

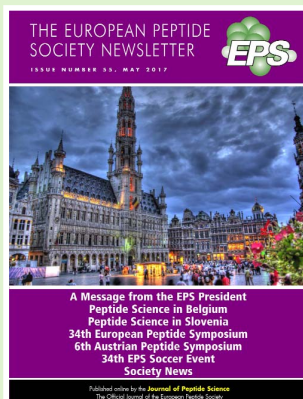
THE EUROPEAN PEPTIDE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 55, MAY 2017



**A Message from the EPS President
Peptide Science in Belgium
Peptide Science in Slovenia
34th European Peptide Symposium
6th Austrian Peptide Symposium
34th EPS Soccer Event
Society News**

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*Cover photo: Brussels, Belgium;
City Hall, a Gothic building of the 15th
century, located at the Grand Place.*

IN THIS ISSUE

A Message from the EPS President	2
Peptide Science in Belgium . .	4
Peptide Science in Slovenia . .	7
34th European Peptide Symposium	9
6th Austrian Peptide Symposium	14
34th EPS Soccer Event	17
Society News	24
Society Officers	33
Calendar	34

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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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A Message from the EPS President



Dear reader,

It is my pleasure to greet again the EPS community through this first 2017 issue of the newsletter. Technical reasons have slightly delayed its appearance, but I hope that nonetheless you will enjoy the news about many peptide-related activities that have taken place all over Europe during recent months.

First and foremost, on pp.9–13 you will find the official report on the 34th European Peptide Symposium, held in Leipzig, Germany, September 4–9, 2016. This biennial event, this time also held as the 8th International Peptide Symposium, is not only the chief scientific activity of

our Society but also the longest-running peptide-related conference worldwide. We are justly proud of this EPS tradition, in particular of its latest realization in the first-rate scientific meeting we could enjoy at the delightful setting of Augusteum of Leipzig University. You will find a precisely reported – and amply illustrated – chronicle by Prof. Annette Beck-Sickinger, to whom (along with co-chair Prof. Ulf Diederichsen, Georg-August University, Göttingen) the Society is ever grateful for putting together an excellent scientific program that was a premium showcase for peptide science worldwide.

If, as I believe, Leipzig 2016 was a foretaste of good things to come, then we can look with optimism to future

Symposia editions. At the next one, 35EPS (soon to be announced online), we will celebrate that the European peptide community expands its borders to Ireland (Dublin, August 26–31, 2018). Preparations by Symposium host Prof. Chandralal Hewage are already well under way and we look forward to a very successful meeting. And, in 2020, the EPS will return to Spain (Sitges, near Barcelona, August 30–September 4), almost three decades after the 21EPS in Platja d'Aro, a meeting still alive in the memories of many EPS members. Dr. Meritxell Teixidó, the young and enterprising national representative of Spain, will chair the event and is already ahead with its planning. So save these dates in your agenda and be ready for two exciting peptide gatherings ahead!

Also in this issue you will find interesting reports about peptide science in Belgium and Slovenia; two countries with different histories and backgrounds with regard to peptide research, but currently with active scientific communities focused on peptide-related research. I am sure you will enjoy reading about them. The issue is completed by a report on the Sixth Austrian Peptide Symposium (December 1, 2016), plus other society news.

Other than to newsletter content, let me take the opportunity to call your attention to a newly introduced feature in our website. I refer to “Peptide Highlights”

(<http://www.eurpepsoc.com/pool-writers/>), a monthly section where recent papers on specific peptide-related subjects are reviewed. Starting December 2016, six entries have already appeared covering current literature on topics such as daptomycin, cysteine, cyclic peptides, antimicrobial peptides, amyloid, and native chemical ligation. We are fortunate to count with a pool of very capable writers for this task, including Drs. Susan Tzotzos (Apeptico, Vienna), George Preston (King's College, London), Rosario González-Muñiz (IQM-CSIC, Madrid), Wenyi Li (Leibniz Institute, Berlin) and Can Araman (Institute of Chemistry, Leiden), to all of whom the society is very grateful for their generous contribution in time, literature searching, and writing skills. If you feel you could join this pool of writers for the EPS website, I would encourage you to contact our communications officer – and editor of this Newsletter –, Prof. Krzysztof Rolka, krzysztof.rolka@ug.edu.pl.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude for your support of the EPS; also my hope that it will remain so over the coming years, and my best wishes for your scientific and professional advancement, either on peptides (preferably!) or elsewhere.

Enjoy this issue of the Newsletter!

*David Andreu
Pompeu Fabra University
Barcelona, Spain*

Peptide Science in Belgium

Peptide science has already a long tradition in Belgium. Dr. Albert Loffet, one of the founding members of EPS, was the organizer of the one and only European Peptide Symposium in Belgium, which took place in Wépion in 1976 and was the EPS Secretary from 1988 until 1994. A. Loffet was then heading the Bioproducts peptide company, a part of the large UCB company. Later, Bioproducts was headed by Dr. A. Scarso, who left for Polypeptide Laboratories after Bioproducts was acquired by Lonza. The company, now called Lonza Braine is one of the leaders in large scale peptide production. Next to Lonza Braine, Belgium hosts another world player in peptide production: Peptisyntha, now part of CordenPharma. The origin of Peptisyntha stems from research done by Dr. R. Callens in the group of Prof. M. Antheunis at the University of Ghent, using silylation of unprotected amino acids.

After the term of A. Loffet as representative of Belgium in the EPS Council, Prof. G. Van Binst (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) took over from 1990 till 1998. He was one of the pioneers of peptide conformational analysis in Belgium and initiated research on conformation-directed peptide design, mainly in the somatostatin field, peptide backbone modifications and peptide mimetics.

Prof. Van Binst organized a series of Symposia on Design, Synthesis and Structure of Peptidomimetics held in the city of Spa (1995–2001). For quite some years Belgium did not have a peptide meeting until 2012, when the first Belgian Peptide Group Meeting (BPGM) was organized in the premises of Peptisyntha. Further BPGMs took place in Ghent (2014) and in Brussels (2016). These meetings allowed the groups currently involved in peptide research to present their work and get to know each other. The organisers are Prof. Steven Ballet and Dirk Tourwé (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Prof. Annemieke Madder and José Martins (UGent) and Dr. Mimoun Ayoub (Peptisyntha). The present overview is based on contributions during the BPGM symposia.

Prof. A. Madder and J. Martins both belong to the Department of Organic and Macromolecular Chemistry of the Faculty of Sciences at UGent. The research of Prof. Madder, head of the Organic and Biomimetic Chemistry group, concerns the use of multipodal (steroidal) scaffolds to preorganize helical peptide sequences for the design of serine protease mimetics and DNA-binding peptides. Novel techniques for site-selective modification of biomacromolecules based on the oxidation of a furan moiety (incorporated into peptides by means of the commercially

available furyl-alanine) to a reactive enal species in aqueous conditions have been developed. This allows for the straightforward, site-selective and bioorthogonal labeling of peptides and further finds applications in peptide-protein cross-linking. Prof. Martins heads the NMR and Structure Analysis Group, which hosts a 700 MHz interuniversity NMR facility and is interested in the study of conformation and intermolecular interactions. Recent studies using advanced NMR techniques to understand the relationship between structure, self-assembly and the antimicrobial activity of cyclic lipodepsipeptides were reported at the 34th EPS. Together with Prof. Madder, synthesis strategies for exploring the mode of action of lipopeptides are being developed.

