

PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} Annual Committee Report

June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2019

PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} Committee Members, 2017-2018

Keith W. Kelley, Co-chair; kwkelley@illinois.edu

Chris Coe, Co-chair, ccoe@wisc.edu

Yu-Ping Peng, yppeng@ntu.edu.cn

Qiang Liu, liuq9@mail.sysu.edu.cn

Ning Quan, nquan@health.fau.edu

Sarah Spencer, sarah.spencer@rmit.edu.au

Atsuyoshi Shimada, ats7@ks.kyorin-u.ac.jp

Ebrahim Haroon, eharoon@emory.edu

Introduction

International growth and dissemination of information about PNIRS in the Asia-Pacific rim continues unabated with the partnership between *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* and PNIRS that began in 2012. In 2016, the PNIRS^{China} committee was installed as a standing PNIRS committee, expanded and renamed as the PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} committee. Its goal is to continue to extend the global outreach that was initiated by PNIRS^{China} to all Eastern countries in addition to China, including Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and India. During the past year, the PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} committee developed themes, wrote proposals and recruited expert lecturers for BBI/PNIRS-sanctioned symposia in the People's Republic of China, the Republic of China and Australia, as highlighted below.

Professor Ebrahim Haroon at Emory has accepted our invitation to join the PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} committee. All other current committee members have agreed to continue to serve on the 2019-2020 PNIRS^{Asia-Pacific} committee.

Mind-Body Interface International Meeting in Taichung, the Taiwan region of China

The PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} committee organized its second symposium at the 8th Annual Mind-Body Interface International Symposium that was held in Taichung, Taiwan region of China, from October 26-28. Nine speakers from five countries represented PNIRS in a symposium entitled, “The Psychoneuroimmunology Research Society Comes to China.” The PNIRS Executive Director, Susan Solomon, made the long trip from California to represent PNIRS. The Editor-in-Chief of *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, Carmine Pariante (England), presented a plenary lecture. Other speakers were Chris Coe (Wisconsin), Li Tian (Finland), Cai Song (China), Ebrahim Haroon (Emory), Michelle Erickson (Washington), Ashley Wang (Taiwan region of China), Collen Doran (Minnesota) and Keith Kelley (Illinois). The program for the entire meeting is available at <http://www.tsnpr.org.tw/symposium.php>. Photos of symposium can be viewed at: <https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMTc6i4HX3A-3Et-knhQpGucljZ3stgBpGN7nBVRdxuiQhbnG-tbGyZWMD-nKiAyw?key=LUpZQmktUXNOVXdkUWpQaGswN2RTZWI0bm1wOU1n>



**Nanchang, China: “Moving the physiology of immunology into
the clinic”**

Friday, November 2, was a day that offered another warm welcome of PNIRSA**Asia-Pacific** to the mainland of China in Nanchang by the Chinese Association of Physiological Sciences. The title of the symposium was, Nearly 150 scientists attended the symposium to learn about interdisciplinary research of six scientists from PNIRS. They were Chris Coe (Wisconsin), Li Tian (Finland), Ebrahim Haroon (Emory), Xin Ni (Shanghai), Michelle Erickson (Washington) and Keith Kelley (Illinois). Congrats to Prof. Yu-Ping Peng for organizing another very successful PNIRSA**Asia-Pacific** symposium! For more photos of the symposium, see: https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipPv5rN4gjW84_w4I30LQTROVBQ9nIP3jYWOwE_r2p1ITk2-LQk-bf5cpeCbasOg9w?key=OVbIVjhSY1IYOFVnUFpGR1FaOC1DWIRDUkFkX1pB



Teaching in the People's Republic of China

Professor Ning Quan at The Ohio State University taught 25 students in Wuhan at Hamilton Biotechnology between July 12-25, 2018. The course was entitled, "Stem Cells and Neuroimmunology." Professor Quan taught the course over 2 weeks, lecturing 4 h/day and 4 days/week. His lectures included the following topics: the neuroimmune suprasystem, immunology background for neuroimmunologists, neuroscience background for neuroimmunologists, stem cells in the CNS, stem therapies for neurodegenerative diseases, stem cells and the treatment of depression. Later, in December of 2018, Ning was invited by Professor Yu-Ping Peng to visit Nantong University. Ning not only interacted with Yu-Ping's numerous graduate students, he presented a lecture for the entire medical school faculty. Importantly, Dean Sun of the Medical School gave high praises of Ning's lecture.

