

Spring 2016

SNIPs

An Official Newsletter from the
Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology



**Report from Past President, Anil Kumar
2015 Meeting in Miami
21st Annual SNIP Scientific Conference
Hyatt Regency
April 22-25, 2015**

We had a very successful 21st Annual Conference of the Society at the Hyatt Regency in Miami, FL from April 22 to 25, 2015. With over 220 registered participants, this meeting ranked as one of our best-attended conferences thus far. The program brought together basic, translational, and clinical scientists to share their research and discuss the relevance of their findings.

There were three major aims for the conference. Success in those areas is outlined below.

Aim 1: To bring together investigators from diverse fields to discuss and advance the understanding of the multi-factorial impact of substances of abuse and HIV-1 infection.

The 21st SNIP Conference remained consistent with the mission of the Society which is to foster interdisciplinary research bridging the fields of Immunology, Pharmacology, and Neuroscience with a special emphasis on how drugs of abuse and infectious diseases, such as AIDS, interact and modulate the neuroimmune axis. The main focus of

the conference was to define the role of substances of abuse in modulating immunologic indices alone or in relation to associated infectious diseases; HIV infection was the prime model and neuroAIDS was its clinical outcome. Therapeutic challenges were discussed in great detail. This was evident in the poster sessions, the Early Career Investigator Symposium, the local host symposium from investigators in Miami, as well as in the themed symposia: Therapeutic challenges in HIV infection and drug addiction, Stress at the crossroads between immune function and neuropsychiatric dysfunction, Innate immunity and HIV/HCV co-infection, HIV eradication and cure, Neurodegenerative response to viral infections and therapeutics, and Aging and Alzheimer's in HIV infected population.

The majority of talks centered on the interactive aspects of neuroscience, pharmacology and immunology, including aging and other neurodegenerative processes, with molecular mechanisms, pathology, and behavioral outcomes. There was a high representation of studies and talks on the relationship between substances of abuse and HIV/AIDS.

Substances of abuse related talks:

- Cocaine abuse and HIV infection – double trouble for the immune system (Dr. Savita Pahwa)
- Developing new treatments to prevent relapse to drug use (Dr. Courtney Miller)
- Inflammatory cytokine effects on neurotransmitters, neurocircuits, and behavior in depression (Dr. Jennifer Felger)
- HIV/HCV co-infection and substance abuse (Dr. Marianna Baum)
- The path to novel therapeutics for neurodegeneration: targeting the excitatory amino acid transporter-2 (EAAT2) promoter to

- regulate glutamate transport (Dr. Paul B. Fisher)
- Potential role of purinergic P2X7 receptors in the progression of alcohol induced brain and liver damage (Dr. Liana Asatryan)
- Dopamine increases CD14+CD16+ monocyte transmigration across the blood-brain barrier: implications for substance abuse and HIV neuropathogenesis (Dr. Tina Calderon)

HIV/AIDS related talks:

- Obstacles to HIV-1 eradication (Dr. Mario Stevenson)
- HIV reservoirs: implications for pathogenesis and viral eradication (Dr. Tae-Wook Chun)
- Sonic hedgehog signaling confers neuroprotection in HIV-1 infected humanized mice (Dr. Vir Singh)
- Nanoengineered sustained drug release to eradicate HIV in CNS (Dr. Rahul Jayant)
- HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders among older HIV+ individuals (Dr. Ned Sacktor)
- Brain amyloid and HAND in the cART era (Dr. Christian Achim)
- Mechanisms of antiretroviral drug-induced changes in amyloid precursor protein processing: implications for HAND (Dr. Kelly Jordan-Sciotto)

We were also honored this year with two fascinating plenary talks: Dr. Glen Hansen (University of Utah, "Broadening the dimension of methamphetamine preclinical studies") and Dr. Thomas Hope (Northwestern University, "Characterization of the earliest events of mucosal transmission in macaque models").

In addition, we were fortunate to have Dr. Barry Rouse (University of Tennessee) as our distinguished Bill Narayan Lecturer, and Dr. Howard Fox (University of Nebraska) as our keynote speaker at the Banquet on Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Aim 2: To train and mentor young investigators in the field of neuroimmune pharmacology.

Building upon our previous successes, the 21st conference also focused on training and mentoring young investigators in the field of neuroimmune pharmacology. This was achieved by the stimulating rigor of scientific interaction throughout the conference and by employing five other complementary approaches.

