

# Newsletter

## A word from...

In this, my first Newsletter as President I must begin by acknowledging the fantastic contributions of my two predecessors in this position. Lynette Daws will of course stay on the 'officers team', as past president, and the society has so much to thank her for, not least establishing the NIDA Travel Awards, which enable us to sponsor so many young talented scientists to attend our meeting. I also want to pay special thanks to Maarten van den Busse who leaves office as we rotate positions. Maarten presided over our fantastic meeting at the Arabella Hotel and Spa, Western Cape, South Africa, and was always available to support the ISSR. We also welcome Trevor Sharp as our newly elected Vice President for Europe, who joins Anne Andrews as our Vice President for North America. The final officer position is that of Secretary/Treasurer, which Kelly Berg will continue to serve, and we are all enormously grateful for her vital contributions to this onerous post. Council has been busy with many initiatives and I hope this newsletter will keep you abreast of all of these. Of particular note, the Society is celebrating its 30th year. The Serotonin Club was formally constituted in 1987 at a small dinner party of serotonin researchers in Sydney, Australia. A few days later, a satellite meeting to the 10th International Congress of Pharmacology was held on Heron Island, Queensland and as they say, 'the rest is history'. If you want to read more on this see the short article in the December issue of Pharmacology International (p32-33). As this is not an ISSR meeting year, it is quite fitting that Danny Hoyer and Nick Barnes are editing a special edition of Pharmacological Reviews providing updates on all the 5-HT receptors, which will hopefully be published later in this anniversary year...

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*Kevin C F Fone*

*President*

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You will all know that a local organising Committee led by John Cryan and Harriet Schellekens has been formed to organise our next ISSR meeting, further details of which appear in this newsletter. Please make a note of the date: 19th Meeting of the International Society for Serotonin Research “Serotonin on the Wild Atlantic Way” University College Cork, Cork, Ireland, 15-19th July, 2018. We have advertised a call for symposia, the deadline being Friday 9th June, 2017, and I encourage all of you to submit proposals. Thank you to all members who submitted ideas for a name for our meeting in Cork. There were several excellent suggestions; ‘Serotonin unCorked’, ‘Serotonin Shindig’ and ‘A Dram of Serotonin’. These might well be used to label the social events at the meeting. However, after some discussion, the Local Organising Committee decided on ‘Serotonin on the Wild Atlantic Way’, in part because of the wonderful video of the beautiful stretch of coastline on the West Coast of Ireland that runs all the way around to Cork. If you haven’t seen it then do have a look.

<http://www.wildatlanticway.com/home>

I am also delighted to inform you that Council suggested, and then voted to select the individuals to be honoured as our plenary lecturers at the Cork meeting, and all three nominees have accepted. Patricia Gaspar will give the Irvin Page Lecture, Mark Geyer the Maurice Rapport Lecture and Kathryn Cunningham the second Paul M. Vanhoutte Distinguished Lecture. I am sure you will all agree this is a fantastic line-up to further enrich the scientific content of our meeting. It seems particularly fitting to me that Mark will be giving the Maurice Rapport lecture, since I remember well that as President, it was Mark who introduced Maurice when he attended his inaugural Rapport lecture in Sapporo, Japan in June 2006, which was given by Richard Green (see Newsletter 68 if you want more details). As usual, further updates on the Cork meeting will be given on the website.

I am also delighted to tell you that one of our own members, Bryan Roth, has been chosen by the Executive Committee as the IUPHAR Lecturer in Analytical Pharmacology, which will be presented at their 18th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology in 2018. Congratulations Bryan.

