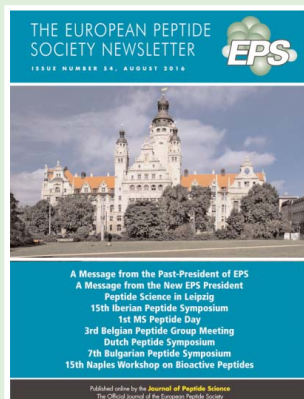


THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 54, AUGUST 2016



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A Message from the New EPS President
Peptide Science in Leipzig
15th Iberian Peptide Symposium
1st MS Peptide Day
3rd Belgian Peptide Group Meeting
Dutch Peptide Symposium
7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium
15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides



Cover photo: Leipzig, Germany; the New Town Hall. (Photo from Wikipedia).

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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A Message from the Past-President of EPS



Dear Reader!

After the approval of the report of the outgoing Executive Committee by the General Assembly of the EPS on 10 May, 2016 my service as President of the Society came to an end. During the period of almost six years (2010–2016) it was my pleasure to work with National Representatives of European peptide communities in the Council (until 2012) and – after the establishment of the new Statutes and Bylaws – in the General Assembly (from 2012).

Together with the newly elected Executive Committee (EC) in 2010, we have initiated some, perhaps substantial, changes to provide a better environment for the promotion and advancement of the research and education of the chemistry,

biochemistry and biology of peptides resulting in knowledge related to human health and welfare.

The EC focused on strategic issues including the composition of the new, forward-looking Statutes (March 2012), Bylaws (July 2013) of the Society, satisfying novel legislation requirements for a scientific non-profit Society like EPS, the establishment of new contracts with Wiley (December 2013 and March 2014) concerning the edition of our Journal, Newsletter and of the website (<http://www.eurpepsoc.com>). These changes resulted in healthy financial conditions for the Society, more transparent operation and an updated set of EPS communication tools (e-edition of the Newsletter, a web-based archive where e.g. the Symposia Proceedings as well as all issues of the Newsletters are available (<http://www.eurpepsoc.com/view/0/newsletters.html>)). Meanwhile the transition process from paper to e-administration of membership related activities was completed. These processes were conducted to fulfil the expectations of new generations of future peptide scientists.

The European Peptide Society is a strong professional academic community with free membership subscription at present in order to ensure that all peptide scientists in Europe would be able to enrol. The most important activity of the Society is to taking care of the bi-annual European Peptide Symposium in Europe

which started in 1958 in Prague. Since 1990 by accepting the proposal from National peptide communities of a constituent country, EPS is involved in the organization of the Symposia, which regularly attracts about 800 participants from all over the world.

I am proud that during the past years, the Society preserved the principle of selection of the organising community using rules of priority, which consider a balanced sequence between long-standing and new constituent countries. Thus, the Society has made a historical contribution to the further development of our field in Europe by accepting the proposal of our Bulgarian colleagues to organize EPS for the first time in their country (33rd European Peptide Symposium, Sofia, 2014) and the community of Irish peptide scientists will be pioneering to host the 35th EPS event in 2018.

In addition to the scientific awards (*Joseph Rudinger Memorial Lecture Award*, since 1984, *Leonidas Zervas Award*, since 1986) administered by the Society for a long time, the GA accepted my proposal and established the *Miklós Bodanszky Award* in 2014 given to the scientist who made significant contributions to peptide-based drug research. This Award will be presented in Leipzig for the first time.

Due to the efforts of the EC, the sponsorship of the Awards was secured for the coming years. In January, 2013 Dr. Rao

Makineni has endowed funds for the *Leonidas Zervas Award*. The PolyPeptide Group has been sponsoring the *Josef Rudinger Memorial Lecture Award* since many years. Earlier this year Dr. Neil Thompson, Director, Business Development has announced on behalf of the group, that it will continue to do so for the next five Symposia. Thank you for the support.

At the end of this brief account, I wish to express my sincere appreciations to colleagues who helped the further development of our Society during the last six years. Due to the efforts of Prof. L. Moroder as Editor-in-Chief (2008–) the *Journal of Peptide Science (JPS)* became a widely accepted reliable source of new results in peptide science. The transition of the EPS Newsletter, published twice a year, from the paper-print edition and to the on-line form was successfully guided by Prof. Paul Cordopatis (2014). Here I thank Dr. George Pairas for the innovative and highly committed service as web-site content manager of the Society.

In this brief farewell message, I acknowledge with thanks the intellectual and financial contributions of our partners in collaborating with us. We are grateful for the help and assistance of Rao Makineni, Michael Verlander (PolyPeptide Laboratories), Martin Röthlisberger and Ray Boucher (John Wiley & Sons) and of Elizabeth Schram (ESCOM Science Foundation).

Finally, but above all, as president I am grateful to all members of the Executive Committee. I wish to thank first Professor Paul Cordopatis, who sadly passed away, for his service as member of the Executive Committee (2010–2014) for shaping and carefully developing all communication related tasks as the first Communication Officer (from 2011) responsible – among other duties – for the Newsletter and the Website of the Society.

I appreciate highly the most dedicated service of Professor Alex N. Eberle (2008–2012) and of Professor Dirk Tourwé (2012–) as Secretary of the Society, Professor Anna Maria Papini as efficient Treasurer (2010–) and of Professor Solange Lavielle (2010–2015) as engaged Scientific Affairs Officer. The fruitful, conclusive discussions and the constructive, but critical inputs of the members of the EC during the shaping and renewal of EPS as an innovative, modern Society in a positive and meaningful way were most useful. Thank you!

Ferenc Hudecz
Past-President of EPS
Budapest,
August 2016

A Message from the New EPS President



*Dear colleagues and
friends of the EPS.*

After being nominated president-elect at the 33rd European Peptide Symposium in Sofia, September 2014, I have recently been officially confirmed as EPS President by the General Assembly that took place last May 10, hence it is now my duty and great pleasure to address all of you in the EPS community to, first of all, express once again my sincere gratitude for the trust and support you have bestowed on me. I feel both honored and invigorated by the task ahead, and wish you to know that I will do my utmost to serve the EPS well during the next four years.

With its origins in the first symposium

called by Joseph Rudinger in Prague, 1958, the European Peptide Society is the longest-serving peptide society worldwide and has set the pace for other similar peptide societies in America, Asia and the Pacific. It is also the most diverse in cultural terms; its 1600-plus current members represent no less than 30 countries, speak about 22 native languages and cover a large territory that includes practically the entire European continent as well as Israel. These are not simple times for geopolitical issues, yet the unfailingly agreeable, constructive attitudes found across the EPS community bear witness to the fact that genuine scientific endeavor knows not of national borders, as science can only truly thrive through open minds and in open societies.

It is inspired with this attitude that, along with EPS national representatives and my colleagues in the Executive Committee, I look ahead to a new four-year period in which I hope the EPS will continue to fulfill its foundational goal of “advancement of research and training in the science of peptides in Europe and other countries”. I am particularly motivated by the “training” aspect of our mission, and wish to focus efforts in finding opportunities for young peptide scientists to be trained not only in the more usual settings of universities and

research centers but also in industrial contexts, close to where, for many of them, their ideal professional future may lay. This will require building and strengthening the bridges between the EPS, the national peptide societies and the not few companies involved in various aspects of peptide research in Europe. We have some ideas on how to implement this goal but would welcome to hear your opinions and suggestions too; please do not hesitate to contact us!

Thanks again for your support of the EPS and your attention to this initial message. I hope we will continue to be in touch in the near future.

With best regards,
David Andreu
EPS President

Peptide Science in Leipzig

**34th European and 8th International Peptide Symposium
September 4th–9th, 2016**

Peptide Science in Leipzig has a long tradition. In 1881, Theodor Curtius formed the first peptide bond by chemical methods at the Chemistry Department under the supervision of Hermann Kolbe. In 1966, an independent Biochemistry Department was founded at the Science Faculty of Leipzig University. The autonomous Biochemistry courses for students established in 1969 belong to the first in Germany at all. In 1976, Hans-Dieter Jakubke started his activities in peptide research by studies on protease-catalyzed peptide synthesis. He is also a well-known co-author of important text books, as for instance “Peptides: Chemistry and Biology” and “Amino acids, Peptides and Proteins”. Between 1993, the year of foundation of the Institute of Biochemistry after the re-unification of Germany, and 1997 he was the chair of Bioorganic Chemistry. Hans-Jörg Hofmann was also one of the pioneers in peptide science in Leipzig working on theoretical aspects of peptides and proteins including foldamers and molecular modelling. He was Professor of Biophysical Chemistry until 2010, but continued publishing until 2014.

Peptide science in Leipzig in 2016 is even more diverse. The group of Annette Beck-Sickinger (Bioorganic Chemistry and Biochemistry) deals with all aspects of peptide and protein synthesis, especially for biomedical and pharma-

cological applications. Structure-activity-relationships of peptide hormones and G-protein coupled receptors as well as chemical modification of peptides and proteins to study function and interaction are her main focus. In both fields, a tight connection of chemical methods, bioorganic synthesis and molecular biology tools, including cloning, receptor mutagenesis, protein expression and cell biochemistry, are applied. Applications go towards medicinal chemistry, identification of novel targets and novel therapeutic concepts, to new coating for biomaterials, novel approaches to modify proteins and concepts for improved enzyme catalysis.

Peptides are also an important subject in other groups of the Institute of Biochemistry. Thus, the mobility of peptides is analysed by Tilo Pompe and his team (Biophysical Chemistry). The signal transduction of peptides in real-time by impedance spectroscopy is investigated by Andrea Robitzki and her team (Process Technology). Finally, the Emmy Noether research group of Irene Coin (In Cell Topology) develops strategies for the introduction of photocross-linkers into proteins including peptide receptors and elucidates their mode of action.

In the Chemistry Department of the university, Ralf Hoffmann (Bioanalytics) and his team work on peptide mass spectrometry. More recently they focussed on antimicrobial peptides and the elucidation

of their mode of action. Norbert Sträter (Structure Analysis) and his team from the same department are crystallographers. They identify the structure and dynamics of protease inhibitors as well as of other small and large proteins. Non-natural amino acids, e.g. carbaborane-containing ones, are developed by the group of Eva Hey-Hawkins in the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry.

In the Medical Faculty of our university, Torsten Schöneberg (Molecular Biochemistry) could recently identify peptides to be the relevant protein segment in the activation of adhesion receptors. In the same faculty, Daniel Huster (Medical Physics and Biophysics) and his team elucidated the conformation of different medium and large size peptides bound to their receptors by NMR spectroscopy. Furthermore, they identified the structure of chemokines in the presence of extracellular matrix components as well as the structures of amyloid peptides.

In total, more than 200 publications per year on “peptides” have been published in 2014 and in 2015 by the various groups of our university. Thus, Leipzig University is a very active spot on the landscape of peptide science and most suited to host the 34th European and 8th International Peptide Symposium between September 4th–9th, 2016.

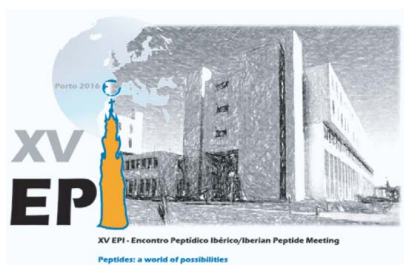
Welcome to Leipzig!

Contributed by Annette G. Beck-Sickinger

CONFERENCE REPORT

15th Iberian Peptide Symposium

Porto, Portugal 10–12 February 2016



1. Summary

The XV EPI—15 Encontro Peptídico Ibérico/15th Iberian Peptide Meeting (EPI2016) was held at the FACULDADE DE CIÊNCIAS DA UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO, in Porto, Portugal, from the 10th to the 12th of February, 2016 (www.fc.up.pt/EPI2016/).