(1) Early Career Investigator Travel Awards (ECITA):

In order to promote interest in the field of Neuroimmune Pharmacology and to recognize the excellent work being done by Early Career investigators in this field, the Society provides ECITA to graduate students and post-doctorate trainees. For the 2015 SNIP Scientific Conference, trainees submitted a total of 59 abstracts. From this pool, 34 pre-doctoral students and 17 post-doctorate fellows were given travel awards. Of these 51 awardees, NIDA R13 grant supported 34 awards, whereas 17 awards were conferred to students and post-doctorate fellows with the help of other sources. The ECITA travel awards were divided into 3 categories: \$750 travel expenses + registration waiver (\$240 for graduate students and \$340 for post-docs), \$500 travel expenses + registration waiver, and registration waiver alone. In addition, 8 students who were among the top candidates were awarded with "Certificate for Excellence"; while they were among the top candidates, they were not given travel awards because they were the 3rd candidates from the same mentor. Finally, the top 3 from each category (graduate student and post-doctorate fellow) were selected to give symposium presentations.

(2) *Special Symposium: Early Career Investigator Session:* This symposium showcases the research accomplishments of the best SNIP trainees. It was held on Saturday April 25, 2015. Presenters included the top ranked pre-doctoral applicants and the top ranked post-doctoral applicants identified in the ECITA competition. The graduate student presenters were: AR Nookala, F Wang, and SJ Rozzi. The post-doctoral presenters were: Drs. Y Zhou, P Periyasamy, and PSS Rao. The chair of the ECITA committee, Dr. Santosh Kumar and co-chair Dr. Marisela Agudelo chaired the Early Career Investigator Symposium. Respective titles of the talks are listed below:

Pre-doctoral trainees:

- HIV-1 Tat and methamphetamine mediated synergistic expression of IL-6 in astrocytes involves PI3K/AKT and NFkB signaling pathways (AR Nookala)
- Morphine disrupts gut homeostasis and induces distinct signatures of gut microbiome and metabolome partially through the TLR2 pathway (F Wang)
- HIV-1 Tat induces mitochondrial dysfunction in neurons (SJ Rozzi)

Post-doctoral trainees:

- Exosomes mediate cell-to-cell transmission of TLR3-induced antiviral activity and the involvement of microRNAs (Y Zhou)
- Cocaine induces endoplasmic reticulum stress-mediated activation of autophagy in astrocytes: implications for astrogliosis (P Periyasamy)
- Chronic effects of alcohol and/or antiretroviral drugs on monocytes/macrophages: potential role of cytochrome p450, efflux transporter, and antioxidant enzymes (PSS Rao)

(3) *Poster Sessions*: In addition to the trainee travel award competition, trainees presented a record number of posters (total 133) to be evaluated for best poster awards. Two poster sessions, one each for pre- and post-doctoral candidates, were held on Wednesday, April 22, and Thursday, April 23, 2015. These posters included 59 posters from ECITA applicants, and 74 additional posters from others who were either R13-eligible ECI (pre-doc and post-doc within 5 years of PhD) or the ECI who were poised to take the next level of junior investigator positions (e.g. Research Assistant Professor). Two judges reviewed each poster. They tabulated scores and ranked posters from low to high scores. The candidates with the lowest score in each category received the best poster awards for Arthur Falek Early Career Investigator (first, second, and third places). The winners were David Michael Elliott (first) and Cisneros Irma and Amma Addai (tied for second). Their mentors were Drs. Mitzi Nagarkatti, Anuja Ghorpade, and CV Das, respectively. In the post-doctoral category the first place went to Dr. Rahul Dev Jayant, while second and third places went to Narasimha M. Midde and Palsamy Periyasamy, respectively. Their mentors were Drs. P. Madhavan Nair, Santosh Kumar, and Shilpa Buch, respectively. Awardees received a plaque and a cash prize (\$250 for first, \$150 for second, and \$100 for third places) from the society.

