

FEBS NewsLetter

July 2003 (4/2003)

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION



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First of all, I wish to address a warm welcome to [The Association of Georgian Biochemists](#), which during this years' FEBS council Meeting, on July 8, was accepted as new member of FEBS. A warm welcome also to the new members of our various committees (see p. 2).

The FEBS Council meeting referred to on p. 2, took place in Brussels in connection with the annual FEBS Congress, which — as many of you will know — was a Special Meeting on Signal Transduction. To those of you who attended the Meeting and/or the FEBS Forum for Young Scientists, which was held prior to this, I would like to say that it was a true pleasure for my colleagues and I to meet and talk with so many of you. Those of you who missed one or both of the meetings will soon be able to get a flavour of the atmosphere at http://www.febs.org/News/Photo_Gallery/Photo_Gallery.htm, as well as in this issue of FEBS Newsletter.

As announced at this years' Special FEBS Meeting, FEBS now offers its members a forum for dialogue and debate; the *FEBS Bulletin Board*. FEBS Bulletin Board is a web based forum able to facilitate contact between FEBS members in the 42 'FEBS' countries. You can use the forum to start a debate — or to join one —, to look for collaboration partners or certain knowledge, and/or to start (or extend) a professional network across Europe. There's no limit and only one rule: FEBS bulletin Board can only be used by FEBS members for purposes that applies to the mission of FEBS (ref. our Statutes and Guidelines, section 1). More about the bulletin board, usability, application procedures etc. at p. 4.

My colleagues and I are looking forward to seeing both new and known faces next year in Warsaw, at the annual FEBS Congress in Poland. This Congress will mark the 40th anniversary for FEBS. That fact and the fact that FEBS now have more members and more to offer than ever before calls for a celebration. And indeed we are going to celebrate in the year to come. So, keep an eye on the future issues of FEBS Newsletter!

About FEBS Newsletter

-  FEBS Newsletter is published every second Monday in every second month (starting January). All former issues of FEBS Newsletter, are available at FEBS' website, <http://www.febs.org>.
-  Free e-subscription is offered at http://www.febs.org/e-mail_registration.asp. Subscribers will receive the newsletter as a PDF file whenever a new issue is published.
-  Should you wish to announce a job, your post doc, a post doc position, a course etc.? FEBS Newsletter welcomes all types of articles, announcements etc. that applies to the stated objectives of the Federation (ref. FEBS Statutes and Guidelines, available from our website).
-  Any comments or suggestions to the FEBS Newsletter or website? Feel free to send an e-mail to newsletter@febs.org.
-  Deadline for all types of entries to the next issue of the FEBS Newsletter is **August 4, 2003**.
-  FEBS Newsletter is sent directly to more than 14.000 members in 42 countries.



FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

By Prof. J.E. Celis, Secretary-General of FEBS
 Institute of Cancer Biology and Danish Centre for Translational Breast Cancer Research (DCTB)
 Danish Cancer Society
 Strandboulevarden 49, DK-2100 Copenhagen O, Denmark
 E-mail: jec@cancer.dk

I would like to take this opportunity to present to you the Executive Summary of decisions taken at the 43. Council Meeting in Brussels, which was held on July 8, 2003.

1) Federico Mayor, member of the FEBS Executive Committee and Chairman of the FEBS Science and Society Committee, was re-appointed for a 3 year term, starting January 1, 2004.

2) Anna Tramontano was elected member of the FEBS Publications Committee for a period of 4 years, starting January 1, 2004.

3) Angela Nieto and Margarita Hadzopoulou-Cladaras were elected members of the FEBS Fellowship Committee for a period of 4 years, starting January 1, 2004.

4) Lea Sistonen, Daniela Corda and Johannes L. Bos were elected members of the FEBS Advanced Courses Committee for a period of 4 years, starting January 1, 2004.

5) The FEBS Congress in 2006 was granted to Turkey/the Turkish Constituent Society.

6) The Association of Georgian Biochemists was accepted as Associated member of FEBS.

7) Council supported the efforts of the FEBS Working Group on the European Research Area (ERA) to further the discussion on the possibility of establishing a European Research Council (ERC).

