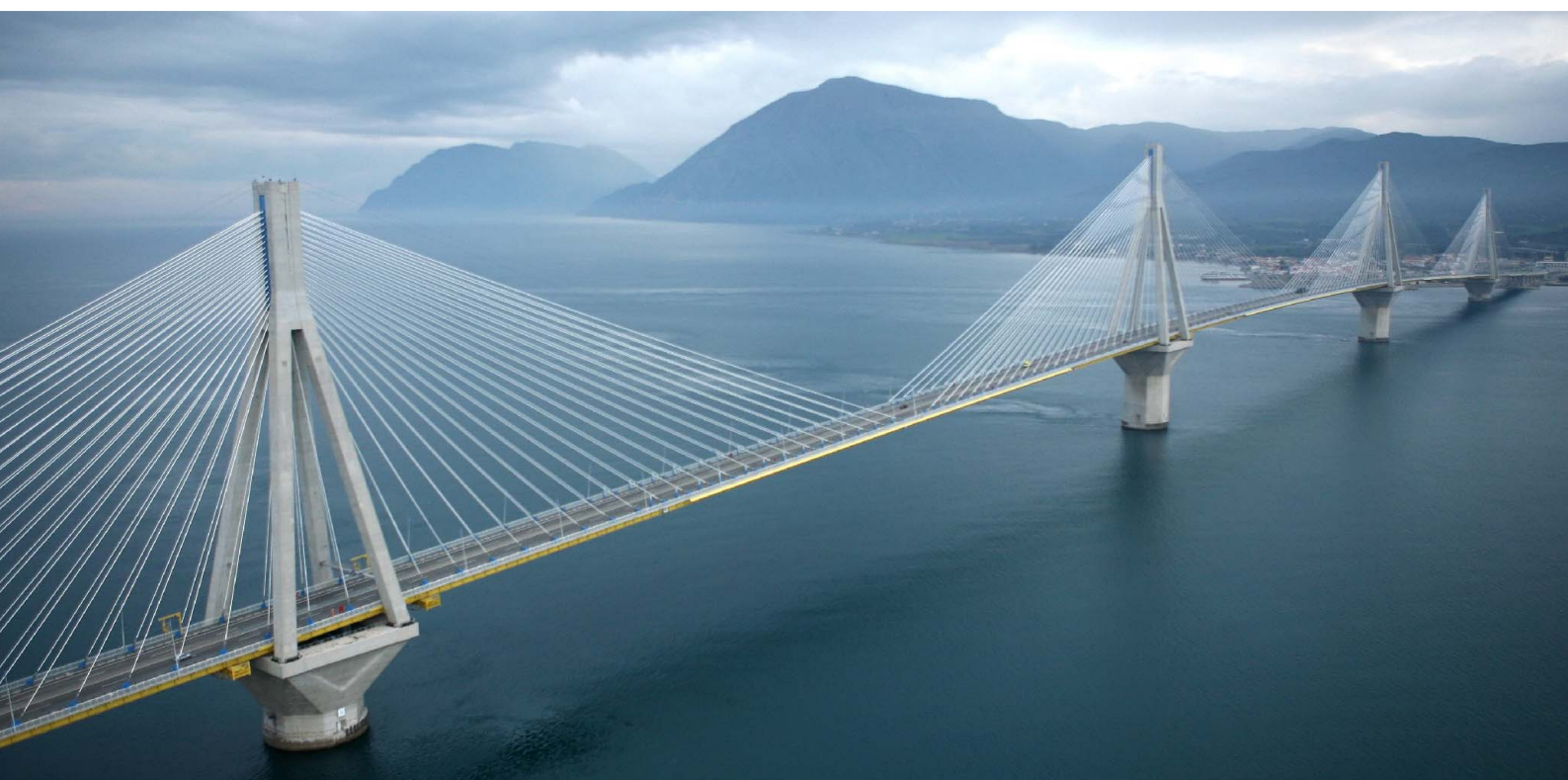
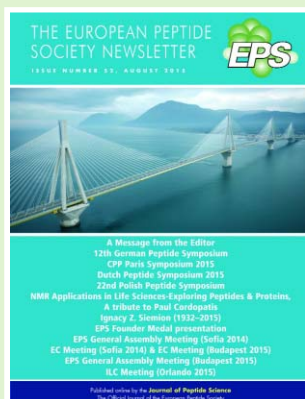


THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 52, AUGUST 2015



A Message from the Editor
12th German Peptide Symposium
CPP Paris Symposium 2015
Dutch Peptide Symposium 2015
22nd Polish Peptide Symposium
NMR Applications in Life Sciences-Exploring Peptides & Proteins,
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EC Meeting (Sofia 2014) & EC Meeting (Budapest 2015)
EPS General Assembly Meeting (Budapest 2015)
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Cover photo: Patras, Greece; the Charilaos Trikoupi Bridge connecting Rion with Antirion. A typical part of the University of Patras landscape from 2004. (Photo from Wikipedia).

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Professor Krzysztof Rolka
Faculty of Chemistry
University of Gdansk
PL-80398 Gdansk, Poland
Tel: + 48 58 5235088
Fax: + 48 58 5235012
E-mail : krzysztof.rolka@ug.edu.pl

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A Message from the Editor



Dear EPS Members, Dear Friends

It is my great honour to accept the EC nomination for the new Editor of the EPS Newsletter. A change of Editor, even though planned, came unexpectedly due to the death of the previous editor - Paul Cordopatis. I would like to take the opportunity to thank George N. Pairas, EPS Website Editor, for his support and technical assistance in the preparation of the previous and current issue of the Newsletter. Without his help, taking over the duties of the Editor in this transitional period would have been much more difficult.

Right from its inception, Newsletter has been a very important source of information on the activity of EPS. Firstly, it was delivered to the members of the Society via traditional mail, which later on was overtaken by the electronic mail, and since Issue 49, Newsletter has been available only in the pdf format at the EPS website. EPS Newsletter was started by John Jones, who was the editor of first twenty nine issues (Introductory Issue, February 1990 – Issue No 28, January 2003). He developed its layout and contributed to the writing (e.g. symposia reports and book reviews). Owing to the interesting content, Newsletter gained recognition also outside of EPS. Paul Cordopatis acted as Editor since Issue No 29. He maintained the editorial line of Newsletter. Over the years the formula of Newsletter has proven itself and the readers have got used to it, thus it will not be significantly changed. Nevertheless, I welcome all the suggestions that could make Newsletter more attractive. Both previous Editors did an excellent job and for this reason becoming Editor is not only an honour, but also a great challenge to maintain a high standard of Newsletter. Thanking for the trust, I declare that I will do my utmost to meet this challenge.

One of the most urgent tasks to complete in the near future is setting up a mailing list to send messages to all the EPS members (including messages informing about the release of new Newsletter issues). Unfortunately, the current EPS website settings do not allow for this possibility. As the work on this matter has already started, I hope that this communication channel will be launched soon.

In the near future there will be a change in EPS Website Editor as George Pairas will be replaced with Jaroslaw Ruczynski. Currently (in the transitional period) both our colleagues edit EPS Website and I am pleased to see a harmonious cooperation. I would like to thank J. Ruczynski for undertaking this task, and G. Pairas for his kindness and comprehensive technical assistance.

Krzysztof Rolka
EPS Communication Officer

CONFERENCE REPORT

12th German Peptide Symposium

Darmstadt, Germany 18–21 March 2015

The 12th German Peptide Symposium was held in Darmstadt on 18–21 March, 2015, hosted by the Technische Universität Darmstadt. Being held in alternate years, the forum took place in the scenery of the Art Nouveau City Darmstadt this spring, and brought together scientists working in the booming field of peptide-related research. The conference attracted more than 260 delegate registrations and joint representatives from ten countries all around the world, with approximately 70% representing the academy (university) sector and 30% – the industrial one.

The meeting covered all fields of peptide science ranging from synthetic and structural investigations to the

application of peptides and peptidomimetics in medicine, cell biology and material sciences. It provided the possibility for prominent scientists, world-leading experts and young researchers to discuss current results and evolve perspective plans. The symposium also helped to support collaboration within and between different schools as well as to encourage multi-disciplinary linkages. This was achieved not only through conference proceedings, but also through good attendance at social events including wine and beer tasting and conference dinner.

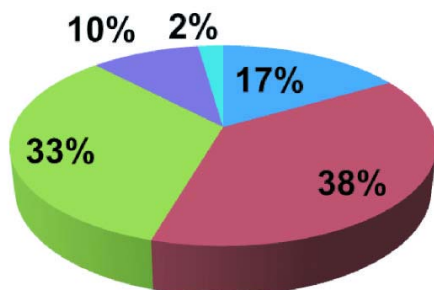
The highly topical conference program provided maximum opportunities for interaction and four-day continuous

networking between all participants. The scientific program included 48 lectures and 54 posters. 33 young investigators had the opportunity to present their research in short lectures. The plenary lectures of worldwide renowned scientists made an essential contribution to the symposium program, among them the talks given by Fernando Albericio (Barcelona), Robert Tampé (Frankfurt), David A. Leigh (Manchester), Ugur Sahin (Mainz), Peter E. Nielsen (Copenhagen), Jennifer R. Cochran (Stanford).

