

I attended the 23rd Biennial Meeting of the ISN-ESN, which is the joint International Society for Neurochemistry and European Society for Neurochemistry. The meeting was held in Athens, Greece August 28 through September 1, 2011. I arranged and chaired a symposium entitled "Cytoskeletal Dynamics and Neuronal Polarity." In addition to speaking myself, I invited colleagues from Chile, Germany, England, and the Netherlands to participate. My research deals primarily with microtubules, and how they contribute to making neurons among the most polarized cells in all of nature. It is fascinating and inspiring to have perspectives from around the globe on the mechanisms by which various elements of the cytoskeleton contribute. Establishing new contacts, fortifying old ones, and expanding my own horizons was of great use to me. In addition, I feel the responsibility as a senior person in this research area to support younger researchers and provide a stimulating introduction to the topic to students in attendance. The city of Athens was a beautiful backdrop for the meeting, the inspiring in that it was so pivotal to the development of the scholarly endeavor that provides a foundation for what we do as scientists and educators.

