



# INTERNATIONAL NEUROTOXICOLOGY ASSOCIATION

*INA News*

*October 2007*

## INA-11

About 110 scientists and clinicians from more than a dozen countries met at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove CA for the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Neurotoxicology Association (INA) Meeting. The principal theme of the meeting was “Promoting Repair and Regeneration in the Adult Central Nervous System”. The keynote speaker Dr. Fred Gage of the Salk Institute for Biological Sciences presented the Jacob Hooisma Lecture on the topic of,

“Regulation and Function of Neurogenesis in the Adult Hippocampus”. Subsequent symposia on this topic were developed by Drs Adrian West (Australia) and Michael Aschner (USA) “Metallothioneins in Neuroprotection” and by Dr. Larry Fechter (California) “Neuroprotective Agents and Strategies for Replacing Damaged Cells in the Adult Nervous System”. Three students were selected to present their thesis research in the Student Symposium. They were Pere Boadas-Vaello (Spain), Milou Dingemans (the Netherlands), and Stephanie Juran (Sweden).

Among the 8 principal symposia at INA11 was one organized by Christoph Van Triel and Diane Rohlman on “Neurobehavioral Testing in Human Risk Assessment”. The featured speakers in this symposium were Kent Anger (Does Human Neurotoxicology Research Address Risk Assessment Needs?”, David Bellinger, “Interpretation of Small Effect Sizes in Neurotoxicological Studies: Characterizing Individual Versus Population Risk”, Diane Rohlman, “Assessment of Neurobehavioral Effects in Vulnerable Populations: The Example of Pesticide Exposure in Children”, Robert Lucchini, “Assessment of Neurobehavioral Effects from Lifetime Exposure to Cumulative Neurotoxicants: The Example of Manganese”, and Christoph van Triel, “Neurobehavioral and Chemosensory Effects of Local Irritants”.

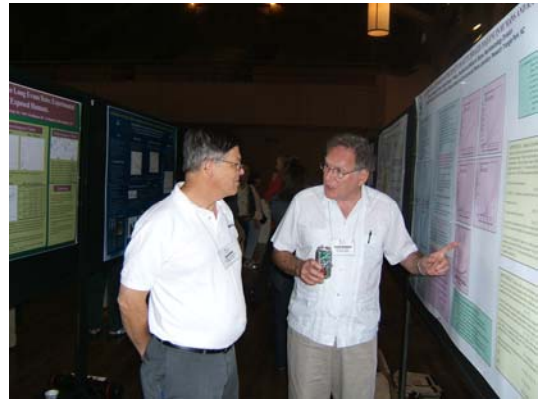
Finally, according to custom, the Wednesday of the meeting was devoted to social activities with visits to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Point Lobos State Park, and the traditional soccer game between Italy and allies vs. the rest of the world. We understand that Italy and allies won the match.

Larry Fechter, INA-11 Organizer



11th Biannual Meeting  
Asilomar Conference Center  
10- 15 June 2007

**\*\*\*\*\*A special thanks to Larry and all those who helped to make INA-11 another successful meeting!\*\*\*\*\***



## President's Message

It is with pleasure that I submit this first message as the new President of the INA. Thank you to the members for granting me this distinct honor. It is also a responsibility that I will try to fulfill as best as I can, counting on many of you to help guide and assist me.

First, let me thank David Ray for his successful tenure as the President of INA. I look forward to his guidance as the past president and member of the INA Council. Also, let me thank Larry Fechter and the organizing committee for the wonderful 11<sup>th</sup> INA meeting in Asilomar, California a few months ago. This was a huge effort and a gift to all the INA members. We truly appreciate their contribution.

Looking forward, there are several important issues currently before the INA. First, is planning and developing the next meeting, INA-12 to be held in June 2009 near Jerusalem, Israel. Dr. Yoram Finkelstein is leading the local planning committee. He will be carrying a heavy load as we move closer to the meeting and I urge you to offer whatever assistance might be needed. Another issue currently before INA is the selection of a site for the meeting in 2011. Two proposals have been submitted, one from Wei Zheng to hold the meeting in the beautiful and historic town of Xi'an in China, and the other submitted by myself and Ginger Moser to have the meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia on the east coast of the US. I think there are good reasons to hold the meeting in both locations, and I hope you will take the time to review the materials associated with each proposal and submit your vote when the time comes. I also hope that you will catch the bug and offer to host one of the future INA meetings as well.

