

THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 58, DECEMBER 2018



35th European Peptide Symposium 2nd Meeting of the Italian Peptide Society RiminiPeptides2018 PepMat 2018 Society News

Published online by the **Journal of Peptide Science**
The Official Journal of the European Peptide Society



Cover photo: 'Dublin from the River Liffey Quays; photo credits: Fáilte Ireland'

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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

This Newsletter is published in cooperation with the Journal of Peptide Science twice a year and can be obtained as a free PDF download from the European Peptide Society website at:

www.eurpepsoc.com

Journal of Peptide Science, the official journal of the European Peptide Society EPS, is an online journal published by John Wiley & Sons Ltd on the Wiley Online Library as 12 issues each year.

Information on and access to the journal can be obtained at:

wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/jpepsci

CONFERENCE REPORT

35th European Peptide Symposium

Dublin, Ireland 26–31 August 2018

As Finbarr O'Harte, co-chair of the 35th European Peptide Symposium (EPS), highlighted during his concluding remarks, this meeting was hosted in a venue consistently named for a peptide event. Held at the Helix on the campus of Dublin City University (DCU), the EPS biennial international symposium happened for the first time since 1989 in Ireland, one of the recent member states which joined the EPS in 2008.

The Symposium was opened on the 26th of August by Chandralal Hewage (University College Dublin), Chair of the 35th EPS, who introduced Brian MacCraith, President of DCU, and David Andreu, Chairman of the EPS. They welcomed the participants on behalf of DCU and the EPS Executive Committee, respectively. Following the traditional gong banging, the Symposium started with the presentation of the Miklós Bodanszky Award to Norman Metanis (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel) for his outstanding contributions to peptide science using selenium chemistry. Next, Norbert Sewald, Scientific Affairs Officer of the EPS, announced Christian Hackenberger (Leibniz-Forschungsinstitut für Molekulare Pharmakologie, Berlin, Germany) as the winner of the Leonidas Zervas Award, in commemoration of his outstanding contributions to peptide science involving

functional peptide- and protein-conjugates for extra and intracellular targeting. The opening ceremony concluded with the presentation of the Josef Rudinger Memorial Award to James P. Tam (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore). This Award commemorates Josef Rudinger's role in the foundation of the European Peptide Symposia and the diverse contributions he made to peptide chemistry. Its current edition acknowledges James Tam's lifelong dedication to peptide science and to the peptide scientific community.

The main Symposium took place from Monday the 27th to Thursday the 30th of August, consisting in nine Invited Lectures and 70 Oral Presentations, delivered over 14 sessions. Their topics included: Biologically Active Peptides; Glycopeptides, Lipopeptides and Macromolecular Assemblies; Amino Acids, Proteins and Synthesis; Prodrugs, Conjugates, Targeting and Uptake; Peptide Mimetics; Proteomics, Bioinformatics, Structural and Conformational Studies; Peptides in Chemical Biology and Therapeutics; Nanotechnology, Imaging and Analytical Techniques. In addition to the large number of local participants, over 525 international participants from more than 27 different countries could share discussions and data on international research in the field of



Participants of the 35th EPS in one of the Helix Foyers, where the coffee/tea breaks and exhibitions took place (left) and in the Helix Theatre, where the oral presentations were delivered (right).

peptide science during these sessions, the coffee/tea and lunch breaks, as well as the closing reception and the conference dinner. As for the 34th EPS, German delegates constituted the largest group of participants, followed by representatives from the USA, UK, France, Switzerland and Japan. Other Asian and European countries, as well as Australia and Canada were also represented among the participants. 33 exhibitors also took part in the Symposium.

The programme of the 35th EPS also included a Young Investigator Mini Symposium (YIMS) on Monday afternoon, the ESCOM Science Foundation (ESF) Dr. Bert L. Schram Networking Mixer during a buffet lunch on Tuesday and three

poster sessions during which 260 posters were presented. Eleven investigators under 35 years of age presented at the YIMS. Tyler Lalonde (University of Western Ontario, Canada) and Sabine Schuster (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary) received the Bert L. Schram Awards for best oral presentations, presented by ESF representatives Elizabeth Schram and Johan Elgerma. They also presented the six Dr. Bert L. Schram Poster Presentation Awards, selected among 94 posters running in the competition.

In addition, three poster awards from Wiley were presented by Nuno Santos (Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal). Also sponsored by the ESF, the Networking

Mixer lunch is an exclusive event bringing together EPS young scientists, ESF representatives, EPS officers and international senior scientists from academia and industry. It provided a unique opportunity to PhD and postdoctoral researchers to network and discuss current research topics, as well as career options and professional opportunities.

A special issue of the *Journal of Peptide Science* containing the abstracts of the Invited, Oral and Poster presentations, the details of the sponsors and exhibitors, as well as the proceedings of the 35th Symposium will be published in the coming months.

Three hundred participants joined the conference dinner on Thursday night. On



Recipients of the Dr. Bert L. Schram Poster Presentation Awards, with David Andreu, Chairman of the EPS, Elizabeth Schram, President of the ESF, Johan Elgerma, Secretary/Treasurer of the ESF (left), Chandralal Hewage, Chair of the 35th EPS, Norbert Sewald, Scientific Affairs Officer of the EPS (right).

Friday, participants could choose between the tours of the National Stud and Japanese Gardens, Dublin City and Guinness Storehouse, Malahide Castle and Gardens, Trinity College and Book of Kells, to discover some of Ireland's most popular tourist attractions.

