4th Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference

Fostering Collaboration in Schizophrenia Research

FLORENCE, ITALY

5 - 9 APRIL 2014
Meeting Registration Information
5 - 9 April 2014, Firenze Fiera Congress and Exhibition Center, Florence, Italy

Organizers:
President: John M. Kane, M.D.
President-elect: René S. Kahn, M.D., Ph.D.
Past President: Prof. Sir Robin Murray, F.R.C.P.
Secretary: Lynn E. DeLisi, M.D.
Treasurer: Anthony Grace, Ph.D.
Program Committee Chair: Anissa Abi-Dargham, M.D.
Program Committee Co-Chair: Jonathan Rabinowitz, Ph.D.

MEETING REGISTRATION:
All attendees must be registered and will need to check in at the Meeting Registration desk to receive materials. People who are not registered or are registered as an Accompanying Person will not be allowed into the scientific sessions, this includes poster sessions. Meeting registration can be completed online per the instructions below. Should you need a printed form, please contact the Executive Office at +001 615 324 2370 or info@schizophreniaresearchsociety.org.

Attendees may not videotape, audiotape, or photograph (camera or camera phone) presentations at the Schizophrenia International Research Conference without permission from the presenter.

REGISTRATION ON-LINE:
Go to the conference website at www.schizophreniaconference.org. Click the Registration/Housing link on the left. First time users will need to create a username and password.

You are encouraged to pre-register for the conference by 12 March 2014. All meeting registration fees will increase by €50 after this date.

In the event of a registration cancellation, please contact NeT Congress & Education at schizophrenia2014@newtours.it. Notification of cancellation must be received by 12 March 2014 in order to receive a full refund less a €40,00 processing fee. Cancellations received after 12 March 2014 will not receive a refund.

MEETING REGISTRATION CATEGORIES AND FEES:
Scientific Delegates:
SIRS Members:
SIRS Member Delegate - Must have paid 2013 and 2014 membership dues. Rate: €400. Being a member in both 2013/2014 will result in a savings on registration of 250 Euros.
**SIRS New Member Delegate** - Must have paid 2014 membership dues. Rate: €440.  
*Being a member in 2014 will result in a savings on your registration of 210 Euros.*

**SIRS Student Member** - Must have paid 2013 and 2014 student membership dues. Rate: €150.  
*Being a student member in 2013&2014 will result in a savings of 80 Euros.*

**SIRS New Student Member** - Must have paid 2014 membership dues. Rate: €190.  
*Being a student member in 2014 will result in a savings on your registration of 40 Euros.*

**SIRS Non-Member Student** - Rate: €230.

**Non-Members:**  
*Rates will be offered for those who choose not to become a SIRS member. The non-member delegate rate is €650. The non-member student rate is €230 until 12 March and €280 on 13 March or later.*

**Students**  
To qualify as a student, one must be a full-time graduate student, medical student, or student in the first two years of a post-doctoral fellowship program at a university, in a field relevant to schizophrenia research. A letter from the student’s immediate supervisor verifying his/her status and relevant field will be required for registration.

**Additional Reception Tickets** - 60 Euros  
Each additional reception ticket purchased will allow access for one individual to the Welcome Reception which will take place on Saturday, 5 April 2014 at 7:00-9:00 PM.

**SIRS 2014 TRAVEL AWARDS:**  
The Travel Award application deadline is **Friday, 21 October 2013**. The program is intended to sponsor individuals who have through their research, teaching or clinical activities demonstrated professional and scientific interest in the field of schizophrenia research. Candidates must indicate their interest in schizophrenia research and, if possible, provide evidence of continuing and future involvement and activity in the field.

Individuals must be graduate students, residents, fellows, or new/young faculty members who have completed their last training within 5 years. Candidates who are members of an ethnic minority group underrepresented in biomedical science areas are strongly encouraged to apply.

