



# The Histochemical Society NEWSLETTER

Summer 2008

Vol. 21 Number 2

## 2008 Election Results

President -Elect-Designate:  
*Antonio Nanci*

Councilors:  
*Gloria Hoffman (4 yrs)*  
*Margarida Barroso (3 yrs)*

## Awards Application Deadline

November 5, 2008 is the  
deadline for applying for  
awards for the annual  
meeting at EB2009



HCS Webpage  
[www.histochemicalsociety.org](http://www.histochemicalsociety.org)

## A Letter From The HCS President



efforts, the HCS 2008 meeting held in April in San Diego in conjunction with the Experimental Biology 2008 meeting was an overwhelming success. As a Guest Society of The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, our Society organized three well-attended symposia and the HCS Short Course on Immunocytochemistry preceding the meeting. I'd like to thank all HCS symposium organizers and the lecturers at the 2008 Short Course for their engagement, time

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Dear HCS Members and  
Colleagues,

With great joy and enthusiasm, I am assuming the Presidency of the Histochemical Society for 2008-2009. Before describing in more detail the plans that the HCS Council, our standing committees, and I developed for the coming year, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our immediate Past-President, Linda Sandell, for outstanding leadership and vision during her presidency. Thanks to Linda's

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## ***President's Letter cont...***

### **The Histochemical Society Officers**

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#### **Executive Director**

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and valuable contributions.

None of this, however, would have happened without the expert support by the HCS staff, namely Meg McGough, Tanda Jaipen and Suzanne Paquette. The HCS booth at EB2008 received a lot of attention, too, and we are grateful to all Council members and Jean Smith from the Washington University School of Medicine, who helped and answered many questions.

The HCS 2008 annual meeting was also an opportunity to admit 34 new members to the Society. While this speaks for the high visibility of the Society and its Journal to scientists around the nation and abroad, and for the successful efforts of the Membership committee lead by John Shacka, for the first time in five years the total number of members showed a significant decline.

Following consultation with HCS Council and committee members, I decided to introduce changes in the structure and composition of our committees. First of all, I reduced the number of committees from five to four by combining the Awards and Membership Committees. Acknowledging the pivotal role

that each of the four committees assumes in planning the future of the Society, I strengthened the committees by appointing additional members. My thanks go to the chairpersons of our committees during 2007-2008: Richard Levenson (Awards), Charles Frevert (Finances), John Shacka (Membership) and Antonio Nanci (Publications). It is a special pleasure to thank Hinke Multhaupt for her tireless efforts as chair of the Program Committee. Not only was Hinke's input instrumental in creating the outline for the upcoming HCS 2009 meeting, she has also agreed to serve as Chair of the Program Committee during 2008-2009.

Past-President Linda Sandell is far from retiring. Linda has agreed to organize a task force comprised of HCS members and outside consultants, if needed, to prepare plans for the future organization and management of the HCS. It is anticipated that in the course of the next year, the task force will present specific plans and suggestions reaching from the Society's mission statement and annual meetings to membership issues and the direction of its journal to business management. To achieve these ambitious goals, task force members will communicate via email and

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## President's Letter cont...

regularly hold conference calls, and hold at least one physical meeting.

Last-but-not-least, I would like to mention one of the most rewarding tasks of the HCS President, i.e., to work closely with the Program Committee on the organization of the next annual meeting.

HCS 2009 will be held in April 2009 in New Orleans, where HCS will be a guest society of the organizer of EB 2009, the American Association of Anatomists (AAA). This will be a very exciting meeting for HCS and

FASEB members alike. Preceding the EB2009 meeting, and due to the very positive responses at and after the San Diego meeting, HCS will once again offer the Short Course in Immunocytochemistry. During the EB2009 meeting, HCS will offer a symposium on stem cell plasticity co-sponsored by the AAA. Following in the footsteps of a 'standing room only' symposium at EB2007 in Washington, D.C., an additional symposia will focus on tissue fixation. Molecular cytogenetics and *in situ* hybridization in preimplantation/

perinatal diagnosis and tumor research will be the subject of the third of our scientific sessions at HCS 2009/EB2009 in New Orleans.