With his comprehensive lecture “Cyclic Peptides from the Nature to the Laboratory” Fernando Albericio, Editor of the *International Journal of Peptide Research and Therapeutics* and a

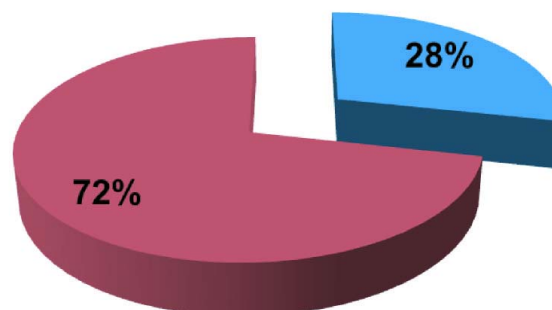
Academic Degree

Prof.	44	PhD.	100
Graduates	88	Undergraduates	26
Others	6		



Academia/Industry

Industry Academia



Councilor of the American Peptide Society, set the tone for the symposium from the start. In his diverting talk Robert Tampé presented the *in situ* assembly of macromolecular complexes by light. With his originality David A. Leigh explicated the idea of making the tiniest machines. The third day of the symposium started with the practice-oriented talk of Ugur Sahin explaining the way of peptide engineering for targeting the tumor microenvironment. With his stimulating lecture he opened a new session concerning peptides in medicine. The same day Peter E. Nielsen gave a plenary talk on the cell-penetrating peptides for cellular and *in vivo* delivery of PNA antisense agents. The last symposium session “Peptides for Biomedical Research” was opened by Jennifer R. Cochran with her fascinating lecture “Engineered Cystine-knot Peptides: A New Class of Tumor Targeting Agents”. In her talk she demonstrated the great potential of knottin peptides as clinical diagnostics, agents for disease staging, and image-guided surgical resection.

Along with the reputed researchers, the symposium was highlighted with the

comprehensive lectures of young scientists, among them Stefanie Dobitz (Zurich), Raheleh Rezaei Araghi (Cambridge, USA), Christian W. Gruber (Wien, Austria), Daniel Tietze and Sasha Knauer (both Darmstadt). Interesting insightful lectures were given by the participants from the industrial sector. Thus, talks of Christian Birr (Orpegen), Jonathan M. Collins (CEM), Stefan Eissler (Bachem) contributed to the applicative side of peptide research.

On the third conference day, a guided tour took place through the famous quarter *Mathildenhöhe*. Here the conference guests took a look at the landmark of Darmstadt, *der Hochzeitsturm* (The Wedding Tower) as well as a beautiful St. Mary Magdalene Church built in the Russian Revival style by the grandfather of Sir Peter Ustinov and associated with the tragic history of the last Russian Tsar.

The conference dinner took place at the Art Nouveau Otto-Berndt Halle. The



*Prof. Fernando Albericio, Keynote
Speaker of the Symposium*

charity performance of the local musical actors added charm to the atmosphere of the dinner night and appetized the rich buffet. The money raised by this performance the artists donated in aid of children with leukemia. Another highlight of the evening was the nomination of the three poster prize winners. Poster awards

were conferred to Stefanie Hackl (Vienna), Ulrike Reinhardt (Berlin) and Barbara E. Hubrich (Göttingen).

The tradition will be continued and the next German Peptide Symposium will be held in 2017 in Erlangen, organized by Prof. Jutta Eichler. Additionally, it is important to mention that Germany will

host another key event in peptide science: The 34th European Peptide Symposium comes in Leipzig in 2016!

Contributed by Harald Kolmar



Group photo of participants of 12th German Peptide Symposium

CONFERENCE REPORT

From Cell-Penetrating Peptides to Nanoparticles for Cellular Delivery (CPP Paris 2015)

Paris, France, 1–3 July 2015

The international symposium '*From Cell-Penetrating Peptides to Nanoparticles for Cellular Delivery*' (CPP Paris 2015) was held at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (UPMC) in Paris from the 1st to 3rd July 2015. The scientific committee included Fabienne Burlina (LBM, UPMC, Paris), Alain Joliot (Collège de France, Paris), Ulo Langel (Stockholm University) and Sandrine Sagan (LBM, UPMC, Paris). The aim of the meeting was to bring together young and established researchers interested in cellular delivery for a broad range of fundamental research and for diagnostic or therapeutic applications.

About 140 participants from 20 different countries (Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America) attended the meeting. Prof. A. Prochiantz (Collège de France, Paris), co-discoverer with Dr. G. Chassaing (LBM, UPMC, Paris) of the first cell-penetrating peptide named Penetratin, opened the meeting with a keynote lecture on homeodomain functions and their potential therapeutic use for Parkinson disease. The program included 13 other

keynote lectures given by the following invited speakers: Prof. B. Bechinger (Strasbourg University), Prof. R. Brock (Radboud University), Prof. M. C. Cardoso (Darmstadt University), Prof. P. Couvreur (University of Paris Sud), Prof. S. Dowdy (UCSD), Prof. S. Futaki (Kyoto University), Prof. A. Gräslund (Stockholm University), Dr. L. Johannes (Institut Curie, Paris), Prof. S. Jones (Wolverhampton University), Prof. A. T. Jones (Cardiff University), Prof. H. Mörrck Nielsen (Copenhagen University), Prof. M. Pooga (Tartu University) and Dr. M. De Waard (J. Fourier University, Grenoble). The program also involved 20 short talks (B. Alaybeyoglu, N. Ben-Dov, S. Bode, A. Chesnal, S. Deshayes, M. Di Pisa, J. M. Freire, C. Frochot, J. Hélie, H. Herce, P. Laakkonen, O. Lequin, M. Magzoub, I. Nakase, I. Neundorf, D. Pei, M. Planas, C. Policar, N. Rodriguez and A. Wittrup) and 46 posters that had been selected from numerous submitted abstracts.

The meeting program was interdisciplinary. It covered different aspects of cellular delivery using CPPs, toxins, functionalised nanoparticles (derived from silicon, lipids, peptides...) or exosomes as vectors for a wide range of bioactive cargoes (peptide, proteins, nucleic acids...). New data obtained from

biophysical or cell biology studies of the cellular uptake mechanisms were presented at the meeting and stimulated discussions among the attendees. The molecular dynamic simulation studies of the membrane direct translocation process also arouse particular interest. An important part of the meeting was also dedicated to the presentation of new generations of chemically modified CPPs. Innovative strategies to target cancer cells were presented with the use of homing peptides and the application of photodynamic therapy. At the end of the symposium, the award for the best talk by a young investigator was given to Dr. B. Alaybeyoglu (Bogazici University) who had presented her research on the design of inhibitors derived from antimicrobial peptides and to Dr. A. Wittrup (Lund University) who had given a communication about his studies on the cellular trafficking of lipid-formulated siRNAs.

The symposium 'CPP Paris 2015' proceeded in an informal but engaged atmosphere. The feedback by the attendees was very positive and all oral and poster presentations were found to be of very high quality and of major scientific interest. The meeting was a success thanks in particular to Eliane Moulinié (LBM, UPMC, Paris) who played a central

role in the organisation and logistics (assisted by S. Roussel, F. Méric and N. Perron) and made sure that conditions remained comfortable for all attendees despite the remarkably high temperature in Paris during these 3 days (up to 40°C). Other members of the Laboratoire des Biomolécules (LBM) also actively participated to the meeting organisation (K. Gherdi and F. Illien as well as M. Amoura, S. Cardon, S. Cribier, C. Lacombe, O. Lequin, N. Rodriguez, and A. Walrant).

Finally, the organisers would like to thank the European Peptide Society, The Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Sorbonne Universités, the Groupe Français des Peptides et Protéines, the CNRS and their sponsors BMG Labtech, CEM, CRB, CS Bio Co., Proteigene, Proteomic Solutions and Protein Technologies Inc. for their generous financial support.

*Contributed by Fabienne Burlina and
Sandrine Sagan*



Attendees of the meeting CPP Paris 2015, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France

CONFERENCE REPORT

Dutch Peptide Symposium

Nijmegen, The Netherlands 27th May 2015

On May 27th the annual Dutch Peptide Symposium was held at the Radboud University in Nijmegen. The event was attended by well over 110 participants not only from the Netherlands but also from Germany, Belgium and the UK. It was a great pleasure to see the latest developments in the diverse world of peptide chemistry as

presented by 13 speakers including two keynote lectures given by Drew Thomson from Bristol University (UK) and Norbert Seewald from Bielefeld University (Germany). Because of the kind support of sponsors, we were again able to keep the meeting free for all attendees including nice food and drinks. In addition a best poster prize was awarded

to Matthias De Vleeschouwer from Ghent University (Belgium). More impressions can be found at the website dutchpeptidesymposium.nl.

