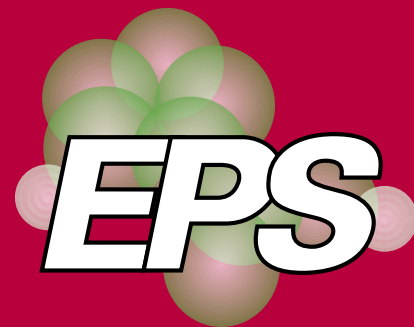


THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

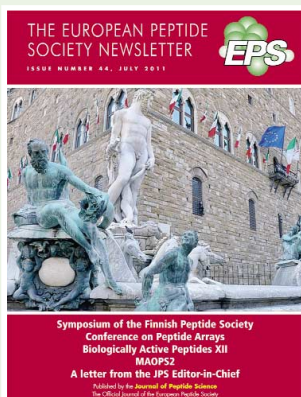
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Symposium of the Finnish Peptide Society Conference on Peptide Arrays Biologically Active Peptides XII MAOPS2

A letter from the JPS Editor-in-Chief

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Cover photo: MAOPS2 Symposium: Piazza della Signoria and Palazzo Vecchio (Florence)

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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A Message from the President



After the election of the new Executive Committee of EPS in Copenhagen in September 2010, the first meeting – by invitation of the President – was hosted by Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest in November, 2010. (Two photos taken at that occasion have already been published in the previous issue of the Newsletter.)

The Minutes of the meeting (you may consult in this issue of the Newsletter) indicates that the EC focused on strategic issues to further develop our Society. These include a) the composition of the new statutes of the Society, b) the completion of the transition process from paper to e-administration of membership related activities, c) the accelerated update of EPS related communication tools (website, Newsletter, archive) and d) the outline of novel forms of peptide science related activities (summer school, trainings etc.).

According to the decision of the EC in Budapest, by April the first draft of the new Statutes of the EPS was prepared by

the coordination of the Secretary. In Basel, hosted by the University, an informal meeting was dedicated to a detailed discussion about the content and the related procedures considering the new challenges in the field as well as novel legislation requirements for a scientific non-profit society like EPS. As a result of this focused and vivid discussion the second draft was produced and sent for comments to all members of the Council in May. Hopefully, our Society will have updated and forward-looking Statutes, which preserves the values generated during the last 20 years and prepare us to fulfil the expectations of new generations of future peptide scientists.

Taking this opportunity I kindly ask for your suggestions, remarks and comments about our Society at all times.

Professor Ferenc Hudecz
 President of EPS
 Budapest,
 June 2011

CONFERENCE REPORT

10th Biannual Peptide Symposium of the Finnish Peptide Society (10FIPS)

Tahko, 17–18 February 2011

10th biannual Peptide Symposium was held in Tahko Spa (<http://www.tahko.com>) 17–18.2.2011.

The symposium was organized by Dr. Ale Närvänen and M.Sc. Tuulia Huhtala together with the board of Finnish Peptide Society, which is a part of BioBio Society (http://www.biobio.org/Biobio_home.html).

The meeting was supported by the University of Eastern Finland, BioBio society, Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, European Peptide Society and several private companies. During the two days both structure/activity relations as well as peptides in biology and biomedicine were discussed. In addition on Thursday afternoon a young scientist competition was organized and the two best oral presentations were rewarded with 500 euros. The whole audience was judging the young scientists (making them a little bit nervous).

The meeting started on Thursday morning with the new area of peptide research, peptidomimetics and pseudo-peptides and structural analyses. We started with the lecture by Prof. Robert Liskamp from Utrecht University. His topic was “Tools for conformational control of peptides and mimicry of proteins: Ring closing metathesis and scaffolding”, followed by the lecture of Prof. Kristina Luthman, Göteborg University, with a title of “Design, synthesis and use of scaffold-



Ulo Langel and Knud Jensen during a session

based peptidomimetics”. NMR studies was introduced by Dr. Perttu Permi, University of Helsinki, with a title of “Novel modes of sh3 ligand recognition” and new structures were described by Erik Wallen from University of Helsinki with the lecture titled “Pseudopeptides with disulfide bridge mimicking structures”. The morning session of the meeting gave an excellent view of the basics of the peptide structures and their modifications for biological and biomedical research.

In the afternoon before the young scientist session there was the possibility for outdoor activities or activities in the spa, most people stayed inside. I think that all the invited speakers and other participants will remember this visit, outside it was –35degreesC with a huge amount of snow. To my luck everybody survived and we continued with the young scientist session and competition. The professional audience listened carefully to the lecturers and made their decision independently. During dinner I

announced the winners, which were M.Sc. Jussi Hepojoki, University of Helsinki with the title “Interaction interphase of hantavirus glycoproteins by peptide mapping – implications to surface structure of virion” and M.Sc. Can Hekim, University of Helsinki, with the title “PSA and hk2-specific peptides for prostate cancer imaging and treatment”.