The Scientific Advisory Board, Alethea Tabor (University College London), David Andreu (Pompeu Fabra University), Ernest Giralt (University of Barcelona), Florine Cavalier (Université de Montpellier), John Howl (University of Wolverhampton), John Wade (University of Melbourne), Knud Jensen (University of Copenhagen), Maria Luisa Mangoni (Sapienza Università di Roma), Maurice Manning (University of Toledo), Meritxell



EPS Executive Committee, ESF representatives and 35th EPS Chair. Pictured are (back row, l-r) Krzysztof Rolka, Communication Officer of the EPS, Johan Elgerma, Secretary/Treasurer of the EPS, Norbert Sewald, Scientific Affairs Officer of the EPS, David Andreu, Chairman of the EPS; (front row, l-r) Elizabeth Schram, President of the ESF, Anna Maria Papini, Treasurer of the EPS, Paula Gomes, Secretary of the EPS, Chandralal Hewage, Chair of the 35th EPS.

Teixidó (Institute for Research in Biomedicine, Barcelona), Norbert Sewald (Bielefeld University) and William Lubell (Université de Montréal), was substantially involved in the running of the Symposium. Tia Keyes (Dublin City University), co-chair of the 35th EPS, was also instrumental in the operations of the event on the campus of DCU, including the scientific and social events and the accommodation. A very special thanks to the sponsors of the 35th EPS as well; without their generous support, the Symposium could not have taken place. During the closing ceremony, Patrick Timmons (University College Dublin) was also presented with a token of appreciation, to acknowledge his significant contribution to the organisation of the 35th EPS. At the end of this ceremony, David Andreu handed over the EPS gong to Meritxell Teixidó for the 36th EPS, which will be held in Barcelona, Spain on August 30–September 4, 2020.



David Andreu, Chairman of the EPS, handing over the EPS gong to Meritxell Teixidó, Chair of the 36th EPS.

Contributed by Marc Devocelle (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland), National Representative for Ireland at the EPS Council.

CONFERENCE REPORT

2nd Meeting of the Italian Peptide Society

Naples, Italy

5–6 June 2018

The 2nd meeting of the Italian Peptide Society (ItPS) has been held at the Congress Center of the University of Naples 'Federico II'. The event, organized with the efforts of the members of the ItPS Scientific Committee has had an high attendance with the participation of more than 80 members of the recently born Italian Peptide Society and some invited guests from Italy and foreign countries. During the two days meeting were held 18 communication from members of the society covering most of the scientific activities performed in the different Italian universities and researches centers.

The workshop started with the welcome and the introduction from the Society President Giancarlo Morelli and from the Scientific Representative Anna Maria Papini. After the welcome addresses, the meeting hosted the invited lectures from Italian scientists working abroad: Chiara Cabrele (University of Salzburg, Austria) and Daniela Mazzier (University of Munich, Germany).

The second day of the meeting was opened by the ceremony related to the "Ernesto Scoffone" award. The "Ernesto Scoffone" award is assigned every two years from the Italian Peptide Society in commemoration of the Ernesto Scoffone's role in the foundation of the Italian Peptide community and of diverse



A view of the Conference Room during the Symposium.



Stephen B.H. Kent (middle) was awarded with the "Ernesto Scoffone Award 2018" by Giancarlo Morelli, president of the ItPS (left) and Anna Maria Papini, treasurer of the EPS (right).

contributions he made to peptide chemistry.

The winner of Ernesto Scoffone award 2018, with a total consensus of all ItPS members, was **Prof. Stephen B.H. Kent** from the University of Chicago (USA). Prof. Kent held the *Ernesto Scoffone Memorial Lecture Award 2018* entitled “The role of peptide chemistry in understanding the chemical basis of protein function”, and was assigned of a commemorative silver plaque during the ceremony.

In the same occasion the winners of the “Vittorio Erspamer award 2017” dedicated to young Italian scientists, Antonella Accardo (Napoli) and Silvia Marchesan (Trieste), were assigned with commemorative silver medals.

The scientific content of the invited lectures, and oral presentations reflected the state of the art in several specific aspects of the peptide research ongoing in Italy and was very much appreciated by all participants

In the attached photos two moments of the celebrative ceremonies are reported and a view of the room with the attending people during the oral presentations.

Contributed by Giancarlo Morelli



The “Vittorio Erspamer Award 2017” ceremony. From left to right: Giancarlo Morelli, Silvia Marchesan, Antonella Accardo and Anna Maria Papini.

CONFERENCE REPORT

RiminiPeptides2018

Bologna, Italy

16–18 June 2018

The congress “RiminiPeptides2018” took place in Rimini from 16th to 18th June 2018, in the Campus of Rimini of the University of Bologna, via Angherà 22, Rimini, involving over 130 participants from Europe (Italy, Germany, France, Spain, UK, Finland, Hungary, Sweden, Portugal, San Marino, and Switzerland), USA, Australia, Iran, China, and Korea. The congress was organized in four plenary presentations, four keynote presentations, 15 lectures, seven short communications, and 51 posters in the dedicated session. Of the speakers, nine were invited from academy or industry: Annette Beck-Sickinger, Gavin Bennett, Angelo Corti, Renata Pasqualini & Wadih Arap, Hendrik Jan Houthoff, Anna Maria Papini, Didier Boturyn, Jesus M. de la Fuente. Since the 16th of June was dedicated to accommodation, registration and kick-off workshop, and finally to a welcome cocktail party, all scientific sessions were distributed over the 17th and 18th of June, Day 1 and Day 2, respectively.