In addition to the above, the Executive Committee prior to the Council Meeting approved an application from the Hungarian Constituent Society for co-operation and support of a Network of Youth Excellence.

Julio E. Celis,
 Secretary General of FEBS,
 July 11, 2003.



DIPLÔME D'HONNEUR

The Treasurer of FEBS and member of the FEBS Executive Committee, Prof. Iain Mowbray, was awarded the FEBS Diplôme D'Honneur on July 8. This has been given to him as an acknowledgement of his outstanding and long lasting services to FEBS.



VICE RECTOR AT UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

Member of the FEBS Executive Committee and Chairman of the FEBS Forum for Young Scientists' careers, Prof. Marja Makarow, was on June 11, 2003 appointed Vice Rector at University of Helsinki (<http://www.helsinki.fi/english/>).



THE *FEBS* BULLETIN BOARD – LAUNCH DATE: JULY 15, 2003

Prof. Peter Ott,
FEBS Website Manager
Institute of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
University of Bern
E-mail: peter.ott@febs.org

The FEBS website has over the past years been used as a tool to disseminate information on all the multiple activities of FEBS and has enjoyed an increasing popularity among the FEBS Community.

However, this communication has so far been a one-way lane directed from FEBS to its members while communication in the other direction has been possible only via e-mail channels. And communication and exchange of ideas among FEBS members scattered all over Europe and sometimes even farther is possible only among those people who know each other.

To change this situation and to stimulate discussion on topics of general interest ranging from scientific questions to science policy to the activities of FEBS (and maybe even further) a new service will be installed and become available via the FEBS Website: the *FEBS Bulletin Board*.

This will work like one of the many Bulletin Boards that exists around the web but will be devoted exclusively to the topics of interest to the Febs Community. It will be available via the FEBS website and directly at

<http://www.febs.org/FebsBB>

At the time this *FEBS Bulletin Board* will be launched it will contain discussion Fora on the several activities of FEBS like FEBS Advanced Courses, FEBS Congresses, the FEBS Fellowships Program, the Journals of FEBS, the FEBS Newsletter and the FEBS Website, but also on more general aspect like Science Policy, Science and Society, the role of Women in Science, the Careers of Young Scientists and Teaching Biochemistry.

More discussion topics of general interest can be added whenever this proves to be necessary.

A special feature of the *FEBS Bulletin Board* is that you can subscribe to any of the active discussions. For a. With this you will get an automatic e-mail alert by the system (once per day) whenever a new message has been posted to a Forum for which you have entered a subscription. This may be particularly comfortable when you subscribe to *FEBS Bulletin Board* from where you will be notified whenever the website has been updated. Of course, in a "My Home - Area" this e-mail alert feature can be turned on and off individually for each forum.

To enter the *FEBS Bulletin Board* you must first go through a short registration procedure because only "members" of the *FEBS Bulletin Board* are authorized to read and post messages and contribute to discussions. Once registration is accomplished you will receive your password via e-mail and this opens the *FEBS Bulletin Board* for you. Of course this password can be changed and I suggest that you devote a few moments to explore the "My Home" area where all personal preferences (Forum subscriptions, layout details, passwords, display preferences etc) can be specified. And of course there is an e-mail link to forum@febs.org to be used if things should go out of control.

And now I look forward to you contributions in the *FEBS Bulletin Board* – the place to meet the members of the FEBS community

With best regards

Peter Ott



SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND GMO'S

By Prof. Peter Campbell, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University College London, London WC1E 6BT,
E-mail p.campbell@biochemistry.ucl.ac.uk

At the recent Special FEBS Meeting in Brussels under the title *Signal Transduction* several extra programmes were held on more general matters.

One of these was a whole day session chaired by Prof. Federico Mayor, the Chairman of the FEBS *Science and Society Committee*.

In the morning the discussion concerned general matters. In particular it was interesting to hear from Dr Rainer Gerold from the European Commission on the *European Science and Society Action Plan*. We also heard from a number of journalists about the problems of publishing science in the popular press. In the afternoon the first session was on *Stem Cell Research and Society*.