Prof. S. Ballet is the successor of Prof. emeritus D. Tourwé at the Department of Organic Chemistry of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). The research theme developed by D. Tourwé on the development and use of conformationally constrained amino acids for the design of peptides and peptidomimetics, is continued with the development of new scaffolds, for instance based on Ugi multicomponent condensations.

New topics treated by S. Ballet are injectable peptide hydrogels for sustained release of bioactive peptides (in collaboration with A. Madder), multitarget



The organisers of the Belgian Peptide Group Meetings (left to right): Prof. J. Martins, Prof. em. D. Tourwé, Dr. M. Ayoub, Prof. A. Madder and Prof. S. Ballet.

peptide hybrids such as opioid agonist/NK1 antagonists, opioid/neurotensin- and opioid agonist/nociception antagonist peptides, synthesis of nanobody loop mimetics and transition metal-catalysed derivatization of peptides in aqueous media. In collaboration with Prof. G. Verniest, Glaser-Hay alkyne couplings are developed to obtain cyclic peptides in which the 1,3-diyne spacer can be transformed into several heterocycles in order to modulate the conformation of the macrocycle.

At the faculty of medicine and pharmacy of the VUB, Prof. Ilse Smolders

at the Centre for Neuroscience (C4N) studies the role of Neuropeptide Y in epilepsy, the anticonvulsant activity of Ghrelin and Neuropeptide FF, and the role of neuromedin U in stress response and feeding behavior. Prof. Ann Van Eeckhaut specializes in bioanalytical research in neuroscience and developed highly sensitive (pM range) quantification methods of neuropeptides in microdialysates using nano-UPLC-ESI-MS/MS methods. The concentrations of neurotensin, neuromedin B and neuromedin N in rodent brain is monitored to determine their role in neurological disorders.

At the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KULeuven), the Division of Animal Physiology and Neurobiology of the Department of Biology hosts several peptide research teams. The group of Prof. L. Schoofs at the Research Group of Functional Genomics and Proteomics specializes in peptidomic technology to shorten from years to days the time required for identifying new (neuro) peptides, mainly in insects. The functional characterization of (neuro) peptides and the receptors they interact with are studied, as well as the signaling mechanism that leads to the release of immune induced peptides, synthesized by the insect to combat invading microorganisms. The Molecular Developmental Physiology and Signal Transduction research group of Prof. Jozef Vanden Broeck is investigating the physiological role and biochemical/biophysical mode of action of neural and endocrine messenger molecules in post-embryonic developmental processes of insects. The major aim is to unravel the cellular and organismal physiological mechanisms implicated in the regulation of important post-embryonic developmental processes, such as feeding, growth and reproduction. In particular, the group specializes in the study of receptors for neuropeptides and their cellular signal transduction pathways. In the Centre for Microbial and

Plant Genetics of the KULeuven, Dr. K. Thevissen studies the role of natural and synthetic plant defensins, small, basic, cystein-rich peptides that possess anti-fungal activity against a broad range of fungi, including human pathogens such as *C. Albicans* and *A. Fumigatus*.

At the Chemistry Department of the KULeuven, the Wim De Borggraeve group is member of the Division of Molecular Design and Synthesis. Structural analysis of peptides using NMR and molecular modeling is carried out. The information about the bioactive conformation of peptides is used to design small molecules that can functionally mimic these peptides. Helix mimetics composed of pyrazine heterocyclic building blocks are assembled via CO insertion chemistry.

The Agrobiochem Department of the University of Liège (Ulg) is located at the Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech campus. Its Laboratoire de Biophysique Moléculaire aux Interfaces (LBMI) is devoted to molecular biophysics and computer assisted modelling, focusing on the study of the interaction between biomolecules (from proteins to small organic molecules) with the membrane by complementary biophysical tools to understand their structure/activity relationships. Dr. Laurence Lins and Dr. Magali Deleu perform *in silico* analysis of structure/

activity relationships of biomolecules, including peptides. The group collaborates with Prof. J. Martins on the mechanism of action of cyclic lipopeptides.

Also at the University of Liège, the Laboratory of Mass Spectrometry-GIGA-R of Prof. E. De Pauw develops new mass spectrometry-based techniques to screen peptide ligands for GPCRs and applies the methodology for the identification of novel toxins in the venoms of cone snails. Also new MS techniques are used to sequence whole snake venom.

Prof. Carmen Burtea is the leader of the Phage Display Unit of the NMR and Molecular Imaging Laboratory at the university of Mons-Hainaut, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy. Her research activity is focused on molecular targeting of pathological biomarkers with phage display-derived peptides, both for diagnostic and therapeutic applications. These studies have led to the development of functionalized contrast agents for molecular imaging, for instance for the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and type 2 diabetes.

The Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry of the University of Antwerp (UAMC), which was founded by Prof. A. Haemers and is now headed by Prof. K. Augustyns and P. Van der Veken, played a pioneering

role in the development of DPP IV inhibitors using dipeptide scaffolds. Some of the compounds developed in this group are applied in lung transplant and ischemia/reperfusion models and in further unraveling of the physiological role of DPP IV and related enzymes. The group now also focusses on the development of inhibitors for related dipeptidyl peptidases and has developed dipeptidyl α -fluorovinyl Michael acceptors against cysteine proteases. The group has a long standing collaboration with Prof. A.-M. Lambeir and I. De Meester of the Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry who are experts in enzymology.

Contributed by Dirk Tourwé

Peptide Science in Slovenia

Slovenian peptide community is not yet an official society; it represents a small group of ten people that are members of European Peptide Society. Their field of research extends from chemistry to biology towards molecular biology and biotechnology. Regular meetings for scientific exchange are taking place in the context of meetings of

Slovenian Biochemical Society. Most of Slovenian scientists involved in peptide science are members of Slovenian Biochemical Society. The Society was established in 1983, from a section within Slovenian Chemical Society. The Society has 220 members. The members are mostly biochemists and molecular biologists.

Recent years have shown increase interest in peptides not just by the academia but also by pharmaceutical industry for highly diverse research areas, such as material sciences, biotechnology as well as cell biology and protein synthesis. Therefore Slovenian peptide community is expected to grow.

Currently groups engaged in peptide



Unofficial gathering in the historical Slovenian town Kostanjevica na Krasu. Scientists are from Institute Jozef Stefan and Faculty of Pharmacy from Ljubljana, with seven of them members of the EPS.

chemistry or peptide biology are located at Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Medical Faculty, Veterinary Faculty, all part of University of Ljubljana, Institute Jozef Stefan and National Institute of Chemistry.