As you will be aware, we moved to a two-year membership cycle in January 2017 to increase efficiency of the membership process, and raise money coincidental with the biennial meeting format that we utilise. Unfortunately, many members have yet to renew. This is a very simple online process, so can I please encourage readers to do this as soon as possible if they haven’t already! With the UK triggering Brexit this week many scientists will be worried about the impact that this might have on future EU funding and continued cross-country scientific interaction. Could this also mean that the UK will adopt a new nomenclature for 5-HT? Will serotonin become serotonout in the UK? I guess only time will tell, but I am sure the ISSR will continue to be a major forum for all of us to discuss progress in research on our favourite neurotransmitter.

Kevin C F Fone  
*President ISSR*

19<sup>th</sup> ISSR Meeting  
University College Cork (UCC),  
Cork, Ireland  
July, 2018

*Leave the ordinary elsewhere, and embrace the Wild  
Atlantic Way of life in 2018.*

“Céad Mile Fáilte”, a hundred thousand welcomes to Ireland. Mark your calendars and plan to attend our next biennial meeting in Cork, Ireland, July 15th -19th 2018. Planning is now well underway by the local organizing committee, chaired by Professor John Cryan. Cork is the second largest city in the Republic of Ireland with a unique character that derived from a combination of the people, topography, built fabric, and its location on the River Lee. Cork is very much a University city with both ‘Town and Gown’ very integrated. The conference will be held on campus in



Devere Hall and nearby lecture theatres <http://www.ucc.ie>. If you want further insight into how appropriate Ireland is to have the ISSR meeting, see the transcript of John Cryan's speech given at our 2011 Mixer in Washington "Serotonin and the Irish: A Personal Perspective" [www.serotoninclub.org/newsletters/nwsltr81.pdf](http://www.serotoninclub.org/newsletters/nwsltr81.pdf).

In addition to a great scientific programme, the local organizing committee is busy also planning a memorable social agenda and opportunities for informal networking. Given the meeting's location (and in true ISSR tradition), there will be a maritime theme, as well as ample opportunity to sample the local food, and of course drink, and the famous cultural scenes of Ireland. There are many sights to see, activities, and this is an ideal venue for bringing family as well. Situated at the Southern

end of the famous Wild Atlantic Way [www.wildatlanticway.com](http://www.wildatlanticway.com), a sensational journey of soaring cliffs and buzzing towns and cities, of hidden beaches and epic bays, Cork is the perfect place to begin your Introduction to Ireland or to be welcomed back like an old friend. In the past months direct flights have been announced between Cork and many North American cities, as well as regular connections with key European hub cities such as London, Amsterdam, Reykjavik and Paris.

If you have questions, let us know ([j.cryan@ucc.ie](mailto:j.cryan@ucc.ie)). Also please let us know of any industry contacts you may have in any part of the world that would be interested in exhibiting or helping contribute towards financing the meeting.

John Cryan  
Harriet Schellekens

*Local Organizing Committee*

## ISSR 2018 Meeting July 15-19 Cork Plenary Lectures



### Irvine Page Lecture

**Dr Patricia Gaspar**

*Institut du Fer a Moulin, Paris*



### Maurice Rapport Lecture

**Prof Mark Geyer**

*University of California San Diego*



### Paul Vanhoutte Lecture

**Prof Kathryn Cunningham**

*The University of Texas Medical Branch*

## Updates and Reflections

Many of us are looking forward to attending this year's Society for Neuroscience Meeting in Washington D.C., November 11-15, 2017 (<https://www.sfn.org/>). As in previous years, serotonin devotees, newcomers, and those with occasional serotonin fancy will have the opportunity to (re)connect at the ISSR Mixer to be held this year at Fadó Irish Pub on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 (<http://fadoirishpub.com/washington/>). The 2016 Serotonin Club Mixer took place at the Quad Alehouse in San Diego and drew >90 revelers. We had the pleasure of convening immediately adjacent to the Amygdala Mixer. As such, we were in the company of like-minded brain scientists—there is serotonin in the amygdala! For 2017, we anticipate more than 100 mixer attendees and hope to see you there!

