

Editorial



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In this Editorial, it is my pleasure to announce three significant developments in our overall plan for the *Neuroendocrinology Letters*.

First, please welcome some changes and innovations and additions to our Editorial Board.

Beginning with this issue, a new position is created, that of “Honorary Editor”, which appointments will be granted to distinguished personalities from the International Scientific Community, who while retired from their active academic life still in a very significant way contribute to the current research and practice in their fields and who have a very personal and significant impact on the field of Neuroendocrinology and Psychoneuroimmunology and allied disciplines and on our Journal in particular.

It is with great pleasure and pride that I today announce the appointment of two eminent scientists, colleagues and friends as Honorary Editors of the *Neuroendocrinology Letters*:

Helena Rašková, M.D., DrSc., Dr.h.c., Professor Emerita, Department of Pharmacology, Charles University, Prague,

Shoichi Sakamoto, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.O.G. (Hon.), F.R.A.C.O.G. (Hon.), F.A.O.F.O.G., Professor Emeritus, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Tokyo Women’s Medical University, Honorary Director Maternal & Perinatal Center Tokyo Women’s Medical University, Superintendent Aiiiku Maternal & Child Health Center, Honorary Director Saitama Medical Center, President Japan Association of Obstetrics and Gynecologist, Past President of the World Association for Perinatology, Consulting Doctor for Royal Family of Japan.

Next, I have invited the following distinguished colleagues to join the Board of Associate Editors:

Prof. **Kuniaki Otsuka**, M.D., Ph.D., Director of Division of Neurocardiology and Chronoecology, Professor of Department of Medicine, Tokyo Women’s Medical University, School of Medicine, Daini Hospital, Nishiogu, Arakawa, Tokyo, Japan;

Ario Conti, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the Università degli Studi dell’Insubria, Faculty of Medicine, Laboratory of Pharmacology, Varese, Italy; Istituto Canto-

nale di Patologia, Center for Experimental Pathology, Locarno, Switzerland; Alpine Institute of Phytopharmacology and Environmental Sciences (AIPES), Olivone, Switzerland.

Three new august members to the Editorial Board are graciously joining our Journal:

Prof. **Hideaki Koizumi**, Dr. Sc., Senior Chief Scientist, Hitachi Central Research Laboratory; Former General Manager, Hitachi Advanced Research Laboratory, Professor (adj), Faculty of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo; Vice President, Japan Society of Infant Studies (“Nippon Akachan Gakkai”); Former Director, Chemical Society of Japan.

Prof. Dr. **Andrzej Lewinski**, Chairman of the Department of Thyroidology, Medical University of Lodz, Chairman of Clinic of Endocrinology, Polish Mother’s Memorial Hospital - Research Institute, National Consultant of Endocrinology of Poland, Editor-in-Chief of Endokrynologia Polska - Polish Journal of Endocrinology; Lodz, Poland

Prof. **Hitoo Nakano**, M.D., Ph.D., Professor and Chairman; Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan.

I am very pleased that the Japanese colleagues as listed above, have kindly and graciously accepted an active cooperation with the Neuroendocrinology Letters including Psychoneuroimmunology and Chronobiology and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to them.

I would like to congratulate our Deputy Chief Editor, Prof. Michal Karasek, M.D., Ph.D., to his nomination as Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland. The ceremony will take place on 8th of September 2001.

Secondly, I would like to stress in my Editorial, the publication of Abstracts of the International Symposium on “Melatonin: Clinical Significance and Therapeutic Application” in Polanica Zdroj (Poland) 30.9–3.10, 2001 organized by the Polish Society of Endocrinology and the Polish Society of Neuroendocrinology, a meeting chaired by Prof. M. Karasek. Prof. Karasek provided this issue of the Neuroendocrinology Letters with abstracts both from the Congress Plenary Lectures and Short Communications. The full articles will be published in this Journal in the first issues of Volume 23, February and April 2002.

Thirdly, I would like you to pay close attention to the “Philosophy Behind Science”, an article on Haptonomy entitled “Confirming Affectivity, the Dawn of Human Life” by Dr. F. Veldman, Oms, Ceret, France. This paper is reprinted from the International Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine.

In my opinion, the broad topic of Affectivity concerns every doctor, researcher and scientist, especially at this time of rapidly changing values and attitudes towards the human life and moral and ethical limitations and rules for experiments underlying the ‘evidence based truth’.

Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh
Editor-in-Chief