

PASPCR

March 2006
Vol. 14 Number 1

Newsletter



Introduction...

by *Bill Oetting*

Preparations for the 13th Annual Meeting of the PASPCR are now in full swing. The meeting will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 7 - 10. The Scientific Program can be found on page 9 in this newsletter and registration information can be found on page 13. The PASPCR Annual Meetings have always been the place to hear the latest science for pigment cell research, as well as being a great opportunity to meet old and new friends. I hope to see you there.

The meeting report for the 19th IPCC can now be found on the PASPCR website (on the PASPCR Information Page) along with pictures from the meeting. A new page, The PASPCR Commentary Page is now open. This page contains the latest in research news and thoughts on pigment cell biology and physiology. The link can be found at the PASPCR home page

The *PASPCR Newsletter* is published quarterly and is intended to serve as a means of communication for the members of our Society. You are invited to contribute articles, or other information you feel will be of interest to members of the PASPCR. If you attend a scientific meeting and have heard results which you think will be of interest to the membership of the PASPCR, please write a few paragraphs summarizing what was presented and share it with us. Any information on upcoming meetings of interest will be added to the "Calendar

of Events". This is your newsletter, and we depend upon you to help us make sure it best serves the Society's needs. Contributions and comments can be sent to me, preferably by E-mail, to bill@lenti.med.umn.edu.

The PASPCR Web Site is the major, up-to-date source of current information for the PASPCR membership and for individuals who are interested in the PASPCR. If there is additional information that you would like to see on the Web site, or you would like to include information of past PASPCR activities, please let me know and I will add them.

The IFPCS web site can now be reached by using the domain name **ifpcs.org**. The domain name **ipcc.info** will take you to the IPCC web site, providing you the most up to date information on the International Pigment Cell Conference which will be held on September 18 - 22, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Reston, VA.

The PASPCR Web Site can be found at:

<http://www.paspcr.org>

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Pigment Cell Research**

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Murray Brilliant
James Grichnik
Sancy Leachman
William Oetting
Seth Orlow
William Pavan
Richard Spritz
Giselle Thibaudeau

IFPCS Representative:

Zalfa Abdel-Malek,
past-President PASPCR

Calendar of Events:

2006 XIIIth Meeting of the PASPCR
Cincinnati, Ohio
Contact: Zalfa Abdel-Malek
E-mail: abdelmza@email.uc.edu

2006 XIIIth Meeting of the ESPCR
Barcelona, Spain
Contact: Dr. L. Montoliu
E-mail: montoliu@cnb.uam.es
E-mail: espcr06@cnb.uam.es
Web site: www.cnb.uam.es/~espcr06/

2007 XIVth Meeting of the PASPCR
Chicago, Illinois
Contact: Caroline Le Poole
E-mail: ilepool@lumc.edu

If you know of future meetings that you feel would be of interest to the PASPCR membership, please let us know.

The *PASPCR Newsletter* is published quarterly by the PanAmerican Society for Pigment Cell Research. All views are those of the authors. For further information or to submit articles, please contact members of the Publications Committee.

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Corporate Sponsors

by *Raymond E. Boissy*

The PASPCR would like to acknowledge and thank our Corporate Sponsors; the list below reflects contributions over the past 2 years. Financial gifts from these sponsors have allowed our Society to increase benefits to the membership far out of proportion to the actual dues collected from members. Monies contributed by these sponsors have been used over the years to support various PASPCR functions including our Young Investigator Award program, meeting travel stipends, annual meeting expenses and this Newsletter.

GOLD Corporate Patrons

Procter & Gamble, Co.

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SILVER Corporate Patrons

Combe, Inc.

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New PASPCR Council Members Elected

