduced the price of the beach shuttle from $550 to $400 and now provides a suite for the AChemS Program Chair and for the Executive Chair. Panacea is selling AChemS hats to earn money for student travel. Panacea has initiated a book display and will explore the possibility of other exhibits in the future. A question was raised about the cost (over $1050) of mailing the abstract book and program in advance of the meeting. The Executive Committee felt that this was an important service and that the materials should continue to be mailed first class.

(4) In order to regularize the publication of the newsletter, it was decided that there should be two mailings per year, one on October 1 and one on February 15. The call for abstracts and the solicitations of dues can be synchronized with these mailings.

(5) The second year of the three-year contract with Panacea Associates will end in October. A subcommittee consisting of Executive Chairs Past, Present, and Elect along with the Program Chairs Past and Present has been appointed to work out a new contract.

(6) The possibility of a AChemS-ARO (Association for Research in Otolaryngology) speaker exchange is being explored. Two AChemS members will be speakers at a presidential symposium at the next ARO meeting. There is further discussion of a full symposium or workshop devoted to chemical senses at a future ARO meeting.

(7) The Executive Committee voted to continue the practice, begun last year, of contributing approximately $1 per member annually the Friends of the N.I.D.C.D., the public support group of the new Institute.
SURVEY ON THE NIH FIRST AWARD

In my role as counselor for AChemS, I have been asked to prepare a survey of the membership regarding the NIH First Award. Please answer the questions below and send to:
Wayne Silver
Department of Biology
Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, NC 27109

FAX: 919-759-6008
e-mail Silver@wfunet.wfu.edu

Survey on the Role of the NIH First Award in the Chemical Senses

1. Have you received NIH funding in the past? yes no don’t know
2. Are you familiar with the NIH First Award? yes no don’t know
3. If yes, are you eligible for the First Award? yes no don’t know
4. If yes, have you applied for the First Award? yes no don’t know
5. If no, why haven’t you applied?

6. If yes to #3, did you receive a First Award? yes no don’t know

Additional comments?

Apparently there was some interest in the Symposium on Teaching the Chemical Senses at last year’s AChemS Meeting. I said at the meeting that if people would send me material of teaching the chemical senses (syllabi, lecture, lab write-ups, descriptions of demonstrations, tips, etc., I would put them together and make them available to the membership. Over 70 people signed up. However, to date, I have only 5 pieces of material (including two of my own)!! If you are interested in contributing, please send material at the same address.
As you may know, AChemS makes an annual contribution to the Friends of NIDCD, a public support group for the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. The Association has received strong expressions of appreciation from the Friends of NIDCD for its financial support. We have also received a request for letters in support of legislation to promote expanded allocations for research and training through NIDCD. Funds will be very tight this year so letters, phone calls, or visits to your Senator or Representative serving on the House Appropriations HHS Subcommittee will be helpful in this effort. A sample letter is provided.

Change it in any way that you think is appropriate. The most meaningful letters are the ones that outline your own personal background. It is essential that you write immediately.

Sample letter
Please copy on personal/professional stationery

The Honorable ............
United States House of Representatives (or Senate)
Washington, DC 20515 (for House) or 20510 (for Senate)

Dear Congressman .......(or Dear Senator ........):

I am grateful for your support of the FY'92 Appropriations funding for the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. I encourage you to continue to foster the promotion of research and training opportunities for this new Institute. Expanded funding is extremely critical for its growth and development.

With 48 million people already affected by communication disorders, and with our elderly population increasing, it is urgent that we plan now to reduce the long-range effects of these invisible, but debilitating disorders.

In my own (family/institution/profession/etc.)...(insert personal story).

Sincerely,
This letter should be sent to Senators and Representatives from your own state as well as the following.

1992 Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies.

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At its April 1992 meeting, the AChemS Executive Committee decided that in order to regularize the publication of the newsletter there should be two issues per year, one in October and one in February. The call for abstracts, solicitation of dues and nomination of officers would be synchronized with these mailings. With this Fall 1992 issue of the AChemS newsletter, we are testing the new format in the form of this bulletin and welcome members' comments. Members are urged to look for Society business in subsequent issues.