Day 1

The Chairpersons, Prof. Norbert Sewald (Bielefeld University) and Cesare Gennari (Milano University) opened the congress. The first session (Chairperson: Torsten Hechler, HD Pharma), started with the plenary presentation given by Annette

Beck-Sickinger (Leipzig University), with a talk about the human neuropeptide Y1 receptor and tumor targeting. After that, Hendrik Jan Houthoff (LinXis BV, Amsterdam) gave the first keynote presentation about metal-organic linker for drug targeting. Franca Zanardi (Parma University) gave a lecture about a new strategy to delivery sunitinib. The second session (Chairperson: Laura Belvisi, Milan University), saw the lectures of Cesare Gennari (Milano University) and Umberto Piarulli (Insubria University), about integrin ligands for tumor targeting in different perspectives. Subsequently, Paolo Calligari (Roma Tor Vergata University), discussed peptide inhibitors for oncogenic protein tyrosine phosphatase SHP2, while Alessandro Contini (Milano University) reported on molecular dynamic simulations for the conformational analyses of synthetic peptides. In the afternoon session (Chairperson: Ines Neundorf, Cologne University), the second plenary presentation by Gavin Bennett (Bicycle Therapeutics Inc., Cambridge) proposed novel therapeutics for solid tumours using bicycle toxin conjugates. During the second keynote presentation, AnnaMaria Papini (Firenze University) showed octreotide analogs for tumor pre-targeting. Subsequently, Jacqueline Wilce (Monash University) gave a lecture about bicyclic

peptides targeting GRB7, and Nermin Seda Kehr (Münster University) discussed about nanobiomaterials for biomedical applications. The last session of Day1 (Chairperson: Gabor Mezö, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest), started with Uli Kazmaier (Saarland University), which gave a lecture about stereoselective peptide modifications and synthesis, then Ernesto G. Occhiato (Firenze University) reported about cyclopropane pipercolic acids as conformationally restricted amino acids for peptidomimetics. Finally, Massimo Serra (Pavia University) gave a short communication about a new synthetic strategy for azabicycloalkane amino acids. Day 1 was concluded by the conference social dinner, taking place at H. Sporting, Marina Centro, Rimini

Day 2

The morning session of Day 2 (Chairperson: Vincenzo Tumiatti, Bologna University – Rimini Campus), started with the plenary presentation by Angelo Corti (San Raffaele Hospital, Milano), about targeted delivery of cytokines to tumor vessels with peptide-based vehicles. During the third keynote presentation, Didier Boturyn (Grenoble-Alpes University, CNRS), analyzed multi-RGD-macrocyclic scaffolds for biological application. Then, Norbert Sewald (Bielefeld University) gave a lecture about

RGD-cryptophycin conjugates for targeted tumor therapy. The sixth scientific session (Chairperson: Pirjo Laakkonen, Helsinki University), saw the lecture of Christian Steinkühler (Exiris, Rome) about antibody and peptide conjugates targeting cancer stem cells. The session continued with Harald Kolmar (Technische Universität Darmstadt), which proposed biopolymeric antibody-drug conjugates: from toxin-armed dextran to immunotoxins, and with Barbara Korsak (Heidelberg Pharma), reporting of DUPA- α -amanitin conjugates for targeted prostate cancer therapy. The short communication by Monica Baiula (Bologna University), about agonist and antagonist RGD-ligands of $\alpha 5\beta 1$ integrin, followed by the short communication of Sabine Schuster (Eötvös Loránd University), about oxime bond linked daunorubicin-GnRH-III conjugates, and finally by the short communication of Ivan Randelovic (National Institute of Oncology, Budapest), about the effect of

GnRH-III peptide-drug conjugates on tumor growth, concluded the session. In the afternoon session (Chairperson: Vincenzo Summa, IRBM, Rome), Renata Pasqualini and Wadih Arap (Rutgers University) delivered their joint plenary presentation dedicated to the activity of their group, in particular to ligand-directed therapy and molecular imaging based on in vivo phage display technology. And Jesus M. de la Fuente (Zaragoza University) gave the last keynote presentation about functional magnetic and gold nanoparticles as tools against cancer. Then, Hans-Georg Lerchen (Bayer, Germany) reported about small-molecule and antibody-drug conjugates for payload, linker and target, while Fernando Formaggio (Padova University) discussed the fine tuning of peptaibols for tumor targeting. The last part of the congress (Chairperson: Daria Giacomini, Bologna University), included the poster session, during which the

selection board (Daria Giacomini, Jackie Wilce, Franca Zanardi) assessed over 50 posters. Finally, Ali Dehshahri (Shiraz Medical University) gave his lecture about targeted plasmid DNA delivery by using decorated polyethylenimine, and Erik Jurgons (Intavis bioanalytical instruments AG) proposed customized cancer vaccines in cancer therapy.

“RiminiPeptides2018”, was concluded by the closing remark of the president of the Organizing Committee Luca Gentilucci (Bologna University), which also awarded the principal authors of the “Best poster presentations” Lilla Pethö (PO39, *Synthesis and in vitro biological effect of GnRH-protoporphyrin IX conjugates*) and A. Raposo Moreira Dias (PO18, *Tumor targeting with RGD-paclitaxel conjugates bearing an extracellularly cleavable linker*).

Contributed by Luca Gentilucci and Junwei Zhao



From top: official conference photo; moments of the scientific sessions; Tiberius bridge; poster session; Prof. Arap; the winners of the “best poster presentations” A. Raposo Moreira Dias and Lilla Pethö.

CONFERENCE REPORT

PepMat 2018

London, UK

16–18 July 2018

This meeting was the third in the international series of PepMat meetings, the first was in Sorrento, Italy in 2013 and the second was in Barcelona, Spain in 2016. The meetings are dedicated to presenting state-of-the-art research in peptide materials including peptide bio- and nano-materials. PepMat 2018 took place from 16th to 18th July 2018 in Birkbeck College, London. Birkbeck College, founded in 1823, is located in the Bloomsbury district of central London which has renowned literary and artistic associations.

Bloomsbury is also the home of leading educational establishments including University College and Birkbeck College. The delegates enjoyed unusually hot sunny weather at the start of the European heatwave of summer 2018 which even extended to Brexit Island.