I am looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans !

With warmest regards,

**Ulli Weier**

President HCS

## Message From The Executive Director



### Executive Director's Report

The Annual meeting of the HCS was held between April 5-9 in the Convention Center San Diego. It was hosted by the **American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology** at Experimental Biology 2008. Our symposia and other sessions were held on April 5-7. I congratulate all of the organizers for selecting timely topics and for recruiting excellent speakers.

The meeting was very successful. The Scientific sessions and our new short course were well attended and we had a good turnout at the Business and Editorial Board meetings. The HCS booth was a great meeting place for our members and provided good opportunities for them to meet with the business office staff and members of Council and to socialize and renew friendships that have been forged over the years.

A plenary lecture, sponsored by the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry, was given by Ralph B. Puchalski of the Allen Institute for Brain Science in Seattle. The talk was entitled "**Genome-wide mapping of gene expression in the adult mouse brain**". Dr. Puchalski reported on the impressive effort of the groups at the Allen Institute

to build a three-dimensional map of gene expression in the adult mouse brain. Similar in scale to the Human Genome Project, their map reveals the expression patterns of approximately 20,000 genes throughout the entire adult mouse brain down to the cellular level.

Other scientific sessions included "**Live Imaging of Developmental Processing**" organized by Linda Sandell and Bob Mecham, "**Laser Capture Microdissection for Molecular Analysis**" organized by Tom Wight and Denis Baskin and "**Phenoms in the Phenome**" organized by Ed Rosa-Molinar and Richard Levenson.

This year the HCS inaugurated a new venture at the annual meeting. A short course on "**Principles and Applications of Immunocytochemistry**" was held on the day preceding the major

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## Message From The Executive Director cont...

scientific sessions at EB2008. The 50 people attending the short course represented a broad spectrum of clinical and research scientists. The course was so well received that Council has decided to offer the course again next year. The manual for the course was very helpful as a teaching aid. We thank the organizers, the speakers and Meg McGough in the HCS office for making the manual and the course such a great success.

The audience for this course contained both novices with little or no experience in immunocytochemistry, as well as scientists with more extensive experience. Through future workshops, the HCS will continue to provide educational guidance for investigators, students, fellows and technicians who use immunocytochemistry and other

cytochemical methods in their work. This kind of endeavor builds on the expertise of the Society as a leader in technology.

The *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry* held an open Editorial Board Luncheon on Monday, April 7th. At that time, Editor-in-Chief Kevin Roth reported on the status of JHC activities. As a point of information, he reported that for the last two years the on-line JHC has been the Journal of record. Thus, somewhat de-emphasizing the place of print in this electronic age. Further, beginning in 2009, the JHC will go to an on-line-only journal with print-on-demand as an option.

The HCS Business meeting was attended by about 50 members and friends of the Society. James Whiteford of the University of

Copenhagen received the HCS Outstanding Young Investigator Award and gave a short presentation on **Cross talk between syndecan-4 and -1 integrins during cell adhesion**. President Linda Sandell presented plaques to retiring Council member Bob Osamura, to Kelley Murphy, who recently retired from Council, to Hinke Multhaupt for service on council, as President and for continued service on HCS committees, and to Denis Baskin for his previous work as editor of JHC and for his continued contributions as Executive Editor of the Journal.

I look forward to seeing you at the EB2009 meeting in New Orleans.

With best wishes,  
**Bill Stahl**  
Executive Director

## Pre-Meeting Short Course at EB2009

The upcoming meeting in 2009 will be in New Orleans and will be joint with the American Association of Anatomists.

The short course will be held on Friday, April 17th and Saturday, April 18th, 2009 and will be separated into three parts:

- 1. An opening lecture on Friday evening, April 17**
- 2. A basic session on fundamentals of immunocytochemistry on Saturday morning**
- 3. A more advanced session in the afternoon.**

HCS will charge a fee for the course.

If you have colleagues, students or techs who would benefit from the course, we ask that you encourage them to attend.



