A January Column in December

A column of two parts: the first looking back on the success of the first virtual WCN, and the second looking forward to the future of the WFN.

This is my last President’s Column before a new administration takes over the WFN in January. I have drawn on the Janus theme as it is popularly believed January was so derived to be the ending of the old year and the beginning of the new year. Other interpretations emphasize the relationship of Janus to gateways. Yet others suggest the beginning and ending of conflict.

No matter how January was selected to be the first month of the Gregorian calendar, there is no doubt that Janus was Roman and it was Rome that was to have held the XXV World Congress of Neurology. Despite the pandemic, the XXV WCN was thematically Roman thanks to the Society of Italian Neurologists (SIN).

From the outset, members of the SIN were enthusiastic and energetic in their approach to the Rome World Congress of Neurology. Like everyone, SIN was extremely disappointed by having to move to a fully virtual World Congress of Neurology. The combined efforts of SIN, the WFN PCO, Kenes International, and the WFN resulted in one of our most successful congresses. Although having no comparable meeting to benchmark, I have listed below features generally acknowledged as outstanding achievements.

The Opening Ceremony featured thematic Rome as participants entered the congress through the Colosseum. Prof. Antonio Federico, president of the World Congress of Neurology, read the Papal letter of encouragement from Pope Francis as part of his welcome, followed by welcomes from Prof. Gioacchino Tedeschi, president of the Society of Italian Neurologists, and myself as president of the World Federation of Neurology. The ceremony concluded with Andrea Bocelli’s rendition of Ave Maria.

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From the floor of the virtual Colosseum, participants selected from the Scientific Program, the Teaching Course Program, Poster and Industry Exhibitions.

Most, if not all, appreciated the ease with which access to the program was gained and the quality of the lectures. Foremost among the lectures were those by Giovanna Malucci on Mechanisms to Medicines in Neurodegeneration, Alastair Compston on the Life and Times of Thomas Willis, Gero Meisenbok on Lighting Up the Brain, Peter Doherty on A Nobel Laureate Speaks about the Pandemic and many other outstanding plenary and topic lectures. Altogether there were a total of 10 plenary lectures, 67 topic and main topic sessions comprising 205 scientific lectures, and 49 teaching courses and workshops, which included 161 lectures.

With the six regional symposia, a total of 270 faculty provided these presentations. The 31 free communication sessions featured 233 presentations. A total of 2,298 abstracts were submitted and 1414 e-posters exhibited. We were again the beneficiaries of the excellent work by the Scientific Program Committee and its chair Chris Kennard. Another most pleasing feature was the number and age of attendees. A total of 4,459 attendees joined the WCN, 30% of whom were from Italy, 75% were from Western teaching courses and workshops, which included 161 lectures.

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WORLD NEUROLOGY, an official publication of the World Federation of Neurology, provides readers with essential articles and news from the leadership of the WFN, its member societies, neurologists around the globe, and news from the WFN Tournament of the Minds Committee. In addition, this issue includes a photomontage of submissions from attendees to WCN 2021, all including creative themes relevant to the location of the congress in Rome.

In this issue’s feature on the WFN, Co-opted Trustee Walter Struhal (Co-editor) and WFN president-elect Wolfgang Grisold, Dr. David Vodusek and Dr. Max Hitz write about their leadership and workings of the Membership Committee and the Automatic Disorders Specialty Group, respectively.

In this issue’s History Column, Dr. Peter Koehler further delves into the history of the Rockefeller Foundation and the historical intersections of the fields of neurology and psychiatry. In a related report, Dr. Koehler invites interested neurologists from around the world to participate in the monthly virtual presentations every third Wednesday of the month, organized by the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (ISHN).

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee for ICNMD Brussels 2022, Dr. Gauthier Remiche invites readers to attend the 17th International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases (ICNMD 2022), which will take place July 5-9, 2021 in Brussels, Belgium.

Dr. Morris Freedman, Dr. Wolfgang Grisold, Dr. Marianne de Visser, Drs. Lewis and Struhal, and Ms. Kimberly Karthooy discuss the status of the WFN e-Learning Hub to provide virtual education to neurologists and neurological trainees across the globe.

This issue also includes a photo from the recent ceremony where WFN Past-President Professor Raad Shakir received the CBE (Commander of the British Empire) from His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales in Windsor Castle. Finally, this issue includes a heartfelt obituary on the tragic and unexpected death of Professor Sergey Lobzin, chair of neurology named after academician N.I. Davidenkov and the leader of the popular “Davidenkov Readings” Congresses described in previous issues of World Neurology.