(4) *Meet-the-Mentors Lunch*: An important part of our training program is the annual SNIP Meet-the-Mentors Lunch (M&M lunch), which was held on Thursday April 23, 2015. This was attended by 87 trainees and 31 mentors. Dr. Santosh Kumar (ECITA committee Chair) provided introductory remarks followed by mentors who provided career advice to the trainees at their respective lunch tables. The M&M lunch is designed to encourage

interaction among pre-doctoral and post-doctoral trainees and scientists from the neuroimmune pharmacology research field, including academia as well as federal agencies like NIH. For example, Drs. Abraham Bautista, Ranga Srinivas (both from NIH/NIAAA) were among the designated mentors. Typically, 6-9 trainees sat together at a round table with 2-3 mentors of their choice. This offers trainees a chance to network with mentors and ask specific questions on all aspects of their career development. In order to give the trainees a variety of perspectives, the mentors this year included junior, mid-career, and senior SNIP Investigators. Particular effort was made to include female mentors this year.

(5) *Trainee Training Session*: Finally, a special training session was held for Early Career Investigators on Friday, April 24, 2015. The theme of this session was "Getting from here to there: making the transition from post-doc to assistant professor and beyond". Two accomplished Early Career Investigators, Drs. Maureen Richards, Rush University (mentor: Dr. Leena Al-Harthy), and Peter J. Gaskill, Albert Einstein College of Medicine (mentor: Dr. Joan Berman), organized this session. Both of these individuals were current members of the SNIP Council, and they took this task upon themselves as a part of their leadership training. This novel session turned out to be highly informative, interactive, and encouraging for our trainees.

Aim 3: To disseminate information presented at the 2015 SNIP Conference to both the scientific community and the general public.

The meeting abstracts were published in a Special Edition of the Journal of NeuroImmune Pharmacology (JNIP). The highlights of the meeting were disseminated on the SNIP website, in brochure mailings, and through personal contacts. Meeting participants (particularly the trainees) benefited from the scientific discussions during their presentations, which helped them to publish their manuscripts in a number of outstanding scientific journals in the fields of substances of abuse, HIV/AIDS, and neuroimmune pharmacology.

Anil Kumar, Past President of SNIP

Welcome to the 22nd Annual SNIP Conference Krakow, Poland on April 6-9, 2016

On behalf of the organizers and the president, Dr. Sanjay Maggirwar, we welcome you to the 22nd Scientific Conference of the Society on Neuroimmune Pharmacology (SNIP). The meeting will take place for the first time in Poland, in the historic city of Krakow, from April 6 to 9, 2016. The conference will present some of the newest and most cutting edge research in the intersecting areas of neuroscience, immunology, pharmacology and its translational aspects.

Drug and alcohol abuse as well as HIV infection and AIDS continue to be an important part of the scientific program but this year also brings several new scientific and organizational features to emphasize the theme of broadening the association of our society with new contributors. First, SNIP convenes its conference for the first time in Poland with the specific intention to promote scientific exchange and collaborations of old and new SNIP members with all of Europe and beyond. Second, SNIP is partnering with the Neurotoxicity Society to organize the opening Presidential Symposium. Third, a special symposium will be jointly held by the Italian Society for Pharmacology Symposium (SIF) and SNIP. Fourth, specific attention will be drawn to the role of glial cells in aspects of drug abuse and neuronal injury and degeneration. Fifth and sixth, the potential of physical exercise and of the gut microbiome to affect the neuroimmune axis will be prominently discussed, and seventh,

early stage investigators will for the first time present their work in short five-minute talks. Finally, in order to accommodate all of the exciting science of the conference, we will have nine and thus more symposia than during any previous conferences.

SNIP has a long-standing commitment to support the developing generations of young scientists. Accordingly, SNIP bestows Early Career Investigator (ECI) Travel Awards (ECITA) onto pre-doctoral and postdoctoral scientists using a competitive application and committee based assessment procedure. However, all ECIs will present their work at a special ECI poster session that will kick off the meeting on Wed evening, April 6th. Moreover, trainees will for the first time have a chance to present their research in 5 five-minutes short talks during a special symposium on Saturday. In addition, trainees and all ECITA recipients will have a chance to network with seasoned scientists during the 'Meet the Mentors' lunch on Thursday.

The conference includes two major poster sessions, a format of presenting science that traditionally provides the most direct opportunity for discussion. Besides the ECI posters on Wednesday, a second poster session will be held on Thursday showcasing the contributions of all non-ECI participants.