# 2008 HCS Annual Meeting



Linda Sandell, Plenary Speaker Ralph Puchalski and Tom Wight visiting before the JHC Plenary Session.



Ralph Puchalski responds to questions.



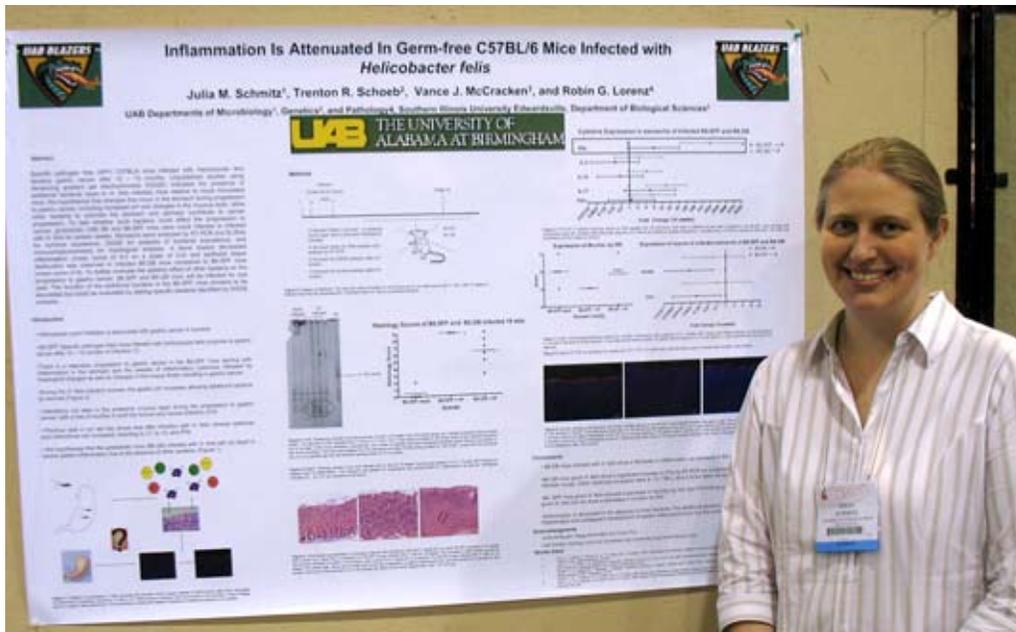
Sometimes a little caffeine is helpful for those *early* morning sessions!



HCS President Linda Sandell gets the Plenary Session started.



**Travel Awardee, Nicole Brossier, HCS member Nathan Mowa and HCS Executive Secretary Tanda Jaipean visit at the business meeting.**



**Julia Schmitz, recipient of the Lillie Award, at her poster.**

**Travel Awardees, Carolyn Durham and Julia Schmitz and research scientist awardee, Buffie Clodfelder-Miller at the meeting.**





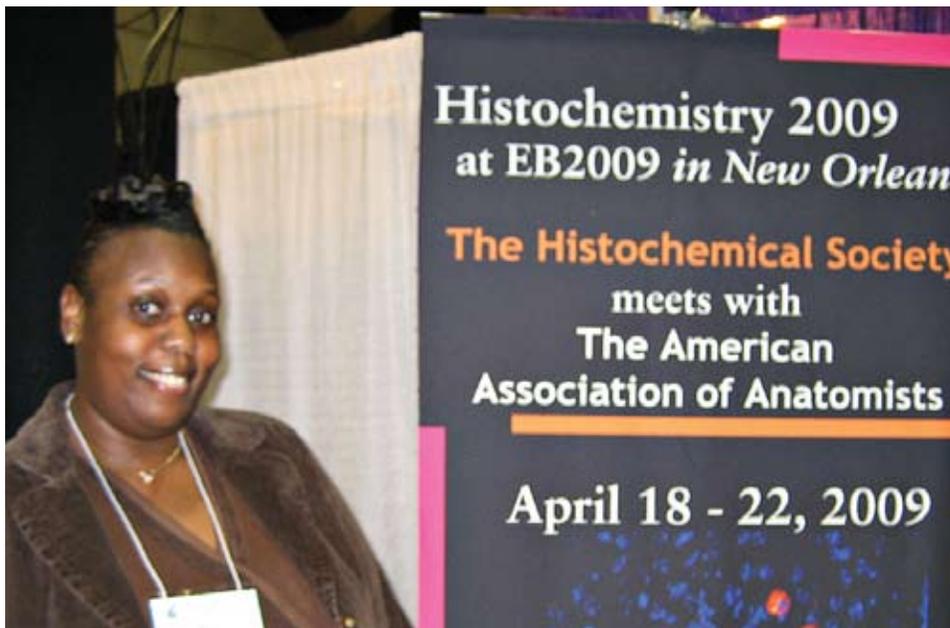
**At the HCS Booth in the exhibition area at EB2008: John Shacka, Kelley Murphy, Nancy Sawtell and Denis Baskin.**



