

PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} Annual Committee Report

June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023

PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} Committee Members, 2022-2023

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The PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} committee welcomes Melissa Rosenkranz from the University of Wisconsin-Madison as our newest committee member. Professor Rosenkranz is the Distinguished Chair in Contemplative Neuroscience at the Center for Healthy Minds. She studies how emotion and inflammation affect bi-directional mind-body-immune pathways that affect health.

International travel to nearly all countries in the world opened without mandatory quarantine requirements or snap lockdowns during 2022 and the first part of 2023. As briefly summarized below, PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} organized symposia in Vietnam, Japan, the Taiwan region and Mainland China (Beijing and Shanghai) between June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023, with those in Hanoi and Shanghai being in person. Kudos to our past-PNIRS President, Neil Harrison from Cardiff University in Wales, who presented virtual lectures at meetings held in Japan and the Taiwan region and in-person lectures in both Vietnam and Mainland China. Another notable advance is the launch of a new sister journal to BBI: *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity – Integrative*. As noted by Carmine Pariante in the lead editorial article that introduced this new journal to the scientific community (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbii.2022.100001>), the past 10 years of work by PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} was instrumental in establishing connections to psychoneuroimmunology

scientists throughout Asia. Finally, accomplishments of PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** led to the development of a similar initiative in Ibero-America (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbih.2022.100532>).

Permanent PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Symposium in Mainland China

A formal agreement has been established with the Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences Committee of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Brain Homeostasis Regulation (CAPS-TCMBHR). The groundwork for this achievement began in 2012 with meetings between Professors Yu-Ping Peng at Nantong University, Qiang Liu at Dalian Medical University and Keith W. Kelley. Of the 19 official PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** since then that have been organized throughout Asia, nine have been held in Mainland China. The success, and the strong working relationship among Professors Peng, Gang Chen at Jinan University in Guangzhou, Weiwen Wang at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing and Keith W. Kelley, an agreement between CAPS-TCMBHR and PNIRS has been approved that will establish a permanent annual PNIRS **Asia-Pacific**/CAPS-TCMBHR symposium in Mainland China. Both CAPS-TCMBHR and PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** will choose two to three speakers each and one or two representatives to attend the CAPS-TCMBHR symposium. CAPS-TCMBHR will pay all speakers and representatives' accommodation (up to 3 nights) as well as the meeting registration fee. PNIRS has agreed to offer discounted registration fees for members of CAPS-TCMBH and support a symposium proposal to the PNIRS annual meeting featuring speakers from CAPS-TCMBHR. Elsevier will provide a 20% discount on article processing charges for all *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* journals. We hope this agreement provides a template that can be used to formally organize and support PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposia with other countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Connects Australia and Mainland China

As a direct result of connections made within the PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** network and our Global Research Connections initiative, Prof. Shen Yanqin from Jiangnan University Medical School, Mainland China, was awarded \$20,000 Australian to facilitate a 3-month sabbatical at RMIT University Australia under the 2023 APEC-Australia Women in Research Fellowship. As the 2022 BBI Impact Award winner, Shen published the most cited paper in BBI. (<https://www.pnirs.org/assets/images/Awards/Viewpoint%20Article%20on%202022%20Winning%20Paper.2023.pdf>). Professor Sarah Spencer was Shen's sponsor, and Professor Spencer looks forward to supporting other scientists under the same initiative.

Pandemic COVID19 Planning for 2022-2023

PNIRSA^{ASIA-PACIFIC} Symposia

In May, 2022, Keith Kelley pursued the possibility of organizing PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} meetings in Viet Nam. He presented lectures at Hanoi Medical University as well as the Medical University of Medicine and Pharmacology in Ho Chi Minh City. These are the two largest and most well-known hospitals in Viet Nam. This resulted in Professors Harrison and Chen being invited to present immunopsychiatry lectures in Hanoi the following October.



Keith also traveled to Bangkok in November, 2022 to pursue more PNIRSA^{Asia-Pacific} opportunities. He interacted with Professor Michael Maes who is currently on the faculty at Chulalongkorn University (Chula). This university is the number one university in Thailand and ranked in the top 16 academic centers in global impact (<https://www.chula.ac.th/en/>). As a result, Chula faculty approved the first

Faculty/PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposium in Thailand. It will be a joint one-day meeting and is being organized as a pre-congress with the Chula faculty on August 15, 2023. The title is “When neuro-psychiatry meets immunology and implications for COVID-19” and is approved for CME credit.

Beijing Brain Conference 2022

The second annual Beijing Brain Conference was held virtually from August 13-15, 2022. Keith Kelley was invited to represent PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** by presenting a lecture on new opportunities to advance psychoneuroimmunology research and share data between Eastern and Western scientists. Several other high-quality lectures were devoted to the role of Chinese Medicine on brain protection and health.

