Update on IADR Neuroscience Group activities 2019–2020

1. Planned events, IADR General Session, Washington DC March 18–21

- The Neuroscience group business meeting was planned to be held Thursday March 19, 5–6 PM but was cancelled since the IADR General Session was cancelled due to the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 pandemic. The minutes from the previous meeting have been available through the website since shortly after the meeting in Vancouver, June 2019.

www.iadr.org/Portals/69/docs/Groups/Neuroscience%20Group/MinutesNEUIADRVancover2019.pdf

- The Group’s program included the following events:

6 sponsored symposia:

- Evolving Therapies to Maintain Vital Dentin-pulp Complex: 100 Years of Innovation, (PB/DM/NEU/WISN groups)
- Developing Evidence-based Management Guidelines for TMD, (INfORM/NEU/EBD groups)
- Sensory Biology of Pain and Itch: From Molecules to Behavior, (NEU/DAR/PTT groups)
- Neuroimaging and Dentistry: Translational Research Based on Brain Imaging, (NEU group)
- Stem Cell-based Therapies for Treatment of Chronic Orofacial Pain Conditions, (NEU/PB/SCB/DAR groups)
- Management of Elderly Dental Patients With Cognitive and Physical Dysfunctions, (GOR/NEU groups)

2 oral sessions:

- Neural development and regeneration: implications for function and pain management
- Pain Prediction and Modulation, (including the Keynote Address)

3 poster sessions:

- Neural mechanisms of pain and dysfunction
- Oral neural function in health and disease
- Clinical and experimental pain in humans

In total, 75 abstracts were accepted for presentation in the meeting.

Takashi Iida, Yoshizo Matsuka and Aníbal Diogenes reviewed the submitted abstracts.

Maria Pigg was Group Program Chair for the meeting.

- Senior Investigator Research Award by the IADR Neuroscience Group

In the 2019 business meeting, we selected Gilles Lavigne as the recipient of the 2020 Award in his absence. Unfortunately, Dr Lavigne would not be able to attend the 2020 meeting and we therefore decided to postpone his award to 2021.
In August 2019, all members were therefore invited by email to nominate a new award recipient for 2020. Five well-deserving names were brought forward, with excellent motivations given by the nominator/-s. Since it is the responsibility of the Committee to select the awardee, a vote was held among the Committee member, and Linda LeResche was finally selected as the 2020 award recipient by majority vote.

Dr LeResche was planned to give a Keynote Speech on the topic “Sex, Gender and TMD Pain across the Life Cycle: Existing Evidence and Unresolved Questions” in Washington DC, and we are hopeful that she might be able to give her presentation in the 2021 meeting instead.

- Group Reception
The annual joint reception with INFORM and DAR Group was planned to take place Thursday, March 19 at 6:30 PM, venue: Capitol Brewing Company. The number of attendants was limited to 65 people. It was fully booked with a waiting list of about ten people, which may suggest that a larger venue should be selected for coming receptions.

Tickets were pre-sold at US$ 10 apiece, and refunds were unfortunately not possible after the meeting was cancelled, due to the IADR not offering refunds of such small sums. We apologize for this, and hope it will not deter any members from signing up next year! The planning and administration around this event were mainly managed by Flavia Kapos and Michail Koutris, supported by Justin Durham, Charlotte Currie and Maria Pigg.

- Poster competition: IADR Neuroscience Group Investigator Awards by Wiley Journal of Oral Rehabilitation
A traditional poster competition for young investigators was planned, and eight applications were submitted.
Post-Doctoral category:
- Tina Imbriglio (University of Toronto, Canada)
- Sheng Wang (University of Maryland, US)
- Shaista Afroz (Aligarh Muslim University, India)

Pre-Doctoral category:
- Abdelrahman Alhilou (Karolinska Institute, Sweden)
- Nabeel Almotairy (Karolinska Institute, Sweden)
- Eva Counsell (University of Minnesota, US; application retracted)
- Martin Kim (University of Maryland School of Dentistry, US; application retracted)
- Jeffrey Liao (University of Minnesota, US)

The poster competition was held as a virtual event in April, with contestants submitting video presentations online.

The panel of judges appointed the following winners:
Post-Doctoral category: Abdelrahman Alhilou, Sweden:
“Expression of Pain-Receptors and Neuropeptides in the Human Masseter Muscle”

Post-Doctoral category: Sheng Wang, US:
“Ablation of TRPV1+ afferents decreases periodontal bone destruction in mice”
The winners will receive a monetary award and a diploma and have been notified by email.

The Groups finances are basically stable over the year.

- Balance on Dec 31, 2017: US $12,228.19
- Balance on Dec 31, 2018: US $12,985.86
- Balance on Dec 31, 2019: US $12,991.08
- Incomes, 3rd quarter 2019: US$ 3,329.00
- Expenses 2020 IADR meeting:
  - Reception: The estimated cost for the Group’s part of the joint Reception (40%) was US $1,700.00. We had already made an instalment of US$ 511,23 at the time of reservation, which was non-refundable.
  - Senior Investigator Award: The estimated cost for the award was US$ 1,600, which will now be postponed to 2021.

Yoshizo Matsuka prepared the financial report.

As we have seen also in previous years, the number of members is fluctuating. The numbers for 2017–2019 are included for comparison.

- 2020 (212 members total; March 1, 2020)
  - full: 124
  - retired: 20
  - student: 68
- 2019 (282 members total)
  - full: 167
  - retired: 19
  - students: 96
- 2018 (205 members total)
  - full: 130
  - retired: 17
  - students: 58
- 2017 (253 members total)
  - full: 153
  - retired: 17
  - student: 83

Yoshizo Matsuka prepared the membership report.

