



Chapter Grant Awards Application

1.) Name of Chapter: Bluegrass Chapter

2.) Number of Current Chapter Members

Faculty Members: 62 Staff Members: 39 Postdoctoral Trainees: 48
Graduate Students: 60 Undergraduate Students: 5 High School: 2

3.) Chapter Representative Contact Information:

Name: William F. Maragos, M.D., Ph.D.

Address: University of Kentucky – HSRB #262, 1095 V.A. Drive, Lexington, KY 40536-0305

Phone: 859 323-2522 Fax: 859 323-5843

E-mail: maragos@uky.edu

4.) Chapter Treasurer Contact Information

Name: James W. Pauly, Ph.D.

Address: University of Kentucky - SCoBIRC; B449, BBSRB; 741 South Limestone St.; Lexington,
KY 40536-0509

Phone: 859 257-6120 Fax: 859 257-5737

E-mail: jim.pauly@uky.edu

5.) Checks Payable to: Bluegrass Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience

6.) Mailing Address for Checks: University of Kentucky - SCoBIRC; B449, BBSRB; 741 South Limestone
St.; Lexington, KY 40536-0509

Please attach responses to the following questions in 10 point font or larger:

- 1.) A **brief summary** of the proposal (no more than 150-200 words).
- 2.) **Specific goals** of the proposal and how it relates to the SfN Strategic Plan, Brain Awareness Week activities, or otherwise promotes increased chapter membership and activity (please do not exceed 750 words to 1 page). Please be sure to include an approximate date of the proposed activity or event.
- 3.) **Budget:** explanation and justification. Travel may be allowed only for visits to promote chapter membership, if part of a formal program. *Please note: requests for travel funds must be accompanied by a compelling justification.*
- 4.) Please list any **chapter-sponsored events** held during the past three years (please include event dates and titles).
- 5.) Chapter **web-page address**, if applicable

Important note:

All Chapter awardees are required to submit a final report including detailed budget expenditures within 30 days after the funded event or activity. *Any unused funds must be returned to SfN.*

Return this form and your attachments to chapters@sfn.org.

1. Summary of proposal (200 words maximum): This proposal requests support for the Bluegrass Chapter to host the Annual Neuroscience Day (March 18, 2009; University of Kentucky Student Center), (March 21, 2009; Explorium Children's Museum) and a town hall meeting (March, 24, 2009; University of Kentucky Young Library). Neuroscience Day is coordinated to bring together investigators and trainees with the common goal of promoting and celebrating neuroscience-related research in central Kentucky. Neuroscience Day will consist of a judged poster session and platform presentations (~150 attendees). Posters will be judged according training level (high school, undergraduate, graduate, staff and post-doc), with the top posters earning cash awards. Our keynote speakers will be Dr. Donald Price, a world-renowned expert on models and mechanisms of neurodegeneration from The Johns Hopkins University and Dr. Adron Harris, an expert on the neurobiology of ethanol abuse from the University of Texas. Brain Awareness Day will involve staffing several learning stations to introduce the nervous system and its functions to museum guests. The Town Hall meeting will be a panel discussion emphasizing our current understanding of neurological conditions in the childhood population including ADHD and autism. The Bluegrass Chapter has already secured partial funding for these events from the Vice President's Office for Research at the University of Kentucky, several corporate donors, and dues collections and hopes to secure a Grass Traveling Scientist Award for one of our speakers. Nevertheless, these funds are insufficient to cover the full costs for these events.

2. Specific goals of the proposal and how it relates to the SfN Strategic Plan, Brain Awareness Week activities, or otherwise promotes increased chapter membership and activity (750 word maximum): Our Bluegrass chapter has been a highly visible and fully functioning organization at the local level for more than 20 years. With the change in the financial priorities of our traditional high-tier sponsors, we have not been able to secure sufficient funding for this event. Although support will be received from the central administration at the University of Kentucky, member dues and private company gifts, the increasing costs and number of attendees has strained our budget. We remain optimistic to secure small donations from additional private companies (e.g. Fisher Scientific, Olympus Microscopes, Ovation Pharmaceuticals and Medtronic). Additional support from the National Chapter would help us to meet our goals of (1) providing a training opportunity across central Kentucky, (2) community outreach to highlight the wonders of the brain, and (3) highlight neurological conditions of childhood at our yearly town-hall meeting.

In addition to covering normal costs incurred for Neuroscience Day, we request some funds to expand the representation and recognition of attendees. In the past, attendees have been almost exclusively from the University of Kentucky. Few attendees have been from institutions outside the University of Kentucky.

The University of Kentucky is centrally located near a number of undergraduate institutions, including Morehead State University, Transylvania University, Northern Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky University, Centre College, Berea College and Asbury College. These institutions have a higher portion of rural and Appalachian undergraduates compared to the University of Kentucky, and thus recruiting attendees from these institutions would enhance the diversity of trainees in attendance. The Bluegrass chapter is seeking this grant to remedy this shortcoming, a goal which is consistent with the following SfN mission:

Provide professional development activities, information, and educational resources for neuroscientists at all stages of their careers, including undergraduates, graduates, and postdoctoral fellows, and increase the participation of scientists from diverse cultural, ethnic and geographical backgrounds.

