

1st Johns Hopkins and Patras Universities Neuroscience Symposium

**STEM CELLS AND THE NERVOUS SYSTEM:
Stem Cell Niches, Transplantation, Biotechnology**

**Organized jointly by the Medical Schools of the
Johns Hopkins University and the University of Patras**

May 14-15, 2010

University of Patras Conference and Cultural Center

*Organizers: Dimitrios Dougenis, Vassilis E. Koliatsos, George Kostopoulos,
Theo Mantamadiotis, Adamantia Mitsacou, Stavros Taraviras*

PROGRAM

DAY 1, 14th of May 2010

09:00 – 09:30 Preregistration

09:30 – 10:00 Opening Remarks
Prof. Vassilis E. Koliatsos
Prof. George Kostopoulos
Vice-Rector Prof. Dimitrios Dougenis
Rector Prof. Stavros Koumbias

SESSION I Chairman: **Vassilis E. Koliatsos, MD** and **George Kostopoulos MD, PhD**

10:00 – 11:30 Principles and Goals of Regenerative Neurobiology: From trophic factors to stem cells
Vassilis E. Koliatsos, MD
Department of Pathology (Division of Neuropathology) and Neurology, Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine, USA

Deriving Neural Stem Cells: from blastocysts to induced pluripotential cells.
Hongjun Song, PhD
Department of Neurology/Institute for Cell Engineering and Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine, USA

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:00 Neural stem cells and brain cancer
Theo Mantamadiotis, PhD
Department of Physiology, Medical School, University of Patras, Greece

Coordination of neural stem cell self-renewal and differentiation in development and disease
Stavros Taraviras, PhD
Department of Physiology, Medical School, University of Patras, Greece

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break /Posters

15:00 – 18:00 Workshop laboratory presentations for registered workshop participants at the Department of
Physiology, Medical School

DAY 2, 15th of May 2010

SESSION II Chairman: **Hongjun Song, PhD** and **John Varakis, MD, PhD**

9:00 –10:00 Historical perspective of regenerative medicine: from xenotransplantations to stem cells
Elias Kouvelas MD, PhD,
Department of Physiology, Medical School, University of Patras, Greece

Development of the mammalian nervous system

Vassilis Pachnis MD, PhD

Head of Division of Molecular Neurobiology, MRC National Institute for Medical Research, UK

10:30 -11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Developmental and adult neurogenesis in the nervous system: therapeutic clues from natural processes
Nicholas R. Gaiano, PhD
Department of Neurology and Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA

Engineering nanofiber matrices for stem cell expansion, differentiation and neural regeneration

Hai-Quan Mao, PhD

Department of Materials Science and Engineering and the Whitaker Biomedical Engineering Institute,
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA

12:30 –14:30 Lunch Break

Session IV Chairman: **Hai-Quan Mao, PhD** and **Vassilis Pachnis, MD, PhD**

14:30-15:30 Study of adult neurogenesis in the hippocampal formation: principles and expectations
George C. Papadopoulos, DVM, PhD
Professor, Laboratory of Anatomy and Histology
Veterinary Faculty, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Neural Stem Cells: towards therapies for CNS injury and disease

Rebecca Matsa, PhD

Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology Laboratory
Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Greece

16:00 –19:00 Workshop laboratory presentations for registered workshop participants at the Department of
Physiology, Medical School

For information, registration (free for talks), workshop participation, contact:

Drs. Stavros Taraviras (taraviras@med.upatras.gr) or Theo Mantamadiotis (theofilos@med.upatras.gr)

Website: <http://neuronet.upatras.gr/stemcell/conference.html>