

Editorial

Editorial for the Special Issue of *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* on “Sex and Drugs”Marlene A. Wilson^{a,*}, Sandra J. Kelly^b^aDepartment of Pharmacology, Physiology & Neuroscience, University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Columbia, SC 29208, USA^bDepartment of Psychology, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA

This special volume of *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* features research relating to the interactions between sex-related factors and drug effects. Some articles examine the effects of drugs on sexual behaviors, while others report how sex or gonadal hormones affect drug responses. All of the papers were peer-reviewed using the standard journal review policies, and we would like to thank the reviewers for their time and efforts to expedite the review process and maintain the quality of the articles. We would also like to thank Drs. Sandra File and Pallab Seth in the *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* European editorial office for their help with this special issue.

The special volume highlights some of the presentations at the 5th European meeting sponsored by *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* held in Morzine, France. This meeting in January of 2004 included several sessions devoted to discussing issues related to sex and drugs, and many of the articles in this special issue represent the published form of these presentations. The meeting allowed for substantial discussion of the presentations in the beautiful setting of the French Alps and we think that many of the articles benefited from those discussions. Submissions were not restricted to meeting participants, and we received a number of submissions through the European office of *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior*. The format of the articles ranges from reviews, reviews with some data, to typical research publications. In the spirit of the expanding the topic of drug-sex interactions, we allowed extended introductions and discussions in many articles, and substantial reference lists. We hope this will provide readers with a broader perspective on the previous works in the field, and a more in-depth view of how the work contributes to our current knowledge in the field.

The editors would also like to acknowledge the efforts of Dr. Cheryl Frye in obtaining travel funds for US scientists to attend this European meeting. Her efforts, and the assistance

of Dr. Diane Witt, resulted in funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF IBN-0344103) to support the participation of several US scientists. Such funding helped increase attendance and promoted US-European interactions at this meeting, and allowed many promising young US scientists to attend the meeting. Many of these attendees not only contributed articles in this special issue but also assisted with the review process.

The European meetings sponsored by *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* began in 1996, with the topic of “Sex, Stress and Anxiety”. Intervening meetings have included topics of “Cognitive Dysfunction”, “Neurobehavioral Adaptation to Neurotoxicity”, and “Drugs of Desire”. At this 5th meeting, the focus again highlighted the role of sex in many stress and anxiety related responses. It is perhaps appropriate that we have come full circle in these five meetings, as it marks the conclusion of an era when Dr. Sandra File provided the vision and impetus for these meetings and their associated special issues. We, along with all of the participants in the European PBB meetings, owe Dr. Sandra File a debt of gratitude. We are indebted to her splendid organization of the meetings and her expertise as the European Editor of PBB. We also would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and express our heartfelt thanks for Dr. Sandra File’s continuous and unwavering support of young scientists through opportunities at these meetings and other avenues. The impact of a scientist is not only through their own work but through their influence on other scientists. Dr. Sandra File has provided inspiration, encouragement and support for us, and many of the contributors to this volume, and we want to express our deepest appreciation.

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