The meeting attracted 46 delegates from countries around the world including Brazil, USA, India, Israel and European countries including Italy, Spain, Greece, Portugal, France and UK. A total of nine invited lectures from leading international researchers included presentations by

Prof. Darrin Pochan (University of Delaware, USA), who presented new directions of his research on designed coil-coil peptides that can remarkably form peptide nanotubes. Prof. Sophie Jackson (University of Cambridge, UK), presented a fascinating overview of her recent work on the physical stability of glucagon-like peptide. Prof. Alberto Saiani (University of Manchester, UK), presented on his work on β -sheet peptide hydrogels which have very interesting potential biomedical applications. Prof. Aridam Banerjee (IACS, Kolkata, India) gave an



The Brazilian participants with PepMat organizers. Left to right: Dr Emerson da Silva (UNIFESP, Brazil), Prof Ian Hamley (University of Reading), Ms Juliane Pelin (UFABC, Brazil), Prof Wendel Alves (UFABC, Brazil) and Prof Mariano Venanzi (University of Rome Tor Vergata)

exciting overview of his work on small peptide gelators with diverse applications as antimicrobial materials and in waste water treatment. Prof Ehud Gazit (Tel Aviv University, Israel) gave an overview of his immensely impressive research, especially his renowned research on aromatic dipeptides but also showing recent results on peptide nucleic acids. Prof Silvia Marchesan (University of Trieste, Italy) presented a very nicely themed talk “Peptide Wonderland Through the Looking Glass” with results on peptide

hydrogels with very apt reference to illustrations from the famous book by Lewis Carroll. Prof Jian Lu (University of Manchester, UK) gave an outstanding summary of recent research on cationic peptide amphiphiles which have potential as antimicrobial agents. Prof Alessandro Moretto (University of Padua, Italy) showed us intriguing results on peptide foldamers with designed stereochemistry and photo-switchability, particularly notable was the *cis/trans* switch (a.k.a. the ‘cheese switch’) and lastly but by no

means least Prof Helena Azevedo (Queen Mary University of London, UK) gave a wonderful talk on her peptide amphiphile-based biomaterials which incorporate extracellular matrix components.

An additional 17 contributed talks were enjoyed by the delegates. Many hot topics were discussed including novel nano-structures formed by different classes of peptides, from designed coiled coils to metal-binding peptides and amyloid systems among many others. Many remarkable applications were presented



Two of the invited speakers (Prof Ehud Gazit, Tel Aviv University, left, and Prof Arindam Banerjee, IACS Kolkata, centre) with Prof Ian Hamley, chair of the organizing committee



Prof Darrin Pochan (editor in chief of RSC journal Soft Matter which sponsored the poster prizes) presenting awards to (top to bottom) Cláudia Fernandes (Universidade de Nova Lisboa, Portugal), Luis Álvarez de Cienfuegos (University of Granada, Spain) and Lucia Lombardi (University of Naples Federico II, Italy)

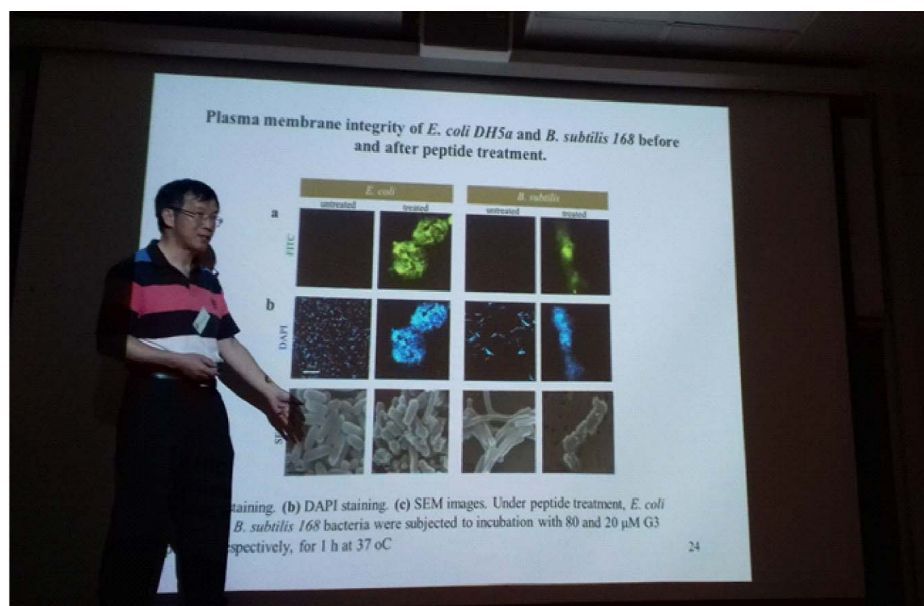
including medical biomaterials, bioelectronic devices and peptide therapeutic molecules. As well as experimental work, there were a number of notable presentations on advanced computer simulation studies of peptide conformation and aggregation.

A poster session and wine reception took place on the second day followed by the conference dinner. Prof Darrin Pochan (editor in chief of RSC journal *Soft Matter* which sponsored the poster prizes) presented poster awards to Cláudia Fernandes (Universidade de Nova Lisboa, Portugal), Luis Álvarez de Cienfuegos (University of Granada, Spain) and Lucia Lombardi (University of Naples Federico II, Italy). The conference dinner was at Pescatori, a charming Italian restaurant a short walk from Birkbeck College.

The final programme is available at <https://www.reading.ac.uk/chemistry/chem-pepmat2018.aspx>

We are grateful to the EPS for their sponsorship of the meeting.

Contributed by Ian Hamley



Prof Jian Lu (Manchester) presents data on cationic peptide amphiphile antimicrobial activity.

Society News



European Peptide Society

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VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C – 59100 PRATO (PO)

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**Extract from the Minutes of the Executive Committee
Meeting, March 19, 2018, 10:00–12:30 h (part I),
and on March 19, 2018, 14:00–19:00 h and March 20, 2018,
10:00–14:00 h (part II)
(Florence, Italy)**

Part I (Studio Gori, Via Ferrucci 203/C, 59100 Prato)

Participants: D. Andreu, A.M. Papini, P. Gomes, P. Gori, P. Bottani

Chair: D. Andreu

1. Welcome

Both the president and Dr. Gori welcomed the participants and reminded them that the current Executive Committee (EC) is responsible for the approval of the financial statements of 2017 and the budget for 2018, both of which are to be presented to the General Assembly (GA) teleconference, which should take place by the end of May 2018. Also, it was reminded that this EC's mandate will cease in 2019, hence, the current EC will stay in function until March 2020.