On Friday we continued with peptides in biology and biomedicine. The 31EPS organizer, Knud Jensen, started speaking about re-designed peptide hormones as drug candidates and Prof. Ülo Langel from Stockholm spoke about the applications of oligonucleotide delivery by cell-penetrating peptides. Finally Dr. Hannu Koistinen, our new chairman of FIPS, had

a lecture with a title of “Peptides stimulating prostate-specific antigen (PSA) enhance the activity of PSA towards protein substrates”. The meeting was small-scale with 40 participants but very intensive and gave a good over-view about the new generation peptide modifications and their use in biology and biomedicine. Finally I would like to thank all the lecturers, participants and supporters. The next meeting (11FIPS) will be held in the year 2013. Today, when I am writing this article there is +25°C outside, so the exact season when the meeting will be arranged remains open.

Contributed by Ale Närvänen

CONFERENCE REPORT

Peptide Arrays as Tools for Study of Protein Interactions

London, 15–16 March 2011

The conference “Peptide Arrays as Tools for Study of Protein Interactions” was held at Charles Darwin House, London on March 15 – 16, 2011. The conference was organised by Prof. Robin Leatherbarrow, Dept. Chemistry, Imperial College London, Dr. George Baillie, Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology, University of Glasgow and Dr. Stephen Hoare, Innov-8 (UK) Ltd. Seventy participants from 11 different countries made for a highly stimulating environment.

The keynote lecture was given by Dr. Ronald Frank of the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research, Braunschweig, Germany who covered the historical development of peptide array synthesis as well as presenting his group’s recent work and finished by speculating on the role for emerging techniques allowing preparation of very large arrays of peptides – for example, covering all or parts of the genome, or of all random 5mers (3.2 million peptides).

This theme was continued by one of the industrial participants, Dr. Volker Stadler from PEPperPRINT GmbH, Heidelberg, Germany, who described his company’s colour laser printer technology for preparing custom micro-arrays on glass slides with up to 156,000 peptide spots per chip. Another novel array technology was presented by Dr. Christoph Eicken of

LC Sciences, Houston, TX, USA in which a novel chemistry enables custom synthesis of peptides and peptidomimetics directly on a high density microfluidic chip at addressable chip locations. Dr. Efythia Koini of Prof. Mark Bradley’s group, Dept. Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, UK described their method for synthesis of split and mix libraries of peptides with each library member encoded by a unique and specific peptide nucleic acid.

The application of peptide array technology to biological problems was the theme of most of the rest of the conference, with the presentations focusing on the use of peptide arrays to map interaction sites in signalling

proteins. Within that area, the talks covered a wide range of biological systems and diseases processes. Whereas some of the work used peptide arrays as screening tools for identification of lead compounds, others used the technique as one of a range of tools for detailed study of protein interactions.

A good example of the latter was the work of Dr. Stephan Feller of the Weatherall Institute for Molecular Medicine, University of Oxford who described the usefulness of the technique for studying interactions that may be weak, but nevertheless critical for function. His talk included information about ways in which non-specific interactions can be distinguished from



Symposium chair Robin Leatherbarrow and colleagues; lunch and coffee breaks provided many opportunities for stimulating discussions.

functionally relevant interactions and made the important point that results obtained with peptide arrays must always be corroborated using other techniques.

Two talks on A-kinase anchoring proteins (AKAPs) illustrated two aspects of the utility of the method. Dr. Enno Klussmann of the Max Delbrück Centre for Molecular Medicine, Berlin, Germany, described how peptide arrays could be used to identify novel AKAPs. After this, Prof. Kjetil Taskøen of the Biotechnology Centre of Oslo, Norway, presented examples of the use of peptide array mapping of interaction sites and development of high-affinity binders when screening for small molecule disruptors of protein-protein interactions.

Another two talks offering complementary insights in different fields unified by a common protein were from Dr. Pat Kiely, University of Limerick, Ireland and Dr. George Baillie, University of Glasgow, UK. These described the mapping of interactions of RACK1, an adaptor protein that is essential for cell adhesion and migration, which acts as a scaffold for signalling complexes and also facilitates

movements of proteins around the cell. Baillie focused on how peptide arrays could be used to design peptide disruptors defining two distinct roles for the cAMP-specific phosphodiesterase PDE4D5. Kiely explained how peptide arrays allowed them to identify FAK as a RACK1 interacting protein and enabled them to identify the kinase that regulates the RACK1/FAK interaction.

Other talks covered application of array techniques to study: interactions in apoptosis-related proteins; differential screening of autoantibody reactivity in sera of breast cancer patients and healthy volunteers; enzyme-substrate interactions; anti-microbial peptides; and protein lipidation and molecular motor complexes.

There was a lively poster session, sponsored by Biotage AB, at the end of the first day. The poster prize was won by Ryan Cameron of the Baillie group, University of Glasgow for his poster “Utilising peptide array technology to map Hsp20-A β interaction” with second place awarded to Emmanuelle Thinon of the Tate group, Imperial College London, for

her poster “Targeting N-Myristoyl transferase-1 in cancer.

The layout of the venue, together with the discipline of session chairs and speakers, meant that there was plenty of opportunity for informal discussions as well as time to visit the stands in the trade exhibition. The meeting was judged to be a great success by all who attended and there was almost universal desire to hold a similar meeting in the next 1–2 years.