Related to the meeting in 2011, the INA has been approached by the organizers of the International Symposium on NeuroBehavioral Methods and Effects in Occupational and Environmental Health to hold a joint meeting with INA in 2011. This group will be meeting with the International Conference on Epidemiology in Occupational Health in the summer of 2008 in Costa Rica. I think there are many potential benefits to a joint meeting, the most important of which is the chance to meet and develop collaborations with scientists conducting field testing of people exposed to compounds of interest to the members of INA. I welcome your comments on this proposal.

Finally, I wanted to talk for a moment about my impressions of the field of neurotoxicology. I think the field is at a historic transition point. Like the larger field of environmental health, neurotoxicology was born early in the twentieth century, and came of age in the latter half of that century. These were times of uncontrolled factory emissions and workplaces with substantial occupational exposures in the industrialized countries. Now, many of the most obvious problems have been largely addressed in the developed countries. People no longer find it acceptable to be poisoned from their jobs, communities, or the products they buy. To be sure, there are still issues to be addressed, but the problems that now face us are more subtle, more difficult to assess, and more expensive to fix. For those reasons, I decided to list what are, in my opinion, the major challenges facing the next generation of neurotoxicologists. I emphasize that this is my opinion alone, and I am sure that each of you would have a somewhat, or even a very different, list. In no priority order, my list includes:

1. Economic development. We should strive to avoid recurrence of occupational and environmental exposures to neurotoxic substances in newly developing parts of the world. Let us learn from experience and not repeat the errors and horrors of the past.
2. Economic analysis. Many upcoming environmental and occupational exposure issues will be evaluated on the basis of cost-benefit analysis. The costs of environmental controls to reduce emissions and exposures are frequently well-known, but the economic benefits of avoiding

neurotoxic injury or impairment are rarely understood. This means that the full consequences of exposure to neurotoxicants may not be considered when important decisions are made. It is incumbent on neurotoxicologists to better express their outcomes in terms that are amenable to economic analysis.

3. Predictability. There are ever more compounds entering the market place and simultaneously increasing pressures to limit the time, money and use of laboratory animals in safety assessment. This means that there will be a premium on the development of more accurate and economical assays, and better models for predicting potential neurotoxicity.
4. Gene-environment interactions. The genetic revolution has opened an enormous opportunity to evaluate the genetic risk factors for neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative diseases. Likely there will be substantial environmental contributions as well. Identifying the environmental contributions and how they interact with genetic susceptibility will be a major challenge of the next generation of neurotoxicologists.

Will Boyes, President

### **Congratulations!**

Our own Kai Savolainen was elected President of IUTOX for the term 2007-2010, after being nominated for the position by the INA Executive Council. Congratulations Kai!

### **INA-12, Jerusalem Israel**

Yoram Finkelstein is organizing the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of INA, to be held in the outskirts of Jerusalem at the Ma'ale Hachamisha Kibbutz and Convention Center. The theme "From genes to environment" is proposed. Yoram has guaranteed "no rain". See the brochure attached at the end of this newsletter.



## Current INA Officers

President	Will Boyes	<a href="mailto:boyes.william@epa.gov">boyes.william@epa.gov</a>
President-Elect	Don Fox	<a href="mailto:dafox@uh.edu">dafox@uh.edu</a>
Past-President	David Ray	<a href="mailto:David.Ray@nottingham.ac.uk">David.Ray@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
Secretary	Phil Bushnell	<a href="mailto:bushnell.philip@epa.gov">bushnell.philip@epa.gov</a>
Treasurer	Jan Lammers	<a href="mailto:jan.lammers@tno.nl">jan.lammers@tno.nl</a>
American Treasurer	Carey Pope	<a href="mailto:carey.pope@okstate.edu">carey.pope@okstate.edu</a>
Councilors	Angelo Moretto	<a href="mailto:angelo.moretto@icps.it">angelo.moretto@icps.it</a>
	Ginger Moser	<a href="mailto:moser.ginger@epa.gov">moser.ginger@epa.gov</a>
Webmaster	Kevin Crofton	<a href="mailto:crofton.kevin@epa.gov">crofton.kevin@epa.gov</a>
Newsletter editor	Ginger Moser	<a href="mailto:moser.ginger@epa.gov">moser.ginger@epa.gov</a>

## Our Treasurer

Because Jan Lammers was away when the last newsletter was issued with the biographical sketches of the officer candidates, his information was not included. Somewhat belatedly, here is the information about our new INA treasurer. We thank Jan for volunteering to take over this important position!