2. Financial statement approval, audit for the fiscal year 2017 and budget for 2018

The following documents, were discussed:

a) Financial statements at 31/12/2017 (Accounts for the year of 2017);

b) Auditor's certification of the Financial Statement for the Fiscal year ended on 31/12/2017;
c) Budget of the European Peptide Society for the Fiscal year 2018.

3. General Assembly teleconference meeting 2018

The GA teleconference meeting was set for the 22nd of May, 2018, at 2 p.m. (CET time) – 1st call, and at 3 p.m. (CET time) – 2nd call.

4. Financial commitments for 2019–2024

The treasurer suggested to create a specific plan not based on a 1 year forecast, but on a 6-year timeframe, relying on continuation of the current Society's agreement with Wiley. This matter was further discussed in Part II of the Executive Committee Meeting.

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

● **March 19th 2018, 14:00–19:00 h**

Participants: D. Andreu, A.M. Papini, N. Sewald, K. Rolka,
P. Gomes, C. Hewage

Chair: D. Andreu

1. Welcome and special thanks to the Treasurer (DA)

The President welcomed all participants and, on behalf of the EC, and also of CH, expressed their gratitude to Prof. Anna Maria Papini for her excellent hosting of the present EC meeting in Florence.

2. Organization of the forthcoming 35th European Peptide Symposium (CH)

EC members discussed extensively the organization details regarding the upcoming 35th European Peptide Symposium, with its chairman, CH.

● **March 20th 2018, 10:00–14:00 h**

Participants: D. Andreu, A.M. Papini, N. Sewald, K. Rolka,
P. Gomes

Chair: D. Andreu

3. Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting in March 2017 (PG)

The minutes of the EC Meeting held in Florence, March 27–28th, 2017 were read and, after one typo correction, were unanimously approved.

4. Guidelines for EPS Symposium organizers (Annex 9 of the EPS Bylaws) – revised version (DA, PG)

The revised version of Annex 9 of the EPS bylaws was thoroughly analyzed and, after some discussion and a few amendments accordingly, it was agreed to timely circulate an improved version amongst GA members, for approval in the forthcoming GA meeting to be held in Barcelona, on May 22nd, 2018.

5. Treasurer's report and financial commitments to 2019–2024 (AMP)

Following what had been discussed and decided in Part I of the EC Meeting, the Treasurer informed about her next steps to prepare documents for approval by the forthcoming GA meeting, to be held in Barcelona on May 22nd 2018, which were consensually approved. A budget plan for 2019–2024 was discussed and it was agreed to include this plan along with the budget for 2018, in the document to be prepared by the Treasurer for approval by the GA. The treasurer further highlighted that, while Dr. Rao Makineni's sponsoring of the Zervas Award is ensured until 2032, PolyPeptide Laboratories sponsorship to the Rudinger Memorial Lecture, the Society's most prestigious award, remains an unwritten, non-binding agreement, typically enacted on dates rather close to the Symposium. This situation, which is seemingly happening once more for the forthcoming 34th European Peptide Symposium, was judged undesirable and the President will take further steps to secure time-reliable funding, from either PolyPeptide or other donors.

6. Report of the Communication Officer (KR)

The Communication Officer gave a detailed explanation of each of the items in his report. Most relevant issues in this report were (i) publication of two Newsletters in 2017 (May and November); (ii) EPS online archives project (Proceedings available online go back to 1998 now); (iii) statistics of e-mail bounces and confirmed message openings in consequence of four bulk e-mails sent to all registered EPS members through Public Marketing Communication, subcontracted by Wiley; (iv) seven contributions received in 2017 from the EPS “Pool of Writers”; and (v) EPS Website restructuring and update. Concerning item (iv), NS suggested that a DOI should be requested for each contributed paper, which was consensually agreed. In regard to item (v), it was agreed that “Meeting Reports” should be made available both through the EPS Newsletter and the EPS Website.

7. Report of the Scientific Affairs Officer (NS)

The Scientific Affairs Officer gave a detailed explanation of each of the items in his report, which were the following (i) EPS support to small meetings (support given to two events in 2017 and already requested for seven events in 2018); (ii) EPS Mobility Fellowships (no applications in the 1st call, one application in the 2nd call, by Maya Georgieva, Roumen Tsanev Institute of Molecular Biology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria, which was approved); and (iii) nominations for the EPS Awards (Bodanszky, Zervas and Rudinger). Concerning item (ii), it was consensual that a major reason for the low response to 2017 calls was likely the low number of PhD students who were members of the EPS for at least 12 months (a

mandatory requisite to apply); considering that this situation may change in brief course (see point 9. Report of the Secretary), it was agreed that calls for Mobility Grant applications should be kept twice a year, on July 1st and December 1st. In regard to point (iii), NS explained the evaluation method applied by the Scientific Affairs Committee to rank and select the nominees to be taken forward for selection at the GA meeting, in Barcelona (May 22nd, 2018). The following candidates were proposed to the EC:

- for the Rudinger Award: Paul ALEWOOD; Maurice MANNING; James P. TAM
- for the Zervas Award: Ashraf BRIK; Christian HACKENBERGER; Richard PAYNE
- for the Bodanszky Award: Norman METANIS; Mukesh PASUPULETI

The EC accepted the proposal. The Secretary will organize a voting by all members of the GA and EC. The Secretary is in charge of sending in advance all relevant documents to GA members, so that Awardees are selected by May 22nd, 2018.