4. IADR and AADR Council Meetings 2020
- The IADR Council meeting was held as a virtual event on March 17 and was attended by Maria Pigg, since the 13-hour time difference between the US and Japan prevented the Councilor, Osamu Komiyama, from participation. The proceedings of the Council meeting will be posted on the website: [www.iadr.org/IAADR/About-Us/Proceedings](http://www.iadr.org/IAADR/About-Us/Proceedings)

The main features were:
Council approved the following slate of nominees to stand for election as IADR Vice-president 2021-2022:
Council approved the 2020-2021 IADR Committee Appointments as presented by the IADR Board Operations Committee.

Council approved a change to the IADR Dental Anesthesiology Research Group to Dental Anesthesiology and Special Care Research Group.

Council approved the 2018 Independent Auditors’ Report.

Council approved the Position statement on Sugar-sweetened Beverages.

Council approved the IADR Budgets for 2020.

Council approved the Joint IADR/AADR Budgets for 2020.

Council selected New Orleans, Louisiana, USA as the location for the IADR General Session in 2024. This will be a joint meeting with AADR and CADR.

Council selected as Barcelona, Spain the location for the IADR General Session in 2025.

Council approved a Bylaws change to remove the membership refunds granted until the General Session language to remove the perception that the only benefit of membership is attendance at the General Session.

Council approved a Bylaws change to outline the Council meets at the General Session and at times when the General Session cannot be held, a virtual Council will meet.

As a reminder, the nearest future IADR General Session locations will be:

2021 Chengdu, China
2022 Atlanta, GA USA
2023 Bogotá, Colombia
2024 New Orleans, LA USA
2025 Barcelona, Spain

- The AADR Council meeting was also held as a virtual event, and the Group was represented by Aníbal Diogenes.

5. The Masticator
The first 2020 issue of our newsletter was circulated by email in February, and is also available online:
www.iadr.org/Portals/69/docs/Groups/Neuroscience%20Group/Masticator_Vol_16_Feb_2020.pdf

Yoshizo Matsuka is the Editor of this publication, please contact him if you have important news to share with the group.

6. Elected officers of the Executive Committee for the term 2020–2022
The IADR stipulates that general elections are held for Groups/Networks in November each year. In 2019, the Group members elected the following officers:

- Nikolaos Giannakopoulos as Vice-president (term 2020, followed by 2021 as President-elect, and 2022 as President)
- Somsak Mitrirattanakul as IADR Councilor (term 2020-2022)

7. Election 2020
In November 2020, the members will be requested to vote for the following position:
• Vice-president (term 2021-22, followed by 2022-23 as President-Elect, and 2023-24 as President)
• Secretary/Treasurer (term 2021-24)

The election procedure is managed by the IADR GHQ. In April, emails were sent to all members soliciting nominations. The following individuals have been nominated and agreed to be candidates:
For Vice-president:
• Estephan J Moana-Filho, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis USA
• Nikolaos Christidis, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
• Yoshizo Matsuka, Tokushima University, Tokushima, Japan

For Secretary/Treasurer:
• Anna Lövgren, Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden
• Rosaria Bucci, University of Naples Federico II, Naples, Italy
• Takashi Iida, Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan

8. Other business
- Continued support for award. In October 2019, Peter Svensson, EIC of Journal of Oral Rehabilitation, let us know that Wiley was currently evaluating their continued support of Wiley Journal of Oral Rehabilitation for our Investigator Awards (poster award). A letter describing the value for the Group and the research community from the contribution of Wiley over the years (and also the benefits for Wiley) was drafted by Maria Pigg and co-signed by six former Presidents, dating back to 2011. This was successful and in January 2020, Wiley granted their continued support for the awards.

- Public Relations Officer. Since 2018, Iacopo Cioffi has been the Group’s PR Officer (inofficial position) and greatly increased the Group’s visibility by managing social media. Dr Cioffi has done a fine job working with this, and has agreed to continue to serve as PRO 2020-21.
  www.facebook.com/IADRneuro/
twitter.com/iadr_neuro

- Neuroscience Group Guidelines. From 2017, all IADR Groups and Networks have the same constitution and bylaws, available here:

However, the former constitution and bylaws of the Neuroscience Group were more detailed and provided more guidance for officers, and has therefore been transformed into a supplementary document, the Neuroscience Group Guidelines. The draft document was posted on the website after being presented in the 2019 business meeting, and comments were invited. No comment was received up to the time of the planned 2020 business meeting, and we therefore consider this supporting document as accepted by the members. After editing it will be available here:  www.iadr.org/IADR/Join-Renew/Groups-Networks/Neuroscience-Group

- Sponsorship for Senior Investigator Award by the IADR Neuroscience Group
The award is given annually to recognize a well-established senior researcher in the Neuroscience field, who also is asked to be the Keynote speaker on the Group's program in the General Session. Earlier, the award was sponsored by GSK, but since 2018 the award has no sponsor and is fully financed by the Group. The yearly cost of US$ 1,500 has been possible to sustain so far, but a new sponsor should be sought. Since 2018, we have explored some possibilities suggested by members (Teva Pharmaceuticals and Grünenthal) but it has unfortunately not been successful. Any members with contacts in the industry related to neuroscience, orofacial pain or TMD, or other suggestions, are encouraged to alert the current president Daniela Gonçalves with this information; daniela.g.goncalves@unesp.br