

Center, the Studio Theatre, the Shakespeare Theatre, the Wolf Trap, the American Film Institute, the National Gallery of Art, the Museum of the American Indian, the Smithsonian International Gallery, the Phillips Collection in the Washington area. I also visited the Museum of Modern Arts, the Metropolitan Museum, the Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum, and the Neue Gallery in New York, and the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco.

In November 2004 in Washington DC a conference was held for the nearly 200 Humphrey fellows residing on different campuses all around the United States. The sessions tackled issues on public education in the US. In May 2005 the graduation ceremony of the Humphrey program took place in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

I profited tremendously from the Humphrey fellowship program both personally and professionally. It gave me an opportunity to obtain further knowledge on media, communication and culture through academic coursework. I also gained substantial professional experience by interning at a top US media NGO. I equally had the opportunity to be part of a wide range of cultural and social events, and get a deeper understanding of US society, politics and history. Simultaneously, I shared experience with fellows from Russia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Benin, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Morocco, Afghanistan, India, Nepal, and Brazil. This allowed me to get more insight into international, regional and global issues.

# Nephrology Research

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**Institutions:**

- Division of Nephrology, School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Professor (March)*
- Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Associate Professor Janos Peti Peterdi, (April-May)*

## Activities:

### I. Taking part in education:

- serving as judge for student scientific poster competition in physiology at UAB
- serving as judge for student scientific poster competition in medicine at USC
- serving as mentor for American Physiological Society Minority Travel Fellowship Awardees during the International Union of Physiological Sciences Meeting, San, Diego
- teaching whole animal experimental methods for PhD students at USC

### II. Scientific lectures:

- Invited lecture at an official satellite symposium of the XXXV Annual Congress of International Union of Physiologic Sciences (IUPS): Coordinating Hemodynamic, Filtration, and Reabsorptive Functions of the Kidney, La Jolla, CA, (April) Lecture title: **“Function of the endothelial fenestrations in afferent arterioles”**
- Invited Hans Selye Visiting Professor lecture, Medicine Grand Rounds at Southern California Institute for Research and Education and University of California, Irvine (May) Title: **“Morphology and function of juxtaglomerular apparatus, a small yet powerful regulator”**.
- Research seminar at the Physiology Department of Keck School of Medicine, USC, title: **“Short loop mechanism in regulation of GFR”**.

### III. Research activity;

- Imaging of glomerular, tubular and vascular elements of mice in vivo by laser multiphoton technique.
- Tracing of angiotensin uptake by different cells in the rat kidney measured by multiphoton microscopy in rat.
- Study the mechanism of renin secretion by granular cells in cell culture by intracellular calcium ion measurements.
- Study the permeability of endothelial fenestration in afferent arteriole by multiphoton microscopy imaging.

### IV. Most important meetings with scientists, agreements:

#### **Anupam Agarwa MD, Head of NRTC, UAB**

The 25 year standing cooperation between the Nephrology Research and Training Centers of UAB and Semmelweis University, Budapest will be reinforced. Anupam Agrawal will start to organize the establishment of an official bilateral agreement between the two Universities in order to further foster the development ongoing cooperation with mutual benefit. We are going to try to get a Fogarty (FIRCA) award together.

#### **Lisa M. Guay-Woodford, M.D. Pediatric Nephrologist, Professor of Medicine Director, Division of Genetic and Translational Medicine, UAB**

She accepted the invitation to take part in a symposium organized by Laszlo Rosivall at ISP Congress in Beijing 2006 together with Professor Darwin Bell and L Gabriel

Navar. She also accepted the invitation to lecture at the 13<sup>th</sup> Budapest Nephrology School and at the International Pediatrics Congress in Budapest 2007. She offered to apply for a joint project fund to NIH.

#### **David Warnock, Head of the Department of Medicine UAB and Jim Schafer, PhD Emeritus Professor, UAB and Steve Rostand, Professor at UAB, and Bruce Julian MD, Nephrologist, UAB.**

They agreed to have a special UAB faculty at the Budapest Nephrology School.

#### **George Olah, Nobel laureate, USC.**

He has offered his support for Universitas Pax et Veritas (UPV), the International University of the Central Europe. UPV is the first Harvard-style, multi campus international university in Hungary which was conceived back in 1994 by the Harvard faculty and in the past year has been revitalized and will soon be fully established with the help of the US and Hungarian professionals.

#### **Sandor Szabo, MD, PhD, Chief of Staff, VA, Long Beach, Vice dean of Dean of UCI.**

He has offered his active support for UPV. He is also involved in joint research projects.

#### **Roland Blantz, MD, PhD, USC, La Jolla.**

The president of the American Kidney Foundation. He agreed to lecture at the Budapest nephrology School.

#### **L Gabriel Navar PhD, Head of the Dept. of Physiology, Tulane University.**

He provided a chapter for “Nephrology, Hypertension, Dialysis, Transplantation”, edited by: T. E. Andreoli, E. Ritz and L. Rosivall, to be published in 2005.

#### **In Summary:**

*I should like to emphasize that this fellowship was indeed a unique scientific, social and cultural experience. I am grateful to the Fulbright Scholar Program for having provided me with this opportunity. I am also grateful to those who assisted me with my stay in USA specially in California with respect to my housing. I hope that the Fulbright will consider a rise in the fellowship fund for the next scholars, as otherwise it would be difficult for the scientists to live in USA with the very limited money allocated.*