Serotonin Research will be the focus of the May issue of *ACS Chemical Neuroscience* (<http://pubs.acs.org/journal/acncdm>). This will be the third time that serotonin science has been featured @ACSCChemNeurosci, follow these links to the previous issues of *ACS Chemical Neuroscience* devoted to our favourite molecule:

<http://pubs.acs.org/toc/acncdm/6/7>

<http://pubs.acs.org/toc/acncdm/4/1>

The upcoming issue will include more than 25 Viewpoints, Reviews, Letters, and Articles on a wide range of topics including serotonin in development, serotonin transporters and receptors, imaging and quantifying components of the serotonin system, serotonin drug development and novel use, serotonin in immune system, metabolic, and gut function, behavioral

aspects of serotonin, and serotonin in neurodegenerative disorders. The special issues of *ACS Chemical Neuroscience* devoted to research on serotonin systems continue to rise in quality and size. As you plan your symposia proposals for the 2018 ISSR Meeting in Cork, Ireland, keep in mind the opportunity to feature your research in the fourth issue of *ACS Chemical Neuroscience* on Serotonin Research (planned publication Spring 2019). *ACS Chemical Neuroscience* welcomes excellent contributions from all meeting participants.

Moreover, we are proud to feature papers on serotonin research from a broad range of perspectives, e.g., molecular, systems, and behavioral neuroscience, target and drug development, brain disorders, imaging and more, in our regular monthly

issues. In addition to myself, Kathryn Cunningham is Associate Editor at *ACS Chemical Neuroscience*. We, along with our other associate editors and Editor-in-Chief encourage your submissions.

Warmly,

Anne M. Andrews

*ISSR Vice President for North America*

*Associate Editor, ACS Chemical Neuroscience*





## ISSR 2018 Meeting July 15-19 Cork Call for Symposium Proposals

We are seeking novel and exciting proposals from investigators with a serotonin research focus. Symposia can cover any aspect of the field of serotonin including, but not limited to normal brain function and CNS disorders including those associated with neurodegeneration, addiction and mental health, cardiovascular function, digestive processes, immune system and pain. Individual proposals that are integrative and inclusive of multiple disciplines (e.g. molecular pharmacology, neurochemistry, animal behaviour and clinical studies) are most desirable. Proposals that are balanced both with respect to gender and geographic location are strongly encouraged.

***The deadline for proposal submission is Friday, June 9, 2017***

The conference will be held at Devere Hall, University College Cork, Cork City, Ireland at the beginning of the famous Wild Atlantic Way

<http://www.wildatlanticway.com/>.

Further meeting details will be posted on our website (<http://www.serotoninclub.org>) as they become available.

Symposia selected for the programme will be allotted 75 min and should be composed of no more than 3 speakers (~25min/talk inclusive of questions). All symposium participants will be responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses, however, we may be able to offer reduced registration fees (subject to sponsorship).

For consideration, please submit your proposal (in Word format) to [berg@uthscsa.edu](mailto:berg@uthscsa.edu) with the following information (*proposals not in this format will be returned*):

1. Symposium Title
2. Brief description of subject area and the topics of each speaker (~250 words)
3. Name of Chair (and co-Chair, if applicable), email and affiliation. *The Chair must be an ISSR member.*
4. Name, email, affiliation and tentative talk title for each speaker; *verification of participation is*

*required and an individual may speak in only one symposium.* Speakers should be independent/established investigators (i.e., minimum rank of Assistant Professor or equivalent). Oral session(s) dedicated to young investigators (i.e., students, post-docs) will be included in the programme.

Send proposals to Dr. Kelly Berg ([berg@uthscsa.edu](mailto:berg@uthscsa.edu))

**Deadline: June 9, 2017**

We need your help to make our 2018 biennial meeting in Cork, Ireland be the best ever. To do this we need to expand our reach to prospective members and attendees.

Please ask yourself the following questions:

-Who did you miss at ISSR in Seattle?