The research group at the Faculty of Pharmacy currently consists of six EPS members. Their main research interests are primarily focused towards peptide biologic activities, with aim to identify and evaluate new peptide drug leads in the field of immunotherapy, metabolic disorder, new peptide tags for affinity purification and immobilization purposes and new peptides used in diagnostics.

The future prospects are optimistic with more groups integrating peptide chemistry and biological activity into their research recognizing the importance to include peptide science in their scientific repertoire. Slovenian peptide community is expected to grow and significantly contribute to the field of peptide drug lead discovery in the future. Next step in development is organization of national meeting of currently small community with aim to exchange scientific ideas and to identify and invite other scientist in this field to join the community and thereby contributing to the EPS and peptide science in general.

Contributed by Mojca Lunder

CONFERENCE REPORT

34th European Peptide Symposium, 8th International Peptide Symposium

Leipzig, Germany 4–9 September 2016



Organized by Prof. Dr. Annette Beck-Sickinger, Leipzig University, Germany and Prof. Dr. Ulf Diederichsen, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany, the 34th European Peptide Symposium (EPS), jointly with the 8th International Peptide Symposium (IPS), took place from September 4th to 9th in Leipzig, Germany. Almost 700 participants from academia and 90 from industry joined the event. They came from 40 different countries and presented advances in peptide synthesis and modification as well as their biological and therapeutic potential.

The **main topics** of the conference were:

amino acids and solid phase peptide synthesis; biomaterials; cellular signaling; chemical modification of proteins; peptide analytics; peptide carriers and uptake; peptide structure and function; peptide therapeutics and drug design; peptides and proteins in imaging; peptides in immunology/glycopeptides; peptides in industry; peptides in metabolic diseases; peptide tools, protein-protein interactions.

A major focus of the meeting was on the involvement and use of peptides in areas like immunology, metabolism,



Scientific discussion in the exhibition area.

biomaterials and cell biology. Additionally, talks focused on the synthesis of peptide building blocks as well as advances in solid phase peptide synthesis, ligation and modification techniques. Investigations of interactions between peptides and receptors or other proteins and structural biology were presented as well. Furthermore, peptide stability and formulation in industrial context were also subjects of the conference.

Intensive discussion of data presented from different perspectives importantly contributed to the international research in the field of peptide synthesis, fundamental research and drug development and thus, supported the regular meeting of dedicated scientists. The **program content**, including formal presentations and informal get-togethers, was designed to inspire the sharing of knowledge between students and senior scientists and amongst researchers across a multitude of disciplines.

Many leading experts from the field were recruited, originating from Australia, Asia, the USA, and European countries. Japanese delegates made up the second largest group of participants after Germans, thus this was a truly international peptide conference. During the event, eight internationally renowned scientists presented their research in plenary lectures, and 77 speakers talked about their specific research results. A



Inspiring talk of Stefan Hell, Nobel laureate on his career and scientific results that lead to the Nobel prize.

special lecture entitled “Optical Microscopy – Revolution of Resolution” was given by the Nobel laureate Stefan W. Hell of the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen. This was truly inspiring as Stefan Hell did not only present his scientific data, but also described his scientific career, the ups-and-downs, and motivated young scientists to follow their passion.

In addition to the oral presentations, 350 research projects were presented and discussed in the context of an accompanying poster session. 76 poster presenters were given the chance to present their work in ultra-short poster

appetizers, highly appreciated by the attendance.

A total of 12 **awards** were presented to the most remarkable research achievements. Two junior scientists, Maja Köhn (European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany) and Markus Muttenthaler (University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia) were awarded with the Miklós Bodanszky Award for their outstanding research. Christian W. F. Becker (University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria) received the Leonidas Zervas Award for his tremendous scientific contribution to the field of peptide ligation. Jean Martinez (Université de



Christian Becker (middle) was awarded with the Leonidas Zervas Award by David Andreu, president of the EPS (left) and Norbert Sewald (scientific affair officer).



Jean Martinez, giving the Rudinger Memorial Lecture 2016.

Montpellier, Montpellier, France) was awarded with the Josef Rudinger Memorial Lecture, acknowledging his life-long dedication to peptide science, and to the peptide scientific community. Sunbum Kwon (Institut Européen de Chimie et Biologie, France) and Emma Watson (University of Sydney, Australia) received the Bert L. Schram Award for best oral presentation. In addition, six young scientists were honored with the Bert L. Schram Award for the best poster presentation.

The success of any international conference depends on its ability to reach out to all scientific groups. In accordance with the known percentage of **female researchers** in science, the organizers were able to invite 22 female researcher to present their data in an oral presentation. The members of the Scientific Advisory Board of the EPS, made specific efforts to diversify the scientific groups by giving individuals from underrepresented groups priority.

A further focus of the meeting was to allow **young scientists** to gather extensive introduction and insight into the field. The Scientific Advisory Board selected 18 young researchers to present their research in an oral presentation, eight within the Bert L. Schram Young Investigators session. 38 young scientist could be supported by travel grants, 22 of them were women (58%).

As a special offer, separate seminar rooms were provided in order to fuel intensive scientific discussions and strengthen collaborations. During the "ESCOM Mixer" around 50 young scientist got the opportunity to get together with ten seniors from academia. They discussed their latest

Snapshots from the lecture hall....



research results, got direct feedback and ideas for future prospective. This was a unique possibility for junior scientist to gain new and important contacts and to reach out into the scientific community.

To open the scientific progress to a broad audience the meeting abstracts were published in a special issue of the “*Journal of Peptide Science*”, a renowned platform for publications of reviews and latest research results, in 2016, in volume 22, Pages S6-251. In addition, proceedings of the conference, including posters and presentations will be published end of April 2017.

Furthermore, coffee breaks, concerted lunch, a great exhibition, three evening events and a soccer cup contributed to fruitful discussions and socializing. The welcome reception honored the awardees of the conference and took place in the venue of the conference directly after the award session. For the speakers dinner all chair persons, speakers, official representatives, sponsors and active society members gathered in the Gondwanaland of the Leipzig Zoo after an exciting boat trip through the past and modern faces of the evolution. Finally, the symposium dinner, which was open for all participants, took place at the Moritzbastei, the only remaining part of the ancient town fortifications of Leipzig, now widely known as a cultural centre. Close to 600 participants of the EPS/IPS joined for the event.

According to the very positive feedback from all participants, the meeting ensured an excellent opportunity to stimulate existing international collaborations and research projects, accelerate scientific discoveries by providing a forum for discussion of the latest top-quality research, share novel ideas, foster new collaborations and pump-prime new lines of investigation in an interdisciplinary manner.

*Contributed by Annette G. Beck-Sickinger
and Ulf Diederichsen*



Gondwana Land at the Leipzig Zoo



The soccer match – Europe against rest of the world



Impressions from the Symposium Dinner, Moritzbastei, with the Young Investigators, winners of the Bert L. Schramm Award (top).