Since their birth, three decades ago, EPI meetings have been fostering intensive interaction between scientists of diverse experience and expertise who have in Peptides a common research interest. In April 1988 several scientists from Spain (F. Albericio, D. Andreu, M. T. García-López, R. González-Muñiz, A. Negro, E. Nicolás), and Hernâni Maia, a chemistry professor from Braga, Portugal, decided it was high time to have a meeting of peptide scientists in the Iberian Peninsula. They agreed that such a meeting would skip a high-profile format and favor instead an inclusive formula that gave graduate students and postdocs a chance to sharpen their presentation skills before familiar, well-

disposed listeners rather than the imposing audiences of larger meetings. Albericio and Andreu volunteered to organize the first edition, which was held the next fall in Cabrera de Mar, on the coast north of Barcelona. With participants from Barcelona, Braga, Girona, Madrid and Valencia in an encouraging turnout, a second edition was planned for the following year in the Madrid area, organized by researchers from the University of Madrid and the CSIC. Then came meetings all over the Iberian Peninsula (Table 1), and EPI (Encuentro Peptídico Ibérico, Iberian Peptide Meeting) has grown as the emblematic showcase for an entire

generation of peptide-focused scientists from Portugal and Spain to divulge results, weave alliances and, more importantly, build up friendships that extended out of the Iberian Peninsula.

The original spirit of the Iberian Peptide Meetings came out reinvigorated from the 2016 edition. In the middle of a worldwide crisis and amongst a myriad of small and large scientific events popping up every month and everywhere, still the XV EPI was able to gather around 90 participants, from senior scientists to undergraduate students, who shared their perspectives and experiences in Peptide Science in an informal and stimulating atmosphere (Photo 1).



Photo 1: Participants of the XV EPI

2. Scientific Programme

The high scientific level of the event is well demonstrated by its programme, which included:

- three plenary lectures by Professors Dek Woolfson (University of Bristol, UK), Gilles Subra (University of Montpellier, France) and Margus Pooja (University of Tallinn, Estonia) – Photo 2,
- four keynote lectures by Professors Helena Azevedo (Queen Mary University of London, UK), Meritxell Teixidó (Barcelona Institute for Biomedicine Research, Spain), Diana Gaspar (Molecular Medicine Institute of the University of Lisbon, Portugal) and Miguel Vázquez (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain) – Photo 3;


















Photo 2: Plenary lecturers: left to right - Professors Dek Woolfson, Gilles Subra, and Margus Pooja.



Photo 3: Keynote lecturers: left to right – Professor Helena Azevedo, Doctor Meritxell Teixidó, Professor Miguel Vázquez, and Doctor Diana Gaspar.

Table 1. Iberian Peptide Meetings 1988–2016

Edition	Year	Venue	Chair(s)
1	1988	 Cabrera de Mar	F. Albericio, D. Andreu
2	1989	 Cercedilla	J. P. Albar, M. Bruix, J. V. Sinisterra
3	1991	 León	A. Negro
4	1993	 Gandía	B. Celda
5	1996	 Girona	E. Bardají
6	1998	 El Escorial	M. T. García-López, R. González-Muñiz, R. Herranz
7	2000	 Valencia	E. Pérez-Payá
8	2002	 Barcelona	M. Royo, E. Nicolás, I. Haro
9	2004	 Porto	H. Maia
10	2006	 Zaragoza	C. Cativiela, A. I. Jiménez
11	2008	 Santiago de Compostela	J. L. Mascareñas, M. E. Vázquez
12	2010	 Lisboa	M. Castanho, N. Santos
13	2012	 Alicante	J. Villalain, A. Ferrer-Montiel
14	2014	 Bilbao	O. Millet
15	2016	 Porto	P. Gomes

– 43 oral communications from pre- and post-doctoral students from Iberian institutions.

The event also attracted commercial delegates from five companies, three of them Portuguese (QLabo, Laborspirit, and Sarspec), one Spanish (Vertex) and one from the US (CEM) – Photo 4.

3. Social Programme

By being mainly targeted at young pre- and post-doctoral researchers in Peptide Science, EPI meetings are traditionally low-cost events. Still, the organizers (Photo 5) were able to manage that the low registration fees applied included, in addition to the usual documentation and attendance to all sessions, five coffee-breaks, two lunches and one welcome reception (Photo 6). The gala dinner took place in the restaurant of the “Casa da Música”, the modern concert hall of the city of Porto, and included a guided tour to this emblematic building by the Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas (Photo 7).

Contributed by Paula Gomes



Photo 4: Commercial delegates at the XV EPI.



Photo 5: Organizing Committee of the XV EPI (Chair: Paula Gomes, second from left at front row).



Photo 7: Conference dinner at the "Casa da Música restaurant.



Photo 6: Socializing at coffee (above) and lunch (below) breaks.

CONFERENCE REPORT

1st MS Peptide Day

Florence, Italy 10–12 February 2016



The first **MS Peptide Day** was held in Florence at the *Auditorium Sant'Apollonia* on February 10–12, 2016. The meeting, planned as a joint venture between the Italian Peptide Society (A.M. Papini and P. Rovero) and the Division of Mass Spectrometry of the Italian Chemical Society (G. Bartolucci and G. Giorgi), under the patronage of the University of Florence, was conceived to build a bridge between the growing fields of peptide science and mass spectrometry, in a largely interdisciplinary environment. Accordingly, the program, organized in plenary lectures, oral presentations, and poster communications, included several interdisciplinary topics, i.e. biomedical and pharmaceutical applications, food, proteomics, technological aspects, and a closing round table on future perspectives. Three commercial sponsors (Bruker, Thermo, and Waters) were present with their stands.

The following internationally recognized scientists were invited to deliver a plenary lecture:

- Pietro Traldi, Istituto di Ricerca Pediatrica “Citta’ della Speranza” (Italy). *“MS and peptides: an old but well consolidated affair”*. Dr. Traldi offered an interesting historical review on the development of mass spectrometry in the last thirty years, with special attention to applications involving peptides.
- Bela Paizs, Bangor University (UK). *“Mobilities, collision cross-sections and peptide fragmentation chemistry”*. The emerging field of ion mobility MS was carefully reviewed by Prof. Paizs, who showed several examples of successful applications, as well as some problematic issue, still open to developments.
- Jean-Claude Tabet, University of Paris VI (France). *“Amino acids and peptides into single charged complexes: zwitterion influence dissociation orientation independent to the charge polarity”*. The very long experience of Prof. Tabet, as well as his enthusiasm, clearly emerged from his lecture,

centred on the crucial role of charged species on peptide dissociation in MS.

- Michael Przybylski, University of Konstanz (Germany). *“New perspectives for proteomics, biomedical and biomolecular recognition analysis by combination of affinity tools and mass spectrometry”*. The crucial problem of antibody epitope mapping was approached by Prof. Przybylski, who introduced a very promising combination of MS and affinity evaluations, obtained by surface plasmon resonance (SPR) and surface acoustic wave (SAW) measurements.
- Nathalie Norais, GSK (Italy). *“Isotopically labeled peptides for quantitative proteomics”*. Bringing a remarkable contribution from the industrial environment, Dr. Norais illustrated the role of mass spectrometry in the characterization of protein relevant to vaccine development.
- Zbigniew Szewczuk, University of Wroclaw (Poland). *“Derivatization of peptides for improved analysis by ESI-MS”*. Prof. Szewczuk offered a wide and elegant review on chemical derivatization methods for MS analysis of peptides, clearly showing how these methods improved the analytical limit of detection of ESI-MS.

The program was completed by eight oral presentations and six posters, which



Participants of the 1st MS Peptide Day.



Moderators of the roundtable discussion

addressed several interesting topics, including the use of MS in the field of food research or in biomedicine (cancer biomarkers), as well as relevant technical updates, the latter offered by speakers coming from companies producing instruments and/or reagents. In addition, the President of the newly constituted Italian Peptide Society, Claudio Toniolo, had the opportunity to briefly introduce to the audience the new Italian Society. In the final round table, moderated by P. Rovero and entitled “Looking ahead”, G. Giorgi, B. Paizs, A.M. Papini, M. Przybylski, Z. Szewczuk, J.C. Tabet, and P. Traldi discussed on the future perspectives of the “lifelong partnership” between peptides and MS, in order to leave a clear take-home message to all the participants and particularly to the younger ones.

A total of 65 international participants enjoyed a friendly and informal atmosphere, favoring scientific interactions and interpersonal relationships, which culminated in the social dinner at *Palazzo Borghese*.

EPS sponsorship was repeatedly acknowledged by the organizers during the meeting and the logo of the Society was displayed on all the printed material of the conference.

Contributed by Paolo Rovero

CONFERENCE REPORT

3rd Belgian Peptide Group Meeting

Brussels, Belgium 17–18 February 2016

The third BPGM (www.bpgm.be) was organized in the new BEL (Brussels Environnement Leefmilieu) building, featuring a large auditorium and atrium for breaks, exhibitor booths and posters. As for the first two editions, this conference was organized by Dr. Mimoun Ayoub (Corden Pharma), Prof. Annemieke Madder (UGhent), Prof. Steven Ballet (VUBrussels), Prof. Jose Martins (UGhent) and Prof. Dirk Tourwé (VUBrussels) under the auspices of the European Peptide Society.

From the start, the organizers intended the BPGM to be an international conference covering several topics in the peptide field, including therapeutics and materials, from research and discovery, development, identification and characterization, as well as peptide manufacturing. It is the aim to have participants from academia and industry to help bridging the gap between them.

Next to six invited speakers, twenty-two oral communications were selected from the submitted abstracts by the scientific committee. The aspiration of the organizers to have a significant international component was reflected in the program with two third of all speakers coming from outside Belgium. One third of the oral presentations came from industrial groups. There were 38 posters, with a

proportion of 50/50 between Belgian and international presenters. These numbers nicely reflect the composition of the audience. 166 Participants were registered, with a proportion of 51% Belgian and 49% international delegates. Most of the non-Belgian delegates came from neighboring countries France (19), the Netherlands (12), Germany (11), the United Kingdom (11), but also Switzerland (10) and Ireland (7) were well represented. The delegates from academic institutions and from industry

were present in about a 60/40 proportion.

The plenary lectures were given by invited speakers: Annette Beck-Sickinger (Institute of Biochemistry, Leipzig); “*Peptide drugs to target GPCRs, state of the art and innovative applications*”, Christian Gruber (Medical University of Vienna and the University of Queensland, Brisbane): “*Nature-derived peptides as pharmacological tools to design novel ligands and therapeutics*”, Jesper Lau (Novo Nordisk, Måløv): “*Design of long-*



Welcome address by D. Tourwé



Views of the auditorium

acting GLP-1 analogues applicable for once a week dosing”, Oleg Melnyk (University of Lille, Pasteur Institute): “Protein total synthesis using bis(2-sulfanylethyl)amido (SEA) and bis(2-selenylethyl)amido (SeEA) ligation chemistries”, Greg Verdine (Harvard University, Cambridge, US): “Cell-penetrating miniproteins”. In the last minute, Christophe Bonny (Bicycle Therapeutics, Cambridge, UK) had to cancel his participation. Prof. Peter Timmerman (Pepscan, Lelystad) was prepared to change his communication into a plenary presentation: “Discovery & optimization of CLIPS-constrained bicyclic peptides (2CLIPS) using PEPSCAN peptide arrays” and Gilles Subra (IBMM, Montpellier) then filled the open slot with a communication: “Surface functional-

ization of medical devices with hybrid hydroxysilyl peptides”.

The presentations were organized in sessions on “Peptide discovery and medicinal chemistry”, “Peptide modification, delivery and pharmacology”, and “Peptide structure and characterization”. Two poster presentation sessions, with 38 posters, were held during the lunch breaks, which resulted in a very busy program.

Industrial contributions, next to the two plenary presentations, included communications about label-free, real-time and multiplexed detection of peptide-protein interactions (C. Frydman, Horiba), chemical glycosylation of peptides (F. Faupel, Bachem), chemo-enzymatic peptide synthesis (CEPS, T. Nuijens, Enzyep), process intensification in

peptide synthesis by the integration of membrane technology (D. Ormerod, VITO), application of high resolution MS for the analysis and characterization of peptide APIs (A. Klimek, Ipsen), peptide-based linking technologies (T. Bruckdorfer, Iris). In the last minute, D. Bevec (Therametrics) had to cancel his presentation about the inhalation of VIP for the treatment of sarcoidosis. He was replaced by P. Karoyan (UPMC, Paris) who presented his work on apoptotic peptides.