With this chapter grant, institutions within the area will be notified of all Bluegrass Chapter events and encouraged to participate. Personalized emails will be delivered to key faculty contacts at these institutions that have an interest in neuroscience. Initial contacts made last year will be followed up this year include: Dr. Ilsun White, Morehead State University; Dr. Melissa Burns-Cusato, Centre College; Dr. Mark Bardgett, Northern Kentucky University; Dr. Art Nonneman, Asbury College; and Dr. Meg Upchurch, Transylvania University. We recognize that participation from outlying institutions is a considerable challenge, but a concerted effort to increase participation would be especially rewarding.

Some funds from the chapter grant will be used to provide an incentive for individuals from surrounding institutions to participate in Neuroscience Day. Funds will be used to defer the registration and incidental fees for attendees outside the University of Kentucky. Funds are requested to ensure that awards for outstanding poster can be given. We plan to provide meaningful awards for the best presentations at multiple training levels (high school, undergraduate, graduate, technician, post-doc). In addition, we will establish a separate award for an attendee who comes from an institution outside of the University of Kentucky. These awards are critical to recognize the trainees' productivity, scholarship and involvement in the Neuroscience community. We are building on last years' success and will continue to build on this foundation in subsequent years.

Through the Explorium Children's Museum in Lexington, KY, the Bluegrass Chapter will sponsor a brain awareness day. Specific learning stations will be devoted to (1) introduction to brain anatomy using samples and models, (2) brain and neuron art project, (3) coloring pages highlighting major neuroscience concepts, and (4) a mini-neurological exam to illustrate reflexes and senses. This activity has the full support of the museum and ample enthusiasm from student and faculty members. Although funding from a previous award was used to purchase craft supplies, funds are being requested to purchase teaching posters and additional Neuroscience-related models for continued use in upcoming years.

As in years past, the Bluegrass Chapter will sponsor a Town Hall meeting. This year's meeting is entitled "Childhood Neurological Conditions" and is intended to educate the audience about some of the common disorders in the pediatric population. This year's speakers will include Dr. Paul Glaser (ADHD), who will moderate the meeting and discuss ADHD, Dr. Lisa Ruble (autism), Dr. Butch Welsh (learning disorders and behavioral interventions) and Dr. William Robertson (pediatric epilepsies). This opportunity will permit the community at large to better understand the neuroscience underlying several of the common conditions affecting our youth and have their questions answered by experts in their respective fields. To promote the event, funds are requested to defray the costs of advertising and light snacks before the presentations.

3. Budget (explanation and justification):

A. 2008 Neuroscience Day Budget

Food & Beverage (n=160, \$11/person deli lunch)	\$ 1,760
(n=160, \$10/person snack & coffee)	\$ 1,600
Poster Board Rental (n=30, \$52 ea + \$375 setup)	\$ 1,935
Miscellaneous office supplies (programs, abstracts, signage)	\$ 500
Awards (Graduate, Undergraduate, High School, Postdoc, Technician)	\$ 1,000
Don Price - Honorarium, Travel	\$ 2,000
Adron Harris - Honorarium, Travel	\$ 2,200
COST	\$10,095

B. Explorium Brain Awareness Day

Neuroscience Teaching Posters	\$ 250
COST	\$ 250

C. 2008 Town Hall Meeting

Advertising	\$ 500
Catering (coffee, cake, cookies for ~75 people)	\$ 750
COST	\$1,250

D. TOTAL COST (A+B+C) \$11,595

E. Current Donations/DUES

Vice Pres. for Research Donation =	\$ 5,000
Donations from departments =	\$ 2,000
Member Dues =	\$ 1,300
Est Donations to date from industry =	\$ 1,250
Resources	\$ 9,550

FUNDING DEFICIT (D-E) \$ 2,045

REQUEST FROM SfN GRANT= \$ 2,000

Costs for Neuroscience Day are estimated from current quotations. Food will be provided, including basic food and beverages for the attendees (coffee, water throughout the day and a buffet lunch). Providing food enables us to keep attendees in one location without distraction. The executive committee has created a cost-effective format on campus to keep our attendees interested and at the event for the entire program. Last year, nearly 70% of our dues-paying members attended the luncheon and the remainder attended some part of the day, with 160 registered attendees.

4. List of Chapter-Related Events in Previous 3 Years: Our chapter has been active in hosting the following main events during each of the previous 3 years: (1) fall kickoff day, during which newly elected officers are introduced, announcements are made and lunch is served (Sept/Oct); (2) spring Neuroscience Day, for which are currently requesting funds; and (3) community service to primary and secondary schools, primarily in the form of demonstrations in the classroom and the Lexington Explorium Museum for children during Brain Awareness week.

5. Chapter Web page Address: <http://www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/BluegrassSoN/>