8. Report of the Secretary (PG)

The Secretary explained in detail the several items on her report, namely, (i) number of newly registered EPS members (110 from Jan. 2017 to Mar. 2018, most of which PhD students); (ii) nominations for new National Representatives, i.e., effective members belonging to the EPS General Assembly (15 countries) and Re-Appointments for the 2nd four-year term as National Representatives (7 countries); (iii) Members database pruning and digital archive. Point (i) above was

consensually taken as symptomatic that more and more PhD students are becoming engaged with the EPS, which will likely be reflected onto, among other aspects, an increase in the number of applicants to Mobility Grants. In regard to point (ii), it was considered that its discussion should include analysis of the request presented by the National Representative from Spain, Dr. Meritxell Teixidó, corresponding to point 11 in the Meeting Agenda. As such, it was agreed to change the Agenda accordingly, and it was decided to proceed with the normal nomination + election process for Spain, as per Society's Statutes and Bylaws, while reassuring Dr. Teixidó that she will receive all proper support from the EC, while organizing the 36th European Peptide Symposium, to be held in Sitges (Spain) in 2020. Still in regard with point (ii), the Secretary was entrusted with the tasks that usually follow the nomination process, namely, communication of results to voting members and organization of elections, when applicable. Finally, concerning point (iii), it was agreed that the Secretary should get in touch with National Representatives to ask for their feedback regarding the current status and contacts of EPS members from their countries whose contacts are apparently outdated.

9. Hungarian, Portuguese and Polish Applications for the organization of a forthcoming European Peptide Symposium (DA)

The President informed the Committee on the three formal requests to organize forthcoming European Peptide Symposia, received from Hungary, Portugal and Poland. Considering that (i) organizing countries

have been already defined up to 2026 (Ireland 2018, Spain 2020, Italy 2022, Austria 2024, and France 2026), and (ii) last Symposia organized by the three applicant countries were in 1994 (Portugal), 1998 (Hungary), and 2006 (Poland), it was agreed to hold the Symposia in the three applicant countries according to the following chronological order: Portugal 2028, Hungary 2030, and Poland 2032. The President will communicate this decision to the applicants.

10. Date, agenda and logistics for the upcoming GA Meeting

The President reminded that the next ordinary GA meeting will take place in Barcelona, on May 22nd 2018, and commissioned the Secretary with timely organization of all documents and himself, together with NS, with arrangements for the teleconference. The preliminary agenda for this meeting will be given below.

1. Approval of financial documents (accounts for the fiscal year of 2017 and budget for the fiscal year of 2018)
2. Approval of new appointments and re-appointments of National Representatives
3. Approval of current European Peptide Symposia calendar
4. EPS Awards Winners



11. Other business

The date was set for the next EC meeting, to take place in Dublin, on 29th of August 2018, during the European Peptide Symposium lunch break. It was agreed that this meeting should be preceded by a meeting of EC members with JPS Editorial Board members, to whom invitations will be timely sent by the President and/or the Treasurer.

D. Andreu, P. Gomes

March 20th, 2018



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Fiscal code 92089560483 – Partita I.V.A. IT 02292750979

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY of MAY 22, 2018

On May 22, 2018, at 2 pm, in the premises of Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona Biomedical Research Park, Dr. Aiguader 88 08003 Barcelona, Spain, Anna Maria Papini and Paula Gomes, respectively, the Treasurer and the Secretary of European Peptide Society, met in teleconference with other members of the Executive Committee and with National Representatives of the Society, according to the attendance sheet kept in the records of the Society, who were called to deliberate on the following agenda:

1. **Welcome**
2. **Apologies for absence** (c.f. attendance sheet)
3. **Minutes of the last General Assembly** (Barcelona, 2017): Annexes 1a-d
4. **Report of the Communication Officer** (K. Rolka): Annex 2
5. **Report of the Scientific Affairs Officer** (N. Sewald): Annex 3
6. **Report of the Treasurer** (A. M. Papini) **and approval of the following:**
 - 6.1. Financial statements of the year ended on 31/12/2017: Annex 4.1;
 - 6.2. Budget for the year 2018, and mission for 2019-2021: Annex 4.2.
7. **Report from the JPS Editor** (U. Diederichsen): Annex 5
8. **Revised guidelines for future EPS Symposium organizers** (P. Gomes): Annex 6
9. **Council members – new and renewed periods for 2018–2022** (A. M. Papini): Annex 7
10. **EPS Awards 2018** (A. M. Papini, N. Sewald): Annex 9
11. **Update on the 35th EPS Symposium** (C. Hewage)
12. **Forthcoming European Peptide Symposia** (A. M. Papini): Annex 8
13. **Other matters** (A. M. Papini) – periodic updating of the Society's Officers and Council members listed in the Statutes and Bylaws.

In addition to the aforementioned participants, physically present, the following participants were connected via teleconference, according to art. 8.9 of the Statutes of the Society as well as in the agenda of the meeting, using Adobe Connect:

Norbert SEWALD, Krzysztof ROLKA, Florine CAVELIER, Oliver SEITZ, Christian GRUBER, Steven BALLETT, Tamara PAJANOVA, Andreja JAKAS, Vaclav CEROVSKY, Knud JENSEN, Ale NARVANEN, George SPYROULIAS, Gabor MEZÖ, Paolo ROVERO, Zbigniew SZEWCZUK, Mojca LUNDER, Meritxell TEIXIDÓ, Miguel CASTANHO (from 3:10 pm).

Apologies for absence were received from David ANDREU, Dirk RIJKERS, Erik HAUG BENGTT, Ulf GORÄNSSON, Helma WENNEMERS, John HOWL, Luis MORODER.

The members connected via Adobe Connect confirmed the possibility to intervene in real time at the discussion, to be able to receive and transmit documents.

Because of grave personal matter, the President of the Society was unable to attend the meeting, and Anna Maria Papini was nominated the President of the Assembly for May 22nd, 2018, being assisted by the Secretary, Paula Gomes. No scrutinizers were appointed, and those present were invited to verbally express their opinion.

