

Biography of
William T. Talman, M.D., President
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

William T. Talman, M.D., Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience at the University of Iowa, received his M.D. at the University of Virginia, did his residency in Internal Medicine at Case Western Reserve University and in Neurology at Cornell University Medical College, and did his postdoctoral training in Neurobiology at Cornell University Medical College where he served on faculty until moving to the University of Iowa in 1983.

Dr. Talman began his research in central cardiovascular control by defining alterations in blood pressure regulation following select lesions of the central nervous system. He showed that chemical rather than structural lesions could alter blood pressure control leaving animals predisposed to hypertensive responses to environmental stimuli. He demonstrated for the first time that the amino acid glutamate may be a neurotransmitter released by afferent nerve fibers of the baroreceptor reflex and showed how perturbations of glutamate transmission may alter cardiovascular regulation. He has published 100 articles in peer reviewed journals as well as numerous chapters and one book.

Dr. Talman continues in the practice of Neurology and specializes in autonomic dysfunction for which he has been recognized for the past 8 years by Best Doctors in America. His research focuses on central control of the cardiovascular system. Using experimental animal models of human disease he studies mechanisms of heart damage seen after central lesions such as stroke. Further he studies neural influences on cerebral blood flow and how parasympathetic nerves may serve to protect the brain during stroke.

Dr. Talman is the immediate Past President of the International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience. He is past chair of the Public Affairs Committee of the American Physiological Society. He is the President of FASEB, assuming that office on July 1, 2010. He is Associate Editor for Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology, has served several other editorial boards, and has served as a reviewer for NIH Study Sections, VA Merit Review Boards, National Science Foundation and the American Heart Association.