

UIC NEWS BUREAU

Office of Public Affairs (MC 288)
601 S. Morgan St., Chicago IL 60607-7113, (312) 996-3456
www.news.uic.edu
January 13, 2004

Contact: Sharon Butler, (312) 355-2522, sbutler@uic.edu
UIC Researcher Heads Neuroscience Meeting in Cuba

WHO/WHAT:

Leading American and Cuban neuroscientists and psychiatrists are meeting in Cuba for a four-day conference, the second in a series of meetings to develop collaborative research in basic and clinical neuroscience.

WHEN/WHERE:

Jan. 15-19
Hotel Nacional, Havana, Cuba

DETAILS:

The agenda for the conference includes presentations by both U.S. and Cuban clinicians and scientists. There will be sessions on Cuban science and health, depression, neurodegenerative disorders, stress and anxiety, schizophrenia, functional imaging, developmental problems of childhood, and addiction.

Participants will also visit the Havana Psychiatric Hospital, the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology and the Psychiatric Community Center in Regla.

The conference was organized by the Inter-American Consortium for Basic and Clinical Neuroscience, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program, the Cuban Neuroscience Society and the Pan-American Health Organization.

Mark Rasenick, professor of physiology and biophysics and director of the Biomedical Neuroscience Training Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, is president of the neuroscience consortium. He has traveled to Cuba several times over the last five years on scientific exchange missions. He has also testified before the U.S. Senate on State Department claims of Cuban bioterrorism and the overall state of biomedical research in Cuba.

"It is my hope that science can be an effective tool to break down the political barriers between the U.S. and Cuban peoples," Rasenick said.

Support has been provided by Eli Lilly and Company, Abbott Laboratories, Pfizer, Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, Forrest Pharmaceuticals, Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Glaxo-Smith Kline and Novartis.

Media are welcome to attend.

Copyright ©2007, The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.