



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY

The ASP Newsletter Volume 48, Issue 2



NEW YORK CITY: JULY 28- AUGUST 1, 2012

WELCOME TO ICNPR2012

Global Change, Natural Products, and Human Health

By Dr. Guy Carter

The 8th International Congress on Natural Products Research (ICNPR2012) is rapidly approaching (July 28, August 1 in New York City), and with over 1,000 registered, it is shaping up to be the largest meeting of natural products researchers ever held in the United States.

The Scientific Organizing Committee has assembled an exciting and diverse program. Invited speakers and the titles of their presentations can be found on our website, along with

links to their biographical information. (www.icnpr2012.org). In addition to the invited lectures, over 1,200 abstracts have been submitted for either oral or poster presentations, covering an exceptional spectrum of natural products research.

Our venue in Manhattan is the Grand Hyatt Hotel adjacent to Grand Central Station www.grandnewyork.hyatt.com. This exciting location is in the heart of Manhattan and is close

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EDITOR'S CORNER



Although about five years has passed, I can still remember talking with my colleague and friend Dr. John Berger about bringing the ASP Annual Meeting to New York. We were both enthusiastic about showing members our beloved (and oft maligned) city, and to host the first-ever Manhattan-based ASP meeting. Many years, countless meetings, e-mails, budget crises, and a few grey hairs later, our initial dream will become a reality from July 28 to August 1, 2012, at the Grand Hyatt in the heart of New York City.

Until about a week ago, we had few registrants and a lot of worries about whether anyone would come to our party. Now, with abstract submission and early registration just past, I am

ecstatic to report that we have more than 1,200 submitted abstracts, 1,000 confirmed registrations, and more than 40 invited speakers! **This will likely be the largest meeting of natural products investigators ever held in the United States!**

This issue of the *Newsletter* is geared toward final preparations for ICNPR2012. Dr. Guy Carter, Chair of the Scientific Organizing Committee, gives some of the final details about the many invited speakers and plenary sessions. The science of this Congress promises to be cutting edge and include notable speakers from many different perspectives in natural products research. I invite you to peruse the bios for all of the invited speakers posted on the website (www.icnpr2012.org).

The Local Organizing Committee (and Younger Member Committee) member Mr. Dan Kulakowski helped me to write an extensive guide on how to survive in New York, especially geared to those on a tight budget. This article walks you through much of what you will need to know from transportation options to where to get food without breaking the bank. Younger Members will have a meeting on Tuesday evening, and Dr. Kurt Reynertson updates us on what should be a wonderful time for networking and socializing. Thanks to PepsiCo for sponsoring this event!

We have also surveyed the Local and Scientific Organizing Committee members to ask them about their recommendations for those attending ICNPR2012. Find out about a restaurant recommendation near Lincoln Center from ASP Fellow Dr. Susan Horwitz, or my favorite running route in Manhattan.

ICNPR2012 will have a very special evening at The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) on Sunday, July 29. The NYBG has been a key participant in the planning of this entire meeting, and we recognize their long interest in natural products in Ms. Anna Heran's "From the Archives." In addition to these ICNPR2012 articles, we continue to have our regular contributions, including meeting new member Dr. Steven Van Lanen, and his love of "Enzyme Kinetics," and Dr. Georgia Perdue's regular news column from Washington.

I hope to meet many of you in person in July at ICNPR2012. I truly look forward to welcoming all 1,000 attendees to this Congress.

Dr. Edward J. Kennelly

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The Society offers a placement service to aid our members in seeking positions or employees. This service is available only to ASP members and is free to both the applicant and the employer.

For more information see the services website.

www.pharmacognosy.us/?page_id=163

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The contribution deadlines are:

Spring Issue Feb. 15
Summer Issue May 18
Fall Issue Aug. 18
Winter Issue Nov. 17

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Younger Members Sell Out!

By Dr. Kurt Reynertson

The Younger Members Committee is putting together an exciting career networking event, generously sponsored by PepsiCo, to be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2012, from 7-9 pm, and is already at its capacity with 250 attendees registered. The event will be held at La Fonda del Sol at 44th and Park Avenue in the Metlife Building, just northwest of the ICNPR2012 venue.

Dr. Gregory Yep, Senior Vice President for Global Long Term Research at PepsiCo, will kick off the event, and Dr. Brian Schwartz, Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs and co-director of the New Media Lab at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, will talk about planning for careers outside academia.

These speakers will be followed by several short “elevator pitch” descriptions from newly-hired scientists in a wide variety of careers including academia, industry, government, law, and journalism from the United States and abroad.

The rest of the evening will give way to a tapas and drinks networking mixer, where participants will have the chance to talk directly with those in their potential career paths. We hope to make the event as international as possible, with information exchange between all participants looking to explore their next move in our swiftly shifting global economy.

The event is currently at capacity, and a waitlist has been established at the registration site for the ICNPR2012. If there are any cancellations, those on the waitlist will be contacted.

For more information about this event, please see the Facebook page <[facebook.com/ICNPR](https://www.facebook.com/ICNPR)>, the Twitter feed (@ICNPR), and the new Pharmacognosy Networking Listserve: <<http://groups.google.com/group/pharmacognosy-network>>. ■

We hope to make the event as international as possible, with information exchange between all participants looking to explore their next move in our swiftly shifting global economy.

ICNPR2012

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to many of New York’s most famous attractions. Our conference will open with a reception on Saturday evening in the Hyatt’s Manhattan Ballroom, which offers stunning views of the vibrant city surrounding the hotel. Rooms are still available at the discounted conference rate at this spectacular venue.

The formal scientific program will begin on Sunday morning, July 29, with a tribute to one of our founding fathers, the late Honorary ASP member Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth, followed by an address by this year’s Farnsworth Award winner ASP member Dr. Chris Ireland, of the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah. Sunday’s program will also include a plenary Symposium on the promise of biodiversity and an afternoon poster session. In the evening, a combined scientific/social function will be held at the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) where participants will enjoy a unique

and personalized view of the Garden. Transportation will be via a Metro-North train specifically reserved for ICNPR2012 attendees between Grand Central Station and the NYBG.

Beginning on Monday and continuing through Wednesday, the program will continue with plenary lectures in the morning followed by three concurrent parallel symposia in areas of specific interest to natural products researchers. The afternoons will be filled with three parallel oral sessions featuring both invited and contributed presentations. A Young Investigators Program is also planned and full to capacity at this time. (Please see our related article in this issue of the *Newsletter*).

Registration, which will be capped at 1,300, is still open so please submit your application through the conference website (www.icnpr2012.org) immediately if you plan on attending. ■

Our conference will open with a reception on Saturday evening in the Hyatt’s Manhattan Ballroom, which offers stunning views of the vibrant city surrounding the hotel.

JNP Honors Dr. Gordon Cragg in March Special Issue

by Ms. Amy Keller

The March 2012 issue of the *Journal of Natural Products* was dedicated to Honorary ASP member Dr. Gordon Cragg. The issue contains three reviews, including one co-authored by Dr. Cragg himself, six notes, and 19 full articles. The issue begins with a moving editorial by Drs. Vanderlan da Silva Bolzani, Michael Davies-Coleman, David J. Newman, and Sheo B. Singh, describing Dr. Cragg's storied life and significant career.

Dr. Cragg told the *Newsletter*, "To be recognized in this manner is, for me, an immense honor. There are many highly talented members of the natural products research community who thoroughly deserve this honor every bit as much, and far more, than I do, and I feel humbled by the experience. It has been a tremendous pleasure and privilege to have collaborated with so many wonderful colleagues and friends over the years, and I thank them all for contributing to making my career most rewarding. I look forward to continuing to interact and collaborate with the finest research community in the world!"