Contributed by Dennis Löwik



The 2015 Dutch Peptide Symposium Organizing Committee Dennis Löwik, Kim Bongers, Marieke Egbertzen and Pascal Welzen

CONFERENCE REPORT

22nd Polish Peptide Symposium

Kudowa, Zdroj, Poland 1–5 September 2013

The 22nd Polish Peptide Symposium was held in Kudowa Zdroj in Sudety Mountains at the hotel “Verde Montana” from Sunday, September 1st to Thursday, September 5th, 2013. A beautiful placed venue located in the center of Kudowa Zdroj hosted 166 registered participants mainly from Poland but also from other countries (Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Italy and Switzerland). The majority of participants were PhD students – such

high attendance by young investigators was possible thanks to the financial support which organizers received from European Peptide Society, platinum sponsor of the conference – Peptydy.pl and several other companies. The official language of the Symposium was English. The symposium was chaired by Rafal Latajka from Wroclaw University of Technology, however, many other people who were forming Organizing Committee were involved in this process.

During the four days, 40 lectures (within seven scientific sessions) and 100 posters (upon two poster's sessions) were presented. The opening lecture, entitled: “Cytotoxic peptide-drug conjugates based on cryptophycines” have been given by Prof. Norbert Sewald form Bielefeld University (Germany) Later on a number of stimulating and extremely interested lectures were given to the audience dealing with all aspects of peptide chemistry biology and analysis. There



The group photo of the participants of 22nd Polish Peptide Symposium



The Treasurer of EPS, Prof. Anna Maria Papini during her lecture

was also a poster competition sponsored by Bruker-Polska where all participants presenting their PhD research work were welcome to take part into it.

In addition to scientific program all the attendees had the opportunity to take part in very rich social part of the conference. On Tuesday the excursion to Bear Cave and Old Uranium Mine in Kletno were organized and after that in the afternoon the Barbecue had place. The Conference Banquet took place on Wednesday – the peptide scientists community had the opportunity to dance and integrate.

On Thursday, September 5th the closing ceremony was co-chaired by Beata Kolesinska and Rafa Latajka as organizer. Dr Latajka in short presentation thanks the Organizing and Scientific Committees for hard but successful work and announced that next 23rd Polish Peptide Symposium will be organized by Dr Beata Kolesinska from Łódź University of Technology. Next Dr Kolesinska invited all the participants to Spala near Łódź for 23rd PPS which will take place in September 2015.

Contributed by Rafa Latajka

CONFERENCE REPORT

NMR Applications in Life Sciences – Exploring Peptides & Proteins

A tribute to Paul Cordopatis

Patras, Greece, 18–20 June 2015

The Conference on *NMR Applications in Life Sciences* was held at the Conference and Cultural Center of the University of Patras on June 18–20, 2015. Patras was rather unusually green for the season and sudden summer storms surprised the participants, just to be immediately followed by sunshine. The conference was organized under the auspices of the FP7-REGPOT-2011-1 SEE-DRUG Project, the European Peptide Society and the University of Patras. SEE-DRUG is a FP7-funded project targeting to the upgrade of the Structural Biology, Functional Microscopy and Pharmacology capacities of the University of Patras and to the Establishment of a Center of Excellence for Structure-Based Drug Target characterization efforts in South-Eastern EU region.

The organizers (G.A. Spyroulias, E. Foustieris, F. Lamari, V. Magafa, N. Moschonas, S. Nikolaropoulos, G. Pairas, S. Topouzis, T. Tselios) were happy to welcome in Patras eminent scientists coming from various EU countries, USA and Greece. The theme of the conference was covered by a high number of oral (35) and poster (41) presentations. Prof. Kurt Wüthrich, Nobel Laureate, (ETH Zurich & The SCRIPPS Research Institute) opened the conference on the morning of June 18th with a keynote lecture on



Keynote Speaker of the Conference, Prof. Kurt Wüthrich, Nobel Laureate, (ETH Zurich & The SCRIPPS Research Institute), opens the Conference works.

“NMR in Structural Biology and Structural Genomics” followed by the presentation of Prof. Evangelos Moudrianakis (John Hopkins University) on the structural and thermodynamic journey from the double helix to the nucleosome.

The NMR community of EU has been effectively represented by a number of speakers presenting the latest advancements on the NMR techniques, methods and applications in structural biology. Prof. Harald Schwalbe (Frankfurt, DE) presented the structural characterization

of FGFR-ligand interaction by NMR spectroscopy, Prof. Frederick Allain (Zurich, CH), the structures of RNA-protein complexes in translation regulation. Prof. Claudio Luchinat and Prof. Isabella Felli, both from CERM (Florence, IT) gave lectures on joint/disjointed refinement of crystal/solution structures and on the study of highly flexible intrinsically disordered proteins near physiological conditions, respectively. Prof. Janez Plavec (Ljubljana, SI) presented his research findings on tetrahelical DNA structures and their

interactions. On the morning of Friday 19th June, Prof. Hartmut Oschkinat (Berlin, DE) gave a lecture on application of solid-state NMR on structural investigations on the ABC transporter ArtMP and the ribosome, and was followed by Prof. Rolf Boelens (Utrecht, NL) who illustrated the contribution of NMR in the study of the structure and dynamics in gene regulation and DNA repair. Prof. Michael Sattler (Munich, DE) gave an emphasis on molecular recognition, dynamics on RNA recognition proteins and drug design, Prof. Miquel Pons (Barcelona, ES) on electrostatics and antibiotic resistance, Dr. Manfred Spraul (Bruker Biospin, GmbH, DE) on clinical applications of NMR, Umit Akbey (Berlin, DE) on functional amyloids form bacterial biofilms, and Somer Bekiroglu (Gebze, TR) on sweet taste recognition.

The aspiration of the organizers was that this meeting could also promote the establishment of new collaboration links between Greek and foreign researchers thus, an equal number of Greek researchers, both established and in their first steps in NMR and structural biology research, from EU, USA and Greek academic Institutions participated and presented their research activities. The following themes were covered: NMR investigations of protein folding on the



Chairpersons of the “Paul Cordopatis Memorial Session” (left to right): Prof. David Andreu (Barcelona), Prof. Jean Martinez (Montpellier) and Prof. George Stavropoulos (Patras).

ribosome by Prof. John Christodoulou (London, UK), the extreme 4- α -helical bundles by Prof. Michael Kokkinidis (Heraklion, GR), the solid-state NMR and cryoEM study of supramolecular assemblies by Dr. Nikos Sgourakis (Santa Cruz, USA), the high resolution NMR study of asymmetric post translational modification patterns in nucleosomes by Dr. Stamatis Liokatis (Berlin, DE), an approach to protein NMR structure using only three spectra by Dr. Kostas Tripsianes (Brno, CZ), a method for the prediction of

important protein residues from tertiary structures by Dr. Aikaterini Roussaki (Heraklion, GR), the application of various structural biology methodologies to elucidate the role of cell membranes to severe malaria pathology by Giannis Vakonakis (Oxford, UK), the utilization of molecular biology techniques and high-resolution NMR to monitor the function of molecular chaperones by Babis Kalodimos (NJ, USA), the contribution of biomolecular NMR to the development of neurosteroidal agonists of nerve growth

factor receptors by Dr. Maria Zervou (Athens, GR), crystal structures of membrane modifying peptaibiotics by Prof. Kyriacos Petratos (Heraklion, GR) and the discovery of immunosuppressant agents targeting the calcineurin/NFAT pathway by Dr. Minos Matsoukas (Patras, GR). Many other young researchers presented their activities through poster presentations.

A special focus of the conference was peptide science due to the long tradition of peptide research in Greece and the wish to pay a tribute to the late Prof. Paul Cordopatis, a successful ambassador of the Greek peptide community and a dear colleague of the organizers. Two sessions were organized on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th June. The organizers were honored to host Prof. Ferenc Hudecz (Budapest, HU), Prof. David Andreu (Barcelona, ES) and Prof. Jean Martinez (Montpellier, FR), all eminent members of the European Peptide Community and friends of Paul Cordopatis, who presented their latest findings on peptide conjugates for drug/epitope targeting, cryptic AMP motifs in proteins and the nonapeptide Acein. Moreover, the distinguished Greek peptide scientists Prof. Ioannis Gerothanassis (Ioannina, GR), Prof. George Kokotos (Athens, GR) and Dr. Theodosia Maina (Athens, GR) joined by



The EPS President, Prof. Ferenc Hudecz, during his Official Address to the audience.

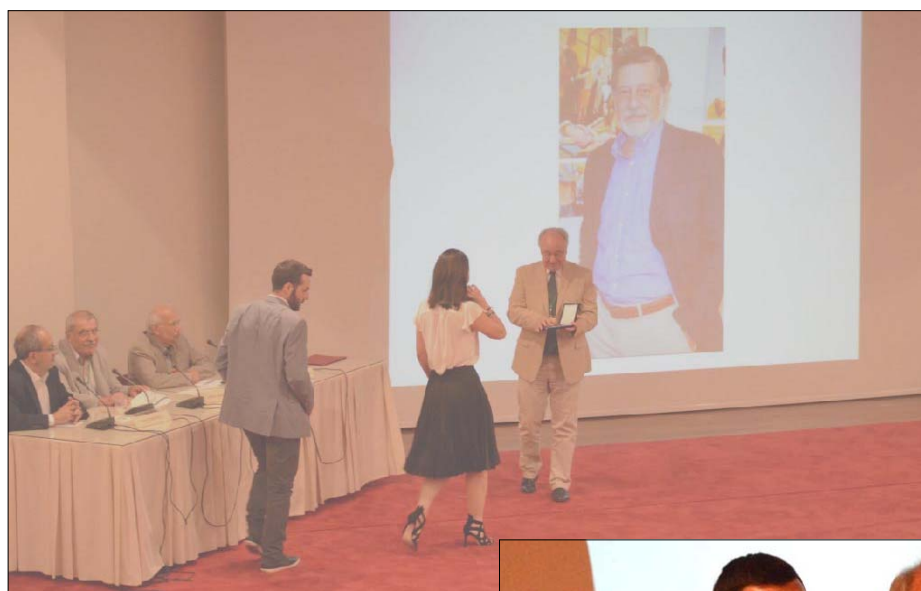
Dr. Georgios Skretas (Athens, GR) and the younger Ms. Golfo Kordopati, presented their latest findings on a number of subjects, i.e. ACE inhibitors, the development of agents targeting phospholipases A2, peptide radioligands for molecular imaging and therapy of cancer, the development of short cyclic peptides that rescue protein misfolding and a β -cyclodextrin peptide conjugate, respectively.

