



INTERNATIONAL TRANSMEMBRANE TRANSPORTER SOCIETY

Newsletter

A Word from the President

Dear Transporterologists

What an unanticipated and bizarre beginning to 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic has brought us. In these unprecedented times we have seen cancellation or postponement of countless conferences, many laboratories downscaling, or halting research activities, and the world pulling together to resolve this crisis. In this issue, you will find updates on affected transporter, and related meetings, along with an update on ITTS 2020 in Copenhagen. We welcome new councilor, Christopher Mulligan, from the University of Kent, in the United Kingdom. We share with you the ITTS 2019 financial report, and are very pleased to announce that ITTS is in the process of partnering with Frontiers in Physiology, Membrane Physiology section. Also, don't forget to checkout results from the first "Transporter Fun Corner", and see what's new in transporter fun.



ITTS 2020, Catching Transport in Motion, is currently in a holding pattern. We are keeping a close eye on the coronavirus situation, and are consulting with experts. We will make a final decision to postpone or cancel by the end of May. Full details can be found within, along with the final program, and call for travel awards.

Due to cancelation of Experimental Biology 2020, where the ITTS annual business meeting was scheduled to take place, we have not yet held a business meeting this year. With any luck, we will be able to hold this meeting at ITTS 2020. In the absence of minutes to report, we are providing a breakdown of the society's finance and membership trends. I am pleased to report that the society is doing well, but we need your continued support to maintain and grow our membership. I thank those

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of you who have renewed already, and look forward to your continued support of ITTS. If you have not recently done so, please take a moment to check your current membership status on our secure website <http://www.ittsociety.org/member-login>. A key advantage of membership includes substantial reductions in registration fees for our biennial meetings. I hope that if you haven't already done so, you will renew your membership soon.

Before closing, I must give my thanks to our Secretary, Sonja Sucic, for assembling most of this content, and our Associate Councilor, Lee Gilman, for putting this newsletter together. I look forward to seeing many of you at ITTS 2020, all being well. Please stay safe and healthy.



Lynette C. Daws, PhD

President

Open Positions & Job Announcements



Please welcome a brand new addition to our "News" page on the ITTS website! We hope the "Jobs Corner" will serve as a convenient platform for group leaders to announce open positions in their labs and institutions, for researchers at various stages of their career (PhD, Postdoc and beyond). Should you like to post a job opening, please send an email to Dr. Sonja Sucic (sonja.sucic@meduniwien.ac.at).

<http://www.ittsociety.org/new-page>

Update on ITTS 2020 Catching Transport in Motion

Dear friends, colleagues and other transporter aficionados,

The new corona virus pandemic is here with effects on society not seen since World War II. Everything - from conferences to the Olympics - cancelled or postponed.

Many of you might wonder what will happen to the ITTS 2020 meeting in Copenhagen. At this time, we are currently gathering information to have a reliable prognosis about the COVID-19 status for August. We expect to have this information in 1-2 weeks from now. With that in hand, we will make a final decision for how to proceed with the ITTS 2020 meeting in Copenhagen. We will send an announcement via email, and remind you to check the ITTS website <http://www.ittsociety.org/> for conference updates.

In the event that we have to cancel or postpone the meeting, you will get a full refund of all registration expenses (meeting + farewell dinner). This also applies if you cannot travel due to COVID-19 restrictions from your home country/institution.

We hope that you are all in good health and that we will see you in August!

Best wishes,

Stine Falsig Petersen
Petrine Wellendorph
Ulrik Gether
Claus J. Loland (Chair)

ITTS 2020: Catching Transport in Motion Information Resources

Scientific Program

The spectacular scientific program with all details can be found here:
<https://www.conferencemanager.dk/itts2020/full-scientific-program.html>

Travel Grants

We are able to offer travel grants. Each grant is €1000, plus waiving of registration fee. To be considered for a travel grant, the applicant must be an ITTS member, submit an abstract and opt in for an oral presentation. Please provide a short background for the application, including CV with publications (if any). Submit applications to bo@cecevent.dk. Travel awardees will be required to make a contribution (research paper or mini review) for our Basic and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology (BCPT) special issue. For more info: see under 'travel grants' on the ITTS2020 registration homepage <https://www.conferencemanager.dk/itts2020/travel-grants.html>. *In the event that ITTS 2020 is rescheduled, travel awards will roll over to the new meeting date.*

Application deadline June 1, 2020.

Website

To access all meeting information, simply enter <http://www.ittsociety.org/>. Under ITTS 2020 you will find all information necessary about the symposium, including registration, program, housing, socials and recommendations for things to do in Copenhagen.