The organisers are grateful to the staff of Charles Darwin House for their efficient support throughout the meeting and to the Meeting Sponsors, INTAVIS AG, LC Sciences, Inc., PEPperPRINT GmbH and the British Biophysical Society for their financial support and to the Protein & Peptide Science Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the European Peptide Society, under whose auspices the meeting was held.

Contributed by Stephen Hoare

CONFERENCE REPORT

Biologically Active Peptides XII Czech and Slovak National Peptide Conference

Prague, 27–29 April 2011

At the beginning we may state that this year's *Biologically Active Peptides XII* (BAP XII) conference was, according to the participants' responses, very successful and thus was beneficial for the whole peptide research community in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

The biannual conference of Czech and Slovak peptide researchers (www.uochb.cas.cz/BAPXII) took place at the very end of April from 27th to 29th. Again, as in the case of all previous meetings, the host institution was the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry (IOCB) of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Prague. The organizers (M. Flegel, V. Cerovsky, J. Slaninova, and S. Zorad) prepared rich scientific and social program and invited to the meeting several distinguished guests.

We were honored to welcome in Prague the president of the European Peptide Society, Prof. Ferenc Hudecz, who presented a very interesting plenary lecture "Peptides with citrulline for early diagnosis and monitoring of auto-antibodies in rheumatoid arthritis". Other plenary lectures were given by Prof. M. Haluzik from Prague, Dr. J. Pavel from Kosice, Prof. Z. Urbanczyk-Lipkowska from Warsaw, Prof. M. Ramírez from Jaen, Dr. F. Burlina from Paris, Dr. G. Nadasy from Budapest, and Prof. R. Olszanecki from Krakow. The other lectures as well as posters reflected the



Participants of the 12th BAP Conference in front of the IOCB

main fields of interest of Czech and Slovak peptide researchers, i.e. antimicrobial peptides and renin-angiotensin system, respectively. Altogether 23 interesting and inspiring lectures were delivered during the conference.

It is also worth to mention the talk of Professor Reissmann from the University of Jena who, similarly as Dr. Burlina, dealt with cell penetrating peptides as transporters for peptides, proteins and nucleotides in to cells. Dr. Cerovsky summarized the data concerning his discovery of the new defensin from green bottle fly (*Lucilia sericaria*) that is believed to be the factor behind the maggot therapy. Dr. Zorad from Bratislava showed

the most recent data on oxytocin effect in adipose tissue and Dr. Soltes-Katona presented the use of bioluminescence resonance energy transfer (BRET) approach in studying angiotensin II analogs internalization. Dr. Slama from Prague expressed emotionally his view on myths and reality in the research of insect cardiovascular neuropeptides.

The second day of the conference, during the poster session, everyone had an opportunity to speak about his work and consult with colleagues. There were presented 35 posters and 14 of them were dealing with antimicrobial peptides/proteins from different points of view: from isolation from natural sources (the



The audience at a lecture session

groups of Dr. V. Cerovsky from IOCB ASCR and Prof. M. Mackova from the Institute of Chemical Technology from Prague), molecular biology (the groups of Prof. L. Grubhoffer from South Bohemian University in Ceske Budejovice and Prof. P. Takác from Bratislava) to synthesis and analysis (the research groups from IOCB ASCR).

The number of participants from abroad was approximately the same as in the last conference – there were 20 participants altogether from seven countries: Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, France, Poland, and Spain (not including the Czechs and Slovaks). We want especially to appreciate the participation of Prof. G. Nadasy and Prof. Z.Urbanczyk-Lipkowska who contributed a lot to vivid discussions

of the presented lectures.

Apart from a scientific program, the significant part of the conference was also the cultural program, whether the get-together-party at “Villa Lanna”, where you could meet friends and colleagues, or the Easter concert of French baroque music (Marin Marais and Antoine Forqueray and sons) in the St. Simon and Jude’s church in Old Town.

The Conference was accompanied by the exhibition of four companies (Eppendorf Czech & Slovakia, s.r.o., VWR, IRIS Biochem, and Schoeller Pharma, s.r.o) and thanks to their help and sponsor contributions from the European Peptide Society, HPST s.r.o., MERCK, s.r.o., MGP Zlin, s.r.o., and PolyPeptide Labs., France SAS, the

participants could enjoy the rich refreshment at the coffee breaks, the “get-together party” and the Easter concert.

*Contributed by Jirina Slaninová
and Stefan Zorad*

...and a participant’s point of view regarding BAP XII

Hereby, I would like to thank all organizers for preparing an excellent meeting I recently participated in the conference of Biologically Active Peptides XII. I also attended the same conference held in Prague in 2009 and interesting projects were always presented. A great advantage of this conference for me was the research topic theme common for all participants. Thanks to this, discussions were very valuable. A lot of experimental problems were discussed, but also inspiration about future goals and comparison with other departments working on similar projects were important.

For young scientists and Ph.D. students it is a good occasion to take part in an approachable international conference and get some experience. I would also like to thank for the friendly atmosphere and nice place where the conference was organised and especially the Villa Lanna for the get-together party.

