Over 105 pharmacologists, graduate students and members of the pharmaceutical industry in the New England region attended this year’s 37th Annual New England Pharmacologists Meeting, hosted by the Department of Pharmacology of Boston University School of Medicine. The meeting was held on Friday and Saturday, February 29 and March 1, 2008 at the Hilton Hotel in Dedham, MA and featured over 34 poster presentations, 16 oral presentations, and distinguished keynote speakers. Career counseling sessions were provided by representatives from Boston University, Merck Research Laboratories, and Wyeth Research. This marks the third and final year that the New England Pharmacologists meeting was hosted by the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics at Boston University.

**Participating schools included:**
- Boston University School of Medicine
- Dartmouth Medical School
- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
- Tufts University School of Medicine
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of Vermont College of Medicine

**Keynote Speakers**

James Eberwine, Ph.D., Elmer Holmes Bobst Professor of Pharmacology and Interim Co-Director of the PENN Genomics Institute at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center

“Pharmacological Implications from the Genomics Analysis of Single Neurons and Dendrites”
Steven J. Projan, Ph.D., Vice President and Head, Biological Technologies, Wyeth Research, “The Changes Faces of Drug Discovery and Development”

Susan E. Leeman, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Boston University School of Medicine, “The Peptides Substance P and Neurotensin: Discovery and Some Pharmacological Implications”

2008 Graduate Student Awards

Price S. Blair, Boston University School of Medicine, *Stimulation of Platelet Toll-like Receptor 2 Induces Formation of Platelet-Neutrophil Aggregates in Whole Blood*

Min Ding, Dartmouth Medical School, *Adiponectin Induces Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Differentiation through AMPK and mTOR Pathway*

Shruti V. Kabadi, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, *Uridine Decreases Edema Formation in Various Brain Regions After Traumatic Brain Injury in Rats*

Michael B. Tagen, Tufts University School of Medicine, *Uncoupling Protein 2 Regulates Histamine Production and Mast Cell Activation*

Mega A. Doczi, University of Vermont College of Medicine, *A Possible Role for Golgi Localization of the Kv1.3 Potassium Channel in Postganglionic Sympathetic Neuronal Function*

Career Counseling

Career Counseling sessions were featured at this year’s meeting. Representatives provided counseling on academic career goals as well as information and advice on pursuit of careers in private industry. Merck Research Laboratories and Wyeth Research actively recruited new talent.
**Meeting Sponsorship**

The meeting was supported by generous donations from ASPET, Merck, Lilly, Wyeth, ESA Magellan Biosciences, CMA/Microdialysis, Biogen Idec and Dyax.

Suzie M. Thompson, Member Services and Marketing Manager, presided over the ASPET Booth, providing detailed information on the organization and membership.

---

**Future Meeting**

The 38th New England Pharmacologists’ Annual Meeting will be held on February 27 and 28, 2009 and will be hosted by the Department of Pharmacology at University of Vermont College of Medicine.

**Acknowledgements**

Dr. Walsh and I would like to thank Sara Johnson for her excellent and devoted attention to detain in running the past three New England Pharmacologists meetings. We also wish to express our gratitude to Lindsay Ritz, Dmytro Berezhnoy, Erika Langer, Jerry Natowitz, Tricia Smith, Marshall Spriggs, and the students in the NIGMS Biomolecular Pharmacology Training Program at Boston University for their assistance at these meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

**David H. Farb, Ph.D.**  
President  
New England Chapter of ASPET

**Carol T. Walsh, Ph.D.**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
New England Chapter of ASPET