Contact

If you have additional questions concerning practicalities, do not hesitate to contact the conference manager (bo@cecevent.dk).

Rescheduled & Upcoming Conferences



The Dopamine Society meeting, originally scheduled for May 2020, has been rescheduled for 23-27 May 2021.

For more information: <https://dopaminesociety.org/>

Parry Hashemi and colleagues' proposal for Brain in Flux as a satellite to the 2021 International Society for Neurochemistry meeting was approved! This will be from 20-23 August 2021, near Kyoto, Japan.

Suggestions for sources of funding are welcome - please contact Parry (parry.hashemi@gmail.com).

Rescheduled & Upcoming Conferences

Experimental Biology 2020 was cancelled. Next year's Experimental Biology is scheduled for 1-4 May 2021.



More information: <https://experimentalbiology.org/>

Thanks to Renae Ryan for These Conference Updates:



The Membrane Transport Proteins Gordon Research Conference (GRC) and Gordon Research Seminar (GRS), originally scheduled for June 2020, are now rescheduled for 2022.



For more information: <https://www.grc.org/membrane-transport-proteins-conference/2020/> and <https://www.grc.org/membrane-transport-proteins-grs-conference/2020/>

The International Union of Pure and Applied Biophysics (IUPAB) Congress, originally scheduled for October 2020, has been rescheduled for 4-8 October 2021.

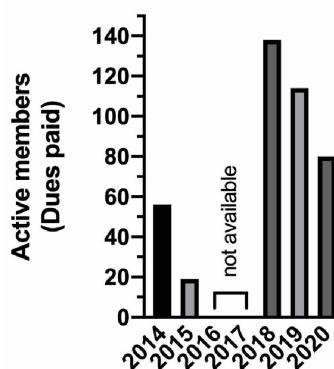


For more information: <http://iupab.org/iupab-next-congress/>

ITTS 2019 Financial Report

Cancellation of Experimental Biology 2020 subsequently cancelled our planned annual business meeting there. To the right are our membership statistics, and a graphical summary of our ITTS 2019 year-end financial report, prepared by Treasurer Haley Melikian.

ITTS Membership



ITTS Financial Stats

- Society funds: \$15,857
- Total Members in directory: 240
- Members current in dues: 74
- Members expired 2019/not yet renewed: 41
- Members expired 2018/not yet renewed: 75

BECOME A MEMBER

Renew Your Membership or Join ITTS Now

Payment can be made by credit card (via PayPal) or by check. Details on how to pay can be found at <http://www.ittsociety.org/join-itts>.

Student and Post-Doctoral ITTS Chapters Welcome

ITTS welcomes applications for local Chapters of ITTS, comprised of students and post-doctoral fellows. To form a Chapter, have your mentor nominate you as leader of that Chapter, and provide assurance of your rank, good academic standing, and commitment to the ITTS. Please also provide a name for your Chapter. Annual dues for Chapter members is only \$10, and paid by your mentor (with their blessing, of course). Chapter members will receive a member card, and have this as a valuable addition to their curriculum vitae. ITTS Chapters will be evaluated annually for their contributions to the society. The role of Chapters is to encourage active involvement with the ITTS through local outreach events, and attracting new members. Inactive Chapters, as deemed by the ITTS Executive Committee and Council, will be disbanded.

Please send applications to ITTS secretary, Dr. Sonja Sucic at sonja.sucic@meduniwien.ac.at

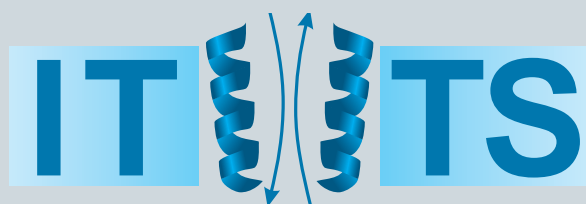
ITTS Partners with Frontiers in Physiology Membrane Physiology & Membrane Biophysics Section



We are pleased to announce that the ITTS is in the process of partnering with [Frontiers in Physiology: Membrane Physiology and Membrane Biophysics](#) section.

Benefits for the ITTS include partnering with an established, open access journal at no cost to the ITTS, exposure of the ITTS to a broader audience, and 10% revenue return on any article collections organized by the ITTS. Standard article processing charges apply for authors on all submissions. The goal is to form a standing collaboration of developing a Research Topic (article collection) from the ITTS biennial meeting and/or other related meetings/workshops. We anticipate that the first article collection will come from the 2019 Budapest FEBS Advanced Course, organized by Balázs Sarkadi.

