

### ***A Message from our President:***

Happy New Year from the American Peptide Society! Read below to learn about the highlights from last year and the exciting new things to look forward to in the future. I hope to see many of you in Ventura for the 2020 Peptides GRC and again at the 2021 American Peptide Symposium. More info about that below...

Wishing you all a wonderful year,  
Ved Srivastava, APS President

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### ***Looking Back at 2019...***



The 26th American Peptide Symposium (and 11th International Peptide Symposium) was held June 22-27, 2019 in the coastal city of Monterey, California. The theme for the conference was “Catch the New Wave of Peptide Science”. The program included 85 speakers including inspiring keynote addresses by Prof. Frances Arnold of California Institute of Technology (opening night), and Prof. Helma Wennemers of ETH Zurich (closing day). Other program highlights included talks on a wide range of areas spanning peptide drugs, protein-protein interactions, peptide macrocycles, designer peptide mimetics, protein engineering, methodological innovations, peptide ligand screening, and peptide nanomaterials. **Prof. Lila Gierasch** accepted the Merrifield Award; **Profs. Annette Beck-Sickinger and Hiroaki Suga** were presented with the Vincent du Vigneaud Award; **Prof. Xuechen Li** presented the Makineni lecture and **Prof. Fernando Albericio** delivered the Goodman Lecture. A new addition to the Symposium was the Early Career Lectureships with talks given by **Profs. Monika Raj and Jevgenij Raskatov**. The conference was well-attended, with 638 registrants from all over the globe and spanning industry, academic and government institutions. We wish to thank all those that made the 2019 APS a great success, particularly Co-Chairs Paramjit Arora and Anna Mapp; Judy Warner and the team from Indiana Conference services; the organizing committee (Florence Brunel, Lauren Cline,

Wendy Hartsock, Frank Kotch, and Marcey Waters); the SAC Committee, led by Michael Bertucci and Katelyn Smith; and the Awards Committee chaired by Stephen Kent. The meeting would not have been possible without our generous sponsors and exhibitors. We very much look forward to future APS Symposia!



Opening speaker, Dr. Frances Arnold is joined by the Symposium Co-chairs, Paramjit Arora and Anna Mapp, APS President Ved Srivastava, President-elect Joel Schneider, and Past President Marcey Waters.



The 2019 Bruce Merrifield Award is presented to Prof. Lila Gierasch by Past President Marcey Waters.

### **2019 Young Investigator Award Winners**

In addition to the prestigious awards highlighted above, included in the program were seven inspiring young investigator presentations by students and post-doctoral fellows, and 238 posters. We would like to thank all the young investigators who shared their research in Monterey, and we congratulate those who received awards.

#### **The Dr. Bert L. Schram Oral Presentation Awards**

*First Prize*- Shehrazade Jekhmene, Utrecht University

*Second Prize*- Nina Hartrampf, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#### **The Dr. Bert L. Schram Poster Awards**

Catherine Hurd, University of Cambridge

Shabnam Jafari, University of California Davis

Ferran Nadal-Bufi, Queensland University of Technology

Monessa Nambiar, Purdue University

Jennifer Rowe, Purdue University

#### **The Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry Poster Award**

Iraj Behroz, Technische Universität Berlin

Timothy Reichart, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL

Ari Salinger, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Mihajlo Todorovic, University of British Columbia

**The Peptide Science Poster Award**

Buyan Pan, University of Pennsylvania

Hyun Jun Yang, University of California, Irvine

**The ACS Division of Biological Sciences Travel Award**

Colin Kelly, University of California Santa Cruz

Samuel Melton, University of Pennsylvania

Adriana Gauna, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso, Universidad Tecnica Federico Santa Maria





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## ***In Memoriam***

### **Prof. Jean Rivier**

Professor Emeritus Jean Rivier, who pioneered studies on the characterization of the hypothalamic peptides that control the stress response, and developed drugs that target this response, passed away peacefully in San Diego, California, on November 13, 2019. To read the full tribute see:

<https://www.americanpeptidesociety.org/obituary/rivier-jean/>



### **Dr. Elizabeth Schram**

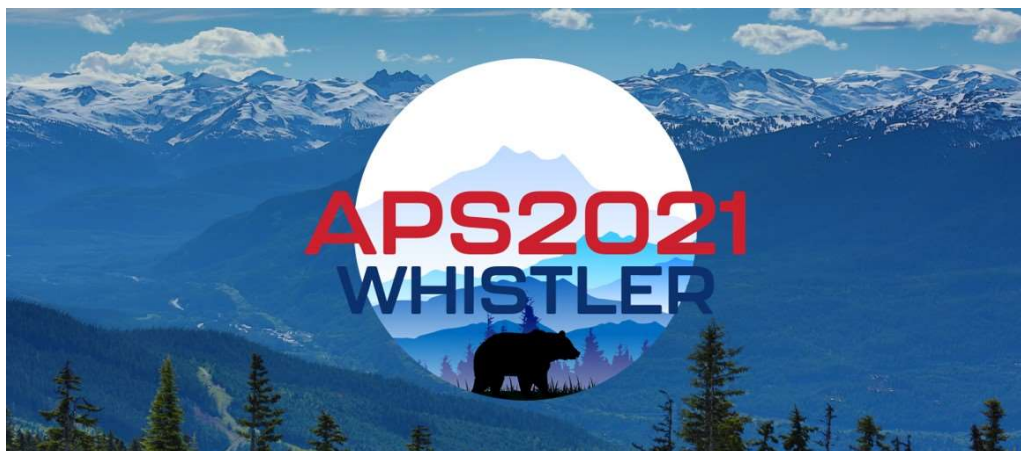
Dr. Elizabeth Schram, founder of the ESCOM Science Foundation and sponsor of the APS Young Investigator Poster and Oral Presentations, passed away on December 18, 2019 during a visit to her school in Chennai-India. She was 74 years old. To read the full tribute see:

<https://www.americanpeptidesociety.org/obituary/schram-elizabeth/>



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## ***Upcoming Events***



### **SAVE THE DATE**

**The 27<sup>th</sup> American Peptide Symposium  
June 12- 17, 2021 Whistler, BC, Canada**

We enjoyed it so much, we decided to go back! You are invited to attend the 27th American Peptide Symposium to be held in the beautiful mountain town of Whistler, Canada. The meeting will be held at the Whistler Conference Centre, located at the foot of the Whistler Blackcomb Mountains and within walking distance to many restaurants, shops, and activities. The meeting program will cover a broad range of peptide-related topics and provide an excellent opportunity to network and collaborate with scientists from around the world.



**16th Chinese International Peptide Symposium**

**July 3- July 6, 2020**

**Hefei, China**

<http://www.cps-international.cn/>



**36th European Peptide Symposium  
and 12th International Peptide Symposium**

**August 30 - September 4, 2020**

**Barcelona, Spain**

<http://www.eps2020.com/>

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## ***Reminders and Announcements***

### **Job Postings and Publications**

- If you have a peptide-related job opportunity that you would like to post on the APS website, send detailed information to [apsoffice17@gmail.com](mailto:apsoffice17@gmail.com).
- We are looking for peptide-related publications to showcase on our website. If you are an active APS member who has recently published a paper, please send a brief summary and the reference information to [apsoffice17@gmail.com](mailto:apsoffice17@gmail.com) for consideration.

### **Awards Season Coming Soon**

Do you know of someone who deserves recognition for their work in peptide science? Starting next month, nominations will be collected for the Merrifield Award and the APS Early Career Lectureship. Throughout 2020, calls for nominations will go out for the other awards as well. Stay tuned for emails containing details.

### **Annual APS Council Meeting**

The APS Executive Committee and Councilors will soon be gathering for their annual meeting. If you have suggestions or feedback on how to enrich our Society and Symposium, we will be happy to bring them to the APS Council. Please send all comments to [apsoffice17@gmail.com](mailto:apsoffice17@gmail.com) by **Feb. 5th**.