The last session of the Conference was the *Paul Cordopatis Memorial Session* chaired by Prof. David Andreu, Prof. Jean

Martinez and Prof. George Stavropoulos who all shared with the audience memories drawn from their long-term professional collaboration.

Prof. Ferenc Hudecz, the President of the European Peptide Society, addressed the Session by outlining Paul Cordopatis' dedicated service and contributions to the EPS through the various posts he held and concluded by presenting the "Pro European Society" medal to his family (daughter & son).

On behalf of the University of Patras and the Department of Pharmacy, Prof.



*Prof. Hudecz calls to the stage and presents the
“Pro European Society” medal, to Mariana and
Antonis Cordopatis.*

Sotirios Nikolaropoulos addressed the session with touching words. Prof. Alexis Lycourghiotis presented the early steps of Paul Cordopatis as a student in Patras and the decisive steps in his scientific career. Prof. Socrates Tzartos presented his view of Paul Cordopatis as a colleague in the Department of Pharmacy, whereas Prof. Christos Petrou portrayed Paul Cordopatis as a teacher and mentor. In the end a video with photos and music by Manos Hadjidakis brought tears to most people in the audience, and made even more difficult the giving of an award to the family and the closing of the Session and the Conference's works by the Chairman of the Conference Prof. George Spyroulias.

Despite the long and heavy program, the participants were invited, beside science, to enjoy dinner at a nearby traditional seaside village, Psathopyrgos, and at the nearby suburb of Kastello-kampos. We hope that this Patras meeting has been a successful forum for the communication of the latest trends in Structural Biology and Peptide Science and an important and decisive stimulus for future work in the area.

*Contributed by George Spyroulias,
George Pairas and Fotini Lamari*



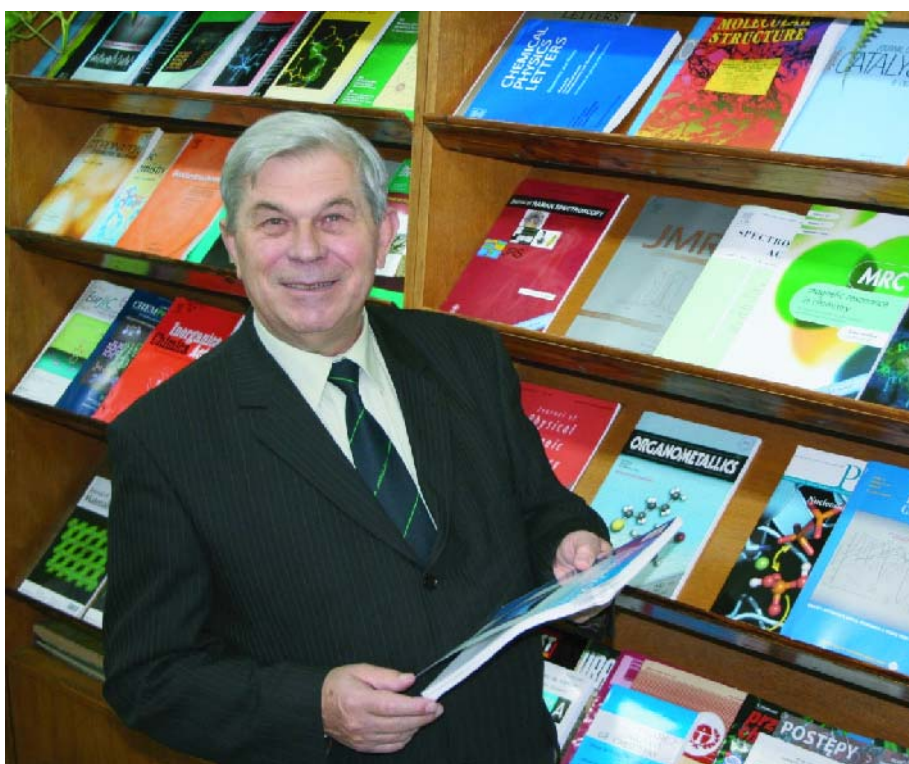
The Conference Chairman Prof. G. Spyroulias presenting a special award to the family during the closing of the Conference.

In Memoriam

Ignacy Z. Siemion (1932–2015)

Professor Ignacy Zenon Siemion passed away on April 18th, 2015, after a brief illness. He was Professor Emeritus at Faculty of Chemistry, University of Wrocław (Poland). Professor Siemion was a respected member of the scientific community for his contributions to peptide chemistry and history of chemistry. He was one of the founders of Polish Peptide Community.

Professor Ignacy Z. Siemion was born in 1932 in Krzczonów (Poland). He studied at the Chemistry Department of the Moscow University (former Soviet Union), earning the M.Sc. degree in 1955. He returned to Poland and started to work as an assistant at the Wrocław University (1955–1958) followed by a period at Medical Academy in Wrocław (1958–1969) under the supervision of Professor Tadeusz Baranowski, an outstanding biochemist and educator of many Polish biochemists, enzymologists and protein chemists. He received his doctorate (in 1964) and habilitation (in 1968) at the Technical University of Wrocław (Poland). Throughout his further scientific career he has been connected with University of Wrocław. In 1969, He formed and led a peptide research group at the University of Wrocław. He also served as a Chair of the Organic Chemistry Department at University of



Wrocław. He promoted 23 Ph.D. students, several of them became professors.

Prof. Siemion made highly significant contributions in many areas of peptide science, most notably in the conformational analysis of peptides and also in design and synthesis of new analogs of biologically active peptides. His first research papers were devoted to synthesis and racemization of some

amino acid derivatives, including *N*-substituted-amino acid anhydrides, azlactones and hydantoines. He also analyzed conformational properties of peptides in solution, with particular interest in cyclic oligopeptides. Since late 1970s his studies have been devoted mainly to the synthesis and analysis of structure-activity relationship for peptide immunomodulators, including: cyclolinopeptides, tuftsin, thymopoietin, inter-

leukin fragments, proline-rich peptides isolated from ovine colostrum and enkephalins. He was one of the first researchers indicating links between central nervous and immune systems. In the 1990s he presented the idea of the chemical periodicity within the genetic code and immunosuppressive action of some viral peptides. Later He discovered immunomodulatory oligopeptides containing a thymopentin-like sequence located within sequences of various proteins (including human leukocyte antigens, G-actin, lactoferrin). The above are the main (but not all) subjects of Professor Siemion's research. His exceptional creativity and productivity led to 275 scientific papers, nine books and over 140 review articles, including

"Notatki Chaotyczne" – short essays on historical and current concepts in chemistry, published in *Wiadomości Chemiczne*. He organized several conferences, schools and symposia.

Professor Siemion had broad knowledge. His scientific interests were focused not only on the chemistry and biology of peptides, but also on all aspect of organic chemistry, biochemistry, as well as on history of chemistry. Professor Siemion's contributions to the peptide field have been recognized by many awards, as well as honours from science societies and local communities, including Scientific Award of the Polish Academy of Sciences (1986), and 1st grade Awards from the Polish Ministry of Higher Education (1980 and 1984).

Professor Ignacy Zenon Siemion was a mentor and friend to many of us. He was a scientist of great intellect, he remained active and enthusiastic until the end. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him for his excellent scientific activities, and his warm and generous personality.

Professor Siemion is survived by his wife Alicja, and his sons: Piotr and Jakub, and three great-grandchildren: Tymoteusz, Agnieszka and Miłosz. We wish them all patience in this difficult time.

Contributed by Zbigniew Szewczuk

EPS Founder Medal presentations

The Executive Committee (EC) during its annual meeting held at Balliol College in Oxford on 12 July 2003 accepted the proposal of the Secretary, F. Hudecz and agreed on the establishment of a medal of recognition for retiring Chairman and officers of the Society. The rules for selection were developed and discussed during the next Executive Committee meeting at Villa Lanna in Prague on 16 April 2004. Design variations for a bronze medal were presented by a Hungarian artist (Mr. Gábor Szabó), who designed the medal for 25th EPS held in Budapest in 1998. The EC established a medal of recognition for retiring Chairman and officers of the Society entitled “Pro Service to the European Peptide Society”. The members of the Committee selected the design of the medal and agreed on the text on the back of the medal as follows: “For the service of XY as Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer/Scientific Affairs Officer.” This decision was approved by the Council by email voting.