Awardees are required to submit a poster or oral presentation abstract. It is the belief of the Society that the opportunity to attend its biennial scientific meeting will stimulate the interest of young scientists in schizophrenia research by affording them the opportunity to attend an outstanding scientific program in clinical and basic research. The program will also allow awardees the opportunity to become aware of the most recent, and often unpublished, advances in schizophrenia research, meet internationally distinguished researchers and clinicians, and interact with world authorities working on the frontier of this field.
Each award will include:
- A SIRS member mentor for the meeting
- A portion of hotel and/or travel to the meeting site from country of origin

A committee of senior investigators will select the awardees based on the following application materials required:
- A short statement about applicant’s career goals
- Curriculum Vitae
- Supporting letter from that applicant’s Director of Training or Departmental Chair
  AND proof of Student/Post-Doc status

Accepted Awardees will be notified by 22 November 2013.

**POSTER AWARDS**

We will award poster prizes supported by our affiliate journals during the SIRS Business Meeting scheduled on Monday, 7 April at 6:15 p.m. The SIRS Awards Committee will collaborate with the journal editors to select the awards recipients. All journals require that researchers be less than 40 years of age at the time of the conference for consideration. Additional details to come at a later date.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

*After participating in this CME activity, Clinicians should be able to describe and discuss:*
- Discuss strategies for determining an approach to manage patients with schizophrenia.
- Discuss the status of genetic findings, and how they can be incorporated into strategies for managing patients with schizophrenia.
- Describe the use of brain imaging data about pathophysiology and disease progression to revise or continue a strategy for managing patients with schizophrenia.
- Discuss the implications of basic neuroscience findings for managing patients with schizophrenia.

*After participating in this CME activity, Researchers should be able to describe and discuss:*
- Discuss approaches to develop novel treatments for schizophrenia.
- Describe strategies for translating basic neuroscience into knowledge that can be used in clinical practice.
- Discuss differences in schizophrenia research across diverse cultures and geographic areas.
- Describe novel intervention studies that will promote the development of advanced knowledge about schizophrenia.
- Discuss methods to advance the clinical application of genetic research in schizophrenia.
2014 SCHIZOPHREnia INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
CONFERENCE

Preliminary Schedule of Events

Saturday, 5 April 2014
8:00 am – 4:00 pm – Cognition in Schizophrenia Satellite Meeting
8:30 am – 7:00 pm - Registration Open
10:00 am – 12:30 pm Italian Symposia Satellite Meeting
2:00 pm – 4:30 pm – Family Forum
4:30 pm – 5:45 pm – Travel Awardee Orientation
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Opening Keynote Lecture – Huda Akil, Ph.D.
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Welcome Reception

Sunday, 6 April 2014
8:00am – 6:30pm – Registration Open
8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Plenary Session: Schizophrenia Research in an Era of Neuroscience Revolution
10:00 am – 10:15am – Coffee Break
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Travel Awardee and Mentor Luncheon
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm – Lunch and Poster Session
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – (6) Concurrent Symposia Sessions
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm – Coffee Break
4:15 pm – 6:15 pm – Basic Science Special Session
4:15 pm – 6:15 pm – (5) Concurrent Symposia Sessions

Monday, 7 April 2014
8:00 am – 7:00 pm – Registration Open
8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Plenary Session: Behavioral and Imaging Translational paradigms in Drug Development
10:00 am – 10:15 am – Coffee Break
12:00 pm – 2:00pm – Lunch and Poster Session
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – (6) Concurrent Symposia Sessions
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm – Coffee Break
4:15 pm – 6:15 pm – (6) Concurrent Symposia Sessions
6:15 pm – 7:15 pm – SIRS Business Meeting and Awards

Tuesday, 8 April 2014
8:00 am – 7:00 pm – Registration Open
8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Plenary Session: Update on Therapeutics: Improving the Clinical Yield
10:00 am – 10:15 am – Coffee Break
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm – Lunch and Poster Session
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – Oral Presentations
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm – Coffee Break
4:15 pm – 6:15 pm – (6) Concurrent Symposia Sessions
6:15 pm – 6:30 pm - Coffee Break
Wednesday, 9 April 2014
8:00am – 4:00pm – Registration Open
8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Plenary Session: The Clinical Challenges of Comorbid Disorders
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm – Lunch
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm – (6) Concurrent Symposia Sessions
3:45pm – 5:45pm – Summary Panel Discussion

