

**KATZIR CONFERENCE ON
LIFE AND DEATH IN THE NERVOUS SYSTEM
(NGF2008)**

Pastoral Kfar Blum Hotel, Galilee, Israel, September 4-8, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENT

and

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The international NGF meetings are an intermittent series of conferences on neurotrophic factors and neuronal survival and repair, held in alternating years to the Gordon Conference on Neurotrophic Factors. The next international NGF meeting will be held as a Katzir Conference on Life and Death in the Nervous System, at Kfar Blum, Upper Galilee, Israel, between September 4 to September 8, 2008. Speakers will be selected based on scientific excellence in topics within the broad theme of life and death in the nervous system. In order to open up the meeting as much as possible to new and cutting edge research, approximately 50% of the talks will be selected from submitted abstracts. This leaflet provides information on the preliminary program, costs, and instructions for submission of abstracts. Further information on the meeting may be obtained from the secretariat (contact details below) or on the web at www.weizmann.ac.il/conferences/ngf2008

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Target Conferences Ltd.
PO Box 29041, Tel Aviv 61290, Israel
Tel: +972 3 5175150
Fax: +972 3 5175155
E-mail: ngf2008@targetconf.com
Website: www.weizmann.ac.il/conferences/ngf2008/

TIME PLANNER

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

All day: Arrivals/participation in optional pre-tours/
Optional- overnight accommodation in Tel Aviv
Pre-conference evening reception in Tel-Aviv

Thursday, September 4, 2008

Morning: Transfers from Tel-Aviv and/or Ben-Gurion Airport to Pastoral
Kfar Blum
14:00: Sessions commence

Friday, September 5, 2008 - Sunday, September 7, 2008

Sessions

Monday, September 8, 2008

Departures after breakfast or transfers to optional post-conference tours

CONFIRMED CHAIRS AND DISCUSSION LEADERS *(as of November 6, 2007)*

Mike Fainzilber (Rehovot) – Conference Chair

Phil Barker (Montreal)
Mark Bothwell (Seattle)
Ralph Bradshaw (San Francisco)
Bruce Carter (Vanderbilt)
Eero Castren (Helsinki)
Moses Chao (New York)
Lloyd Greene (New York)
Chaya Kalcheim (Jerusalem)
David Kaplan (Toronto)
Philip Lazarovici (Jerusalem)
Ken Neet (Chicago)
Robert Rush (Adelaide)
Uri Saragovi (Montreal)
Lino Tessarollo (Frederick)
Jeffery Twiss (Wilmington)

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Katerina Akassoglou (San Diego)
Yves Barde (Basel)
Oded Behar (Jerusalem)
Armin Blesch (San Diego)
Azad Bonni (Boston)
Patrik Ernfors (Stockholm)
Wilma Friedman (Newark)
Steven Goldman (Rochester)
Zhigang He (Boston)
Carlos Ibanez (Stockholm)
Avihu Klar (Jerusalem)
Neil McDonald (London)
Freda Miller (Toronto)
William Mobley (Stanford)
Francoise Muscatelli (Marseille)
Brian Rudkin (Lyon)
Mart Saarma (Helsinki)
Frédéric Saudou (Paris)
Giampietro Schiavo (London)
Michael Sendtner (Würzburg)
Bill Snider (Chapel Hill)
Frank Walsh (Collegeville)
Rachel Wevrick (Alberta)
Clifford J. Woolf (Boston)
Sung Ok Yoon (Columbus)
Kazuaki Yoshikawa (Osaka)

UP TO 24 ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS WILL BE SELECTED FROM ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS!

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstracts should be submitted via e-mail according to the instructions below. If you would like to be considered for an oral presentation, please summarize your previous experience in the field in a short paragraph in the body of the e-mail, and please list your three most relevant publications. ***Abstracts will be forwarded to the organizing committee only after submission of a registration form and payment of the registration fees, as detailed below.***

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Abstracts must be submitted as a Word document saved in .doc or .rtf format, and sent as an attachment by e-mail to ngf2008@targetconf.com. The registration form must be included as a separate attachment with the same e-mail, abstracts submitted without registration forms will not be processed or accepted.

- Title should be typed in CAPITAL LETTERS, bold and left aligned.
- Presenting author's name should be underlined and bolded.
- Font: Arial, size 11 points, single spacing.
- If submitting more than one abstract, each abstract must be sent as a separate e-mail message and the title should indicate that these are separate abstracts, i.e. JILL BROWN ABSTRACT 1; JILL BROWN ABSTRACT 2; etc.
- **Abstracts should be no longer than 150 words.**
- No end-notes, diagrams or frames
- Please note: Faxed abstracts will not be accepted

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: May 16, 2008

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

VENUE

Pastoral Kfar Blum Hotel. The hotel is located on a kibbutz in one of the most scenic parts of Israel, in the fertile Hulah Valley in the Upper Galilee. The beautiful atmosphere forms a perfect setting for the conference.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The Conference will be conducted in English.

