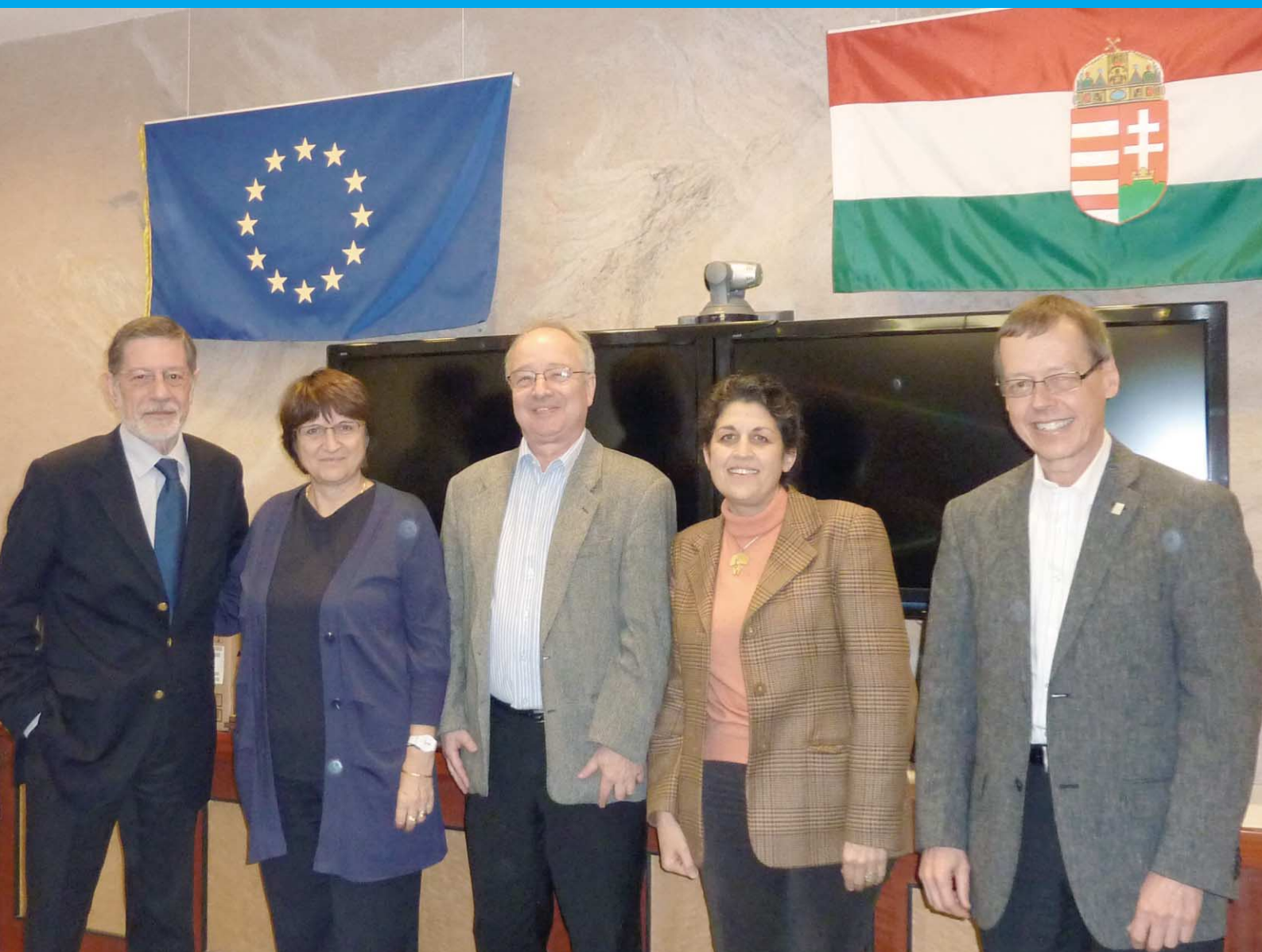


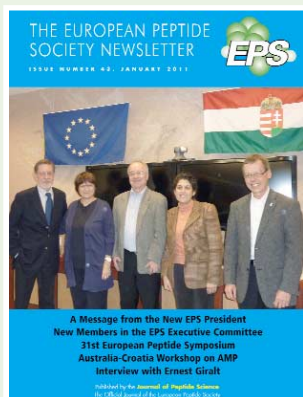
THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A Message from the New EPS President
New Members in the EPS Executive Committee
31st European Peptide Symposium
Australia-Croatia Workshop on AMP
Interview with Ernest Giralt

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Cover photo: The New EPS Executive Committee

IN THIS ISSUE

A Message from the New EPS President	2
31st European Peptide Symposium	4
Joint Australia-Croatia Workshop	8
Interview with Ernest Giralt	9
Milan Zaoral, in Memoriam	10
Society News	11
Society Officers	25
Calendar	26

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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A Message from the new EPS President



Dear Reader!

The Council of the European Peptide Society during its biannual meeting at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark on September 6th 2010 unanimously accepted the proposals of the President, Jean Martinez and elected the new President of the Society for the period of 2010–2014. The Council also elected Solange Lavielle, as Scientific Affairs officer and Anna Maria Papini, as new Treasurer of the Society with the strong support of the Executive Committee.

Members of the European Peptide Committee [Professors G.T. Young (UK), A. Loffet (France), G. Jung (Germany), E. Giralt (Spain) and K. Medzihradzky (Hungary) established the European Peptide Society in 1989. In its statutes EPS is described as “a non profit association . . . for the public benefit in order to promote in Europe and in certain neighbouring countries the advancement of education and in particular the scientific study of the chemistry, biochemistry and biology of peptides, which are chemical compounds having important functions for human health and welfare by the organisation of scientific

meetings, by the publication and dissemination of the results of research and in other appropriate ways” (2004).

The Society after more than 20 years of operation is a strong professional academic community with more than 1300 members. Among our activities developed during those years among others it should be mentioned the biannual meeting of the EPS, the support of small scientific meetings and the establishment and administration of scientific awards. Accepting the invitation from National peptide communities of a constituent country EPS was involved in the organisation of European Peptide Symposia since 1990 [(Barcelona (1990), Interlaken (1992), Braga (1994), Edinburgh (1996), Budapest (1998), Montpellier (2000), Sorrento (2002), Prague (2004), Gdansk (2006), Helsinki (2008), Copenhagen (2010)]. Recently the Society provides travel grants also for young peptide scientists to attend EPS Symposium. Under the auspices of the Society with an initial grant, the EPS supports 7–9 small scientific meetings per year organised by its members. During these two decades several new

meeting series were initiated in constituent countries (e.g. Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides, Polish Peptide Symposium, German Peptide Symposium, Hellenic Forum on Bioactive Peptides, Meeting on Biologically Active Peptides in the Czech Republic, Iberian Peptide meeting)

The Society administers the Josef Rudinger Memorial Lecture Award established in 1984 and sponsored by PolyPeptide Laboratories since 2000, the Leonidas Zervas Award established in 1988 and sponsored by Bachem AG from 2000 and the ESCOM Awards.