The medal was first presented during the opening ceremony of the 28th EPS by J. Martinez, the Chairman of EPS in Prague in 2004.

Last year in Sofia, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Society, the President, F. Hudecz



Prof. Fernec Hudecz, President of EPS presenting the EPS medal to Prof. Kálmán Medzihradszky



Prof. David Andreu presenting the EPS medal to Prof. Ernest Giralt.

suggested to the General Assembly to present the “Pro Service to the European Peptide Society” medal to the founding Executive Committee members (E.Giralt, V. Ivanov, G. Jung, A. Loffet, K. Medzihradszky). The proposal was unanimously accepted on 1st September, 2014 during the 33rd EPS.

Based on this decision of the General Assembly, the personal delivery and presentation of the medal with the following engraving “To members of the Committee, 1990–1994” have been organized. So far Prof. Kálmán Medzihradszky in Budapest, Prof. Ernest Giralt in Barcelona received the medal in 2015.

*Contributed by Ferenc Hudecz,
President of EPS*

Society Meetings

Minutes of the EPS General Assembly

National Palace of Culture, Hall 3.2, Sofia, Bulgaria
1st September 2014, 19.00 h

Part I

1. **Welcome** (F. Hudecz)

The President welcomed the participants including the newly elected incoming members, who briefly presented themselves. It was also noted that the term including the voting rights of new members will begin at the end of the GA session.

2. **Apologies for absence** (D. Tourwé)

The Secretary received apologies from ten Effective members, and from Prof. V. Deigin, Prof. A. Beck-Sickinger and Prof. G. Kokotos. The latter three were invited to participate in the meeting. (Annex 1) A total of 18 Effective Members are present (Annex 2), which constitutes the required quorum for a valid meeting of the GA.

3. **Minutes of the last General Assemblies** (Athens 2012, Budapest 2013, 2014)

The minutes were sent to the GA members before the meeting and were accepted unanimously.

4. **Report on the GA elections 2014** (D. Tourwé):

A re-election procedure for 17 countries was organized. For 13 countries (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland) the current Effective Member was the only nominee, and was re-elected. For 4 countries (Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal and UK) a voting was organized because a second candidate was nominated.

For 4 countries (Denmark, Hungary, Russia, Sweden), the term of the current Effective Member ended, and a new Effective Member needed to be elected.

A list of the re-elected and new Effective Members was sent to the GA members before the meeting.

Just before the GA meeting, the Secretary was informed by Prof. P. Romanovskis (Latvia) that he retired and a new representative needs to be elected.

The Secretary gave an overview of the discussions between the three candidates for Greece (Prof. G. Kokotos, Prof. J. Matsoukas, Prof. G. Spyroulias) and the EPS Executive Committee. In these discussions the date of EPS membership required for participation in the voting and the criteria for the acceptance of EPS members was questioned. As a result, the GA members agreed that the election procedure for the Greek representative will be repeated, using the membership list at the date of the call for elections (May 20th, 2014).

For future elections however, the GA agreed to use the date of the call for nomination and to change the corresponding paragraph in the Bylaws as follows:

„Generally Effective Members are elected in a process organised by the Secretary of the EPS for a period of four years. Ordinary members of EPS, **registered until the release of the call for nomination are eligible for voting**. Those who registered after this date could participate in the next election process. One re-election for another period of four years is possible after which the Effective Member has to resign. A re-election at a later time period (after at least four years have elapsed) is possible. (modified§5 Bylaws 2013)”

5. **Cooption of new GA members and election of Executive Committee members** (F. Hudecz)

The terms of the present Executive Committee (the 4-year period) in office will be completed for the President (Prof. F. Hudecz), the Treasurer (Prof. A. M. Papini), the Scientific Affairs Officer (Prof. S. Lavielle) and for the Communication Officer (Prof. P.I Cordopatis) on 15 March, 2016. Also, the term of the Secretary (Prof. D. Tourwé, substituting prof. A. Eberle since September 2012) will be completed on 15 March, 2016. The President (Prof. F. Hudecz, since 2010), and the Scientific Affairs Officer (Prof. S. Lavielle, since

2010) expressed their wish to retire. The Communication Officer will complete his second term, therefore Prof. P. Cordopatis cannot be nominated (see Statutes). The Treasurer and the Secretary can be re-elected for a second term.

Therefore the General Assembly has to (re-)elect the president as well as four officers for the period of 16 March 2016–15 March 2020.

The President explained the procedure:

- Nomination are being made by the EC.
- Those colleagues, who are nominated, but not member of the GA, should be coopted first by the GA.
- Election/voting will be performed for the above posts.

The EC nominated the following colleagues for the period of 2016–2020.

- Nominee for the EPS Presidency: Prof. David Andreu (Spain)
- Nominee for the EC member as Treasurer: Prof. Anna Maria Papini (Italy)
- Nominee for the EC member as Secretary: Prof. Dirk Tourwé (Belgium)
- Nominee for the EC member as Scientific Affairs Officer or Communication Officer: Prof. Krzysztof Rolka (Poland)
- Nominee for the EC member as Scientific Affairs Officer or Communication Officer: Prof. Norbert Sewald (Germany)

All candidates accepted the nomination. The short CV of the candidates was sent as Annex to the Agenda of this meeting.

It should be noted that the present EC will continue until 15 March 2016 and the new EC will take the responsibility from 16 March 2016 until 2020.

Result of the voting for cooptation of Prof. D. Andreu, Prof.

K. Rolka and Prof. N. Sewald: unanimous vote.

Result of the voting for election as:

President Prof. D. Andreu: 17 yes, 1 abstinence

Scientific Affairs Officer or Communication Officer Prof. K. Rolka: 17 yes, 1 abstinence

Scientific Affairs Officer or Communication Officer: Prof. N. Sewald: 17 yes, 1 abstinence.

Treasurer Prof. A. M. Papini: 18 yes

Secretary Prof. D. Tourwé: 18 yes

6. **Discussion on Annex 9 of the Bylaws** (F. Hudecz, A.M. Papini, D. Tourwé):

The Bylaws have been approved by the General Assembly members, provided that Annex 9, which specifies the responsibilities of the Chairperson of the coming Peptide Symposia and Relationship with the Executive Committee, would be discussed during this meeting. Especially paragraph 8, explaining the principles for the agreement regarding the expected financial return to EPS, was questioned. The President explained the previous and current rules about the financial conditions of EPS. In the current model, the full responsibility of the organization and of the financial aspects is born by the Symposium organizers. Any responsibility of EPS would imply also an involvement of EPS in the organization. The two models were discussed and finally submitted for voting. Results of the voting: full responsibility on the symposium organizer: 14 votes; shared responsibility between the symposium organizer and EPS: 4 votes. The present model remains applicable .

7. **Reports about EPS Symposia** (F. Hudecz)

a) EPS-32: Greece 2012: since no Greek representative is present, no further information was available. The treasurer confirms that 14620,00 Euros was received by EPS from the Greek organizers

b) EPS-33: Bulgaria 2014: Prof. I. Stoineva reported a preliminary number of about 490 participants, and that reduced registration fees were charged for EPS members and for students.

c) EPS-34: Germany 2016: Prof. A. Beck-Sickinger will introduce the 34th EPS during the closing ceremony.

e) Future meetings: the GA unanimously voted for EPS-35 in Ireland in 2018, and for EPS-36 in Spain in 2020.

Proposals to organize EPS-37 (2022) were obtained from Austria and Italy. A decision will be taken during the GA in Leipzig in 2016 considering the list of historical order of the previous Symposia.

Addendum: Previous Symposia Information now available at the website of EPS, <http://www.eurpepsoc.com/previous-symposia/>.

8. **Journal of Peptide Science: Editor's Report** (L. Moroder):

A substantial report was prepared by the editor-in-chief, Prof. L. Moroder, which was sent to all GA members before the meeting. No additional questions were raised. Prof. Moroder suggests that the J. Pept. Sci. Alert should be sent to all EPS members via e-mail. Prof. G. Pairas explains the technical problems to send e-mails to all EPS members. Currently the Wiley website does not allow to send messages to all registered members in an easy way. Moreover, some EPS members have indicated during registration that they do not wish to receive e-mails. G. Pairas suggests that this option should be removed from the registration page and to have a discussion with Wiley to implement a way for sending messages to all members.

9. **Report of the Communication Officer** (P. Cordopatis)

A substantial Newsletter Editor's report was prepared the Communication Officer, Prof. P. Cordopatis and on the website development by the EPS web-content editor, Prof.

G. Pairas. G. Pairas reported on the progress to construct the EPS Archive including the Proceedings project, making available through the EPS website, all EPS Proceedings from the beginning of the series. He announced that the collection of Prof. G. Young was recently provided to Prof. P. Cordopatis by Prof. J. Jones. Prof. L. Moroder announced that he could make available any missing volumes.

Addendum: G. Pairas made available the previous symposia information at the website of EPS, <http://www.eurpepsoc.com/previous-symposia/>.