We would like to thank all readers for their interest in World Neurology. The editors also would like to take this opportunity to provide a deep thank you for the wonderful contributions that Prof. Carroll has made to the field of neurology and neurological education and neurological care globally, as well for his contributions to World Neurology, throughout his remarkably successful tenure as WFN President during such an extraordinary time.

BY STEVEN L. LEWIS, MD, EDITOR, AND WALTER STRUHAL, MD, CO-EDITOR

FROM THE EDITORS

W e’d like to welcome all readers to the November/December issue of World Neurology.

The issue begins with the President’s Column, where WFN President William Carroll discusses the success of the recent XXV World Congress of Neurology (WCN) 2021, held (virtually) in Rome, Italy. Prof. Carroll also elucidates the remarkable recent successes of the WFN and how well situated the WFN is for the future as Dr. Carroll hands off the president’s role to his successor.

Also, this issue features a report from the winning team, from the Kerala Institute of Medical Science, of the Ninth Tournament of the Minds held at the XXV WCN 2021. The team won among a field of remarkable international competitors in the first virtual Tournament of the Minds held by the WFN Tournament of Minds Committee. In addition, this issue includes a photomontage of submissions from attendees to WCN 2021, all including creative themes relevant to the location of the congress in Rome.

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17th International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases

n behalf of the Local Organizing Committee for the International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases (ICNMD) 2022, we are pleased to invite you to the 17th International Congress, which will take place July 5-9 in Brussels, Belgium.

The ICNMD is organized on behalf of the Applied Research Specialty Group on Neuromuscular Disorders of the World Federation of Neurology. Currently, the ICNMD occurs in two-year cycles.

The main goals of the congress are to offer to delegates an updated view, including major developments on the broad spectrum of adult and pediatric neuromuscular diseases that will cover basic science and clinical practice. Moreover, it will provide strong opportunities for networking in an ambition of worldwide collaboration.

The scientific and program committee will be constituted by a membership from all continents in order to cover this wide spectrum.

The format will be structured similarly to the previous ICNMD meetings, including plenary scientific lectures, teaching courses, workshops, and poster presentations. The congress will also offer virtual options for the course, including interactions with peers.

The main scientific topics that will be covered include:

- Muscle diseases (myopathies)
- Peripheral nerves diseases (polyneuropathies, mononeuropathies, cranial nerve disorders)
- Neuromuscular junction disorders
- Autonomic system disorders
- Nerve and muscle regeneration
- General/systemic diseases and cancer associated/related with neuromuscular disorders
- Syrdronic neuromuscular diseases, such as hereditary ataxias and hereditary spastic paraplegias
- Transversal sessions related to next generation sequencing, new tools for clinical trials, innovating disease modifying therapies, innovations for rehabilitation, assistance devices, patient-related topics, pain, history, neuromuscular disorders worldwide, and palliative care.

Visit icnmd.org or contact us at icnmd2022@icsevents.com for more information.

Belgium and Brussels are linked to several historical figures involved in neuromuscular sciences. For example, Christian de Duve discovered the lysosomes in 1955, Henri-Gery Hers identified alpha-acid glucosidase as the deficient enzyme in type II glycosgenosis in 1965, and Christian Coers was involved in many contributions on the neuromuscular junction.

Special rates will be available for clinicians and scientists from low-income countries.

This year, the committees will also pay attention to the visibility of quality works coming from young clinicians and scientists submitted via abstract application that could lead to oral sessions. Students’ works via abstract application are encouraged.

We look forward to seeing you in Brussels!

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee for ICNMD Brussels 2022 and the Belgian Neurological Society, Gauthier Remiche (MD, PhD) Hôpitaux Erasme, Université Libre de Bruxelles •
I n a previous History column (Issue 1 in 2019), I wrote about worldwide Rockefeller Foundation (RF) support for neurology and psychiatry in the early 20th century. Particular attention was paid to the financial support of Beijing Union Medical College and the stay of neuroanatomist C. Uriëns Kappers (1877-1946) and neurologist Ernst de Vries (1883-1976) in the 1920s and 1930s.

Other activities of RF included the support by the foundation of neuroscientific institutions such as the Montreal Neurological Institute (1934, over $1.2 million), the National Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System at Queen Square (London), Otfrid Foersters Institute of Neurological Research in Breslau (1934, the present Wrocław in Poland), the Harvard Departments of Neurology (1925, $300,000) and Psychiatry (1934), and the Nieuw Leeuwenbergh, later named Brain Center Rudolf Magnus, in Utrecht, Netherlands (1927).

As said, the RF also endorsed scientific research in and the institutional organization of psychiatry. At the time, neurology and psychiatry were often practiced in a combined fashion.

