

## Editorial

# Preface (Festschrift David De Wied)

David De Wied is the founder of the Rudolf Magnus Institute for Neurosciences and the European Journal of Pharmacology. He pioneered the field of neuropharmacology and behavioural pharmacology of peptides and hormones. His formulation and exploration of the neuropeptide concept have brought him worldwide acclaim.

He is a past President of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and is the recipient of honorary doctorates from universities in Europe and North America and Foreign Member of various European Academies of Sciences. His scientific work has earned him many national and international honours, including the A.H. Heineken Prize for Medicine in 1996. He received distinctions from various governments. He is a Knight in the Order of the Dutch Lion, Commander in the Order of Orange-Nassau, and has received the Medal of Honour for Arts and Science in the Order of the House of Orange. The Annual Lecture in the field of biomedical sciences of Utrecht University is given in his honour and bears his name.

For all the above, but foremost for his inspiring leadership and friendship, the Rudolf Magnus Institute for Neurosciences marked his 75th birthday with an international symposium, "Traces of the past, vistas of the future".

Elsevier Science and the editors of the European Journal of Pharmacology are publishing the proceedings of this

symposium as a special volume, a Festschrift, in honour of the founding editor of the European Journal of Pharmacology. The Festschrift includes, in addition, contributions by former colleagues of De Wied's.

The papers are grouped into three sections, i.e. (i) Neuropeptides, (ii) Stress, Adaptation and Brain Function and (iii) Neurology and Psychiatry. Some contributions highlight the traces from the past, others open vistas into the future of behavioural pharmacology and neuropharmacology.

We hope that readers of the European Journal of Pharmacology will benefit from the contributions offered in recognition of David De Wied's achievements.

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