CONFERENCE REPORT

6th Austrian Peptide Symposium

Vienna, Austria 1 December 2016

The 6th Austrian Peptide Symposium was held at the Van-Swieten Auditorium in Vienna on the 1st of December 2016 and was co-organized by Christian Gruber (Austrian representative to the EPS, Medical University of Vienna) and Christian Becker (University of Vienna). The event was held as a one day symposium. It included invited lectures given by renowned national and international speakers, short oral presentations on hot

topics in peptide science, which were selected from the submitted abstracts, and a poster session covering manifold aspects of peptide and protein research. Overall, more than 70 participants from different European and overseas countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK) attended the symposium. This mixture resulted in a truly international spirit of the meeting, which started-off

with a speaker's dinner on the eve of the symposium.

The morning session focused on synthetic peptides in drug discovery: Peter Timmerman (University of Amsterdam and Pepscan, The Netherlands) held the opening lecture on the generation of multicyclic peptides and their use as mimics of protein surfaces. Christian Heinis (EPFL, Switzerland) continued on topic and described the phage-display based generation of bicyclic peptides as



Group photo of all participants of the 6th Austrian Peptide Symposium at the Van-Swieten Auditorium of the Medical University of Vienna.

therapeutics. The first session closed with a presentation of James Cain (Gyros Protein Technologies, USA) on how modern automated peptide synthesizers can help with access to complex peptides for research and drug development.

The second morning session concentrated on bioactive peptides in diagnosis and treatment and included the lectures of Michael Groll (Technische Universität München, Germany) on targeting the proteasome with peptides, followed by the lecture of Manfred Ogris (University of Vienna, Austria) on peptide targeted nucleic acid carriers for the treatment of disseminated cancers. The session concluded with a presentation by Annemieke Madders (University of Gent, Belgium) on furan-based click and photo-click reactions for peptide and protein labeling and crosslinking under physiological conditions.

The poster session, which was held during the lunch break, featured 12 posters that were presented and discussed by PhD students and early-stage researchers. There was also a poster award competition for the two best poster presentations.

The first afternoon session on “Hot Topics in Peptide Science” included six excellent short oral contributions selected from the submitted abstracts. Talks were given by Tobias Postma (University of



Poster award ceremony. From left to right: Chiara Cabrele, Christian Becker and Esther Gil-Mansilla (the second awardee, Maria Matveenko had to leave early)

Glasgow, UK), Matthias De Vleeschouwer (Ghent University, Belgium), Roland Hellinger (Medical University of Vienna, Austria), Andreas Friedrich (University of Salzburg, Austria), Zita Liutkeviciute (Medical University of Vienna, Austria) and Claudia Bello (University of Vienna, Austria).

The second and last afternoon session covered peptide-protein interactions and bioanalytics with three lectures. The first speaker, Oliver Zerbe (University of Zurich, Switzerland) reported on generating peptide binders by combining

fragments of Armadillo repeat protein. Then Robert van Ling (Thermo Fisher Scientific, The Netherlands) presented innovative techniques and tools for quantitation and characterization of bio-similars. Finally, Dek Woolfson (University of Bristol, UK) gave a talk on his approach to design functional water-soluble and membrane-spanning peptide barrels.

The scientific part of the symposium ended with the announcement of the two winners of the poster award competition: Esther Gil-Mansilla (Medical University of Vienna) for her poster entitled “Combining

MALDI imaging and μ CT to localize neuropeptides in ant brains”, and Maria Matveenکو (University of Vienna, Austria) for her poster entitled “Semisynthesis of a human heat shock protein bearing a site-specific non-enzymatic post-translational modification”.

A social get-together including a winetasting provided by Michaela Jöbstl (Langenlois, Austria) followed the closing remarks. Overall, the meeting was successful and received a very positive feedback thanks to the comprehensive and high-level scientific program, the nice and friendly atmosphere among the participants and the stimulating place, the Van Swieten Auditorium of the Medical University of Vienna.

The six Austrian Peptide Symposia hosted so far in Vienna, Graz and Salzburg have obtained very good resonance within the national and international scientific community, which strongly motivates the Austrian organizers to make of this event a consolidate tradition. Along this line, we are happy to

announce that the 2017 meeting of the Austrian Peptide Society will be held again in Vienna and co-organized by Christian Gruber (Medical University of Vienna) and Christian Becker (University of Vienna).

We are grateful to everyone who helped in the organization and realization of the 2016 Austrian Peptide Symposium, in particular all involved staff members from the organizing institution, the Institute of Biological Chemistry. Finally, we very much thank the exhibitors and all sponsors of the symposium: Bachem, Bruker, CEM, Gyros Protein Technologies, Pepscan, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Intavis, Iris Biotech GmbH, peptides&elephants, Rieger-Industrievertretungen GmbH, Almac and the European Peptide Society. Without their generous financial support, all this would not have been possible!

*Contributed by Christian W. Gruber
and Christian Becker*

The 34th EPS Soccer Event

The biennial EPS soccer game, featuring teams from Europe and the Rest of the World (World Team) has become a mainstay of successive European Peptide Symposia since its inception at the 19th EPS in Porto Carras, Greece, in 1986 (see poster 393 @ 32nd EPS in Athens in 2012 for a brief history).

The organizers of the 34th EPS, Professors Dr. Annette Beck-Sickinger and Dr. Ulf Diederichsen, spared no expense to ensure that the soccer game in Leipzig lived up to the standards set by the organizers of previous games, especially the games at the 2012 32nd EPS in Athens and at the 2014 33rd EPS in Sofia (see the EPS newsletters 47 and 51 for my reports on both games). Dr. Wolfgang Rapp, former Team Europe player and assistant to coach Balaspiri in Athens in 2012, played a big role in helping to organize the 34th EPS soccer game in Leipzig. He also served as coach of Team Europe. His wife, Sabine, provided many of the photos shown in this report. In Leipzig, Wolfgang recruited me to serve once more as coach of the World Team.

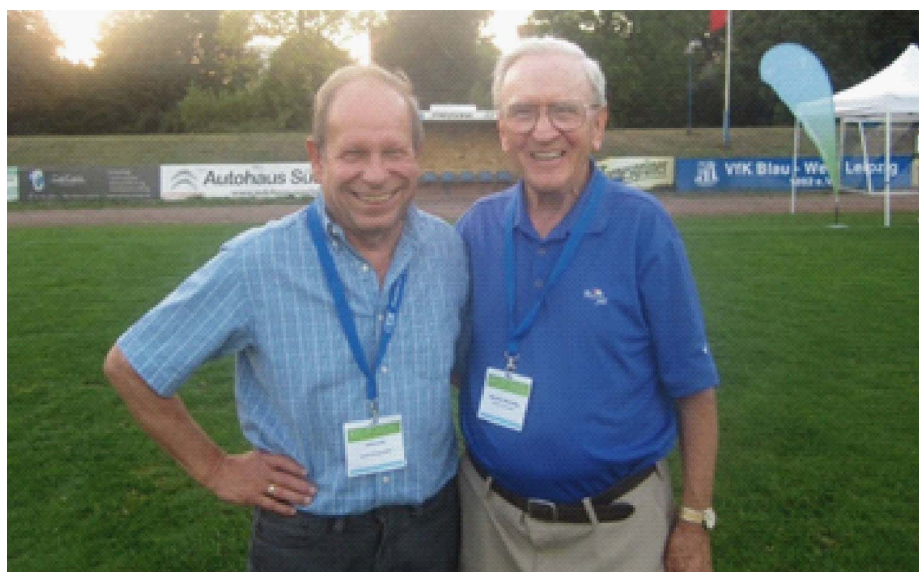
A total of 26 players (14 for Team Europe, 12 for The World Team) had signed up to play in the game. To get evenly matched, number wise, one player from Team Europe would need to switch to give a 13 per side game (11 plus 2