Alan Gregg and the Rockefeller Foundation

Indeed, the RF interest in neurology increased during the 1930s when psychiatry, "embracing neurology and psychology" became a significant field of interest. Departments of psychiatry, as well as those of neurology and neurosurgery, received considerable sums of money. Moreover, "the foundation maintained a steady stream of fellowships for advanced training in psychiatry, neurology, neurosurgery, and related subjects..."

These international neuroscience students included Margaret Kennard (1899-1976; see World Neurology June 2012) and Willem Verhaart (1889-1983), who spent time at John Fulton’s (1899-1960) neurophysiological lab at Yale University. With this experience, he wished to found a Primate Research Center at Batavia, the present Jakarta in Indonesia.

RF not only funded projects in the United States and Canada, but also research activities in Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Refugee neuroscientists from Europe were helped by the RF only in a limited degree between 1933 and 1940, but this improved after 1940.

A person, who played an important role in the assignments of support was

Alan Gregg (1890-1957). Between 1922 and 1956, he worked for the foundation successively as associated director in the Division of Medical Education, director of the Division of Medical Sciences, and finally as vice president of the foundation.

He stimulated research in neurobiological correlates of psychiatric disorders. In his correspondence and diaries, many physicians with an interest in neurology and psychiatry are mentioned. One of them attracted my attention, notably Herman de Jong.

Herman de Jong and Experimental Catatonia

Herman de Jong was born in the Dutch city of Sneek in the northern part of the Netherlands in 1895. Following his medical studies at the University of Amsterdam, he worked at the laboratory for animal psychology of Fris’s JJ Buylendijk (1887-1974) at the Free University of Amsterdam.

He spent some time with psychiatrist Eugen Bleuler (1857-1939) at the Burghölzli psychiatric clinic in 1922 in Zurich. Bleuler is the person, who coined the term schizophrenia for a disease that previously was named dementia praecox.

De Jong wrote his PhD thesis on catatopy and catatonia at the University of Amsterdam in 1922. The following year, he took a temporary position at the Central Institute of Brain Research. Between 1928 and 1940, he worked at Bernard Brouwer’s (1881-1949) department of neurology at the Amsterdam University Hospital.

In 1923, Brouwer had become the first Dutch professor of neurology after Johannes CA Wertheim Salomonson (1864-1922) had died.

De Jong was a frequent presenter at meetings of the Netherlands Society of Psychiatry and Neurology. He not only presented work regarding his catatopy research, but also on all kind of neurological disorders. He published in Dutch, English, French, and German.


De Jong assumed catatonia, as seen in schizophrenia, to be an organic disorder and tried to create it experimentally in cats using bulbocapnine, an alkaloid compound from Corydalis cava.

Bulbocapnine was later shown to act as an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor. Today, we know that catatonia is seen more often in affective disorders than schizophrenia. Moreover, it can be observed in several neurological disorders.

One of his teachers, namely Wertheim-Salomonson, helped him performing myograms in experimental animals and humans with catalepsy. At the time, in the concentrations used, this appeared to be normal. De Jong continued his research in Paris, where he stayed from March to June 1928 with financial support of the RF.

In his report of his stay in Paris, De Jong noted that "The person, who for the first time visits the Salpêtrière, one of the most famous centers of French clinical science, will not find the organized series of modern clinics and laboratories that one will encounter in other countries of the old and new world … and yet, it was here, where the great Charcot found his material”.

He studied chronicas as well as experimental and clinical catatonia. He cooperated with neurophysiologist Georges Bourguignon (1876-1963), whom he called the "électro-radiologiste" at the Salpêtrière, and Henri Baruk (1897-1999). The latter was a neurophysiologist, trained by Joseph Babinski (1857-1932) and Achille Souques (1860-1949), who had already undertaken a systematic study...
of catatonia in monkeys up to rats and mice. Schaltenbrand also worked with Max Nonne (1861-1959) in 1930 after Parkinson's disease and became interested in the effect of bulbocapnin. Indeed, he was searching for another substance next to bulbocapnin that could produce similar catatonic effects.

In Parkison's case, the findings were confusing due to "the smoking factor." At the time, he was working at the psychological lab of the Valerius Clinic and the Free University that was directed by psychiatrist Lammert van der Horst (1893-1978).

Indeed, he was searching for a toxin in catatonic schizophrenia that he named catatomen, a substance that occurs in a benzole extraction of urine that is able to produce experimental catatonia, but the findings were confusing due to "the smoking factor." At the time, he was working at the psychological lab of the Valerius Clinic and the Free University that was directed by psychiatrist Lammert van der Horst (1893-1978).