Dr. Cragg was raised in Alice, South Africa. He received a B.S. degree in Chemistry in 1957 from Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, and later traveled to the United Kingdom where he obtained a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Oxford, in Oxford, in 1963. During his postdoctoral position at the University of California, Los Angeles, Dr. Cragg met and married Ms. Jacqueline Tuers, his wife of 45 years. After a brief stint working for the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Dr. Cragg began a career with the University of South Africa in 1966 and became a Professor at the University of Cape Town in 1979. That same year, he joined ASP member Dr. Robert Pettit at the Cancer Research Institute of Arizona State University in Phoenix, Arizona, and through various avenues, became instrumental in bringing taxol to mainstream medicine.

Dr. Cragg later became Chief of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Natural Products Branch (NPB) and with others helped



Dr. Gordon Cragg

develop the National Cooperative Natural Product Drug Discovery Groups (NCNPDDGs) and incorporated this into the International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups (ICBGs). Dr. Cragg was paramount in developing international agreements through these groups. Dr. Cragg, although retired, has continued to be involved at the NCI.

Dr. Cragg served as ASP President from 1998-1999 and became an Honorary Member in 2003. For the 50th anniversary of the ASP, he helped to edit the Society's history book, "The American Society of Pharmacognosy: 50 Years in Natural Products Research."

When asked about his proudest achievement, he related that "I feel that my proudest professional achievement has been promoting and facilitating multidisciplinary and international collaboration in the drug discovery and develop-

ment process. I am totally convinced that this is the only road to success, and it has been very gratifying to see the formation of many collegial and productive collaborations between scientists from many countries and cultures."

ASP President Dr. Barbara Timmermann told the *Newsletter*, "I can think of no better way to pay tribute to Dr. Gordon Cragg and his longtime contributions to the field of natural products chemistry than to publish a special edition of the *Journal of Natural Products* in his honor. From his position at NIH, Gordon used his considerable influence to promote the field of drug-lead discovery in the United States. Without his formidable efforts, we would not likely have had the sustained support from the federal government to explore and discover the most intriguing molecules from all types of biodiversity in the world.

Gordon is a great friend, always generous with his time and always ready with a kind word. As his stellar reputation illustrates, he is held in high regard on all continents. All of us in the scientific community owe Gordon a debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts in support of natural products research." ■

Drs. da Silva Bolzani, Davies-Coleman, Newman, and Singh contributed to this article.

Insider's Guide for ICNPR2012 on a Budget

By Mr. Daniel Kulakowski and
Dr. Edward Kennelly

You can print and tear out pages 5-13 to accompany you to ICNPR2012.

Traveling to New York City for a conference may feel overwhelming. New York can be an expensive city, even for locals visiting midtown. We will all be busy attending the great scientific and social programming at ICNPR2012, but being knowledgeable about expenses in the city, especially for those on a strict budget, will make your stay more enjoyable and hopefully affordable. I am sure those of you coming in from out of town, state, or country will be eager to see all that the city has to offer, and the options may seem staggering, in every respect, from diversity to costs. Some tips culled from NYC locals and insiders follow, to help you negotiate the complex transportation, cultural and dining options on a budget.

PACKING

Besides your presentation, you may want to pack a few things to make your stay in New York more pleasant. New York is hot and humid in late July and early August, so bring summer clothing. The Grand Hyatt is air conditioned, and many United States (US) venues are over-cooled. Americans tend to dress casually at conferences, but with the air conditioning, you may be cool in light clothing. While the conference will mostly be indoors at the Grand Hyatt, The the New York Botanical Garden event on Sunday evening will be mostly outdoors, and involve significant walking. This picnic-like event will be held rain or shine, so in case of inclement weather, please plan to bring an umbrella and other appropriate rain gear. You may also consider bringing a blanket to sit and enjoy your food at The NYBG.

WiFi is a \$15 per day charge at the Hyatt, so for those from the US, your mobile carrier may be the way to go. Some smart phones themselves are able to serve as a mobile hotspot for your laptop. For those coming from other countries, consider your data options. There are many helpful apps you can download to your smart phone prior to coming to New York,

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PHOTOS BY ROGELIO PEREDA

“MELTING POT: SELF PORTRAIT AT THE ASIA SOCIETY/PARK AVE”

NEW YORK: MY PERSONAL PROPERTY

By Dr. Rogelio Pereda

Editor's Note: ASP member Dr. Rogelio Pereda has been traveling to New York City frequently since the 1980's from his home in Mexico City, Mexico. He is working this semester as a Fulbright Fellow at the City University of New York in New York City, New York.

In addition to his research on complex plant glycosides from the morning glory family at the School of Chemistry, the National University of Mexico, Dr. Pereda has also been an avid photographer for more than three decades, and trained at the International Center of Photography in New York City. His portraits have been exhibited in galleries and museums in North America and Europe.

*When he was asked to photograph his favorite scenes from New York City in preparation for ICNPR2012, his initial reaction was skeptical since he does studio portraiture, not street photography. However, he took on the assignment with great gusto, and the resulting photo essay **New York: My Personal Property** reflects the city's vibrancy and diversity that those attending ICNPR2012 will encounter.*

Insider's Guide for ICNPR2012 on a Budget

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and some are listed below. Also for those coming from other countries, bring an adaptor for your electronic devices. These are available in New York, but in the hotel area, you will likely pay a premium price.

TRANSPORTATION

If you are flying into any of the three major airports surrounding Manhattan you will be bombarded with travel options to get you into the city. Be sure to select safe and approved ground transportation. One of the best methods to get directly to the Congress venue (Grand Hyatt at Grand Central Terminal) is via the New York Airport Service or Newark Airport Shuttle. These buses run every 15-30 minutes from each airport for \$12-\$16 each way and can be accessed near the baggage claim area at the Ground Transportation exit of each major terminal. Tickets may be purchased in advance online, or with the driver. These buses have a drop off point one block south of Grand Central Terminal and the New York Grand Hyatt. A helpful resource for visitors flying into NYC is Flyerguide.com. If three or more people ride together, a taxi is probably just as reasonable as the bus, and all taxis charge flat rates between the New York airports and Manhattan destinations. For example, the current flat fare between JFK and Manhattan is \$45 plus tolls (\$4 to \$6), plus about 15% tip (on fare only), for a cost of about \$58.

For the more adventurous and those on a very tight budget, you can get from all New York airports via public transportation using a combination of Airtrain, city bus, subway, and/or New Jersey Transit. This can be as cheap as \$2.25, but it will require more time, transfers, and thus is not recommended if you have a lot of luggage. Renting a car is NOT recommended as parking is extremely limited and expensive in Manhattan and at the Hyatt. If you want to rent a car after the Congress to visit another area, there are options in Manhattan, just be sure to reserve a car in advance. A comprehensive article about airport ground transportation appears in *The New York Times*.

Buses are another option for getting to

New York, and may also be useful if you are planning on visiting any other nearby cities on the East Coast. BoltBus and MegaBus both offer inexpensive deals to nearby cities, such as Boston, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and beyond. Greyhound offers services to cities around the United States. It should be noted that shuttle bus operators may demand tips, but unless they help you load your luggage or provide exceptional service, do not feel the need to do so. Cab drivers also expect tips and a 10-20% gratuity is usually given for those who are driving from out of town. Plan carefully where you will park your vehicle since daily parking in Manhattan and at the Grand Hyatt is VERY expensive. You can look at websites, like BestParking.com, and put in the dates you are traveling to see rates that are available. When I did that for the six days of ICNPR2012 I found rates that varied from \$161 to \$315. You can also consider parking in the suburbs, and taking a train into Manhattan. For those coming from the north, the New York Botanical Garden has built a new garage, but be

aware, train service at the MetroNorth Train Station near the NYBG is typically hourly

Once you are in Manhattan you will find an extensive subway service that is inexpensive (\$29 for an unlimited use 7-day pass for both bus and subway, or \$2.25 each trip). To use buses or subways, you will need to purchase a MetroCard at vending machines in subway stations. (If you need to purchase a MetroCard at the airports, you can find vending machines at both LGA and JFK, but you may need to look around for these, e.g. LGA has a machine on the arrival level of Terminal B, and JFK has them at the AirTrain stops).

