

Editorial



Welcome to this Volume 24 of Neuroendocrinology Letters together with our new publisher, SOCIETY OF INTEGRATED SCIENCES.

It is with great pleasure that I can start this year with informing you that two our colleagues, both of highest scientific experience and reputation in the fields of neuroscience, namely Professor **Dick F. Swaab** and Professor **Paul Pévet** have graciously accepted my invitation to join the board of Associate Editors. Prof. *Paul Pévet*, M.D., PH.D. is Director of Recherche CNRS, Laboratoire de Neurobiologie des Rythmes Université L. Pasteur in Strasbourg, France. Prof. *Dick F. Swaab*, M.D., PH.D. is Director of the Netherlands Institute for Brain Research in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

It is a true honor for me to be able to further develop the scientific scope of this journal in a close cooperation with these two illustrious personalities.

I would like to express a sincere gratitude to Professor **Michel Salzet** for his initiative to open a new section in the Neuroendocrinology Letters devoted to technical developments in neuroendocrinology, neurosciences, neuroimmunology, neurogenetic, psychoneuroimmunology, neuropharmacology, neuroproteomic, neuroimage. The aim of this section is to highlight novel technologies for brain research studies, and is opened here with the leading paper by *Isabelle Fournier, Robert Day* and *Michel Salzet*.

Beginning with this first double issue of Volume 24 we will again publish a Preview of selected papers scheduled for publication in the next coming issues of the Neuroendocrinology Letters.

I would also like to draw your attention to two forthcoming Congresses, both taking place in July 2003 in Prague:

“Towards a Science of Consciousness. Between Phenomenology and Neuroscience” – Prague, Czech Republic, July 6–10, 2003. For more information visit <http://www.cts.cuni.cz/tsc2003/> Email: tsc2003@cts.cuni.cz; Center for Theoretical Study, the Institute for Advanced Studies at Charles University and Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. Program Chair: Prof. *Ivan M. Havel*, Center for Theoretical Study. Among other invited speakers I can mention here the distinguished member of our Editorial Board – Prof. *Cyril Höschl* (Psychiatry) from the Charles University: ‘Neurobiological Correlates of Normal and Altered Consciousness’; Prof. *Karl Pribram* (Neuroscience) Georgetown University: ‘Consciousness Reassessed’ and Prof. *Arthur Zajonc* (Physics) Amherst College: ‘Concerning the Problem of the Observer: Learning the Lessons of Physics’.

6th IBRO World Congress on Neuroscience July 10–15, 2003: Congress Secretariat: Guarant Ltd. Email: ibro2003@guarant.cz; Congress President: Prof. *Josef Syka*, Secretary Gen-

eral: Prof. *Eva Sykova*, Honorary President: Prof. *Jan Bures*. Scientific Secretariat: Institute of Experimental Medicine, Czech Academy of Sciences (Email: dutt@biomed.cas.cz). One of the Symposia is: 'Circadian Rhythms: from molecules to behavior' and is represented by two distinguished members of our Editorial Board, the President of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prof. *Helena Illnerova* and by Prof. *Paul Pévet*, Director of Recherche CNRS, Laboratoire de Neurobiologie des Rythmes, Université L. Pasteur in Strasbourg, France.

The interdisciplinary character of this journal is again shown as often before, in publishing studies from different integrative disciplines. A parallel can be drawn between the study in this issue on 'Mechanical reaction of the frontal abdominal wall to the impact load during gravity' by *Karel Jelen* and *Antonín Doležal*, from the Department of Anatomy and Biomechanics, Faculty of Physical Education and Sport, Charles University in Prague, and Clinic of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of the 1st Medical Faculty, Charles University in Prague – and the Invited Review (NEL VOL. 23 NO.1, 2002, pp. 13–20) 'Cardiac Mechanoenergetics *In Silico*' by *Marko Vendelin*, *Peter H. M. Bovendeerd*, *Valdur Saks* and *Jüri Engelbrecht* from the Institute of Cybernetics, Tallinn Technical University, Tallinn, Estonia; from the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, The Netherlands; and from the Laboratory of Bioenergetics, Joseph Fourier University, Grenoble, France.

Another example of the integrative approach to the different scientific fields could be shown by studies from the interdisciplinary field of Human Ethology namely, 'Human Pheromones: Integrating Neuroendocrinology and Ethology' (by *J.V. Kohl*, *M. Atzmüller*, *B. Fink* and *K. Grammer*, NEL VOL. 22 NO.5, 2001) and 'Comparative Approaches in Evolutionary Psychology: Molecular Neuroscience Meets the Mind' (by *Jaak Panksepp*, *Joseph R. Moskal*, *Jules. B. Panksepp* and *Roger A. Kroes*, NEL VOL.23 SUPPL.4, 2002). Both studies were bestowed the ZDENEK KLEIN AWARD FOR HUMAN ETHOLOGY for years 2001 and 2002 (see www.nel.edu/human_ethology/ethology.htm).

As always, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all the distinguished authors who contributed to the high scientific quality of this issue of the Neuroendocrinology Letters. It is worth of notion that the contributions to this issue originate from highly esteemed research institutions and universities from ten different countries.

Prof. Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh
Editor-in-Chief: Neuroendocrinology Letters