



**PABMB/SBBq Satellite Symposium
“Neurochemical Basis of Neurodegenerative Diseases”
Caxambu/MG, May 13-15, 2004**

Dear colleague:

On behalf of the Pan-American Association for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (PABMB) and the Brazilian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SBBq) we would like to invite you to attend the Satellite Symposium “Neurochemical Basis of Neurodegenerative Diseases”. The Symposium will be held **May 13-15, 2004**, immediately before the XXXIII Annual Meeting of SBBq (May 15-18, 2004).

PABMB is a multinational association of Scientific Societies in the fields of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. In addition to Societies from North, Central and South America, PABMB also congregates the Portuguese and Spanish Biochemical Societies as adherent members. The main mission of PABMB is to foster, through a number of coordinated actions that include the organization of symposia and specialized meetings, the development of Science in the broad fields of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in the American continent.

The Annual Meetings of SBBq take place in the small town of Caxambu in the mountains about 4 hours away by car from Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo or Belo Horizonte, and are very lively. The number of participants averages about 2,000 people, with large numbers of post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students, in addition to senior investigators working on all aspects of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, including Neurobiology and Developmental Biology. The growth of the Annual Meetings in terms of both the number of participants and presentations and of fields covered suggests that it is now time to begin hosting selected Satellite Meetings on more specialized fields. The present event is the first Satellite Symposium organized in conjunction with the Annual Meetings of SBBq. We are especially pleased that the topic chosen for this inaugural Symposium reflects the quantitative and qualitative growth of Neurochemistry in Latin American countries, and we are confident that the symposium will attract participants not only from the fields of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, but also from the Neurosciences, Pathology, Physiology and Developmental Biology, among others.

Registration for participants will be accepted until **April 30** through the SBBq website (<http://www.sbbq.org.br>). The registration fee is R\$ 80 for post-docs and investigators and R\$ 40 for graduate (MSc and PhD) students. There will be no registration fee for undergraduate students. The registration fee includes admission to the scientific sessions and to the open bar welcome reception in the evening of May 13th. Payment of the registration fee may be made by nominal check (in Brazilian Reais or in US dollars, in the case of foreign participants) made to the order of SBBq and sent to the following address: Sociedade Brasileira de Bioquímica e Biologia Molecular, Av. Prof. Lineu Prestes 748, Bloco 3 superior, sala 0367, São Paulo, SP 05508-000. Please include your name and registration number in the back of the check for identification purposes. If you experience any difficulties or have any questions regarding your registration, please Email the Organizing Committee (acangel@bioqmed.ufrj.br). Pending on the availability of funds, we plan to offer partial travel support for registered participants from Brazil and other Latin American countries. Upon registration, participants are required to indicate their interest in obtaining such

support. Graduate students receiving fellowships from CNPq, FAPESP or other agencies that cover such expenses through “taxas de bancada” or “reservas técnicas” are not eligible to request financial support from the Symposium.

The final scientific program for the Symposium is presented below.

We look forward to seeing you in Caxambu in May!

Sérgio T. Ferreira
Symposium Chair
Vice-Chairman of PABMB

Juan J. Cazzulo
Chairman of PABMB

PABMB/SBBq Satellite Symposium Neurochemical Basis of Neurodegenerative Diseases *Final Program*

Thursday, May 13th 2004

16:00 – 21:00 – Registration and slide desk open (SBBq Secretariat, Gloria Hotel)

20:30 - 22:30 - Welcome mixer (open bar) by the pool of the Gloria Hotel

Friday, May 14th 2004

8:00 – 9:00 – Registration and slide desk open (SBBq Secretariat, Gloria Hotel)

9:00 – 9:30 - Opening Remarks (Caxambu Cinema)

9:30 – 12:00: Prion diseases

(Chair: Rafael Linden, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

- *Vilma Martins (Instituto Ludwig de Pesquisas sobre o Câncer, Brazil):* Cellular prion protein polymorphism associated to human epilepsies, loss-of- function?

- *Claudio Soto (University of Texas Medical Branch, USA):* Therapy, diagnosis and neurodegeneration in prion diseases

- *Frédéric Checler (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France):* p53, a common denominator in Alzheimer's and prions diseases

12:30 – 14:00: Lunch break

14:00 – 19:00: Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration and Excitotoxicity (Chair: William L. Klein, Northwestern University, USA)

- *Fernando G. de Mello (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)*: Regulation of cholinergic activity of CNS neurons by excitatory amino acids

- *Luis Barbeito (Instituto de Investigaciones Biologicas Clemente Estable, Uruguay)*: Proneurotrophins as apoptotic mediators influencing motor neuron survival in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

- *Jerold Chun (The Scripps Research Institute, USA)*: New lipid influences on formation of the brain

Coffee break (16:40 – 17:10)

- *Ricardo Tapia (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico)*: Endogenous extracellular glutamate and neurodegeneration in the hippocampus and the spinal cord, in vivo

- *Rafael Linden (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)*: Nuclear exclusion of transcription factors as an early marker of programmed cell death in retinal degeneration

Saturday, May 15th 2004

8:00 – 12:40: Alzheimer's Disease

(Chair: *Fernando G. de Mello, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*)

- *Nibaldo C. Inestrosa (Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, Chile)*: The Neurotoxicity of the b-Amyloid is mediated by the Wnt Signaling Pathway

- *William L. Klein (Northwestern University, USA)*: Synaptic targeting by Abeta Oligomers (ADDLs): a new basis for memory loss in Alzheimer's Disease

Coffee break (9:45 – 10:00)

- *Ricardo B. Maccioni (Universidad de Chile, Chile)*: New research avenues on the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease: biological and biomedical aspects

- *Sérgio T. Ferreira (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)*: Novel therapeutic approaches in experimental models of Alzheimer's disease

- *Peter St. George-Hyslop (University of Toronto, Canada)*: Anti-Abeta therapeutics: vaccines and derivatives

12:40 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 16:00 – Challenges and opportunities in industry-academy collaboration in the neurosciences (Opening presentation by *Jerold Chun* followed by a round-table discussion of the subject)