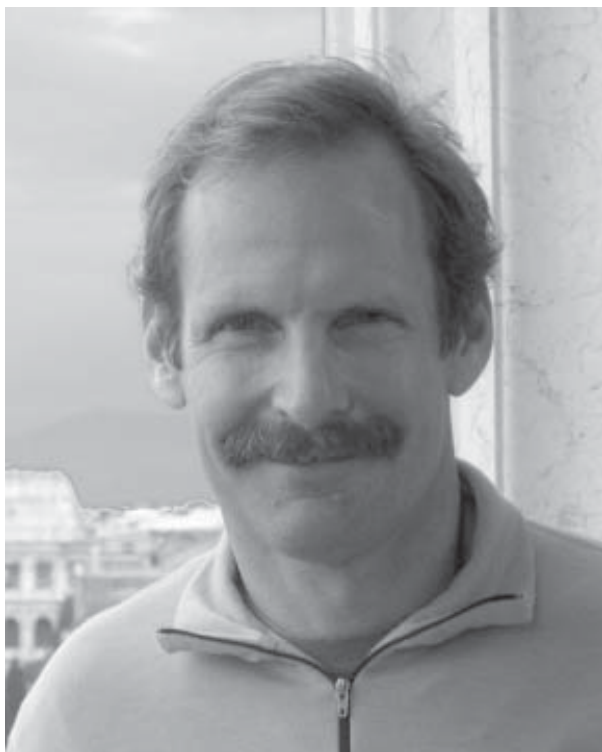
by *John Pawelek*

Congratulations to our newly-elected PASPCR council members for the term of 2006-2008: James Grichnik, Sancy Leachman, and Richard Spritz.

And many thanks for a job well done to our departing members Gisella Erf, Manickam Sugumaran, and Richard Swank!

PASPCR 2005 awards to Drs. Greg Barsh and Lynn Lamoreux

At the 2005 IPCC Meetings in Reston, VA, the PASPCR awarded Dr. Greg Barsh with the Aaron B. Lerner award (sponsored by Johnson and Johnson Skin Care Division) and Dr. Lynn Lamoreux with a lifetime honorary membership in the Society. Greg was chosen for his work on melanocortin receptors, and Lynn for her numerous contributions to understanding “white” mutations in mice. Congratulations to each of you for your well-deserved recognition!



Dr. Greg Barsh



Dr. Lynn Lamoreux with Dr. John Pawelek

Greetings and Happy New Year to Members and Friends of the PASPCR!

The wonderful IPCC meetings in Reston are past and we now look forward to our September, 2006 gathering in Cincinnati. Why do we do this year after year? Because scientists are insatiably curious and for diverse reasons we particular scientists want to learn more and more about the biological world of pigmentation. There is too much to do alone so we join a society and share our work with others. In recent years the cumulative discoveries on the various pigmentary systems have been astonishing and they keep growing. But rather than reduce the complexity we have seemingly increased it. It has been known for nearly 4 decades that cyclic AMP increases pigmentation throughout the vertebrates. Can anyone explain how this works in any of the species? Clearly we won't run out of new experiments for quite some time. That is why the PASPCR has instituted a new monthly commentary feature "**Questions in Pigment Cell Research**". Each month, one of us will informally comment on their particular research and try to put it into perspective with the whole of pigment cell biology. The commentaries are intended to be more like a communal lab meeting than a publication and responses are encouraged. Since our work is so interrelated, surely each commentary will have something for everyone. Who would have known that Keith Cheng's findings on the *golden* mutation in the zebrafish would have an impact on human pigmentation? (see Keith's January commentary on our PASPCR website.) Though originated by the PASPCR, we hope that this feature will soon expand to include the European, Japanese, and Asian societies.

I am pleased to report that 2006 finds the PASPCR strong and well. At last count we have 117 members and happily most have already paid their 2006 dues! But we want to grow. There is much to do. We need new members, particularly students, fellows and young faculty who are the strength of the future. It doesn't take much of a leap to realize that the stronger we are the easier it will be to get funded! So keep up the good work everyone and good luck in your research. We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

John Pawelek, PhD
President, PASPCR

Dear friends and colleagues, members of PASPCR,

I am greatly honored to serve as the President of the IFPCS, and I look forward for the next three years of leading our federation towards bigger successes and further recognition in the world of scientific research. I begin by expressing my gratitude to the leadership and tremendous efforts of the Past-President, Professor Dot Bennett, who invested so much of her time and energy towards strengthening the ties of the various societies, and facilitating many of the activities of the IFPCS, and to Professor Yasu Tomita for his great service as IFPCS Secretary-Treasurer.

I wish to welcome to the IFPCS the new sister-society, the ASPCR, who undoubtedly will add a new and important dimension to our federation. Vitiligo is a disease that is as challenging to ASPCR scientists and clinicians as melanoma is to pigment cell researchers in Western countries. The more we learn about the melanocyte, the more knowledge we gain about these two extreme diseases that inflict millions around the world. I hope all of us will continue to appreciate the importance of collaborations, and extend our collaborations to ASPCR members. In a world when research funding is challenging, yet means of communication are so easy, it only makes sense to interact scientifically and share resources.

