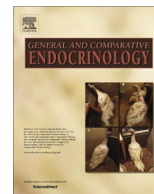




Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

General and Comparative Endocrinology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ygcen

Editorial



In a globally changing climate and with the alarming loss of biodiversity Comparative Endocrinology becomes ever more relevant as a scientific discipline. The comparative endocrinologist continues to be at the frontline of scientific endeavour trying to understand the myriad complexities of life forms on earth by looking at the regulatory factors that underpin key events in an organisms' life and ensure maintenance of homeostasis and species survival. I am glad to report that the comparative endocrinologists journal, General and Comparative Endocrinology (GCE), that was first published in 1961 continues to grow and capture new audiences and showcase cutting edge science. Bob Dores the outgoing Editor in Chief has played a central role in ensuring the survival and growth of General and Comparative Endocrinology. Through my co-editorship of GCE with Bob Dores I have had the privilege of sharing the "adventure" of being an editor in a changing publishing landscape. I would like to use this brief editorial to thank Bob for all the help he has given me since I joined him in 2012 as a new Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of GCE but also for all the hard work he has put into securing the continuation and growth of the journal over the years.

Bob Dores has been an exemplary EiC and an excellent teacher in the art of journal management; his relaxed style in handling journal board meetings and corporate meetings made them simple

and straightforward and always productive. Behind the scenes Bob Dores led by example quick, fair and just handling of all MS and clear, constructive and helpful criticism to authors, with a willingness to listen to all parties, associate editors, reviewers and authors. I know that Bob spent a lot of his time at the weekends and evenings working for the journal and now that he is stepping down from the EiC position I hope he will have a bit more time for golf! It is notable that at the same time as being EiC Bob also provided sterling service to the International scientific community of comparative endocrinology by serving as a reviewer for other journals and through his leadership role in societies. At the same time, he has made a notable and continuous contribution to the area of Comparative Endocrinology with a particular focus on the evolution of neuropeptides and more specifically the proopiomelanocortin (POMC) system and the melanocortin receptors, as is clear from his many publications in GCE and other esteemed journals.

The importance of Bobs role in the continuation and strength of GCE cannot be overstated. In the "down-time" of scientific conferences I have enjoyed Bobs reminiscences of the GCE story. Bob was "at the helm" with Ian Henderson when GCE moved in 2002 from a postal and paper based system to an almost paperless journal. Bob's description of managing the whole review process when GCE was still paper based and the piles of manuscripts and letters gives some insight into his dedication to keeping the journal afloat. The shift to the web based system of Elsevier, EES, must have been challenging if our recent shift to the new platform, EVISE, is anything to go by. In fact, Bob played an important role in reversing the fortunes of GCE when the publishing of the journal shifted from Academic Press to Elsevier, a year when the journal reached an all-time low in terms of impact factor and manuscript submissions. Since that time Bob has worked tirelessly to improve and strengthen the position of GCE and now hands over a strong and buoyant journal to the incoming EiC, Mark Sheridan.

GCE will be in good hands as Mark Sheridan worked with two of the "fathers" of comparative endocrinology, Professor Aubrey Gorbman and Professor Howard Bern [see Aubrey Gorbman and Howard Bern (1962) *A Textbook of Comparative Endocrinology*, John Wiley and Sons, NY, 468 pp; Professor Gorbman also was the founding editor of GCE]. He was inspired and challenged by the unforgettable interactions with Gorbman and Bern and will bring that and his subsequent scientific experience along with his high level experience of Academic administration to GCE. Mark Sheridan accepted the EiC position of GCE because he "*wants to contribute to carry on the legacy of two extraordinary men, Gorbman and Bern, who made a lasting impact on him and the field of Comparative Endocrinology*". Mark Sheridan looks forward to the opportu-

nity of expanding the visibility and impact of comparative endocrinology through GCE as he considers the field is uniquely positioned not only to help build a “general” endocrinology, but to be on the frontier of addressing some the major questions facing biology. GCE should be the outlet of choice for such pioneering work.

Editor-in-Chief

Deborah M. Power

Centro de Ciências do Mar (CCMAR), Universidade do Algarve, Campus de Gambelas, 8005-139 Faro, Portugal

E-mail address: dpower@ualg.pt

Editor-in-Chief

Mark Sheridan

Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA

E-mail addresses: mark.sheridan@ttu.edu

Former Editor-in-Chief

Robert M. Does

Department of Biological Sciences, University of Denver, Denver, CO 80210, USA

E-mail addresses: robert.dores@du.edu

Available online 21 April 2017