Another success story of the Society is the Newsletter. Under the editorship of the founding editor John Jones for 12 years and of P. Cordopatis from 2004 this has become a very useful medium for keeping readers informed of the activities, not only within our diverse European domains but also in relation with the world of peptides globally. The other successful publishing venture associated with the Society is Wiley's, *Journal of Peptide Science (JPS)* since 1995. Under the leadership of J. Jones between 1995 and 2008 and L. Moroder (since 2008), a series of new developments (e.g. reduction of review time, introduction of

section "Protocols" and of the "Best Paper Award of JPS") have taken place to make the Journal an attractive site to publish. The EPS in collaboration with Wiley established a website in the turn of Century. However, it is general feeling that further changes are needed in the architecture and content.

All members of the Society are indebted to our Sponsors helping our scientific activities. However, if we are to maintain the Society as a free membership community in the future, the amount of sponsorship as well as the income from the biannual Symposia is far from sufficient. Whether we should rely totally on Sponsors and income from the Symposia, or continue thinking about membership subscriptions will be a topic of great debate for us over the next year.

It is the commitment of the newly elected Executive Committee [A. Eberle (Secretary), A. M. Papini (Treasurer), S. Lavielle (Scientific Affairs Officer), P. Cordopatis (Member and Newsletter Editor) and myself] to analyse the performance of the Society and in close collaboration with the Council and members of Society initiate changes in response to the needs of present challenges.

Finally, I wish to express my high appreciation for the work of all previous Presidents (G.T. Young [1988–1992], D. Brandenburg [1992–1998], R. Rocchi [1998–2002] and J. Martinez [2002–2010]) of EPS for their dedicated service.

I wish to sincerely thank for the involvement and hard work of the leaving members of the Executive Committee (D. Andreu, Scientific Affairs Officer [2002–2010]) and E. Benedetti, (member of EC and Treasurer [2002–2010]) and for helping the President, J. Martinez during the last eight years and for committed running the Society in a friendly manner.

At the end, I wish a happy, peaceful New Year with success for both personal as well as professional life's for all members of the European Peptide Society and of the peptide science community worldwide.

Professor Ferenc Hudecz

President of EPS

Budapest,

January 2011

CONFERENCE REPORT

31st European Peptide Symposium

Copenhagen, Denmark

5–9 September 2010



The organizers and co-chairs, Morten Meldal, Knud J. Jensen and Thomas Høeg-Jensen, had the distinct honor to jointly host the 31st Symposium of the European Peptide Society (31EPS) and they provided an exciting experience, and a great opportunity for peptide scientists worldwide to share excellent science at the Symposium. The 31EPS took place at the Bella Center located just outside Copenhagen City near the Airport. It is the largest conference facility in the region and provides all the necessary facilities for a successful conference. In close collaboration with the Scientific Committee, an exciting four day event was composed and with a particular emphasis on

chemistry. Some of the most important new results in peptide science were identified for oral presentation during the meeting. The conference facility provided for an excellent exhibition event at the 31EPS and the general feeling was that exhibitors were thrilled to have such good contact to participants. EPS and the organizers would like to sincerely thank the sponsors of this event for their significant contributions and support of the field of Peptide Science.

The four-day format was new at 31EPS. The symposium had 882 participants, 600 abstract submissions and 78 lectures. Therefore the program was quite intense Monday to Thursday, enabling participants to return Thursday

night or Friday morning as their flight connections allowed. The traditional social events on Wednesday were not scheduled, instead participants with an interest in Copenhagen culture were encouraged to arrange tours on their own before or after the meeting. The 31EPS was followed by the 31EPS-Satellite Symposium on Cell Penetrating Peptides, a two-day minisymposium at the Panum Institute, University of Copenhagen.

A welcome reception was held at the Bella Center Sunday night and the gala dinner was at Langelinie Pavillionen Wednesday night. Entertainment was provided by the famous Captain Hoffers Show Band. The Speakers Dinner took place at the historic Carlsberg Museum on



Tuesday evening. Concurrent with this event the City of Copenhagen offered a reception and dinner at the historic Copenhagen City Hall.

The 31EPS Logo was based on a novel of the famous Danish author, H. C. Andersen. In this beautiful story, entitled "The Bell" H. C. Andersen in a fascinating manner unravel for us how those and only those, who search the truth with perseverance and passion, shall find it and shall gain an experience for life. We thought this story has a lot in common with the slow process of unraveling the true nature of peptide biology and thus the Logo.

Scientific program

In planning the 31st EPS, the organizers aimed at creating the strongest possible scientific program broadly within peptide science. There was more emphasis on new, enabling developments in peptide chemistry than in some previous peptide symposia. In addition the organizers wanted to highlight peptides as drugs and



The picture of the three relaxed 31EPS Co Chairs, Morten Meldal (second to the right) Knud J. Jensen (to the left) and Thomas Høeg-Jensen (to the right) in the merry company of Tom Muir and Annette Beck-Sickinger after one of the sessions.



Welcome reception



Exhibition area

of the program. The speakers were invited to present new developments in peptide synthesis, both in SPPS and in ligation methods, peptide chemical biology including the role of farnesylation and palmitoylation, peptide medicinal chemistry, foldamers related to peptides, structural aspects of peptides and proteins, and more. The scientific committee ranked all abstracts. Based on their ranking, the speakers for the oral and young investigator presentations were selected. The young investigator sessions as well as the Zervas and Rudinger award sessions were all integrated into the main program

had a dedicated session towards this topic, chaired by Thomas Hoeg-Jensen and Waleed Danho. The plenary and invited speakers were Herbert Waldmann, Tom W. Muir, Ernest Giralt, William F. DeGrado, Ivan Huc, Fernando Albericio, Horst Kessler, Paul Alewood, Annette Beck-Sickinger, William Lubell, Ronald Raines, and Richard DiMarchi, who were invited to present the latest developments in peptide science from around the world. In addition the two awardees, Helma Wennemers and Stephen B. H. Kent contributed significantly to the high level

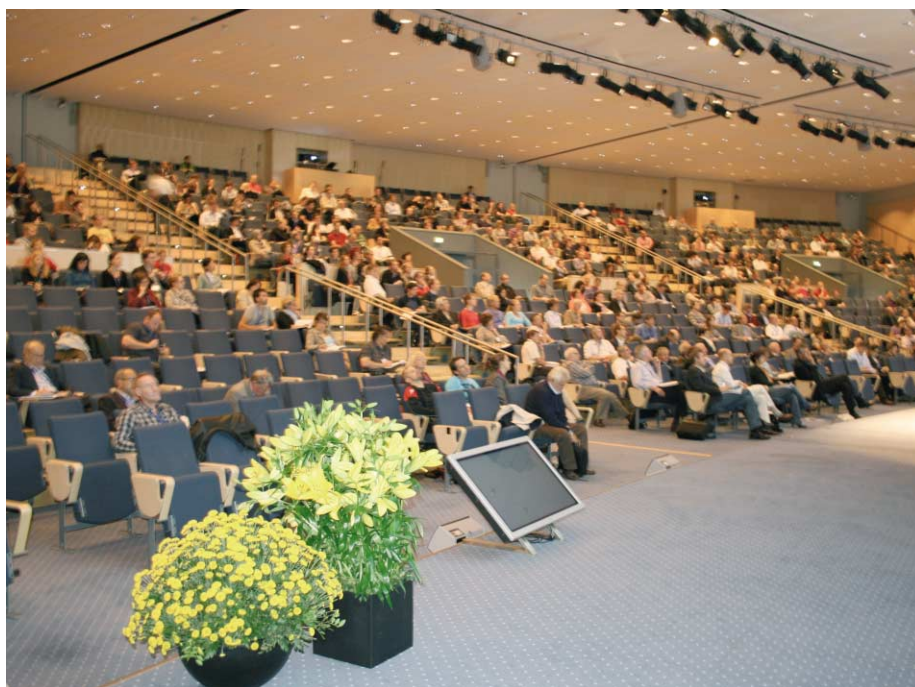


Lecture by Professor H. Waldmann

to encourage attendance.

