

FEBS NEWS



March 2005 (2/2005)

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FEBS — FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Dear Colleagues,

On February 7, we lost one of the human cornerstones in FEBS, Prof. Peter Campbell. I am happy to have known Peter. He made a difference. For four decades, his strong mind and unlimited commitment to FEBS, biochemistry and biochemists showed an example for others - as the following two pages will reflect.

Peter Campbell was amongst others — as many of you will know — one of the cofounders of FEBS, as well as coordinator of our Scientific Apparatus Recycling Scheme (SARS); a programme via which he over the years distributed thousands of used books, journals and apparatus to scientists in Eastern Europe. On p. 6 you will find information on how this programme, seen in the light of the current situation, will be managed in the immediate future.

In this issue of FEBS News, you also will find information on another FEBS programme; our Ambassador Programme (p.6), as well as on an up-coming FEBS Workshop on lipid metabolism and diseases related the latter. As usual, I will also present you to some knowledge sources that I hope you will find useful (p.7), to opportunities (p. 11), and last but certainly not least to news from FEBS Journal and FEBS Letters (p. 8-9).

If you have input or suggestions for the May issue of FEBS News, I would be happy to hear from you. Please note in this context, that the deadline for contributions (e.g. announcements and articles) is May 9.

Kind regards,

Camilla

About FEBS News:

FEBS News is published every second Monday in every second month (starting January), and e-mailed to approx. 16,000 subscribers in more than 50 countries. This issue as well as all back issues of FEBS News are available online at http://www.febs.org/News/Newsletter/Febs_Newsletter.htm

Free e-subscription is offered; subscribers will receive a direct link to the newsletter via e-mail, when ever a new issue is out. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your contact details simply send an e-mail to newsletter@febs.org. You can also subscribe on-line at http://www.febs.org/e-mail_registration.asp.

As a service to our more than 40,000 members, FEBS offers **FREE** advertising of academic positions (PhD's, Post Doc's and Senior Post Doc's), as well as other offers which corresponds to the mission and activities of FEBS. To post a vacancy at the "Opportunities" pages or a message at the FEBS News Message Board or at our website, please forward all relevant details — including relevant deadlines — to newsletter@febs.org.

Next issue will be out on **May 17, 2005**. Deadline for entries, incl. advertisements, for the March issue is **May 9, 2004**.

Enquiries about FEBS News should be addressed to Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (camilla@febs.org).



OBITUARY – PETER CAMPBELL (1921-2005)

By **Julio E. Celis**,
Secretary General of FEBS

Institute of Cancer Biology and Danish Centre for Translational Breast Cancer Research (DCTB),
The Danish Cancer Society, Strandboulevarden 49,
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark, E-mail: jec@cancer.dk

Professor Peter Campbell passed away the night of February 7 after some months in the hospital following a car accident. Peter was one of the founders of the Federation of Biochemical Societies (FEBS) and his death is a great loss to his family and the scientific community at large.

Peter was born in Kent, England in 1921. He started to study Chemistry at the University College London in 1939, and received the Ph.D degree in Biochemistry in 1949 under Professor Sir Frank Young. From 1949 to 1954 Peter worked at the National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill in London under T.S. Work and thereafter moved to the Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School in London. In 1961 he received a Doctor of Science degree from the University of London.

In 1967 Peter was appointed to the Chair of Biochemistry at the University of Leeds and in 1976 he became Director of the Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry and Courtauld professor of Biochemistry at the University of London. He was also appointed Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry at the University of London.

Peter published numerous scientific articles and was widely recognised for his work on protein synthesis. Moreover, he published several books, including *Biochemistry Illustrated*, a much acclaimed student text in biochemistry. The fifth edition of this book, which is co-authored together with Anthony Smith and Timothy Peters, is due in May this year. Peter was founding editor of *Biochemical Education* and *Essays in Biochemistry*, and edited for many years *Biotechnology and Applied Biochemistry* for the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB).

Besides his love for research and teaching, Peter dedicated a great deal of his time to serve the scientific community at large. He was instrumental in establishing FEBS together with P.S. Datta and W.J. Whelan and acted as Secretary of the Biochemical Society from 1958 to 1964. He was the British delegate at the first Council meeting of FEBS in London in 1964 and was later elected Chairman of the Summer Schools Committee – afterwards renamed Advanced Courses Committee.

One of Peter's outstanding ideas was to start in 1989 the Scientific Apparatus Recycling Scheme (SARS), a programme that since then has supplied numerous pieces of equipment and literature to Central and Eastern Europe and Africa. Peter was a strong believer in the capacity and potential of scientists in these countries and did his utmost to support them both in educational and scientific matters. Peter was very fond of the people and the countries he travelled to and was passionate about his work with SARS. In Horst Feldmann's book *Forty Years of FEBS – A Memoir*, Peter tells himself in chapter 6, page 146 about the SARS programme and how it developed under his guidance. In 1999 FEBS started the Working Group on Central and Eastern European Countries, and Peter was a dedicated member of this working group providing much expertise and enthusiasm as well as numerous contacts. In many ways Peter was a true FEBS ambassador.