10. **Treasurer's Report** (A.M. Papini)

Since the accounts and the budget for 2014 were discussed during the GA teleconference on May 28th, 2014, no further discussion took place.

11. **Scientific Affairs Officer's Report** (S. Lavielle)

The list of supported small meetings was provided by Prof. S. Lavielle and sent to the GA members before the meeting. She stressed the importance to send a report of the meeting in order to receive the financial support.

12. **Situation of Awards and Travel Grants** (F. Hudecz, S. Lavielle)

a) Rudinger Award: not discussed

b) Zervas Award: not discussed

c) Proposal to establish a new Award

Prof. F. Hudecz proposed to establish a "**Miklos Bodanszky' Award**", to acknowledge the achievements of a young Colleague, **who made a significant contribution to peptide based drug research in a given period**. The first Award would be given at EPS 2016. If the GA members accept the proposal, the EC should look for a sponsor for this award. Prof. J. Martinez offered his help for this.

Vote on the principle of establishing the award: 2 against, 1 abstinence, 15 yes

Vote on the criterium “maximum 10 years after obtaining the PhD title”: 1 against, 1 abstinence, 16 yes.

The treasurer mentions the concern to guarantee the Rudinger sponsorship.

13. **Acceptance of the modified bylaws**

Parts of the bylaws will be modified in accord with the decisions made by the GA on items 4, and 14c including relevant changes considering the Bodanszky award.

14. **Matters of the EPS President** (F. Hudecz)

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Society, the President suggests to present a medal to the founding Executive Committee members (E.Giralt, V. Ivanov, G. Jung, A.Loffet, K. Medzihradzsky). The proposal was unanimously accepted.

Part II (according to the new statutes of the EPS)

- 1, Resignation of the Executive Committee Members Prof. Ferenc Hudecz, Prof. Solange Lavielle, Prof. Paul Cordopatis and their replacements (starting date March, 2016). Renewal of the appointment of the Treasurer Prof. Anna Maria Papini and of the Secretary Prof. Dirk Tourwé.

The GA members took note of the resignations, and the renewal of the appointment of the Treasurer Prof. Anna Maria Papini and of the Secretary Prof. D. Tourwé, as a result of the voting in part I.5. of the present GA.

2. **Any other business**

Prof. L. Moroder suggests to give access to the Journal of Peptide Science to all EPS members for six month after the Symposium, to be paid from a modest membership fee. Currently 6 months access is agreed between the 33rd EPS organizers and Wiley for the participants of the Symposium

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

National Palace of Culture, Hall 3.2, Sofia, Bulgaria
2nd September 2014, 12:30–14:00h

Participants : F. Hudecz, A.M. Papini, S.Lavielle, D. Andreu, K. Rolka, G.Pairas, D. Tourwé

Excused: P. Cordopatis, N. Sewald

1. **Welcome** (F. Hudecz)

The President welcomes the participants, and congratulates the new elected members D. Andreu, K. Rolka and N. Sewald.

2. **Minutes of the EC Meeting of March 2014**

The minutes were sent to the EC members before the meeting and were accepted unanimously.

3. **Review of the composition of the Scientific Affairs Committee** (S. Lavielle):

Three positions in the SAC will become available from March 2016 to replace S. Lavielle and K. Rolka (2016) and from September 2014 to replace N. Sewald. Moreover, the term of W. Schaaper will end on in September 2016. The EC already received an application of Christian Gruber (Austria), which was accepted. The members decided to contact Ivanka Stoineva (Bulgaria), Sarah Jones (UK) and Florine Cavelier (France) and ask them to join the SAC.

Addendum: C. Gruber and I. Stoineva were invited to join SAC from September 2014. S. Jones and F.Cavelier were invited to join SAC from March 2016. All four candidates accepted to invitation with pleasure.

4. **General Assembly related issues** (F. Hudecz)

- Following the decision of the GA, the election procedure for the Greek Effective Member will be repeated. The Secretary will ask the three previous candidates if they are still interested. The membership list for Greece will be corrected and sent to the candidates. The MA students who were accepted as members without a publication will be contacted, and asked to either confirm that they did not have a publication before May 20th, 2014. They will then be removed from the

membership list, and obtain the status of “visitor”, which gives them access to the EPS website content. The election procedure will start by the end of September.

- The creation of the Bodansky Award was approved by the GA. The search for sponsors will first target companies that were involved in M. Bodansky's activities. Prof. J.Martinez, a previous post-doc of Bodansky, offered his help for this. Considering the amount of the Rudinger and Zervas Awards, the sum of 2000€ was proposed for the Bodansky Award. Preferably the sponsor would be prepared to cover the Prize for several years.
- It was also proposed to contact Polypeptides to discuss with them a long term contract for sponsoring the Rudinger Award.
- The discussion and the voting in the GA about Annex 9 of the Bylaws clearly indicated that the responsibility for the organization of the EPS Symposia is with the organizer, and there will be no shared responsibility with EPS. Amendments of the Bylaws to make necessary changes reflecting the decisions of the GA will be performed by the Secretary (e.g. future election procedure of National Representatives, Bodansky Award).
- In order to have a smooth transition between the current EC and the new one, the newly elected members will be invited to participate in the next EC meetings. In March 2016 the present EC will be responsible for the acceptance of the financial report, the GA teleconference in May will be organized by the new EC.
- The newly elected President (D. Andreu) and EC for the period of March 2016–2020 will decide on the distribution of responsibilities between K. Rolka and N.

Sewald concerning the offices of Communication Officer and Scientific Affairs Officer.

5. **Varia**

G. Pairas insists on the advantage of accepting visitors to the EPS website. They have no voting rights, but have access to the content of the website. He mentions problems to contact Wiley in order to solve problems to send e-mails to all EPS members. For the future he strongly advocates hiring a professional webmaster, independent from Wiley. The EC agrees that a new strategy needs to be developed. The list of previous Symposia and related Proceedings as well as the amended Bylaws will be available on the website of the EPS.

6. **Date and location of the next EC Meeting**

F. Hudecz offered Budapest as the location. March 20 to 22 was proposed. The Secretary will send a doodle to all participants for final confirmation.

Note: it later turned out that these dates coincide with the German Peptide Symposium. Therefore N. Sewald and A. Beck-Sickinger will not be able to attend. Annette agreed to participate via a Skype session to give information on the progress of the organization of EPS 2016.

F. Hudecz, D. Tourwé

November 2014

Minutes provided by the Secretary

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

**Consultation Room, Dean's Office, Faculty of Science,
Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest
March 20–21st, 2015, 16:00–18:00h and 10:00–17:00h**

Participants : F. Hudecz, , S.Lavielle, K. Rolka, D. Tourwé

Excused: A.M. Papini, D. Andreu, N. Sewald

1. **Welcome** (Ferenc)

The President welcomes the participants, and informs the members that A. M. Papini is stuck at the airport of Munich because of an airline strike, and may arrive later (but was finally not able to). The telecom with A. Beck-Sickinger (agenda item 2) is planned for tomorrow at 10:00 am. For these reasons, the items on the agenda have been re-scheduled.

2. **Minutes of the EC Meeting of September 2014**

The minutes were sent to the EC members before the meeting and were accepted unanimously.

3. **Matters related to membership database a) update, b) report on the election of new GA members** (Dirk Tourwé)

During the procedure for the (re-)election of the Effective Members (National representatives), using the list of EPS members in the Wiley database, a number of e-mails was returned as undeliverable. These e-mail addresses were sent to the respective National representatives. Some of them could be updated, but many remained unknown (see list in Annex 1). The EC agrees that these members will be removed from the membership database.

It was suggested that the procedure for periodically checking the e-mail addresses will be delegated to the National representatives. The Secretary will provide short guidelines for the procedure.

Recently, Dr. Ulf Göransson was elected as the new National representative for Sweden, replacing Dr. Lars Baltzer. Due to the retirement of Dr. Peteris Romanovskis, a call for nomination for a new representative of Latvia was made, so far without success.

4. **Matters related to the GA meeting held in Sofia (see Minutes items 4, 5, 6, 8 and 14)**

Item 4: a new version of the Bylaws is ready, incorporating the changes decided during the GA. The Secretary will ask G. Pairas to make it available on the EPS website.

Item 5: the newly elected President (D. Andreu) and EC decided on the distribution of responsibilities of the new members of the EC between K. Rolka and N. Seewald. Krzysztof Rolka has taken over the responsibilities of the Communication Officer after the decease of Paul Cordopatis, as an invited member of the EC from 1 January, 2015. *The Treasurer is asked to inquire whether the Statutes have to be modified when the new EC members start their term (April 2016).*

Item 6: it was agreed that no changes in the text of Annex 9 in the Bylaws is required.

Item 7: EPS-35 (Ireland) and EPS-36 (Spain) were decided during the GA. For the next EPS symposia, the decision will be taken during the GA in Leipzig 2016. The Secretary will already send "the Letter of Agreement" to the organizers.

Item 8: The problem raised by G. Pairas, and again stressed by the Secretary, regarding technical problem to send bulk e-mails to all EPS members will be studied by K. Rolka and J. Ruczynski. The option to refuse e-mail messages from EPS will be removed from the registration page of the website.

Addendum: It has been done.

