



Schizophrenia
International
Research
Society

SIRS Society News

May 2014

Letter from SIRS President, René Kahn

It is with great pleasure that I write this President's letter for 2014.

We have just finished a very successful biennial conference with over 1700 delegates - the most ever - and despite the lure of Florence the program was extremely well attended. Rooms were packed, reflecting the exceptional quality of the presentations. For this we have to thank the Program Committee's chair and co-chair, Anissa Abi-Dargham and Jonathan Rabinowitz who worked so hard to make this conference the success it clearly was. The other mainstay of the Society are its members. Fortunately, membership has grown over the years and is still growing. But even more importantly, our members are very active, volunteering for committees, submitting abstracts and symposia for the conference and generally being committed to the Society.

That SIRS is thriving we owe to a large extent to the board. First and foremost we have to thank Lynn DeLisi who, as secretary and founder of the Society, has been instrumental to its success. She and co-founder Henry Nasrallah deservedly received distinguished service awards at the conference in Florence. John Kane who stepped down as president has, with his great leadership skills, consolidated the society both scientifically and financially. For the latter, we also have to thank Anthony Grace who has been watching over the finances so that we now are a financially stable Society.

In addition to its biennial conference, which remains the mainstay of the Society, SIRS is branching out to other parts of the globe. Hoping to repeat its success with the conference in 2012 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, SIRS will again be active in South America, now in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December of 2014. Moreover, we have been present at the Japanese Schizophrenia Society in Kyoto and will participate at the Biological Psychiatry conference in New Delhi, India.

Finally, the Society can only thrive due to the professional and efficient support of the Parthenon Management Group led by Ronnie Wilkins. We are very fortunate to have Ronnie, Sarah Timm and Michelle Tidwell to ensure that the strategic goals of the society can be implemented and that the

Members in the News

Seena Fazel, Antipsychotics, mood stabilisers, and risk of violent crime. May 2014

Oliver Howes, Dr Oliver Howes awarded the Schizophrenia International Research Society Rising Star Award. May 2014

Godfrey Pearlson, Dr. Godfrey D. Pearlson selected to receive Prestigious Stanley Dean Award, April 2014.

William Carpenter, Schizophrenia Diagnosis after DSM-5. April 2014

Lynn DeLisi, Psychiatric Genetics Hold Great Promise. March 2014

Godfrey Pearlson, Common biology shared in schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. January 2014

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We will work together as a board to maintain the high scientific and ethical standards of the Society, continue to organize the best scientific conferences in the field of schizophrenia and to collaborate even closer with patient and care organizations to achieve our most important goal: improve the lives of our patients.



2nd SIRS South American Meeting

We are excited to invite you to participate in the 2nd Schizophrenia International Research South American Meeting being held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. For more information, the conference site is now open. The 1st South American Schizophrenia meeting was a huge success attracting more than 400 researchers from South America, the United States, and Europe. Find more information on the website: <http://www.sirssouthamerica.org/>

2014 Award Winners

Distinguished Service Awards

- Lynn E. DeLisi, M.D.
- Henry A. Nasrallah, M.D.

Outstanding Clinical/Community Research

Michael Foster Green, Ph.D

Outstanding Basic Research

Akira Sawa, M.D., Ph.D

Rising Star

Oliver Howes, BM, BCh, MA, MRCPsych, Ph.D., D.M.

2014 Poster Awards

Sponsored by *Oxford*, *Elsevier*, and *Cognitive Neuropsychiatry*

Schizophrenia Research (Elsevier)

- **1st - Dr. Lorna Lopez:** *Integrated Genomic and Proteomic Evidence for the Postsynaptic Density in Schizophrenia*
- **2nd - Dr. Elizabeth Manning:** *Characterization of a "Two-Hit" Mouse Model of Methamphetamine-Induced Psychosis: Effects of Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF) Deficiency and Relevance to Schizophrenia*
- **3rd - Dr. Arija Maat:** *Emotion Recognition and Theory of Mind are related to Gray Matter Volume of the Prefrontal Cortex in Schizophrenia*

Schizophrenia Bulletin (Oxford)

- **Dr. Sanai Shakoor:** *Association between Stressful Life Events and Psychotic Experiences in Adolescence: Evidence for Gene-Environment Correlations.*

Job Posting?

If you have a job listing that you would like to put on the society website, please email us at:

info@schizophreniaresearchsociety.org

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Schizophrenia International Research Society

Cognitive Neuropsychiatry

- **1st - Dr. Filberto Fuentenbro:** *(M86) Decreasing Paranoia Levels through Classical Conditioning: An Exploratory ESM Non Clinical Study*
 - **2nd - Dr. George Fossias:** *Ecologically-valid assessment of attention in schizophrenia in a virtual environment.*
 - **3rd - Julien Laloyaux:** *Multitasking capacities in persons diagnosed with Schizophrenia: A preliminary examination of their Neurocognitive Underpinnings and Ability to Predit Real World Functioning.*
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Society Website: www.SchizophreniaResearchSociety.org

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