Academic contributions covered a wide area of peptide research. K. Hoogewijs (MRC, Cambridge) presented his work on the quantification of mitochondrial import of peptides and PNAs by an *in situ* strain-promoted click reaction, K. Thevissen (KULeuven) discussed the blocking of

Arabidopsis thaliana potassium channels by an antifungal plant defensin, W. Vannecke (UGhent) demonstrated selective cross linking of bioactive peptides to their receptors using furan crosslinking technology, and H. Ovaa presented his work on the development and use of ubiquitin-based reagents. Furthermore, C. Martin (VUBrussels) reported the use of injectable peptide hydrogels for controlled release of opioids, and D. Filippov (Leiden Univ.) discussed the solid-phase synthesis of ADP-ribosylated peptides.

The second day, S. Cantel (IBMM, Montpellier) presented results on the quantification of GPCR-ligand binding using MALDI-MS-based technology, T. Willemse (VUBrussels) discussed Pd-

catalysed derivatization of amino acids and peptides in aqueous environment, A. van Eeckhout (VUBrussels) showed the optimization of nano UPLC-ESI-MS for the in vivo monitoring of neuropeptides in rodent brain. Furthermore, N. Kinkel (Univ. Nüremberg) presented mixed-mode ion-exchange doped reverse phase materials with improved selectivities, I. Abishek (UGhent) demonstrated that stapling of monomeric GCN4 peptides allows for DNA binding and enhanced cellular uptake, S. Verbandt (KULeuven) discussed a SAR study of the plant-derived anti-apoptotic decapeptide OSIP108, N. Geudens used NMR to study membrane interactions of cyclic lipopeptides, and the closing

presentation was by D. Löwik (Univ. Nijmegen) about making cell penetrating peptides activatable and cell specific.

During coffee and lunch breaks, the participants could visit the exhibition booths of Advion, Axonlab, Bachem, Biotage, BioSPX, BIPP, Christof Senn Laboratories and Senn, CordenPharma, Intavis, Iris Biotech, Merck, Pepscan, Peptides & Elephants, PolyPeptide Group, Protein Technologies, TCI Europe, VITO and Zeochem. Furthermore the conference was sponsored by CordenPharma, Protein Technologies, Bachem, Biotage, Eurogentec, Lonza, Euriso-top and BIPP. Without their generous financial support, the organization of the meeting would not have been possible.



The coffee break and exhibitors space



Participants viewing the posters

At the end of the first day, the participants had the opportunity to further network in a relaxing atmosphere during a reception.

The location in the new BEL building was very well appreciated by the attendees, with an excellent auditorium and placement of the exhibitor booths in the coffee and lunch break area, which maximized interaction.

*Contributed by Dirk Tourwé
and Steven Ballet*



Closing remarks by DR. Mimoun Ayoub, Corden Pharma

CONFERENCE REPORT

Dutch Peptide Symposium

Lelystad, The Netherlands 3 June 2016

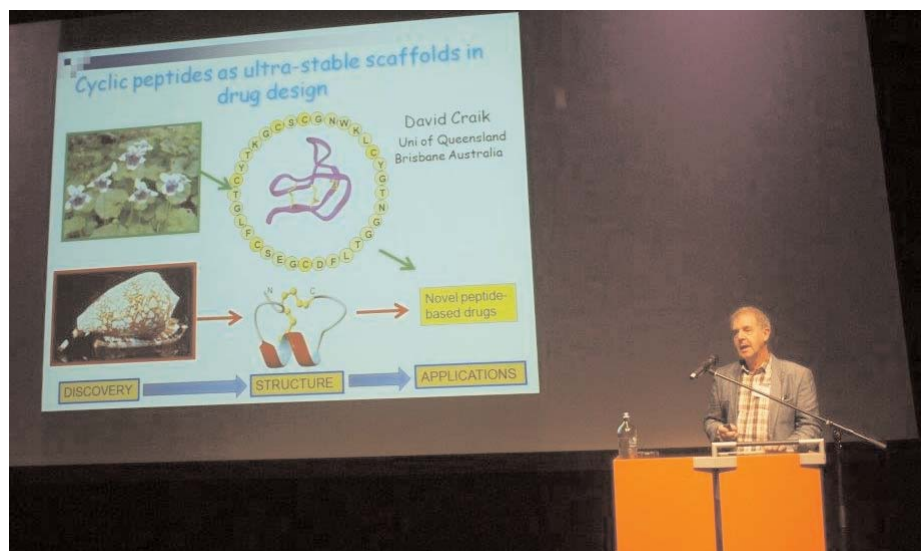
On June 3rd 2016, the 24th edition of the Dutch Peptide Symposium, the annual meeting of Dutch (peptide) scientists took place in the Agora Theater in Lelystad. This year event attracted a total of >200 different participants from in total 10 different countries. The event also inspired various sponsors (15 in total) who financially supported the meeting and made it possible for all participants to step in for free.

The Scientific Advisory Board of this year's event, i.e. Prof. Luc Brunsveld/TUE, Prof. Roland Brock (RUN), Prof. Tilman Hackeng (UMAAS), Prof. Jan van Maarseveen (UVA), Dr. Nathaniel Martin (UU), Prof. Peter Timmerman (PEPSCAN/UVA) and Dr. Wim Schaaper (PEPSCAN), did its utmost to bring together a good selection of science and scientists, and presented an exciting program with a top-notch list of both national and international speakers. Next, a selection of ~25 scientists presented their latest results on a poster, which participants could enjoy over coffee and during lunch breaks. This gave them plenty of opportunities to listen good science, and discuss latest developments with colleagues in the field.

We kicked-off the morning session with the keynote by Prof. David Craik, all the way from down under (Univ. of



The Auditorium of the DPS2016



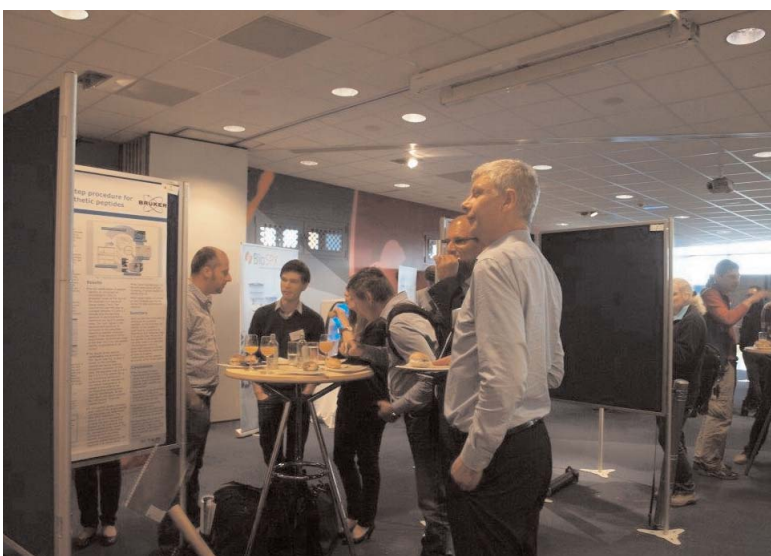
Prof. David Craik, Keynote Speaker of the Symposium

Queensland, Brisbane/AU), who spoke about “Cyclic Peptides as Ultrastable Scaffolds in Drug Design”. The next talk was presented by the recently appointed professor at the Free University of Amsterdam (VUA/NL), Prof. Tom Grossmann, who revealed his secrets on “Pathogen-inspired Targeting of Oncogenic Protein-Protein Interactions”. After the coffee break, we continued our session with two contributions from industry, the first by Dr. Reto Stöcklin from the company Atheris (Geneva/SW), who explained how he transforms snake venoms into useful drugs. The second lecture was given by Dr. Gert Moll from Lantiopharma (Groningen/NL), who introduced to us the “Lanthionine-stabilized receptor-specific antagonists of GPCRs”. The remaining two presentations were selected from the 25 submitted abstracts, and were given by Dr. Lech Milroy (TU Eindhoven/NL), who spoke about “Chemical Biology Approaches to the Design of Stabilizers of Protein-Protein Interactions”, and Dr. Dennis Löwik Univ. of Nijmegen/NL), who recently discovered how to “Make Cell-penetrating Peptides Activatable and Cell-Specific”.

After lunch, we continued our program with two other selected abstracts, the presentations of which were given by Dr. Wouter Verdurmen (Univ. Zürich/SW), who spoke about “Cytosolic Delivery of



Participants during the coffee break



Participants viewing the posters

Engineered Modular Protein Transporters”, and by Dr. Marine Cargöet (Univ. Lille/BE), who explained about “Protein Total Synthesis using the SeEA/SEA kinetically-controlled Approach”. Thereafter, Prof. Annemieke Madder (Univ. Gent/BE) closed the after-lunch session with her story about “Furan-based CLICK-reactions for Peptide-conjugation under Physiological Conditions”.

The forelast presentation of the day was given by Dr. Ana Toplak from the startup-company EnzyPep, who launched their brand-new peptide-ligation (and cyclization) technology called “CEPS, (Chemo-Enzymatic Peptide Synthesis). Since the second keynote speaker, Dr. Christopher Bonny (Bicycle Therapeutics, Cambridge/UK) had to cancel at the very last moment, we found Dr. Peter de Keizer

from the Erasmus Medical Centre (Rotterdam/NL) willing to step in and present his very interesting work on “Targeting Senescence against Age-related Diseases, Chemotoxicity and Cancer”. Obviously, the organizers were very thankful to Dr. de Keizer for his willingness to step in at the last moment.

The very successful and inspiring DPS2016 ended with drinks and snacks at the posters and sponsors lounge, where participants shared thoughts, ideas and impressions of the day. Overall, the organizing committee looks back at a more than excellent symposium and once again thanks to all the speakers and attendants for their great participation!

Contributed by Prof. Dr. Peter Timmerman, Chairman of the DPS2016

CONFERENCE REPORT

7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium

Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria 10–12 June 2016

The 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium was held from 10th to 12th June 2016 in Educational centre of South-West University – “Bachinovo”, near Blagoevgrad. Bulgarian Peptide Symposium is a cyclical scientific conference, taking place regularly every two years. Despite the fact that it is a national conference, the conference language was English, which allowed the free exchange of information between the participants of the symposium. All information about the Symposium are available on the website: www.bulpepsoc.info

The Organizing Committee of the Symposium has been formed by the staff and Ph. D. students of the Department of Chemistry in South-West University “Neofit Rilski” of Blagoevgrad. Honorary patron of the Symposium was: Rector of South-West University “Neofit Rilski”. The Symposium was held under the auspices of the European Peptide Society (EPS). The number of the Symposium participants was impressive: 70 active participants presenting lectures, oral and poster presentations, including three from abroad. As the result of the multi-dimensional nature of the Symposium was

attended by experts from peptides/proteins chemistry, biologists, biochemists, biophysicists, as well as medical doctors and pharmacists. The scientific program of the conference was divided into sections covering: amino acids and peptides synthesis, peptide mimetics, biologically active peptides, analytical methods in peptide chemistry, structure and conformation analysis. The assumption and overarching objective of such a selection of topics has been the consolidation of fundamental research with attempts to its application aimed at the understanding of the molecular



This photo and overleaf: Group photos of participants of 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium

mechanism of pathogenic processes, diagnosis of diseases characteristic for modern civilization and introduction into practice of a new generation of drugs that are based on the most biocompatible active substances, which are undoubtedly peptides and proteins. During the symposium there were 13 presented lectures, speakers of which were invited guests: Andreas Tzakos – University of Ioannina, Greece, Dirk Tourwe – Free University Brussels, Belgium, Krzysztof Rolka – University of Gdansk, Poland. It is worth emphasizing the very active participation of young scientists at 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium, both in

the poster session, as well as oral presentations. During the poster session 60 poster communications were presented. The Scientific Committee evaluated 40 posters presented by young participants and selected two of them.