The final session was entitled *Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO's): Public Perception, Regulation and Role of Media*. We heard about the work of the International Council for Science (ICSU). They have published a report under the title *New Genetics, Food and Agriculture: Scientific Discoveries-Societal Dilemmas*. The full report is on the internet <http://www.icsu.org>. We also heard about the experience of Switzerland with respect to public debate and national regulation on GMO's and finally from Claire Cockcroft in Cambridge on *The role of science communication and the media*.

Concerning the session on GMO's. I left with the following thoughts. First, that the scientists former line, that if only the public understood our science they would accept it, is ill conceived. Rather it is essential that the scientists should enter a dialogue with the public. In order to en-

sure that this does not become a monologue, the scientists must accept a degree of humility and admit their degrees of certainty. Too often scientists seem to me to overstate their case for GMO's and this naturally encourages a vigorous response. Second, the opposition to GMO food in Europe is surely linked to the lack of any obvious benefit in terms of the shopper with respect to either economics or improved taste.

It is no good trying to encourage the European shopper on the basis that the development of GMO foods will help to prevent starvation in Africa. Moreover, we cannot expect Africans to encompass GMO foods if we in Europe reject them.

Third, as academic teachers we usually miss our opportunity to encourage our students to enter discussion on matters like GMO foods. We should endeavour to see that our graduates leave our universities ready to stand as advocates for our science and its role in promoting science for the good of humanity. This is especially true now that so many science graduates enter a wide variety of non-science professions.

I must end by mentioning that the audience which attended the sessions on *Science and Society* was disappointingly small in contrast to the large attendance at the scientific lectures. The reasons for this need to be investigated but perhaps a predominant one is that our youth feel they have little hope of influencing change.

Peter Campbell,
10th July 2003

FEBS NewsLetter welcomes articles from our members

Please contact Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (newsletter@febs.org) for further information.

Do you wish to enter the GMO debate? Or start a debate on another science related topic?

FEBS Bulletin Board provides the perfect forum for this! - see p. 3.



The European Research Area (ERA) and the European Research Council (ERC)

Europe has a long standing tradition of excellence in research and innovation, and European teams continue to lead progress in many fields of science and technology. However, as our centres of excellence are scattered across the continent, initiatives has been taken to bring the endeavours together and to build a research and innovation equivalent of the "common market" for goods and services. That structure is called the European Research Area. Central in the debates related to ERA is the ERC. Both of which you can read more about <http://www.febs.org> and <http://www.cordis.lu/era/concept.htm>. Furthermore, you can catch the latest news on ERA from the EU Commission on http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/era/eranews_en.html.

<http://www.bioinformatrix.net> is a bioinformatics portal that combines science, computers, education and business. It hosts data related to topics like Molecular Biology, Information Technology, Bioinformatics & Biotech Large collection of searchable and up-to-date Bioinformatics Web Links Quick-Launch of more than 500 dedicated Biological Databases - FAQ's containing Upcoming Meetings, Annotated Historical Timeline, Cheat Sheets, Blogs Overview, Biotech Summary - Biotech Stocks "at-a-glance" & Portfolio Management. All services are offered for free.

At <http://www.medilexicon.com> you can find the Medi Lexicon search box, which gives free access to what is said to be the world's largest online database of medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, and biotech abbreviations - over 70,000. Their search box can be found in over 200 medical/pharma websites. At the website you also find a medical dictionary, drug search, medical articles search, a 10,000 database of pharmaceutical companies worldwide, medical conferences search and much more.

POST-DOC WANTED!

Here is a message from Olga Assossou for a post-doc: I look for a postdoctoral position in an European country. I have competences in Cellular Biology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. I would consider any proposition.

Assossou Marie-Eve Olga
5 Place jean Jaurès
69007 Lyon
e-mail: oassossou@hotmail.com

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THE WORKING GROUPE FOR EXPLORING WAYS TO ASSIST CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (WOGA):

FEBS VOLUNTEER AID PROGRAM GOES LIVE!

As announced in FEBS NewsLetter issue 2/2003, p. 5, FEBS Working Group for Exploring Ways to Assist Central and Eastern European Countries (WOGA) last year decided to try to establish a panel of volunteers to assist fellow colleagues/FEBS members, who need help from native English speakers in connection with submitting papers in English — grant and fellowship applications, scientific papers etc.