Attending the IPCC, in September 2005, was quite gratifying, not only because of the excellent research presented, but also because the IFPCS has made us a community, a large international family with close-knit ties. Witnessing the ease of communication and the joy of meeting each other made the IPCC more like a family reunion, without compromising its high professional and scientific standards. We are all indebted to Dr. Vincent Hearing for his outstanding organization of such a world-class meeting. But, the success of the meeting would not have been achieved without your attendance and participation. Here, I want to emphasize a very important point, an attitude that prevails mainly in PASPCR, and transcends to the IFPCS, namely the participation of young scientists, students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty members. We always strive to give them a podium, and a chance to present their work at our national and international meetings by providing travel awards, and perhaps equally, or more

importantly, a friendly and supportive audience. Many of us, including myself, still fondly remember attending our first IPCC, personally meeting leaders of our field of research, who served as our role models. I sincerely hope that you take it as a special responsibility to introduce young scientists in your laboratories to the communities of PASPCR and IFPCS, by encouraging them to join and become active members. The young scientists of today are the leaders of our specialty in the foreseen future. Let's invest in the future of our young scientists to insure the continuity of pigment cell research.

We should all be proud of Pigment Cell Research, the official journal of the IFPCS. Thanks to the dedication of the Past Editor-in-Chief, Vincent Hearing, and the efforts of the current Editor-in-Chief, Colin Goding, we have a very highly respected journal with an impact factor of at least 3.00. I urge you to make a strong commitment to publish in PCR. The continued success of the journal depends on each one of us. Special thanks go to Colin Goding for giving PCR a new refreshing look, and insuring the expedited review of manuscripts.

Lastly, I want to remind you of acknowledging the importance of our research specialty and our model, the pigment cell. It is gratifying to see prominent laboratories, not traditionally known or affiliated with the IFPCS, conducting first class research on the melanocyte. We need to reach out for such scientists and recruit them to our pigment cell community. By strengthening the individual Pigment Cell Societies, in your case PASPCR, you will ultimately be contributing to the strength of the IFPCS.

I look very much forward to seeing all of you at the 13th Annual PASPCR meeting in Cincinnati, September 7-10, 2006. Until then, I wish you utmost success in your research endeavors.

Respectfully yours,

Zalfa Abdel-Malek
IFPCS President

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I want to express my great appreciation for the Honorary Membership that you presented to me at the recent meeting of the PASPCR. Now I can be a member forever! In fact, I should be honoring you all, because the PASPCR literally saved my career and opened my horizons and made possible its survival over all those years and then the cryopreservation of the congenic mouse pigment colony in the face of some adversity. This is the association that knows how to collaborate and also knows how to respond and respect.

The Dalai Lama has written: "One of the qualities that has moved me most about scientists is their amazing willingness to share knowledge with each other without regard to national boundaries."*

In an internal memo that you all received by email, Keith Cheng wrote: "We, as scientists, have an opportunity to facilitate active discussion of this issue, aimed at the acceleration of our society's evolution away from divisive debate, so that we can focus on scientific approaches to solving some of the truly important issues of the day – such as how to live with each other without destroying the very biosphere upon which our existence depends, and how to engage in international cooperation to solve global problems."

In my opinion, no group of individuals better fits the description of His Holiness nor embodies the ethic of Dr. Cheng than our pigment cell community. And these qualities have never been more needed. Your humane sense of responsibility is more precious than your science, which as you know has been leading the field since before the birth of mammalian pigment genetics 100 years ago. Carry on.

The plaque will go on my wall as soon as I arrive home, about in June or so. In the meantime, I am working on the Mouse book **Pigmentation Genetics** (the title will change). Anything new and exciting and genetical (or function of a locus) feel free to send and/or discuss. If you happen to be working with some extraneous species, there is a chapter on comparative, but it must be genetics or

(Continued next page)

we would be trying to write about the whole world. I thing someone already wrote that book. Or good pictures. MLLamoreux@hotmail.com. I'll see you in September (probably).

Thank you again,
Lynn

*The Universe in a Single Atom

New PASPCR members for 2006
by Raymond E. Boissy

Tamara Handerson
Old Lyme, CT

Younghwan Song
Pukyong National University
Pusan, South Korea

Rossitza Lazova
Yale University
New Haven, CT

Mitchell Denning
Loyola University
Maywood, IL

Bryan Plumlee
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR

Manpreet Randhawa
George Mason University
Manassas, VA

Welcome to the PASPCR!

