

Welcome to the 18th Annual Scientific Conference of the Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology (SNIP)!

As the current president of SNIP, I would like to offer a cordial invitation to all members of the Society and to all interested colleagues to attend our 18th Annual Scientific Conference that will be held from April 25 -28, 2012 at the Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki in Honolulu, Hawaii. Hotel rates are low for such a desirable destination.

SNIP fosters interdisciplinary research and an exchange of ideas related to 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. SNIP has placed major emphasis, and continues to do so, on the education, mentoring and career advancement of Young Investigators. This year's conference will feature a poster session, a special symposium, and a "Meet the Mentors" luncheon dedicated to Young Investigators. These Young Investigators are encouraged to apply for Travel awards that are sponsored by the Society for meritorious research. The conference will feature two outstanding Plenary speakers, seven scientific symposia, and an NIH-sponsored workshop. Topic areas for the symposia will include HIV Latency and HIV Reservoirs in the Post-HAART Era, Alcohol and NeuroAIDS, Rodent Models of Interaction of Substances of Abuse, HIV-associated Neurocognitive Disorders, Neuroimmunity and Neurodegenerative Diseases, a Global Perspective of AIDS and Substances of Abuse, NeuroImmune Pharmacology Research in Hawaii, and the Emerging Health Risk in the United States posed by "Spice" and Bath Salts. For full details regarding the conference program, conference registration, travel accommodations, and hotel reservations, please see our conference flyer and/or visit our Society website (www.s-nip.org).

Finally, if you are not yet a member of SNIP, please consider joining the Society. We also encourage conference participants and Society members to submit their best work to the Journal of Neuroimmune Pharmacology (JNIP) that serves as the Society's official scientific publication forum.

Honolulu is a magnificent site for a conference – in addition to a fabulous scientific conference, there will be lots of sun and sandy beaches as well as a congenial and friendly environment. On behalf of the Executive and Conference Committees and Council, I welcome your participation in what promises to be an exciting scientific venue.

With warm regards,



Guy A. Cabral/ SNIP President