Subways can get you close to pretty much anywhere in Manhattan and the outer boroughs often more quickly than a more expensive cab. The subway system does run 24 hours a day; however service slows down late at night. In these cases it may be worth it to share a taxi with friends. HopStop and GoogleMaps are great websites to help plan your trips and NYCMate is a useful mobile app.

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"EASY TRANSPORTATION"



"BIG APPLE VIEW DINNER IN TIMES SQUARE"



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DINING OPTIONS

Please be aware that there is limited food provided as part of your registration fee. Each day there will be a coffee break, but this will only consist of coffee, tea, and juice. For those who want a more substantial start to their day, there are cafes and street vendors where you can buy some typical New York breakfast options like a bagel with cream cheese, donuts, egg and cheese sandwich, or cereal; each will cost less than \$5. Recently, Kraft Foods has indicated that it will provide a sample of their European breakfast biscuits that has recently launched in the US in your conference bag.

Lunches will also NOT be provided as part of your registration fee. However, a few vendors have suggested that they may provide lunch (e.g. at the NMR workshop on Saturday, stay tuned). There will only be 1.5 hours for lunch each day of the

Congress. One of your best bets, just a short indoor walk from the Grand Hyatt, is the dining concourse of Grand Central Terminal. There are take-out food stands from all corners of the globe, with everything from falafel to frijoles. These kiosks often provide fresh and tasty food at a good value for lunch in the neighborhood. Midtown Lunch is a great resource for inexpensive meals from food trucks, take-out spots and casual restaurants in the Grand Central area.

The Congress will be offering free food at several evening events. Food will be served at the opening reception, the social event at the New York Botanical Garden, the Younger Members Symposium, and the closing reception. Please note, that most registrants (except for daily registrants) are provided one ticket to the opening reception and the New York Botanical Garden event. Both of these events will consist of appetizers and drinks. For

the more resourceful, this may be enough for dinner, but you might want to supplement later. The Younger Members event will be held at the very posh tapas restaurant, La Fonda del Sol, adjacent to Grand Central Terminal. You MUST pre-register for this event, and pay \$5. More than 200 younger members have already registered for this PepsiCo-sponsored event, and it promises to be an exciting evening. We hope food will be plentiful, but with Younger Members' appetites, we don't know!

Finally, for Congress food, the closing banquet is only opened to Full Registrants, and those who purchase banquet tickets. This will be a full meal at the Hyatt ballroom. We are asking full registrants who will not attend to donate their tickets back to the Congress, and we will distribute them to Younger Members. There will be a waiting list for Younger Members.

Beyond the Congress, there are plenty of restaurants! If you would like to explore the cuisines of other neighborhoods do not forget that Grand Central is one of the main subway hubs in Manhattan. The East Village has great inexpensive, trendy and/or ethnic restaurants, many with outside seating and can be easily reached on the 4, 5, or 6 green subway lines downtown. A nice walk or short trip on the 7 or S subway lines lies the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood, on the other side of Times Square. While its name may have originated from its high concentration of tenements and slums years ago, the name now reflects the wide variety of pre-theater dining options and restaurants that suit all tastes, interests and budgets. Scoutmob is a great mobile app that can give you 50% off of many restaurants in these neighborhoods and elsewhere. Groupon is a website and app offering many daily deals, from dining to haircuts. Keep in mind that in the US, waitstaff is paid below minimum-wage and the majority of their money is made by tips. It is typical to tip between 15-20% at restaurants or bars.

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ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE

There are events taking place on many evenings at the Congress, including Saturday's Presidents' Opening Reception, Sunday's New York Botanical Garden Event, a Monday evening magic show by Koji Nakanishi, workshop by ACD Software, Tuesday's Younger Members gathering,

on 42nd St and Broadway and if you already have a show you would like to see, it is recommended to get your tickets now. If you cannot decide, or you do not care about what show you see, a good option to get theater tickets is to visit the TKTS booth in Times Square, which offers day-of-performance tickets at discounts

Both stadiums are brand new and easily accessible by the subway.

New York is a prime stop for many major national and international music acts and in the summer both Central Park and Brooklyn's Prospect Park offer free outdoor concerts. JamBase is a great website and mobile app listing all of the concerts scheduled throughout New York for a given day. The Village Voice weekly newspaper and website is another good source for this information.

If you would like to drop into any museums while you are in town, knowing when museums offer free admission can help your planning. The New Museum is free on Thursday nights, Whitney Museum of American Art and the Museum of Modern Art are both free on Friday nights, and the Guggenheim is free on Saturday nights. The National Museum of the American Indian is a Smithsonian institution and is always free. Remember, all it takes to get into the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History at any time is a donation; the prices you see at the ticket counter are only *suggested donations*. It is not unusual to see people paying only a few dollars to enter these two museums. Do not forget about art galleries offering free admission to their displays and many include free refreshments on opening nights. They are too numerous to list here but the Artcards website is a good place to start.

"WELCOME, BIENVENIDOS, BIENVENUE"



and Wednesday's Closing Banquet. However, if you still have time, New York City is one of the entertainment capitals of the world and it may be worth it to splurge on a Broadway play, musical or concert if you do not have access to world-class entertainment like this near home. However, there are plenty of theater, music, cultural and sports experiences you can enjoy on the cheap with a little research or by veering off the beaten path. Some experiences may require advance planning or may even sell-out, but you can always check Stubhub to purchase seats to a sold-out event.

There are so many great theater operations directly west of the NY Grand Hyatt

up to 50% off for some of the most popular Broadway shows. They only sell day-of-performance tickets but at discounts of up to 50% off for some of the most popular Broadway shows.

If you enjoy baseball, both the Mets and Yankees are playing around or during the conference dates. If you are arriving early, the Mets are in town from July 20-24 and offer \$10 student tickets and a \$25 ticket that includes burgers, fries and a soda (yes, even veggie burgers). The Yankees are home for the duration of the conference, and even play bitter rivals the Boston Red Sox from July 27-29 (recommended to get tickets early for this matchup).

AVOIDING THAT 'CONCRETE JUNGLE' FEELING

If long hours in the conference rooms have you missing the sun there are many ways to connect with nature and spend some time outdoors, even in the middle of Manhattan. Bryant Park, located only two avenues from the Grand Hyatt on 42nd St and 5th Ave is a great place to sit down and eat take-out lunch. There are numerous small and large tables available, and even free Wi-Fi if you need to answer some e-mails and would rather be outside. One of midtown's hidden secrets is the Southwest Porch, an outdoor bar with snacks, sand-

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"MONUMENTAL CITY PARK AVE"



"MIDNIGHT COWBOY"



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wiches and a firepit, located in the corner of the park near 40th and 6th.

