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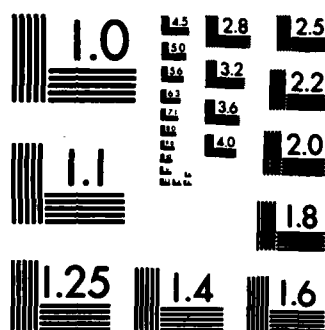
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FINAL REPORT

The FASEB Summer Research Conference on Neuronal Cell Cultures, funded in part by this grant, was held in Saxton's River, Vermont from August 12-17, 1984. Dr. Phillip Nelson and I served as co-chairmen for the meeting. We organized the meeting around research areas in which new and interesting advances were currently being made in cellular neurobiology, rather than choosing a primarily methodological emphasis involving neuronal cell culture as the focus. We retained a neuronal cell culture theme in the sense that most of the work discussed did employ cell culture approaches.

The meeting was organized into 9 morning and evening sessions with 3 formal presentations in each session. Session chairpersons were selected to introduce the speakers and to moderate subsequent discussion. Topics included growth cones and cell interactions, molecular genetics, neuronal growth factors (sessions A and B), synapse formation (neurotransmitters and receptors), ion channels and membrane constituents, electrical activity and circuit behavior, and cell separation and cell markers. Internationally renowned authorities in each of these fields summarized the current state of knowledge and also reviewed their own ongoing research. Each presentation was followed by a discussion period in which the meeting participants raised questions and offered comments in addition to those of the speakers. These periods were invariably lively and informative, and often were finally truncated by time constraints. In addition to the formal sessions, a block of time each day (usually in the afternoon) was kept free for informal discussion and consultation. On 2 afternoons poster sessions were arranged in which participants not scheduled to speak were able to present summaries of their own research. Lists of the speakers, participants, scheduled sessions, and posters are attached.

The meeting was a great success. The topics covered were timely and interesting. The format provided an important opportunity for experts in their fields to exchange results and ideas while at the same time making this information available to others working in related areas or interested in using similar approaches. The comments and discussion provided by the participants enriched the meeting and reinforced our impression that the focus chosen was a good decision. The strategy of carrying out the meeting in a relatively isolated environment was critical for its success: distractions were minimized, ample time existed for discussions in small groups, and ideas could be pursued over a period of several days either in free-flowing exchanges or in spirited arguments.

Future meetings will be important in related areas of cellular and molecular neurobiology which are currently experiencing rapid and exciting progress. Again, the format of the FASEB and Gordon Conferences are likely to meet with the greatest success in these areas.

PROGRAM FOR "NEURONAL CELL CULTURE" CONFERENCE
SPONSORED BY FASEB AT SAXTON'S RIVER, VERMONT

AUGUST 12 - 17, 1984

I. Growth cones and cell interactions

- Gerald Edelman - "Cell Adhesion Molecules in Neural Morphogenesis"
- Karl Pfenninger - "Developmentally Regulated Proteins on the Nerve Growth Cone"
- David Carey - "Schwann cell, nerve cell, matrix interaction"

II. Molecular Genetics

- William Hahn - "Connectivity and genes expressed post-natally"
- J.G. Sutcliffe - "Brain specific gene expression"
- John Merlie - "Regulation of ACh Receptors"

III. Factors - A

- Darwin Berg - Chairman
- Hans Thoenen - "Purified neurotrophic factors modulation and their actions by molecules of the extracellular matrix"
- Randall Pittman - "The role of proteases and their inhibitors in neuron-target cell interactions"
- Marston Manthorpe - "Purified proteins which promote the survival and neuritic growth of cultured neurons"

IV. Factors - B

- Douglas Brenneman - "Trophic regulation of activity-dependent neuron survival"
- William Matthew - "Monoclonal antibodies used to study neurite outgrowth and surface interactions"
- M.R. Bennett - "Motoneurons and retinal ganglion cells in culture: factors in the formation of stable synapses"

V. Synapse Formation (Transmitters)

- Edwin Furshpan - "Transmitter status and plasticity in sympathetic neurons"
- Thomas Jessel - "Synaptic transmitters and surface antigens of primary sensory neurons"
- Phillip Nelson - "Synaptic and extra-synaptic responses to excitatory amino acids"

VI. Synapse Formation (Receptors)

- Joshua Sanes - "The basal lamina of the neuromuscular junction"
- Jack McMahan - "Basal lamina components that cause the aggregation of cell surface molecules involved in neuromuscular transmission"
- Mark Bothwell - "Characterization of NGF receptors with monoclonal antibodies"

VII. Ion Channels - Membrane Constituents

- Jane Talvenheimo - "Regulation of sodium channel development in rat muscle cells"
Joachim Bormann - "Inhibitory ion channels in nerve cell membranes"
Li-Yen Mae Huang - "What we have learned from patch recordings of cultured cells"

VIII. Electrical Activity - Circuit Behavior

- Lawrence Cohen - Chairman
Guenter Gross - "The use of laser cell surgery and photoetched multi-microelectrode plates for network simplification and the long-term monitoring of simultaneous activity"
Amiram Grinvald -
Donald Perkel - "Detecting functional interaction in a population of simultaneously recorded neurons"

IX. Cell Separation and Cell Markers

- Martin Raff - "An immunological approach to neural cell development in the rat CNS"
David Trisler - "Molecules that identify cell types or position in the retina"
Melitta Schachner -

Support from the following organizations for this conference on
Neuronal Cell Cultures is gratefully acknowledged:

Office of Naval Research, Department of the Navy
National Science Foundation
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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