Prof. Guy Dirheimer, the chairman of WOGA (and coordinator of this special Volunteer Aid Program named 'VAP') is now happy to announce that a VAP review panel has now been established, and is ready for operation!

Should you wish to apply for help from this panel — or should you wish to become a member of the panel — feel welcome to contact Guy Dirheimer. The panel offers its help free of charge to members of FEBS. Questions regarding VAP should also be addressed to Prof. Dirheimer.

Guy Dirheimer
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F-67000 Strasbourg, France
E-mail: guy.dirheimer.febs@wanadoo.fr

THE FEBS ADVANCED COURSES COMMITTEE:

OFFICIAL CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FROM POTENTIAL COURSE ORGANISERS

FEBS Advanced Courses Committee hereby calls for applications from people, who wish to become organiser of a FEBS **practical** Course. These courses are meant to teach the participants (15-20) new and advanced techniques. Emphasis should be on hands-on experiments so that upon return the participating students can apply these techniques in their laboratories. Lecturers (4-6) can be invited to present lectures that provide a theoretical background to the experiments.

In addition, FEBS will support **lecture** courses. These courses are given by a limited number of lecturers (15-20) and are characterized by a strong interaction with the participants (up to 120) by way of poster sessions, oral presentations and round-table discussions. As the emphasis is on teaching, lecturers may be asked to present an introductory lecture followed by a state-of-the-art lecture. A combination of practical and lecture courses is possible.

Descriptive information on FEBS Advanced Courses in 2003 and 2004, funding aspects and application procedures is available from http://www.febs.org/Activities/Advanced_Courses/ADVCGEN.HTM

Should wish to become an FEBS Advanced Course organiser, or do you have any questions, please contact committee chairman **Prof. Karel W. A. Wirtz** (k.w.a.wirtz@chem.uu.nl). Full contact details are available at <http://www.febs.org/Organization/EXEC.HTM>.



FEBS Letters is launching a new online submission system on July 1st 2003. This easy-to-use system will further reduce handling and publication times for our authors.

Now FEBS Letters offers even more benefits:

- Submit articles wherever you have internet access, just go to <http://febsletters.manuscriptcentral.com>
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* for those who qualify
- As with any new system, questions or problems may arise when you first start using our online system – E-mail the Editorial Office at FEBS.Letters@urz.uni-heidelberg.de and we will personally and quickly address your concerns.

For more information, visit <http://www.febsletters.org>.



CONTINUED...



FEBS Newsletter July 2003
FEBS Meeting in Brussels, 3-8 July 2003

Dear Fellow Scientists,

The special FEBS Meeting on Signal Transduction held in Brussels at the beginning of July was thought to be very successful.

There were some excellent lectures, of which several will be appearing as review articles in EJB in the course of the next few months. The Chairman of the Editorial Board (Richard Perham) and the Editorial Manager, Louise Sanders, attended the conference and met many of our past, present and (we hope) future authors and reviewers. Several members of our Editorial Board and Editorial Advisory Board were participating as speakers. EJB and FEBS Letters, the two journals owned by FEBS, hosted a cocktail reception for younger scientists on the evening of Monday 7 July, and this attracted a crowd more numerous than we could comfortably fit into the rather large room set aside for the purpose!

Remember, all review articles published in EJB can be read and downloaded free of charge as soon as they are published on the Blackwell Science service *Synergy* (<http://blackwell-synergy.com/>) and the *Highwire* platform (<http://ejbiochem.org> and <http://highwire.stanford.edu/>).

All the abstracts of the lectures and posters at the Brussels meeting were collected in a special supplement of EJB issued to participants and this too can be accessed and searched (together with the abstracts from the Istanbul 2002 and Lisbon 2001 meetings) from the EJB website (www.ejbiochem.com).

Reviews and Minireview Series

Since the last FEBS Newsletter, the following review articles have been published in the journal:

(i) The mystery of non-classical protein secretion: a current view on cargo proteins and potential export routes, by Walter Nickel.

(ii) Investigating signal transduction with genetically encoded fluorescent probes, the Theodor Bücher Lecture given by Tullio Pozzan on 22 October 2002 at the 28th FEBS Meeting in Istanbul, by Tullio Pozzan, Marco Mongillo and Rüdiger Rudolf.

