

## Editors' Foreword

We have, in the next place, to treat of Memory and Remembering, considering its nature, its cause, and the part of the soul to which this experience, as well as that of Recollecting, belongs.

Thus began Aristotle, ca. 350 B.C.E., in his treatise *On Memory and Reminiscence* (translated by J.I. Beare, originally published in W.D. Ross, ed., 1930, *The Works of Aristotle*, Volume 3 [Oxford: Clarendon Press]). Twenty-three centuries later, *Neuron* considers the same questions in the Review Series that makes up this special issue. The fascination of this topic for all of us is undiminished. What has changed is the application of powerful modern technologies to these questions, technologies that form the basis for the explosion of research into the biological basis of memory. Most of the deep answers remain elusive, but we seem closer than ever before to a good understanding of the physical, chemical, cellular, and circuit changes that underlie various forms of memory.

There are many levels at which one can seek to solve the riddles of memory, and as a consequence, memory research has become truly interdisciplinary. It seems clear that an integrative approach will continue to play a key role in progress in the field. With this series, we hope to both highlight some of the recent advances in memory research as well as provide a scientific context within which to evaluate recent discoveries. It is impossible in a volume of this size to provide a comprehensive review of all of the recent work related to memory. The topics we have chosen for this review series are in-

tended to underscore the wide range of topics and approaches that researchers are using to tackle the many questions of memory.

In conjunction with this review series, we have also organized a satellite symposium, "Neurons and Memory," at this year's Society for Neuroscience meeting in San Diego. Our symposium is a follow-up to last year's "Cell Biology of the Neuron" symposium. We have a terrific lineup of speakers, including Ron Davis, Yadin Dudai, Eric Kandel, Joe LeDoux, Earl Miller, Brenda Milner, Roger Nicoll, Larry Squire, Wendy Suzuki, Susumu Tonegawa, and Gina Turrigiano. If you enjoy reading the reviews in this issue, we encourage you to attend the meeting, which will open with a poster session and reception on the evening of October 21<sup>st</sup> and continue with a full day of talks on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Additional information can be found on the meeting's website (<http://www.neuron-meeting.com/>). We intend to make the meeting and review series an annual event and are looking forward to covering the full breadth of the neurosciences in coming years.

Finally, we would like to express our thanks to all of the authors in this series for their participation and to the National Institutes of Health for their generous sponsorship of this special issue.

We hope that you find these reviews interesting and informative, and we would welcome feedback.

**Katja Brose**  
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**Anuradha Rao**  
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