The winners of the competition for the best posters were: Dessislava Marinkova, University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, Sofia and Petya Hadzhibozheva – Trakia University, Department of Physiology, Stara Zagora. The winners have received books as awards.

The organizing committee is grateful to all sponsors, patrons of the sessions for their support. The partners of the

Symposium were: Fot, Sigma-Aldrich, Corning, Chromservis, Bio Compounds, Waters, Globaltest, which in addition to information on the websites also prepared the articles presenting scientific impact of 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium.

*Contributed by Ivanka Stankova,
Chairperson of the 7th BPS*



Group photo of participants of 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium

CONFERENCE REPORT

15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides

Naples, Italy 23–25 June 2016

The 15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides has been held at the Congress Center of the University of Naples ‘Federico II’ on June 23–25, 2016. The workshop has had an extraordinary attendance of over 220 peptide scientists of different countries from all over the world. The meeting has been organized by a joint effort of the Interuniversity Research Center on Bioactive Peptides (CIRPEB) and by Department of Pharmacy at University of Naples ‘Federico II’, by the Second University of Naples, and by the Institute of Biostructures and Bioimages, and the Institute of Crystallography of the Italian C.N.R. The workshop was held under the auspices of the European Peptide Society. The theme of the workshop “Peptides: Recent Development and Future Directions” was covered by several plenary lectures, oral presentations and poster presentations.

The workshop has been organized in six sessions to cover the different topics. The first day was dedicated to “New Bioactive Peptides in Chemical Biology and in Immunology”, with the morning and the afternoon sessions that hosted the plenary lectures of Guido Franzoso (UK), Rudi Fasan (USA), Michael Groll (D) and Robert Liskamp (UK).

Session 3, in the morning of the second day, was completely dedicated to



From left to right: Giancarlo Morelli, Michele Saviano, Paolo Grieco, Menotti Ruvo, Co-chairmen of the 15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides.

“Antimicrobial Peptides” with plenary lectures of James C. Weisshaar (USA), Themis Lazaridis (USA) and Karl Lohner (Austria). In the afternoon of the second day session 4, dedicated to “Peptides in Diagnostic and Therapeutic Applications” we hosted the plenary lectures of David Craik from Australia. The last day, Saturday 25th, “Synthesis, Bioconjugation and Peptide Folding” was discussed in the morning session with plenary lectures of William Lubell (Canada) and Jung-Mo Ahn (USA). Last session was dedicated to “Peptides in Industrial Applications” with interesting

contributions from companies and industrial firm involved in Peptide Science.

A total of ten invited plenary lectures and 37 oral presentations were given in the three days of the workshop. Furthermore, a rather substantial number of poster presentations (95) were also enriching the program, covering the various aspects of peptides as therapeutics, diagnostics, vaccines, and in material science.

The scientific content of the invited lectures, short oral, and poster presentations certainly reflected the state of the



Participants of the 15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides

art in several specific aspects of the topic of the workshop; the investigations presented were indeed representative examples of emerging subjects, which highlighted the field of continuously increasing biologically important and 'man-made' peptide systems. One common feature, which ideally connected the different subjects covered, was the

'molecular approach' used by the various authors in tackling the problem of understanding the structure–activity relationships of bioactive peptides.

The Naples meeting has been, once again, a highly successful forum for the exchange of ideas on hot subjects and trends in peptide chemistry and an important and decisive stimulus for future

work in the area. The pleasant weather of Naples, offered to participants, beside science, the occasion of enjoying the city with its museums, monuments, and natural beauty.

Contributed by Giancarlo Morelli

Society News

J. Rudinger, L. Zervas and M. Bodanszky Awards

34 EPS, Leipzig, September 2016

According to the results of EPS General Assembly voting for 2016, the laureates are:

Rudinger Award 2016: Jean Martinez



The Josef Rudinger Memorial Lecture Award is presented every two years, during the European Peptide Symposium, in commemoration of Josef Rudinger's role in the foundation of the European Peptide Symposia and of diverse contributions he made to peptide chemistry. The Award honours a candidate with longstanding contributions to the field. The members of the General Assembly of EPS elected Prof. J. Martinez, full professor, at the University of Montpellier. In 2007, he created the « Institut des Biomolécules Max Mousseron » (IBMM), which he has been the Director until December 2014. He is actually Head of the Department of Amino Acids, Peptides and

Proteins at IBMM. He served the University of Montpellier 1 as a Member of the Scientific Council for 8 years, and as Vice-President for 6 years (2009-2014). Prof. Martinez is recognized for his important contributions, at the interface of chemistry and biology, to the development of methodology in organic and peptide synthesis, design and synthesis of various potent and selective neuropeptide analogues, and biomaterials containing biomolecules.

He has published over 800 original papers, 50 patents, numerous review articles, and he has been editor of several books. In 2012, he was accepted into the « Académie Nationale de Pharmacie », France, and in 2014 into the « Real Academia Nacional de Farmacia », Spain. In 2015, he has been nominated Docteur Honoris causa of the University of Krakow, Poland. He has received various prizes including the Leonidas Zervas Award (1990), the Silver Medal CNRS (1996), the Max Bergmann Medal (2004), the Cathay Award (2006), the Akabori Award (2006), the Ehrlich Award (2011), the Roche « Johannes Meinhofer Award » (2011), the Léon Velluz Award (2015). He is « Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques » (2010), and Chevalier dans l'Ordre de la Légion d'Honneur (2011).

Jean Martinez served the European Peptide Society as French Representative, Member of the Executive Committee (1991–1998), Scientific Officer (1998–2001), and President (2001–2010).

The Rudinger Memorial Lecture Award is graciously sponsored by PolyPeptide Group.

**Zervas Award 2016:
Christian F. W. Becker**

The Leonidas Zervas Award is presented every two years, during the European Peptide Symposium, to the scientist who has in the opinion of the General Assembly of the Society made the most outstanding contribution to the chemistry, biochemistry, or biology of peptides in the five years preceding the date of selection, and is sponsored by the donation of Dr. Rao Makineni. For the 2016 Award, the members of the General Assembly of EPS elected Christian F.W. Becker, University of Vienna, Austria, in recognition for his major contributions to the development of improved methods for the total chemical synthesis and semisynthesis of complex modified proteins and their application to mechanistic and structural biological questions. The boundaries of chemical protein synthesis were extended by his group by generating the first membrane-embedded enzyme as well as by providing access to different membrane-attached proteins such as the Prion protein.

Recently he added the synthesis and in vitro study of highly posttranslationally modified silaffin peptides and their use for mild encapsulation of proteins via biomimetic silica precipitation to his research interests. In his latest work he has facilitated

access to complex glycosylated peptides by a new chemoenzymatic approach. Christian Becker has published more than 75 papers, reviews, book chapters and patents.

**Miklós Bodanszky Award 2016:
Maja Köhn and Markus Muttenthaler**

Maja Köhn



Markus Muttenthaler

The Miklós Bodanszky Award is presented in commemoration of his outstanding contributions to peptide science. The award is given to the scientist who made significant contributions to peptide-based drug research in the period of ten years after having obtained the PhD degree. The Award is presented during the EPS Symposium and is sponsored by BCN Peptides. For the 2016 Award, the members of the General Assembly of EPS elected Maja Köhn, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Germany and Markus Muttenthaler, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland, as joint recipients of the Bodanszky Award.

Dr. Maja Köhn, is recognized for her critical contributions to the design of peptides targeting protein phosphatases that are involved in diseases such as cancer and diabetes. Protein phosphatases have in the past been deemed undruggable. Her methods comprise chemical synthesis, biochemistry, molecular cell biology and bioinformatics. Her design strategies specific to the peptides of interest led to cell-penetrating and cell-stable bioactive peptide probes. Specifically, her group designed the first selective chemical modulator of protein phosphatase-1 activity, which is a cell-penetrating peptide that disrupts protein-protein interactions. In addition, they developed a computational prediction pipeline for phosphopeptide substrates of phosphatases, and phosphonopeptides as commercially accessible tools that can be used for inhibition, in-cell detection and precipitation of phosphatases. Furthermore, Dr. Köhn's group set up and maintains an open access database, www.depod.org, on phosphatases and their substrates for applications in basic research and drug discovery. In recognition of her work, Dr. Köhn was awarded a starting grant of the European Research Council, the Tetrahedron Young Investigator Award for Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry, the Friedmund Neumann Prize of the Schering Foundation and the Friedrich Weygand Prize of the Max-Bergmann-Circle. She has published over 40 papers, reviews and book chapters, serves in the Editorial Advisory Boards of ACS Chemical Biology and Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry, and is a founding organizer of the EMBO Conference Series: Chemical Biology.

Dr. Markus Muttenthaler, is a biological and medicinal chemist with a strong passion for translational research. His interests lie in the exploration of nature's diversity to develop molecular tools, diagnostics and therapeutics with applications in neuropathic pain, autism, cancer and neurodegenerative diseases. He is internationally recognized for his expertise in venom peptide discovery, his work in the oxytocin/vasopressin field, and his pioneering methodologies in peptide chemistry. His most significant contributions include the innovative use of selenochemistry for the peptide drug development pipeline and his novel strategies towards producing a complete molecular toolbox for the oxytocin/vasopressin signaling system. The quality of his research has been acknowledged through multiple awards, invited lectures and prestigious fellowships including two Marie Curie and one Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award fellowships.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

March 30, 2016, 15:00–19:00 hr (part I) and March 31, 2016, 10:00–17:00 hr (part II)



European Peptide Society

No Profit Scientific Society
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Part I (Studio Dr. Gori, Via Ferrucci 203/C, 59100 Prato)

Participants: F. Hudecz, D. Andreu, A.M. Papini, K. Rolka, D. Tourwé, Dr. Gori

Apologies: S. Lavielle

Chaired: F. Hudecz

1. Welcome (F. Hudecz)

The president welcomes the participants and reminds them that the current Executive Committee is still responsible for the approval of the financial statements of 2015 and the budget for 2016. Dr. Gori informs the participants that this means that the present Executive Committee will present the financial statement 2015 and the budget 2016 to the General Assembly teleconference, which should take place before the end of May 2016.

2. Financial statement approval, audit for the fiscal year 2015 and budget for 2016. (A.M. Papini, Dr. Gori)

The following documents, which are added as annex to these Minutes (*for the Newsletter: this annex is added to the report of the General Assembly of May 10th*), were discussed:

- a) Financial statements at 31/12/2015 (Accounts for the year of 2015)
- b) Notes to the financial statements closed on 31/12/2015. It is noted that EPS has a balance on

the bank account of 132.681,08€, of which 33.973€ is reserved for the future 9 Zervas Awards. In 2015 EPS made a profit of 29.120,69€.

- c) Auditor's certification of the Financial Statement for the year ended on 31/12/2015
- d) Budget of the European Peptide Society for the Year 2016.

The budget for Donations to small meetings to be held in 2016 was increased to 20.000€, which includes 5.000€ donations for small meetings and 15.000€ for registration fees of young researchers at the 34th EPS in Leipzig.

The Minutes of this Executive Meeting of March 30, 2016 for the approval of the draft of the Financial Statements have been signed.

No other agenda items were discussed during Part I of the EC meeting.

Part II (University of Florence, Scientific Pole, via Ugo Schiff 6, Sesto Fiorentino):

Participants: D. Andreu, F. Hudecz, A.M. Papini, K. Rolka, N. Sewald, D. Tourwé

Apologies: S. Lavielle

Chaired: F. Hudecz and D. Andreu

1. Welcome (D. Andreu): the President-elect co-chairs the meeting with the current President.

2. Minutes of the EC Meeting of March 2015.

The Minutes of the EC Meeting in Budapest on March 20-21, 2015 were sent to the EC members before the meeting and were accepted unanimously.