The sessions covered included: peptide biochemistry and biology, synthetic chemistry of amino acids and peptides, a young investigator session, general peptide science, chemical ligation, peptides as drugs, peptidomimetics, protein design and protein modification, peptide materials and peptide properties, antibacterial and cell penetrating peptides, lipopeptides, signaling, hormones and neuropeptides, peptide biology, chemical biology, and proteomics.

Needless to say, the actual topics covered by lectures were even broader than this. The parallel sessions Monday and Wednesday were a great success and can be recommended for future EPS meetings. In summary, there were 5 plenary lectures, 7 invited lectures, 2 award lectures, 12 young investigator lectures and 52 oral presentations. Finally, as mentioned above there were close to 600 poster presentations, and two afternoons in the program were dedicated to successful poster sessions. The space between poster stands was larger than usual and adequate to give a pleasant atmosphere for poster discussions as well as convenient passage.



EPS lecture hall at the Bella Center

There were generally lively discussions after lectures, which contributed to a scientifically quite strong program.

The Proceedings book, co-edited with Michal Lebl, has already been published (download: http://www.5z.com/31eps/book/Proc31EPS_v4.1_web.pdf; book: <http://www.lulu.com/product/hardcover/peptides-2010/13831841>)

Contributed by Morten Meldal, Knud J. Jensen, Thomas Høeg-Jensen (Co-chairs of 31EPS)

CONFERENCE REPORT

Joint Australia-Croatia Workshop on Antimicrobial Peptides AMP 2010

Split, Croatia, 8–13 August 2010

The Joint Australia-Croatia Workshop on Antimicrobial Peptides was held at the Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences (MedILS) in Split, Croatia, 8–13 Aug 2010. The workshop was organized by Professor Frances Separovic, University of Melbourne, and Professor Davor Juretic, Faculty of Science, University of Split, with support from MedILS. Together with several other local institutions, an international PhD programme in biophysics was recently established at the University of Split. The workshop was an official summer school for the students in the program, with additional wider participation from researchers and post-graduate students from other countries and covered a broad scope with respect to membrane-active peptides. The total number of participants was limited to about forty with invited lecturers and local doctoral students filling approximately half of the anticipated number of participants. Over 45 participants from several countries participated in the workshop, which also included tutorials and practical classes for the PhD students.

The scientific program began with a session on Computer Modeling Studies with contributions from Alan Mark David Smith, Nevena Todorova, Bojan Zagrovic



Participants of the Conference in front of the Institute

and Vlasta Bonacic-Koutecky. This was followed by NMR Methods and Drug Design with talks by David Craik and Frances Separovic; and then Mibel Aguilar and Lisa Martin spoke on Mechanism of Action. The next day began with Antimicrobial Peptides: Structure, Activity and Design, with Damir Vukicevic, Davor Juretic and Renato Gennaro. The session on Antimicrobial Peptides – Synthetic Analogues was led by Akhter Hossain and complemented by talks from contributed abstracts. A session on Antimicrobial Peptides from Flowering Plants was also assembled and Ante Graovac gave a lecture on carbon

nanotubes. As well as oral presentations, there were poster sessions and three students were awarded poster prizes. The number of participants from each country were: 19 Croatia, 11 Australia, 4 Hungary, 3 Austria, 2 Romania, 1 Canada, 1 England, 1 France, 1 Germany, 1 Italy, and 1 Portugal. The workshop was very successful and stimulated a number of collaborations and plans for student exchange programs between Australia and Croatia.

Contributed by Frances Separovic and Davor Juretic

Interview with Professor Ernest Giralt

The Wiley Editor for the *Journal of Peptide Science*, Martin Rothlisberger, interviewed Professor Ernest Giralt about his new book publication on “Protein Surface Recognition”:

MR: Ernest Giralt, John Wiley & Sons have just published the new book on “Protein Surface Recognition”, edited by you and by Mark W. Peczuh and Xavier Salvatella. Why did you feel it necessary to edit a book on this topic? What makes it timely?

EG: Is just this last decade that scientists have discovered that proteins have a very rich social life. In this scenario plenty of opportunities appear in trying to modulate this social behavior using appropriate ligands able to modulate this protein-protein interactions. To some extent, two new frontiers between chemistry and biology and between chemistry and biomedicine are emerging. Unfortunately, our knowledge of this molecular recognition language used by proteins to talk each other is still very precarious. The book tries to place the reader at the cutting edge of this knowledge with special emphasis in methodology and in case studies.

MR: What makes this topic interesting to the peptide community? You are also an editor for *Journal of Peptide Science*. I have recently seen that this journal recently published an issue on “Probing Protein Function through Chemistry”. Are the interests of peptide and protein scientists merging?

EG: Yes, peptide and proteins scientists are merging objectives and methodologies. Nevertheless, in the field of modulating protein-protein interactions peptides are privileged ligands. Its size, typically larger than small molecules, fits nicely with the large surfaces involved in contacts between proteins

MR: What impact will your book have on the molecular recognition community?

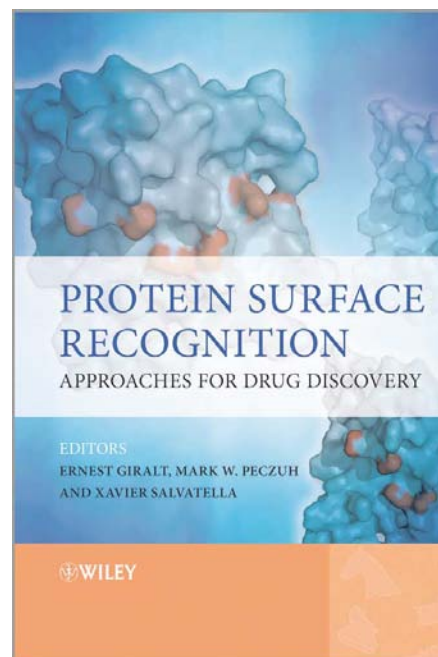
EG: I am pretty sure that the impact will be very strong due, on one side, to the completeness of the coverage and, on the other side, to the high level of the contributors to different chapters.