**Councilor Gloria Hoffman spoke at the HCS Short Course in her dazzling lab coat!**



**President-Elect, Ed Rosa-Molinar and JHC Editor-in-Chief, Kevin Roth discuss key issues at the business meeting.**



Jean Smith at the HCS booth at EB2008 promotes the 2009 Annual Meeting.



# HCS 2009 Annual Meeting

## New Orleans

### Preliminary Schedule

**Friday, April 17 (evening) and Saturday, April 18 (all day)**

**Pre-EB2009 HCS Short Course**

***Principles and Applications of Immunocytochemistry***

(separate registration fee).

**Sunday, April 19, 2009**

**2:30-4:30 PM**

**Symposium**

***Tissue Fixation for Morphological Analysis and Molecular Profiling***

**5:30-7:30 PM**

**Histochemical Society Social Function**

Reception (refreshments served) followed by Business Meeting and *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry* Editorial Board Meeting.

Session includes the HCS Outstanding Young Investigator Award lecture and presentation of travel and other awards.

**Monday, April 20, 2009**

**9:30-10:20 AM**

**Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry Plenary Lecture**

**Heinz-Ulrich Weier:**

***From Molecules to Man - Molecular Cytogenetics in the 21st Century***

**10:30 AM-12:30 PM**

**Symposium**

***Molecular Cytogenetics in Preimplantation/perinatal Genetic Analysis and Cancer Research***

**2:30-4:30 PM**

**Symposium: mini-meeting session joint with AAA**

***Stem cells: Plasticity and Homing in their Histological Context***

**7:00-8:00 PM**

**Student Poster Reception, joint with AAA**



# The Histochemical Society Launches a New Wiki Cytowiki

In the next month, the HCS will launch a member based wiki titled Cytowiki. Cytowiki will be a web based forum for discussion of cell biology in context: cell imaging technologies, histochemical and immunohistochemical techniques, in situ hybridization etc. You may already be familiar with the most famous wiki, Wikipedia, the web based free content encyclopedia written collaboratively by volunteers.

“Written collaboratively” means articles may be written and edited by numerous people. For Cytowiki, written collaboratively means the HCS needs our members’ expertise on all things histochemical and cytochemical. We need your help authoring Cytowiki. By contributing your knowledge of the areas of cell biology listed above, HCS will build and expand Cytowiki into a dynamic reference tool for others less informed about the impact and use of histochemistry and cytochemistry in cell biology.

Nancy Sawtell of Children’s Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati has agreed to be the Editor and the HCS office staff will help with administration. HCS will eventually open Cytowiki to all interested parties but we want to begin with only the members of the HCS. All HCS members are invited to participate.

We will be contacting you in the next few weeks to explain further what you can do to help.

***Watch for Upcoming Announcements***



# Focus On: Klaus G. Bensch



**Dick Burry and Klaus Bensch at 2008 HCS Business Meeting**

Dr. Klaus G. Bensch attended a reception preceding the HCS Business meeting in San Diego, and I had the opportunity to meet him for the first time. Klaus G. Bensch M.D. is a retired pathologist from Stanford University College of Medicine. Stanford University has now established a Chair of Pathology in his name.