REGISTRATION FEES*

Payment received	Before May 16, 2008	After
Participant*	US\$ 250	US\$ 300
Student**	US\$ 150	US\$ 200

Additional abstract with same presenting author: US \$ 50

* Registration fees include abstract submission fee for a single abstract, program and abstract book, participation in all scientific sessions, and coffee at breaks.

** Student discount is conditional on provision of valid student identification together with a letter from the student's thesis advisor or department chairperson.

All participants must submit a registration form, even if not submitting an abstract.

PAYMENT

Registration fees must be paid directly to the Secretariat. Payment can be made by check, bank transfer* or credit card. Kindly refer to the registration form for details. Please ensure that registration forms are submitted together with payment (one per participant) and that details stated are clear and legible.

* Please ensure that the name/s of the participant/s and Conference are clearly stated on the bank transfer, and that all bank transfer fees are paid at source.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund of registration fees in case of participant cancellation will be as follows:

- Notification received before June 16, 2008 - refund less \$ 150 cancellation fee
- After June 16, 2008 – no refund of registration fees

LETTER OF INVITATION

Upon request, the Conference Secretariat will send a personal letter of invitation to participate in the Conference. It should be understood that such an invitation is only meant to assist participants raise travel funds or obtain a visa and does not represent a commitment on the part of the Organizing Committee.

VISAS

Please inquire with your travel agent or local consulate whether you will require a visa to Israel.

CLIMATE AND DRESS CODE

The temperature in the Galilee in September is generally hot with highs of approx. 28°C and lows of 19°C. Dress code will be casual throughout the meeting, pack swimwear and sandals. A light jacket may be useful in the evenings.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Thursday Evening, September 4, 2008

GET-TOGETHER RECEPTION, Patio, Pastoral Kfar Blum

Sunday Evening, September 7, 2008

FAREWELL BARBEQUE DINNER, Poolside, Pastoral Kfar Blum

All registered participants are invited to join.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

Target Conferences Ltd.

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Fax: +972 3 5175155

e-mail: ngf2008@targetconf.com

Target Conferences is the official travel agent for the Conference, and will be offering special package rates for accommodation and Conference events.

Hotel space has been blocked by Target Conferences, as follows:

Pre- and Post-Conference Hotels:

Renaissance Hotel, Tel Aviv

Single room (one person) US\$165

Double room (two people) US\$185

Rates are per room per night and include full Israeli buffet style breakfast as well as service charge.

This hotel is moderate deluxe, situated at the beginning of the Promenade and with access to a bathing beach on the Mediterranean.

Marina Hotel, Tel Aviv

Single room (one person) US\$ 100

Double room (two people) US\$ 120

Rates are per room per night and include full Israeli buffet style breakfast as well as service charge.

This tourist class hotel is situated within walking distance of the Renaissance Hotel and the beach.

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION PACKAGE

Pastoral Kfar Blum Hotel:

September 4-8, 2008

Single occupancy US\$ 710

Double occupancy US\$ 500 per person

Package rate includes:

4 nights with full board, including shared bus transfer on Sep. 4th and Sep 8th to/from Kfar Blum, get-together reception, farewell barbecue, and open bar with light refreshments at the two poster sessions. As this is a package, no reimbursements will be allowed for portions not taken.

PAYMENT

In order to book your accommodation, and in order to benefit from the special rates, please complete and return the Accommodation Form with payment to Target Conferences.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Personal travel and health insurance is recommended.
- Target Conferences will arrange sharing accommodation for the conference package only (not for pre-/post- arrangements)
- All tours are booked and all tour arrangements are made on the express condition that Target Conferences shall not be responsible for and shall be exempt from liability in respect of any loss, damage, injury, accident, delay or inconvenience to any person and his/her luggage or any other property, for any reason whatsoever.
- Official check-in time to hotels is 14:00 hours and check-out at noon

CANCELLATION OF ACCOMMODATION

Up to 45 days prior to arrival – full refund less bank charges

Up to 15 days prior to arrival – cancellation charge of US\$150 per room

Less than 15 days prior to arrival – refunds for cancellations will be handled on a case by case basis according to occupancy at the hotels and their demands at the time.

CANCELLATION OF TOURS

Full refund up to 15 days prior to arrival, thereafter no refund.