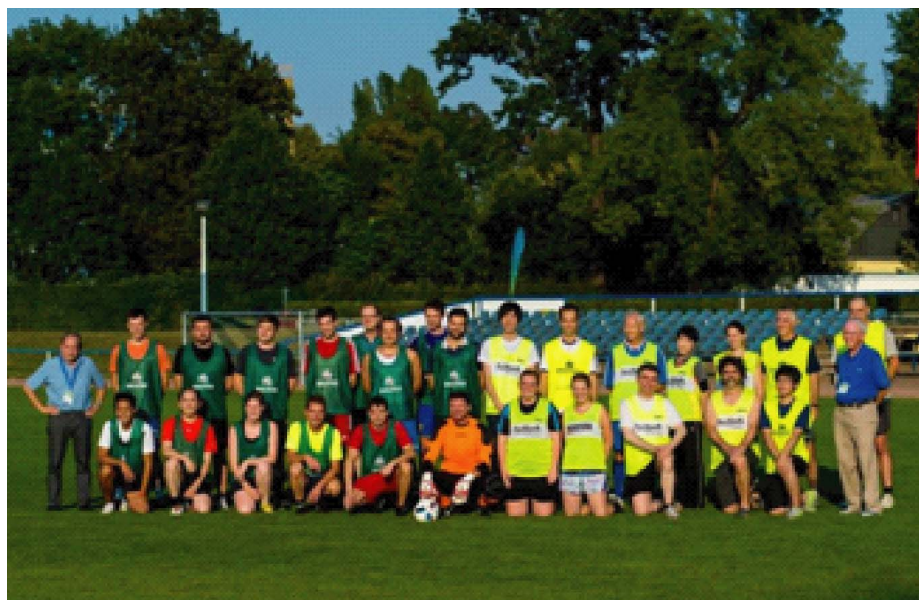
2016 EPS – Team Europe



2016 EPS – World Team



Coach Rapp and Coach Manning



2016 EPS – Team Europe and World Team

subs). As noted below, this switch made a huge difference.

On Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016, at 4:30 pm, busses were on hand to ferry players, coaches, and spectators for the 15 minute ride to the soccer club, VfK Blau-Weiss, Leipzig 1892 e.V. There, the players on both teams were supplied with black shorts and colorful pennies, green for Team Europe, bright yellow for the World Team. The regulation size soccer pitch was in superb condition. The World Team included three returning veterans, the remaining players were all new and included four players with no soccer playing experience but full of spirit and enthusiasm to play in their first soccer game.

The World Team 12 player roster included returning player Laszlo Otvos (USA); Emma Watson, Ingrid Edwards, Neil O'Brien-Simpson and Volker Herzig (Australia); Emily Rodrigues, Len Luyt and returning player, Bill Lubell (Canada); Misao Akishiba, Kenta Mine, and Yu Toguchi (Japan); and long-time World Team stalwart, Jean-Francois Hernandez (France).

The World Team benefitted greatly by the last minute aforementioned switch of Team Europe's goal keeper, Bartłomiej (Bart) Fedorczyk (Poland). Bart had been superb in goal for Team Europe in the 33rd EPS soccer game in Sofia in 2014. As noted below, Bart's contribution to the

World Team was huge. I owe a special debt of gratitude to Bart's mentor, my good friend and colleague, Professor Aleksandra Misicka, for facilitating this pivotal recruitment to the World Team.

The Team Europe players were Fabien Thoreau (France); Jonas Ludwig, Kristin Noack, Albert Brenner, Dennis Worm, Paul Hoppenz, Miroslav Malesevic, and Karsten Schnatbaum (Germany); Gavin Noble (England); Soon Wen Hoh (Malaysia); Zoltan Bánóczy (Hungary), and veteran of Team Europe at the Athens and Sofia EPS cup games; Dennis Löwik (The Netherlands). Apart from Miroslav and Dennis, all were new to Team Europe. Both teams warmed up on the excellently groomed soccer pitch before the 6 pm kickoff for the first of the two 30 minute halves. Referee, Enrico Honig, conducted the toss for sides; Team Europe won the toss and elected to play with the sun in the first half. The referee did an excellent job of officiating the game.

Although clearly outplayed by their more skilled opponents and despite having no shots on goal, the World Team held on during the first half, primarily due to the outstanding efforts of keeper Bart. He made numerous saves and maintained a clean sheet until just before half time when Team Europe's Fabian Thoreau scored the only goal of the half. At half-time, the score was 1-0 in favor of Team Europe and the players on both teams

were supplied with water and given pep talks from by their coaches. Despite being totally outplayed, the World Team players were very much emboldened by Bart's superb play in goal and confident that they could win the game.

The second half began promisingly for the World Team, as they made more and more forays into the Team Europe's half. However, try as they may, they could not break through the Team Europe defense and again failed to execute a single shot on goal. Slowly, the clear dominance of Team Europe was reflected on the scoreboard. Thus, goals by Karsten Schnatbaum, Gavin Noble, and a second goal by Fabian brought the score to 4-0 midway through the second half. Goals by Jonas Ludwig and Miroslav Malesevic brought the score to 6-0. A last minute goal, again by Jonas, brought the final score: Team Europe 7, World Team 0. The game was played in a most sportsman-like manner.

I congratulated Coach Rapp and his team on their outstanding victory and expressed gratitude and admiration to all the members of the World Team, and especially to Bart, for playing their best. Despite being clearly over matched and outplayed, especially in the second half, the World Team players never gave up and had continued to play with much enthusiasm and a never-say-die spirit. As Coach, I was immensely proud of their

total effort. However, I shudder to think how high the winning score would have been had Bart played again with Team Europe instead of playing with the World Team. In addition to the keeper, the highly experienced Jean-Francois turned in another brilliant performance at mid-field. He was ably assisted by Laszlo, Neil, Len, Bill, Volker, Emily and Emma. All, including the inexperienced players, did trojan work in trying to contain the much more experienced Team Europe. Team Europe was loaded with talented players and even though they had not played together as a team, they played remarkably well together, especially in the second half, and were clearly the dominant side. Wolfgang Rapp did a marvellous job in organizing the team and keeping them motivated to continue to play hard, despite being stymied by the herculean efforts of the World Team's keeper, Bart, in the first half.

