**CSR News Flash** 

May 27, 2009 Center for Scientific Review National Institutes of Health U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Contact:
Don Luckett
CSR Press Office
301-435-1111

## Dr. Samuel Edwards: New Chief of CSR's Brain Disorders, Neuroscience IRG

The Center for Scientific Review named Dr. Samuel Edwards Chief of the <u>Brain Disorders and Clinical</u> Neuroscience Integrated Review Group (IRG).



"We selected Dr. Edwards from an impressive group of candidates for many cogent reasons," said CSR Director Dr. Toni Scarpa. "First, he has an extensive background in neuroscience and research exploring the cellular basis of brain diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's."

"Second, Dr. Edwards brings nearly 10 years experience as a Scientific Review Officer and team leader," Dr. Scarpa said. "He knows every aspect of peer review from administration to policy and he has excelled in multiple leadership roles with various CSR and peer review committees and initiatives.

"Dr. Edwards contributes to CSR in a unique and selfless way— always testing new initiatives, procedures and hardware." Dr. Scarpa went on to say Dr. Edwards "remains a focal point of help for SROs and staff as he continues to contribute with innovative talent and vision." Since 2000, Dr. Edwards has been a Scientific Review Officer for CSR's Cell and Molecular Immunology A Study Section. Among other leadership roles, he coordinates the peer review policy section of CSR's intranet.

Dr. Edwards has a Ph.D. in zoology with an emphasis in cell biology and physiology, and he had postdoctoral training at the National Eye Institute and the Whitney Laboratory of the University of Florida. Before starting work at CSR, he was an assistant professor at the University of South Florida College of Medicine where he taught cell biology, molecular pharmacology, and cell signaling mechanisms. During his tenure there, Dr. Edwards also conducted research in cellular neuroscience.

## **About CSR**

CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR's mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns them to the NIH institutes and centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR's Web site—http://www.csr.nih.gov—or phone 301-435-1111.

## **About NIH**

NIH — the Nation's Medical Research Agency — includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <a href="https://www.nih.gov">www.nih.gov</a>.