Item 14: An engraved medal was already handed to Prof. K. Medzihradszky by the President. The medal will be delivered to Prof. G. Jung by A. Beck-Sickinger. For the medals for E. Giralt and A. Loffet, the best way will be used soon.

5. **Matters related to the EC meeting held in Sofia (see Minutes item 4: General Assembly related issues)**

The election of the Effective Member representing Greece has been repeated. The Master students that were accepted as EPS members without publication were given the status of “visitor” which allows them access to all content of the EPS website, but not the right to vote.

The search for sponsorship for the Bodanszky award, with the help of Jean Martinez has not yet started. The President will contact J. Martinez. The announcement of the Bodanszky award will be put on the EPS website by the Communication Officer.

Addendum: Under the section “Awards” a list of Awards needs to be created by the website content manager using the text from the Bylaws (Annex 7) for improved visibility.

PolyPeptides, the sponsor of the Rudinger award will be contacted (Dr. Neil Thompson, Dr. Alain Scarso) by the Secretary. The sponsorship for the next award will be asked, but also a longer term (5 prizes) commitment will be proposed. In return, PolyPeptides could be offered a strategic partnership with EPS and will be asked for their wishes to create visibility with the EPS members.

The amendments of the Bylaws reflecting the decisions by the General Assembly have been made by the Secretary. At the same time, a few errors in the English translation of the original Italian text of the Statutes have been corrected. The new version of the Bylaws will be put on the EPS website.

6. **Update from the Scientific Affairs Committee (Solange Lavielle)**

An overview of the small meetings sponsored by EPS was presented. (Annex 2). For 2015 only three requests were received so far. A problem remains that some organizers do

not submit a report for the Newsletter. The payment is only made after receipt of the report. It was decided that if no report is received within six months after the conference, the commitment for sponsorship will expire. This will be announced on the website and will be included in the Bylaws. In addition decision by the EPS General Assembly during the Sofia meeting (September 1st, 2014) that all requests concerning the sponsoring of small meetings will be evaluated by the Scientific Affairs Committee twice annually (deadlines January 31st and July 31st) starting from 2015, will be included in the Bylaws and is already announced on the website.

The President asks to provide a list of the sponsored meetings of the last years to be put on the website (by KR).

7. **Preliminary plans concerning the further development of the website (Krzysztof Rolka)**

K. Rolka took over the activities of the late Paul Cordopatis as Communication Officer and will be assisted by Dr. Jaroslaw Ruczynski, as website content manager. The editing of the Newsletter is performed by Wiley on the basis of submitted Word files. For the next Newsletter, K. Rolka will make a list of items that could be treated. F. Hudecz suggests to include reviews on books.

For the development of the EPS website, ideas that could be developed will be listed and presented during the next EC meeting.

8. **Report on the progress of the organization of EPS-34 (Skype TC with Beck-Sickinger)**

The professional conference organizer, Event Lab, has been selected after a careful procedure. The conference site has been reserved. It has a main auditorium with 800 seats, sufficient space for poster presentations and exhibits. It is located in the city center, walking distance from the train

station and from all hotels. Some cheap hotels for student accommodation are available as well as some hostels.

The Nobel Prize winner Stefan Hell has accepted to give a plenary presentation. During the discussion on the program, the opening of the symposium by the lecture of S. Hell on Sunday is preferred by Annette, depending on his availability. The President is in favor of also following the long-standing tradition to have the Rudinger and Zervas Award ceremonies during the opening session. (The Zervas lecture could be incorporated into the program of the week, but the Rudinger lecture should be delivered during the opening session.)

A satellite meeting on antimicrobial peptides proposed by the organizers will be held on the Saturday preceding the EPS.

The EC members stress the importance of having the Dr. Bert Schram mini-symposium organized as integral part of the official program, as is stipulated in the contract with ESCOM. S. Lavielle will send a document with all requirements and will be the contact person for this event. Since EPS-34 is also the 8-IPS, the international character should be reflected in the scientific committee and in the program.

An estimate of the registration fee is not yet available and will be discussed with Event Lab. In order to allow student participants to attend the conference dinner, its fee will preferably be included in the registration fee.

EPS will communicate (contact is D. Tourwé) all requirements for the events that need to be organized during the symposium (General Assembly, Executive Committee meeting, International Liaison Committee meeting).

A remaining issue to be decided is the time of the

Bodanszky Award (during ceremony conference dinner ?).

The organizers are asked to take attention to the location of the PolyPeptides booth in the exhibition area.

The Letter of Agreement to be sent back to EPS will be signed after the signature of the contract with Event Lab, and is expected to be signed by Annette Beck-Sickinger within two weeks.

It was also emphasized the composition of the Scientific Committee essentially belongs to the responsibility of the Organizers. However, the Scientific Affairs officer of the Society (S. Lavielle) has to be a member of the Committee. Considering that this event will have also the label "International Peptide Symposium" attention should be given the proper International nature of the Scientific Committee and consequently to the program.

9. **Matters related to the ILC meeting held in Sofia** (see Minutes item 5: Plans to establish a Federation of Peptide Societies.)

The draft on the concept of the establishment of Federation of Peptide societies to be prepared by John Wade and Paul Alewood is expected to be available shortly before APS 2015. An EPS member planning to attend APS 2015 will be identified, and asked to represent EPS at the ILC during the conference.

Also for the 7th IPS in Singapore an EPS representative needs to be identified.

On the request of J.Tam, four speaker nominations were discussed. The EPS Scientific Committee members have suggested 11 names to the Scientific Officer, S. Lavielle. Considering the diversity of topics, geographical distribution and scientific quality, the EC suggests the following EPS speakers: O. Seitz (DE), K. Jenssen (DK), J. Bode (CH), G. Guichard (F). It is to be stressed that these potential

speakers were not contacted for their availability or agreement.

Also by the request of the Chairman, Prof. Tam, as members in the Scientific Committee of IPS-7, S. Lavielle and F. Hudecz are proposed. They accepted the proposal.

10. **Report on the 33-EPS** (in writing from Ivanka)

A written report was received (Annex 3). The EC acknowledges all efforts by the organizers, which have resulted in a successful symposium, and notes that the organization of and communication about some activities (e.g. Dr. Bert Schram Young investigator competition and poster competition evaluations) could have been better organized.

The EC members ask I. Stoineva which proportion of the 7825€ paid to Wiley is for the production of the abstract book, and which one for the 6 month free access to the Journal of Peptide Science. Also, an updated timing for the availability of the Proceedings (hoped to be available in April 2015) will be asked.

11. **Preparation for the GA meeting in May**

The GA teleconference will be organized in Budapest with the participation of the Secretary and Treasurer. The period of May 20-25 was proposed.

Addendum: In the meantime, May 27 has been agreed and communicated to the GA members.

12. **The roadmap of the transition in 2016**

a) The current website content manager, George Pairas, will be consulted by F. Hudecz for a timing to transfer the activities to Jaroslaw Ruczynski.

Until the transfer G. Pairas will be asked to add the following items to the website: the latest version of the Bylaws, the announcement of the Bodanszky Award, a list of EPS-sponsored meetings for the last years.

G. Pairas will also be consulted on his experience with the problem for sending a bulk e-mail to all EPS members.

b) S. Lavielle will remain the Scientific Affairs Officer until March 2016 then N. Sewald will take over these responsibilities. Solange will consult Norbert about the possibility to organize a training course (Statutes para. 2.2): how to organize, who will be responsible etc... For the Awards to be given at EPS-34, Norbert will start the procedure (call for nominations), and discuss the selection within the Scientific Affairs Committee. The final selection by the GA will be organized by the Secretary (Dirk).

c) F. Hudecz will organize the Executive Committee meeting in March and the General Assembly of May 2016, for all other matters David Andreu will assume all responsibilities as the EPS President starting April 1st 2016.*

**Note added by Anna Maria: the present Executive Committee will act until December 31st, 2015. However it will still be responsible for the approval of the Financial statement of the year 2015 by March 2016. The budget for 2016 has to be presented by the new Executive Committee entered in charge on January 2016.*

13. **Future Symposia:** discussed under agenda item 4

During the GA in Sofia, 35-EPS (Ireland), 6-EPS (Spain) have been decided. The location of future symposia will be discussed during the GA in Leipzig.

14. **Treasurer's Report** (A.M. Papini)

Because of the Lufthansa strike, the Treasurer was unable to arrive in Budapest. A preliminary inspection of the documents provided and discussion between the EC members present led to the conclusion that the Report on the financial situation of EPS and the Certification of the financial statement for the year ended on 31/12/2014 are accepted. In the Budget for 2015, some changes were

suggested: the budget for EC and GA meetings in 2015 is raised to 3000 € (as it was previously) because also the newly elected members participate. The cost for the medals for the founding EC members (total 10 medals, 1200 €) should be added. The Wiley cost for the website of 5000 € was added. The President will discuss these decisions with the Treasurer by phone later this week.

Addendum: this discussion was completed and a modified budget was agreed (Annex 4). A final budget is expected to be available by the end of April when the final Wiley figures for the Journal are known.

The Minutes of the Executive Committee of March 21, 2015 for the approval of the draft of the Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended 31/12/2014 have been signed.

