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SIN SPOTLIGHT

Following the firebombing of one researcher’s home and another’s car in Santa Cruz, California, SIN has been working collaboratively with the National Association for Biomedical Research and others in response. SIN president Eve Marder issued a statement condemning the attacks on August 7. Members are encouraged to contact their administrations to help them establish proactive plans to address animal extremism. Visit SIN’s Best Practices for Protecting Researchers and Research for more resources.

MEMBERSHIP & CHAPTERS

Postdoc members: SIN has launched a new lower-fee postdoctoral category as part of its dues changes for the 2009 membership year. Regular dues for the postdoctoral fellow category will be $120; in Category II countries, the amount will be $60, and in Category I and Mexico, postdoctoral rates will be $15.

Learn how to start a new SIN chapter or revitalize an old one in your area at Neuroscience 2008’s Global Chapter Invigoration: Bringing Neuroscience Outreach to the Public, an SIN-sponsored workshop to be held on Sunday, Nov. 16. Participants will have an opportunity to interact with fellow chapter representatives, share success stories, and discuss concerns with SIN leadership. To register, contact chapters@sfn.org.

EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

In August, many members of Congress are in their home states and districts. SIN U.S. members are encouraged to contact legislators’ local offices to urge support for NIH and NSF funding. You can put in a call, or even offer to set up a meeting or lab tour to provide them a first-hand view of neuroscience research. Use the SIN Guide to Public Advocacy for information about contacting Congress and tips on scheduling visits. The Government and Public Affairs web page offers the latest status of related legislation and other resources. Contact GPA staff for assistance. Contact GPA staff for assistance.

Join renowned science policy and political experts at Neuroscience 2008’s Public Advocacy Forum, "The Elections: And the Winner Is...Science?" to discuss the potential impact of U.S. presidential and congressional election results on science funding and policy. Speakers include the Honorable John Porter, Former U.S. Representative and Chair, Research!America Board of Directors; Harold Varmus, MD, Former NIH Director and President, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; and Wendell Primus, PhD, Senior Policy Advisor for Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. Registration is not required. For more information, contact Mimi Moll.

Make plans to attend Neuroscience 2008’s Social Issues Roundtable, "Global Neuroscience – Neuroethics and the Burden of Nervous System Disorders," on Sunday, Nov. 16, to explore the progress of neuroscience in developing nations. Registration is not required. Contact Mimi Moll for more information.

Brain Awareness Campaign poster presentations will be featured at its celebratory annual event at Neuroscience 2008. To present a poster, contact Corinne Dreskin.
Registration for the Dance Classes for People with Parkinson's Disease workshop is now open. Dancer David Leventhal of the Mark Morris Dance Group will join Mark Morris to describe the experience of teaching customized dance workshops for individuals with Parkinson's disease.

Annual meeting attendees can now register for workshops and events and manage and update registration information using the Registration Resource Center. Log in using your last name and six digit registration confirmation number. If you do have have your confirmation number, use the link next to “Forgot your login information?” to receive your number by e-mail. For new registration, please visit the registration Web site.

International attendees: The recommended advance registration deadline for non-North American attendees, to ensure timely receipt of name badges and the Final Program (if ordered), is today, August 15. Register online now.

Plan your trip: Learn about Washington, DC, resources including transportation, restaurants, nightlife, attractions, events and more by visiting SfN's visitor information Web site, designed especially for Neuroscience 2008 attendees.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Last call: Don't miss the opportunity to honor a colleague who has promoted the advancement of women in neuroscience. The deadline for nominations to the Patricia Goldman-Rakic Hall of Honor and the Miki Salpeter Lifetime Achievement Award is August 18.

Interested in investing your time and knowledge in the progress of students and early career professionals? Sign up for the Society's mentoring program, and make plans to attend the reception at Neuroscience 2008.

Over 200 Neuroscience 2008 attendees will gather to recognize slideshow honorees and hear SfN Past President Huda Akil at C-WIN's "A Celebration of Women in Neuroscience" luncheon. Please confirm your attendance before the annual meeting to reserve a seat.

It's not too late to nominate an innovative colleague for SfN's Research Awards for Innovation in Neuroscience. The awards honor imaginative research that has potential to lead to significant breakthroughs in the understanding of the brain and nervous system and related diseases. Nominations are due September 8.

This year, SfN is offering three intriguing Short Courses at Neuroscience 2008. Topics include optical control of neuroexcitability, using immunocytochemistry, and neural signal processing. To attend, register online before the annual meeting.

A full-day Neuroscience 2008 workshop titled, "Neurobiology of Disease: The Neurobiology of Traumatic Brain Injury," will take place on Friday, November 14. Registration is limited.

The most recent update of the resource "Neuroscience Research Funding Contacts in the Federal Government" is now available on SfN's Web site. Please refer to this informal compendium for names and contact information for nearly 300 research grant and scientific review administrators in 21 organizational units of the federal government. More professional development resources can be found on SfN's Professional Development Resources Web site.

ACROSS THE FIELD

Members of the international animal research community will converge Sept. 23-26, 2008, in Washington, DC, for the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research's "Animal Research in a Global Environment: Meeting the Challenges" conference.

The first annual meeting of the Neuroethics Society will be held Nov. 13-14, 2008, in Washington, DC. Symposia will include topics such as neuroeconomics & decision-making and neuroscience & national security. The deadline for abstract submissions is September 1.

The Director of the National Institutes of Health is seeking nominations to fill vacant appointments to the 2009 Council of Public Representatives roster. Nominations are due Friday, Sept. 26, 2008.

The abstract submission deadline for the 7th International Congress of Neuropsychiatry, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, has been extended to September 30. For more information, visit the Web site or contact the Local Organization Committee.

The abstract submission deadline for the 2nd World Congress on Controversies in Neurology, to be held Oct. 23-26 in Athens, Greece, has been extended to August 15.