Professor Ernest Giralt

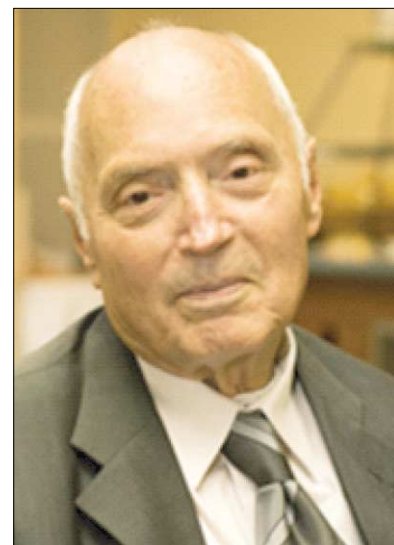
MR: Do you have any other comments you would like to make as an endorsement for your new book?

EG: Molecular recognition at protein surfaces is a field that is still at its infancy. Reading this book is a good opportunity to place one self at the state-of-the-art level.



In Memoriam

Ing. Milan Zaoral, Dr Sc. (1926–2011)



Sad message came to the Czech peptide community at the very beginning of the New year 2011. Dr. Milan Zaoral, our distinguished colleague, who spent 40 years as leading scientist at the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry (IOCB) of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, later Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, passed away January 4th at the age of nearly 85.

He started his career as peptide chemist in the laboratory headed by Prof. Josef Rudinger in 1952 dealing with the synthesis of neurohypophyseal peptide hormones oxytocin and vasopressin that initiated the production of the both hormones in industrial scale at Léciva enterprise.

Later in his peptide laboratory Dr. Zaoral studied the relationship between the vasopressin structure and its biological effects. Detailed study of the possible dissociation of the antidiuretic and pressoric activities in the vasopressin molecule led to the discovery of 1-deamino-8-D-Arginin vasopressin (DDAVP), a compound known under the generic name Desmopressin. This successful vasopressin analogue was manufactured and formulated in Czechoslovakia at

Léciva – SPOFA under the name Adiuretin SD and in Sweden at Ferring AB under the name Minirin. Minirin is still considered as the flagship of Ferring Group. Desmopressin has found several applications in medical practice (diabetes insipidus, enuresis nocturna, hemophilia type A and von Willebrand syndrom), in clinical diagnosis (kidney function) and in biochemical and pharmacological research as standard compound. In the main indication – enuresis nocturna – the quantity of the bulk pharmaceutical chemical reached several tens of kilos already produced at PolyPeptide Group.

The cooperation between basic research (IOCB) and Industry continued through all of Zaoral's professional life. He always stuck to his credo that scientific results should have at the same time also some practical impact.

Many interesting analogues of oxytocin, vasopressin, endorphins and glycopeptides influencing immune system, were further prepared under his leadership by his PhD students. At Rockefeller University he worked together with Prof. Bruce Merrifield (Nobel price laureate) and he brought to IOCB the fresh ideas of the new methodology – solid phase peptide synthesis. In his Czech laboratory this

method, even during its early days, led to the successful synthesis of many peptides. Later he helped to introduce the solid phase peptide synthesis to industrial praxis.

Discovery of Desmopressin was highly appreciated by WHO. This organization put this vasopressin analogue among the 15 most significant drugs produced during the last century.

Dr. Zaoral published more than 150 scientific papers and patents and was awarded two state prizes for excellent research of the peptide hormones (in the years 1956 and 1981) and in 1986 he also received Heyrovsky gold medal for the outstanding contribution to the development in chemical sciences.

All Czech peptide researchers of older generation will remember him very well, the younger ones already only from narration. No doubt the chemistry is the poorer for his death.

Contributed by Martin Flegel and Jiřina Slaninová

Society News

New Members in the EPS Executive Committee

Professor Ferenc Hudecz, President

Ferenc Hudecz has a Chair of Organic Chemistry at the Eötvös Loránd University and Head of the Research Group of Peptide Chemistry, Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He studied Chemistry at Eötvös L. University (1972–77) and obtained a Ph.D. (1980) in Bioorganic Chemistry. He received his D.Sc. (1993) and recently became corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (2010). Working at the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Prague he carried out fundamental CD measurements for the conformation analysis of branched chain polypeptides (1978–82). As visiting Professor at the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia (1983/84) worked on the development of subunit/synthetic vaccine against HCMV and HSV. Between 1988 and 1994 he spent 20 months at the Cancer Research Campaign Laboratories (University of Nottingham) working on monoclonal antibody based drug-targeting and epitope analysis of mucins. He has been Visiting Professor at the Kumamoto University, Japan (1992), at the Institute of Protein Research, Osaka University, Japan (1999/2000) and at University of Konstanz, Germany (2001, 2004). He was acting as Chairman of the



Professor Ferenc Hudecz

Programme Committee, TEMPUS Joint European Project (JEP 2113) on “Modern Approaches in Biomedical Sciences” (1991–1994), and of the COST Chemistry D13 Working Group entitled “Peptide based synthetic antigens for vaccine development” (2000–2004) Dr Hudecz was the Secretary of the Organising Committee of the 25th European Peptide Symposium (Budapest, 1998). He has been elected as the Secretary (2000–2008) and as President (2010) of the European Peptide Society. Dr Hudecz is acting as associate editor for

Bioconjugate Chemistry (2007–), and as board member for Current Drug Delivery (2002–), Journal of Peptide Science (2001–). To date he has published over 150 research papers and has collaborative research links with colleagues in the UK, Spain, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Greece and USA.

Professor Solange Lavielle, Scientific Affairs Officer

Solange LAVIELLE graduated as an engineer in chemistry (ENSCT). She defended her PhD on the total synthesis of biotin at the UPMC-Paris06 under the supervision of Pr. Andrée MARQUET.



Professor Solange Lavielle

After one year post-doctoral studies on the regulation of the mesocortical dopaminergic pathway in Pr. Jacques GLOWINSKI, (Laboratoire de Neuropharmacologie, Collège de France), she spent two years as a post-doctoral fellow working on the synthesis of glycosylated somatostatin analogs, in the Laboratories of Neuroendocrinology (Salk Institute, La Jolla) directed by Pr. Roger GUILLEMIN. Appointed at the CNRS as Chargée de recherches in 1980, then later as Directrice de recherches, (UPMC-Paris06 in Pr. A. MARQUET's laboratory), she started with Dr. Gérard CHASSAING to work on peptides and especially on tachykinins, in collaboration with Pr. Jacques GLOWINSKI's laboratory. She resigned from CNRS to be appointed as a Professor of chemistry at the UPMC-Paris06 and two years later took the direction of the laboratory (UMR 7613, UPMC-CNRS, 1999–2008). Since January 2009 she is the director of the UMR 7203, "Laboratoire des BioMolécules", associated with the UPMC – CNRS and ENS. <http://www.chimie.ens.fr/LBM/>

Professor Anna Maria Papini, Treasurer

Anna Maria Papini, Professor of Bioorganic Chemistry, obtained her PhD in Chemical Sciences developing a multidisciplinary project based on peptide