Other, but related neurological subjects, he published were about cortical action-tremor in a case of general paralysis of the insane. At the time, he was working at the "laboratory for clinical nerve-physics" of Brouwer's Neurological Clinic in Amsterdam. Furthermore, he published on post-encephalitic neurophysiological symptoms, referring to his own research on tremors between 1926 and 1928, comprising about ten articles. In 1931, he presented his work at the International Neurological Congress in Bern. However, he did not abandon working on catatonia, discovering experimental hormonal catatonia, surgical catatonia, and mescaline catatonia. He investigated intestinal and hepatic factors, leading to the concept of hepato-intestinal factors in catatonia and schizophrenia.

Of interest to note is that the article on experimental surgical catatonia was written in cooperation with Alfred Gallinek (1901-1975) in 1935, when the latter was already working at the Columbia-Presbyterian in New York. Gallinek had been an assistant of neuropsychiatrist Alfred Hautmann (1881-1948), professor and director of the Psychiatric and Neurologic Clinic of the German Halle, who himself fled to the United States, via Switzerland and England, after a temporary stay at the Dachau concentration camp. Moreover, in the same article, De Jong referred to a paper he had written in cooperation with (neuro)surgeon Fedor Krause (1857-1937) in the year that the latter was given emeritus status. His cooperation with European and American researchers bear witness of his extensive network.

De Jong’s Flight to the U.S. in 1940 and Gregg's Diary
Up to 1940, De Jong was a member of the Netherlands Society of Psychiatry and Neurology. In that year, he fled to the United States. The addition of “Hollander de Jong,” may have been prompted by the common occurrence of the surname “De Jong.” At least one other DeJong became a neurologist, notably the well-known Russell Nelson DeJong (1907-1990), who, in 1940, was a young neurologist at the University of Michigan, to become chairman of the department in 1950. Although he too was of Dutch descent, they were probably not related.

In July 1940, Alan Gregg had lunch with him, probably in New York. He had already met De Jong in Amsterdam in June 1934 and knew about De Jong’s work on “precox, especially catatonia” (as noted above schizophrenia’s old term was dementia praecox).

Gregg had seen a “beautiful demonstration of experimental catatonia in a cat and a mouse.” His interest in De Jong’s work should probably be understood in the context of RF’s attention for psychiatry.

“He is one of the few workers approaching resolution of preceox from chemical and physiological angle.” Regarding this lunch meeting with De Jong, Gregg noted in his diary, “Get material regarding his training and incorporate it in a letter to three or four places that might be interested in de J’s services … He has about $3,000 on which to live until he can find a position.”

Apparently, De Jong at first had plans to move further and go to the Dutch East Indies (present Indonesia), where Willem Verhaart was working. (See above.) Gregg advised him to do clinical work in the U.S. and talk with Tracy Jackson Putnam (1894-1977), co-discoverer of phenytoin treatment for epilepsy in 1938, who at the time was working at the New York Neurological Institute at Columbia University.

As vice chairman of the National Committee for Resettlement of Foreign Physicians in New York, Putnam was

HISTORY

continued from page 3

of catatonia in monkeys up to rats and mice. He had concluded it was a psychomotor syndrome of toxic origin. Thus, with De Jong’s experience of the bulbocapnine experimental model and Baruch’s clinical research experience, they cooperated at Henri Claude’s (1869-1945) lab. They continued in Brouwer’s lab in Amsterdam.

“In this way, we formulated laws describing the stages that follow increasing doses, from sleep to catalepsy, from catalepsy to negativism, from negativism to hyper-kinesis, and finally, from catalepsy to negativism, from the rigidity of de-cerebration.” They studied several sorts of animals up to mammals and described the results in their book La Catatonie expérimentale par la bulbocapnine: étude physiologique et Clinique. They concluded that the state inflicted by bulbocapnine indeed was similar to motor catatonia, including catalepsy, as first described by Karl Ludwig Kalbbaum (1828-1899) in 1874. In 1925, he published “Further clinical investigations with Bulbocapnine” in cooperation with “G Schaltenbrand.” Georg Schaltenbrand (1897-1979) indeed researched the effect of bulbocapnine indeed was similar to motor catatonia, including catalepsy. First described by Karl Ludwig Kalbbaum (1828-1899) in 1874.

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On Oct. 20, 2021, WFN Past-President Prof. Raad Shakir received the CBE (Commander of the British Empire) from His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales in Windsor Castle. For more details about Prof. Shakir and this honor, please refer to the article in the February 2021 issue of World Neurology.
The Colosseum, an iconic symbol of Imperial Rome, is one of the new seven wonders of the world. We, the winners of the Ninth Tournament of the Minds (TOM) 2021 at the XXV World Congress of Neurology, organized by the World Federation of Neurology (WFN), would like to thank the WFN and the quiz masters for the exhilarating sessions in a virtual Colosseum!