Present position:

Toxicologist, Neurotoxicology group, Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology Department,  
TNO Quality of Life, Zeist, The Netherlands

Relevant experience:

Ph.D. in Behavioural Pharmacology, University of Leiden

For 16 years at TNO, conducts contract research projects for industry and government on neurotoxicity of chemicals, and drugs and safety pharmacology studies. Now serves as product manager for neurotoxicology and safety pharmacology

Member, International Neurotoxicology Association

Member, Safety Pharmacology Society

Member, Dutch Health Council Committee "Children's sensitivity to pesticides"

Member, Dutch Society of Toxicology

Teacher, Post-doctoral course in occupational toxicology, University of Nijmegen

## DRAFT Business Meeting Notes, 11 June 2007

Presiding: David Ray, President

### Election results:

- President-Elect: Don Fox
- Treasurer: Jan Lammers
- Councilor: Ginger Moser
- Councilor: Angelo Moretto

**Treasurer's Report** (Remco Westerink for Henk Vijverberg)

- INA has money, is doing fine (no actual numbers available)
- Members need to be reminded to pay their dues
- Carey Pope will take over as U.S. treasurer from Kevin Crofton

Crofton suggested applying for IRS Sec 501(c)3 non-profit organization status in U.S. to attract corporate donations.

Fechter argued that existing non-profits (e.g., Universities) could be used as conduits to provide tax-exempt donations to INA.

**Next meeting report:** Yoram Finkelstein presented an overview of the plans for INA-12 in Jerusalem, Israel, in June, 2009. The scientific theme "From genes to environment" was proposed. The venue will be the Ma'ale Hachamisha Kibbutz Hotel and Convention Center, in the Judean Hills on the outskirts of Jerusalem. 50 km from Tel Aviv. Meeting would start Sunday noon, including Wednesday tours to Masada, Dead Sea, Ein Gedi. Hotel has 230 rooms, 400-seat conference hall, 7 mi from Jerusalem. Weather will be perfect: 18 – 26 ° C, with NO rain. Fees would be ~\$800, including room and board for the week.

**The venue for INA-13 (2011)** was also discussed. Two choices of venue were offered:

- Ginger Moser and Will Boyes: Williamsburg, VA. No details on cost.
- Wei Zheng: Xi'an, China
  - Theme: Human studies and Neurotoxicity
  - Middle of country, 2 hr from Beijing by air
  - Four-star hotel
  - Cost: Room and board @ \$500 for the week; air fare \$1400 from Indiana
  - June weather is good, but no guarantees of no rain
  - Eastern terminus of Silk Road
  - 3100 years of history – Museum of Chinese History
  - Terra-cotta army of Qin Dynasty
  - Good local transportation (subways)

Fuller proposals for these venues will be generated prior to the 2011 meeting, and the membership will be polled for their preferences; the site will be the one with a majority vote.

**Honorary Membership for Annette Kirschner** proposed by Larry Fechter, for her championship of neurotoxicology research through the grants program at NIEHS. Membership voted to approve without dissent.

**INA Website** Phil Bushnell noted that the INA website needs a new coordinator, and thanked Kevin Crofton for his many years of service on that job.

**Passing of the Gavel:** Past-President David Ray passed the orb and scepter to President Will Boyes, who adjourned the meeting in time for sunset.

Phil Bushnell, Secretary



**INA-12**  
June 7-12, 2009 *(Tentative date)*  
Sunday-Friday  
Jerusalem-Israel

**[www.isas.co.il/ina-12](http://www.isas.co.il/ina-12)**

12th International  
Neurotoxicology Association  
Meeting

*Jerusalem*

**Dear Colleagues,**

The 12th Meeting of the International Neurotoxicology Association (INA-12) will convene June 7-12, 2009 at the Ma'ale Hachamisha Kibbutz Hotel and Convention Center, in the Judean Hills corridor on the outskirts of Jerusalem (7 miles). INA Meetings provide a pleasant venue for international scientific networking in the field of neurotoxicology. INA meetings highlight state of the art findings in neurotoxicology and promote professional and friendly collaboration.

The intimate framework enables both senior and junior investigators to present their studies. INA-12 is expected to attract researchers at all levels from all parts of the world.

We look forward to your attending the INA-12 meeting which will be held in the scenic Judean Mountains near Jerusalem offering an enjoyable scientific program and entertaining social and cultural events. Israel's unique atmosphere of a modern vibrant society living alongside the architecture, museums and sites of 3000 years of history since the time of King David, guarantees to provide you with an unforgettable experience.

See you in Jerusalem,  
***Yoram Finkelstein, MD, PhD***

## **Program**

The meeting will commence Sunday afternoon. The four morning sessions will be 3.5 hours long with five presentations (25 minute talks with ten minutes of discussion) and one 15 minutes break. The afternoon sessions will be 2.5 hours long with four talks and a 10 minutes break.