PASPCR Treasurer Report
by Raymond E. Boissy

Category Summary Report
9/1/05 Through 1/31/06

Category	Amount
Inflows	
DUES:	
New-Student (n=0)	0.00
New-Fellow (n=4)	548.00
Regular-Student (n=3)	120.00
Regular-Fellow (n=50)	9,730.00
Joint IFPCS (n=2)	154.00
Total DUES	10,552.00
Total Inflows	10,552.00
Outflows	
Bank Charges	277.25
Service Chg.	197.50
Credit Card Fee	79.75
Newsletter (n=1)	228.76
Postal	132.26
Printing(plus dues notices)	96.50
Meeting Expenses	799.00
Plaques	199.00
Young Investigator Awards	600.00
IFPCS Dues for '05	2,270.00
PCR Subscript. for '05	10,880.00
Donation to ASPCR	3,000.00
Total Outflows	17,455.01
Overall Total	-6,903.01

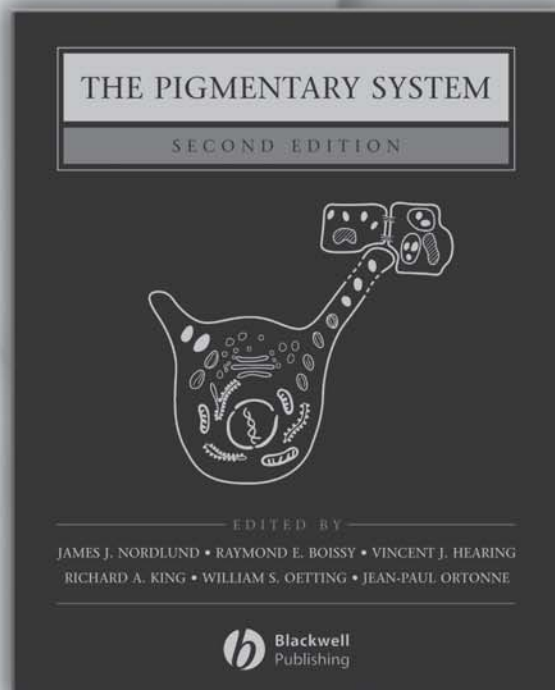
Net Worth Report
As of 8/31/05

Accounts	Opening	Closing
Cash and Bank Accounts		
PASPCR Checking	11,692.59	4,789.58
Money Market Acct.	23,701.94	23,877.93
New CD—2000 Acct.	17,289.26	17,612.71
Total Cash and Bank Accounts		46,280.22
Total Assets		46,280.22
Liabilities*		0.00
Overall Total		46,280.22

20% discount available

THE PIGMENTARY SYSTEM: PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

The most comprehensive and integrated book on pigmentation



SECOND EDITION

Edited by: **James J. Nordlund, Raymond E. Boissy, Vincent J. Hearing, Richard A. King, William S. Oetting, Jean-Paul Ortonne**

The Pigmentary System gathers into one convenient all-inclusive volume a wealth of information about the science of pigmentation and all the common and rare clinical disorders that affect skin color. The two parts, physiology (science) and pathophysiology (clinical disorders), are complementary and annotated so that those reading one part can easily refer to relevant sections in the other.

Publication date: April 2006

ISBN: 1405120347

ISBN-13: 9781405120340

Pages: 1248

New features of the second edition include:

- Completely new and up to date first part on the basic science of pigmentation and the integration of melanocyte functions with other epidermal cells and with various organ systems like the immune system
- New chapters on pigmentary disorders related to intestinal diseases, the malignant melanocyte, benign proliferations of melanocytes (nevi) and phototherapy with narrow band UV
- Clinical chapters in part two are all updated on the genetic basis of the disorder and recent advances in therapy
- More than 400 color images of virtually all clinical disorders

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Postings for **Positions Available** will be open to all individuals and institutions so long as the position is related to pigment cell research. Postings for **Positions Wanted** will be open only to members of the PanAmerican Society for Pigment Cell Research or its sister societies (JSPCR and ESPCR). Send postings to Bill Oetting at bill@lenti.med.umn.edu. Please provide an expiration date for any submitted postings. Final decisions will be made by the Publications Committee of the PASPCR.

interested in the signals required for proper migration and differentiation of these lineages during mouse embryogenesis and use various genetic manipulation techniques and existing mutants for our studies. Fox Chase Cancer offers competitive salaries to its postdocs and was recently named one of the best places to work for Postdocs (<http://www.fccc.edu/news/2003/Best-Places-for-Postdocs-02-20-2003.html>). Candidates with a recent PhD or MD/PhD with strong background in molecular biology, genetics or developmental biology are encouraged to apply. Please submit CV, and names of 3 references to:

Postdoctoral Research Associate

Fox Chase Cancer Center.
Two NIH-funded postdoctoral positions are available to work on the development of neural crest-derived melanocytes and enteric neurons in mice. We are

Dr. Myung K. Shin
Program in Cellular and Developmental Biology
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Philadelphia, PA 19111, USA
Email: MK_Shin@fccc.edu



**The 13th Annual Meeting of
the Pan American Society for Pigment Cell Research**

The Melanocyte and Its Environment
September 7-10, 2006

For registration information, contact:

University Conferencing
PO Box 210031
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0031
Phone 1.513.558.1810 Fax 1.513.558.0385
univconf@uc.edu

Lodging Information:

Lodging is available at Kingsgate conference Hotel. Participants are responsible for all lodging costs; to reserve a room telephonically, call 1.888.720.1299 or 1.513.487.3800 and give the Symposium Registration Code - PAS

To register on line - visit the website and enter PASPASA as the Symposium Registration Code - www.marriott.com/property/propertypage/CVGKG

**The 13th Annual Meeting
of the Pan American Society for Pigment Cell Research
The Melanocyte and Its Environment
September 7-10, 2006**

The 13th Annual Meeting of the Pan American Society for Pigment Cell Research, “The Melanocyte and Its Environment”, hosted by the Department of Dermatology of the University of Cincinnati, will be held at the Kingsgate Marriott Conference Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. For more information go to the web site at <http://www.conferencing.uc.edu/Details.asp?ConferenceID=239>

**Scientific Program
PASPCR Meeting, Sept. 7-10, 2006
The Melanocyte and Its Environment**

Thursday, September 7, 2006

- 1:00-1:15pm** **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Zalfa Abdel-Malek, John Pawelek
- 1:15-5:30** **Symposium I: Genetic Regulation and Developmental Aspects of Pigmentation**
Moderators: William Pavan, Lidia Kos
- 1:15-1:45 **Keynote Presentation I**
Daniel Nebert
Inter-individual susceptibility to environmental toxins-how can this be measured, and how certain of such risk assessments can we be?
- 1:45-3:00 Selected oral presentations
- 3:00-3:30 Coffee Break
- 3:30-4:00 **Keynote Presentation II**
Polly Matzinger
Conversation between tissues and the immune system
- 4:00-5:00 Selected oral presentations
- 5:00-5:30 *Invited Presentation I*
Murray Brilliant
The Genetics of Human Pigmentation
- 5:30-7:00** **Poster Viewing I**
- 7:00-9:00** **Welcoming reception**

Friday September 8, 2006

- 8:00-8:30** **Aaron B. Lerner Lecture**
Moderator: John Pawelek, PASPCR President
- Zalfa Abdel-Malek**
Title to be announced
- 8:30-12:30** **Symposium II. Stress Signaling and Survival Pathways in Melanocytes**
Moderators: Ana Luisa Kadekaro, Frank Meyskens, Jr.
- 8:30-9:00 **Keynote Presentation III**
Al Fornace
Convergence of the p53 and MAP kinase stress signaling pathways:
Roles for Gadd45a-mediated signaling in skin cancer
- 9:00-10:00 Selected oral presentations
- 10:00-10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:30-11:00 **Keynote Presentation IV**
Erik Knudsen
Retinoblastoma tumor suppressor pathway, where cell cycle meets cancer
- 11:00-11:30 *Invited Presentation II*
Ruth Halaban
Epigenetic modification and disruption in gene expression in melanoma cells
- 11:30-12:30 Selected oral presentations
- 12:30-1:30** **Lunch Break**
- 1:30-5:30 Symposium III. Regulation of Pigmentation, Growth Factors, Hormones
Moderators: Greg Barsh, Francois Rouzaud
- 1:30-2:00 *Invited Presentation III*
Tom Hornyak
Mechanisms of hypo- and hyperpigmentation: lessons learned from mouse models
of Waardenburg syndrome and neurofibromatosis
- 2:00-3:15 Selected oral presentations
- 3:15-3:45 Coffee Break
- 3:45-4:15 **Keynote Presentation V**
Desmond Tobin
The neuroendocrine regulation of human follicular melanocyte biology