Klaus Bensch introduced glutaraldehyde as a fixative for electron microscopy. Dr. Bensch was involved in the introduction of glutaraldehyde as an electron microscopy (EM) fixative in 1963, and has since published extensively about EM. His classic paper in the *Journal of Cell Biology* introduced not only glutaraldehyde but also acrolein and several other chemical fixatives that are still in use today. To me, the most important part of this paper is not the results that he and his colleagues came up with, but the method that they used to arrive at their hypothesis. Drs. David Sabatini, Klaus Bensch, and Russell Barnett from Yale University were looking for better chemical fixatives to use in EM. Dr. Bensch reasoned that they should look at other fields where preservatives were being used, and so he turned to the *Journal of the American Leather Chemist's Association*\* to see what chemicals they used to tan leather! After selecting chemicals from this group, he began obtaining and testing them. This article displays the results of different chemical fixatives they tested, with both the beautiful and not so beautiful micrographs for view.

The ability of Dr. Bensch to think outside-the-box and use leather tanning techniques to come up with a list of new chemicals to examine for EM use is, in my mind, a classic example of the scientific method. It was a great honor for me to talk to Dr. Bensch and to hear about his journey from New Haven to Dayton, to acquire the chemicals needed for testing of his hypothesis.

**Richard Burry**  
Past-President

\*Sabatini D, Bensch K, Barnett R, (1963) Cytochemistry and electron microscopy. The preservation of cellular ultrastructure and enzymatic activity by aldehyde fixation. *J Cell Biol.* 17:19-58

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[www.ichc2008.org](http://www.ichc2008.org)

## Short Course Announcement

A Short Course on ***Principles and Applications of Immunocytochemistry*** will precede the HCS Annual Meeting at EB2009, April 17-18, 2009, in New Orleans.

The first lecture will be on Friday evening, April 17<sup>th</sup> and will be followed on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> with a Basic Course in the morning and a more Advanced Course in the afternoon.

Information will be available on the HCS webpage in August. Members will be notified by email as soon as plans are finalized.



# BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

April 7, 2008, 5:30pm  
San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina,  
Coronado Room

**Attendance** – Officers: President Linda Sandell, President-Elect Ulli Weier, President-Elect Designate Eduardo Rosa-Molinar, Secretary/Treasurer Charles Frevert. Councilors: Margardia Barroso, Gloria Hoffman, Richard Levenson, Hinke Multhaupt, R.Y. Osamura, Shan-Rong Shi, John Shacka, Nancy Sawtell, Thomas Wight. Editor-in-Chief (*the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry*) Kevin A. Roth, Executive Editor Denis G. Baskin. Executive Director William Stahl; Subscriptions and Marketing Manager Meg McGough; Executive Secretary Tanda Jaipean.

**Absent:** Antonio Nanci, Councilors Gloria Hoffman, Bob Osamura.

1. **Call to Order.** The President convened the Council meeting at 6:30pm.

2. **Outstanding Young Investigator Presentation.** James Whiteford of the University of Copenhagen gave a presentation on his research on “Cross talk between syndecan integrins during cell adhesion”.

a. Awards Committee Report. The Awards Committee Chair, John Shacka reported on the 2008 Annual Meeting Awards as follows:

HCS Outstanding Young Investigator:

James Whiteford                      University of Copenhagen

Research Scientist:

Buffie Clodfelder-Miller              University of Alabama at Birmingham

Lillie:

Julia Schmitz                              University of Alabama at Birmingham

Vector:

James Ernest Blevins                      University of Washington

Travel:

James Whiteford                      University of Copenhagen

James Blevins                              University of Washington

K.C. Walls                                  University of Alabama at Birmingham

Buffie Clodfelder-Miller              University of Alabama at Birmingham

Julia Schmitz                              University of Alabama at Birmingham

Carolyn Durham                          University of Alabama at Birmingham

Nicole Brossier                              University of Alabama at Birmingham

4. **Secretary/Treasurer Report.** Chair, Charles Frevert reported that the finances within the Society are in good shape, primarily because of the strength of the Journal. The Society has just hired a financial advisor who will be helping the Society build its assets by moving our fund portfolio from CD's, where we have had a 5% to 6% average return over the last 2 years, into Vanguard Mutual Funds. The funds will still be invested conservatively, but we are confident that we can get a higher return.