All matters of the agenda, with exception of item 11 that could not be discussed due to absence of the organizer of the forthcoming 35th European Peptide Symposium, were thoroughly discussed, with the following deliberations:

Minutes of the last General Assembly (Barcelona, 2017): unanimously approved

Report of the Communication Officer (K. Rolka): unanimously approved

Report of the Scientific Affairs Officer (N. Sewald): unanimously approved

Report of the Treasurer (A. M. Papini) **and approval of the following:**

Financial statements of the year ended on 31/12/2017: unanimously approved

Budget for the year 2018, and mission for 2019-2021: unanimously approved

Report from the JPS Editor (U. Diederichsen): unanimously approved

Revised guidelines for future EPS Symposium organizers (P. Gomes): unanimously approved, after a few suggested amendments in charge of the Secretary

As nothing else had to be deliberated, and no members asked to intervene, the meeting was closed at 4:00 pm. The present minutes were approved as they stand.

The Secretary The Treasurer, on behalf of the President,
Prof. Paula GOMES Prof. Anna Maria PAPANI
Barcelona, 22nd of May 2018



European Peptide Society

No Profit Scientific Society

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EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY

No Profit Scientific Society

Seat in VIA F. FERRUCCI 203/C - 59100 PRATO (PO)

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**EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY of AUGUST 27, 2018**

On August 27, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. in Dublin (Ireland) c/o Dublin City University – Campus Glasnevin, are physically present the members of the Executive Committee of the European Peptide Society David Andreu, Norbert Sewald, Anna Maria Papini, Krzysztof Rolka and Paula Gomes, and national representatives according to attendance sheet herein attached, to deliberate on the following agenda:

1. **Welcome** (D. Andreu)
2. **Apologies for absence** (P. Gomes)
3. **Minutes of the last General Assembly (Barcelona, 2018)** (P. Gomes): annex 1
4. **Council 2018–2022** (acknowledgement for service and welcome to new members; discussion on countries losing representation) (D. Andreu, P. Gomes): annex 2
5. **Revision of the Bylaws** (updated Council members list, and guidelines for Symposium organizers) (D. Andreu, P. Gomes): annex 3
6. **Report from the Treasurer** (update since May 2018) (A. M. Papini)
7. **Report from the Communication Officer** (update since May 2018) (K. Rolka)
8. **Report from the Scientific Affairs Officer** (update since May 2018) (N. Sewald)
9. **JPS – Editor's report** (update since May 2018) (L. Moroder/U. Diederichsen)
10. **Reports on Symposia** (D. Andreu):
 - a) 35th EPS: Dublin, Ireland (C. Hewage)
 - b) 36th EPS: Barcelona, Spain (M. Teixidó)
 - c) 37th EPS: Florence, Italy (P. Rovero/A. M. Papini)
11. **Other matters**

In addition to the aforementioned participants, the following GA (voting) members were also physically present:

Steven BALLETT, Florine CAVELIER, Vaclav CEROVSKY, Chandralal HEWAGE, Christian GRUBER, Knud JENSEN, Mojca LUNDER, Gabor MEZŐ, Luis MORODER, Ale NARVANEN, Tamara PAJANOVA, Paolo ROVERO, Oliver SEITZ, Zbigniew SZEWCZUK, Meritxell TEIXIDÓ.

whereas Miguel CASTANHO, Ulf DIEDERICHSEN, Bengt Erik HAUG, John HOWL, Dirk RIJKERS, and George SPYROULIAS apologized for not being present.

National representatives-elect (non-voting in General Assembly) were invited by the Executive Committee to attend the meeting, and the following were present:

Christian BECKER, Stephen L. COBB, Marc DEVOCELLE, David FEWER, Ruza FRKANEK, Rosario GONZÁLEZ-MUÑIZ, Aleksandra KESIK-MISICKA, Ekaterina KOLESANOVA, Michal LEBL, Maria Luisa MANGONI, Norman METANIS, Nuno SANTOS,

whereas Jan BAKOS and Dennis LOWIK apologized for not being able to attend the meeting.

The president welcomed all those who were present, and encouraged National Representatives-elect and current Council members to briefly introduce themselves, after which all matters of the agenda were thoroughly discussed, with the following deliberations:

- **Minutes of the last General Assembly (Barcelona, 2018)**
the minutes were unanimously approved by (annex A);
- **Council 2018–2022**
it was consensually agreed that Christian Gruber and Knud Jensen will try to help in the process of (re-)appointing the Representative of Sweden for 2018–2022;

- **Revision of the Bylaws**
all revisions proposed for the Bylaws were unanimously approved (annex B);
- **Report from the Treasurer**
the report presented by Anna Maria Papini was unanimously approved;
- **Report from the Communication Officer**
the brief report presented by Krzysztof Rolka was consensually approved (annex C);
- **Report from the Scientific Affairs Officer**
the report briefly presented by Norbert Sewald was consensually approved;
- **JPS – Editor's report**
it was consensually agreed that EPS members will make all efforts possible to promote submission and citation of high-quality papers on JPS;
- **Other matters**
it was consensually agreed that Michal Lebl (representative-elect for the Czech Republic) and the Communication Officer will join efforts to make available, on the EPS website, a free online set of peptide properties predictive tools (sequel of the Peptide Companion).

As nothing else had to be deliberated, and no members asked to intervene, the meeting was closed at 11:00 pm. The present minutes were approved as they stand.

The Secretary
Prof. Paula GOMES

The President,
Prof. David ANDREU

Dublin, 27th of August 2018



European Peptide Society

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Extract from the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting 29th of August 2018, Dublin, 3 pm (local time) (The Helix – DCU, Dublin, Ireland)

Participants: D. Andreu, N. Sewald, A.M. Papini, K. Rolka, P. Gomes

Chair: D. Andreu

1. Welcome

The President welcomed all participants and opened the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in Florence in March 2018

The Secretary read the minutes, which were unanimously approved.