Professor Anna Maria Papini

sciences following an international research pathway (University of Sherbrooke; Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried; University of Florence) under the supervision of Prof. Luis Moroder. In 1995 she started the Peptide Chemistry Laboratory at the University of Florence with the research addressing both improvements and developments of synthetic methodologies and the design of peptide neoantigens for the discovery of specific autoantibodies as biomarkers of immune-

mediated diseases. With her newly developed "Chemical Reverse Approach" she succeeded in using particular post-translationally modified synthetic peptides (i.e. glycopeptides, lipopeptides, etc.) to detect and monitor immune biomarkers as diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic tools. These scientific achievements have been recognized in 2008 by the peptide research community with the 1st D. Theodoropoulos Award and the Zervas Lecture Award. Since 2004 she launched together with the Organic Chemist Mario Chelli, the Medicinal Chemist Paolo Rovero and the Neurologist Francesco Lolli the multidisciplinary Laboratory of Peptide & Protein Chemistry & Biology (www.unifi.it/peptlab) at the University of Florence aimed to translational research. The expertise gained in basic research led her in 2003 to found EspiKem (www.espikem.com) as the first spin-off of the University of Firenze for the synthesis of post-translationally modified peptide, peptidomimetic and protein antigens, and in 2006 to establish Toscana Biomarkers (www.toscanabio markers.com, incubated by the Toscana Life Sciences Foundation) as an R&D Biotech company for the development of innovative immunoassays based on synthetic neoantigens to detect biomarkers in autoimmune diseases. This scientific & technology transfer activity



From left to right: A.M. Papini, P. Cordopatis, F. Hudecz, A. Eberle, S. Lavielle

was honoured by multiple awards among which in 2008 by the Frost & Sullivan Excellence in Research Award in the European autoimmune disease diagnostics market. Most recently she has been appointed by the French Agence Nationale de la Recherche “Chaire d’Excellence” for the period 2009–2013

to associate PeptLab and the Laboratoire de Synthèse Organique Sélective et Chimie BiOrganique (SOSCO, www.u-cergy.fr/sosco) at the University of Cergy-Pontoise (France). Presently she is strongly involved in the organisation of a network of European Centre of Excellences of Molecular Diagnostics for Life Sciences.

New members in the Scientific Affairs SubCommittee

Professors Lars Baltzer (Sweden) and Norbert Sewald (Germany) accepted the invitation of the Executive Committee to be members of the Scientific Affairs SubCommittee of EPS.

Prof. Solange Lavielle, Chair of the Committee congratulated David Andreu and Jiřina Slaninová for the work they have done during their terms for the Society and all the members of our community by promoting research and science in peptides field and along with Dr. Wim Schaaper (the Netherlands) and Prof. Dirk Tourwe (Belgium), welcomed the new members in the Committee.

The EPS Website

During 2010 the major challenge was to unify the login procedure to the website, by merging the already registered site members with the EPS members archives. The task was difficult and time consuming because the Secretary had to rebuild with the help of National Representatives the EPS members archive and the Wiley tech. staff to implement all changes.

We all tried to give the maximum publicity to the re-registration procedure (through the site and the Newsletter) and I think that Alex Eberle in collaboration with Martin Rothlisberger and James Weeks have made an enormous effort to this end.

At the Copenhagen Council Meeting I had the opportunity to present some ideas for things to be changed in the near future, especially now that we have the ability to differentiate the access privileges for visitors and EPS members, and most important I had the necessary feedback from actual website users concerning things to be changed and new sections to be added.

But I would like to emphasize that apart from any future changes to the site's functionality, the key issue is the flow of News presented to the Visitor that is the most important; News concerning Events to be organized, Job opportunities for young researchers, Reports on concluded

events, Social activities, etc.

Our aim is to make the site a meeting point for people in the peptide field and to this end we need the collaboration of all EPS members and 'New to be' EPS members.

Visit www.eurpepsoc.com today and register to receive your username and password, if you haven't done already. All logged in EPS members can now access the *Journal of Peptide Science* for free, and more is to come in the near future.

Contributed by George Pairas

A Donation to EPS

Prof. T. Høeg-Jensen, on behalf of the 31 EPS, donated 9000 euro to the European Peptide Society. The money can be used for any educational or scientific purpose in EPS context. Prof. F. Hudecz, on behalf of the EPS-Council including all past and present members of the Executive Committee, acknowledged with appreciation the generous gift, and even more the gesture, which will be used in a best manner to help new generations of peptide scientists.

Council Meeting

University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Life Sciences, 6 September 2010

- The meeting commenced by the Chairman welcoming present (until the end of this EPS) and future (from the end of this EPS) members of the Council. By invitation the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Peptide Science and the Webmaster of the website from EPS also attended the Council meeting and were welcomed by the Chairman.
- With the strong support of the Executive Committee, Prof. J. Martinez asked the co-option of Prof. D. Tourwe, as new member of the Council, of Prof. F. Hudecz and Prof. A. M. Papini as new members of the Council and as new members of the Executive Committee and nominated Prof. F. Hudecz as new Chairman, Prof. S. Lavielle as new Officer responsible for Scientific Affairs and Prof. A. M. Papini, as new Treasurer of the Society. The Council unanimously accepted these proposals.

Prof. J. Martinez thanked the Council and members of the Executive Committee for the joyful collaboration during the last eight years.

Prof. F. Hudecz, as new President of the Society from the end of this Symposium, expressed his sincere thanks for his election to the Executive Committee and for the full support of the members of Council. Prof. Hudecz expressed his high appreciation for the work of the retiring Executive Committee Officers, Prof. J. Martinez, Prof. E. Benedetti and Prof. D. Andreu and for the achievements of Prof. J. Martinez for the dedicated service over the past eight years.

- The Secretary, in his written report, indicated that the election of new national representatives of 18 member countries was principally successful although the

participation at the election was not overwhelming in some countries (a total of 176 in all 18 member countries for a total of 18 new Council members). The following new Council members were elected: *Austria*: Dr. Christian Gruber; *Bulgaria*: Prof. Ivanka Stoineva; *Croatia*: Dr. Andreja Jakas; *Czech Republic*: Dr. Vaclav Cerovsky; *Finland*: Dr. Ale Närvänen; *Greece*: Prof. Maria Sakarellos-Daitsiotis; *Ireland*: Dr. Chandralal Hewage; *Israel*: Prof. Assaf Friedler; *Italy*: Dr. Paolo Rovero; *Norway*: Dr. Bengt Erik Haug; *Poland*: Prof. Zbigniew Szewczuk; *Portugal*: Prof. Miguel Castanho; *Slovenia*: Dr. Nina Kocevar Glavac; *Spain*: Dr. Meritxell Teixido; *Sweden*: Prof. Lars Baltzer; *Switzerland*: Prof. Helma Wennemers; *The Netherlands*: Dr. Dirk Rijkers; *United Kingdom*: Prof. John Howl.