In retrospect, this would have been a much more evenly contested game had we divided all 26 players into two groups: Group A, being those who had played before, and Group B, those who had never played soccer or who had only a nodding acquaintance with the game. Both groups could then have been divided equally between Team Europe and the World Team. This would have made for a more evenly contested game, very much in keeping with previous games, rather

than the totally one-sided game at the 34th EPS. I strongly recommend that this approach be followed at future EPS soccer events. As noted in my aforementioned report on the soccer game in Sofia, star soccer player Linde Smeenck had played a key role in ensuring that the sides were evenly matched at the 33rd EPS game. She was sorely missed in Leipzig. Following the game, both teams were in very good spirits and celebrated with libations in the bar at the clubhouse, before being bussed back to the 34th EPS site. This bus ride provided an opportunity for me to catch up with

Manfred Mutter, the star of many World Team victories in the past.

All the players and the two coaches were presented with medals to commemorate the game by co-organizer, Annette, at the most enjoyable 34th EPS gala in the historic Moritzbastei. Each medal was inscribed with "Soccer Cup 2016, 34th EPS & 8th IPS, Leipzig, Germany". Also, in her closing remarks at the end of the symposium, Annette did a great job of summarizing the game; her remarks were illustrated with some of the photos taken by Wolfgang's wife, Sabine, and by Christian Schneider-Brocker.

Despite the lopsided score, all players will treasure the memory of their participation in this thrilling biennial soccer game at the 34th EPS in Leipzig. Coach Rapp was "over the moon" with Team Europe's first victory in many years. I assured him that I would be happy to share this very good result with our mutual friend and long-time Team Europe player and coach, Lajos Balaspiri.

*Contributed by Maurice Manning,
World Team Coach*



Referee Enrico Honig conferring with Coaches Rapp and Manning before the game



World Team getting a pep talk from Coach Manning



An anxious moment for Team Europe, coach and supporters



Coach Manning enjoying a light moment with World Team at half time



World Team sharing a happy moment during half time



Half time pep talk from Team Europe Coach Rapp



Team Europe and World Team regroup during half time



World Team keeper makes a save



Keeper Bart and World Team defenders in action during the first half



One of many saves for the World Team by keeper Bart



World Team Stalwart Jean Francois Hernandez



Coach Manning congratulates Coach Rapp



A light hearted moment between coaches after the game



Coach Rapp and Dennis Lowik all smiles after Team Europe's big win.



Lubell, Manning and Mutter



World Team ladies Misao Akishiba, Emily Rodrigues, Emma Watson, and Ingrid Edwards



Emma Watson, Ingrid Edwards, Lazlo Otvos, Neil O'Brien-Simpson and Jean-Francois Hernandez



Lazlo Otvos, Neil O'Brien-Simpson and Jean-Francois Hernandez



World Team player, Emma Watson, during her oral presentation at the 34th EPS

Society News



European Peptide Society

No Profit Scientific Society
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Fiscal Code 92089560483 – VAT IT 02292750979

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting September 6th, 2016, 13.15–14.15 h (Room A122, Augusteum, Universität Leipzig)

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

- Welcome** (D. Andreu)
The President welcomed the participants.
- Acceptance of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in Florence in March 2016.**
The Minutes, including the corrections made by Ferenc Hudecz were accepted.
- Review of the composition of the Scientific Affairs Committee** (N. Sewald)
Since the term of W. Schaaper expired, Sarah Jones will be contacted to join the SAC. The other members are N. Sewald (SAO), F. Cavelier, I. Stoineva and C. Gruber.
- General Assembly related issues** (D. Andreu)
During the discussion on the income of EPS in the GA, the issues of asking a membership fee, and different opinions on the requested financial contribution of Symposium organisers to the Society in relation to (lack of) participation of the Society in the organization and financial risk of the Symposia, were raised again. The opinion of the President is that these issues should be addressed by the EC and he proposed to constitute a task force to collect different opinions, and to investigate all options, including an estimate of the income and expenses associated with the options. This task force will not only include EC members, but also several GA members who have expressed their opinion regarding these issues.
- Discussion on the EPS website and webmaster** (K. Rolka)
For the first time EPS will have an advert in the Newsletter (Informa). The income will be shared 50/50 with Wiley. Wiley will send the invoice to Informa. The treasurer will send an invoice to Wiley for 50%.
- EPS dealings with future Symposia organisers. Drafting of more detailed guidelines** (D. Andreu, P. Gomes)
A detailed list with guidelines for future EPSymposia organisers will be prepared. The current list will serve as a guideline. This will be the task of the President, in collaboration with the Secretary.
- Varia**
N. Sewald proposes to formalize the procedure for nominations for the EPS prizes. For instance the number of supporting letters should be specified. The procedure

described on the website of the Japanese Peptide Society for the nominations for the Akabori Award could serve as a guideline.

A.M. Papini will be in charge of obtaining the mold for the Rudinger Award medal from Tuebinger Muenze, and look for a new producing company.

F. Hudecz hands the remaining medals for resigning EC members to the President.

8. **Date and location of the next Executive Committee meeting**

The next EC meeting will be organized in Florence. Participants are expected to arrive on March 27th, 2017 in the morning, and leave on the 29th.

The GA teleconference will again be organized in Barcelona on May 16th, 2017.

D. Andreu, D. Tourwé

September 2016



European Peptide Society

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Minutes of the EPS General Assembly September 5th, 2016, 18.30 – 20.00 h

(Room S202, Seminargebäude, Universität Leipzig)

Part I

1. Welcome (D. Andreu)

The President welcomed the participants, who briefly introduced themselves.

For Belgium, the term of the present representative El Djouhar Rekai expired and Steven Ballet was elected as the new representative. A list of all GA members, with their terms, was sent as Annex 3 to the agenda

2. Apologies for absence (D. Tourwé)

The Secretary received apologies from five Effective members: El Djouhar Rekai, Andrea Jakas, George Spyroulias, Assaf Friedler and Dirk Rijkers. Paula Gomes was invited to the meeting, replacing Castanho Miguel, as well as Dennis Lowik, replacing Prof. Dirk Rijkers. Ulf Diederichsen was invited as the deputy editor of the Journal of Peptide Science. A total of 24 Effective Members are present, which constitutes the required quorum for a valid meeting of the GA.

5. Co-option of new a GA member and election of a new Secretary (D. Andreu)

The President reminded the participants that the current Secretary, Dirk Tourwé, will resign after the present GA, therefore a new Secretary has to be elected. At the instance of the President, and with the full approval of the Executive Committee, the nomination of Paula Gomes, University of Porto, Portugal as Secretary is presented for consideration to the GA. The candidate has accepted the nomination and a short CV of hers has been circulated as Annex 5 to the agenda. Since Paula Gomes is not a member of the General Assembly, she has to be co-opted first.

3. Minutes of the last General Assemblies (Sofia 2014, Barcelona 2016)

The minutes were sent to the GA members before the meeting as Annexes 1 and 2 to the Agenda and were accepted unanimously.