Contributed by Tereza Neubauerová

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Chemistry, Biology and Materials

Edited by **Chryssostomos
Chatgililoglu and Armido Studer**

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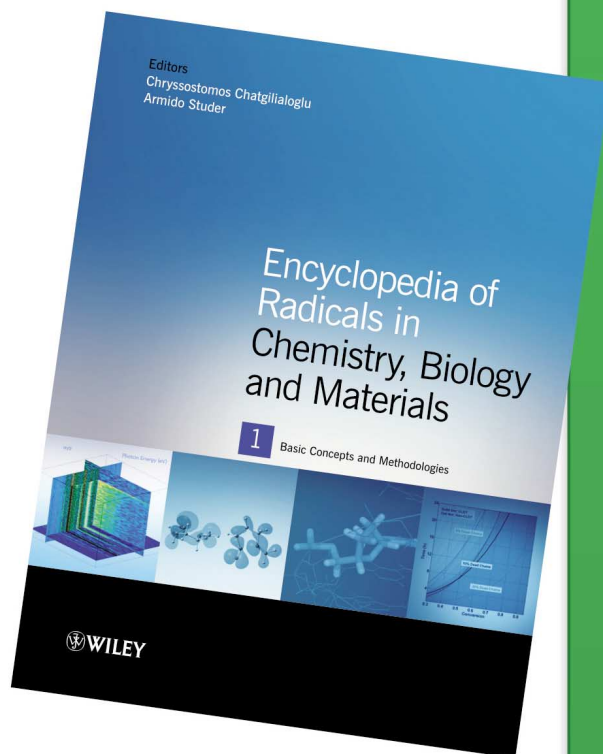
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CONFERENCE REPORT

International Symposium on Microwave-Assisted Organic and Peptide Synthesis

Chiostro del Maglio, Firenze, 27–29 April 2011

The 2nd International Symposium on Microwave-Assisted Organic and Peptide Synthesis – MAOPS 2 – was held on April 27–29, 2011, in Florence, Italy. Prof. Anna Maria Papini chaired the Symposium in the context of a strict cooperation among the French-Italian Laboratory of Peptide & Protein Chemistry & Biology of the University of Florence and University of Cergy-Pontoise, and the University of Montpellier 1 and 2 in France. The opening lectures of Dr. Frederic Lamaty and Prof. Gilles Subra on April 27 were in Salone de' Dugento at Palazzo Vecchio. The following days, the oral presentations, poster sessions, and sponsor exhibitions were in Chiostro del Maglio, an ancient cloister located just by the historic centre of Florence.

Following the stimulating environment of the previous edition (MAOPS 1 at La Grand Motte in France), more than 100 participants from different countries joined the Symposium. Attracted by the growing interest in the use of microwaves in several fields, MAOPS 2 Symposium reflected the current interest in expanding the use of microwaves in peptide chemistry, investigating possible solutions to difficult sequences limiting side-reactions, improving yield and purity of final compounds. The symposium consisted of four different sessions, facing

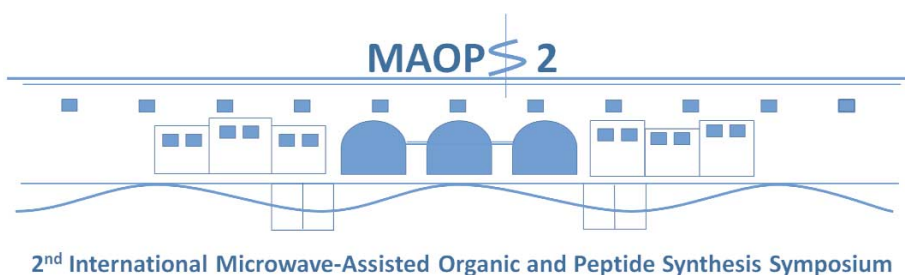
topics such as polymer chemistry, combinatorial, organic and peptide chemistry, green chemistry and solvent-free reactions.

During the opening session, Dr. F. Lamaty and Prof. G. Subra introduced an updated survey on the use of microwaves in peptide chemistry, showing benefits and drawbacks.

On April 28, Prof. D. Bogdal started the Symposium with a Plenary Lecture concerning the application of microwave irradiation to polymer chemistry and technology. In particular, during his talk he exposed and discussed the chemistry of processes aimed to microwave-assisted polymer cross linking synthetic strategies. Moreover, he reported polymerization reactions, polymer modification, reaction on polymer matrices, and recycling strategies. Another keynote talk was held by Prof. P. Frediani concerning the application of microwaves in renewal of raw materials and chemical substances. The afternoon session concerned the combinatorial and peptide chemistry using microwaves, and was opened by the Plenary Lecture of Prof. K. Jensen that reported a systematic study of the keynotes to be taken into account for microwave-assisted SPPS, i.e. reagents choice for microwave heating, and possible applications to long and 'difficult' sequences, i.e., glycopeptides, N-methyl-

ated peptides, etc. The application of microwaves in peptide chemistry was deeply investigated also by Dr. G. Marini by CEM. Moreover, Dr. M. Planas showed that microwave irradiation promotes the solid-phase Suzuki-Miyaura arylation of aromatic amino acid derivatives. This methodology allowed the synthesis of linear peptides bearing a 5-arylhistidine or a 4-arylphenylalanine residue. Microwaves greatly enhanced the arylation, shortening the reaction time and providing the biaryl peptides in high purities. Considering the current interest in cyclic peptides, she extended this methodology to the solid-phase synthesis of biaryl bridged macrocycles.