- The Secretary reported that despite all efforts from the side of the Executive Committee, the membership list could not be updated completely owing to lack of response of part of the members. Provisionally, the present membership count of the EPS is 1291 and the Society has 82 temporary members. The Council members are kindly asked to complete the update for their countries, including email addresses, by April 30, 2011. The Council members may write to Dr. Gabriele Mild (G.Mild@unibas.ch) and ask her for the latest country list. Based on these, the national representatives will make the update and send the updated list to the Secretary as soon as possible.
- The Treasurer reported that a final copy had now been signed by the Chairman and Treasurer and was the same as the copies circulated to all Council Members. During the discussion it was indicated that the loss for the year 2009 is mostly due to the fact that in even years the Society benefits from the transfer of the organizers of the biannual

symposium. The Council noted that sponsorship keeps declining. Its level is certainly not satisfactory. Council Members were urged to do anything they can to help with stimulating sponsorship.

- Prof. D. Andreu acknowledges the valuable cooperation of the four Scientific Affairs Sub-Committee members (Profs. S. Lavielle, J. Slaninová, D. Tourwé, Dr. W. Schaaper) in screening requests for EPS sponsorship of small meetings and in reviewing nominations for the Rudinger and Zervas Awards.

The following meetings in 2009/2010 have received EPS support:

- 9th Meeting on Biologically Active Peptides; Prague (CZ), April 2009
- MAOPS (Microwave-Assisted Organic and Peptide Synthesis); La Grande Motte (FR), June 2009
- Antibiotic Peptide Meeting, Saint Malô (FR), June 2009
- 20th Polish Peptide Symposium, Wladyslawowo (PL), September 2009
- 12th Iberian Peptide Meeting, Lisbon (P), February 2010
- 12th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides, Naples (I), June 2010
- Joint Australia-Croatia Workshop on Antimicrobial Peptides, Split (HR), August 2010

The Council acknowledged that a new member need to be invited as Prof. D. Andreu is going to retire and Prof. S. Lavielle will lead the group from now. The Council asked the Executive Committee to take care of this issue.

- The Council accepted the report submitted in writing by the

Newsletter Editor. The Editor would welcome more information about activities from Council Members in the form of news items or conference reports.

- Prof. L. Moroder is sensing extreme competition for our own *Journal of Peptide Science* as well as for the sister journal *Biopolymers-Peptide Science*. Since 2008, a series of new developments have taken place for the JPS in the hope to make the Journal more attractive. The review process has been accelerated by reducing the review time to three weeks. A new type of articles, the Protocols, has been introduced and also the “Best Paper Award of JPS” was announced. The 5-year impact factor registered raised from 1.753 to 1.872.
- Prof. A. Närvänen reported that the Proceedings of EPS-30 is now available in printed form by ordering and in electronic form by downloading also from the EPS website. Members of the Council expressed their concerns about the delay and permanent changes of the text of the manuscript. Prof. Thomas Høeg-Jensen reported shortly that the deadline for manuscript submission (EPS-31) will be by the end of September.

After accepting the proposal from Prof. P. Cordopatis, the Council appointed Prof. G. Kokotos as the chairman of the EPS-32. Based on the discussion at the Council meeting a modified agreement between EPS and the Chairman of the EPS-32 in Greece will be sent for signature. This should contain a reference to the agreement between EPS and ESCOM Foundation, and a list of duties of consultation with the EC on Society-related events (positioning our three meetings, award ceremony, opening and closing). This contract will also apply to all coming EPS meetings. A letter

should also be sent to Prof. G. Kokotos about the decision of the Council and expressing the fact that he has the right to involve co-chairs, honorary chairman etc. However, the Society considers only him as official partner to organize the EPS-32. It is recommended by the council to include either in the organizing committee, or in the scientific committee, or in both of them, the colleagues who were candidates to chair EPS-32, namely Profs. M. Sakarellos, G. Matsoukas, K. Barlos.

The representative of Bulgaria, Prof. L. Vezekov confirmed his willingness to organise the EPS-33. Also offers and proposals were made by Germany and Ireland. Prof. L. Vezekov presented a document on the possible venue of EPS-33. Prof. A. Beck-Sickinger presented the proposal to have the Symposium in Leipzig. After intense discussion the representative of Ireland withdraw his proposal concerning the organisation of EPS-33 in 2014. The President of the EPS, Prof. J. Martinez asked several times if there was a possibility of agreement between Bulgaria and Germany for the organization of the EPS-33 and eventually EPS-34. With no answer, the President proposed to the members of the council to vote. After voting the members of the Council decided the acceptance of Bulgaria as organizer of the 33rd European Peptide Symposium in 2014. Considering the discussion at the Council meeting it was concluded, that the relevant part of the EPS Statutes and By-laws including the responsibilities of the organizers have to be revised. Decision on the venue of EPS-34 will be made in Athens. Offers were made by Germany and Ireland. Discussion needs to be initiated by the Executive Committee to revise guidelines on the selection procedure.

- The Council accepted the report submitted in writing by the Webmaster Dr. G. Pairas. The Webmaster was encouraged to further develop close collaboration with Wiley on the database and accessibility issues related to the website. Views were expressed to look for alternative solution if these ties are not working sufficiently for the members of the Society. Members of the Council supported suggested changes in the website www.pepsoc.com architecture and content. The report from Martin Röthlisberger, Publishing Editor for *Journal of Peptide Science*, was also acknowledged.
- The Council appreciated very much that PolyPeptide Laboratories and Bachem AG have continued their sponsorship of the Rudinger and Zervas Awards until now, respectively. However, negotiation needs to be initiated to identify sponsor for the Zervas award since Bachem AG indicated its willingness to terminate the sponsorship. Prof. D. Andreu asked the members of the Council to nominate colleagues at any time from now on by sending proposal(s) to the Scientific Subcommittee. As in the past, the Secretary will ask for nominations at least six months before the next Symposium.
 - The idea to involve new sponsors mainly for Travel grant purposes was welcomed.
 - The support of ESCOM Science Foundation to provide sponsorship for two Best Oral Presentation Awards (2 x 1000 USD), two Best Poster Presentation Awards (2 x 500 USD) and Young Scientists Networking Lunch/Mixer for at least 75 young scientists together with minimum 25 international Senior Scientists from academia and/or corporate research including 5 EPS representatives of the EPS (2000 USD). These Awards will be provided for young scientists preferably under

25 years for the next 5 EPS Symposia from 2010 – 2018. Unfortunately the event of Young Scientists Networking Lunch/Mixer was not organized during the 31st EPS.

- Discussion was initiated on the introduction of the membership fee during the Council meeting and views were collected. It was agreed that members of the Council should express their views in relation to the membership fee and also on the service to be provided to the members as compensation for paying the fee. Proposals should be sent by the end of this year to the secretary of the EPS. Prof. J. Martinez proposed to the EC to discuss this further during the next session.

