

## COVENANT OF THE CAJAL CLUB

FORMATION The charter meeting of the Cajal Club was held during the 1947 meetings of the American Association of Anatomists in Room 8102 of the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Canada. The following were present at the charter meeting and are designated as the Nucleus of the Club: Wendell J.S. Krieg, (Nucleolus), E. Horne Craigie (Axone), Pinckney J. Harman (Apical Dendrite), Clement A. Fox (Nissl Body), R. Frederick Becker, George Clark, James H. Graves, David S. Jones, A. A. Pearson, Duncan C. Hetherington, Arthur V. Jansen, Grant L. Rasmussen, Charles Berry, Talmage Peele.

AIMS The purposes of the Cajal Club are: 1) to revere Cajal; 2) to provide an opportunity for congenial scientists with a special interest in the nervous system to confraternize annually; 3) to contribute to the welfare of neuroanatomy and neuroanatomists. The Club is conceived as an informal union designed to accomplish with the minimum of administrative and regulative detail the above aims.

OFFICERS The significance of the offices created at the Montreal meeting is as follows: Nucleolus (President), Nissl Body (Vice President - now by tradition this office has become that of the President-elect), Axone (First Honorary Member and Cajal student), Apical Dendrite (Secretary-Treasurer).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Although not officially provided for in the Covenant, it has been traditional that the present officers, together with all past Nucleoli, shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Club. This Committee shall recommend to the membership at the annual business meeting on nominations for membership in the Club, name the recipient of the Cajal Memorial Prize ("Cortical Kudos"), and may recommend upon other matters of both policy and/or action to the membership.

POLICY REGULATION The policies governing the affairs of the Club are discussed and regulated at the annual business meeting. Any changes are authorized by a majority vote of members attending. The Apical Dendrite and the Nucleolus acting together shall possess broad discretionary powers sufficient to cope with interim situations arising between the annual business meetings of the Club.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ANATOMISTS The Club recognizes that its origin and development is importantly related to the fact that most of its members are consistent and loyal supporters of the American Association of Anatomists. While the Club wishes to develop its own program, it is desired that its activities be supplementary to those of the American Association of Anatomists.

PROGRAM The Cajal Club shall meet yearly on the day preceding the annual meeting of the American Association of Anatomists, and shall request facilities from the Committee of the host University. This meeting shall consist of three parts: 1) A scientific session of presentations on neurological topics. These papers should not reproduce those given in the Anatomists sessions; rather they should tend to be less formal, allow for freer discussion and for the greatest

possible latitude with regard to time and topics. Research in progress, in prospect, in retrospect, teaching, techniques and assorted esoteria are all suitable. This session shall be open to all interested scientists, and its existence brought to the attention of the Program Secretary of the Anatomists so that he may promulgate its prospectus in the program of the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Anatomists. 2) An annual business meeting which is restricted to members. 3) An informal evening dinner for members and invited guests. (Banquets were suspended in 1971 by action of the membership due to time and space conflicts. Socializers were held instead. Banquet Speakers have been a more or less regular feature, and were formally named the "Pinckney J. Harman Memorial Lecture" by the membership in 1968.)

A Program Committee; consisting of a member elected by the membership, a member appointed by the Nucleolus and the Apical Dendrite, ex officio; is charged with the planning of the program each year. The Nucleolus is to designate the Chairman (by tradition it is the elected member). (Adopted by the membership in 1970.) The elected and appointed members of the Program Committee are to be elected and appointed two years in advance of the meeting for which they are to be responsible. (Adopted by the membership in 1971.)

**MEMBERSHIP** New members will be considered by the Club at each annual business meeting. Any member may submit names for consideration at the business meeting. (Action of the membership requires advance nomination, clearance for qualification by the Apical Dendrite, and ratification by the Executive Committee prior to submission to the membership at the annual business meeting.) Qualifications for membership are: consistent interest in the nervous system, interest in the annual Anatomists meeting, congeniality, interest in membership and in the program of the Cajal Club. (The following qualification was added by the membership in 1953.) Candidates must be known to be interested in becoming members and to have attended some part of some meeting. However, prospective members may be voted on in anticipation of such attendance and, if elected, shall become contingent members until such attendance has been realized. Contingent members should be informed of their status in writing by the Apical Dendrite. (The following clarification was adopted by the membership in 1953.) Women are officially eligible for membership in the Cajal Club on the same terms as obtain for men.

Prospective members are elected by a majority vote of those attending the business meeting and are subsequently notified of their status in writing by the Apical Dendrite. Regular members added subsequent to the charter meeting are referred to as "boutons terminaux". Visitors from abroad may be elected as honorary members and are designated as "boutons de passage". Honorary membership is also open to any bona fide student of Cajal (E. Horne Craigie is such a member and is known as the Axone; subsequent honorary members in the class are designated as Collaterals; e. g., Lorente de No). (The following class of honorary membership was added by the membership in 1970.) The surviving son of Cajal, Don Luis Ramón y Cajal Fañanás, to be the Y-chromosome. Another class of honorary membership is that of Receptor, reserved for the Chairman of the local committee of the Anatomists should he favor the Club by cooperating in the capacity of host. It is also customary to confer honorary membership on the banquet speaker.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS** New officers may be elected periodically at the annual

business meeting. The Axone enjoys permanent status. The Apical Dendrite, although subject to change every two years, can continue for an indefinite period. Changes in Nucleolus and Nissl Body ordinarily take place each two years (now traditionally each year), and are arranged for as follows: At the business meeting following the election of a Nucleolus, this officer shall appoint a Nominating Committee. This Committee will nominate a new Nucleolus and a new Nissl Body, and consider the possibility of a new Apical Dendrite (now by tradition only the Nissl Body, and possibly an Apical Dendrite are nominated, the old Nissl Body advancing to Nucleolus automatically.). The recommendations of this Committee will be submitted to the membership at the next annual business meeting, during which they will be discussed and acted upon. New officers shall assume their duties immediately following the recording of a majority vote by members at the business meeting. Although the recommendations of the Nominating Committee may be accepted by the membership, additional nominations may be submitted by any member attending a business meeting during which a discussion of new officers is held.

DUES       Honorary members are free from any financial assessment. All other members shall (contribute the sum of \$1.00 towards a fund to be used for expenses. Whenever this fund becomes exhausted, it should be renewed by contributions of \$1.00 per member in response to a request from the Apical Dendrite. This original provision was superceeded by the following change in 1953: If dues are collected at a business meeting, members not present should be billed by mail, in order that all members share each levy. A later change provided for direct billing of annual dues in the amount of \$2.00.) pay annual dues of \$3.00 with \$1.00 used to help defray the expenses and honorarium of the Harman lecturer. (Adopted by the membership in 1972.)

REIMBURSEMENTS     Any officer who shall incur extraordinary expenses during the year in carrying out his duties for the Club may submit a claim for such expenses at the next annual business meeting and should receive reimbursement from the membership.

INTERIM ACTIVITIES     In the interim between meetings, the Apical Dendrite shall circulate items of interest to the Cajal Club, including a periodic publication of a current membership list. This list may be used as a guide concerning future members and as a mailing list. It is a Club policy to encourage the sending of reprints of recent publications to fellow members.

The COVENANT was approved by the membership at the 1952 Meeting in Providence and was amended in Columbus (1953), New Orleans (1968), Chicago (1970) and in Dallas (1972).