TRANSPORTATION

Official airport taxis are the recommended mode of transportation to Tel Aviv on September 3. Shared bus transfers will be organized from Tel Aviv and/or Ben-Gurion Airport on the morning of September 4 to Pastoral Kfar Blum; and on the morning of September 8 from Kfar Blum to Tel Aviv and/or Ben-Gurion Airport. Further information on transfers will be provided closer to the time of the event.

Transfers on other dates will be arranged upon request, at additional cost (please note that taxi fare between Kfar Blum and Tel Aviv or Ben-Gurion Airport is currently approximately \$ 120). Every endeavor will be made to share transfers so as to keep costs as low as possible.

TOURING OPTIONS

TOUR A – 2 nights and 2 days OPTIONAL PRE-CONFERENCE GALILEE TOUR September 2-4, 2008

Tuesday, September 2, 2008

All day Arrival of participants
Overnight Marina Hotel, Tel Aviv

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

Drive up the ancient coastal route from Tel Aviv through the Biblical Iron Pass, via Megiddo across the Jezreel Valley (Plain of Estraelon). Visit the Church of Annunciation in Nazareth before continuing to the Sea of Galilee. Lunch at Kibbutz Ein Gev and sail across the lake to Capernaum, Tabgha, and experience the serene beauty of the Mount of Beautitudes.

Dinner and overnight: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Hotel or similar

Thursday, September 4, 2008

Following breakfast, start off with a visit to Beit Yigal Alon to view the 1st century fishing boat that was unearthed on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Drive north, up to the Golan Heights via Baniyas and visit the Druze Villages on the slopes of Mt Hermon, the highest peak in the Middle East. Continue to Pastoral Kfar Blum for lunch and check-in.

Rates:

Single room (1 person): US\$ 450

Double room (2 people): US\$ 700

Rate includes: 1 overnight in Tel Aviv with bed & breakfast, 1 overnight at a Kibbutz hotel (or similar) including dinner, bed & breakfast, 2 days sightseeing in an air-conditioned bus with the services of a government licensed English speaking guide, entrance fees and portorage. Rate does not include gratuities, lunches en route and incidentals.

OPTIONAL POST-CONFERENCE DAILY TOURS

TOUR B – 1 night and 1 day

OPTIONAL POST-CONFERENCE JERUSALEM TOUR

September 8-9, 2008

Monday, September 8, 2008 –

Early departure from the Pastoral Kfar Blum hotel for a drive via the Jordan Valley to Jerusalem. Enter the Holy City from the Mt of Olives for a spectacular panoramic view of the Old and New Cities of Jerusalem with its centerpiece, the golden Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount. Drive to the Jaffa Gate and enter the Old City on foot, passing through the colorful Arab market to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. After a visit there, continue down through the market to the Western Wall to see the remnants of Herod's magnificent Second Temple podium and streets. Meet the bus at the Dung Gate and drive to hotel.

Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel or similar

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Departures or join Tour C

Rates:

Single room (1 person): US\$ 250

Double room (2 people): US\$ 400

Rate includes: 1 overnight in Jerusalem with bed & breakfast, 1 day sightseeing in an air-conditioned bus with the services of a government licensed English speaking guide, entrance fees and portage.

Rate does not include gratuities, lunch en route and incidentals.

TOUR C – 1 night and 1 Day

OPTIONAL POST-CONFERENCE DEAD SEA AND MASSADA TOUR

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Early departure from hotel to drive down the ancient "Ma'alei Adumim" road, descending more than 3,500 feet to the stunning Dead Sea area, the lowest place on earth.

Pass Qumran, where most of the Dead Sea Scrolls were found and continue along the shores of the Dead Sea to Masada, the scene of the 1st century Jewish rebels' last stand against Rome. Explore the Herodian mountain-top fortress before a relaxing afternoon visit to the spa where you can enjoy the world-famous curative mineral mud and waters. Return to your hotel.

Overnight: Prima Royale Hotel or similar

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Departures or optional extensions in Israel, Jordan or Egypt.

Rates:

Single room (1 person): US\$ 195

Double room (2 people): US\$ 290

Rate includes: 1 overnight in Jerusalem with bed & breakfast, 1 day sightseeing in an air-conditioned bus with the services of a government licensed English speaking guide, entrance fees and portage.

Rate does not include gratuities, lunch en route and incidentals.

Note:

All tours are based on a minimum of 15 participants.

Please approach Target Conferences for any special touring arrangements.

DATES AND DEADLINES TO REMEMBER

Abstract Submission Deadline	May 16, 2008
Early Registration at Reduced Rate	May 16, 2008
Pre-conference Tour commences	September 2, 2008
Meeting commences	September 4, 2008