General Assembly of the IUPHAR Clinical Division on Clinical Pharmacology at the 18th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2018) in Kyoto, Japan in July 2018.

The general assembly of the clinical division of IUPHAR gathered in Kyoto at the World Congress on the 1st July 2018. Professor David Webb (Chair, University of Edinburgh, UK) started proceedings reminding the gathered audience that he was standing where Darrell Abernethy (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA) should have been standing as chair of the clinical division from 2014 until his untimely death in 2017. David paid tribute to Darrell's remarkable contributions to clinical pharmacology, science and medicine. For more information on Darrell's remarkable career members should see last month's edition of Pharmacology International (https://iuphar.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Pharmacology-International-June-2018-1.pdf).

David Webb proceeded to give the chair's report, in particular thanking members of the clinical division committee for their contributions over the past four years. The committee has in particular been central to the collaborative support of 12 International workshops and conferences over the past four years. These events have encompassed a number of subjects ranging from Pharmacogenetics, geriatric pharmacotherapy, drug safety, and drug utilisation research.

Other items covered in the chair's report included the Non-Governmental Organisation status with the World Health Organisation, the contribution of the division to various WHO/CIOMS committees and working groups. In particular a reminder to members was made of the Clinical Pharmacology Manifesto (available at http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/quality_safety/safety_efficacy/who_cioms2012/en/) which has now been translated into Korean (http://www.kscpt.org/Pages/popup/ClinicalPharmacologyinHealthCare(Korean).pdf) and Japanese (http://www.iuphar.org/files/Clinical%20Division/Japanese_translation_of_Position_Paper_of_Clinical_Pharmacology_by_IUPHAR.pdf).

All of the sections / subcommittees were invited to provide reports. Lars Gustaffon (Karolinska Institute, Sweden) who chairs the Clinical Pharmacology in Less Developed Countries sub-committee gave a clear account of the excellent work of this group in spreading the specialty internationally. Of note, the clinical division learnt of the success of the inaugural meeting of the newly formed Nigerian Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics from Olayinka Ogunleye (Lagos State University College of Medicine & Lagos State University Teaching Hospital) in 2017. (For the full report of the inauguration, see pages 42-44 of the latest Pharmacology International via the link above) The division was delighted to hear that Olayinka will take over to chair the sub-committee for the next four years.

Maribel Lucena (Treasurer - University of Málaga, Spain) gave a reassuring report on the finances of the clinical division which is in profit thus has funds to support the ongoing work of the division.

The last, but highly important, piece of business was to elect the new Clinical Division Committee from 2018-2022. The following nominations were made and unanimously voted in:

- Chair - David Le Couteur (University of Sydney, Australia)
- Vice-chair – Caroline Samer (Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland)
- Secretary General - Nilima Kshirsagar (Mumbai, India)
- Treasurer - Maribel Lucena (University of Málaga, Spain)
- Member – Sarah Hilmer (University of Sydney, Australia)

The clinical division committee will be supported by David Webb as immediate past chair, Michael Spedding (secretary general, IUPHAR) and the section / sub-committee chairs.

The chair also announced a number of councillors to the division and invited any further clinical pharmacologists who might be interested to contact the new chair to get more involved in the clinical division activities.

Lastly, David Webb thanked all the current committee and councillors for their contributions over the past four years, in particular thanking Petra Thürmann (Witten, Germany) for her support over a number of years as she is now standing down from the division due to increasing commitments elsewhere. The assembly finished with an obligatory photo of some of those present.



General Assembly of Clinical Division IUPHAR in Kyoto, Japan