On April 29, the morning session involved the Plenary Lecture of Prof. G. Cravotto, that described efficient and greener synthetic procedures to obtain highly functionalized chemical structures and nanomaterials using MW-assisted reactions. In particular his experience in MW-assisted synthesis has covered several types of biomolecules, such as steroids, advanced glycation end products, aminodiazepine, and cyclodextrin derivatives. He also exploited microwaves for the rapid purification/oxidation of multi-walled carbon nanotubes and their decoration with organic moieties. An interesting talk was held by Prof. M. Taddei, based on the use of microwaves



MAOPS2 participants in Chiostro del Maglio.

in transition metal catalysis. Pd based heterogeneous catalysis under MW dielectric heating was more challenging, due to hot spot and thermal runaway phenomena. During the afternoon session, Dr. Y. Coquerel presented in his Plenary Lecture the use of microwaves in sequential multiple bond-forming transformations (MBFTs), including consecutive and domino multicomponent reactions, allowing the preparation of diverse and sometimes impressively complex molecules in a single chemical operation, thereby largely contributing to the development of sustainable chemistry.

The last talk closing the Symposium was by Dr. E. Colacino that investigated on glycerol, ionic liquids and poly(ethylene glycol)s (PEGs) as suitable solvents for microwave-assisted peptide synthesis due to their interesting chemical and physical properties, including good thermal stability, high boiling point and low vapour pressure. She reported the use of glycerol as a green and sustainable solvent in microwave assisted ring-closing metathesis reactions for peptidomimetics, the synthesis of a new hydrophilic ammonium based PEG-ionic liquid and its use in the peptide coupling under microwave

activation. Several flash presentations of promising young investigators demonstrated the growing interest in the use of microwaves in peptide chemistry.

Contributed by Anna Maria Papini

A letter from the JPS Editor-in-Chief



*Dear Members of the European Peptide Society,
Dear Colleagues*

As Editor-in-Chief I would like to inform you on news and developments of *Journal of Peptide Science*, the official Journal of our society which was launched in January 1995, with an advanced issue presented at the 23rd European Peptide Symposium at Braga, Portugal, in autumn 1994. It started as a cooperative venture of John Wiley & Sons Ltd and the European Peptide Society for the advancement of international peptide science by the publication of original results and reviews. The complex phase of this joint undertaking was successfully accomplished by the Chairman of the society at that time, Professor Dieter Brandenburg, the designated first Editor-in-Chief Professor Conrad H. Schneider and Martin Röthlisberger as the permanent link to the Publisher. With the retirement of Conrad Schneider by the end of 1998 Professor John Jones assumed the difficult task of Editor-in-Chief in January 1999 and served to the end of 2007 for innovations and advancement of the Journal.

In that period of time a fascinating renaissance of peptides and peptidomimetics at the forefront of science from chemistry, chemical biology, and

innovative biomaterials to drug discovery has taken place. As a consequence related scientific work was and still is published constantly and increasingly in the highest ranking scientific journals leading to an extreme competition for *Journal of Peptide Science*. By taking over the responsibility of the Journal in January 2008 intensive discussions were started with the editorial colleagues and some members of the advisory board about new developments required for increasing the scientific impact of the Journal to a level that is more attractive for submission of manuscripts of advanced research work by the scientific community. The need of a strong and innovative Advisory Board, with members covering a wide range of expertise, was recognized and indeed this board has been significantly expanded with internationally renowned peptide chemists to assure their cooperation in the review processes as well as with contributions from their high level scientific production. Changes in publishing policy were performed with the introduction of Protocols, increased number of invited reviews and special issues dedicated to meetings and workshops with focus on particular

emerging themes in peptide and protein chemistry. In addition, a significantly improved outlay of the papers online and in print including the newly introduced graphical abstract was realized to attract a larger readership and a more intense visit of our homepage with significantly increased number of downloads of abstracts and full papers. As an additional initiative the best paper award has been introduced by Martin Röthlisberger, the Wiley Editor; this was assigned for 2010 to the article of Shunsaku Kimura and associates on "*Distance dependence of long-range electron transfer through helical peptides*" during the Rudinger Award Session of the 31st EPS in Copenhagen.

As most of you may already have noticed the new standard 2-Year-IF 2010 published at the end of June 2011 is 1.954 and the new 5-Year-IF is 1.836 vs. 1.807 and 1.872 in 2009, respectively. This represents a slight, but promising increase of the impact factor which may reflect the new developments. However, despite all these efforts there is a continuing strong competition by higher ranking and well established journals of organic and bioorganic chemistry as well

as of biochemistry, chemical biology and immunology that attract many good communications and full papers of our traditional field of research. Therefore, to further strengthen the scientific ranking of our journal we need submissions of high quality papers of advanced research by all of you, dear Colleagues.

