

APS will convene four special interest dinners on Thursday night, beginning at 8:15 pm. Topics are: Affect Science, Brain Science and Genetics; PNI, Psycho-Oncology and HIV/AIDS; Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes and other Organic Disorders; and Psychosomatic Disorders in Psychosomatic Medicine. Restaurants hosting the events will feature local Baltimore cuisine and a fixed menu. If you have a special dietary requirement, please note that below in the appropriate place on the registration form. The cost per person is \$52 USD with alcohol charged separately at the restaurant. Participants who wish will be guided to the restaurant but are responsible for their own transportation. The emphasis of each dinner will be on allowing people with similar professional interests to meet and talk with one another and to share experiences in an informal setting. There will be brief discussions from among topics scheduled on the program Thursday through Saturday in an informal, relaxed atmosphere.

Dinner 1: Psychoneuroimmunology (PNI) research in health and diseases

Description] Participants will discuss the current status and future directions of PNI research in both healthy and clinical populations. The focus will be on the exchange of ideas and possible collaborative research efforts. (Hosts: Suzi Hong, Michael Irwin)

Dinner: Cardiovascular Disease

This will be an informal get-together of investigators and other conference attendees who share an interest in the impact of emotional health and illness on the manifestations and clinical course of cardiovascular disease. The dinner will bring together individuals who may not otherwise have the opportunity to interact so they can learn of each other's interests, become more familiar with research programs at other institutions, and establish relationships that will hopefully lead to collaborations that will advance the field. While it is anticipated that this dinner will attract those with a well-recognized interest in research in this area, it is also hoped that others will attend; some of the most productive interactions often result from people with different primary interests getting together over a nice meal. A heart-healthy dinner cannot be assured, but we do promise "food for thought." (Hosts: Professor Roy Ziegelstein, Johns Hopkins, Professor Samuel Sears, East Carolina University, Dr. Susanne S. Pedersen, CoRPS-Center of Research on Psychology on Somatic diseases, Tilburg University)

Dinner 3: Functional Somatic Syndromes

This special interest dinner will allow participants to discuss the current state of research and conceptual issues regarding FSS in an informal setting. Researchers and practitioners working in the fields of functional gastrointestinal disorders, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, somatoform disorders, etc. are particularly encouraged to participate and engage in productive interactions on a variety of topics regarding FSS. Of course, all others are welcome as well. (Hosts: Emeran A. Mayer, Urs M. Nater)

Dinner 4: Neuroscience

This is an opportunity for finding out what is going on in neuroscience research among those attending the meeting. All are welcome including but not limited to those doing research in the area. Participants will be asked to tell the group about their own

experiences in the following areas: 1) new exciting findings; 2) new paradigms for the brain imaging environment; 3) advances in peripheral measurements; 4) projects currently under way that have not yet been presented; 5) problems encountered and overcome. (Hosts: Bruce Cuthbert, Turhan Canli and Evian Gordon)