Dr. Christoph Fahlke, newly appointed Chief Editor, assures a transparent review process under his leadership. In addition, he emphasizes the key role that associate editors play in shaping a journal. He would like to nominate members from the society as associate editors. His vision for the journal is to cover transporter function at all scales, from QM/MM or atomistic simulations to work on animal models of human diseases or with patients. If you are interested in serving as an associate editor, or have suggestions, please send to Sonja Sucic (sonja.sucic@meduniwien.ac.at).



**International Transmembrane
Transporter Society**

Not Sure of Your Membership Status?

Go to our secure website to check whether your membership is current:
<http://www.ittsociety.org/member-login>

Update on RESOLUTE

RESOLUTE

**Álvaro Inglés-Prieto, Ph.D.,
the communication manager of RESOLUTE,
a public-private partnership funded by
the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) and
the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and
Associations (EFPIA), sent us some exciting info.**

Read Alvaro's e-mail below!

Dear ITTS,

RESOLUTE has the mission to boost the research on the transporter family of Solute Carriers (SLCs) and empower the transporter research community with novel tools, methods and data sets. We are really excited to communicate that our **first article** describing RESOLUTE consortium's mission was just published in the high-impact factor journal **Nature Reviews Drug Discovery**: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41573-020-00056-6>. It represents a great chance for us to gain visibility and create awareness around Solute Carriers. We also wrote a tweet featuring this: https://twitter.com/RESOLUTE_IMI/status/1247480193171763201.

Furthermore, I contacted your team in the past regarding **our open access plasmid collection** in Addgene (hubs.ly/H0IG13y0). Now I would like to inform you that the **collection is already complete** with all 446 SLCs available.

We are sure that these news will help the transporter community, therefore we would like to kindly ask you to spread the news within your network.

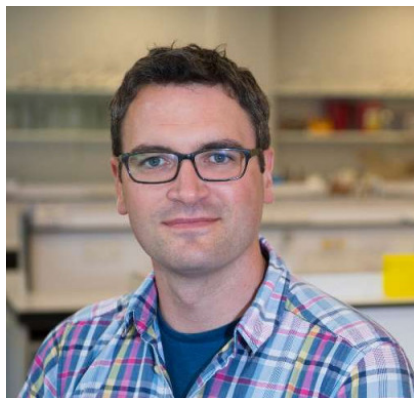
Please contact me in case of further questions or visit <https://re-solute.eu> or follow us in Twitter ([@RESOLUTE_IMI](https://twitter.com/RESOLUTE_IMI)) for more updates on RESOLUTE data and reagents.

Best regards,

Alvaro

Álvaro Inglés-Prieto, PhD
Communications & Business Development Manager

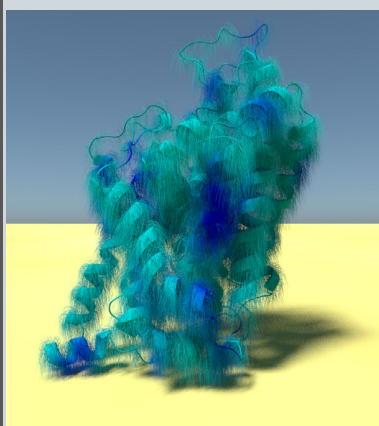
RESOLUTE IMI Public-Private Partnership
<https://re-solute.eu>



New ITTS Councilor Christopher Mulligan, Ph.D.

Chris is a Lecturer in Biochemistry at the University of Kent, UK. Chris' lab is interested in the molecular mechanisms of secondary-active transporters. In particular, the current research in Chris' lab is focused on understanding the mechanism of SLC13 family members that are associated with lifespan extension and age-related metabolic diseases, and transporters associated with bacterial viability and antimicrobial resistance.

Transporter Fun Corner



In the last newsletter, we challenged you to give this image (*left*) a name, and guess what it was. Members correctly guessed that it was the serotonin transporter (SERT). Suggested names included "Monsert" (by Jawad A. Khan), "Fluffy SERT" (anonymous), and "Hairy SERT - did SERT forget to shave?" (anonymous).

This issue's transporter image (*right*) comes with a message regarding the COVID-19 pandemic: "Times are tough, but we will get through this!"



Recently, a masked 'transporter' was spotted in Vienna (see pics below):



Email us back with your thoughts,
or share your own fun transporter image with us,
at ittsociety@ittsociety.org!

We look forward to posting your ingenious ideas
in the next issue of our Newsletter,
in the *Transporter Fun Corner*!

ITTS Executive Committee



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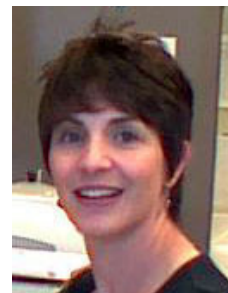
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