3. General Assembly (teleconference) related issues (F. Hudecz)

The documents that were discussed and approved in Part I of the meeting, and which will be sent to the GA members, were presented:

- a) Financial statements at 31/12/2015 (Accounts for the year of 2015) (A.M. Papini).
- b) Notes to the financial statements closed on 31/12/2015 (A.M. Papini).
- c) Certification of the Financial Statement for the year ended on 31/12/2015 (A.M. Papini, document by Dr. Gori, not to be discussed).
- d) Budget of the European Peptide Society for the Year 2016 (A.M. Papini).

The SAO, N. Sewald explained that for 2016 already application for support of 5 meetings has been

received (4 approved). In the second round some more applications can be expected. Therefore the budget was increased to 5.000€. In addition, a budget of 15.000€ is included for covering registration fees of young scientists for EPS-34. Moreover, since in 2016, a transition of the previous to the new Executive Committee occurs, more participants to the EC meetings than usual are required, and therefore the budget was raised to 4500€ (from 3.000€).

e) Report on the activities of the Executive Committee – 2015 (D. Tourwé): this report for the GA will be prepared by combining the reports of the EC members at this meeting

f) Dates and agenda of the GA (D. Tourwé): the teleconference will be organized by D. Andreu in Barcelona on May 10th. Are expected to be present: D. Andreu, F. Hudecz, A.M. Papini, D. Tourwé.

4. Matters related to membership database (D. Tourwé)

a) The Communication Officer has now obtained from Wiley that e-mail messages can be sent to all EPS members. Messages were sent to announce availability of the Newsletter and to invite members to nominate candidates for the Rudinger, Zervas and Bodanszky prizes. In total about 170 e-mails (of a total of 1843) were returned as undeliverable (hard bounces). Currently the national representatives are contacted to inquire if they can provide new e-mail addresses of these members. If this is not the case, these members are removed from the database. It is noted that only 43% of the EPS members had opened the e-mail message about the Newsletter in the first

days after sending. For the call for nominations, this was 36%.

- b) Report on the election of new GA members: the representatives of France (F. Cavelier) and Germany (O. Seitz) will finish their first term in September. Both are willing to continue for a second term. This has been communicated to the French and German EPS members, as well a call for the nomination of an alternative representative. So far, no other person has been nominated. For Belgium the term of El Djouhar Re kai is terminated. A call for nominations is currently ongoing.

5. Matters related to the EC meeting held in Budapest in 2015 (F. Hudecz)

- a) Delivery of an engraved medal to the founding Executive Committee members of EPS (E. Giralt, V. Ivanov, G. Jung, A. Loffet, K. Medzihradzky): all medals were delivered, except that for V. Ivanov. During the 34th-EPS in Leipzig, V. Deigin will be asked to deliver the medal.
- b) New EC members start their term: according to the new information provided by Dr. Gori, the new EC members will start their term after the teleconference GA (scheduled on May 10th). Norbert Sewald took over the duty as acting Scientific Affairs Officer (upon request by S. Lavielle) from January 1st, 2016 and provisionally managed the applications for support of small meetings and the preselections of the nominations of the EPS awards.
- c) Bylaws of the EPS (D. Tourwé)

It is proposed to modify paragraph 5.1.a (ordinary members). Currently it reads as follows: "PhD students without a publication or MA students with a

publication (but not BA students) will be accepted as members on the recommendation of their academic promoter." There will be added the following: "*Applicants are responsible for sending this recommendation to the EPS Secretary at the latest two weeks after the application, otherwise the application will be deleted.*" This sentence will be also added to the on-line application page. (*this has been done in the mean time*) K. Rolka will check the possibility that this letter of recommendation can be uploaded during the on-line registration via the EPS website. (*for technical reasons not recommended by J. Ruczynski*)

It is also proposed to modify Annex 7, paragraph 7 (Awards of the EPS). "Each member of the Society has the right to make nomination for the above awards", will be changed to "Each member of the Society has the right to make nomination for the above awards, *but self-nominations are not accepted*".

Also a proposal for an addition to paragraph 4 is made: "The Miklos Bodanszky Award is presented every two years, during the European Peptide Symposium, in commemoration of Miklos Bodanszky's contributions to peptide drug development, to a **young** scientist who has in the opinion of the General Assembly of the Society made the most outstanding contribution to peptide-based drug discovery in the period of maximum ten years after obtaining the PhD degree." (see discussion in paragraph 7b)

6. Treasurer's Report (A.M. Papini)

- a) The payment of the donations for the accepted small meetings has been done, except for the Belgian one for which a document of receipt is missing.
- b) Wiley related financial issues: the invoice for the advance payment for 2016 (14.000 GBP, approx.17.700€) has been sent to Wiley. The balance of the royalties for 2015 has now been communicated to amount to 13.520 GBP (approx.; 17.000€) and will be invoiced. These amounts are included in the budget 2016. For the maintenance of the EPS website by Wiley the sum of 5.500€ is described in the Website contract. Until now this cost has not been charged by Wiley. The cost for the website should be diminished by the income of website advertising (50% shared with Wiley). However, according to Wiley no advertising was received for 2015. The Website contract ends in December 2016. If EPS wants to stop the contract, or renegotiate the conditions, a letter of termination should be sent by the end of June. According to the contract, EPS can recruit sponsors and obtain 100% of the income. Advertising in the on-line Newsletter falls within the contract for the Journal of Peptide Science, and will be part of the agreed royalty (22.5%). D. Andreu remarks that the EPS website can use a more attractive and up to date look. If EPS pays Wiley, such a new look can be negotiated.
- c) Sponsors/donations: K. Rolka has received a request for advertisement by Advion (H. Moore). After discussion of the options, it is decided that Advion will be referred to Wiley to advertise on the EPS website and/or in the Newsletter.

7. Report of the Scientific Affairs Committee (N. Sewald)

- a) Four meetings were approved in 2015 (under the responsibility of S. Lavielle): the 12th German Peptide Symposium, the 23rd Polish Peptide Symposium, and the 5th Austrian Peptide Group Meeting as well as the CPP meeting in Paris (*From Cell-Penetrating Peptides to Nanoparticles for Cellular Delivery* – CPP Paris 2015), of which three were paid in 2015 (1875€), and one in 2016. For 2016, six applications have been received before the deadline. Support for five meetings has already been approved: the Iberian, Belgian, and Dutch (one day) meetings, the peptide MS meeting in Florence, and the Naples meeting, while the final decision on supporting the meeting in Bulgaria is to be expected soon. Two of these were already paid.
- b) Situation of Awards: the Scientific Advisory Committee has received the following nominations:
For the Rudinger Award: V. Hruby, J. Martinez, J. Matsoukas, B. Penke, L. Sklyarov (self-nomination), J. Tam, J. Wade.
For the Zervas Award: P. Alewood, C. Becker, H. Ovaa, C. Heinis, L. Stella.
For the Bodanszky Award: M. Köhn, M. Muttenthaler
The SAC members have evaluated all nominations and, after voting, proposed the following candidates to the EC:
For the Rudinger Award: V. Hruby, J. Martinez, and J. Tam.
For the Zervas Award: C. Becker and L. Stella.
For the Bodanszky Award: M. Köhn and M. Muttenthaler.
The EC accepted the proposal. The Secretary will

organize a voting by all members of the General Assembly and give them a two week deadline.

During the discussion on the Bodanszky Award, it was agreed that the statement in the Statutes: "*The Miklos Bodanszky Award is presented to a scientist who has made the most outstanding contribution to peptide-based drug discovery in the period of maximum ten years after obtaining the PhD degree*" has to be interpreted in such a way that the contributions should be considered for the period of maximum ten years after obtaining the PhD degree. The candidate can be outside of this time period at the time of the nomination. Nevertheless, the EC wants to add that the Award should be presented to a young scientist. (see paragraph 5 of these Minutes). The search for a sponsor for the Bodanszky Award is continued.

- c) Travel grants: it was decided that EPS will donate a contribution to the organisers of 34th-EPS of 15.050€ to cover the registration fee of 43 young scientists. This has been included in the budget 2016.

8. Report of the Communication Officer (K. Rolka)

- a) WEB Site Development: the transfer of the knowledge of G. Pairas to J. Ruczynski has been finished. On the base of the approval of Peter Creaton from Wiley, EPS WEB Site Editors (G. Pairas and J. Ruczynski) got access to the Menu area. Thus modification of some parts of the EPS homepage is now possible and some were already introduced. Modification of the homepage of EPS is now possible. A long term goal has finally been achieved: it is now possible to send

bulk e-mail messages to all EPS members via Ms. Sara Hickmann (Public Marketing Communication, subcontracted by Wiley).

- b) Newsletter Editor's Report: In 2015, two Newsletters were published (February and August). For 2016, issue 53 (February) has appeared, and proposals for the content of issue 54 are considered. D. Tourwé proposes to include an announcement that PolyPeptide Group (Dr. Neil Thompson) has accepted to sponsor five Rudinger Awards. The agreement of PolyPeptides will be asked.
- c) EPS Archive including the Proceedings project: the on-line archives of the Proceedings go back until 2000. Some issues are still missing and the EPS organisers will be contacted. These pages attracted very limited visitors, and it is questioned whether it is worth while going further back in time.

The EC acknowledges the publication on the website of the list of small meetings that were sponsored by EPS.

K. Rolka and J. Ruczynski would like to thank G. Pairas for his help in the introduction to the all aspects of the EPS WEB Site and the Newsletter edition.

9. Matters related to the ILC meeting held in Sofia (F. Hudecz)

Representative of EPS at the ILC meeting in Leipzig: all members of the EC will attend.

10. Report on the roadmap of the transition in 2016

- a) Website content manager, from G. Pairas to J. Ruczynski has been accomplished (see paragraph 8a).
- b) Scientific Affairs Officer S. Lavielle to N. Sewald: Norbert Sewald took over the duty as acting Scientific

Affairs Officer (upon request by S. Lavielle) from January 1st, 2016 and provisionally managed the applications for support of small meetings and the preselection of the nominations of the EPS awards.

- c) F. Hudecz will organize the Executive Committee meeting in March and the General Assembly of May 2016, for all other matters David Andreu will assume all responsibilities as the EPS President starting May 11th 2016 during the GA video conference.

11. Report on the progress in preparation of the 34-EPS (N. Sewald)

In agreement with the Bylaws, N. Sewald is a member of the scientific committee of 34th-EPS. An abstract book is planned with Wiley as a special edition of the Journal of Peptide Science. The EC recommends to continue the tradition of the Proceedings book edition and have at least an electronic version, with possibly an option to print on-demand. It is suggested to keep the usual 4 page limit for oral presentations and a 2 page limit for poster presentations.

12. Reports on EPS Symposia (D. Tourwé)

35th-EPS in Ireland (2018): the Letter of Agreement will be sent to C. Hewage by the Secretary.

The 36th-EPS will be organised in Spain, as decided by the GA in Sofia. For EPS-37, applications from Austria and Italy have been received. Given the historical order for the EPS symposia, it is suggested that the Italian promoters discuss with the potential other promoters which are earlier in the list (e.g. Switzerland, Portugal, UK, Hungary and France), but also with potential newcomers (Austria, The Netherlands) to obtain a consensus.

13. General Assembly related issues during the 34th-EPS (F. Hudecz) .

Certificate and medals for the retiring GA members: S.Lavielle, F. Hudecz, D. Tourwé and G. Pairas. F. Hudecz still has sufficient medals available.

14. Varia: none

D. Tourwé, F. Hudecz, D. Andreu 2016-04

Annexes: *see report of the GA of May 10, 2016*

- a) Financial statements at 31/12/2015 (Accounts for the year of 2015)
- b) Notes to the financial statements closed on 31/12/2015
- c) Auditor's certification of the Financial Statement for the year ended on 31/12/2015
- d) Budget of the European Peptide Society for the Year 2016.