Abstract Submission Process

1. **Symposia** – Panel sessions may have up to 6 participants. Those roles are a Chair, Co-Chair, up to 5 speakers, Discussant. (The chair and/or co-chair may be a speaker, the discussant may not be a speaker, or include any slides for the presentation.) DEADLINE for Submissions – 24 September 2013

2. **Independent Oral Presentations** – Abstract submission – 1 presenter, but may have multiple authors. The presentations will be 10 minutes with another 5 minutes for discussion. When submitting an oral presentation, submitters will be given the opportunity to elect that the presentation, if not accepted, can be presented as a poster. DEADLINE for Submissions – 3 December 2013

3. **Poster** – Abstract submission – 1 presenter, but may have multiple authors. DEADLINE for Submissions – 3 December 2013

*All symposia, oral presentations and posters will be reviewed by a Program Committee.*

The Organizing Committee has determined the below categories for submission:

- 1. Adverse Events
- 2. Animal Models
- 3. Brain Imaging
  - a. structural
  - b. functional
  - c. spectroscopy
- 4. Biomarkers
- 5. Children and adolescents
- 6. Clinical Trials
- 7. Cognition
- 8. Collaboration between Academia & Industry
- 9. Co-morbid Conditions
- 10. Diagnostic Issues
- 11. Electrophysiology
- 12. Epidemiology
- 13. Ethical Issues
- 14. Genetics
- 15. Health Economics
- 16. High-risk Research
- 17. Negative Symptoms
- 18. Neuropathology
- 19. Neurobiology & Neurochemistry
- 20. Neuropsychology
- 21. Neurophysiology
- 22. Neurodevelopment
- 23. Non-pharmacological treatments
- 24. Outcome
- 25. Phenomenology
- 26. Prodromal
- 27. Psychosocial Functioning
- 28. Psychopharmacology
- 29. Quality of Life
- 30. Services Research
- 31. Substance abuse co-morbidity
- 32. Other
Symposium Guidelines

New for 2014: The number of roles an individual may have in symposia sessions and/or oral presentations will be limited to three (3), the three roles include being a presenter, chair, co-chair or discussant. Furthermore, speaking roles are limited to a maximum of two per speaker.

- A symposium is a moderately formal 2 hour session that includes 4 presenters and 1 discussant.
- Symposium proposals must include both the overall panel proposal, as well as the individual presenter abstracts. The panel chair is responsible for submitting the overall summary and each presenter’s individual presentation abstract.
- Each of the 4 presentations lasts 30 minutes which allows for a 20-minute presentation and 10-minute discussion period.
- One discussant per symposium is required. The discussant cannot also be a presenter. This individual will lead the discussion with panelists and attendees the last thirty minutes of the symposium. NO formal presentation, slides, or other audio visuals are allowed for discussants; this rule will be strictly enforced.
- Symposium sessions will be scheduled with the assumption that all speakers agree to be available on all days of the meeting.
- Symposium participants should be from various institutions (preferably from different countries) so the meeting attendees get the benefit of cross-institutional collaboration. Proposals that have participants from only one institution should include a justification as to why this is necessary for the proposal. The Chair may be asked to replace a speaker if the abstract submission includes two speakers from the same institution.
- There is a limit of 16,200 characters for the text of your abstract submission. This includes title (200 characters), the overall abstract (3,200 characters) and each speakers’ abstract (3,200 characters each), not counting spaces. No images will be accepted.
- At the time of submission, the chair must submit his/her disclosures. Disclosures for all other presenters will be required if the symposium is accepted.
- Audiovisual equipment available for every symposium: laptop, LCD projector, laser pointer, podium, and microphone.