Despite this competition, as well as the rather large number of sister journals in peptide chemistry, we observed a steadily increasing number of submissions in the last two years, which allowed a more severe selection of papers for publication in terms of the aims and scope of the journal and more importantly of the scientific originality and novelty. This led to the relatively high rejection rate of about 40% of the submissions in 2009–2010, which was, however, required to retain and even improve the scientific level of the manuscripts in the continuously evolving strategic areas of research in peptide chemistry. For the critical review process we enjoyed the help of many expert peptide chemists, particularly also of members of the advisory board to whom I feel indebted for

their excellent support.

In accordance with the general trend of scientific journals to speed-up publication of submitted manuscripts, we have reduced the review time to three weeks and most of the reviewers respect whenever possible this deadline, but rather often authors are slow in returning revisions, thus significantly delaying the publication of their articles. Our goal is to publish online the articles within a month of acceptance. For the publication in print we have to keep in mind the allotted page number/year of the journal and our intent to insert whenever possible a Protocol paper and a Review in each issue. Therefore, our main efforts are devoted to a fast publication online and for this purpose the cooperation of the authors is required to fast return the proofs, and to deliver an improved quality of the figures with higher resolution as required for an optimal production of the online and in print articles.

At this occasion, I would like to thank all the members of the European Peptide Society for their submission of manuscripts of advanced peptide research and

for their help in the review process which are of key importance to the Journal operations and success. With all the new editorial developments and with the help of all of you by submission of interesting manuscripts I am rather confident to reach for the Journal the threshold value of 2.0 Impact Factor as an immediate goal, a fact that is more important for a Journal at the interface between Chemistry and Life Science than for other Chemistry Journals. Let us all hope that this goal will be reached in 2012 when the 2011 Impact Factor will be announced.

Thank you for your cooperation and continuing support.

Luis Moroder
Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Peptide Science

According to the list of ISI Impact Factors published in June 2011, the 2010 2-Years-IF for Journal of Peptide Science is 1.954.

In Memoriam

Kung-Tsung Wang (1929–2010)



When Taiwan was part of Imperial Japan, Kung-Tsung Wang was born in Taipei City in 1929. In April 1942, Wang entered the Third Junior High School (now the Affiliated Senior High School of National Taiwan Normal University) in Taipei. Because of the Pacific War, all students could not study regularly in the schools. After the Pacific War, types of education in Taiwan were drastically changed from the Japanese types to the American-like. The rulers in Taiwan changed from Japanese to Chinese. Wang and students of his generation in Taiwan had to learn Chinese; it was a new language to them. Wang passed in the high school entrance examination in September of 1945 and continued his studies in the Taipei Senior High School (the same location became the National Taiwan Normal University later). In 1948, he was admitted into the Department of Chemistry of National Taiwan University.

Wang started his research career as a teaching assistant in the Department of Chemistry in National Taiwan University in 1954, and he worked on isolation and structural determination of natural products in Professor Yao-Tang Lin's laboratory.

His first research topic was to analyze the components and to determine the structures of compounds in Taiwan

cypress volatile oil. The research conditions in Taiwan were very bad at that time; universities did not have sufficient money to buy the equipment and instruments needed. Consequently, for the first six years, Wang's research had no significant progress. In 1958 Professor Lin studied in Munich, Germany and he wrote to Wang, telling him that German scientists used a kind of adsorbent of polyamide (the primary constituent of nylon) in column chromatography for purification of flavonoids. At that time, polyamide was expensive and not affordable to Taiwanese scientists, so Wang used Professor Lin's nylon shirt as research material. He dissolved the nylon shirt using the formic acid, and then used ethanol to increase the nylon purity. Then he made nylon powder by air dry, and used in column chromatography flavonoid purification. However, Wang thought that column chromatography for separation and identification of flavonoid was too complicated. After a couple of days of pondering, he tried to use the filter paper chromatography method. Wang further found paper chromatography method could unexpectedly separate the ortho-, meta- and para-cresols. This achievement was remarkable, because these cresol structures differ very little and were difficult to be separated. Later, Wang published five papers in *Nature* (1965–

1967) on the separation of amino acid derivatives and of many natural products by using polyamide layer chromatography. Wang is co-author of 20 papers in the *Journal of Chromatography* as well as many more papers on peptide analysis and synthesis in other journals.

In August 1969, Wang came to Dr. Choh-Hao Li's hormone research laboratory in the University of California at San Francisco where he learned solid phase peptide synthesis technique. Returning to Taiwan, Wang started to work on peptide synthesis by either the liquid phase synthesis or the solid phase synthesis method. In collaboration with his laboratory members (Chi-Huey Wong, Shui-Tein Chen and Chewn-Lang Ho), they synthesized Taiwan cobra cardiotoxin by solid phase synthesis (Synthesis of a fully active snake venom cardiotoxin by fragment condensation on solid polymer. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta – Protein Structure*. 1978; 536: 376–389).

During his career, Wang has profoundly influenced the field of bioorganic chemistry in Taiwan.

Contributed by Min-Liang Wong

Society News

A message from the Secretary to all Members of the EPS

For the last two years, we have continuously updated the EPS member lists for all countries. Despite all our efforts, we still require more information from our members. We have contacted the EPS Council members of all countries who in part provided additional input. We have also placed adverts on the EPS website. This message addresses all members who have not yet done a re-registration.