We enjoyed the adrenaline-oozing experience and winning the intellectual gladiatorial contest. “TOM” has given us fame and recognition akin to triumphing in a combat in the largest standing amphitheater. The show, like “munera,” was both informative and worthwhile. Quiz masters made sure it was a level playing field by providing questions from different neurology subspecialties, flavored with images, histopathology slides, and videos, improvising at each turn. This kept us on our toes throughout the three days of quizzing.

It broadened our horizon, sharpened our reflexes, and gave us international acclaim. We salute the other contestants of this cerebral war who helped to whet our cognitive edges.

Our mentors and institutions were proud that we were trained appropriately to battle and emerge victorious in an international cauldron.

All four of us did our medical graduation in the same institute, Government Medical College Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala, India. We all did our MD in internal medicine (three-year course) followed by DM in neurology (three-year course) and subsequently did fellowship training. We are working in our subspecialties of interest (stroke, epilepsy, movement disorder, demyelinating disorders) as consultants at three different, though adjacent, institutes situated in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India.

Dr. Suresh Chandran is at Kerala Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), Dr. Ajith Cherian and Dr. Doshi K.P are at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences (SCTIMST), and Dr. Dileep Ramachandran is at the Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram (TMC).

We train DM residents and post-doctoral fellowship students in our institutes. We believe that this colossal experience would help us in our future endeavors. Once again, thank you for the exposure, and we look forward to meeting you all in the future.

WFN eLearning Hub for Global Virtual Education

The World Federation of Neurology (WFN) will soon launch a novel eLearning platform global virtual education. Called the WFN eLearning Hub, this platform will facilitate access and dissemination of freely available clinical and research educational neurology content in the form of high-quality rounds, teaching seminars, webinars, master classes, and related academic activities.

This will be accomplished by providing links to these events that will be hosted at centers across the world within WFN member countries. The goal is to span all neurological subspecialties. The content will be available live and as recorded videos.

The educational material will be freely available to all neurologists, neurology trainees, primary care health care workers, and other health care professionals across the world, and be updated with the addition of new material on a regular basis for recurring events such as teaching rounds.

A 6-month pilot will be carried out prior to fully launching the WFN eLearning Hub. The pilot will target a small number of educational events and will provide access to the following:

- Epilepsy and Epilepsy-Surgery Case Discussions (South Africa)
- Inspiring People in Neurosciences (India)
- International Behavioral Neurology Videoconference Rounds (Canada)
- Indian Academy of Neurology’s Master Classes and Fundamental Courses
- Japanese Neuropathology Society’s Curriculum in Neuropathology
- WFN African Academy of Neurology (AFAN) Education Day on Stroke
- WFN-APAN, International Headache Society, Global Patient Advocacy Coalition: Education Day on Headache

The WFN eLearning Hub is a joint initiative involving the WFN Trustees, Education Committee, eCommunications Committee, and Standards Committee. It is designed to improve the level of knowledge among health care professionals globally and will greatly enhance the role of the WFN in international education.

Access to recorded material will be available seven days a week, 24 hours a day regardless of time zone. The goal is for the WFN website to be the “go to” source for neurologists and other health care professionals across the world for accessing neurological educational material from leading centers across the world. Moreover, the access will be freely available.

Morris Freedman and Marianne de Visser are trustees of the WFN. Steven Lewis is a trustee of the WFN and chair of the WFN Education Committee. Kimberly Karlshoej is WFN strategy and program director. Wolfgang Grisold is secretary general and president-elect of the WFN. Walter Struhal is chair of the WFN eCommunications Committee.
Interested in the History of Neurology?

BY P.J. KOEHLER MD, PhD, FAAN

Since December 2020, the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (ISHN) organizes monthly virtual (Zoom) presentations, every third Wednesday of the month, usually at 10 p.m. (Amsterdam, 4 p.m. New York).

Meetings are recorded and sent to interested colleagues living in a part of the globe, where it will be night. Typical meetings last about one hour, including a 40-minute presentation, followed by a usually vivid discussion. Here is a short impression of what we have been doing during the past year.

In December, we started with a lecture by Paul Foley, who has a PhD in the history of medicine from the University of Würzburg (Germany) and is currently scientific and research editor of Medical Journal of Australia. He published a comprehensive book on Encephalitis Lethargica. The Mind and Brain Virus (2018). His presentation was on the interesting history of the Schwann cell.

In January, we had a presentation on “Behavior & Basal Ganglia Research Unit,” University of Rennes, France.

In February, Marco Piccolini, who was professor of general physiology at the University of Ferrara in Italy, talked about “Scientists on the run at the time of the ‘racial laws’: the case of Giuseppe Levi and Rita Levi-Montalcini.” (figure 1)

In March, we had Paul Eling (University of Nijmegen, Netherlands) and Stan Finger (Washington University. St Louis, Missouri). They talked about “Gall, God, and Religion,” a presentation that aroused quite some discussion. Chris Boes, neurologist at the Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN), who was recently appointed professor of the history of medicine, talked about “Harry Lee Parker: Games Lost and Won on the Playing Fields of Neurology.”