2022 北京脑科学国际学术大会
BEIJING BRAIN CONFERENCE

2022
北京脑科学
国际学术大会
BEIJING
BRAIN
CONFERENCE
中国·北京
2022.8.13-8.15

August 15th AM
Symposium 19

Chinese Medicine of Brain Protection and Brain Health

Organizer
Chinese Institute for Brain Research, Beijing (CTBR)
China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences
State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning, Beijing Normal University

Host
Peijing Rong Investigator

09:00-09:10
Promote the High-quality Development of Traditional Chinese Medicine by Giving Play to the Brain Protection Effect
Peijing Rong, Director
China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences

09:10-09:45
The Window of Opportunity: Psychoneuroimmunology and Traditional Chinese Medicine
Keith Kelley, Professor
University of Florida

09:45-10:20
An Update on Brain Stimulation for Depression - Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS), and Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS)
Mark S. George, Professor
Vanderbilt University of South-Carolina

10:20-10:55
The Beijing BABRI Community Dementia Cohort Study and the Prevention and Treatment of Chinese Medicine
Peijing Rong, Professor
State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning, Beijing Normal University

10:55-11:30
Diagnosis and Treatment of Advantaged Diseases of Acupuncture Based on Machine Learning Algorithms and Neuroimaging Features
Ren Zeng, Professor
China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences

11:30-12:05
Mechanisms of Effect and Clinical Application of Ear Treatment for Brain Diseases
Peijing Rong, Professor, Investigator
State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences

2022 北京脑科学国际学术大会
BEIJING BRAIN CONFERENCE

Japanese Society for Neuroimmunology (JSNI) in Nagasaki

PNIRS**Asia-Pacific** organized its first symposium in Japan in 2019 at the annual meeting of the Japanese Society for Neuroscience held in Niigata. That partnership continues today. Neil Harrison and Andrew Steelman (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) represented PNIRS**Asia-Pacific** at their 2022 virtual meeting held from October 20-21. The combination of a clinical lecture on inflammation, neuroinflammation and mental health presented by Neil and the more basic presentation on the underlying causal mechanisms of multiple sclerosis given by Drew were very well received. Thanks to both Neil and Drew for representing PNIRS**Asia-Pacific**.

PNIRS**Asia-Pacific** Speakers at the 2022 Mind-Body-Interface Symposium



Since 2017, PNIRS**Asia-Pacific** has been fortunate to team with scientists at the China Medical University Hospital in Taichung, the Taiwan region to advance psychoneuroimmunology research in Asia. Four Past-Presidents of PNIRS, as well as Carmine Pariante as Editor-in-Chief of *Brain, Behavior and Immunity*, have presented plenary lectures at this annual Mind-Body-Interface meeting. This past year, Neil Harrison was graced with that honor, presenting an outstanding virtual lecture on inflammation, neuroimaging and depression. Another PNIRS**Asia-Pacific** virtual symposium was organized and chaired by Sarah Spencer from RMIT University in Melbourne. The symposium highlighted the main theme of the meeting on pain and

was entitled, “Pain phenotypes and their relevance to acupuncture analgesia. Three speakers represented PNIRSA**Asia-Pacific**: Zhen Zheng at RMIT University Bundoorra, Victoria, Australia, Naomi Eisenberger at the University of California at Los Angeles and Peter M. Grace at M.D. Anderson in Houston, Texas.

PNIRSA**ASIA-PACIFIC** Represented in Vietnam

The first psychoneuroimmunology symposium in Vietnam was held at the oldest institute of higher education in Vietnam, Hanoi Medical University, on October 27-28, 2022. It was organized by Professor Nguyen Van Tuan, who is the Director of National Institute of Mental Health of Viet Nam, Head of the Department of Psychiatry of Hanoi Medical University and Deputy President of the Vietnamese Psychiatric Association (<https://spmph.edu.vn/vi-VN/faculty/160>). The meeting covered all aspects of psychiatry and included speakers from Cambodia, Thailand, Laos and of course Vietnam. Professor Neil Harrison was an invited lecturer who represented PNIRSA**Asia-Pacific** in person at this Hanoi meeting.

Keith returned to Vietnam in April of 2023 to present lectures and promote psychoneuroimmunology collaborations among Eastern and Western biomedical scientists at the National University Ho Chi Minh City (<https://hcmiu.edu.vn/>), VIN University Hanoi (<https://vinuni.edu.vn/about-vinuniversity/>) and the Vietnamese NIMH at Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi.

Telling the Tale of Psychoneuroimmunology in Vietnam



Prof. Huong Ha, **Vietnam National University**, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, April 20, 2023

Dr. Huynh Dinh Chien, College of Medicine, **VIN University**, Hanoi, Vietnam, April 26, 2023

Dr. Tung, Dr. Tuan, Prof. Keith W. Kelley, Dr. San, **NIMH at Bach Mai Hospital**, April 27, 2023

Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences (CAPS) Annual Meeting, Shanghai, May 6, 2023

This symposium was held at the Conference on Neuroscience and Traditional Chinese Medicine that was organized by the Committee of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Brain Homeostasis Regulation. A full report of the entire meeting, complete with photos of all the speakers and all the symposia, is available at <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/paVuAZw98Fc9tdVrHIRC2Q>. This was the first joint PNIRS **Asia-Pacific**/CAPS symposium to feature speakers from both China and Western countries under of new agreement. Professors Gang Chen at Jinan University in Guangzhou and Weiwen Wang at the Institute of Psychology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing were instrumental in organizing this joint symposium, and they both presented lectures in the symposium. Professor Keith Kelley presented a plenary lecture, and PNIRS Past-President Neil Harrison and PNIRS Secretary/Treasurer Michael Bailey presented lectures during the regular symposium. Professor Cai Song, long-established as a PNI leader in China, presented the final lecture. Finally, the PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Western speakers were invited to meet faculty and tour facilities at the Shanghai Mental Health Center, hosted by the Dean Zhao Min.

