

## **Editorial for the Special (Double) Issue on the History of Russian Neuroscience**

With this special issue on the history of Russian neuroscience the long-standing wishes of one of the editors came through. For many years PK was looking for a Russian collaborator to help him compile such a history. He did not expect that the person who would eventually help would be living so close, in the Netherlands.

Our Special Issue guest editor, Alla Vein, graduated at Moscow Medical Academy. She obtained her PhD at the Department of Neurology (Clinic for Nervous Diseases of Kozhevnikov) at that same academy. She remained on their staff as a neurologist until 1990, when she moved to the Netherlands and continued her career at the Department of Neurology of the University Medical Centre of Leiden. This is where PK met her in November 2004. A discussion of only a few minutes induced her to spring into action and to start recruiting authors for this issue on Russian neuroscience, a project intended to cover both its basic and clinical aspects.

It goes without saying that this special issue cannot provide a comprehensive overview of the entire history of Russian neuroscience. But the editors hope that these selections will be a start. We feel certain that they will be found interesting and that they will stimulate further research on this often overlooked part of the history of the neurosciences — as well as with how the Russians interacted with leading neuroscientists in other countries.

The editors would like to express their gratitude to each of the invited authors, who took the time and devoted much effort to make substantive contributions to this issue. Most of all, we are grateful to Dr. Alla Vein for her scholarship and all of her hard work in bringing this project to fruition.

Peter Koehler  
Stan Finger

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