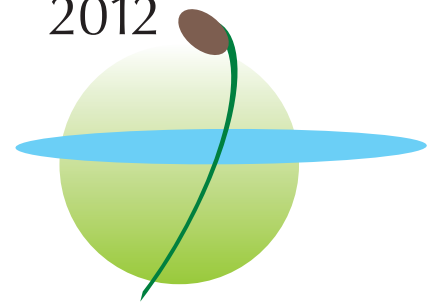
Do not forget that Central Park is only a 20 minute walk north of the venue. It is definitely worth doing some advanced planning to ensure you get the most out of your visit to this green refuge in the middle of the city. If you look close enough this park offers fantastic bird watching and even some hiking and bouldering spots. The High Line Park is another local favorite. This park opened in 2009 on an abandoned, elevated freight railroad track running along the Hudson River in the Chelsea neighborhood. While it is a great place to picnic and take in unique views of the Manhattan skyline do not forget to look at the planting beds. If you are interested in native flora of New York (and perhaps what the island of Manhattan looked like before it became a city) about 30% of the plants in this park are indigenous to the Northeast (you can pickup a field guide at the park or online).

One of my favorite activities is going for a bike ride on the Hudson River Greenway. Bicycles are available for rent at many locations in Central Park (which also has a great 5-mile bike and jogging loop) and on the Hudson River (Bike and Roll) or at many bike shops and in addition to being a fun, active diversion it is a great way to get from place-to-place without having to rely on public transportation. Just be sure to stick to bike lanes, and NYC bike maps are available online, at bike shops or at bike rental locations.

Although you would not want to find yourself swimming in the East River there are a few nice beaches in and around the New York boroughs with easy access from Manhattan. The N and Q subways service Coney Island, Rockaway Beach can be reached by the A train and the Long Island Railroad will get you to Long Beach in 1.5 hours. You can plan your routes to any of these beaches using the Metropolitan Transit Authority website.

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ICNPR
International
Congress for
Natural Products
Research
2012



Insider's Guide for ICNPR2012 on a Budget

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TRANSPORTATION LINKS

- Newark Airport Shuttle: <http://coachusa1.reachlocal.net/olympia/ss.newarkairport.asp>
- New York Airport Service: <http://www.nyairportservice.com/>
- Videos on ground transportation:
 - JFK: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIu7KTRBqqw>
 - Newark: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIhYIPe3FM>
 - LaGuardia: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnDk-igt0ec>
- New York Times article on airport ground transportation: <http://nyti.ms/no3tV>
- Metropolitan Transit Authority: <http://www.mta.info>
- HopStop: <http://www.hopstop.com>
- FlyerGuide: http://www.flyerguide.com/wiki/index.php/NYC_Airports_to_Manhattan_Transportation_FAQ
- Bolt Bus: <http://www.boltbus.com>
- Megabus: <http://www.megabus.com>

FOOD AND DINING LINKS

- Dining at Grand Central Terminal: <http://www.grandcentralterminal.com/go/dirListing.cfm?CurrCat=2138210777>
- Midtown Lunch: <http://www.midtownlunch.com>
- Groupon: <http://www.groupon.com>
- Yelp: <http://www.yelp.com>

ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE LINKS

- StubHub: <http://www.stubhub.com>
- New York Mets: <http://newyork.mets.mlb.com/>
- New York Yankees: <http://newyork.yankees.mlb.com/>
- TKTS booth: www.tdf.org/tkts
- Goldstar: <http://www.goldstar.com>
- Central Park Summerstage: <http://www.summerstage.org>
- Celebrate Brooklyn Concerts: <http://www.bricartsmedia.org/performing-arts/celebrate-brooklyn/celebrate-brooklyn-2012-season-at-the-bandshell>
- JamBase: <http://www.jambase.com>

- Village Voice: <http://www.villagevoice.com/>
- Artcards: <http://artcards.cc/>

OUTDOOR ACTIVITY LINKS

- Bike and Roll Bike Rental: <http://bikeandroll.com/newyork/>
- The High Line: <http://www.thehighline.org/>
- Central Park: <http://www.centralparknyc.org/>
- Bryant Park: <http://bryantpark.org/>

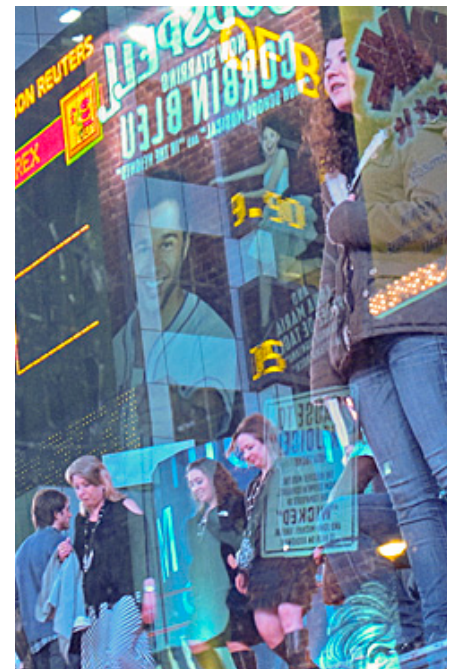
HELPFUL MOBILE APPS

- ScoutMob for restaurant discounts
- Groupon for restaurant discounts
- Yelp for restaurant reviews
- NYCMate for subway and bus maps
- Central Park Conservancy for maps and events
- TKTS app for a listing of Broadway shows that will be discounted that day

"SUN TANNING CHAIRS, (LIBRARY PLAZA 42ND STREET)"



"BROADWAY LIGHTS TKTS DISCOUNT BOOTH"



NYC Insider Favorites

By Dr. Edward Kennelly and Mr. Dan Kulakowski

In preparation for ICNPR2012, we polled the Local and Scientific Organizing Committees (LOC and SOC) about some of their favorite things to do in New York City. The following recommendations come from Dr. John Berger (LOC Co-Chair and SOC), Dr. Guy Carter (SOC Chair and past president of ASP), Dr. Susan Horwitz (SOC and ASP Fellow), Dr. Edward Kennelly (LOC Co-Chair, SOC, and ASP Newsletter Editor), Mr. Dan Kulakowski (LOC and Younger Member Committee), Mr. Adam Negrin (LOC and Younger Member), Ms. Vanya Petrova (LOC and Younger Member), Dr. Amy Keller (ASP Newsletter Assistant Editor), and Dr. Barbara Timmermann (SOC and ASP President). We hope you enjoy your stay in New York!

Our 'Insiders'



Edward Kennelly running in the UAE Healthy Kidney 10K race in Central Park, May, 2012.



Vanya Petrova at the View Lounge, 48th floor of Marriott Marquis in Manhattan, summer 2007.



Adam Negrin at Giant Ledge, Catskill Forest Preserve, New York, August, 2007.



John Berger at Liberty Science Center, New Jersey with views of the Statue of Liberty and Verrazano-Narrows Bridge.



Dan Kulakowski at Wave Hill, a public garden and cultural center in the Bronx, July, 2010.

What is your favorite inexpensive place to grab lunch near Grand Central Terminal?

Kennelly: Chipotle has multiple locations around New York, included a few blocks from Grand Central Terminal. It is fresh and can be healthy depending upon your selection. For other healthy eating options, including Chipotle, check out <http://www.cleanplates.com/>.

Kulakowski: Koreatown (32nd St, between 5th Ave and Broadway) has a plethora of inexpensive lunch options. A favorite is Woorijip, where you can stop in quickly for the hot/cold buffet or grab some kimchi noodles to bring back to the Grand Hyatt.

Petrova: If you are in rush, I recommend the Dining concourse at the Grand Central Station. You can see the different food places and read more about Grand Central (walking tour) at their website. If you have at least half an hour, I'd rather walk out on 42nd St towards 6th Ave and grab something to go along the way to Bryant park (there is a McDonalds, Chipotle Mexican

Grill, Hale and Hearty Soups). Then use the public seating area close to the library where there are free piano performances most of the days from 12:30-2:30 (as well as free wi-fi and nice public bathroom).

