



## International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology

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Dear colleagues,

What a great honor to be the next President of the International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology! It is a difficult task to be nominated President of ISPNE after Dr. Clemens Kirschbaum. Clemens has done a tremendous job during his 3-year mandate to stabilize the Society's finances and to ensure its long-term survival. I, therefore, take this opportunity to thank Clemens and Nicolas Rohleder, our Secretary General, for their amazing work. I am very thankful that Nicolas will keep working with me as Secretary General of our Society.

This Society has been my 'home' since my introduction to the field of psychoneuroendocrinology in 1994. Since then, I have been an active member of the Society and have participated in its numerous annual meetings across the USA and Europe. Why is this my preferred meeting of the year and my home Society? Simple. Because the ISPNE is a large family of scientists who collaborate easily with one another in order to develop the field of psychoneuroendocrinology. Through its annual conferences and various published papers in the Society's journal, I have always found interesting results when in pursuit of my research program.

I sincerely hope that the Society has, or will have in the future, such a role for you. For the next three years, I will work at further developing the Society so that it meets your needs, objectives, expectations, and increases your sense of membership.

To do so, I will first conduct a survey with all members of the ISPNE and past annual meeting attendants to better understand your expectations of the Society. Please complete this survey when you receive it so we can gain a better idea of your needs and develop a strong strategic plan for the next three years.

Second, I will work directly and very closely with the young generation of scientists (young investigators, post-docs and graduate students) to delineate their needs and expectations toward the Society. At the next ISPNE meeting, we will introduce a 90-minute 'Young Investigator Meeting' where young scientists will meet and discuss, with me, new ways to increase their participation at ISPNE. During this meeting, young investigators will also vote for two representatives that will become members of the ISPNE executive committee. This will allow us to include young investigators in the decision processes of ISPNE.

Third, I would like to evaluate the possibility of extending our ISPNE conferences to our colleagues in Asia and Australia. Although the ISPNE meetings have generally been organized in USA and Europe, we now have many colleagues from Asia and Australia who would like to become members of our Society but who cannot afford yearly annual attendance to our meetings in the US or Europe due to high travel costs. I am already in discussion with ISPNE members from the Southern Hemisphere in order to evaluate the potential for an 'ISPNE Southern Hemisphere meeting' every two years or so. For sure, I will include questions on this issue in my upcoming survey to have your point of view on this issue.

Clearly, the next three years will be highly challenging as President of ISPNE but it is a challenge that I am ready to take! If you have any questions, comments or ideas that you would like to share with me, please do not hesitate to send me an email at [sonia.lupien@umontreal.ca](mailto:sonia.lupien@umontreal.ca).

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