Thank you Professor Quan for your long-standing and dedicated service to promoting PNI science on the mainland.



PNIRSAsia-Pacific Committee Symposia in 2019-2020

Thanks to long-time PNIRS member, Atsuyoshi Shimada, the PNIRSAsia-Pacific will present its first ever symposium in Japan. Dr. Shimada submitted a successful proposal to the Japanese Neuroscience Society. The successful symposium application is entitled, “Overview: Neuroinflammation and the Blood Brain Interface: New findings in brain pathology.” This scientific society is one of the most well-regarded and oldest neuroscience societies in the world, and our symposium will be held on July 27 in Niigata, Japan. PNIRS members are encouraged to attend.

Another first for the PNIRSAsia-Pacific committee will occur on September 22 in Daegu, Korea. During the late spring of 2018, the PNIRSAsia-Pacific submitted a symposium proposal to the 10th International Brain Research Organization (IBRO). The IBRO World Congress has been held every four years since 1982. There were 15 major Asia-Pacific neuroscience societies that competed for 8 symposia slots. Our symposium proposal entitled, “Overview: Dialing in the Dialogue Between Inflammation and the Brain,” has been formally accepted. The complete program of this IRBO meeting is available at www.ibro2019.org. All PNIRS members are welcome to attend.

The PNIRSAsia-Pacific committee is organizing our third symposia at the Mind-Body Interface International Meeting that will be held from October 7-9, 2019 in Taichung, the Taiwan region of China (www.mbisymposium.org). Past-PNIRS President Professor Michael Irwin will present a plenary lecture.

Finally, another first will occur in New Zealand. The Australasian Winter Conference on Brain Research (<https://www.otago.ac.nz/awcbr/index.html>) has accepted a proposal from the PNIRSAsia-Pacific committee to present a symposium at their annual meeting in Queenstown from August 31 to September 4, 2019. This is the

leading neuroscience meeting in New Zealand. Associate Professor Sarah Spencer organized the symposium proposal that features speakers from four countries and is entitled, “PsychoNeuroImmunology Across the Lifespan.”

Respectfully submitted,

PNIRSA_{Asia-Pacific} Committee Members, 2018-2019

History of Development of PNIRSA_{China}

- 2012 Prof Kelley initiates concept of PNIRSA_{China} with Prof Peng, Liu and Bai following lectures in Nantong, Dalian and Beijing, China
- 2012 PNIRS President Manfred Schedlowski officially establishes PNIRSA_{China}
- 2013 Prof Kelley to discuss PNIRSA_{China} with Prof Lutgendorf at the U. Iowa
- 2013 1st official PNIRSA_{China} established and organized by Prof Liu in Dalian
- 2014 Unofficial PNIRSA_{China} meeting organized by Prof Hutchinson Sydney
- 2014 2nd official PNIRSA_{China} symposium organized by Prof Peng in Shanghai
- 2015 3rd official PNIRSA_{China} symposium organized by Prof Peng in Wuzhen
- 2016 4th official PNIRSA_{China} symposium organized by Prof Kelley in Beijing
- 2016 5th official PNIRSA_{China} symposium organized by Prof Coe in Zhanjiang
- 2017 6th official PNIRSA_{China} symposium organized by Prof Peng in Tianjin
- 2017 Prof Kelley introduces PNIRS in Taichung, Taiwan Region
- 2017 Prof Pariante introduced as incoming EIC of BBI in Nantong and Nanjing
- 2017 7th official PNIRSA_{Asia-Pacific} symp. organized by Prof Kelley in Sydney
- 2017 Unofficial PNIRSA_{Asia-Pac} meeting organized by Prof Hutchinson Sydney
- 2017 Unofficial PNIRSA_{Asia-Pac} meeting organized by Prof Sloan in Melbourne
- 2018 8th official PNIRSA_{Asia-Pac} symposium, Kelley/Coe, Taichung, Taiwan Region
- 2018 9th official PNIRSA_{Asia-Pac} symposium, Prof Peng Nanchang, China