In May, Frank Stahnisch, professor of the history of medicine in Calgary, Canada, gave a presentation on ‘A New Field in Mind. A History of Interdisciplinarity in the Early Brain Sciences.”

Following the summer break, we continued in September with Gagandeep Singh, who is consultant neurologist associated with Dayanand Medical College & Hospital in Ludhiana, India. He gave a presentation on “The Visual Aura: Epileptic or Migrainous. A Historical Perspective.”

In October, Edward Fine, University of Buffalo, NY, gave his talk on “Origins of Comprehensive Care of Persons With Epilepsy in the U.S.”

If these subjects arouse your interest in the history of neurology and you wish to attend one or more of the meetings to come, see www.ishn.org or ISHN Monthly Zoom Meeting | Neurohistory.nl. Please send an email to pkoehler@neurohistory.nl. Persons who would like to present a lecture may write too. Open slots are available from May 2022.

FORTHCOMING LECTURES

2021
Nov. 17 Georgina Chapman: The Story of Prosopagnosia: From a Curiosity to a Commonality
Dec. 15 Edward Reynolds: Robert Bentley Todd’s Contribution to Neurology and Neurosciences

2022
Jan. 19 Rohit Das: Neurology During the Great War
Feb. 16 John Jarrell: Historical Contribution of the Ovary to Hystera: The Paradox of Ovarian Compression Explored

IN MEMORIAM

Sergey Lobzin (1958-2021)

Prof. Sergey Lobzin, head of neurology chair named after Academician S.N. Davidenkov died unexpectedly on Oct. 19, 2021, at the age of 63.

Prof. Sergey was born on July 9, 1958, in Kronstadt, the town and naval base on Kotlin Island, just west of Saint Petersburg, Russia. He graduated from the Military Medical Academy named after S. M. Kirov, the oldest higher education institution of military medicine in the Russian Federation in 1981.

On Aug. 18, 1982, he married Irina. Subsequently, he had two of his beautiful daughters, who were the most important part of his life.

After he served in the Navy, he specialized in neurology, and then was sent to continue serving in Afghanistan, where he was a military neurologist in real combat conditions. In 1993, Prof. Lobzin received his PhD degree in medicine and continued his scientific activities in different areas of neuroscience, paying the greatest attention to angioneurology. In 2006, he was titled as a professor and worked in the Military Medical Academy.

Prof. Lobzin completed military service with the rank of colonel. Further, he has headed the chair of neurology named after Academician S.N. Davidenkov since the foundation of North-Western State Medical University. He was also vice dean of the Therapeutic Faculty of the North-Western State Medical University named after I.I. Mechnikov, a member of the Presidium of the All-Russian Scientific Society of Neurologists, a member of the Presidium of the North-Western Society for the Pain Study, and a member of the World Federation of Neurology and the European Academy of Neurology, academician of the Petrovskaya Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Prof. Lobzin will be forever in our hearts as an honest, friendly, cheerful, and optimistic person, as well as the scientist with great creative potential and organizational skills. He trained many qualified neurologists. He was the author of many scientific papers (more than 300), books, and methodological tutorials for students and residents of neurology.

He began and actively developed close scientific and practical cooperation of the team headed by him as neurology chair with leading scientists from all over the world. The annual congress “Davenkod Readings,” held under his brilliant leadership, has become a remarkable event in Russian scientific life. World famous neurologists took part in congresses with lectures. Every year, the “Davenkod Readings” attracted an increasing number of neurologists and neuroscientists from the Russian Federation and other countries.

The sudden and tragic death of Prof. Lobzin is an irreparable loss not only to his family and colleagues, but also to the entire Russian scientific and medical society. The memory of this great scientist, teacher, mentor, and friend will remain in the hearts of his colleagues, friends, and followers forever.
involved with immigrant physicians to the U.S. from Nazi Europe. A dramatic involved with immigrant physicians to

Kallman wrote a book on the Genetics of Schizophrenia (1938) and led the Genetics Laboratory (1938-1961). Another refugee was Kurt Goldstein (1878-1965), who had immigrated to the U.S. in 1935. The first article that appeared in De Jong's New York period was written in cooperation with Donald J. Schapiro on "fibrillation" (fasciculation) and tremor, a subject he had written about several times in his Amsterdam period. Simons was working at the New York Hospital and was assistant professor of medicine and assistant in psychiatry. Another article from his New York period, in particular at the NYSPI, was written with Louis Jacobs (1910-1989), who was at the U.S. Public Health Service (where De Jong was consultant for some time) and trained for psychiatry there.