Please note that – unless you have already done it – you should re-register through the EPS website: <http://www.eurpepsoc.com/view/O/register.html>. This is important because you will receive a new username and password so that you can profit from the EPS Member Area of the website. In the future, through the EPS Member Area, you will be able to access the EPS Member List and a steadily growing number of EPS Symposia Proceedings Books as well as other restricted materials. Thus, please re-register soon so that you will profit from these member benefits. Also, if you know any peptide scientists in your country whom we should contact so that they can register, please let us know.

Alex Eberle
EPS Secretary

A message from the EPS WebEditor

As a result of the EC's decisions (April 1st, Budapest), quite a few things were changed to the website appearance and content.

The Newsletter Archives: All missing issues of the Newsletter (00-28) were scanned, optimized for web viewing, OCR'd (to facilitate phrase-search in their content) and uploaded to the web site. Also, a brief description of each issue was added, to help the website users have a quick glance at its contents before downloading. In addition we have gathered all these issues (from No 00/Introductory Issue/February 1990, to issue No 28/January 2003) in a single volume (406 pages, 73MB, pdf) to facilitate downloading (although the quality is reduced by comparing it to the stand-alone issues). This cumulative issue also represents the years that Dr. John Jones was the Editor of the Newsletter and as such it was uploaded between issue 28 and issue 29.

Events & Event Submission Form: Since most of the site users prefer to send material for new Events to the web editor, an interactive pdf can be downloaded from: <http://www.eurpepsoc.com/view/O/eventsHome.html> providing all necessary information about data required from Event Organizers.

Coming soon for EPS members: In the near future, all items in the left hand home menu will be active, starting with the Older Proceedings Archives section, with downloadable pdfs of previous EPS Symposia.

In the mean time, older EPS members and peptide scientists are encouraged to re-register to EPS through the site, since this combined registration (EPS membership & site login) will give them access to the private content of the site and of course confirm their status as EPS members.

George Pairas
EPS WebEditor

Executive Committee Meeting

Faculty of Science Building, ELTE, Budapest

13 November 2010

- The minutes of the EC meeting held at Copenhagen, 8th September 2010 have been accepted and signed by F. Hudecz and A.N. Eberle: In the future, the minutes will be approved by all participating members and will no longer be signed. This procedure was applied already now: minutes accepted by the EC.
- The Communication Officer and Newsletter Editor reported that:
 - EPS Website* newly links to country peptide group/society activities which appear as a section on the website. Addresses of EC members have been updated. Questions to solve: which part of the website is open to visitors or, respectively, members only. This issue is interlinked with the membership issue. Tentatively, archive, newsletter and membership lists should be restricted to members only (however: the newsletter may represent a good way of advertisement for non-members and thus may be public). Announcements for grant applications will be open for everybody. P. Cordopatis and F. Hudecz will make a proposition at the next EC meeting.
 - Newsletter*: The new president will write a note for the Newsletter. Also, a table with Council and Executive Committee members will be published in the Newsletter.
 - Archives*: The electronic archive on the website should in particular contain – if possible – all EPS symposia proceedings books. This will take a couple of years to be effectuated. P. Cordopatis and George Pairas will make a proposition to the EC. The place of a physical archive of the EPS will be clarified by the secretary.
- *Membership data base*: The merger of the different data bases available about 3 years ago led to a list with about 3000 names, a larger part of it however lacking e-mail addresses and many, in particular of younger members (doctoral students, postdocs) with outdated addresses.
 - Several efforts were undertaken to obtain a valid membership list, by addressing council members and all members directly. In a first round, the 3000 names were shrunk to about 1200. Currently, between 600 and 700 names have been confirmed on the electronic membership list produced by Gabi Mild (in the secretary's office) and James Weeks (Wiley). In the first half of 2011, the list will be further substantiated and checked with the help of the newly elected council. When the EC Statutes will be revised, a clear definition for "member of the EPS" must be included.
- The Treasurer reported that a tentative *budget* for 2011 has been produced which will be updated for 2011 by June 2011. A short report of the budget situation for the next EC meeting including the revenue of the 31st EPS. For 2011: For small meetings €6000 (in the future: a revised strategy of funding small meetings shall be included in the statutes). EC expenses for 2011 will amount to about €3000; the audit will be approx. €2500. In addition, the budget must consider the webmaster's expenses (P. Cordopatis will transmit the details to A. M. Papini). E. Benedetti will be asked to call in the revenue from Copenhagen and transfer it to A. M. Papini, together with the entire bank account. The treasurer's expenses cannot be predicted in detail (e.g. bank charges as they arise).
 - Sponsors*: A new strategy for attracting sponsors by the EPS is required. A. M. Papini and A. N. Eberle will work out a proposal how to increase the revenue by the EPS (sponsors, membership fee, support by EU etc.). These ideas should be considered when the EPS statutes will be revised.
 - EPS bank account*: A. M. Papini will open a new bank account in Florence to which the account balance of E. Benedetti's account in Naples will be transferred. Any papers required for opening the bank account will be compiled by the secretary.

