



Vladimir Parpura, MD, PhD, MAE, holds both a medical degree, awarded from the University of Zagreb in Croatia in 1989, and a doctorate, received in Neuroscience and Zoology from Iowa State University in 1993. He held faculty appointments at the Department of Zoology and Genetics, Iowa State University; the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience, University of California Riverside; the Department of Biotechnology, University of Rijeka, Croatia and the Department of Neurobiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham, U.S.A. He is presently a Distinguished Professor and Director of International Translational Neuroscience Research

Institute, Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, Hangzhou, China; and a Cheung Kong Scholar and Kun Peng Action Expert. He has been elected/inducted as a Member of Academia Europaea (MAE) in 2012, of Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives in 2016, a corresponding member of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MSASA) as well as a Fellow of The American Association for the Advancement of Science (FAAAS) both in 2017, and a Fellow of American Physiological Society (FAPS) in 2020. He received 2017-2018 McNulty Civitan Scientist Award given by The UAB Civitan International Research Center and The Chesapeake District of Civitan International. Parpura was President (2017-2019 term) of American Society for Neurochemistry. He served on the Council of International Society for Neurochemistry (2019-2023 term). In 2019, Parpura has been awarded Honorary Professor title at University of Rijeka, Croatia and the journal *Neurochemical Research* had a special issue in October of 2021 in his honor. In 2013, his laboratory ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world in nanotechnology. Since 2021, he has ranked number 2 in the world in astrocyte expertise by experts.com. He discovered astrocyte-neuron glutamate-mediated signaling pathway, i.e. gliotransmission. This led to the concept of the tripartite synapse whereby astrocytes, by releasing a gliotransmitter, can modulate synaptic transmission and plasticity. Subsequently, gliotransmission has proven to be important for sleep, respiration, learning and memory, gut motility and secretion, etc. Parpura has been interfacing neuroscience with nanoscience/nanotechnology, neurochemistry, synthetic biology and biomedical engineering.

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