A unique component of INA meetings is the Student Symposium on Monday afternoon organized by the program committee based upon a selection of the top abstracts submitted by senior graduate students and recent post-doctoral fellows. Students are selected based upon recommendation letters, their performance in graduate school, and the quality of their research. The program committee, which judges the student submissions, also strives to achieve good

geographic balance and to include students from developing countries. Two guided poster sessions each 2.5 hours long will be scheduled, permitting ample time for informal discussion amongst all attendees.

On Wednesday we will tour via the Judean desert about 90 minutes outside Jerusalem towards the Dead Sea. We will take the cable car up to Masada for a two hour tour with guides leading groups of 30 participants, speaking English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and additional languages as needed. We will take a dip in the Dead Sea – a unique experience at the lowest point on earth (with salt water content so high you cannot drown) and visit antiquities as well as flora and fauna in the area of Ein Gedi, the continental divide of Asia, Africa and Europe.



### Kibbutz Maale Hachamisha-Venue

Hotel and Convention Center contains 230 modern hotel rooms and a new modern convention center for 400 participants, seven miles from Jerusalem's municipal boundaries – and 50 km 40 minutes' journey from Tel Aviv. All rooms have a view of the surrounding Judean mountains and both the rooms and conference facilities are air-conditioned. The hotel complex also includes a spa, swimming pool and various other amenities.

### Weather in June

Temperate, dry with clear sky, approx. 18C° - 26C°. There is no chance of rain in June.

### Transportation

Jerusalem is one hour car ride from Tel Aviv, two hours from Haifa or Tiberias and three hours from the snow capped Golan Heights. Jerusalem is 40 minutes from Tel Aviv's International airport, and a 15 minute 7 mile drive to the conference venue. Taxi service from the conference venue to Jerusalem costs about \$20 and must be ordered from the hotel concierge. Most taxis seat 4 passengers.

### Excursions and optional tours

- 1. Masada:** winter palace and desert fortress of King Herod, a UNESCO Heritage site. Visit the dead sea, the lowest spot on earth.
- 2. Jerusalem:** tour the new city and old city including Christian, Jewish, Moslem and Armenian Quarters.
- 3. Israel Museum:** Tuesday evening cocktail with Mayor of Jerusalem.
- 4. Monday evening tour:** Visit newly excavated 2000 year old Temple western wall tunnels.

### Local Scientific Organizers

- 1. Yoram Finkelstein, MD, PhD,** Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 2. Yona Amitai, MD, MPH,** Mother and Child Dept., Israel Ministry of Health, Jerusalem
- 3. Yedidia Bentur, MD,** Israel Poison Information Center, Haifa
- 4. Eli Richter, MD, MPH,** Occupational and Environmental Medicine, School of Public Health, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 5. Uri Wormser, PhD,** School of Pharmacy, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The social and scientific programs are tentative

## Registration

INA-12

PCO and Secretariat

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tel: +972-2-6520574

Fax: +972-2-6520558

## Registration and Accommodation fee:

Price includes entrance to scientific sessions, program and book of proceedings, 5 nights accommodations, all meals from Sunday evening through Friday lunch, 4 days of conference including welcome reception Sunday evening and gala barbeque banquet on Wednesday night. Fee includes one full day touring with modern buses and multi-lingual guides, e.g. to Dead Sea and Masada, including entrance fees, cable-car ride up/down.

## Accompanying person's

programme includes hotel accommodations, all meals as listed above, 2 full day tours (Masada and Jerusalem), gala banquet, and welcoming reception.

## Cancellation Policy:

**Registration cancellations** received before April 10, 2009 will be fully refunded less a \$50 processing charge. There will be a 50% refund for cancellations received between April 10 and May 20. After May 20, no refunds will be made.

**Hotel cancellations** received before May 20 will be fully refunded less \$20. After this date refund will be made less one night's accommodation fee. Refunds will be processed one month after the Meeting.

## Post conference tours:

Will be specified in the next announcement.

## Total outlay per participant excluding air-flights.

Registration and Accommodation fee (includes 15% room service charge):

	Before April 14, 09	After April 14, 09	Before April 14, 09	After April 14, 09
Total registration and accommodation fee	Per person Double occ.	Per person Double occ.	Single occ.	Single occ.
INA-Members	\$649	\$719	\$899	\$ 989
Non-INA Members	\$700	\$770	\$950	\$1040
Students	\$550	\$600	\$710	\$ 760
Accompanying person	\$575	\$625	\$819	\$ 879