-Do you know anyone who would enjoy traveling to Ireland?

-Do you know anyone engaging in serotonin research that may not be a current member- a student, colleague or collaborator?

Please let us know of prospective members by sending their email address to Dr. Kathryn Commons ([Kathryn.Commons@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:Kathryn.Commons@childrens.harvard.edu)). We'll extend an invitation to them to attend the conference (and also to become members) and keep them updated with our newsletter.

Thank you!

Kathryn Commons

*ISSR Councilor- North America*

**We need  
YOU!**

## ISSR Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

In 1985, Paul Vanhoutte proposed the formation of a Serotonin Club to a group of colleagues. His tireless efforts to mobilize serotonin researchers throughout the world led to what is today known as the “International Society for Serotonin Research” (ISSR). The first official dinner meeting of the “Serotonin Club” was in April, 1986 at the FASEB meeting in St. Louis, USA. However, the “Serotonin Club” was not formally constituted until August, 1987 at a small dinner party of serotonin researchers in Sydney, Australia, almost 30 years ago. A few days later, a satellite meeting to the 10th International Congress of Pharmacology was held on the beautiful Heron Island, Queensland, Australia (September 4-6, 1987). The satellite was the first “serotonin symposium”. It is here where the “Serotonin Club” was truly born. Two years later, the proceedings of this meeting were published in a book “Serotonin – Actions, Receptors and Pathophysiology”, edited by some of the leaders in the field at that time (Ewan Mylecharane, James Angus, Ivan de la Lande and Patrick Humphrey). We recommend taking a look at this book for the historical perspective it gives to the then, greatly unappreciated importance of serotonin. In 2013 the “Club” was renamed the “International Society for Serotonin Research”. From its humble beginnings, this organization is now the premier society for all biomedical scientists with an interest in serotonin. The ISSR has been led by giants in serotonin research, beginning with Paul Vanhoutte, followed by Pramod Saxena, Elaine Sanders-Bush, A. Richard Green, Patricia Whitaker-Azmitia, Ewan Mylecharane, David Nelson, Daniel Hoyer, Mark Geyer, Charles Marsden, Theresa Branchek, Julie Hensler, and Maarten van den Buuse. Of course, the job of these Presidents has always been made manageable thanks to the tireless and dedicated efforts of “The Club’s” secretary-treasurers, Ewan Mylecharane, Richard Green, and Sheryl Beck. A major contribution of the ISSR to the field of pharmacology, was its formation of a nomenclature committee in the 1980s to deal with the increasing complexities of classifying serotonin receptors as more (and more) subtypes were identified. This committee continues to be

very active, and is currently chaired by Daniel Hoyer and Nicholas Barnes. The basic principles and guidelines developed by this committee formed a template that ultimately led to the creation of the IUPHAR Committee on Receptor Nomenclature and Drug Classification (NC-IUPHAR). The ISSR currently boasts a membership of over 350 individuals. Conferences are held biennially, attracting serotoninologists from the world over. A special feature of these meetings are the plenary lectures, named after the titans who contributed to the discovery of serotonin – The Irvine Page (established in 1990), Maurice Rapport (established in 2006), and Paul Vanhoutte (established in 2016) Distinguished lectures. Past recipients of the Page Lecture are Stephen Peroutka, Michel Hamon, Barry Jacobs, Pramod Saxena, David Nichols, John Harvey, Joel Bockaert, Bryan Roth, Elaine Sanders-Bush, Herbert Meltzer, and Trevor Sharp. Past recipients of the Rapport Lecture are Richard Green, Dennis Murphy, Manfred Gothert, Ewan Mylecharane, Charles Marsden, and Daniel Hoyer. The inaugural Vanhoutte lecture was given this year at the “Serotonin in Seattle” meeting, most fittingly, by Paul Vanhoutte himself. The ISSR meetings are held as official satellite meetings to IUPHAR whenever possible, and always at outstanding venues. In the recent past these include Sapporo (Japan, 2006), Oxford (UK, 2008), Montreal (Canada, 2010), Montpellier (France, 2012), Hermanus (South Africa, 2014), and Seattle (USA, 2016). While there will be no meeting in the year of our 30th anniversary, we are excited to announce that in 2018 the ISSR meeting will be held in Cork (Ireland), with John Cryan and Harriet Schellekens heading up the local organizing committee. We hope that you will come and join what will be a dynamic meeting, filled with cutting edge science, plenty of networking opportunities (especially for junior investigators), and a social program that will be, without doubt, delightful (‘tis the luck of the Irish, after all).