European Peptide Society

No Profit Scientific Society
VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C – 59100 PRATO (PO)
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EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

No profit Scientific Society
Based in VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C - 59100 PRATO (PO) ITALY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **Year 2015**

Including:

- 1) Financial statements at 31/12/2015*
- 2) Notes*
- 3) Auditor's certification of the Financial Statements*
- 4) Financial situation and detailed movements at 31/12/2015*
- 5) Budget estimate for the year 2016*

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

Associazione Scientifica senza scopo di lucro

Registered Office VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C - 59100 PRATO (PO)

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Financial statements at 31/12/2015

Balance Sheet

Assets	31/12/2015	31/12/2014
A) Accounts receivable from shareholders in respect of unpaid share capital (called up)		
B) Fixed assets		
<i>I. Intangible assets</i>		
1) Start-up and expansion costs	1.786	3.573
2) Research, development and advertising costs		
3) Industrial patent and intellectual property rights		
4) Concessions, licenses, trademarks and similar right		
5) Goodwill		
6) Work-in-progress and advances		
7) Other intangible assets		
	1.786	3.573
<i>II. Tangible assets</i>		
1) Land and buildings		
2) Plant and machinery		
3) Industrial and commercial equipment		
4) Other assets		
5) Work-in-progress and advances		
<i>III. Financial assets</i>		
1) Shareholdings in:		
a) controlled undertakings		
b) affiliated undertakings		
c) controlling companies		
d) other companies		
2) Accounts Receivables		
a) from controlled undertakings		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
b) from affiliated undertakings		
- falling due within one year		

- falling due after more than one year		
c) from controlling companies		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
d) Other accounts receivable		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
3) Other securities		
4) Treasury shares (nominal amount)		
<i>Total fixed assets</i>	1.786	3.573

C) Current assets

I. Stock

- 1) Raw materials, subsidiary materials and consumables
- 2) Work in process and semi-finished products
- 3) Work in progress on order
- 4) Finished products and goods
- 5) Payments on account (advances)

II. Accounts receivable

- 1) From customers
 - falling due within one year
 - falling due after more than one year
- 2) From controlled undertakings
 - falling due within one year
 - falling due after more than one year
- 3) From affiliated undertakings
 - falling due within one year
 - falling due after more than one year
- 4) From controlling companies
 - falling due within one year
 - falling due after more than one year

4-bis) Tax credits

- falling due within one year 4.290
- falling due after more than one year

4.290

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

<p>4-ter) Tax assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - falling due within one year - falling due after more than one year <p>5) Other accounts receivable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - falling due within one year - falling due after more than one year 		
	4.290	
<i>III. Financial assets other than fixed assets</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Shareholdings in controlled undertakings 2) Shareholdings in affiliated undertakings 3) Shareholdings in controlling companies 4) Other shareholdings 5) Treasury shares (nominal amount) 6) Other securities 		
<i>IV. Liquid assets</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Bank and postal deposits 2) Cheques 3) Cash and cash equivalents 	136.883	111.774
	136.883	111.774
<i>Total current assets</i>	141.173	111.774
D) Prepayments and accrued income		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discounts on loans - others 		
Total assets	142.959	115.347
Liabilities	31/12/2015	31/12/2014
A) Shareholders' equity		
<i>I. Share capital</i>	92.531	92.531
<i>II. Share premium reserve</i>		
<i>III. Revaluation reserve</i>		
<i>IV. Legal reserve</i>		
<i>V. Reserve for Treasury shares</i>		
<i>VI. Reserves provided for by the articles of association</i>		
<i>VII. Other reserves</i>	(1)	
<i>VIII. Retained earnings (loss) carry forwards</i>	12.816	9.699
<i>IX. Profit (loss) for the year</i>	29.121	3.117
<i>Total shareholders' equity</i>	134.467	105.347
B) Provisions for liabilities and charges		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provision for pensions and similar obligations 		

- 2) Provision for deferred income taxes, including deferred tax assets
3) Other provisions

Total provisions for liabilities and charges

C) Employees' leaving indemnity

D) Accounts Payables

1) Bonds		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
2) Convertible bonds		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
3) Shareholders' loans		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
4) Accounts payable to banks		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
5) Accounts payable to third party lenders		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
6) Payments received on account (advances)		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
7) Accounts payable to suppliers		
- falling due within one year	4.492	3.207
- falling due after more than one year		
		4.492
		3.207
8) Accounts payable represented by negotiable instruments		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
9) Accounts payable to controlled undertakings		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
10) Accounts payable to affiliated undertakings		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
11) Accounts payable to controlling companies		

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
12) Taxes payable		
- falling due within one year	4.000	6.793
- falling due after more than one year		
		4.000
13) Accounts payable to social security institutions		6.793
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
14) Other accounts payable		
- falling due within one year		
- falling due after more than one year		
<i>Total accounts payables</i>	8.492	10.000
E) Accrued liabilities and deferred income		
- loan interests		
- other accrued liabilities and deferred income		
Total shareholders' equity and liabilities	142.959	115.347
Memo accounts	31/12/2015	31/12/2014

1) Risks

Guarantees

- to subsidiary companies
- to associated companies
- to parent companies
- to companies controlled by parents
- to other companies

Guarantees by endorsement

- to subsidiary companies
- to associated companies
- to parent companies
- to companies controlled by parents
- to other companies

Other personal guarantees

- to subsidiary companies
- to associated companies
- to parent companies
- to companies controlled by parents
- to other companies

Valuable guarantees

- to subsidiary companies
- to associated companies
- to parent companies

to companies controlled by parents		
to other companies		
Other risks		
receivables discounted or sold with recourse		
Other		
2) Engagements	33.973	33.973
3) Third parties' assets at the company's assets		
work in progress goods		
assets on consignment or bailment		
assets held as pledge or security		
Other assets		
4) Other memoranda accounts		
Total memo accounts	33.973	33.973
Profit and loss account	31/12/2015	31/12/2014
A) Revenues		
1) From sales and services		
2) Changes in stocks of work in process, semi-finished and finished products		
3) Work in progress on order		
4) Capitalised internal work in progress		
5) Other revenues:		
- miscellaneous		
- contribution on trading account		
- contribution on capital account		
<i>Total revenues</i>		
B) Expenses		
6) Raw materials, subsidiary materials, consumables and goods	80	
7) Services	9.811	26.953
8) Rent/lease		
9) Personnel costs		
a) salaries and wages		
b) social contributions		
c) employees' leaving indemnity		
d) accruals for pension and similar costs		
e) other costs		
10) Depreciation and value adjustments		
a) depreciation of intangible assets	1.786	1.786
b) depreciation of tangible assets		
c) other value adjustments		
d) write down of accounts receivable recorded		

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

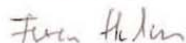
	1.786	1.786
11) <i>Changes in raw materials, subsidiary materials, consumables and goods</i>		
12) <i>Accruals to provisions for liabilities and charges</i>		
13) <i>Other accruals</i>		
14) <i>Miscellaneous running costs</i>		
<i>Total expenses</i>	11.677	28.739
Difference between revenues and expenses(A-B)	(11.677)	(28.739)
C) Financial income and costs		
15) <i>Income from shareholdings:</i>		
- in controlled undertakings		
- in affiliated undertakings		
- other income		
16) <i>Other financial income:</i>		
a) from accounts receivable recorded among fixed assets		
- from controlled undertakings		
- from affiliated undertakings		
- from controlling companies		
- other financial income		
b) from securities recorded among fixed assets		
c) from securities recorded among current assets		
d) other income:		
- from controlled undertakings		
- from affiliated undertakings		
- from controlling companies		
- other income	10	8
	10	8
	10	8
17) <i>Interest and other financial costs:</i>		
- from controlled undertakings		
- from affiliated undertakings		
- from controlling companies		
- others financial costs		
17-bis) <i>Current and deferred exchange gains and losses</i>	190	
<i>Total financial income and costs</i>	200	8
D) Value adjustments of financial assets		
18) <i>Write-ups:</i>		
a) of shareholdings		
b) of financial fixed assets		

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

c) of securities recorded among current assets			
19) Write downs:			
a) of shareholdings			
b) of financial fixed assets			
c) of securities recorded among current assets			
<i>Total value adjustments to financial assets</i>			
E) Extraordinary income and costs			
20) Income:			
- capital gains on disposals			
- other extraordinary income	44.599		38.641
		44.599	38.641
21) Expenses:			
- losses on disposals			
- taxes of previous years			
- other extraordinary costs	1		
		1	
<i>Total extraordinary income and costs</i>			
		44.598	38.641
Result before taxes (A-B±C±D±E)		33.121	9.910
22) Taxes on the income for the year current and deferred			
a) Current taxes	4.000		6.793
b) Deferred taxes			
c) Advance taxes			
d) Income (expense) arising from the adoption of the fiscal consolidated system/fiscal transparency			
		4.000	6.793
23) Profit (loss) of the year		29.121	3.117

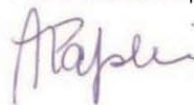
The President

Hudecz Ferenc



The Treasurer

Anna Maria Papini



EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

No profit Scientific Society

Registered office in VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C - 59100 PRATO (PO)
Fiscal code 92089560483 – VAT IT 02292750979

Notes to the financial statements at 31/12/2015**Introduction**

Dear EPS Members

The present financial statements that we are submitting for your evaluation and approval clearly show a positive result of Euro 29.121 (account Euro 29.120,69) coming from the commercial activity performed by the society and corresponding to the royalties from Wiley for the publication of the Journal of Peptide Science.

Area of Business

Your Society as you know is performing its activity in the field of the no-profit societies with the objective to coordinate, support and representing at the international level the advance of research and education in peptide science in Europe and other extra-European countries. During the year 2015 EPS performed also a commercial activity for some limited matters for editorial concessions.

Major events occurred during the fiscal year of the society

The commercial activity generated incomes for Euro 41.805 that covered the expenses for EPS activity and income taxes with a positive result of Euro 36.894 that allowed to bring down the costs of the institutional activity, creating an increase in net asset from taxes of Euro 29.121.

During the year 2015 the following National Symposia were supported and in particular: 4th Austrian Peptide Symposium, 23rd Polish Peptide Symposium, and Symposium CPP Paris 2015. Moreover 33.973,00 Euro are allocated (coming from Dr. Rao Mäkinen's donation) to attribute 9 Zervas Awards starting from 2016 during biannual European Peptide Symposia.

Layout criteria

These financial statements have been prepared with reference to the formal requirements imposed by EU Directives to which the Italian legislation has been aligned and concerning the realization of the financial statements.

The values of the financial statements and the notes are presented in Euros by rounding of the amounts. Any rounding differences have been reported under the heading "Reserve from rounding Euro" between items in Equity and "rounding Euro" under "extraordinary incomes and expenses" in the income statement.

Evaluation criteria

The criteria used in the evaluation of the items of the financial statements of the year ended on 31/12/2015 have been performed towards the general criteria of prudence and competence with the perspective to continue the activity and do not differ from those used in the previous financial statements.

The continuity of application of the assessment criteria in time is necessary for the purposes of comparability of financial statements of the Society in subsequent years.

In particular, the policies used in preparing the financial statements were the following:

Fixed assets*Intangible assets*

These have been recorded at their historical purchase cost net of the relevant amortization systematically calculated.

They are essentially legal and administrative costs for EPS constitution recorded as assets and amortized in a period of 5 years.

Accounts receivable

On 31/12/2015, the Society claimed fiscal loans from the Italian Government.

Accounts payable

Accounts payable have been recorded at their nominal value issued in 2015 and will be paid in 2016.

Income taxes

The Society in 2014 performed commercial activities and therefore is subject to taxation on business income. The taxes are allocated according to the principle of competence and according to ordinary rates in a revisional manner.

Recognition of income

The society had no incomes, as these are the result of an ongoing and prevalent commercial activity. Instead the Society in 2015 has generated extraordinary revenues.

Recognition of revenues

The revenues are extraordinary because they come mainly from commercial transactions.

Criteria for the translation of accounts in foreign currency

Accounts denominated in foreign currency and recorded at the rates of exchange in force on the date of the transaction, are aligned to the rates of exchange ruling at the time of purchase.

Guarantees, engagements, third parties' assets and risks

Engagements have been included among memo accounts at their nominal value (as inferred from the relevant documentation). They represent the residual value of the donation for the ZERVAS Awards.