Negrin: Num Pang on 140 East 41st St. (just East of Lexington Ave.) has some fine Vietnamese fare and a wide variety of classy options at reasonable prices. Highly recommended!

Berger: Any street vendor will do!

Keller: Any slice of plain cheese pizza with some sprinkled oregano. If you paying more than \$2.50, you are paying too much.

What is your favorite free thing to do in NYC?

Kennelly: Running in Central Park. All that is needed is a good pair of shoes, shorts, and nice weather. The outer loop of the park takes you past many great New York City sights, like the Guggenheim Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Strawberry Fields, and of course the final mile or so of the famed New York City Marathon.

Carter: Walking in Central Park and the High Line Park.

Kulakowski: Staten Island Ferry right around sunset. It is a free 25-minute ride and the views of the Statue of Liberty and the Manhattan skyline are amazing. Get a cool breeze on a hot night by sitting out on the decks. They even sell beer and wine on the boat at prices lower than NYC bars! I definitely recommend this over the Circle Line tour. Boats run every 20 or 30 minutes from 6 am to midnight, once an hour after that.

Petrova: Visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art! Attention: there is a SUGGESTED fee, but you can pay anything you want (or nothing at all). I usually pay \$1. To see the statue of Liberty, get the free ferry to Staten Island, instead of a pricy boat tour. When in downtown New York City, also visit Ground Zero (and see the One World Tower being built). Best viewing spot is upper level of the Winter Garden, best time to go there: sunset.

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Our 'Insiders', looking out for you...



Susan Horwitz at her laboratory, Albert Einstein College of Medicine.



Amy Keller at Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture, Pocantico Hills.



Barbara Timmermann at the Grand Hyatt New York having a \$14 steel cut oatmeal breakfast, May, 2012.



Guy Carter, definitely not taken in New York!

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Events:http://www.artsbrookfield.com/new_york/world_financial_center/
More info: <http://www.worldfinancialcenter.com/>

Timmermann: Shopping on 5th Avenue followed by dinner at Benjamin's Steakhouse.

Horwitz: Visit Lincoln Center, tours are available, See the Chagall Tapestries at the Metropolitan Opera. Not absolutely free (but have certain free days or nights) – Metropolitan Art Museum, Museum of Modern Art and Guggenheim Museum. Museum Mile has many small, superb museums.

Negrin: Hiking in local parks. Central park is classic, though Inwood, Riverside Park, and the Cloisters have much to offer.

Berger: I like to walk up 5th Avenue from 34th Street to the Metropolitan Museum of Art on 82nd Street.

What is your favorite thing to do in NYC that requires advanced planning (so book it now!)?

Kennelly: I have yet to go, but the September 11 Memorial has been open for the past 6 months and free, but requires advance tickets.

Carter: Broadway show.

Kulakowski: There is so much to do here that one missed opportunity like a sold-out show can open the door to plenty of

others, but maybe a really good baseball game or concert.

Petrova: Check out deals here:
<http://www.groupon.com/new-york>
http://www.newyorkology.com/archives/2011/07/museum_free_hou.php
<http://www.livingsocial.com/forNYC>
<http://www.clubfreetime.com/free-events-things-to-do-in-new-york-city.asp>
<http://www.timeout.com/newyork/things-to-do/free-things-to-do-in-new-york-city-1>

Timmermann: I have not done it yet but I would enjoy attending a live taping of Saturday Night Live (SNL) and especially when Mick Jagger is host/musical guest.

Berger: Anything at Lincoln Center or a Yankee game.

Keller: My all-time favorite activity in NYC summertime is the Shakespeare in the Parking Lot series. Free plays are put on in a parking lot in the Lower East Side, right down the street from Katz's Deli. Grab a sandwich and drink of choice and enjoy some "only-in-NYC" dinner theater.

If you were going to splurge on an event/item/dinner, etc. in NYC what would it be?

Kennelly: A Broadway show for sure. Even the most predictable musicals are done with such great production quality, they should be experienced at least once.

Carter: Yankees baseball game.

Kulakowski: Dinner at Toloache Mexican restaurant in the Midtown theater district (50th St and 8th Ave). Upscale, authentic Mexican food (even grasshopper tacos) and cocktails. Hard to say no to lobster tacos, so I only make reservations on payday.

Petrova: A good Broadway show. Cocktails at The View at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square. Go to the lounge, not the restaurant and order a drink on a early evening so that you could stay there to see the 360 degree view of the city before and after sunset. Go to Top of the Rock instead of Empire State Building.

Timmermann: Attending a concert at Carnegie Hall or the Metropolitan Opera.

Horwitz: Boulud Sud, restaurant across from Lincoln Center.

Negrin: Try eating at any high class restaurant on the Upper East or West side. Peacefood is a good vegan option and matches well with a walk in Central Park afterwards.

Berger: Dinner.

Keller: I would splurge on the amazing food and wine at Po Restaurant or One If By Land, Two If By Sea in the West Village.

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NYC Insider Favorites

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They are both located in a neighborhood that offers interesting after-dinner walks and cocktails.

What is your favorite place to get drinks/socialize near Grand Central?

Kennelly: Cipriani in Grand Central Terminal on the balcony overlooking the Main Concourse is great place to meet for drinks, and home to the Bellini.

Kulakowski: The Gingerman pub on 36th St between 5th and Madison Avenues has a huge assortment of imported and domestic craft beers to wash down pretzels that are much better than those from the street vendor.

Negrin: Southwest Porch, a local haven nestled in the corner of Bryant Park on 40th St and 6th Ave. Sit back in an Adirondack chair by a roasting hot firepit and enjoy exotic mixed drinks and locally crafted beers. You will forget you are sitting in the heart of bustling NYC.

Petrova: Mad46, expensive drinks, but nice to get the NYC vibe on a rooftop really close to Grand Central.

Timmermann: To sip a Bellini at Cipriani's while watching people come and go at Grand Central

What is your favorite outdoor activity or place to hangout in NYC?

Kennelly: Besides Central Park and the New York Botanical Garden, the Highline is not to be missed. I was skeptical when this former elevated train track was turned into a park, but it is truly lovely, and offers fascinating views of the city.

Kulakowski: Order a clambake bucket at the Frying Pan, a casual outdoor bar/restaurant on a salvaged barge floating on the Hudson River. Worth the fight to get a table and it provides a unique view of the NY skyline from the water.

Petrova: Central Park, Bryant Park, the Highline.

Timmermann: Walking in Midtown Manhattan and soaking its rich history witnessed by old buildings such as those found on

44th Street around the Algonquin Hotel (between 5th and 6th Avenue).

Horwitz: Central Park.

Negrin: Battery Park city on a summer afternoon, or exploring galleries, food, and local shops in Soho.

Berger: Walking 5th & 7th avenue.

Keller: For a gorgeous outdoor adventure, take the 6 train a few short stops south from Grand Central Terminal and walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. Have lunch at the Brooklyn Bridge Park and take in the lovely views of lower Manhattan. Also, it is worth checking out the plethora of community gardens the city has to offer, especially on the Lower East Side. Perhaps you will even get a free tomato...

What do you recommend avoiding in New York City?

Kennelly: Long lines. Crowds. Vendor hot-dogs.

Kulakowski: Any location of Famous Original Ray's Pizza. They are neither famous nor original.

Petrova: Use the middle cars on the subway and try to disregard the mice, trash, and smells at some places. Keep in mind that most people on Times Square are tourists, not New Yorkers :-).

Timmermann: Italian restaurants for tourists.

Negrin: Renting and driving a car.

Berger: Taxis (except to get to hotel). Instead, buy an unlimited MetroCard and walk or take a subway. Do not take the bus if you can avoid.

Keller: Times Square. Yes, there are tons of pretty lights, but don't you want to explore the true spirit of NYC? Head to the unusual neighborhoods and parks instead, and explore.