(iii) On peptide bond formation, translocation, nascent protein progression and the regulatory properties of ribosomes, the EMBO Lecture given by Ada Yonath on 20 October 2002 at the 28th FEBS Meeting in Istanbul; by Ilana Agmon, Tamar Auerbach, David Baram, Heike Bartels, Anat Bashan, Rita Berisio, Paola Fucini, Harly A. S. Hansen, Joerg Harms, Maggie Kessler, Moshe Peretz, Frank Schluenzen, Ada Yonath and Raz Zarivach.

plus this Priority Paper:

Novel ATP-binding and autophosphorylation activity associated with *Arabidopsis* and human cryptochrome-1, by Jean-Pierre Bouly, Baldissera Giovani, Armin Djamei, Markus Mueller, Anke Zeugner, Elizabeth A. Dudkin, Alfred Batschauer and Margaret Ahmad.

The following reviews will be published in forthcoming issues of EJB:

(i) Gene regulation by tetracyclines: Constraints of resistance regulation in bacteria shape TetR for application in eukaryotes, by Christian Berens and Wolfgang Hillen.

(ii) Fidelity and spatio-temporal control in MAP kinase (ERKs) Signalling, the Sir Hans Krebs Lecture given by Jacques Pouysségur on 24 October 2002 at the 28th FEBS Meeting in Istanbul; by Jacques Pouysségur and Philippe Lenormand.

Don't forget that you can read accepted articles, including reviews, online before they appear in the hard copy of the journal. Go to OnlineEarly on the EJB website (www.ejbiochem.com).

Mathematical model database

The mathematical modelling website mentioned in previous issues of the FEBS Newsletter now has its first two papers published:

(i) Dynamic model of *Escherichia coli* tryptophan operon shows an optimal structural design, by Sharad Bhartiya, Subodh Rawool and K. V. Venkatesh (*Eur. J. Biochem.* **270**, 2644-2651, 2003), and

(ii) Mechanism of protection of peroxidase activity by oscillatory dynamics, by Lars F. Olsen, Marcus J. B. Hauser and Ursula Kummer (*Eur. J. Biochem.* **270**, 2796-2804, 2003).

You can access and try out the mathematical models associated with these two papers free of charge online. Full details can be found in our Instructions to Authors (at <http://www.ejbiochem.com>) and at the relevant website (<http://jji.biochem.sun.ac.za/ejb/>).

We take this opportunity to wish you a happy and scientifically productive summer. We look forward to seeing the papers that flow in to EJB after your sojourns on the beach, in the mountains, or wherever. To those of you refereeing papers for us during this time, we say a special thank you.

With best regards,

Richard Perham, Chairman of the Editorial Board
 Louise Sanders, Editorial Manager
 Vanessa Wilkinson, Deputy Editorial Manager
 Jane Bartolozzi, Editorial Secretary
 Laraine Kerr, Editorial Secretary
 Ilana Wooster, Editorial Secretary



POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR TRAINING IN THE LIFE SCIENCES

The Human Frontier Science Program has announced the latest call for applications for Long-term Fellowships to support postdoctoral training in basic research in the life sciences.

Long-term fellowships (LTF) provide three years of support for postdoctoral training abroad in a laboratory of the fellow's choice. The third year may be used either in the host laboratory or in the fellow's home country and Fellows who return home are eligible to apply for a Career Development Award.

Applicants for the LTF program are expected to explore a new area of research. Scientists trained in other disciplines such as chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer science, and engineering are especially encouraged to apply for training in the life sciences.

The next deadline for submitting letters of intent for the research grants is **September 4th 2003**. Further information can be obtained at <http://www.hfsp.org>.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION — TGF-B SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION LAB AT NETHERLANDS CANCER INSTITUTE SEEKS EXPERIENCED CELL/MOLECULAR BIOLOGISTS

Three Postdoctoral positions are open at the Division of Cellular Biochemistry, Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam. We are looking for enthusiastic Post-docs with strong interest in signal transduction to join our team investigating the molecular mechanisms by which TGF-b elicits its cellular effects and developing animal models of diseases that are caused by perturbed TGF-b signaling.