Condensed by the Editor from the Minutes provided by Ferenc Hudecz who acted as Secretary in the Council Meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting

**Bella Center, Copenhagen,
8 September 2010**

- The President welcomes the EC members and the representative of the organizer of the 31st EPS Symposium and thanks the host, Thomas Høeg-Jensen for his hospitality.
- The minutes of the EPS EC Meeting (Napoli, 6 June 2010) are accepted without modification and ready for signature by the President.
- After accepting the proposal from Paul Cordopatis, the Council appointed Prof. G. Kokotos as the chairman of the 32nd EPS. JM asked the Secretary to prepare a modified agreement between EPS and the Chairman of the 32nd EPS in Greece. This should contain a reference to the agreement between EPS and ESCOM Foundation, guidance (duties) of consultation with the EC on Society-related events (positioning our three meetings, award ceremony, opening and closing). This document has to be sent out by the Secretary urgently for signature. A letter should also be sent to Prof. G. Kokotos about the decision of the Council and expressing the fact that he has the right to involve co-chairs, honorary chairman etc. However, the Society considers only him as official partner to organize the 32nd EPS. The EC recalled the recommendation of the council to include either in the organizing committee, or in the scientific committee, or in both of them, the colleagues who were candidates to chair EPS-32, namely Profs. M. Sakarellos, G. Matsoukas, K. Barlos.
- Concerning the transition of the responsibilities of the Treasurer it was agreed that Prof. Ettore Benedetti will hold the duties until 31st December in related activities and also for completing the audit procedure for 2010. Prof. Anna Maria Papini as elected Treasurer will work together with

EB to arrange a smooth transition of the accounts etc. but her official duties will be initiated from 1 January, 2011.

In addition Prof. Benedetti will help Prof. AM Papini in attracting sponsors and sending out letters of invitation as it was done in the past.

It was agreed that by the closing of the finance-related affairs with Prof. T. Høeg-Jensen and the Danish organizers of the 31st EPS, Prof. Ettore Benedetti will be in close contact with Prof. T. Hoeg-Jensen, who will send the figures and the balance and make the necessary transfer before December, 2010.

- Prof. David Andreu offered all his assistance to the newly elected Scientific Affairs Officer. It was suggested to jointly review the ongoing requests for small meeting support, the composition of the sub-committee etc.
- *Membership fee*: it was raised during the Council meeting and views were collected. Prof. Jean Martinez proposed to the EC to discuss this further during the next session. In case a membership fee would be decided by the next EPS EC, Prof. Martinez proposed the possibility to collect this fee by increasing the symposium registration fee by the corresponding amount (the Society will collect the fee of those members attending the meeting every two years), in order to save bank charges.
- *Member database*: after the discussion at the Council meeting the EC expressed its appreciation to Prof. Alex Eberle for the work already done and asked him to complete the procedure. The involvement of additional sources seems to be adequate, but it should be decided by the new EC.

- *Website*: close collaboration between Prof. George Pairas, Wiley and the Secretary and also the National Representatives is needed for further development of the website. The EC asked Prof. G. Pairas to make the necessary changes on the website concerning changes in the Council and EC under the guidance of the Secretary.
- After consulting with members of the newly elected members of the Executive Committee, the next meeting will be held in Budapest, 12–14 November, 2010.
- Prof. Jean Martinez on behalf of the Executive Committee wishes all the best for the incoming Committee members and offers all the help needed in the future.

Condensed by the Editor from the Minutes provided by Ferenc Hudecz who acted as Secretary in the Executive Committee Meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting

Naples, 6 June 2010

- The president welcomes the EC members and Prof. Ferenc Hudecz and thanks the host, Prof. Ettore Benedetti, for his and the University's hospitality.
- The minutes of the EPS EC Meeting (Budapest, 19 June 2009) are accepted without modification and signed by the president. The secretary will sign the document later.
- A written report provided by the Secretary was submitted. The EC acknowledged the efficient and dedicated work of the Secretary and approved the report. It was noted that all retiring as well as new members of the Council have to be invited to attend the Council meeting in Copenhagen. Certificates for service will be given to retiring members. Prof. F. Hudecz will produce these diplomas to follow the previous format and provide to the Secretary. The following new members of the EPS Council were elected:

Austria	Dr. Christian Gruber
Bulgaria	Prof. Ivanka Stoineva
Croatia	Dr. Andreja Jakas
Czech Republic	Dr. Vaclav Cerovsky
Finland	Dr. Ale Närvänen
Greece	Prof. Maria Sakarellos-Daitsiotis
Ireland	Dr. Chandralal Hewage
Israel	Prof. Assaf Friedler
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Spain	Dr. Meritxell Teixido
Sweden	Prof. Lars Baltzer
Switzerland	Prof. Helma Wennemers

The Netherlands Dr. Dirk Rijkers
 United Kingdom Prof. John Howl

The interest of EPS members in sending their votes was – in some countries – marginal (e.g. from Norway we had just 2 votes, from Slovenia 4 votes, from Spain, Sweden and Croatia 5 votes, from Austria and Finland 6 votes, from Ireland 7 votes, from Switzerland, Italy and Poland 8 votes, from Portugal 9 votes, from the UK 11 votes, from Bulgaria 16 votes, from the Netherlands 17 votes, from the Czech Republic 25 votes, from Greece 31 votes. Thus, the total of 18 new members of the Council were elected by a total of 173 votes.

- The EC discussed the composition of the Executive Committee for the period 2011–2012 in order to make a clear proposal to the Council in September. After consulting with members of the EC it was proposed by Prof. Jean Martinez that Prof. F. Hudecz should be presented for nomination as a new president of the Council. Prof. J. Martinez reported that Prof. F. Hudecz accepted the nomination with pleasure. It was agreed by the members of the EC that Prof. Anna Maria Papini (Italy) should be consulted as a potential candidate as treasurer, and Prof. E. Benedetti was asked to contact her. Similarly Prof. David Andreu was invited to discuss the potential nomination of Prof. Solange Lavielle (France) as the next chair of the Scientific Subcommittee of EPS. In this context, in a letter addressed to the EC, Prof. Alex Eberle raised the issue of the position of the secretary. His work load in the Rectorate in Basel is enormous so that he can spend only little time for EPS matters. The EC discussed the content of the letter and agreed that it would be highly important to have Prof. Eberle as secretary for at least the coming year. Simultaneous change of four members of the EC would not

serve the Society. However, by understanding the difficulties mentioned, consultation will be initiated and Prof. Martinez was asked to discuss possibilities concerning the invitation of the future secretary. Based on consultation mentioned above Prof. J. Martinez will ask the co-option of those who are not member of the new Council.

- The treasurer presented his report on the accounts for the year 2009. The auditors' report is accepted; the Accounts and the Supplementary Notes were signed by the president and the treasurer. The sponsor situation is documented by the treasurer. The EC reviewed the situation of the Sponsors. The EC acknowledged the effort of Prof. E. Benedetti to attract more sponsors. In spite of the financial crisis, two new sponsors were attracted in 2009. The budget for 2010 is presented by the treasurer and after detailed discussion it was slightly modified and accepted by the EC. It was also discussed and agreed that for the smooth transition of the responsibilities of the treasurer, Prof. E. Benedetti will be responsible for all reports, transactions etc for the year 2010 and the new treasurer will take the full responsibility for the 2011 fiscal year from 1 January, 2011.
- A detailed report about the EPS website should be provided by the webeditor Prof. George Pairas for the EC meeting to be held in Copenhagen. The observation by the Secretary is that the website has been improved on several aspects. Membership registration through the website was difficult for various persons who complained at the secretary's office. Wiley was not in the position to install a button for registration of new members and re-registration of existing members. Thus, technically our offer to EPS members to

cycle through a re-registration was not ideal; on the other hand, EPS members did not care to much (in their majority) to update their coordinates.