Assets**B) Fixed assets****I. Intangible assets**

	Balance at 31/12/2015	Balance at 31/12/2014	Changes
	5.359	3.573	(1.786)

Analysis of changes in intangible assets

Cost description	Purchase value 31/12/2014	Additions for the year	Decreases for the year	Depreciation for the year	Value at 31/12/2015
Start-up and expansion costs	3.573			1.786	1.787
	3.573			1.786	1.787

Previous write-ups, depreciation and write-down

The historical value at the beginning of the year is as follows:

Cost description	Historical cost	Accumulated depreciation	Write-ups	Write-downs	Net value
Start-up and expansion costs	7.146			5.359	1.787
	7.146			5.359	1.787

The costs registered are reasonably correlated to a utility protracted over several years, and are amortized systematically in relation to their remaining possibility of use.

C) Current assets**II. Loans**

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

Balance at 31/12/2015	Balance at 31/12/2014	Variations
4.290		4.290

The Balance is composed of Italian fiscal loans for:

Description	Amount
Advance IRAP 2015	266
Advance IRES 2015	3.723
Credit i.v.a. (VAT)	301
Total	4.290

IV. Liquid assets

Value at 31/12/2015	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes
136.883	111.774	25.109

Description	31/12/2015	31/12/2014
Bank deposits	136.883	111.774
	136.883	111.774

The balance reflects the liquid assets and the cash-in-hand and cash equivalents at the year-end.

Liabilities

A) Shareholder equity

Value at 31/12/2015	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes
134.467	105.347	29.120

Description	31/12/2014	Increases	Decreases	31/12/2015
Capital	92.531			92.531
Profit renewed	9.699	3.117		12.816
Profit of the Year	3.117	29.121	3.117	29.121
Total	105.347	32.238	3.118	134.467

D) Accounts payable

Balance at 31/12/2015	Balance at 31/12/2014	Changes
8.492	10.000	(1.508)

The payable accounts are evaluated at their nominal value and their due date is as follows:

Description	Within 12 months	Total
Accounts payable to suppliers	4.492	4.492
Payable taxes	4.000	4.000
	8.492	8.492

The unique debt is composed of the professional honorarium for continuous accounting, fiscal, and society assistance in 2015 as well as for the certification (Audit) of the present financial statement.

The item "Payable taxes" represents the liability for income taxes (IRES and IRAP) determined for the year 2015.

Memo accounts	31/12/2014	31/12/2013
Total memo accounts	33.973	37.733

Residual value for the donation for the "ZERVAS AWARD" for Euro 33.973. Used Euro 3.760 in 2014.

Profit and loss account**A) Revenue**

Balance at 31/12/2014	Balance at 31/12/2013	Variations
0	0	0

B) Expenses

	Value at 31/12/2015	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes
	11.677	28.739	(17.062)
Description	31/12/2015	31/12/2014	Variations
Stationary	80		80
Services	9.811	26.953	(17.142)
Amortization of immaterial immobilizations	1.786	1.786	
	11.677	28.739	(17.062)

Costs herein reported have been reviewed for their economic and temporal competences in the reference years.

C) Financial income and costs

Value at 31/12/2015	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes
200	8	192

Financial incomes

Description	31/12/2015	31/12/2014	Variations
Different incomes	10	8	2
Gains on exchanges	190		190
	200	8	192

E) Extraordinary income and costs

Value at 31/12/2015	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes
44.598	38.641	909

Euro 41.805 are the revenues of editorial royalties from Wiley.

Taxes on the income of the period

Value at 31/12/2015	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes	
4.000	6.793	(2.793)	
Taxes	Value at 31/12/2014	Value at 31/12/2014	Changes
Current taxes:			
IRES	3.700	5.949	(2.249)
IRAP	300	844	(544)
	4.000	6.793	(2.793)

The taxes of competence of the year have been included in provisional manner.

Other information

No compensation was given to the Executive Committee members who performed their functions completely free of charge, except for reimbursement of expenses incurred to perform their duties.

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

These financial statements, consisting of the balance sheet, income statement and notes, give a true and fair view of the financial position and results of operations and corresponds to the accounting records.

It is proposed to allocate the net profit for the year 2015 of EUR 29 121 to meet future expenses.

We remember that the present Executive Committee has been nominated on 15/03/2012 and expires with the approval of the present financial statement.

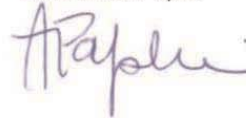
The President of the Society

Ferenc Hudecz

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ferenc Hudecz'.

The Treasurer

Anna Maria Papini

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Papini'.

GORI PAOLO - STUDIO PROFESSIONALE ASSOCIATO

Paolo Gori – Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile
Sauro Settesoldi – Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile
Massimiliano Meoni – Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile
Andrea Mercaldo – Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile

Collaboratori:

Pietro Bottani – Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile
Gianni Tempesti – Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile
Claudia Magnani - Dottore Commercialista ed Esperto Contabile, Revisore Contabile
Maria Giulia Sanesi – Dottore in economia
Andrea Rossi – Esperto in finanza e controllo di gestione

**Certification of the Financial Statement for the
year ended on 31/12/2015**

Auditor Dott. Paolo Gori

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY
Scientific Nonprofit Society
Based in VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C - 59100 I-PRATO (PO)

Certification of the Financial Statement for the year ended on 31/12/2015

To the Members of the EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY - Scientific non-profit Society

The undersigned Dr. PAOLO GORI whose Office is located in Prato (PO-Italy), registered with the N° 21/A of the Chartered Accountants of Prato (PO-Italy) and into the Register of Auditors with DM 12/04/1995 N° 62264, published into G.U. 21/04/1995 N° 31/bis, in execution of the given assignment

reports that:

a) he has examined the accounts specified in the financial statements of the EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY at the end of 31/12/2015. The responsibility to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the regulations governing the criteria for their draft is of the administrative body of the EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY. The undersigned Dr. PAOLO GORI is responsible to examine and judge the financial statements based on a detailed audit.

b) the examination of the documents was conducted in accordance with established principles of auditing. In accordance with those principles, the audit was planned and performed to obtain the necessary assurance whether the financial statements are free of misstatement material and, taken as a whole, it is reliable. The audit of the accounts was carried out in a manner consistent with the size of the Society and its organizational structure, starting with the methods and principles according to which the operating events were recorded in the accounting records and presented into the financial statements. It includes the examination of evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, as well as the evaluation of the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Executive Committee. I believe that this work provides a reasonable basis for expressing the opinion of the undersigned auditor.

c) in the opinion of the undersigned auditor, the above-mentioned financial statement as a whole is in compliance with the rules governing its preparation, it is clearly reported and give a true and fair view of the financial and assets situation of the EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY for the year ended on 31/12/2015.

d) the audited EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY is a no-profit organization that performer commercial activity receiving royalties by Wiley for publication of Journal of Peptide Science as in 2014 subject to the current Italian tax regulations.

e) the accounting system is set up to express the financial situation, but also the assets in accordance with the accounting principle of economic and temporal competence both for institutional and commercial activity.

f) essentially, the shareholders equity at 31/12/2015 amounted to € 134.467, expressed by the consolidated financial statements of the two activities taking into account the financial expenses and incomes, but also the debts and credits of the Society at the same date.

Considering all that, as part of the judgment and taking into account the nature of the Society subject to audit, the undersigned auditor releases the certification that the balance of the EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY on 31/12/2014 corresponds to the accounting records kept by the same Society and to the results of the documentary carried out

Prato, March 21, 2016

The Auditor
Dott. Paolo Gori

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE E.P.S. AL 31/12/2015

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	INCOMES 2012	INCOMES 2013	INCOMES 2014	INCOMES 2015	TOTAL INCOMES OF 4 YEARS	FINANCIAL AREA
1	Initial Net Asset	93.022,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	93.022,00	
2	Donations	14620,00 (32 EPS)	37733,00 (R.Makineni 10 Zervas)	0,00	0,00	52.353,00	
2a	Commercial activity			36766,39 (Wiley & 33 EPS)	41994,45 (Wiley)	78.760,84	
3	Bank incomes	42,77	7,90	8,04	7,29	66,00	
TOTAL INCOMES		107.684,77	37.740,90	36.774,43	42.001,74	224.201,84	
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	EXPENSES 2012	EXPENSES 2013	EXPENSES 2014	EXPENSES 2015	TOTAL EXPENSES 4 YEARS	FINANCIAL AREA
	Expenses Year 2011 paid in 2012	11.614,23	0,00	0,00	0,00	11.614,23	
4	Consultancies & Services for EPS commercial activity (Dr. P. Gori Office)	1.761,76	2.308,28	1.776,32	3.508,23	9.354,59	
5	Medals, Certificates, Zervas Award	0,00	0,00	4.465,00	1.242,50	5.707,50	
6	Donations to EPS Symposia and/or National Symposia	10.450,00	2.250,00	14.250,00	1.875,00	28.825,00	
7	Reimbursement travel expenses & accomodation for GA & EC Meetings	1.158,61	3.703,40	2.487,90	1.988,82	9.338,73	
8	Bank charges/differences for currency exchange	625,94	271,90	215,10	213,25	1.326,19	
9	Secretary expenses	375,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	375,00	
10	Other Secretary expenses (assistance to update EPS Members list)	1.452,48	0,00	1.265,98	79,99	2.798,45	
11	Lawyer expenses (assistance for contracts with Wiley)	0,00	0,00	1.061,87	0,00	1.061,87	
12	Expenses for EPS Registration	8.931,98	0,00	0,00	0,00	8.931,98	
13	Fiscal taxes for commercial activity- Balance				3.998,93	3.998,93	
	Fiscal taxes for commercial activity 2015- advances				3.989,38	3.989,38	
TOTAL EXPENSES		36.370,00	8.533,58	25.522,17	16.896,10	87.321,85	
Financial management reconciliation financial area with economic area	Expenses of Banco di Napoli to close the old Bank Account	-490,79	0,00	0,00	0,00	-490,79	
	Bank charges/differences for currency exchange				0,00	0,00	
	Expenses for EPS Registration to amortize in 5 years	-8.931,98	0,00	0,00	0,00	-8.931,98	
	Amount of 1/5 of EPS registration expenses	1.786,40	1.786,40	1.786,40	1.786,40	7.145,60	
	Annual Audit & Fiscal assistance (Dr. P. Gori Office)	0,00	1.776,32	3.207,36	983,53	5.967,21	
	Bank interest /exchange gains				-2,60	-2,60	
	Lower taxes year 2014				-2.794,07	-2.794,07	
	Donations to organisers of National Symposia	0,00	1.875,00	-1.875,00	0,00	0,00	
	Lawyer Lindhal paid in 2013 for assistance preparation contracts with Wiley	1.371,50	0,00	0,00	0,00	1.371,50	
	Deposit paid for taxes Year 2015	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	-3.989,38	
	Taxes Year 2014 paid in 2015	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	-3.998,93	
	Reserve for taxes to be paid for the commercial activity	0,00	0,00	6.793,00	4.000,00	10.793,00	
	TOTAL COSTS AS IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT	30.105,13	13.971,30	35.433,93	20.869,36	92.391,41	
<i>Consolidated financial year</i>	<i>77.579,64</i>	<i>23.769,60</i>	<i>1.340,50</i>	<i>21.132,38</i>	<i>131.810,43</i>		
BALANCE ON THE BANK ACCOUNT AT 31/12/14							
Total incomes 2015						42.001,74	
Total expenses 2015						-16.896,10	
BALANCE ON THE BANK ACCOUNT AT 31/12/15						136.879,99	
Tax credits						4.292,85	
Annual Audit and fiscal assistance Dr. P. Gori Office						-4.491,76	
Allocation tax provision for commercial activity Year 2015						-4.000,00	
AVAILABLE BALANCE ON THE BANK ACCOUNT AT 31/12/15						132.681,08	

of which Euro 33.973 for future 9 Zervas Awards (2016-2032)