The co-option of Paula Gomes and her subsequent election as Secretary were unanimously approved by the GA.

4. Report on the GA elections 2016 (D. Tourwé)

In 2016, re-elections were organized for France and Germany. The representatives Florine Cavelier and Oliver Seitz were elected for a second term.

6. Bylaws (D. Andreu, D. Tourwé)

The proposed modifications of paragraphs 5.1a, 5.1c, and of Annex 7 were sent to the GA members as Annex 5 to the agenda.

Paragraph 5.1a:

Currently the paragraph (ordinary members) reads as follows: “PhD students without a publication or MA students with a publication (but not BA students) will be accepted as members on the recommendation of their academic promoter.”

There will be added the following: *“Applicants are responsible for sending this recommendation to the EPS Secretary at the latest two weeks after the application, otherwise the application will be deleted.”* This sentence will be also added to the on-line application page. *(This has been done in the meantime)*

Paragraph 5.1.c: the text should be amended to include the current composition of the Executive Committee, and a clearer formulation is proposed.

5.1.c) Effective Members:

Effective Members, and only them, have the right to participate in the General Assembly, which can also co-opt other Effective Members.

Effective members include:

- (A) the serving Executive Committee, who are co-opted as members of the General Assembly.
 - (B) the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Peptide Science, also co-opted as member of the General Assembly
- and
- (C) one Delegate per every associated country admitted to the General Assembly, who represents the peptide scientific community of that country and is elected for a 4-year period by the ordinary members of that country in a vote organised by the Secretary of the EPS.

Ordinary EPS members from a country who have registered until the announcement of the call for nomination are eligible for voting their country’s Delegate. Those registering after this date will be able to participate in the next vote.

If the Delegate from a country moves permanently or for an undetermined period to another country, a new Delegate will be elected.

Re-election of a country’s Delegate is possible for only another 4-year period, after which the Delegate must resign. Re-election at a later time period (after at least four years have elapsed) is possible.

The Executive Committee can invite guests without voting rights to the General Assembly (Council Meeting), e.g. an ordinary member of a country whose elected Delegate is absent.

Annex 7, paragraph 4 will be modified as follows:

“The Miklos Bodanszky Award is presented every two years, during the European Peptide Symposium, in commemoration of Miklos Bodanszky’s contributions to peptide research, to a young scientist who has in the opinion of the General Assembly of the Society made the most outstanding contribution to peptide research in the period of maximum ten years after obtaining the PhD degree. It is a certificate with honorarium.”

Annex 7, Paragraph 7: (Awards of the EPS).

“Each member of the Society has the right to make nomination for the above awards”, will be changed to “Each member of the Society has the right to make nomination for the above awards, **but self-nominations are not accepted**”.

All above modifications were unanimously approved by the Assembly.

7. Reports about EPS Symposia (D. Andreu)

a) *EPS-33*: Bulgaria 2014: Tamara Pajpanova reported that 550 participants from 40 countries attended the symposium. EPS supported the participation of 43 young researchers. In total 150 young investigators participated, of which 11 gave an oral presentation in the Dr. Bert Schram Young Investigator's Mini symposium, and 69 were invited to the Dr. Bert Schram mixer. There were 80 oral presentations, of which 4 by invited speakers, and 378 poster presentations. The proceedings are available on-line.

c) *EPS-34*: Germany 2016: Ulf Diederichsen reported that about 700 participants are present in Leipzig. A new poster-appetisers session is introduced. The budget is on the safe side.

d) *EPS-35* in 2018: Chandralal Hewage showed slides with the conference venue, accommodation and travel information. These will also be presented during the closing ceremony.

e) *EPS-36* in 2020 (also 12th IPS): Meritxell Teixidó showed slides with the conference venue in Sitges, accommodation and travel information.

e) *Future meetings*: The historical list of all previous EPS Symposia was circulated as Annex 6 to the agenda. The intention to organize EPS-37 in 2022 in Florence, Italy, and EPS-38 in 2024 in Austria was confirmed by Paolo Rovero and Christian Gruber respectively. Florine Cavellier also announced the interest of France (Oleg Melnyk) to organize an EPS. Although the proposal of EPS-37 in Florence was not in sync with the historical sequence, the President proposed nonetheless to accept it given that no opposition to it was expressed and that some preparations are already under way. With regard to EPS-38 and EPS-39, Christian Gruber mentioned that Austria (C. Gruber and C. Becker) was willing to discuss with the

representatives of France in which sequence the events could be organized. The GA unanimously accepted the proposal to organize EPS-37 in Florence, Italy, in 2022, as well as the offers of Austria and France for EPS-38 and -39, and agreed also to wait until both countries reach an agreement regarding which country organizes either event.

8. Journal of Peptide Science: Editor's Report

(L. Moroder):

A substantial report was prepared by the Editor-in-Chief, Luis Moroder, which was sent to all GA members before the meeting. No additional questions were raised. L. Moroder commented on the efforts to increase the impact factor. He mentioned that submissions from EPS member countries were a minority and pleaded for a greater contribution from EPS members.

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

A short update of the Report of the Communication Officer, which was presented during the GA teleconference of May 10th, was prepared by Krzysztof Rolka and sent as Annex 8 to the agenda of the meeting. K. Rolka mentioned that the Message of the new President was just sent to all EPS members. The day after sending the message 43% of the members opened the mail.

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

Since the accounts and the budget for 2015 were discussed during the GA teleconference on May 10th, 2016, a short overview of the finances of EPS was presented. The major income of EPS are the royalties paid by Wiley for the Journal of Peptide Science. During the discussion, GA members proposed that EPS undertakes a larger responsibility in Symposium organization in return

for a financial contribution by the organizers. In this connection, the possibility of introducing a membership fee was again raised by some participants. Given the recurrent nature of these issues, already voiced at previous GAs, the President proposed to create a task force, made of the Executive Committee plus other Effective members, entrusted with drafting a white paper where the various positions on the issue, its pros and cons, would be outlined, as a prelude to a GA vote, hopefully definitive, on the matter. The GA agreed to the President's proposal, to be implemented during the remaining part of 2016.

11. Scientific Affairs Officer's Report (N. Sewald)

The following list of supported small meetings was provided by Norbert Sewald:

15th Iberian Peptide Meeting (February 10-12, 2016, Porto, Portugal), Italian MS Peptide Days (February 10-12, 2016, Convento S. Apollonia, Florence, Italy), Belgian Peptide Group Meeting (February 17-18, 2016, Brussels, Belgium), Dutch Peptide Symposium (June 3, 2016, Lelystad, Netherlands), 15th Naples Workshop on Bioactive Peptides (June 23-25, 2016, Centro Congressi "Federico II", Naples, Italy), 7th Bulgarian Peptide Symposium (July 10-12, 2016 Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria), 11th Chemistry and Biology of Peptides Meeting

(University of Oxford, November 9, 2016), Austrian Peptide Symposium (Dec 1, 2016, Vienna, Austria).