In the Gregg diaries, we find information about De Jong in 1942, when he was trying to get a patent for a device to measure or detect extent of nerve injuries: "a machine from Dutch-American friends here in N.Y." He found a position at Duke University (Durham, NC) offered by Richard S. Lyman (1891-1959), founding chairman (with RF support) of the Department of Psychiatry (1940), after Leo Alexander (1905-1985) left. Lyman had worked at the Beijing Union Medical College (see above) in the 1930s. Alexander, of Austrian-Jewish origin, was a neuropsychiatrist, who became famous as medical advisor during the Nuremberg Trials. Gregg advised De Jong to accept the offer, as he did not see "that the RF would be prepared to give him any further help in his present position nor to promise it again in case he returned to New York after a period of time in Durham."

Gregg assumed that his experience as a clinical and experimental neurologist would be sufficient to stay there. It would be better than staying in New York City, "where his chance of developing a clientele outside of Dutch emigres is pretty small."

In Durham, he apparently continued his catatonia research considering his paper on the cephalin-cholestrol flocculation test in catatonic and other schizophrenics. In 1945, he published his book Experimental Catatonia: A General Reaction Form of the Central Nervous System and Its Implications for Human Pathology under the name Herman de Jong. It received a review in Science by psychiatrist Jules H. Masserman (1905-1994), who criticized the dualistic and materialistic approach. However, he concluded that "the work represents a sincere effort to report an almost life-long series of studies by an alert, competent, and persistent investigator and, as such, will furnish significant data to those interested in the comparative investigation of normal and abnormal behavior by valid and promising methods of animal experimentation."

In 1946, De Jong moved to Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, Maryland), where he was associate professor at the Medical School and worked at the clinical pathology department of the Catonsville State Hospital until 1948. He may have met the influential psychiatrist Adolf Meyer (1866-1950), who retired in 1941. A paper from this period was published in the Knickerbocker Weekly of 1947. This was a Dutch and English journal for Dutch people, who had immigrated to the U.S. before and during WWII. It was published between 1941 and 1947 by the Netherlands Publishing Corporation in New York, situated in Radio City building of Rockefeller Center. It was continued as The Knickerbocker in 1947. He then moved to the Birmingham VA Hospital in Van Nuys, California, that had been built in the early 1940s for the troops returning home from overseas service. He became chairman of the psychiatry and neurology department. De Jong died at age 61, when he was director of research and education at Kansas Osawatomie State Hospital and probably planning to cooperate with Baruk in Paris again. He was buried in Washington (Rock Creek Cemetery), where the remains of the two children were added. He was a member of the American Academy of Neurology and American Psychiatric Association. In one of his obituaries, he is remembered as the "father of experimental psychiatry."

Acknowledgements: I thank Diane B. Friedman, who provided me with the Gregg diaries (index [rockarch.org]).

P.J. Koehler MD, PhD, FAAN, edits the history column for World Neurology and is chair of Specialty Section and Its Implications for Human Pathology. Baltimore, Williams &

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In closing, let me say thank you to all who have supported the WFN, its trustees, and administrative staff in its endeavors over the last four years and to wish the WFN and its new administration every success. It has been both an honor and a privilege to have served as president of our organization but above all it has been a pleasure to work with so many fine people.

William (Bill) Carroll
President, World Federation of Neurology
The WFN Membership Committee and the Autonomic Disorders Specialty Group

By David B. Vodusek and Max Hilz

Wolfgang Grisold, Editor

This issue of World Neurology introduces a committee and a specialty group, providing a better insight into the work of the WFN, and also providing opportunities to become involved in the WFN.

The Membership Committee is chaired by Dr. David Vodusek from Slovenia, who has outstanding experience in international scientific neurological societies. The role of the Membership Committee is to foster membership and provide care of members. Because not all countries of the world are WFN members, this role is important, as membership also fosters the development of neurology.

The Membership Committee and the Specialty Group for Autonomic Disorders have described their activity, and you will find outlines authored by the chairs below:

Prof. Vodusek: Dr. David B. Vodusek is emeritus professor of neurology at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Faculty of Medicine. He held the position of medical director in the division of neurology at the University Medical Center Ljubljana in Slovenia between 1996 and 2018, and continues as consultant neurologist and clinical neurophysiologist.

Dr. Vodusek was born and raised in Slovenia. He received his medical degree (1976), and his PhD (1989) from the University of Ljubljana and trained also in the department for clinical neurophysiology, Uppsala, Sweden, and the Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, U.K. Dr. Vodusek was a visiting assistant professor at Baylor College in Houston, Texas (1982-83), in the New York University Medical Center, NY (1991-1993), and a consultant in Ibn Sina Hospital, Kuwait (1986-1987).