Peter's involvement in science went beyond Europe. He was a founder of the African Societies for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and served as chairman of the IUBMB Committee on Symposia. Later he founded the Education Committee of IUBMB.



In 1981 Peter was awarded the FEBS Diplôme d'Honneur for his invaluable contributions to FEBS and the scientific community. This honour is conferred only to those who have given so much of their time to the benefit of others.

Peter received the IUBMB Distinguished Service Award in 2000 in recognition of his services to the Union.

We shall miss Peter terribly, and extend our condolences to his wife Molly, his children Alistair and Julia as well as to his many friends around the world.

Julio E. Celis

Secretary General

FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEART

“Old scholars retire, but never die...”, W. McGlothlin

It is with great sadness and regret we learnt that Prof. Peter Campbell passed away in the first cold days of February 2005. A man of his capacity and importance deserves few words in his memory on behalf of the Armenian Association of Biochemists and Armenian Academy of Medicine, of which he was a distinguished member.

Prof. Campbell was well known for his outstanding contributions to biochemistry, both as a researcher and as a teacher. Serving for science about half a century, he published numerous scientific papers and other articles referring the biosynthesis of milk proteins, role of autoimmunity in thyroidities and anti-insulin factors, which are of great interest for scientists of the related fields. He in collaboration with the others has prepared *Biochemistry Illustrated* and series of *Essays in Biochemistry*, which along with *Oxford Dictionary on Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*, edited by him, became a valuable and helpful table-book for medical and biological students in many countries in the world, including Armenia.



Prof. Campbell was excellent in addressing issues of science policy, which became corner stone of his activity. He was a missionary of integrated science, contributing a lot in creation of international scientific network from West to Far East and from South to North. He considered science not just a research work but also a very reliable ground for cooperation and friendship, as indicated in his book *Stories and Impressions From Around the World: “I would like to emphasize the common links we scientists share, irrespective of nationality and, to a large extent, political affiliations”*. Throughout his career he endeavoured to unite people via science and common ideas, which resulted him to be one of the founders of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies in 1964.

Our personal relations were established with Prof. Campbell started 2000. The next meeting with him was in 2002, and the latest one was in 2004, when he visited us with the FEBS Working Group on Central and Eastern European Countries. From the very beginning his working visits were based on the friendly and kind relations. Everybody who knew him and who had the privilege of cooperating with him felt the enthusiasm for scientific problems and could experience the energy and joy, with which he advanced ideas for extension of scientific cooperation and support. Tireless in his intense activity, he always tried to understand the thoughts and expectations faced by Armenian scientists in the period of deprived economical surroundings. Each time he appeared with useful recommendations how to survive and develop. He delivered a great variety of books, journals and issues to the library of the Institute of Biochemistry of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia via SARS, which was available to the biochemical community of Armenia. Prof. Campbell encouraged us to join the FEBS community to be integrated into the international scientific community. We all do remember his recommendations to attend British Council in Yerevan and learn English. He even did not embarrass to convince authorities to support science and could persuade them with real English diplomacy. He was always firm in his decisions and independent. Peter Campbell was our sincere and good friend. We were eagerly waiting for his visits to Armenia, which he liked very much and recommend to others. He shared our love and respect. With his kind spirit, he broke down the generation barrier and created the atmosphere of friendship and common aim. He strived to communicate closely with everyone: young and old.

Everyone who had the privilege of knowing him will remember Prof. Peter Campbell with the deepest feelings. We are praying for the repose of his soul from the bottom of our hearts. That is a way in which we can repay a small part of our gratitude to him.

Prof. Armen Galoyan
President of Armenian
Association of Biochemists (AAB)

Dr. Varduhi Knaryan
Secretary of AAB

Mrs. Karine Gevorgyan
Secretary of the Council on International
Cooperation of NAS RA



NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

By **Julio E. Celis**,
Secretary General of FEBS

Institute of Cancer Biology and Danish Centre for Translational Breast Cancer Research (DCTB),
The Danish Cancer Society, Strandboulevarden 49,
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark, E-mail: jec@cancer.dk

Dear Colleagues,

Just a few lines to give you a little news update.

Appointment of Jose Mariano Gago as Minister of Science and Technology

First of all, I am happy to inform you that Jose Mariano Gago, member of the FEBS Working Group on the European Research Area (ERA), has been appointed Minister of Science and Technology in Portugal. We very much hope that Jose Mariano will continue his efforts to further the ERC idea from the Competitiveness Council.