Oral Presentation Guidelines

- Oral Presentation abstracts should be structured as: Background, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Include as much actual data as possible.
- Oral Presentations will last 10 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for discussion.
- There is a limit of 3200 characters, not counting spaces, for the text of your abstract submission. No images will be accepted.
- The presenter will be required to submit a COI disclosure statement at the time of submission.
- Submitters will be given the opportunity in the submission process to elect that if the oral presentation is not accepted, then the abstract may be considered for poster presentation.
Poster Guidelines

- Poster abstracts should be structured as: Background, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Include as much actual data as possible.
- There is a limit of 3200 characters, not counting spaces, for the text of your abstract submission. No images will be accepted.
- The presenter will be required to submit a COI disclosure statement at the time of the submission.
- Poster Size is .90 meters wide by 1.20 meters tall. Push-pins may not be used.
- Posters will be secured to poster panels with double stick tape.

INFORMATION ABOUT CME CREDIT

The 4th Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference is jointly sponsored by the Vanderbilt School of Medicine and the Schizophrenia International Research Society. This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and the SIRS. Vanderbilt University School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum number of 33 AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. There will be a $50 USD charge for scientific registrants to obtain CME credits. The conference will be accredited by the ACCME, EACCME and Italian Ministry of Health. Attendees should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. There will be a $50 charge for scientific registrants to attain CME credits.

It is the policy of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and Schizophrenia International Research Society to require disclosure of financial relationships from individuals in a position to control the content of a CME activity; to identify and resolve conflicts of interest related to those relationships and to make disclosure information available to the audience prior to the CME activity. Presenters are required to disclose discussions of unlabeled/unapproved uses of drugs or devices during their presentations. Disclosures for 2014 speakers, plenary, special session, symposia, workshop, oral presentations and poster presenters may be found online at www.schizophreniaconference.org. A copy of the disclosures will be available at the registration desk.

The 4th Biennial Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference has been granted # TBD of European CME credits (ECMEC) by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME). Physicians should claim only the credits commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. To obtain credit, registered participants must complete an online evaluation. The evaluation may be found online at www.schizophreniaconference.org. There will be a $50.00 USD charge to obtain credits.

Credits will be offered from the Italian Ministry of Health. For more information, please inquire at the Registration Desk in the Palazzo Entrance.
**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**
The conference has contracted with a variety of hotels in Florence. Hotels with various amenities and room rates were selected to satisfy the requests of our conference attendees. After completing registration information, you will have the opportunity to book hotel accommodations.

The complete list of hotels is on the website with available occupancy options and room rates. You can visit the websites of the hotels you are interested in by clicking on the hotel name. All hotels require a one night’s deposit at the time of booking.

**HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY:**
Hotel cancellations must be sent in writing to: schizophrenia2014@newtours.it.

- Cancellations received by 8 January 2014 will be fully refunded.
- Cancellations received between 9 January 2014 and 10 February 2014 will result in the loss of 50% of the hotel deposit.
- Cancellations received after 10 February 2014 will result in the loss of the deposit.
- Cancellations made after 10 March 2014 may, at the discretion of the hotel, result in a cancellation fee equal to two nights stay.
- Failure to arrive at the hotel may, at the hotel’s discretion, result in penalties equal to the amount of the hotel stay.

**AIR TRAVEL AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION**
Amerigo Vespucci Airport in Florence is 4 km from the city centre and can be easily reached by taxi or with the Ataf/Sita ‘Viola in Bus’ shuttle service, approximately 15 – 20 minutes. The shuttle connects the airport to the central railway station of Santa Maria Novella. Santa Maria Novella station is across the street from the Firenze Fiera Congress Center.

Travelers arriving at Galileo Galilei airport in Pisa can take direct shuttle trains or buses to Santa Maria Novella railway station in Florence. Approximate travel time is one hour. For conference attendees arriving at Leonardo da Vinci airport in Rome, trains are available from the airport to Termini train station in Rome. From Termini train station, travelers can purchase tickets to Santa Maria Novella train station in Florence and arrive in approximately one hour, forty minutes. Train schedules are available at www.trenitalia.com.

**CLIMATE**
April is one of the more favored times of the year to visit because of the Mediterranean climate which averages a high of 68°F/20°C and a low of 46°F/8°C. However, please note that it has rained every year we have held the Biennial Meeting so far, so you might want to bring a rain jacket or umbrella.