

Psychological and Physiological Acoustics Annual Report - 2015

This was a very exciting year for us as both the President (Judy Dubno) and the Vice-President (Barbara Shinn-Cunningham) of the Acoustical Society are representatives of the P&P technical area. We could not be more proud of their leadership that spearheaded big and exciting changes in ASA strategic planning for the future of the Society.

For the second year in a row, the fall ASA meeting was attended by a larger than typical number of members representing the P&P area. The large attendance was due to the special session on "Physiological and Psychological Aspects of Central Auditory Processing Dysfunction," organized by Erick Gallun and Adrian KC Lee.

We thank Jennifer Lentz for being our representative at the Technical Program Organizing Meeting (TPOM) for the meeting in Indianapolis. We also thank Chris Brown for agreeing to be our TPOM representative for a two-year term and our first TPOM representative to participate at TPOM remotely (via the Internet). Chris completed the first task of representing the P&P at the TPOM for the spring meeting in Pittsburgh, successfully juggling special sessions and poster sessions held at that meeting.

The spring meeting is always a very active one for the P&P technical area and the meeting in Pittsburgh was no different. The P&P sponsored three special sessions: "Kinetic Hearing: Auditory Perception of Moving Sounds by Moving Listeners" organized by Michael Akeroyd and Owen Brimijon, "Celebration of the Modern Cochlear Implant and the First Substantial Restoration of a Human Sense Using Medical Intervention" organized by Blake Wilson (Lasker-DeBakey Award recipient) and Michael Dorman, and "Influence of Visual Cues on Auditory Perception" organized by Jonas Braasch. All the special sessions were well received.

Laurel Carney (University of Rochester, NY) was the third recipient of the William and Christine Prize in Auditory Neuroscience. Laurel delivered a fascinating Auditory Neuroscience Prize Lecture on "Relating Physiology to Perception: The Case of the Notched-Noise Masker." Frederick Gallun, Jennifer Lentz, Arlene Neuman and Sunil Puria became Fellows of the Society.

The P&P Technical Committee meeting in Pittsburgh was well attended. As has become a tradition, reports were given by the JASA Associate Editors for Psychological and Physiological Acoustics, JASA-EL, and POMA. The following Technical Committee members were thanked for their three-year service on the Committee: Joshua Bernstein, M. Christian Brown, Laurel Carney, Robert Lutfi, Virginia Richards, and Christopher Shera. The following six members started their three-year term at the meeting in Pittsburgh: Michael Epstein, Matt Goupell, Ying-Yee Kong, Jungmee Lee, Sunil Puria, and Pat Zurek. We also held our annual elections to select new members of the P&P Technical Committee whose term will begin at the meeting in Salt Lake City (spring, 2016). The following members were elected: Huanping Dai, Karen Helfer, Pamela Souza, Elizabeth Strickland, Sarah Verhulst, and Matthew Winn. Many thanks to Ying-Yee Kong for running the elections and counting the ballots during the meeting.

We extend special thanks to Bill Hartmann for his outstanding nine-year service as our representative to the Medals and Awards Committee that ended at the meeting in Pittsburgh. Brenda Lonsbury-Martin is the current P&P representative on this committee. We thank Marjorie Leek, our representative to the Membership Committee, Skyler Jennings, our representative to

the ASA Committee of Standards (ASACOS), and Anna Diedesch, our representative to Student Council, for their on-going service.

We are especially excited about the new Technical Initiative proposed by our representative to Student Council, Anna Diedesch, to organize a special session for the meeting in Salt Lake City, with invited talks by students and post-docs on topics that are currently underrepresented in our technical area. The aim of this session is to attract young auditory physiologist and clinicians to the ASA and facilitate future collaborations between researchers representing basic and translational aspects of research in our technical area.

The P&P Technical Committee will continue traditional Technical Initiatives, which include travel support for invited speakers, student receptions, and homepage updating, while also focusing on implementing innovative initiatives such as workshops and satellite meetings facilitating collaborations and attracting new members from underrepresented research areas (clinical, physiological, industry, education) to the Society. Suggestions for uses of P&P Technical Committee funds for new Technical Initiatives are welcome and should be sent to the Chair of the P&P Technical Committee.

Magdalena Wojtczak
Chair, 2014-2017