Four plenary lectures will cover some major new scientific and technological developments. Dr. Kamel Khalili will give the first



plenary talk on Thursday morning discussing the use of CRISPR technology to eliminate HIV from infected cells. Dr. Anne Bang will present “Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell (hiPSC) Based Disease Models in Drug Discovery” at the second plenary talk on Thursday afternoon. The third plenary talk will be presented by Dr. Sieghart Sopper and address “Microglia activation and neurotransmitter disturbances in the SIV/maaque model for AIDS”. The fourth and final plenary talk will feature Dr. Howard Gendelman speaking about “Neuroimmune transformation in Parkinson’s disease”.

Nine symposia scheduled throughout the conference will discuss specific topics. The presidential symposium on Thursday will be a collaborative event of SNIP and the Neurotoxicity Society and examine neurotoxic and neuroinflammatory effects of drugs of abuse and cART drugs. The second symposium will consider the link between neuroinflammation and the gut: What is its relevance to HIV infection, neurological pathology, and therapy? The third symposium will analyze the neurobiology of exercise in drug abuse and neurodegenerative diseases and will be sponsored by the Academy of Physical Education, Katowice, Poland. Friday, April 8, will start with the fourth, this year’s local host symposium supported by the Institute of Pharmacology, Polish Academy of Sciences. A special symposium will be jointly held by the Italian Society for Pharmacology Symposium (SIF) and SNIP and include a panel-style question and answer session. The sixth symposium will consider astrocyte-neuron interactions: metabolism, ion homeostasis and impulse propagation. Friday’s session will conclude early to allow a free afternoon so that participants can tour historic sites in or around Krakow.

On Saturday, April 9, the seventh symposium will discuss the role of glial cells in neurodegeneration. Afterwards, the ECI symposium will provide trainees an opportunity to present their research in 5 five-minute short talks. The last symposium of the conference will present a cross-section of the research performed by members of SNIP.

Krakow is an old city in South-Eastern Poland. A free afternoon on Friday, April 8th, will give the opportunity to explore and discover the city’s rich history. This year’s banquet and awards ceremony will take place, with a brief tour included, on Saturday evening at the famous Wieliczka Salt Mines near Krakow. The banquet’s speaker, Dr. Alexei Verkhratsky, will reassess neurocentrism: Principles of astroglipathology.

This conference would not have been possible without the support and contributions of numerous people and institutions. We thank the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) of the National Institute of Health (NIH) for support via an R13 DA023184 conference award (to S.L. Chang), the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warszawa, Poland, the Academy of Physical Education, Katowice, Poland, the Institute of Pharmacology, Krakow, Poland, the Institute of Neuroimmune Pharmacology, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Florida International University, USA; the Ponce Research Institute, Ponce Health Sciences University, USA, and the Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) of the University of Miami, USA, for financial and organizational support. We also wish to recognize the generosity of Dr. Pravin Singhal, Long Island Jewish Medical Center for support of trainee participation in the annual SNIP meeting. We thank the president, and members of the executive, ECITA, finance and meeting committees of SNIP for their hard work. Special thanks goes to Dr. Michal Toborek, who established links between SNIP and the scientific community of the host country, and moreover, helped to secure funding from scientific institutions in Poland. Finally, the conference was organized in partnership with the Institute of Pharmacology, Krakow, Poland, and the Academy of Physical Education, Katowice, Poland. Now, enjoy exciting science in a historic location.

The Meeting Committee Chairs

(Modified from J Neuroimmune Pharmacol DOI 10.1007/s11481-016-9661-1)

Local Organizing Committee

Jan Albrecht, Mossakowski Medical Research Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland
Wladyslaw Lason, Institute of Pharmacology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland
Marta Kubera, Institute of Pharmacology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland
Andrzej Malecki, Academy of Physical Education, Katowice, Poland
Krzysztof Wedzony, Institute of Pharmacology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland
Adam Zajac, Academy of Physical Education, Katowice, Poland

SNIP MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the SNIP is to:

Promote research and serve as a reliable source of information in the pharmacology, immunology, and neuroscience of the neuroimmune axis; foster exchange of information and ideas on neuroimmune pharmacology by holding an annual SNIP Conference, maintaining a Society website (s-nip.org), and supporting and promoting the Society journal, the Journal of Neuroimmune Pharmacology (JNIP); increase understanding of the etiology, prevention, and treatment of neuroimmune disorders; define the neuroimmunomodulatory properties of neuroimmune innervations and regeneration, and of endogenous and exogenous neuroimmunomodulatory substances, such as hormones, neuropeptides, neurotransmitters, cytokines, chemokines, and substances of abuse; promote translational research and a better understanding of the role played by infectious diseases, such as AIDS, and of inflammation and stress in disorders of the neuroimmune axis; encourage financial support from funding agencies, industry, and the SNIP membership to effect the SNIP mission.