Dr. Vodusek is a member of the Slovene Medical Academy, the Slovene and German Neurological Associations, the British Association of Clinical Neurophysiology, the European Academy of Neurology (FEAN), and the European Federation of Autonomic Societies.

Dr. Vodusek’s research interests include uroneurology, clinical neurophysiology, and peripheral neurology; he has authored more than 150 articles in peer-reviewed international journals, many chapters in international editions, and co-edited the 130th volume of the Handbook of Clinical Neurology series (Neurology of Sexual and Bladder Disorders).

Membership Committee

The mission of the World Federation of Neurology is to foster quality neurology and brain health worldwide, which is made easier by the fact that WFN represents 120 professional societies in all regions of the world, and each society registers its own individual member neurologists with us. Currently, there are 75 countries that are not WFN members. Of these 75 countries, 32 are from Africa, nine from Asia, one from Central America, eight from Europe, 10 from North America, 12 from Oceania and three from South America.

The enthusiasm for fostering quality neurology should bring to WFN all those wishing to better the fate of neurological patients worldwide and are not yet members. This goal WFN seeks to achieve by promoting global neurological education and training, focused particularly on the under-resourced parts of the world.

The purpose of the Membership Committee is to care for all aspects of membership: to scrutinize the eligibility of new members, to manage and process new membership applications by implementing the WFN membership regulations, and to provide strategic guidance to retain and grow the membership with the requisite knowledge, skills, abilities, and values to fulfill the WFN’s mission and goals.

It is a task of the committee to review and discuss any inquiry into matters pertaining to membership, and to help the WFN Trustees with decisions in such matters.

WFN will continue with efforts to attract new members: national societies or neurologists from countries that have not yet applied, acknowledging the fact that there are objective obstacles in many that cannot be overcome at this time (lack of a national neurological society, lack of neurological intensive care and disorders of the autonomic nervous system (ANS)).

Applications from societies that do not yet belong are always welcome and should be sent in the first instance to the London Office. The application is a formal procedure, requiring several documents.

The committee has 10 members, which are listed on the WFN website at wfnneurology.org/about-us/committees.

Specialty Group on the Autonomic Nervous System

The specialty group (SG) on the autonomic system has greatly expanded under the leadership of Prof. Hilz, and is currently aiming for increased cooperation with other scientific societies to study and promote the autonomic nervous system.

Prof. Dr.med.habil. Dr. h.c. Max J. Hilz, M.D., FEAN, FAAN specialized in neurology, clinical neurophysiology, neurological intensive care and disorders of the autonomic nervous system (ANS). He was professor of neurology, medicine, and psychiatry at New York University in New York, City, New York; chair in autonomic Neurology at the Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, U.K., until April 2019 professor of neurology at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany.

Since June 2013, he is also adjunct professor of neurology at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York City, New York.

He chairs the Autonomic Disorders Research Group of the World Federation of Neurology and is past-chair of the ANS Panel of the European Academy of Neurology and of the Autonomic Section of the American Academy of Neurology, among others.

Prof. Hilz also serves as advisor to the European Medicines Agency, on issues related to the autonomic nervous system.

The committee has 11 executive members. It is a task of the committee to review and discuss any inquiry into matters pertaining to membership, and to help the WFN Trustees with decisions in such matters.

WFN considers within its mission to provide the appropriate platform to promote neurologic training and standards, clinical skills, and education on a global level.

There are several societies and sections focusing on ANS disorders, such as the American Autonomic Society, the European Federation of Autonomic Societies, or the ANS sections within the European Academy of Neurology, and the American Academy of Neurology.

The WFN seems best suited to advance ANS teaching and training on a global level, and thus to foster the mission of its still fledgling Autonomic Disorders Subspecialty Group (ADSG).

ANS sessions and teaching courses repeatedly had been part of the biannual World Congress of Neurology (WCN). Currently, the ADSG has 15 members, including 20 women and 35 men from 20 different countries. The executive committee is listed on the WFN website.

During the 2021 WCN, the ADSG enjoyed the privilege of hosting two autonomic teaching courses, three main topic sessions with a total of 12 lectures, a 90-minute ANS session with oral presentations, and the presentation of 20 excellent autonomic posters with topics covering most autonomic fields. The ADSG wants to promote diagnostic procedures that can be applied in daily routine by any general neurologist. We also intend to support physicians who plan ANS research studies. We hope to be able to organize visits of junior researchers to leading autonomic centers where they can learn more sophisticated procedures.

The committee has 11 executive members listed on the WFN website at wfnneurology.org/about-us/committees.
Photos Submitted from Attendees of the XXV World Congress of Neurology