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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since a major focus of much of the research conducted by ISGIDAR members is in the area of abuse liability testing, it may be of interest to many of you that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has recently begun to develop guidelines for assessing abuse liability, using both pre-clinical and clinical procedures. These procedures have evolved out of research conducted by many of our colleagues, and by present and former ISGIDAR members over the past 20 years. In developing the guidelines, the FDA is recognizing the validity and usefulness of laboratory measures of the reinforcing effects of drugs as indicators of abuse liability. Notably, this recognition extends to studies with human ~~the~~ subjects as well as to those using laboratory animals. While it is understood that ~~the~~ laboratory techniques must continually be improved and refined, the recent dialogue between the FDA and researchers is a milestone in the growth and development of the field of behavioral pharmacology.

May I remind members that the deadlines for ISGIDAR student travel award applications and ISGIDAR scientific presentation submissions are approaching (both due April 1). Attendance at the 1990 meeting is likely to be quite high because of the high density of behavioral pharmacologists in the Richmond/Baltimore/Washington area. So I urge you to submit your abstracts (and travel award applications) early so that we can plan the meeting and accommodate as many presentations as possible.

It is not too late to suggest names for invited speakers for the 1990 meeting. Please call or write to me if you think of possible speakers whose work might be of interest to ISGIDAR members, and who might expand our intellectual horizons. We can offer the speakers a \$100 honorarium.

Nominations for new members to ISGIDAR should be submitted to me before March 15, so that a ballot can be mailed out 60 days prior to the annual meeting.

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POST-DOCTORAL/RESEARCH ASSOCIATE POSITIONS

The Drug Abuse Research Center and the Human Behavioral Pharmacology Laboratory at the University of Chicago have two post-doctoral positions open. A variety of research opportunities are available, involving both human and lab<sup>oratory</sup> animal studies on the behavioral and biological effects of abused drugs (e.g., drug self-administration and drug discrimination studies), studies on the neurotoxicity and metabolic effects of abused drugs, and (human) studies on behavioral effects of anti-depressant drugs). For information contact Harriet de Wit (312-702-1537) or Bill Woolverton (312-703-6360).