SNIP Leadership:

Executive Committee

Sanjay Maggirwar, M.B.A., Ph.D., President
Anil Kumar, Ph.D., Past President
Michal Toborek, M.D., Ph.D., President Elect
Rosemarie Booze, Ph.D., Treasurer
Santosh Kumar, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

***This newsletter was published on April 1, 2016
by Jialin Zheng, SNIP Communications Committee
Chair, and Matthew Mitchell from the University of
Nebraska Medical Center.***

Councilors

Sanjay Maggirwar, M.B.A., Ph.D.
Anil Kumar, Ph.D.
Rosemarie Booze, Ph.D. 2015-2018
Santosh Kumar, Ph.D. 2015-2018
Richard J. Noel Jr., Ph.D., 2013-2016
Marcus Kaul, Ph.D., 2013-2016
Pravin Singhal, M.D., 2013-2016
Jialin Zheng, M.D., 2014-2017
Marisela Agudelo, Ph.D., 2015-2018
WenZhe Ho, M.D., Ph.D., 2013-2016 At-large
Madhavan Nair, Ph.D., 2014-2017 At-large
Christoph Stein, M.D., 2013-2016, At-large, Non-US
Maureen Richards, Ph.D., 2014-2017 Early Stage
Councilor At-large
Kelly Jordan-Sciotto, Ph.D., 2015-2018 At-large
Bryan Yamamoto, Ph.D., 2015-2016 Ad-hoc
Johnny He, Ph.D. 2015-2016 Ad-hoc
Peter Gaskill, Ph.D., 2015-2016 Ad-hoc
T. Celeste Napier, Ph.D., 2015-2016 Ad-hoc
Howard E. Gendelman, M.D., Ex Officio

Early Career Investigator Travel Award Winners 2016

In order to promote interest in the field of Neuroimmune Pharmacology and to recognize the excellent work being done by Early Career Investigators in this field, the Society provides Early Career Investigator Travel Awards (ECITA) to graduate students and post-doctorate trainees (within 5 years of Ph.D.) working with a SNIP member and seeking funds to attend the annual conference of the Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology. For the 2016 SNIP Scientific Conference, a total of 81 abstracts were submitted. Of which 44 graduate students and 22 post-doctorate fellows were awarded. The awards were divided into different categories: \$1000+registration waiver, \$300+registration waiver, \$125+registration waiver, registration waiver only, and "certificate of excellence." Candidates receiving past SNIP support or representing the 3rd trainee from a mentor received only registration waiver or certificate of excellence. The top 6 graduate students and the top 6 post-doctorate fellows were selected for the Early Career Investigator Symposium (indicated with an "*" in list below). As well, additional speakers were selected for the ECI session to help attendance to this international SNIP Conference. Special thanks to the ECITA committee, NIDA, and SNIP leadership for their service and support. The full travel award (\$1000 travel expenses+registration fee) of the SNIP early Career Investigators affiliated with institutes in USA was funded by the NIDA/NIH via the R13 DA023184-13 awarded to Sulie Lin Chang, Seton Hall University.