- *EPS Symposia*

2012 (Athens). A. N. Eberle will contact Prof. G. Kokotos and send him an official letter of invitation to organize the 32nd EPS in Athens, along with the instructions (statutes, section 10). G. Kokotos should sign the letter and return it to the secretary.

2014 (Bulgaria): The EC should observe the situation; a written report should be submitted to the EC; Jean Martinez will be asked to help the Bulgarians. New guidelines and a contract will be sent to the Bulgarians after the revision of the statutes.

2016: Germany will be considered with high priority.

- *EPS Prizes*

Leonidas Zervas Award: For the years 2012 and 2014 the secretary will negotiate with Bachem AG, Bubendorf.

Rudinger Award: Secured for 2012, 2014 from Polypeptides Labs by F. Hudecz.

- *Council elections winter 2012*: An election procedure as in 2010 will be organized by the secretary from January–March 2012 in those countries where the term of current council members will end. The number of countries will be much smaller than in 2010.
- The EC agrees that a strong EPS secretariat should be formed, a task in particular for the future secretary. In the meantime, A. N. Eberle shall have the assistance of Dr. Gabi Mild who is no longer his assistant but willing to work for EPS in her free time. For the years 2011 and 2012, Gabi Mild will receive €1000 per year for her assistance. In addition, Dirk Tourwe could be involved by A. N. Eberle to get training as secretary.
- A special EC meeting in spring will be devoted to the revision of the EPS statutes (after the EC meeting in

Budapest, Basel was selected as meeting place with the date 1/2 April 2012) and EC members are invited to do brainstorming work ahead of the spring meeting (the president volunteers to revise the guidelines for EPS organizers). The Council will then be contacted in order to approve electronic voting on the revision of the EPS statutes. As soon as a revised version will have been produced, the Council will be consulted, and a final version will be presented to the Council for electronic voting.

- The reorganisation of the EPS and the promotion of scientific activities (organisation of summer schools etc.) will also be discussed at the EC meeting in spring.

*Condensed by the Editor from the Minutes
provided by the Secretary*

The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, held at Villa Agape in Florence (12 June 2011) will be presented in the next issue of Newsletter.

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CALENDAR **of** Forthcoming Events

6th CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY OF PEPTIDES MEETING

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
27 July, 2011

For further information please contact:
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MRC National Institute for Medical
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4th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CHEMISTRY FOR LIFE SCIENCES (4ECCLS)

Eötvös University, Budapest, Hungary
31 August–3 September, 2011
Website: www.mke.org.hu/conferences/4ECCLS/ registration

21st POLISH PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Suprasl, Poland
4–8 September 2011
Website: <http://21pps.umb.edu.pl>

9th AUSTRALIAN PEPTIDE CONFERENCE

Hamilton Island, Qld, Australia
16–20 October 2011
Website:
<http://peptides.asnevents.com.au/>

EPI XII: IBERIAN PEPTIDE MEETING

Alicante, Spain
1–3 February 2012
Website: <http://ibmc.umh.es/epi2012>

3rd INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANTIMICROBIAL PEPTIDES

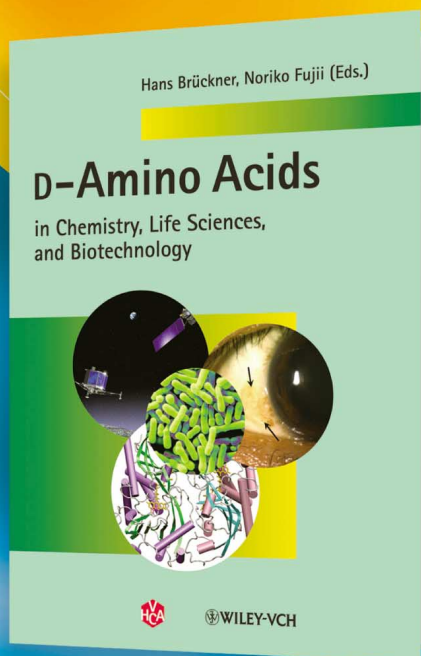
Lille (Villeneuve d'Ascq), France
13–15 June 2012
Website: www.amp2012.fr

32nd EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Athens, Greece
2–7 September 2012

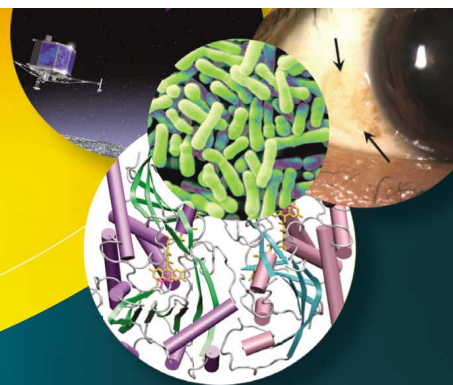
33rd EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Bulgaria, 2014



D-Amino Acids in Chemistry, Life Sciences, and Biotechnology

Hans Brückner and Noriko Fujii (Eds.)
 ISBN: 978-3-90639-065-9
 Hardcover
 Publication date: December 2010



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