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## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES *cont.*

5. **Editor's Report.** The Editor-in-Chief reported that young members of the Society are looking to our Journal for publication opportunities. He also noted that JHC is in the middle with respect to Impact Factor and in terms of Cell Biology Journals. JHC's Impact Factor trend is going up and he expects this trend to continue in the future. The Journal receives about 300 submissions per year and publishes approximately 120 manuscripts per year. JHC has a strong reputation and has been historically the leading journal in immunohistochemical and *in situ* hybridization investigations. The Journal publishes both advances in techniques, and applications of these techniques to cell biological questions.

The Editor-in-Chief encouraged all of the HCS Award winners to consider the Journal as an outlet for important manuscripts. He also noted that there are many valuable opportunities for training experiences and interactions with scientists, editorial board members, and membership colleagues. He noted that young scientists should have confidence in knowing that a small Society, such as HCS, can assist them with manuscript publications and help in the development of their academic credentials.

He commented that the Journal is financially sound, proactive to changes, and is one of the relatively few journals that has successfully tackled the initial storm of Open Access. He is confident that the future of the Journal is bright. He also noted that the success of the pre-meeting Short Course demonstrates something new that the Journal is doing and will continue at EB2009. In the next few years JHC will be emphasizing Perspective articles. This format will offer scientists the opportunity to present two or three page articles regarding their opinions of controls, or opinions about cell biology and controversies in the field. It will be peer reviewed and will offer a chance for scientists to present a hypothesis with out supporting data.

6. **Presentation of Awards and Introduction of New President.** The current President, Linda Sandell, presented appreciation and recognition awards as follows:

- Past Editor-in-Chief and Current Executive Editor: Denis G. Baskin received Editor-in-Chief Recognition for Outstanding Leadership from 1995-2005.
- Council Recognition and Current Web Site Content Editor: Kelley Murphy received Council recognition for Outstanding Leadership from 2003-2007.
- Council Member Recognition: Robert Y. Osamura, received recognition for Outstanding Leadership as Councilor from 2004-2008.
- Past President and Past Council Member: Hinke Multhaupt received the President's recognition for Outstanding Leadership for 2007.

President Linda Sandell announced her retirement and then presented the new President Heinz-Ulrich Weier. The new President-Elect is Eduardo Rosa-Molinar and President-Elect-Designate is Antonio Nanci.

7. **Comments by the Incoming President.** The Incoming President Heinz-Ulrich Weier thanked Past-President Linda Sandell and the Society staff for all their work.

The President announced that the Society is finding itself at a turning point. He announced that he will be forming a Task Force Committee that will actively study important issues in the direction of the Society, its orientation, its Journal, its membership, and its organization. There are several issues to discuss, for example the Presidency term, which is currently one year. However, a two year term may be considered.

The President thanked former Council member Bob Osamura, who has for many years been the society's link to the Japanese Society, and who has also been an active member of HCS since the 1990's.



## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES *cont.*

a) New Committee Appointments. The President announced the new Council appointments: Gloria Hoffman and Margardia Barroso. He welcomed them and encouraged them to consider joining committees.

The President thanked Program Committee Chair Hinke Multhaupt who has agreed to continue to serve as a Chair of the Program Committee for 2008-2009.

The President stated that the primary task of the President is to organize the Annual Meeting of HCS. Much of the work for the 2009 Annual Meeting has already been taken care of by Past-President, Linda Sandell, and the Program Committee Chair, Hinke Multhaupt.

b) Committee Restructuring. The president reported that consideration is being made for restructuring some of the committees. He commented that the work of Committee members drive change in our Society. The President encouraged all of Council, the Editorial Board, and Membership to become involved in the committees of the Society to address its' future. Questions to be considered for the future include: How do we attract new active members to our Society? Do the current Society Publications address the needs of the people we serve, or should we have other publications to meet those needs? There might be better ways, for example, to be a source of information, a reference, or do problem solving, discuss techniques, or improve the accessibility of our website. These are the types of topics that will be discussed in the future within the committees of the Society.