We apply biochemical, (single) cell biological techniques, *in vivo* mouse models as well as innovative functional genomic tools in our research.

Funding is available for an initial period of two years.

Application, including CV, list of publications and two letters of reference, should be sent to:

Dr. Peter ten Dijke

Division of Cellular Biochemistry

Netherlands Cancer Institute

Plesmanlaan 1211066 CX Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Tel: +31-20-5121979; Fax: +31-20-5121989; Email: p.t.dijke@nki.nl

EMBO AWARD

The European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) Award for Communication in the Life Sciences, consists of a silver and gold medal, and the sum of Euro 5.000, which the winner may dispose of as she/he sees fit.

The award is intended for a life scientist who, while remaining active in research, has succeeded in making an outstanding contribution to the communication of science to the public.

You will find the conditions of the competition and an application form at http://www.embo.org/projects/scisoc/com_medal.html

Candidates must apply using the official form by the deadline of **31 August 2003**.



POST-DOCTORAL POSITION IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY: IDENTIFICATION OF NOVEL TRANSDUCTION PATHWAYS IN INSULIN-SECRETING CELLS - UNIVERSITY OF LOUVAIN (BRUSSELS, BELGIUM).

One postdoctoral position is immediately available for 2 years (beginning: September or October 2003) at the Unité d'Endocrinologie et Métabolisme, Faculty of Medicine, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels.

The area of study: Stimulus-secretion coupling in insulin-secreting cells. Studies of the mechanisms by which nutrients, hormones, neurotransmitters and pharmacological agents regulate pancreatic B-cell function. Identification of transduction pathway changes associated with adaptation to insulin resistance and decompensation in diabetes. The applicant will be expected to collaborate with other members of the laboratory studying gene expression, and biochemical (metabolism, second messengers, protein-kinases,...) or biophysical parameters (electrophysiology, measurements of intracellular ions by microspectrofluorimetry and image analysis) in pancreatic islets.

Profile: To hold a degree in medicine, pharmacy, agronomy, sciences, biomedical sciences or a related field. The applicant should have a deep expertise in molecular biology, particularly in constructing and using adenoviruses to target reporter genes or overexpress specific proteins.

Procedure: Applicants should send a short summary of their research experience, a detailed CV with address and phone number for further contact, and names, addresses and e-mails of at least two referees to: **Dr. P. Gilon**, Unité d'Endocrinologie et Métabolisme. Faculty of Medicine. UCL – ENDO 55.30, Avenue Hippocrate, 55, 1200 Brussels, Belgium. E-mail: gilon@endo.ucl.ac.be

POSITIONS AVAILABLE — TECHNICIAN

We are looking for a technician ideally with at least 2 years of experience in molecular biology of DNA, RNA and proteins. The main tasks will be DNA isolation and cloning, RNA isolation protein expression and purification in addition to basic fly work. Experience with *Drosophila* is not necessary, but would be helpful. We are a very diverse and international lab (9 countries and 4 continents) and a very good command of English is a must. Ideally, you are an easy going, multicultural, interactive person and a team player. Salary depends on CV and years of experience.

To apply e-mail your CV, including the names and coordinates of 2 or more referees to:

Bassem Hassan (Bassem.Hassan@med.kuleuven.ac.be). For additional information on the lab please check our web site at: <http://www.med.kuleuven.ac.be/cme-mg/lng/>

DOCTORAL STUDENT OR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

We are looking for an interactive, enthusiastic, driven and ambitious young scientist for a research project at the junction of cell biology, developmental genetics and biochemistry. The project is a collaboration between the groups of Dr. Bassem Hassan (<http://www.med.kuleuven.ac.be/cme-mg/lng/>) and Dr. Pascale Zimmermann in the department of Human Genetics/VIB4 at the University of Leuven. The project aims at investigating the role of Phosphoinositides-PDZ protein interactions on development. Applicants are encouraged to apply for their own fellowship to cover their salary prior to, or shortly after, joining the lab. We are a very diverse and international lab (9 countries and 4 continents) and a very good command of English is a must. Ideally, you are an easy going, multicultural, interactive person and a team player. For the postdoctoral position, the formal requirements are: a Ph.D. and a strong publication record. *Drosophila* experience is a significant advantage. Interested? E-mail your CV including the names and coordinates of at least 3 referees to:

Bassem.Hassan@med.kuleuven.ac.be or **Pascale.Zimmermann@med.kuleuven.ac.be**.