It was discussed and agreed by the member of EC, that new EPS members should register solely through the website. It was also concluded that all officially registered EPS members should get discount when registering for the 32nd EPS in Athens and also for EPS sponsored meeting. The matter concerning the membership should be verified by the secretary. It was also suggested to discuss this situation during the Council meeting.

- *31st EPS in Denmark (2010):* a) Award ceremony: The Secretary is responsible to provide diplomas for the two Awards and the medal for the Rudinger Award. (Text for the diplomas will be sent by Prof. F. Hudecz. The names of the awardees will be provided by Prof. D. Andreu after voting. The session will be chaired by the President of EPS (Prof. J. Martinez) and one of the Organisers. b) Council meeting: The Secretary of EPS is responsible to invite the retiring as well as the new members of the Council and to compose the agenda. The session will be chaired by the President of EPS. The venue and the dinner related to the meeting will be provided by the organisers of 31st EPS. c) Executive Committee meeting: The Secretary of EPS is responsible to invite the retiring as well as the new members of the EC and to compose the agenda. The session will be chaired by the President of EPS. The venue and the lunch related to the meeting will be provided by the organisers of 31st EPS. d) Int. Liaison Committee meeting: The Secretary of EPS is responsible to invite the members of the ILC and to compose the agenda. The session will be chaired by the President of EPS. The venue and the lunch related to the meeting will be provided by the organisers of 31st EPS.

- *32nd EPS in Greece (2012)*: Prof. J. Martinez reports about the potential changes in the Presidency of the 32nd EPS in Greece in 2012. It was confirmed that the Symposium will take place as planned. The contract will be signed by the end of 2010.
- The representative of Bulgaria, Prof. Vezekov indicated his willingness to organise the EPS-33. Also offers were made by Germany and Ireland. Discussion needs to be initiated by the Executive Committee to revise guidelines on the selection procedure. No further proposals were made. Based on these a proposal will be developed by the Executive Committee for further consultation. Decision on the venue of EPS-33 will be made in Copenhagen.
- For the 2010 *Josef Rudinger Memorial Lecture*, three nominations were presented: Profs. V. Ivanov (Russia), S. Kent (USA) and Y. Kiso (Japan). The Scientific Affairs Subcommittee will discuss the nomination and Prof. D. Andreu will organize the voting on behalf of the secretary.
- For the 2010 *Leonidas Zervas Award*, two nominations (Prof. W. Lubell (Canada) and Prof. H. Wennemers (Switzerland)) were received. The Scientific Affairs Subcommittee will discuss the nomination and Prof. Andreu will organize the voting on behalf of the secretary.

Condensed by the Editor from the Minutes provided by Ferenc Hudecz who acted as Secretary in the Executive Committee Meeting.

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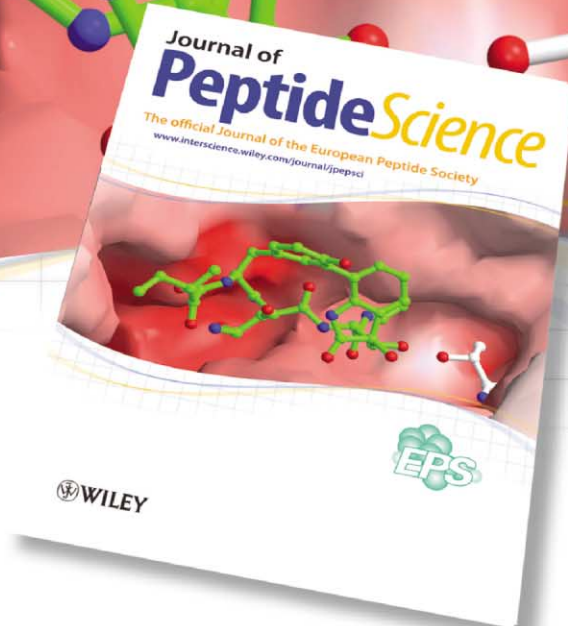
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www.biobio.org/peptide/symp2011.htm

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Berlin, Germany

3–10 March, 2011

Website: www.biochemie.tu-berlin.de/10th-gps/

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Charles Darwin House, Central London, United Kingdom

15–16 March, 2011

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Prague, Czech Republic

27–29 April, 2011

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27–29 April, 2011

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Shanghai University, China

5–7 May, 2011

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4th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CHEMISTRY FOR LIFE SCIENCES (4ECCLS)

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Website: www.mke.org.hu/conferences/4ECCLS/registration

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Athens, Greece, 2012

33rd EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

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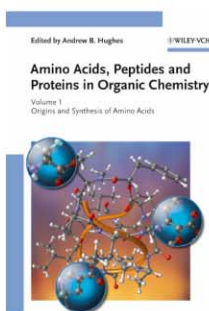
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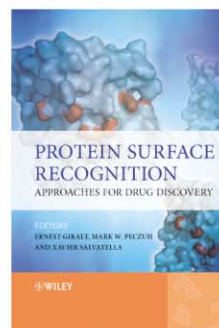
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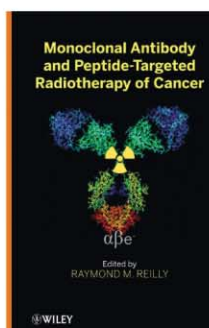
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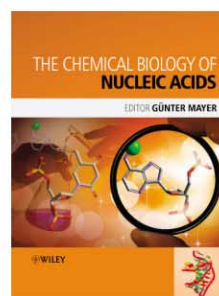
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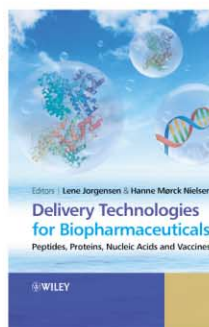
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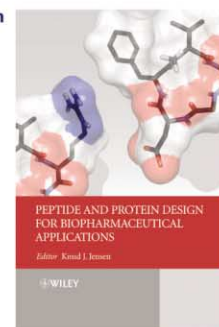
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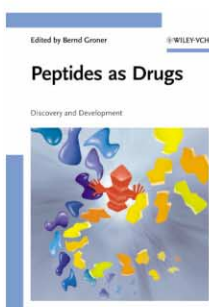


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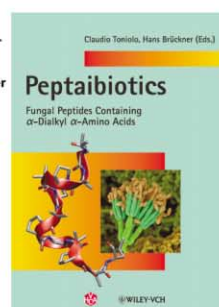
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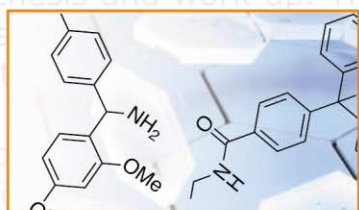
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