

## EDITORIAL

The Bulgarian Peptide Society organized the Fifth Bulgarian Peptide Symposium under the auspices of the European Peptide Society. This event took place at Bachinovo, Rila mountain resort, on 28–30 May 2008. The symposium was aimed at bringing together peptide researchers and young investigators to present and discuss results of common interest. There were 70 registered participants from different Bulgarian universities, laboratories, hospitals, and organizations. The Organizing Committee highly appreciated the attendance of Prof. Jean Martinez, Prof. Ettore Benedetti, Prof. Anna-Maria Papini, Prof. Beatriu Escuder, Prof. Rudolph Willem, and Dr. Tzvetana Lazarova. Also, young foreign participants were present.

The scientific program within three days included 15 lectures and 38 posters. The lectures and posters covered topics such as structure-activity studies on bioactive peptides, peptidomimetics, physiological studies on bioactive peptides, synthesis and physiological studies of modified amino acids and structural and conformational analysis of peptides, isolation and biological activity of natural peptides, kinetic investigation and theoretical studies on peptide mimetics, and proteomic and neuropeptides investigations. Two memorial lectures in tribute to Prof. Dimitar Petkov, D.Sc., were dedicated to its life and scientific achievements. Prof. Jean Martinez and Prof. Ettore Benedetti delivered a welcoming speech. The lectures were delivered by Prof. J. Martinez, Prof. E. Benedetti, Prof. A. Papini, Prof. L. Vezekov, Prof. B. Escuder, Prof. B. Tchorbanov, Dr. Tz. Lazarova, Dr. D. Danalev, Dr. S. Vezekov, Dr. D. Tzekova, Dr. Camelia Mihai, and Dr. O. Apostolov. L. Van Lokeren and B. Benkova, both Ph.D. students, gave interesting talks on the same problems. The best three scientific works presented by young researchers were awarded.

Financial support from the European Peptide Society, MakMetal Co., Aquachim Co. Ltd., University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, Sofia, Med Co., South-Western University of Blagoevgrad, and FOT Co., enabled the Organizing Committee to invite several distinguished scientists, to support the participation of more than 15 young researchers and students, and to organize the publishing of part of presented scientific communications.

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