3. Balance on the 35th European Peptide Symposium and perspectives on forthcoming Symposia

All participants agreed in that the ongoing 35th European Peptide Symposium was being a successful event, both from the scientific and social viewpoints. A few considerations were consensually agreed regarding the ESCOM-sponsored Mixer for future Symposia, namely, (i) make it a Wednesday-evening event, not to

collide with either the scientific program or with events that are traditionally scheduled for the other evenings of the European Peptide Symposia, (ii) send invitations to potential senior participants as soon as in mid-July, then send a reminder one week before the event, (iii) reflect on the number and role of industry-related senior participants, considering that industry typically recruits young researchers with some post-doctoral experience.

Other business

4.1. Polypeptide commitment with the Society for sponsoring the Rudinger Award.

The president informed that his discussion with Polypeptide's representative, Neil Thompson, had a positive outcome, as the company reassured him its commitment to endure on sponsoring the Rudinger award, although did not accept to transfer in advance the monetary prize associated to the award. The president considered that himself and the Secretary should prepare a white paper for an EPS-Polypeptide agreement, to be circulated and, once improved, signed by both parties.

4.2. *EPS approach to peptide scientists in the UK not yet members of the EPS*

Considering that the number of UK members of the Society is far lower than peptide scientists actually active in that country, it was consensually agreed that the President should (i) personally invite those UK keynote speakers at the 35th EPS who are not members yet, to join the Society, (ii) ask for the help of the new national representative of the UK, Steven Cobb, to identify other potential candidates for EPS membership.

4.3. *EPS visibility in massively attended international events, like the EuChemS Chemistry Congress*

Considering the growing importance of internationally scientific events like the EuChemS Chemistry Congress, it was consensually agreed that the Society should investigate the possibility of sponsoring a Peptide-dedicated session or satellite meeting as part of the Scientific Programme of such events. The President of the Society will approach the President of the EuChemS in this regard.

4.4. *Data Protection Laws*

It was consensually agreed that the Society seems to have no liabilities regarding Data Protection issues, as all sensitive information on its members is kept in a Wiley server at the UK, where Data Protection Laws introduced in the EU in May 2018 do not apply. Moreover, access to the members' database is restricted to Wiley (UK), to the EPS Secretary and to the EPS Web Editor.

4.5. *Next meeting of the Executive Committee*

The next EC meeting has been scheduled for the 25th and 26th of March, 2019.

As nothing else had to be deliberated, and no members asked to intervene, the meeting was closed at 3:45 pm. The present minutes were approved as they stand.

D. Andreu, P. Gomes

August 29th, 2018



European Peptide Society

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Extract from the Minutes of the Meeting of the International Liaison Committee (ILC) August 30th, 2018, 12:50 p.m. (Boardroom – The Helix@DCU, Dublin, Ireland)

Participants: please, see attached attendance list

Chair: D. Andreu

1. Welcome

The President welcomed all participants and opened the meeting.

2. Minutes of the ILC meeting 2016 in Leipzig, Germany

(composed by D. Tourwé) – the minutes were unanimously approved by all those who were present in the ILC meeting held during the 34th European Peptide Symposium, in September 2016.

3. Reports from Peptide Societies

- *American Peptide Society* – Jane Aldrich represented the APS and informed on the venue and dates for the 26th American Peptide Symposium, whose website is already available at <https://www.aps2019.org/>
- *Australian Peptide Association* – Christina Schroeder represented the APA and informed on the success of the 12th Australian Peptide Conference, where ca. 40% of the participants were from outside Australia, and also on the venue and dates for the forthcoming

13th Australian Peptide Conference, whose website is already available at <http://apa.asnevents.com.au/>. Christina Schroeder also notified the ILC members about the interest of the APA in organizing a forthcoming International Peptide Symposium, eventually in 2021.

- *Japanese Peptide Society* – the JPS was represented by Hirunobu Hojo, Yoshio Hayashi and Hidehito Mukai, who informed about the 10th International Peptide Symposium and 55th Japanese Peptide Symposium, as well as their satellite meetings, to be held in Kyoto in early December 2018, as announced through the website <https://www.aeplan.co.jp/10thips/>
- *Korean Peptide Community* – Jeong Kyu Bang represented the KPC, and reported on the renewed team and strategic plans to revive this community.
- *Singapore Peptides and Proteins Society* – the P2S2 was represented by Fernando Ferrer, who reported on the forthcoming P2S2 Symposium, to be held in November 2018, and whose programme and other informations are available at <https://www.p2s2society.com/symposium-2018.html>

- *European Peptide Society* – the president of the EPS, David Andreu, made a quick analysis on the ongoing 35th European Peptide Symposium, and also a few considerations regarding the need of the peptide societies around the world to be more tightly connected and have links to each other in the respective websites; in this regard, D. Andreu committed himself and the EPS Secretary, to prepare a draft document to be circulated amongst the societies representatives, to add relevant information to be uploaded in each society's website. The president then asked Meritxell Teixidó and Anna Maria Papini, respectively the chairs of the 36th and 37th European Peptide Symposia, to inform the meeting participants on venue and dates for these forthcoming events.

4. Place and date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next ILC meeting should take place in Kyoto – Japan, during the 10th International Peptide Symposium and 55th Japanese Peptide Symposium. Meritxell Teixidó was appointed the EPS representative in this meeting.

As nothing else had to be deliberated, and no members asked to intervene, the meeting was closed at 2:15 pm. The present minutes were approved as they stand.

D. Andreu
30th of August, 2018

P. Gomes

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CALENDAR **of** Forthcoming Events

10th INTERNATIONAL PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM (10th IPS), IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 55th JAPANESE PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM (55th JPS)

Kyoto, Japan

3–7 December 2018

URL: <https://aeplan.co.jp/10thips/>

WORLD PEPTIDE CONGRESS

Tokyo, Japan

17–18 April 2019

URL: <https://www.meetingsint.com/conferences/peptide>

26th AMERICAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM AND 11th INTERNATIONAL PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Monterey, California

22–27 June 2019

URL: <https://www.aps2019.org/>

36th EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM AND 12th INTERNATIONAL PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Sitges, Spain

12 August–4 September 2020

URL: <http://www.eps2020.com/general-information/>