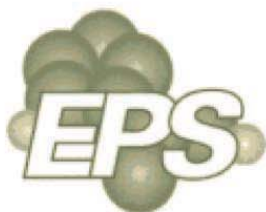
Composition of the Net asset of E.P.S.		
INITIAL CAPITAL E.P.S.		93.022,00
Expenses of Banco di Napoli old Bank Account		-490,79
ASSET ACCOUNTING AT 15/03/12		92.531,21
Loss at 31/12/2011		-11.614,23
Loss Year 2012		-3.828,13
Profit Year 2013		25.141,10
SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY AT 31/12/13		102.229,95
Profit Year 2014		3.116,82
SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY AT 31/12/14		105.346,77
Profit Year 2015		29.120,69
LIQUID EQUITY AT 31/12/15		134.467,46

reconciliation with asset bank account balance		
SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY AT 31/12/15		134.467,46
Expenses for registration EPS - residual to amortise		-1.786,38
BALANCE ON THE BANK ACCOUNT AT 31/12/15		132.681,08

activities included in the asset but unpayable

Reconciliation with bank balance 0.00

Prato (Italy) 21/03/2016



European Peptide Society

No Profit Scientific Society
 VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C – 59100 PRATO (PO)
 Fiscal Code 92089560483 – VAT IT 02292750979

EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

No profit Scientific Society
 Based in VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C - 59100 PRATO (PO) ITALY

BUDGET

Year 2016

(Accepted by the Executive Committee held in Firenze, Italy on March 30, 2016)

		Expenses (in Euro)	Incomes (in GBP & Euro)
1	Balance of Wiley Royalties for the year 2015		13520,00 GBP (17.000,00 Euros)
2	Advance of Wiley Royalties for the year 2016		14.000,00 GBP (17.700,00 Euros)
3	Audit 2016 and Services to EPS no profit organisation (Studio Dr. Gori)	1840,00	
4	Services for 2016 EPS commercial activity including fiscal declaration (Studio Dr Gori)	3235,00	
5	Donations for small meetings support and 24th EPS to be held in 2016	20.000,00	
6	34th European Peptide Symposium revenues		20.000,00
7	Executive Committee meeting and General Assembly 2016	4500,00	
8	Website cost	5500,00	
9	Medals, boxes, engravings	3000,00	
10	Services for EPS communication (i.e, member list, archives EPS Proceedings)	1500,00	
11	Reserve including bank charges	3000,00	
11	Total	40.075,00	54.700,00

The EPS Treasurer



The EPS Treasurer Date, Firenze (Italy) March 30, 2016

*Converted from GBP to Euros at March 20, 2016 rate (1 GBP = 1,366 Euros)
 Firenze (Italy), March 20, 2016

Short report on the General Assembly Teleconference Meeting

May 10, 2016, 14:30

**Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona Biomedical Research Park,
Spain**



European Peptide Society

No Profit Scientific Society
VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C – 59100 PRATO (PO)
Fiscal Code 92089560483 – VAT IT 02292750979

The General Assembly teleconference was organised by the David Andreu at the Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona Biomedical Research Park, Spain. The outgoing EPS President, Ferenc Hudecz and the incoming one, David Andreu were present, as well as the treasurer Anna Maria Papini and the secretary Dirk Tourwé. The General Assembly members were able to connect via Skype. In total 18 Effective Members participated, which meets the minimum requirement for attendance (50% + 1) during a first call of the meeting.

After the welcome address by F. Hudecz, the minutes of the General Assembly teleconference, held in Budapest in May 2015, were unanimously approved.

A report on the activities of the Executive Committee was presented by D. Tourwé. The report is added as Annex 1.

The treasurer, A.M. Papini presented the accounts of 2015 (documents added as Annex 2). In short: the major incomes for EPS were the payment of 12.000€ by the organisers of 33rd-EPS in Sofia, and of 29.994€ by Wiley for the Journal of Peptide Science.

Major expenses were for the services of Studio Gori (3.508€), for medals given to the founding members of EPS (3.508€), donations for national symposia (1.875€), travel expenses for Executive Committee meetings (1.988€) and fiscal taxes (3.989€). Therefore total expenses of 16.896€ were less than planned in the budget (27.048€), mainly due to less requests for support for national symposia, no invoice by Wiley for the cost for the website, no use of the administrative support for the secretary and no use of the reserve.

As a result, the profit for the year 2015 was 29.120€. These accounts were unanimously accepted.

A budget for the year 2016 was proposed, with a total of expenses of 40.075€, which includes a donation of 15.000€ to the 34th-EPS organisers to provide grants for young researcher for attending the Symposium. Incomes are estimated at 54.700€, which includes the expected payment of 20.000€ by the 34th-EPS organisers and the Journal of Peptide Science contribution by Wiley.

The budget and the renewal of the appointment of the auditor was unanimously approved.

The confirmation of the outgoing and incoming EC members was also unanimously made.

D. Tourwé

2016-07

Annex 1: see next page

Annex 2: added as a separate document

Annex 1

Report on the activities of the Executive Committee 2015–2016

This report updates the activities from May 27th, 2015, date of the General Assembly in Budapest, until May 10th, 2016.

1. The Scientific Subcommittee,

EPS support for small meetings : under the direction of S. Lavielle, the scientific subcommittee approved EPS support for the following 4 meetings in 2015:

- The 12th German Peptide Symposium, (March 18–21, 2015) 750€
- The 23rd Polish Peptide Symposium, (August 30 – September 3, 2015) 750€
- From Cell-Penetrating Peptides To Nanoparticles For Cellular Delivery, CPP-Paris 2015, (July 1–3, 2015) 750€
- The 5th Austrian Peptide Symposium, (December 2–3, 2015) 375€

Three of these meetings were paid in 2015 (total of 1.875€), the fourth one in 2016.

The Scientific Subcommittee, under the direction of N. Sewald approved EPS support for the following 5 meetings in 2016:

- The 15th Iberian Peptide Meeting, (February 10–12, 2016) 750€
- 1st MS Peptide Day, Florence, (February 10–12, 2016) 750€
- 3rd Belgian Peptide Group Meeting, (February 17–18, 2016) 750€

- Dutch Peptide Meeting, (June 3, 2016) 375€
- 15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides, (June 10 – 12, 2016) 750€

A request for supporting the 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium (June 10–12, 2016) was received before the deadline, and has been accepted (750€).

Since some applications in the second round of 2016 are expected, the budget for supporting small meetings in 2016 has been raised to 5.000€.

Norbert Sewald took over the duty as acting Scientific Affairs Officer (upon request by S. Lavielle) from January 1st, 2016 and provisionally managed the applications for support of small meetings and the preselections of the nominations of the EPS awards.

The members are reminded that, following the decision of the GA of September 2014, the applications for sponsorship of meetings will be reviewed twice a year (deadlines January 31st and July 31st). **Therefore a timely application is important since EPS cannot sponsor a meeting after it has been held.**

Situation of the EPS Awards: the Scientific Advisory Committee has received the following nominations:

- for the Rudinger Award: V. Hruby, J. Martinez, J. Matsoukas, B. Penke, L. Sklyarov (self-nomination), J. Tam, J. Wade.
- for the Zervas Award: P. Alewood, C. Becker, H. Ovaa, C. Heinis, L. Stella.
- for the Bodanszky Award: M. Köhn, M. Muttenthaler

The SAC members have evaluated all nominations and, after voting, proposed the following candidates to the EC:

- for the Rudinger Award: V. Hruby, J. Martinez, and J. Tam.
- for the Zervas Award: C. Becker and L. Stella.
- for the Bodanszky Award: M. Köhn and M. Muttenthaler.

The EC accepted the proposal. The Secretary has organized a voting by all members of the General Assembly and gave them a two week deadline. The selected awardees are:

- for the Rudinger Memorial Lecture Award: Prof. Jean Martinez
- for the Zervas Award: Prof. Christian Becker
- for the Bodanszky Award: shared by Dr. Maja Köhn and Dr. Markus Muttenthaler

During the discussion on the Bodanszky Award, it was agreed that the statement in the Statutes: "*The Miklos Bodanszky Award is presented to a scientist who has made the most outstanding contribution to peptide-based drug discovery in the period of maximum ten years after obtaining the PhD degree*" has to be interpreted in such a way that the contributions should be considered for the period of maximum ten years after obtaining the PhD degree. The candidate can be outside of this time period at the time of the nomination. Nevertheless, the EC wants to add that the Award should be presented to a young scientist. A proposal to modify the Bylaws will be presented to the GA members during the meeting in Leipzig.

The search for a sponsor for the Bodanszky Award is continued. (*Note: in the mean time BCN Peptides has agreed to sponsor the Award*)

2. **GA members.** In 2016, the first term of the effective members of France (F. Cavelier) and of Germany (O. Seitz) ended. Since no other candidates were nominated after our

call, F. Cavelier and O. Seitz are re-elected for another term. For Belgium the second term of El Djouhar Rekai ended. The election of a new effective member is ongoing with a deadline of May 6th. (*Note: in the mean time Prof. Steven Ballet of the Vrije Universiteit Brussels was elected as the Belgian representative*)

Despite several efforts, no member of Latvia was found interested to be the successor of Dr. Peteris Romanovskis, who retired. For the moment Latvia is not represented in the GA.

3. Communication Officer

Krzysztof Rolka is an invited guest to the Executive Committee and acting as Communication Officer from 1st January 2015.

- WEB Site Development : the transfer of the knowledge of G. Pairas to J. Ruczynski has been finished. On the base of the approval of Peter Creaton from Wiley, EPS WEB Site Editors (G. Pairas and J. Ruczynski) got access to the Menu area. Thus modification of some parts of the EPS homepage is now possible and some were already introduced.
- Newsletter Editor's Report: In 2015, two Newsletters were published (February and August). For 2016, issue 53 (February) has appeared, and proposals for the content of issue 54 are considered.
- EPS Archive including the Proceedings project: the on-line archives of the Proceedings go back until 2000. Some issues are still missing and the EPS organisers will be contacted. These pages attracted very limited visitors, and it is questioned whether it is worth while going further back in time.

d) A long term goal has finally been achieved: it is now possible to send bulk e-mail messages to all EPS members via Ms. Sara Hickmann (Public Marketing Communication, subcontracted by Wiley). Messages were sent to announce availability of the Newsletter and to invite members to nominate candidates for the Rudinger, Zervas and Bodanszky prizes. In total about 170 e-mails (of a total of 1843) were returned as undeliverable (hard bounces). Currently the national representatives are contacted to inquire if they can provide new e-mail addresses of these members. If this is not the case, these members are removed from the database. It is noted that only 43% of the EPS members had opened the e-mail message about the Newsletter in the first days after sending. For the call for nominations, this was 36%.

4. The Executive Committee met in Florence on March 30–31. Items 1 to 3 of the present Activity Report, and the report of the Treasurer about the Financial Statements 2016 and the Budget 2016, were discussed during that meeting.

Contrary to previous information, Dr. Gori informed the EC members that the present EC will still be responsible for the approval of the Financial Statement of the year 2015, and for the budget for 2016, by the General Assembly in May 2016. After the approval, the new Executive Committee will be in charge.

D. Tourwé
Secretary

10th May 2016

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CALENDAR **of** Forthcoming Events

53rd JAPANESE PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Kyoto City, Japan

26–28 October 2016

URL: <http://labo.kyoto-phu.ac.jp/yakuhin/jps53/pg84.html>

25th AMERICAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Whistler, BC, Canada

17–22 June 2017

URL: <http://aps2017.org>

12th AUSTRALIAN PEPTIDE

Queensland, Australia

15–19 October 2017

URL: <http://www.ozpeptide.org/>

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Day 2: Preclinical, Clinical Development, Delivery and Formulation Strategies

Day 3: Process Development, Manufacturing and Analysis

Key speakers for 2016 include:



Joël Richard,
Senior Vice President,
Peptides Development -
Head of CMC Dreux Site,
Ipsen, France



Marie Skovgaard,
Director Medicinal
Chemistry, Zealand
Pharma,
Denmark



Thomas Meier,
Vice-President
Manufacturing,
BACHEM AG,
Switzerland



Bradley Pentelute,
Assistant Professor
of Chemistry, MIT,
USA

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