- 15. Varia** next EC meeting will be planned in Leipzig in spring before March 15, 2016. The Secretary will consult A. Beck-Sickinger about the preparation.

F. Hudecz, D. Tourwé

April 2015

Minutes provided by the Secretary

EPS General Assembly – a short summary

Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary
May 27th, 2015

A meeting of the General Assembly by videoconference was organized as in 2013 and in 2014, by the Secretary at the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary on May 27th. It was very much helped by Mr. Antal Sándor and his ICT team at the Faculty of Informatics.

The following agenda were proposed and the related documents as requested by the Statutes were sent out by the Secretary to the General Assembly members in due course for inspection and final approval. The Effective Members were invited to attend in person, or by video.

1. Welcome (F. Hudecz)
2. Treasurer's Report (A.M. Papini)
 - a) Accounts for the year of 2014
 - b) Budget for 2015
 - c) Renewal of the appointment of the auditor for the year 2015
3. Report on the activities of the Executive Committee (D. Tourwe)
4. Any other business

The President, stated that the meeting was called as requested in the Statutes and within the statutory time limits and after noting the fact that not just over half of the members are present, concluded that according to article 8.10 of the Statutes, the second call for the General Assembly is required for a valid vote.

The President Prof. Ferenc Hudecz informed the General Assembly that the Secretary Prof. Dirk Tourwe could not participate being his flight from Brussels cancelled. The President presided over the Assembly and reported that besides him, the Treasurer, Prof. Anna Maria Papini and Prof. Gábor Mezö, effective member of the GA, representing Hungary attended the meeting in person. The President asked the General Assembly to invite Prof. Gábor Mezö as

Secretary for the present Assembly. No scrutinizers were appointed, inviting those present to verbally express their opinion.

The GA accepted the agenda and the following documents:

- 1) Report of the Certification of the financial statements for the year ended 31/12/2014 and financial statements for the year ended on 31/12/2014: inherent and consequent deliberation.
 - 2) Budget for the year 2015.
 - 3) Renewal of the appointment to the auditor GORI PAOLO Studio Professionale Associato for the certification of the 2015 Financial statements and appointment to the GORI PAOLO Studio Professionale Associato for the 2015 commercial activity of EPS.
 - 4) Report on the activities of the Executive Committee.
- In addition the President announced that Prof. Krzysztof Rolka was invited as elected Communication Officer of the EPS Executive Committee after the loss of Prof. Cordopatis Pavlos.

Contributed by Ferenc Hudecz

International Liaison Committee (ILC) Meeting

Orchid Room – Hyatt Grand Cypress Orlando
June 21st, 2015 – 12.30–13.30

EPS Representatives

Chandralal Hewage – Ireland

Meritxell Teixido – Spain

Helma Wennemers - Switzerland

APS Chairman Robin Offord welcomed the committee members and asked selfintroduction of all members. Apart from representatives of Chinese and Indian peptide community all others were present. Committee mainly discussed up-coming and future peptide meetings and symposia.

Australian Society ask support and publicity for the following:
25–28 October 2015; South Stradbroke Island near Brisbane.

Modern Solid Phase Peptide and Synthesis and its Applications

2017 Australian Peptide Symposium; date/venue to be decided. Due to costs and previous experience, it may again be held in Malaysia.

Japanese Peptide Society requested to have the IPS title for their 2018 meeting to be held in Kyoto in late Autumn or early Winter. This was discussed with committee members and unanimously supported to support it. Committee requested that it should be vital to have special student bursaries for international students to participate the meeting.

52nd Japanese Peptide Symposium will be held in November 2015 near Tokyo, HIRATSUKA (60km). As usual they will invite two Korean speakers for this meeting. Apart from very few Japanese presentations all presentations will be in English so that international participants will be very welcomed to participate.

There will be a Young Peptide Scientists symposium will be held in Central Japan on 9–11 August. This will be fully supported by the Japanese Peptide Society.

Committee members greatly appreciate this special meeting for young scientists.

Robin briefly discussed the upcoming Indian Peptide Symposium, 24th Sept but no details were given due to lack of information.

Robin Offord and John Wade discussed the 2015 IPS meeting in Singapore. This 7th IPS meeting will be held in Biopolis Singapore, 9–11 Dec 2015. Registration cost are reasonable, \$220 for PIs and \$110 for students and there are several reasonable accommodation reserved in the Park Avenue Hotel for participants. John said that there is a good line-up of speakers and encouraged the committee members to support this meeting.

On behalf of the EPS, Helma – 2016, Chandralal – 2018 and Meritxell – 2020 explained the Leipzig, Dublin and Barcelona EPS meetings respectively. Committee was fully supportive of these meetings and encourage to have reasonable accommodation for young scientists. Chandralal has already reserved 300 en-suite rooms in university accommodation for the 2018 meeting. Meritxell explained that it is vital to have IPS logo and committee support for the 2020 meeting in particular for obtaining governmental and other financial support for 2020 EPS meeting.

There were no other items in the agenda and chairman concluded the proceedings.

Compiled by Chandralal Hewage

Society Officers

Professor Ferenc Hudecz

(Chairman)

c. member, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Research Group of Peptide Chemistry
Department of Organic Chemistry
Eötvös Loránd University
Pázmány Péter sétány 1A
H-1117 Budapest
HUNGARY
E-mail : fhudecz@caesar.elte.hu
Tel: +36-1-372-2880
Fax: +36-1-372-2620
URL: <http://peptid.chem.elte.hu>

Professor Dirk Tourwé

(Secretary)

Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Organic Chemistry Department
Pleinlaan 2
B-1050 Brussels
BELGIUM
E-mail : datourwe@vub.ac.be
Tel : + 32 2 629 3595
Fax : + 32 2 629 3304
URL: <http://wefcol.vub.ac.be/orgc/index.php?content=staff>

Professor Anna Maria Papini

(Treasurer)

Laboratory of Peptide & Protein Chemistry & Biology
c/o Department of Chemistry, University of Florence
Via della Lastruccia 13,
I-50019 Sesto Fiorentino (Firenze)
ITALY
E-mail: annamaria.papini@unifi.it
Tel: +39 055 457 3561
Fax: +39 055 457 3584
URL: <http://www.unifi.it/peptlab>

Professor Solange Lavielle

(Scientific Affairs Officer)

Laboratoire des BioMolécules
UMR 7203, UPMC Paris 06 - ENS - CNRS
Département de Chimie - Ecole Normale Supérieure -
24, Rue Lhomond
F-75252 Paris Cedex 05
FRANCE
E-mail : solange.lavielle@upmc.fr
Tel : +33 144 32 24 43
Fax : +33 144 32 24 02
URL: <http://www.chimie.ens.fr/LBM>

Professor Krzysztof Rolka

(Communication Officer & Newsletter Editor)

Faculty of Chemistry
University of Gdansk
PL-80398 Gdansk
POLAND
E-mail : krzysztof.rolka@ug.edu.pl
Tel: + 48 58 5235088
Fax: + 48 58 5235012
URL:
http://chemia.ug.edu.pl/wydzial/katedry/katedra_biochemii

JOURNAL OF PEPTIDE SCIENCE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Professor Luis Moroder

Max-Planck-Institut für Biochemie
D-82152 Martinsried, GERMANY
E-mail: moroder@biochem.mpg.de
Tel: +49 89 8578 3905
Fax: +49 89 8578 2847

EPS WEB EDITOR

www.eurpepsoc.com

George Pairas

Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmacy
University of Patras
GR-265 00 Patras, GREECE
E-mail: gpairas@upatras.gr
gpairas@me.com
Tel: +30 2610 962327
Fax: +30 2615 006061

CALENDAR of

Forthcoming Events

EMERGING TARGETS AND MOLECULES IN MIDDLE SPACE

Helsinki, Finland
24–27 August, 2015
URL: <http://finmedchem.fi>

23RD POLISH PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Spala, Poland
30 August–3 September 2015
URL: <http://pps23.kis.p.lodz.pl/en>

10TH CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY OF PEPTIDES MEETING

London, UK
7 September, 2015
URL:
https://www.merckmillipore.com/GB/en/20140403_174435

5TH MODERN SOLID PHASE PEPTIDE AND SYNTHESIS AND ITS APPLICATIONS

South Stradbroke Island, Australia
22–25 October 2015
URL: <http://www.solidphase.org>

11TH AUSTRALIAN PEPTIDE CONFERENCE

Kingscliff, NSW, Australia
25–30 October 2015
URL:
<http://www.ozpeptide.org/australian-peptide-conference-2015/australian-peptide-conference-2015>

3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CIRCULAR PROTEINS

Moreton Island, Australia
01–04 November 2015
URL: <http://www.circularproteins.org>

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NANOTEK AND EXPO

San Antonio, TX, USA
16–18 November 2015
URL: <http://nanotechnologyexpo.conferenceseries.com>

52ND JAPANESE PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Hiratsuka, Japan
16–18 November, 2015
URL: <http://www.jps52.com/#!english-site/c1h7a>

7TH INTERNATIONAL PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Biopolis, Singapore
9–11 December 2015
URL: <http://ips2015singapore.com/>

34TH EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Leipzig, Germany
4–9 September 2016
URL: <http://www.34eps-2016.org>
