

IBANGS NEWS Spring 2025: Issue 27

Letter from the President

As our annual meeting approaches, I am excited that our global community will be able to gather in person to learn, share, and support each other. In previous years the annual meeting has been a joyful celebration of perseverance and scientific discovery representing the culmination of the collective efforts of our IBANGS Executive Committee and regular members.

This year, the disastrous war on science in the United States casts a long shadow that penetrates even the brightest day in Fiji. But I do not concede defeat. Science and its defenders are under attack, but we survive. We know that a world without science is a world of uncertainty without answers, without cures, and without hope.

I celebrate the personal sacrifices that many of us have made to be able to gather and share our scientific research. I mourn for those in the US and around the world that have lost their jobs or funding and have been banned from continuing or sharing their research. I look forward to our annual meeting as a small act of rebellion and as an homage to the pursuit of knowledge and our society's commitment to keeping science open, diverse, and inclusive.

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Genes, Brain and Behavior Fiji 2025



Our society has long wanted to extend its reach and connect with scientists in the Asia-Pacific region. In the recent past we have tried to organize a meeting in Korea and China but due to extenuating circumstances (budget constraints and Covid) these attempts were unsuccessful.

The current society Presidents, Megan Mulligan (President), Karla Kaun (Past President), and Paul Meyer (President Elect) together with ExComm members, Amy Lasek (Treasurer) and

Kristin Scaplen (former Education and Training Committee Chair, Membership Committee Chair) have been working diligently these past months planning this upcoming meeting to ensure its fruition and success.

We are happy to report that the meeting has come together extremely well. Registrations and abstract submissions are in keeping with previous years, and the science that will be discussed is innovative, rigorous and exciting. Needless to say, we are excited and proud to bring this unique opportunity to our wonderful members. Thank you to our Executive Committee, local organizers, Timothy Bredy (bottom middle) and Kelly Clemens (bottom right) for making this possible.

Science Advocacy

Reminder: A science advocacy page under the tab "[Engagement](#)" has been added to the IBANGS website. The page is evolving. Please check it out/check back and let us know if you have resources to contribute.

Fireside Chat Symposium



Emily Eastwood, PhD John Harkness, PhD Christopher King, PhD Antonia Savarese, PhD

Much appreciated [Spencer Hatfield](#) and Kristin Scaplen of the Membership Committee for spearheading the effort to organize the Fireside Chat Symposium on Biomedical Career Paths. Thank you to each of the panelists for sharing their stories and providing useful advice for navigating different career trajectories. The importance of honing interpersonal skills such as communication, collaboration, adaptability, and leadership was highlighted.

Each of the participants have been associated with our society at one stage or another during their training and it was wonderful to hear their stories.

Call for Annual Meeting Venues

Each year IBANGS organizes a scientific meeting where scientists working in the field of behavior genetics have the opportunity to present new research findings, share ideas and forge collaborations. Meeting venues alternate between the US, Europe and Asia. If you are interested in hosting an IBANGS annual meeting at your institution, please contact the society administrator [Anna Delprato: administrator@ibangs.org] for more information.

Committee Opportunities

Volunteering for an IBANGS committee is a great way to contribute to our broader scientific mission and connect with colleagues. If you're interested, please contact IBANGS

President-Elect, Paul Meyer (pmeyer@buffalo.edu).

- Committee Options
- Membership Committee
- Nomination & Election Committee
- Publications Committee
- Education and Training Committee
- Inclusion and Diversity Committee

Training Opportunity Genetics & Genomics Research



Past IBANGS President Dr. Karla Kaun invites you to apply for the [2025 EMBO Drosophila genetics and genomics research course](#) in Heidelberg, August 3-8. The course covers practical knowledge of techniques like CRISPR-Cas9, next-generation sequencing, single-molecule(sm) FISH, and single-cell genomics as well as the latest advances in *Drosophila* developmental biology, cell biology, physiology, neurobiology, genome regulation, evolution, behavior and population genetics. This course has recently added behavior and neuroscience as part of its core curriculum and Dr. Kaun is excited about the potential of teaching IBANGS members as part of the course this year!

IBANGS Member Transactions

To access all of your IBANGS invoices and submissions, login to your IBANGS account and select the "Update My Profile" link. There you will find a tab containing a record of all transactions.

Feedback, Ideas, Resources

Please let us know if you have feedback or suggestions for future virtual symposium themes, ideas for member enrichment and/or resources that you would like to contribute to the teaching and research repository.



“No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.”

[Hal Borland](#)