

1) Name of Chapter: Kansas City Chapter Society for Neuroscience

2) Number of Current Chapter Members

Faculty & Staff Members: 80 Postdoctoral Trainees: 5
Graduate Students: 40 Undergraduate Students: 0

3) Chapter Representative Contact Information:

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4) Chapter Treasurer Contact Information

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5) Checks Payable to: Society for Neuroscience, Kansas City Chapter

6) Mailing Address for Checks:

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1) Brief summary:

The Kansas City Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience has proven important for facilitating interactions between faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC). In the upcoming year, we plan to institute an annual Member Retreat in order to enhance interactions and encourage collaborations between neuroscientists at KUMC and the other two academic institutions in the Kansas City area—the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Stowers Institute for Medical Research. We will also focus on the local public education of neuroscience by holding a local Brain Bee on February 7 and by participating in Brain Awareness Week in March. Additionally, we will begin to focus on Science Policy by becoming a part of the science advisory boards of local politicians.

2) Specific goals:

The Kansas City Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN-KC) is dedicated to furthering the goals set forth by SfN's strategic plan. Our specific goals are listed according to the strategic issue which they address below:

Public Education: In the upcoming year, we will focus on enhancing the public education of neuroscience by instituting three local events: a local Brain Bee, Brain Awareness Week, and a booth at a local art fair. Our local Brain Bee is scheduled for February 7, 2009. Approximately 20 Kansas City area high school students will be present on the campus of KUMC participating in small workshops which teach neuroscience topics, lunch, and a competition based on information published in "Brain Facts". The winners of the competition will be awarded monetary incentives (see budget), and the 1st place winner will be awarded travel to the national Bee by funds raised independently by the chapter.

We will continue our annual tradition of holding a Brain Discovery Fair for local elementary, middle, and high school students as a part of Brain Awareness Week in March. Students will have the opportunity to explore neuroscience topics using human brains, computer simulations, models, and nervous tissue slides.

In addition, we plan to rent space at a local art fair this upcoming September. At this booth, we will provide free neuroscience information to the public describing the process of scientific discovery in neuroscience, new disease treatments resulting from this discovery, and neuroscience health concerns.

Enhancing the Member Experience: SfN-KC has collaborated with the Neuroscience Journal Club (NJC) and the KUMC Center for Neurological Disorders to provide a unique experience for chapter members. This year, under the direction of Executive Committee member Sarah Tague, NJC meetings have evolved to evaluate specific problems in neuroscience through joint presentations by both basic scientists and clinicians. This provides members with a very integrative and translational approach to neuroscience. In addition, these meetings have proven instrumental in facilitating collaborations between neuroscientists and clinicians. We estimate that

over 200 individuals (including undergraduate and graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, investigators, medical students, and clinicians) have participated in the last year, with an average attendance of 50-80 per meeting.

This year, we will invite a local neuroscience speaker to lecture at one of the KUMC Physiology Departmental seminars.

Additionally, we will host a speaker for the Grass Traveling Lectureship (to be funded by its respective program).

We also plan to initiate an annual Member Retreat. Neuroscientists from KUMC and the two other academic institutions in the area—University of Missouri-Kansas City and Stowers Institute for Medical Research—will attend a luncheon and guest lecture, and participate in a poster session. This retreat should be very informative, encourage increased Chapter membership from these institutions, and will provide a medium for developing collaborations between neuroscientists at these three campuses.

Science Policy: This year, SfN-KC plans to send two liaisons to become members of the science committee advising local Congressmen. This should provide the Congressmen resources to make informed decisions on proposed policies involving neuroscience.

3) Budget:

Event	Details of Budget	Total
Brain Bee	Room rental & setup: 300 Lunch for volunteers and attendees: 150 Monetary incentives for winners: 450 (1 st place: \$200; 2 nd place: \$100; 3 rd place: \$50) Matching funds to be received by external sources.	\$900
Brain Awareness Fair	Room rental & setup: 300 Lunch for volunteers: 150 Advertisements in local newspaper: 300 Equipment rental: 50 Gifts for attendees: 50 Matching funds to be received by external sources.	\$850
Member retreat	Room rental & setup: 300 Lunch and snacks for members: 150	\$450
Physiology Departmental Seminar	Dinner for speakers and members of Executive Committee	\$150
Grass Traveling Lectureship	All funds to be received through its respective program.	\$1200
Neuroscience Journal Club	Snacks and drinks: \$30/meeting Matching funds to be received by external sources.	\$360
Booth at local art fair	Printed materials: 150 Booth rental: 500 All funds to be received externally.	\$650
Total budget		\$4560.00
Total requested from SfN		\$2000.00

4) Chapter-sponsored events: (most recent first)

- January 14, 2009: Executive Committee meeting
- January 9, 2009: Neuroscience Journal Club (NJC). Topic: Parkinson's Disease.
- November 13, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Neurodegenerative Disorders
- November 23, 2008: Executive Committee meeting
- October 31, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Brain Injury and Repair
- October 29, 2008: Executive Committee meeting
- October 15, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience
- October 7, 2008: Annual Chapter Meeting and elections
- September 20, 2008: SfN-KC Team walk; Walk to Defeat ALS by ALS Association—Keith Worthington Chapter
- September 5, 2008: Team builder luncheon; Walk to Defeat ALS
- September 5, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: ALS
- August 27, 2008: Executive Committee meeting
- June 11, 2008: Executive Committee meeting; discussed recommendations for SfN Travel award
- June 5, 2008: Executive Committee meeting
- May 30, 2008: sponsor, Midwest Regional Pain Interest Group meeting
- May 5, 2008: Joint seminar with KUMC Department of Physiology: Dr. John Wang
- April 25, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Auditory Nerve Lesions
- April 3, 2008: Neuroscience Booth at Westwood Elementary School's Science Night
- April 2, 2008: Executive Committee meeting
- March 28, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club
- March 21, 2008: Social for volunteers of Brain Discovery Fair
- March 15, 2008: Brain Discovery Fair (as part of Brain Awareness Week)
- March 12, 2008: Demonstration for volunteers of Brain Discovery Fair
- February 29, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Dopamine Receptor Binding
- February 27, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting
- February 19, 2008: Lunch to recruit volunteers for Brain Discovery Fair
- February 15, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting
- February 5, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting
- January 25, 2008: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: CNS Insulin Signaling
- January 15: Executive Committee Meeting
- December 2007: Grass Lectureship with Dr. Kenneth Hargreaves, guest lecturer
- November 30, 2007: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Inflammation and the nervous system
- October 26, 2007: Neuroscience Journal Club.
- October 2007: SfN-KC-sponsored workshop: "How to make and present an effective poster"
- September 26, 2007: Neuroscience Journal Club. Topic: Peripheral Nerve Regeneration.
- September 19, 2007: SfN-KC annual meeting and elections

April 2007: 40th anniversary of funding of the Kansas Mental Retardation Research Center. Symposium and guest lecture sponsored in part by SfN-KC.
March 2007: Brain Discovery Fair as part of Brain Awareness Week
January 2007: SfN-KC-sponsored Brain Bee
March 2006: Brain Discovery Fair as part of Brain Awareness Week
March 2005: Brain Discovery Fair as part of Brain Awareness Week

5) Chapter web-page address: <http://www2.kumc.edu/sfnkc/index.html>