8. **New Business.** Executive Director William Stahl thanked Council and Staff for all their hard work with the Journal and the Society. The staff in the office was also thanked for their excellent work and support of JHC and Journal activities.

No new business was presented.

The President adjourned the meeting at 6:50pm.



### Update from The Journal

We want to remind our members that all *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry* content from 2008 forward is automatically deposited into PubMed Central, <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/>. JHC's deposits exceed the National Institutes of Health mandate for submitting NIH funded research to PMC, <http://publicaccess.nih.gov/> and relieves authors of the necessity of depositing their manuscripts themselves into PMC. All articles are deposited immediately into PMC upon publication.

Additionally, **JHC** now offers authors the option to purchase Open Access to their final, published manuscript, <http://www.jhc.org/misc/ifora.shtml#JHCOA>. (The exPRESS version is always freely available.) Papers that are published as Open Access will be freely available with no subscription to JHC required upon final online publication. The charge for Open Access publication is \$2000 plus any other production fees, and must be requested when the paper is accepted for publication.



# Awards and Membership Committee Report

Dear Members,

Many changes have already taken place to improve the function of our Society, including the merging of the Awards and Membership Committees. I would like to announce the new make-up of our combined committee, which includes **Margarida Barroso, Buffie Clodfelder-Miller, Charles Frevert, Val Golovlev** and **Bill Stahl** (*ex officio*). The Histochemical Society is undergoing a period of healthy inward reflection as it prepares a revised Strategic Plan to help it carry out its mission into the next decade and beyond. Every facet of our Society will be scrutinized, including membership recruitment/retention and the types and numbers of awards to be sponsored by our Society in the future.

I wish to highlight the new category of “**Travel Awards for Research Scientists**” which were instituted for the 2008 meeting. The goal of these awards is to help faculty who are early in their careers as histochemists or staff scientists to attend and present at the HCS Meeting, now held in conjunction with the Experimental Biology Meetings of the FASEB. Their attendance will in turn aid in the recruitment to, and retention of, active members with an established interest in histochemical/cytological techniques in our Society. We will offer up to five of these new travel awards for the **2009 New Orleans meeting**, so please spread the word and be proactive in promoting new membership in our Society, using our Awards as an obvious selling point for joining. Don't forget, the abstract and awards deadline for the **2009 New Orleans meeting** is **November 5<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any suggestions or wish to be involved in our Committee, please contact me at **shacka@uab.edu**. I look forward to an exciting and memorable year ahead in serving for our Society.

**John Shacka**

Chair, Awards and Membership Committee



## HCS Strategic Plan Being Developed

The last strategic plan for HCS was developed in 2001. There have been significant changes during the the last seven years and it is now time to develop a new strategic plan. Council is now working on an updated plan.

Areas of special concern include the future direction of the Journal, models for management of the Society that will best serve a smaller membership, models for annual meetings and strategies to effectively plan for those meetings.

You may send your thoughts about these issues to Past President Linda Sandell, at **sandell@wudosis.wustl.edu**, who is chair of the task force that will work on the plan.



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Margarida Barroso  
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Buffie Clodfelder-Miller  
University of Alabama Birmingham

Charles Frevert  
VA Puget Sound Medical Center

Val Golovlev  
CSI-TEC, Inc.

William Stahl, *ex officio*  
The Histochemical Society

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Kevin Roth, *ex officio*  
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Eduardo Rosa-Molinari  
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Elizabeth Unger  
Centers for Disease Control

Heinz-Ulrich Weier  
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

Thomas Wight  
Benaroya Research Institute

Tanda Jaipean, *ex officio*  
The Histochemical Society

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Nathan Mowa  
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