Lynette C. Daws  
*ISSR Past-President*

Kelly A. Berg  
*ISSR Secretary/Treasurer*

## The 7th Annual ISSR Mixer Neuroscience 2017

Tuesday, November 14,  
2017, 6-8PM

**FADÓ IRISH PUB  
AND RESTAURANT**

808 7th Street NW,  
Washington DC

(one block from the  
convention center)



"Tis the luck of the Irish" as we return to Fadó's for our 2017 social gathering. Please join us for great food, bountiful drink and very friendly banter in the relaxing ambiance of this traditional Irish Pub. All are welcome! So please plan to bring your friends and colleagues. The cost is \$10 per person (payable in cash at the door) and includes two drink tickets and a mouth-watering appetizer buffet.

Space is limited, RSVP to [berg@uthscsa.edu](mailto:berg@uthscsa.edu) to reserve your spot.

*We thank ACS Chemical Neuroscience for their generous sponsorship*

## I Heard It Through the Grapevine

The 2018 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology congratulates Bryan L. Roth, M.D., Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, who was selected as the IUPHAR Lecturer in Analytical Pharmacology. Dr. Roth is scheduled to deliver his presentation on Towards a Molecular Understanding of Drug Action at GPCRs during the Congress being held in Kyoto July 1 - 6, 2018.



**Congratulations Bryan!!**

## Serotonin in Utah

November 12-15, 2017

**Keystone Symposia: Frontiers of Serotonin Beyond the Brain**

Scientific Organizers: Fusun Kilic, Michael D. Gershon and Luc Maroteaux  
Doubletree by Hilton - Park City, Park City, Utah, USA  
Scholarship and Discounted Abstract Deadline: **July 11, 2017**

Abstract Deadline: **August 10, 2017**

Discounted Registration Deadline: **September 12, 2017**  
<https://www.keystonesymposia.org/17T5>



Join Us for the Conference on

**Frontiers of Serotonin Beyond the Brain**

**November 12-15, 2017 | Park City, Utah | USA**

Organizers: Fusun Kilic, Michael D. Gershon and Luc Maroteaux

## ISSR welcomes its newly elected council members

### Councilor- Rest of World

Mitsuhiro Yoshioka, Ph.D. (2017-2020)  
Professor of Neuropharmacology  
Hokkaido University School of Medicine  
Kita-15, Nishi-7, Kita-ku, Sapporo  
Hokkaido 060-8638, JAPAN

### Councilor- Rest of World

Dr. Carlos M. Villalón, Ph.D. (2017-2020)  
Professor of Pharmacology  
Departamento de Farmacobiología  
Cinvestav-IPN (Unidad Sur)  
Czda. de los Tenorios 235, Col. Granjas-Coapa  
C.P. 14330 Ciudad de México, MEXICO

### Councilor- North America

Chuck Nichols, Ph.D. (2017-2020)  
Department of Pharmacology and Experimental  
Therapeutics  
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center  
New Orleans, Louisiana

### Associate Councilor- Rest of World

Noelia Wesstau, Ph.D. (2017-2020)  
Laboratory of Memory Research and Molecular Cognition  
Institute of Cognitive and Translational Neuroscience  
Universidad Favaloro  
Instituto de Neurología Cognitiva y CONICET  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Associate Councilor- Europe