Polish Scientist and Science policy makers are in favour of the ERC

At a recent meeting organised by the Polish National Academy of Sciences (PAS) and FEBS, both the scientific community and science policy makers reiterated their support to the establishment of an ERC to support frontier research. Speakers included W. Cannell, J. Langer, M. Zylicz, W. Stec and F. Gannon.

The meeting was highly informative and stimulating as we had the opportunity to share new ideas as well as apprehensions. It was clear that most of the problems affecting Polish science also afflicted many other countries in Europe, and it was evident that if we are going to create a European research environment that attracts and retains the best students we must rise above the individual national interest and think European. The ERC will create a European standard to which we all have to subscribe, and we were very happy to hear that everybody at the meeting supported excellence and equal competition.

There is still some way to go before the ERC becomes a reality and the scientific community is committed to follow the time table of the Commission

concerning Framework Programme 7, of which the ERC is one of the axes, and is prepared to provide advice to the Search Committee chaired by Lord Patten concerning names of independent, respected scientists that reflect the whole scope of European research.

If you are interested in learning more about the ERC and FP7, please see <http://www.euractiv.com/Article?tcmuri=tcm:29-136123-16&type=Interview>

EMBO and FEBS officials met in Heidelberg to identify areas of common interest

EMBO and FEBS officials met in Heidelberg on February 23 to identify areas of common interest that may eventually lead to joint actions. Activities that were targeted for further discussion included Courses and Workshops, Fellowships, Science and Society, Women in Science, Symposium at our Annual Congress as well as actions in Central and Eastern European Countries. The possibility of a common presence in Brussels was also discussed. Various possibilities for collaboration will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting in Rehovot on April 16. Chairs of our various Committees and Working Groups were asked to keep direct conversations with the respective EMBO officials.

As a whole the meeting was a success and represented a new step towards serving the scientific community in the best possible way.

Julio E. Celis,

Secretary General



THE FEBS AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

FEBS has established an Ambassador Programme. This programme aims to disseminate scientific information, as well as information about the activities of FEBS.

What the Ambassador Programme offers to our 42 member societies, is the option of being visited by a scientist (and FEBS member), who will then — e.g. at a local institute in the respective country — give a scientific lecture related to his/her area of expertise, as well as inform about the many FEBS activities and offers.

Practical details of the Programme: FEBS will pay for the Ambassadors expenses in relation to each visit (travel and accommodation). In other words, the Society to be visited, is only asked to cover the Ambassadors meals for the duration of the visit (the duration of the visits are 1-2 days).

The Programme is taking off soon, as one of the appointed FEBS Ambassadors, Prof. Marja Makarow, will be going to Lithuania to visit the Lithuanian Biochemical Society.

This programme applies to all Constituent or Associated members of FEBS. Any member society that would like a visit by a FEBS Ambassador, or are interested in learning more about this Programme, should contact the Coordinator of the Ambassador Programme, Prof. Dirheimer:

Prof. Guy Dirheimer

34, Sentier de l'aubépine,
67000 Strasbourg,
Tél: 33 (0)3 88.41.95 30
Fax : 33 (0)3 88.60.22.18

E-mail: guy.dirheimer.febs@wanadoo.fr

THE SARS PROGRAMME

The SARS programme was and remains to be an important programme for many colleagues in Eastern Europe. Thus, we will of course continue the programme. In this context, the FEBS Treasurer, Iain Mowbray, will be taking over the coordination of the programme for the time being, so please direct all matters regarding SARS to him. You will find all relevant contact details at <http://www.febs.org/Organization/EXEC.HTM>

FEBS BULLETIN BOARD

If you are interested in learning more about our activities — Congresses, FEBS Forum for Young Scientists, fellowships, etc. —, are looking for something or somebody to assist you in your study/work, etc. then visit our electronic "knowledge market place", FEBS Bulletin Board!

FEBS Bulletin Board is for all members of FEBS. Use it to start a debate, post an announcement, to ask general or specific questions about an individual FEBS programme, or simply browse around for information from us and what we offer our members.

To register, you must be a member of FEBS, i.e. member of one of the 42 "FEBS societies" around the world. You will find information on the latter on [www.FEBS.org](http://www.febs.org). To register see here <http://www.febs.org/FebsBB/logout.php?Cat=0>.

If you have questions regarding the FEBS Bulletin Board, please contact the administrator Peter Ott (peter.ott@febs.org).



Are you looking for something, e.g. a PhD or Post Doc position? Then post your announcement at this message board for *free* ! All you need to do, is to include your text (all relevant details related to the position you are looking for) plus a specification of which FEBS society you are a member in an e-mail, and send it to newsletter@febs.org.

POST DOC POSITION WANTED

My name is Berna Demircan. I'm living in Turkey. I'm working as research assistant in Medical faculty, Dept. of Biochemistry. I will have completed my doctoral thesis after about 8 months. The latter focuses on COX inhibitors and their side effects in the human organism.

