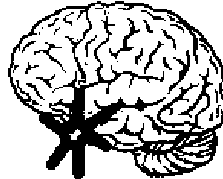


Centre for Physiology and Biochemical Research (CPBR)
Institute of Experimental Medicine RAMS
The Russian Society for BioPsychiatry (RSBP)
Ukrainian Society for Biological Psychiatry (USBP)

10-th Multidisciplinary International Conference
of Neuroscience and Biological Psychiatry
"Stress and Behavior"



St-Petersburg, Russia
May 16-20, 2007

**Welcoming Address
from the Conference Chair**

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome the delegates of 10th Jubilee International "Stress and Behavior" Conference - outstanding experts in clinical and biological psychiatry from more than 35 countries worldwide. Now that St. Petersburg is preparing to inspire our scientific creativity this May, there are several issues that I would like to discuss – formally or informally – during the meeting.

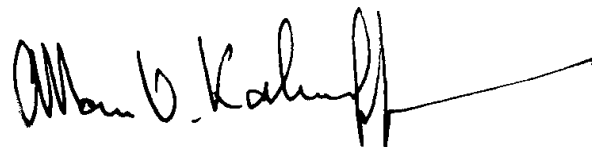
While stress has always been the main focus of our conferences, this year marks the 100th anniversary of H. Selye's birth. Not a neuroscientist himself, Selye (1907-1982) has made a major contribution to the theory of stress, that has a lasting actuality for behavioral neuroscience and psychiatry. It is therefore now timely to acknowledge this great scientist, and his seminal works that continue to influence generations of researchers working in our field. I believe that many of his ideas will be addressed during our meeting.

An important goal of our conference is to bring together “biological” and “psychical” in animal and human behaviors. We all know that cognitive dysfunctions – reflecting “psychical” mechanisms that went wrong - are commonly seen in many stress-related disorders. How crucial is the contribution of cognitions in stress-related disorders? Mounting clinical and animal evidence strongly supports the notion that disturbed cognitions represent an important pathogenetic factor *per se*, and may play a key role in *integrating* different mental illnesses within a common stress-precipitated developmental pathway. I hope the role of cognitive mechanisms in brain and behavioral disorders will also be comprehensively and critically evaluated during our meeting.

Finally, I am pleased to note that our ten successful international conferences have another important outcome. They have generated a growing and active network of specialists dealing with human and animal behavioral responses to stress. As promoting translational collaborative and multidisciplinary research has always been our main goal, it is now time to make the next logical step in this direction. This year we plan to establish the new professional organization - the International Stress and Behavior Society (ISBS). Integrated into the world’s neuroscientific community, this new society will foster further research in behavioral neuroscience of stress. Our Secretariat works hard to complete all necessary formalities, and I invite all interested colleagues to contact me with your suggestions and ideas.

With such an exciting agenda for this year’s meeting, we look very much forward to welcoming you all in St. Petersburg.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Allan V. Kalueff". The signature is written in a cursive style and ends with a long horizontal line that tapers to a point on the right.

Allan V. Kalueff, PhD Hon
Washington DC, March 28, 2007