Mariano Soiza-Reilly, Ph.D. (2017-2020)  
Institut du Fer à Moulin  
U839-INSERM/UPMC  
17 rue du Fer à Moulin  
75005, Paris, FRANCE

### Student Representative- Europe

Felix Mayer (2017)  
Center for Physiology and Pharmacology  
Institute of Pharmacology  
Medical University of Vienna

### Associate Councilor- North America

Rheaclare Fraser, Ph.D (2017-2020)  
Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology  
University of Texas Health Science Center  
San Antonio, Texas

### Student Representative- North America

Megan Quinlan (2017)  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Vanderbilt Pharmacology Department  
Florida Atlantic University Brain Institute



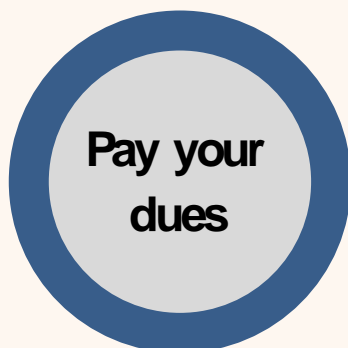
Follow  
ISSR

We are happy to join twitter. Follow us and get the latest updates on meetings, travel grants and serotonin research around the globe

@5HT\_Society



## International Society for Serotonin Research (ISSR) Membership



We welcome all scientists with an interest in serotonin research to become a member of the ISSR. Membership renewals are on a biennial basis (see rates and payment instructions below).

### Benefits of ISSR Membership:

- Opportunity to chair a symposium at our international biennial meetings (the next one will be held July 14-19, 2018 in Cork, Ireland)
- Discounted registration fees to attend our international biennial meetings
- Access to Society newsletters and current events
- Networking opportunities to form collaborations with other serotonin researchers
- Professional development and leadership opportunities

### Dues rates and payment instructions:

Regular Members (e.g., faculty or equivalent).... \$100 USD /2-year

Trainees (Graduate Students/Post-docs)..... \$60 USD/2-year

*(email confirmation of student or post-doc status from the mentor is required)*

Retired Members..... \$60 USD/2-year

Payment by credit card can be made at our ISSR website (<http://serotoninclub.org/>). In some cases, we are able to accept bank wire transfers for dues (Note - all fees are the responsibility of the member), please contact Kelly ([berg@uthscsa.edu](mailto:berg@uthscsa.edu)) to make arrangements. Alternatively, you may send a check or money order payable to the "International Society for Serotonin Research" to Kelly at the address below.

**Kelly A. Berg, Ph.D.**

*Department of Pharmacology-mc 7764*

*UT Health*

*7703 Floyd Curl Drive*

*San Antonio, TX 78229-3900*

**Thank you for your support!!!!**

## Follow US

**Address change?** All communications with members are carried out via the internet so if we do not have your current e-mail address you risk losing all contact with the Society.

If you have changed your address, send it now while you are thinking about it. Kelly Berg (Secretary/Treasurer)

[BERG@uthscsa.edu](mailto:BERG@uthscsa.edu)



@5HT\_Society



[http://www.linkedin.com/groups/International-Society-Serotonin-Research-Serotonin-4541265?trk=my\\_groups-b-grp-v](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/International-Society-Serotonin-Research-Serotonin-4541265?trk=my_groups-b-grp-v)



Remember, we now have a Facebook page as well. Make sure you visit the site at

[www.facebook.com/pages/SerotoninClub/170600399644105](http://www.facebook.com/pages/SerotoninClub/170600399644105) and “like” the Club to join.

**Newsletter** All Society members can send their contributions to the Newsletter, including article highlights, meetings/workshops details, job ads and any other relevant information.

Send your contribution to the editor (Sebastian Fernandez, [fernandez@ipmc.cnrs.fr](mailto:fernandez@ipmc.cnrs.fr))