ECITA Awardees	Mentor	University
Pre-doctoral		
Antell, G	Nonnemacher, M	Drexel University College of Medicine
Avalos, MP	Cancela	Institute of Experimental Pharmacology CONICET
Borgmann, K*	Ghorpade, A	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Chomik, A	Wrona, D	University of Gdansk
Chwiej, M	Wrona, D	University of Gdansk
Egan, KP	Jennings, SR	Drexel University College of Medicine
Fernandes, N	Potula, R	Temple University School of Medicine
Ganesan, PG	O'Donnell	Duquesne University, Mylan School of Pharmacy
Górska, AM	Golembiowska, K	Inst. of Pharmacology Polish Academy of Sciences
Greene, C	Campbell, M	Trinity College Dublin
Harazin, A	Deli, MA	Biological Research Ctr., Hungarian Acad. of Sci.
Jackson, JW*	Maggirwar, SB	University of Rochester Medical Center
Jones, B	Pandhare, J	Meharry Medical College
Lambooy, R	Noel, R	Ponce Health Sciences University
Lapierre, J	El-Hage, N	Florida International University
Laska, E	Wrona, D	University of Gdansk
Liu, H*	Xiong, H	University of Nebraska Medical Center
Liu, J*	Ho, W	Wuhan University
Ludyga, TM	Obuchowicz, EM	School of Med. in Katowice, Medical Uni. of Silesia
Lutton, EM*	Ramirez, SH	Temple University School of Medicine
Martínez-Orengo, N	Noel, R	Ponce Health Sciences University
Maubert, ME	Nonnemacher, M	Drexel University College of Medicine
McLaurin, KA	Mactutus, CF	University of South Carolina
Miller, D	Khoshbouei, H	University of Florida
Mosińska, PM	Właż	Medical University of Lodz
Most, D*	Harris, RA	University of Texas at Austin
Nooka, S	Ghorpade, A	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Noworyta-Sokolowska, K	Golembiowska, K	Inst. of Pharmacology Polish Academy of Sciences

Parira, T	Agudelo, M	Florida International University
Patters, BJ	Kumar, S	University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Pinoli, M	Marino, F	University of Insubria
Podlacha, M	Wrona, D	University of Gdansk
Quizon, PM	Zhu, J	University of South Carolina
Rivera, J	Rivera-Amill, V	Ponce Health Sciences University
Rodríguez-Santiago, R	Rivera-Amill, V	Ponce Health Sciences University
Slusarczyk, J	Basta-Kaim	Inst. of Pharmacology Polish Academy of Sciences
Sullivan, N	Wigdahl, B	Drexel University College of Medicine
Thaney, V	Kaul, M	Sanford Burnham Prebys Med. Discovery Institute
Tiwari, S	Nair, M	Florida International University
Trojan, E	Basta-Kaim, A	Inst. Pharmacology Polish Academy of Sciences
Veilleux, C	Eugenin, EA	Rutgers University
Velez Lopez Omar	Melendez, L	University of Puerto Rico
Wenzel, ED	Mocchetti, I	Georgetown University
Zhao, R	Zheng, JC	University of Nebraska Medical Center

Post-Doctoral

Albino, EM	Rivera-Amill, V	Ponce Health Sciences University
Andrews, AM	Ramirez, S	Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
Bertrand, L	Toborek, M	University of Miami
Campbell, LA*	Harvey, BK	National Institute on Drug Abuse
Castro, V	Toborek, M	University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine
Cisneros, IE	Ghorpade, A	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Glombik, K*	Basta-Kaim, A	Inst. of Pharmacology Polish Academy of Sciences
Gnanadhas, DP*	Gorantla, S	University of Nebraska Medical Center
Kaminski, R*	Khalili, K	Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
Kasprowska, D	Barski, JJ	The Jerzy Kukuczka Acad. of Physical Ed, Katowice
Malik, S	Eugenin, EA	Public Health Research Institute
Noacka-Chmielewska, M	Obuchowicz, A	The Jerzy Kukuczka Acad. of Physical Ed, Katowice
Plato, MM	Obuchowicz, EM	School of Med. in Katowice, Medical Univ. of Silesia
Rodriguez, M	El-Hage, N	Florida International University
Sagar, V	Nair, M	Florida International University
Skowronska, M	Toborek, M	University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Vashist, A*	Nair, M	Florida International University
Walter, FR*	Dér, A	Biological Research Ctr., Hungarian Acad. of Sci.
Wang, Y	Zheng, J	Qinghai University

MD/PhD

Gaiazzi, MG	Cosentino, MC	University of Insubria
Ianache, IC	Oprea	Victor Babes Hosp. Infectious & Tropical Diseases
Parikh, NU	Mahajan	State University of New York at Buffalo

(This list includes awardees that were registered by March 30, 2016)

ECITA Awardees are expected to attend all sessions of the conference to be eligible for travel award support.

The SNIP recognizes the service of ECITA committee members (Drs. Agudelo (Chair), Amedee, Shah, Mactutus, Khoshbouei, Haorah, Meléndez, Nonnemacher, El-Hage, Datta, Roy, Thangavel, Kumar, Ramirez, Tang, Chang, Rivera-Amill, Sing, Royal, Wang, Huang), and thanks them for their wonderful job in reviewing the ECITA applications.