- 4:15-4:45 *Invited Presentation IV*
Vijay Setaluri
On the road to the melanosome: TYRed and TRPed by the traffic
- 4:45-5:30 Selected oral presentations
- 7:00-11:00 Banquet**

Saturday September 9, 2006

- 8:00-12:30 Symposium IV. Photobiology, Melanocyte Transformation, Melanoma
Moderators: Frances Noonan, Suzie Chen
- 8:00-8:30 **Keynote Presentation VI**
Maria Teresa Landi
Melanocortin 1 receptor gene and melanoma susceptibility
- 8:30-9:45 Selected oral presentations
- 9:45-10:15 *Invited Presentation V*
Sancy Leachman
Hereditary melanoma
- 10:15-10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45-11:15 *Invited Presentation VI*
Suzie Chen
Oncogenic potential of Grm1
- 11:15-12:30 Selected oral presentations
- 12:30-2:00 Lunch break**
- 2:00-6:30 Symposium V Sensing the Environment: Cellular Interactions**
Moderators: Miri Seiberg, Prashiela Manga
- 2:00-2:30 **Keynote Presentation VII**
Steve Boyce
Culture and transplantation of melanocytes to restore skin pigmentation
- 2:30-3:45 Selected oral presentations
- 3:45-4:15 Coffee break
- 4:15-4:45 **Keynote Presentation VIII**
Ze'ev Ronai
ATF2 at the crossroads of transcription and DNA damage response: implications for melanoma development

Saturday September 9, 2006, continued

- 4:45-6:00 Selected oral presentations
- 6:00-6:30 *Invited Presentation VII*
Glynis Scott
Human melanocyte dendricity and melanosome transfer: an update
- 6:30-7:30 Poster Viewing II**
- Free Evening
Dinner for Keynote and Invited Speakers

Sunday September 10, 2006

- 8:00-11:00 Symposium VI Pigmentary Disorders**
Moderators: Raymond Boissy, Marjan Huizing
- 8:00-8:30 **Keynote Presentation IX**
Jerry Kaplan
Regulation of organelle size: studies on the function of the Chediak-Higashi/
Beige protein
- 8:30-9:00 *Invited Presentation VIII*
Marjan Huizing
Hermansky-Pudlak syndrome and related disorders
- 9:00-10:30 Selected oral presentations
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee Break**
- 11:00-11:45 Business Meeting, Presentation of Young Investigators Awards**
- Meeting Adjourn**

PASPCR: The Melanocyte and Its Environment

The 13th Annual Meeting of the Pan American Society for Pigment Cell Research *The Melanocyte and Its Environment* hosted by the Department of Dermatology of the University of Cincinnati, will be held at the Kingsgate Marriott Conference Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration fees include conference materials, refreshment breaks, breakfasts, lunches, dinner, and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Banquet. All fee categories increase \$50.00 on July 1, 2006. *Early registration is recommended.*

PASPCR Members	\$300
NON-Members	\$350
Students	\$200

One Day Registration Fees - registration fee for one day attendance will vary depending on selection day - fee includes symposium materials, refreshment breaks, and meals for the requested date. To review course agenda, please click on the "Brochure" link at the conference web site (see URL below).

Full Day Program	\$100
Half Day Program	\$50

Guest - Accompanying persons are welcome; however, lodging and meals are at an additional cost to you. To register family members/guests for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Banquet, please indicate the number of guests on the registration page.

To register - For registration information, please go to the conference web page (see URL below).

Travel stipend award: to request an award, fill in the form located at the stipend link in the conference web site. Please submit completed form to boissyre@ucmail.uc.edu by May 1.

Abstracts will ONLY be accepted on line and MUST be received prior to May 1, 2006:

<http://www.conferencing.uc.edu/dermatology/abstract>

- You will be prompted to create an account, user id and password.

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Join us for a private evening at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, the nation's newest monument to freedom. If you would like more information please visit www.freedomcenter.org. General admission to the Freedom Center, refreshments, and transportation from the Marriott will be provided.

For more information go to the conference web site at:

<http://www.conferencing.uc.edu/Details.asp?ConferenceID=239>.

Bibliography:

The Bibliography published in this issue covers the period December, 2005 through March, 2006. If you notice a paper that was not detected by this search that should be included, please send it to us and we will include it in the next issue. By its very nature, assignment of a reference to a particular category is arbitrary and we urge you to read through all categories to make sure you don't miss any pertinent to your field.

PHYSIOLOGY/BIOLOGY

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