"BATMAN RETURNS"



Meet a New ASP Member

ASP continues to welcome many new members to the Society throughout the year. We are pleased to feature one of our newest members, Dr. Steven Van Lanen. He is Assistant Professor in the Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Kentucky (UK). We are grateful to him for giving us the opportunity to get better acquainted.

By Dr. Diane S. Swaffar

How did you hear about the ASP?

My colleague Jurgen Rohr has claimed multiple times that the ASP Annual Meeting is the best, most informative conference he attends.

Why did you join ASP?

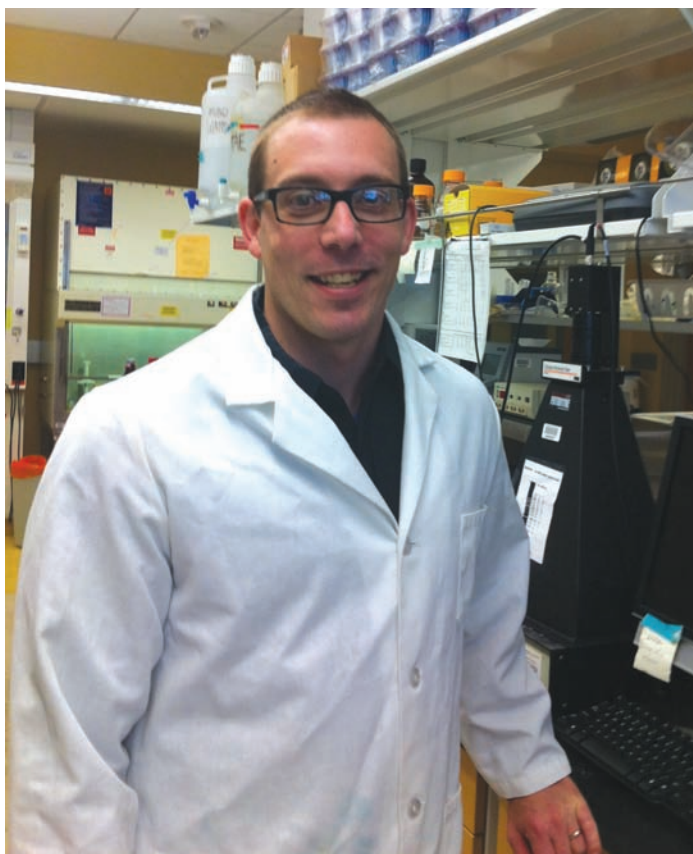
I quickly noticed after browsing the website and looking at the program list for IC-NPR2012 that the people involved in ASP are those that I greatly admire for their scientific contributions. Furthermore, a few of these ASP members have been instrumental in developing my own research program in natural products, and I view being a member as a way to maintain these connections and hopefully to make several more.

What is your scientific background?

I received a B.S. in Molecular Biology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, and a Ph.D. in Chemistry with Dr. Dirk Iwata-Reuyl at Portland State University, Portland, Oregon. Prior to joining University of Kentucky, I did a three-year postdoctoral stint in the laboratory of Dr. Ben Shen at that time at the School of Pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin. I have now been a faculty member at UK since 2007.

What are your current research interests in pharmacognosy?

My group has focused on antibiotic drug discovery from various *Actinomycetes*. We



Dr. Van Lanen analyzing PCR results in his lab.

are particularly interested in how these antibiotic metabolites are biosynthesized and how resistance is manifested not only in the producing organism but also in representative bacterial pathogens. The common thread for our ongoing projects is that the antibiotics, if ultimately applied within the clinic, can be considered new molecular entities or inhibitors of bacterial processes that are distinct relatives to Food and Drug Administration-approved antibiotics.

What would you like to achieve through your membership?

I am hoping that this membership will cul-

tivate interactions with other scientists, allow me to continue to keep up-to-date with the latest and greatest research in the field, and ultimately allow me to contribute to the field by becoming an active advocate of pharmacognosy and the ASP.

What other scientific societies do you belong to?

I am a member of the American Chemical Society and Society for Industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology.

What do you like doing in your spare time?

What is this “spare time” you talk about? When I am not in the laboratory, my favorite thing to do is spend time with my wife and two kids, Isabel (5 years old), and Sienna (2 years old). You will often find us snuggled on the sofa reading a book or taking day-trips to local orchards or wilderness reserves. In all honesty, it does not really matter what we do, just as long as we are together!

What are you currently reading?

I am reading “Enzyme Kinetics” by Irwin H. Segel for probably the 10th time. It is my expectation that this is the time I will retain 10% of the information...

What is your favorite movie?

Right now it is “How to Train Your Dragon” since it is one of my daughter’s favorites.

New Members of ASP 2012



ASP would like to welcome new members. The Society's main objectives are to provide the opportunity for association among the workers in pharmacognosy and related sciences, to provide opportunities for presentation of research achievements, and to promote the publication of meritorious research. New members include 12 domestic full members, seven international full members, and seven associate members. We look forward to meeting you and learning more about you and your work.

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Dr. Mark Bahar
Columbus, Ohio

Dr. Yit Heng Chooi
Los Angeles, California

Dr. Fredyc Diaz-Castillo
Cartagena, Colombia

Nanang Fakhruhin
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Dr. Amanda Fenner
La Jolla, California

Dr. Maria Gambo-Angulo
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Gainesville, Florida

JNP Announces 2011 Schwarting and Beal Winners

By Dr. A. Douglas Kinghorn

ASP Members Dr. Tadeusz (Ted) Molinski and Dr. Nadja Cech have been awarded the 2011 Arthur E. Schwarting Award and Jack L. Beal Award, respectively, for their contributions to the *Journal of Natural Products*.

In 2001, the Foundation Board of the American Society of Pharmacognosy began a new initiative as a result of the Arthur E. Schwarting and Jack L. Beal Awards for best papers in the *Journal of Natural Products*. In this manner, two former distinguished editors of the *Journal* are fondly remembered. The Schwarting Award is open to all papers published in the journal within a given year (either in print or electronically). In turn, the Beal Award is awarded to younger investigators [i.e., persons within 12 years of receiving their Ph.D. degree or within 10 years of gaining their first professional appointment such as Assistant Professor or an equivalent position in industry or government].

A two-tier process was used to determine the winners of the best papers published in *Journal of Natural Products* in 2011, with editors Drs. Daneel Ferreira, A. Douglas Kinghorn, Cedric J. Pearce, Richard G. Powell, and Philip J. Proteau having nominated two papers each for the Schwarting Award and one each for the Beal Award. ASP President Barbara N. Timmermann then appointed an ad hoc committee [Dr. Ben Shen (Scripps Research Institute, Jupiter, Florida), Chair, Dr. Carmeli Shmuel (University of Tel Aviv, Tel Aviv, Israel), and Dr. Mark Hamann (University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi)] to make the final selections.

THE WINNERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

2011 ARTHUR E. SCHWARTING AWARD

Brandon I. Morinaka and Tadeusz (Ted) F. Molinski.* *Xestoproxamines* A-C from *Xestospongia proxima*. Assignment of Absolute Stereostructure of Bis-piperidine Alkaloids by Integrated Degradation-CD Analysis. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2011**, 74, 430-440.

2011 JACK L. BEAL AWARD

Hiyas A. Junio, Arlene A. Sy-Cordero, Keivan A. Etefagh, Johnna T. Burns, Kathryn T. Micko, Tyler N. Graf, Scott J. Richter, Robert E. Cannon, Nicholas H. Oberlies, and Nadja B. Cech.* Synergy-Directed Fractionation of Botanical Medicines: A Case Study with Goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*). *J. Nat. Prod.* **2011**, 74, 1621-1629.