会议日程	
5月6日 上午 二楼兴会厅	
开幕式及主旨论坛	
5月6日 上午 09:00-11:30	
时间	议题
09:00-09:30	开幕式
09:30-10:00	院士特邀报告-枸杞多糖对抑郁和AD研究 苏国辉 暨南大学粤港澳中枢神经再生研究院
10:00-10:30	Psychoneuroimmunology: Getting Nervous About Immunity Keith W. Kelley 美国 UIUC 教授/PNI 学会前主席
10:30-11:00	2023 年度杰出学者-特邀报告：中-西源抗阿尔茨海默病有效成分的发现和產品開發：物廉研究的實例 林志秀 香港中文大学
11:00-11:30	2023 年度青年科学家-特邀报告：褪黑素抗抑郁作用机制研究 陶伟伟 南京中医药大学
5月6日 下午 二楼兴会厅	
卫星会	
5月6日 下午 13:00-13:30	
专题 1 Psychoneuroimmunology: The Significance for Future Western and Eastern Medicine on Brain Disorders (心理神经免疫学与中西医结合发展前景) 主席：陈刚、Keith W. Kelley、王玮文	
5月6日 下午 13:30-15:30	
时间	议题
13:30-14:00	报告 1: Inflammation-induced sickness and depression: Insights from human experimental challenge studies Neil A. Harrison 英国 Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre
14:00-14:30	报告 2: Probiotics attenuate behavioral responses to stress: from microbial metabolites to neuroinflammation Michael T. Bailey 美国 The Ohio State University
14:30-14:50	报告 3: 青少年应激影响情绪和执行功能的神经免疫机理 王玮文 中科院心理所研究员
14:50-15:10	报告 4: PNI and TCM: converging integrative view of depression etiology and treatment 陈刚 暨南大学
15:10-15:30	报告 5: The relationship between autophagy and inflammation in schizophrenia: hyper expression of mTOR pathway and glial M1/A1 phenotypes 宋莹 中大生命科学研究院、广东海洋大学
专题 2 探索中医药对脑疾病防治的机遇：聚焦神经免疫和胶质细胞 论坛主席：徐颖、薛自立	
5月6日 下午 15:30-17:30	
时间	议题



2023-2024 Planned Events

As of the writing, three PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposia have been approved for later in 2023. The first ever psychoneuroimmunology symposium in Thailand will be held on August 15 with the Faculty of Medicine at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok (described above). Second, we have again been invited to participate in the Japanese Society for Neuroimmunology meeting to be held in Tokyo on September 13-15. Finally, our sixth PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposium will be held in conjunction with the Mind-Body-Interface symposium in Taichung, the Taiwan region on October 28-30. For 2024, we are in the early stages of planning five meetings. Our PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** committee will continue to work with the Mind-Body-Interface organizers in the Taiwan region. We will also work with the Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences Committee of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Brain Homeostasis Regulation (CAPS-TCMBHR) to organize a joint symposium somewhere on the mainland. Keith has begun to work with Professor Huang Ha in the in the Department of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine, School of Biomedical Engineering at the National University Ho Chi Minh City to organize a PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposium at the biennial conference of bioengineering to be held in Ho Chi Minh City in July 2024. We also plan to work again with Japanese Society of Neuroimmunology to again organize a PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposium in 2024. Finally, we are discussing the possibility of working with Dean Zhao Min at the largest mental health hospital in China to organize a joint PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** symposium with the Shanghai Mental Health Center, National Center for Mental Disease during the summer of 2024.

ARCHIVED PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** ANNUAL REPORTS

All annual reports of PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** have now been archived and can be found at <https://www.pnirs.org/pnirs-asia-pacific-annual-reports>.

- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2022 <https://www.pnirs.org/assets/docs/PNIRSAAsia-Pacific/2022%20Annual%20Report.pdf>
- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2021 <https://uofi.box.com/s/47o3rc82hi54oong2jxqqcuil3hwx1z5>
- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2020 <https://uofi.box.com/s/v14luq5wo0bjcr5mox5yma7b84i6wpy8>
- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2019 <https://uofi.box.com/s/bsb38xhn1tnqjcgvdqkuy2dc07p60lx3>
- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2018 <https://uofi.box.com/s/40texu735aaywhsj9rnv91a44tlay00s>
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- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2016 <https://uofi.box.com/s/uzwzghb9zuccg4kps80b42g7llcjf8xw>
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- PNIRS **Asia-Pacific** Annual Report 2013 <https://uofi.box.com/s/9sk4vvxb2d3tvkze0uws72xcf3q9r7zr>