12. Situation of Awards (D. Andreu, N. Sewald)

The Treasurer mentioned that the Zervas Award is covered by the endowment of Rao Makineni, and that the Secretary had obtained a letter of commitment by PolyPeptide labs to cover five (four remaining) Rudinger Awards. The President mentioned that funding for at least the next two Bodanszky Awards (2018, 2020) had been secured from BCN Peptides.

13. Matters of the EPS President (D. Andreu)

None

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

1. Resignation of the Executive Committee Member

Prof. Dirk Tourwé as Secretary. The GA members took note of the resignation.

2. Any other business

None.

D. Andreu, D. Tourwé

September 2016

Attendance list

Andreu, David
Papini, Anna Maria
Rolka, Krzysztof
Tourwé, Dirk
Sewald, Norbert
Gruber, Christian
Ballet, Steven
Pajpanova, Tamara
Cеровsky, Vaclav

Jensen, Knud
Närvänen, Ale
Cavelier, Florine
Seitz, Oliver
Mező, Gabor
Hewage, Chandralal
Rovero, Paolo
Haug Bengt, Erik
Szewczuk, Zbignew

Deigin, Vladislav
Lunder, Mojca
Teixidó, Meritxell
Wennemers, Helma
Howl, John
Moroder, Luis
Diederichsen, Ulf (guest)
Gomes, Paula (guest)
Lowik, Dennis (guest)



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Minutes of the International Liaison Committee (ILC) Meeting September 8th, 2016, 13.00-14.00 h (Room A122, Augusteum, Universität Leipzig)

Participants:

American Peptide Society	Phil Dawson (President) <i>excused</i> William Lubell	dawson@scripps.edu william.lubell@umontreal.ca
Australian Peptide Association	Paul Alewood John Wade	p.alewood@imb.uq.edu.au john.wade@florey.edu.au
Chinese Peptide Community		
European Peptide Society	David Andreu (President) Ferenc Hudecz Anna Maria Papini Norbert Sewald Krzysztof Rolka Dirk Tourwé	david.andreu@upf.edu fhudecz@elte.hu annamaria.papini@unifi.it norbert.sewald@uni-bielefeld.de krzysztof.rolka@ug.edu.pl datourwe@vub.ac.be
Indian Peptide Society		
Japanese Peptide Society	Kenichi Akaji (President) <i>excused</i> Yoshiaki Kiso; Shiroh Futaki Katsumi Matsuzaki Hirunobu Hojo Hidehito Mukai Kazuyasu Sakaguchi	akaji@mb.kyoto-phu.ac.jp y_kiso@nagahama-i-bio.ac.jp futaki@scl.kyoto-u.ac.jp mkatsumi@pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp hojo@protein.osaka-u.ac.jp hmukai-endo@umin.ac.jp kazuyasu@sci.hokudai.ac.jp
Korean Peptide Society		
Singapore Peptide Community	James Tam <i>excused</i>	JPTam@ntu.edu.sg

Agenda

1. **Welcome** (D. Andreu)

The EPS President welcomes the participants and asks each of them to briefly introduce themselves.

2. **Minutes of the ILC meeting 2014 in Sofia, and 2015 in Orlando** (composed by C. Hewage)

These minutes were circulated before the meeting, and no additional remarks were made.

3. **Reports from Peptide Societies:**

- American Peptide Society: W. Lubell announces the 25th American Peptide Symposium which will be organized in Whistler, Canada by Joh Vederas and Jonathan Lai. Recently, several younger colleagues have taken responsibility in the APS, who will be more susceptible to contributions from the international peptide community to the symposium. This symposium will also be 9th IPS.

- Japanese Peptide Society: H. Hojo reported the 52nd Japanese Peptide Symposium, which was held in Tokyo, attracted 400 participants. Half of the presentations were given by young researchers, mostly in English. Because of the strong relationship with the Korean peptide Society, two of the invited speakers were from that country.

The 53rd JPS will be held in Kyoto in October 2016.

The organisers, S. Futaki and K. Matsuzaki, announced the 10th IPS and 55th JPS which will be organised in Kyoto in December 2018.

- Australian Peptide Association: P. Alewood reported that the 11th Australian Peptide Conference in

Kingscliff, NSW (2015) attracted about 200 participants, about 110 of them were from outside Australia. The 12th Australian Peptide Conference will be held from 15th-19th October 2017 in Noosa, Queensland, Australia. There will be two satellite meetings, one on solid phase synthesis, one on venoms to drugs.

- Singapore Peptide Community: In his e-mail, J. Tam announces that he and David Lane will organise the 2nd Peptides and Proteins Society of Singapore Symposium 2016 (P2S2 2016) to be held in Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, School of Biological Sciences CR1, on 8-9 December 2016 (Thurs-Fri).
- European Peptide Society: D. Andreu reports on the recent changes in the Executive Committee of EPS, with a new President, Communication Officer and Scientific Affairs Officer. The Secretary will be replaced after this meeting. The next European Peptide symposia will be organized in Dublin (2018), Barcelona (2020) and Firenze (2022).

4. **Plans to establish a Federation of Asia-Pacific Peptide Societies**

J. Wade reports a slow progress due to difficulties to communicate with the Indian Peptide Society and to the fact that China does not have a Peptide Society. More progress is expected at the next ILC meeting.

6. **Place and date of next meeting**

The next ILC is expected to be during the 25th APS/9th IPS in Whistler. W. Lubell will send a request to the organisers (*has already been done*)

7. **Any other business**

J. Wade pleads for an International Peptide Conference to be held in Asia, and not coinciding with one of the traditional meetings. The strong science performed by the Asian peptide community deserves such a conference. D. Andreu is open for a discussion, although the schedule for IPS's has been recently discussed (Minutes of the ILC in Sofia, 2014, accepted at this meeting)

W. Lubell suggests to establish an award to be given at the IPS.

P. Alewood mentions that the last Chinese Peptide Meeting in Nanjing attracted about 400 participants and announces that the next one will be organised in Shenzhen.

D. Andreu, D. Tourwé

September 2016

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CALENDAR **of** Forthcoming Events

13TH GERMAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM @ FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
20 – 23 March 2017
URL: http://dechema.de/en/peptide13_2017.html

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENZYMOLOGY @ HOLIDAY INN ROME AURELIA

Via Aurelia Km 8,400, 00165 Rome, Italy
20 – 21 March 2017
URL: <http://www.enzymology.conferenceseries.com/>

4TH EUROPEAN CHEMISTRY CONGRESS

TRYP Barcelona Apolo Hotel
11 – 13 May 2017
URL: <http://chemistry.conferenceseries.com/europe/>

25TH AMERICAN PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Whistler, British Columbia, Canada
17 – 22 June 2017
URL: <http://aps2017.org/>

24TH POLISH PEPTIDE SYMPOSIUM

Jastrzebia Gora, Poland
3 – 7 September, 2017
URL: <http://www.24pps.pl>

12TH AUSTRALIAN PEPTIDE CONFERENCE

Peppers Noosa Resort, Queensland, Australia
15 – 20 October 2017
URL: <https://www.apc2017.org/>