



Editorial

Gender Differences in Brain and Behavior

In the spring of 1998, a discussion of research in general, and behavioral neuroscience in particular, was the impetus to organize a day-long satellite conference on gender differences in brain and behavior, which was to be held in conjunction with the International Behavioral Neuroscience meeting. While there is growing emphasis on the inclusion of women in biomedical research, there has been less momentum to include the female gender in animal studies. The conference and the current Special Issue of *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* were conceived to highlight for the research community both the importance of gender differences in the ability to generalize findings, and to emphasize the value of such differences as an informative window into brain function. This importance was also recognized by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA), National Institute of Neurological Disease and Stroke (NINDS), and the Women's Health Unit of Eli Lilly and Co. with funding support for the meeting on gender differences in brain and behavior which took place on June 23, 1999 in Nancy, France.

This special volume of *Pharmacology, Biochemistry & Behavior* was designated to feature research on gender differences in brain and behavior and all papers were peer-reviewed using the standard journal review policies. Some of the papers in this volume were submitted by meeting participants, while others were submitted to the European Office of *Pharmacology, Biochemistry & Behavior* and deemed as appropriate for the special volume. We would like to thank all of the referees for doing excellent and timely critiques of the submitted papers. In addition, we would also like to thank Dr. Nancy Ostrowski, Women's Health Unit of Eli Lilly & Co., and Dr. Nancy Pilotte of National Institute of Drug Abuse for help and encouragement in organizing both the satellite meeting and this special volume on gender differences in brain and behavior.

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