The corresponding authors of these papers will be invited to attend the Banquet at the International Congress on Natural Products Research 2012 (ICNPR2012), to be held in New York City, New York, July 28-August 1, 2012, to receive a check and a plaque in honor of this achievement. The above-mentioned papers may be accessed freely from the home page of the *Journal of Natural Products* (<http://pubs.acs.org/JNP>). Congratulations to Drs. Molinski, Cech and their co-authors! ■

In Memoriam: Dr. Trevor Robinson, University of Massachusetts (1928-2011)

By Dr. Lyle E. Craker

ASP member Dr. Trevor Robinson, Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Massachusetts (UM) in Amherst, died on May 12, 2011. A pioneer in studying plant constituents, Dr. Robinson was well known for his two books, *The Organic Constituents of Higher Plants – Their Chemistry and Interrelationships*, published in 1963, and *The Biochemistry of Alkaloids – Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Biophysics*, published in 1968.

Dr. Robinson, born in 1928 in Springfield, Massachusetts, graduated from Harvard University with an A.B. and Honors in Biochemical Science. He began graduate school at UM and after earning a M.S. degree in Chemistry, transferred to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, where he received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry.

Dr. Robinson joined the faculty at UM in the Chemistry Department in 1961, later moving to the Biochemistry Department in 1967 where he remained until his retirement in 1982. He was

an active member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society of Plant Physiologists, the Phytochemical Society of North America, the American Society of Pharmacognosy, and Sigma Xi. He was a visiting scientist at McMaster University in Ontario (1968), the University Liege in Belgium (1973-1974), and the Institut für Pharmakognosie in Austria (1981-1882).

In addition to his scientific research, Dr. Robinson was also well-known for his skills in building furniture and reproducing wind musical instruments that he had seen in European and Boston museums. He authored the book *The Amateur Musical Wind Instrument Maker* to assist others with the same hobby.

Dr. Robinson was a quiet, kind, and unpretentious individual that gave of himself to help other faculty as UM grew during the 1970s. His friendship and encouragement to new faculty assisted many in building professional academic careers, and his understanding of secondary metabolites and work on pathways served as a guide to persuade others to follow in his footsteps. ■

Conference Calendar

The *Newsletter* is pleased to announce the following upcoming conferences and meetings. The events portrayed here reflect what listings and notices the *Newsletter* has specifically received. For a more extensive calendar, please visit the ASP website at www.phcog.org. If you have a conference or event you would like mentioned, please send us relevant information, including any graphics or appropriate fliers, at asp.newsletter@lehman.cuny.edu.

Natural Anticancer Drugs

Olomouc, Czech Republic

June 30-July 4, 2012

www.nad2012.com

International Congress on Natural Products Research 2012

New York, New York

July 28-August 1, 2012

www.pharmacognosy.us

43rd International Symposium on Essential Oils

Lisbon, Portugal

September 5-8, 2012

www.iseo2012.fc.ul.pt

4th International Consultation on Medicinal Plants & Herbal Products (ICMPHP-2012)

Rockville, Maryland

September 6-8, 2012

<http://icmphp4.blogspot.in/>



Brief News From Washington

By Dr. Georgia Perdue

➤ At the meeting on March 9, 2012, of the President's Council of Advisers for Science and Technology (PCAST) several topics of interest were discussed:

- PCAST co-chair Dr. John Holdren noted that the President's science and technology budget includes "tough choices... because of the deficit.... **Federal research and development is essentially flat.**" The National Science Foundation is to get a substantial increase. **"It is not possible to increase everything like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) budget.** They are doing some rebalancing. We are trying to restore some strength in the physical sciences which have been flat."
- Dr. William Press, PCAST vice-chairman gave a sketch of a report due out soon, the **Future of the United States Science and Technology Research Enterprise.** He noted that **"the great corporate laboratories are gone.... Industry,"** he said, "stagnated 20 years ago.... **Most of the work is now being done by big universities, which are also filing many patents.**" The recommendations in the forthcoming report will include help for universities and also government in the R&D enterprise.
- Dr. Eric Lander, PCAST co-chair, reported on **Advancing Innovation in Drug Development and Evaluation.** There are "complex problems trying to get drugs approved," he said.... "We want to make sure that the great output of research will have a likelihood of success...." There is a "stress is in the pharmaceutical industry, including cost, which is causing a decline.... The picture is not pretty." He believes that the new **NIH NCATS represents "a marvelous step forward to unleashing research."** He noted that there needs to be creative thinking in the approval process for drugs, including accelerated approval. "Ways must



be found to **help the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) do its job better and easier.**"

■ **"United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is 150 years old this year,"** said Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack in his presentation, **Science, Technology and Innovation at the Department of Agriculture.** Several foundations have made investments in agricultural research. There will be a **70% increase in food demand in the next**

40 years; there is a clash between biotechnology and organic research, and the regulatory process is very cumbersome. "The 21st century challenge," he said, "is to increase production of food by 40%." The flat line budget is not helping, especially with potential solutions like agricultural productivity and sustainability, which are of utmost importance. We need to establish priorities for agricultural research as a nation... and we need mechanisms to avoid overlap in research." "If we think we have challenges in National Security today, people who are undernourished are often angry [leading to obvious security problems]." **"Food is a powerful force in National Security.... Agriculture is a big deal and is not treated as such in this city....It is hard to raise the profile about agricultural research."**

➤ National Cancer Institute (NCI) Director Dr. Harold Varmus told the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB) in late February that there are two things he would like to see incorporated "under the terms of grant making." The first is an **obligation to publish completed clinical trials without a specific time frame.** The second would be that **grant holders would serve as peer reviewers.** He likened it to the "jury duty system." "There are many, many more scientists in their 40s, 50s, 60s, an even 70s, who are

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PCAST co-chair Dr. John Holdren noted that the President's science and technology budget includes tough choices... because of the deficit.... Federal research and development is essentially flat."

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receiving NIH grants. They should all feel that as ... grant holders they are obligated to serve, if asked, as peer reviewers.” He believes part of the problem is people “have the notion that once they serve they do not have to do it again.” **These conditional terms will be more extensively discussed.**

- At an enthusiastic briefing in May at the Washington D. C. Press Club, NIH director Dr. Francis Collins and Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Dr. Kathleen Sebelius, along with representatives from Pfizer, AstraZeneca, and Eli Lilly, unveiled a **new collaborative effort , *Discovering New Therapeutic Uses for Existing Molecules***. The companies will give NIH NCATS about **24 drugs** which were shelved when they did not pan out for their intended use, to be tested against a new variety of diseases. **As Secretary Sebelius put it [we will] “...teach older drugs new tricks.”**
- In March, NIH announced that **NCATS and Eli Lilly will collaborate** in an effort whereby **Eli Lilly will screen 3,800 approved and investigational medicines from the NCATS collection** in its “state of the art phenotypic drug discovery (PD2) panel. The panel may provide new insights for drug discovery.”
- The powerful, Washington-based Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN) is not too pleased with the **FDA New Dietary Ingredient Draft Guidance**. CRN has challenged the FDA because it would mean changes from DSHEA. Stay tuned.
- The **NCI FY 2010 Annual Report on Complementary and Alternative Medicine** is available online only. (see nci.gov). Plants included: curcumin, red sage, milk thistle, and cruciferous vegetables.
- With a greater use of the internet by consumers and patients, NCCAM has launched **Time to Talk Tips**, a consumer friendly tip series on complementary health practices (<http://nccam.nih.gov/timetotalk>)
- Senators Richard Burr (R-NC) and Tom Coburn (R-OK) have introduced legislation, S. 2292: **“Promoting Accountability, Transparency, Innovation, Efficiency and Timeliness at FDA (PATIENTS FDA) Act”** to reform the FDA. The bill comes on the heels of the timely reauthorization of the Prescription Drug and User Fee Act (PDUFA) which has provided FDA with much needed resources. Stay tuned.
- While great progress has been made in the fight against malaria with the **“frontline” drug, artemisinin, a resistance to this drug has developed**, stated Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) on April 25, 2012, World Malaria Day. But the good news is that artemisinin was a key player in helping Armenia, Morocco, Turkmenistan, and the United Arab Emirates become malaria-free. NIAID- supported research, in partnership with industry, yielded the **“novel” anti-malaria compound spiroindolone NIT609, which is in early clinical trials**. It was discovered when the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation screened more than 12,000 natural products and synthetic compounds in its high-throughput screening.
- At least 400 global health scientists from several United States universities will receive a total of \$20 million over the next five years. The Fogarty International Center is launching this program in an effort to enhance the next generation of such scientists.
- At the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education, NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins said he expects **NIH to support an estimated 9,415 new competing Research Project Grants (RPGs) in FY 2013, an increase of 672. He also noted that out-year inflationary increases for new and competing grants are not a sure thing.**
- Estimates are that 29 new drugs may be approved by FDA this year. Stay tuned! ■