For Additional info check:

1. Hassan et al., Genetics. 1998, 150:1527-37.
2. Zimmermann et al., Mol Cell. 2002, 9:1215-25.



POST-DOC AVAILABLE

Field: Gene Expression of inflammatory genes, signal transduction, adhesion molecules, cyclooxygenase, promotor analysis, transcriptional factors.

For further information, please contact:

Prof. Ching-Chow Chen, Dept. of Pharmacology, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University, No. 1 Jen Ai Road, 1st section, Taipei, Taiwan, Tel: 886-2-32123456 ext. 8321, Fax: 886-223947833, E-mail: ccchen@ha.mc.nta.edu.tw

FEBS ADVANCED COURSE 04-03C:

THE DESIGN AND BUILDING OF QUARTZ CRYSTAL MICROBALANCE (QCM) BIOSENSORS

Course outline: This FEBS Practical Course aims to teach the participants how to prepare quartz crystals as specific biosensors and how to use them in the detection of the target molecules. In the context of the course, these practical issues will be discussed by the lectures which would prepare the participants to the practical laboratory work, by giving both theoretical basis of the subject and also practical hints. In the lectures the followings will be covered: (i) general perspectives of biosensors, and particularly QCM systems (ii) piezoelectric crystals (properties, selection, surface modification, etc.); (iii) biological molecules (antibodies/antigens, nucleic acids, etc.) as ligands for biosensors; (iv) immobilisation of ligands onto crystals; (v) use of QCM systems as biosensors.

There will be 5 working days, starting from *Monday, June 21, 2004*. Students will actively participate the laboratory works about 4-5 hours in each day.

There will be a one day tour to Capadoccia (free of charge) on Saturday, June 26th, 2004.

Date of Course: June 20-27, 2004 (arrivals on Sunday 20th and departures on Sunday 27th)

Number of working days: Five days (from Monday morning 21th to Friday evening 25)

Proposed deadline for application: January 20, 2004

Grants:

There will be 15 FEBS Youth Travel Fund (YTF) available for students from abroad which will cover travel expenses and a registration fee of 640 Euro to pay for accommodation and all meals. Graduate students and post-docs within five years of obtaining a PhD can apply for a YTF grant. Five students from Turkey will be accepted and partly supported by the organization.

Address for Correspondence:

Prof. Dr. Erhan Pişkin

Hacettepe University, Chem.Eng.Dept. and Bioeng., Beytepe, 06532, Ankara, Turkey

Tel: 190-312-2977400, 01 or 73; Fax: +90-312-2992124

e-mail: piskin@hacettepe.edu.tr or erhanpiskin@lycos.com

More information available at <http://www.QCMbiosensors.hacettepe.edu.tr>

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For further details please contact Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (contact details on p. 2).



What: The 5th meeting of the Slovenian Biochemical Society.

When: September 24 - 28, 2003

Where: Ljubljana, Slovenia

For detailed information please see:

<http://bio.ijs.si/sbd/meeting5.html>

What: "Conference for young scientists, PhD. students and students on molecular biology and genetics".

When: September 25-27, 2003

Where: Kyiv, Ukraine

For detailed information please see:

<http://www.imbig.org.ua/conference/>

What: 1st International Symposium on Experimental Standard Conditions of Enzyme Characterizations

When: October 6–8, 2003

Where: Ruedesheim/Rhine, Germany

For detailed information please see:

<http://www.beilstein-institut.de>

What: The 4th Neurobiology of Aging Conference 'Developmental Origins of Aging in the Brain and Blood Vessels'.

When: November 6-7, 2003

Where: New Orleans, USA

For detailed information please see:

<http://www.nba-meeting.com>

What: Marrakech Congress of Biochemistry

When: May 3-6, 2004

Where: Marrakech, Morocco

For detailed information please see:

<http://www.multimania.com/congresmarrakech2004>

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For further information please contact Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (contact details on p. 2).