**“the great corporate laboratories are gone.... Industry,” he said,
“stagnated 20 years ago.... Most of the work is now being done
by big universities, which are also filing many patents.”**

—Dr. William Press, PCAST Vice-Chairman

From the Archives

By Ms. Anna Heran

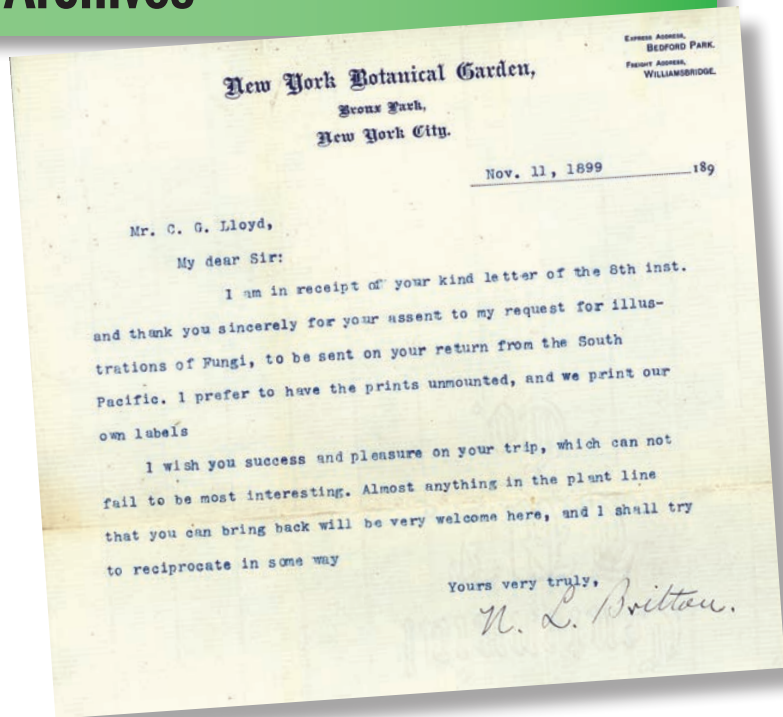
New York, New York, It's a Wonderful Town!

Even though Frank Sinatra sang that song in 1949 in “On the Town,” those words still apply today. New York has always been a place where things happen and has so much to offer, no matter what your interests might be. In time for the ICNRP2012, I have compiled a little glimpse into one of New York’s main attractions for botanists and pharmacognosists, The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG).

We are all going to be visiting that famed institution on Sunday evening, July 29th, but for those who do not know much about its history, you may be surprised to learn about the connection between NYBG and the Lloyd family, of whom Lloyd Library was named.

The NYBG got its start thanks in large part to the fund-raising efforts of Mr. Nathaniel Lord Britton (1859-1934) and his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Gertrude Britton, both members of the Torrey Botanical Club and lifelong collaborators on botanical investigations. Mr. Britton, a Staten Island native, became the first director of the NYBG and is well-known for his *Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States, Canada, and the British Possessions* (1896).

Mr. Britton was a contemporary of the youngest Lloyd

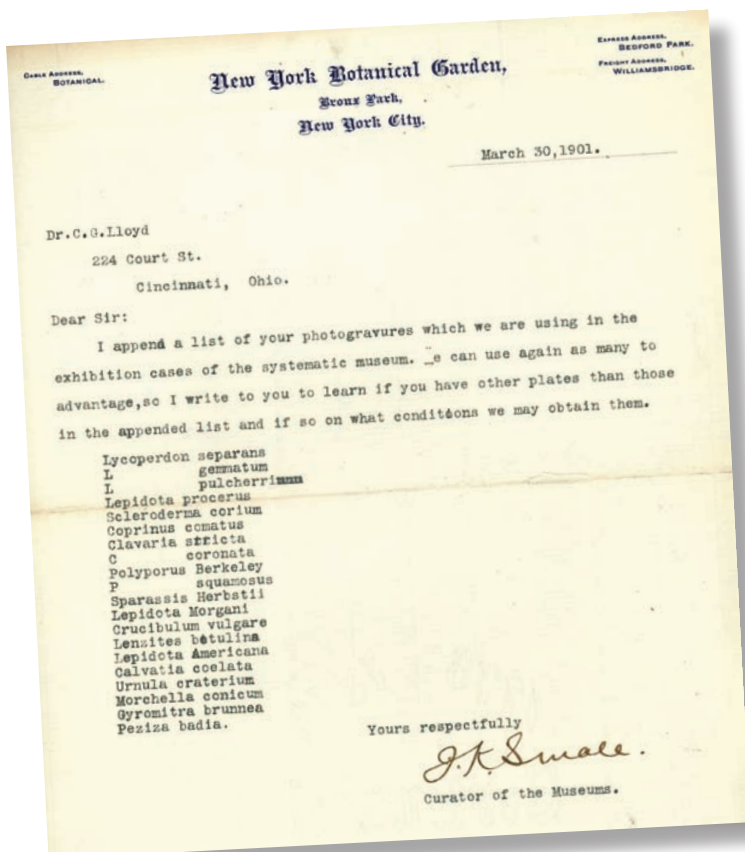


Letter from Mr. Britton to Mr. Lloyd. Source: Lloyd Library Museum, Archives Collection #11, Curtis Gates Lloyd Papers, Box 32, Folder 913.

brother, Curtis (1859-1926). Some digging in Curtis’ archives collection turned up both correspondence between Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Britton, but also specifically between Mr. Lloyd and the NYBG, illustrating a healthy and thriving relationship between the three. Mr. Lloyd had both given and received fungal specimens and publications from the NYBG, and Lloyd as an accomplished photographer had provided photogravures of many of his fungal specimens, which in 1901 were being used in exhibitions at The NYBG. He must have known the staff there well and was a welcomed visitor to the Gardens, if the correspondence is any indication.

In general, the Lloyd archives are filled with such historical twists, turns, and connections, and ready and available for any researcher interested in finding out how so many people, organizations, and professions are so intricately interwoven. We invite you to explore this possibility any time. ■

Letters from the NYBG to Mr. Lloyd. Source: Lloyd Library Museum, Archives Collection #11, Curtis Gates Lloyd Papers, Box 42, Folder 1335.



David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer
The American Society of Pharmacognosy
3149 Dundee Road, #260,
Northbrook, Illinois 60062



ASP Membership

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Full membership is open to any scientist interested in the study of natural products.

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