I am looking for a post doc position, and would be very grateful to hear from you, if there is a vacant post doc of relevance to me in your lab. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Berna Demircan

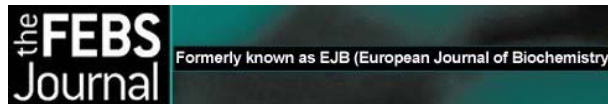
Ataturk University, Dept of Biochemistry,
25240, Erzurum, Turkey

e-mail: brndemircan@hotmail.com

FEBS JOURNAL— DIGITAL ARCHIVE NOW AVAILABLE!

We are pleased to announce that the digital archive of FEBS Journal is now live on Blackwell Synergy!

For more info see here: http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/febs_enhanced/



LOOKING TO GO PLACES? – EMBO LIFE SCIENCES MOBILITY PORTAL

Choosing the right career path, finding the right training and obtaining funding can be a daunting task for young researchers. Add to this the complication of moving countries or continents and the search becomes even more complex. This is where the **EMBO Life Sciences Mobility Portal** comes in.

Funded by the European Commission as part of its initiative to promote researcher mobility in Europe, the EMBO Life Sciences Mobility Portal is designed to help young life scientists worldwide find winning career combinations. The portal's integrated search engine finds the fastest route to information on international training, funding and career opportunities in the life sciences. No more sifting through piles of unconnected or unwanted material. The site also acts as a one-stop shop of other useful links for life scientists on the move. Visitors can browse links to restart programmes, grant databases, job sites and life scientist organisations. The practical side of relocation is also not forgotten, with the portal providing handy links on national visa requirements, work permits and other bureaucratic information.

So take advantage of the wealth of opportunities out there and make your next move a good one. Visit <http://www.mobility.embo.org>.

DISCOVER THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE WITH E-BIOSCI!

In the time it takes to read this text, 1 - 2 new articles will appear in the literature. They may not be relevant to your field of research, but without reading them, how can you be sure? And how about the 1400 or so that appeared yesterday ... or the day before? Despite New Year resolutions and publishers' alerting services, keeping up with new publications is an increasingly difficult task, as is the problem of retrieving information about the 15 million published articles that have accumulated in PubMed since the mid-60's.

For those who decide now to make a beeline for the library, or their desktop computer, the bottom line is that E-BioSci (<http://www.e-biosci.org>) is a next generation information service for the life scientist wishing to use the scientific and patent literature as discovery tools.

What makes E-BioSci different? The platform's literature and gene search capability is based on the principle of conceptual fingerprinting, which allows *semantic linkage* of literature with molecular and other datasets. Both the platform's content and user queries are fingerprinted using novel technology. Comparison of fingerprints allows documents to be rapidly and accurately retrieved and to be related to each other in terms of the concepts they contain - an important advance on conventional searches, which work with individual words. Fingerprints also allow seamless navigation across information sources, gene symbol recognition within documents and cross-language querying. Try E-BioSci today!



FEBS *Letters*

Dear Fellow Scientist,

2005 continues to be a busy year for the FEBS Letters Editorial Office. Starting this month, we will feature a new section in the journal: interviews with our Editorial Board members. Each month we will place a "*Spotlight on...*" their latest research developments, scientific interests, personal views, and careers. As well as making interesting reading, we hope that these articles will help our authors to identify the editorial board member who is best suited to handle their manuscripts. We look forward to interviewing all of our editors in the next year or two and getting to know them better.

Every few months we publish a Special Issue containing a series of Minireviews written by invited experts. Each Special Issue has a different theme and provides up-to-date information on the current state of knowledge in the field. Last month we published our second Nobel Special Issue, which is a collection of papers from the 130th Nobel Symposium "Molecular Mechanisms of Biological Systems".

Our next Special Issue, "Systems Biology: understanding the biological mosaic" will be published later this month. The issue brings together internationally recognized scientists and covers the whole field of systems biology, from data acquisition to medical applications. The issue will be distributed at the 'Systems and Biology' Keystone conference in Colorado in April and a free copy will be given to all participants of the FEBS Advanced Course in Systems Biology which will be held in Gossau later this month. For those of you who won't participate in either of these events, all of the articles are freely available to download

through our website.

Don't forget that <http://www.febsletters.org> gives free access to all Minireviews, Special Issues and Editorials, as well as free access to all articles that are over twelve months old. This free access is also available via PubMed and Scopus first by clicking the 'Elsevier Science-Full Text Article' symbol and then choosing the 'Article via *FEBS Letters*' option.

We are in the process of selecting the winner of this year's FEBS Letters Annual Award for Young Scientists. The editors of the journal have all selected the papers that both fulfil the conditions of the award and that they feel are suitable for the prize. These papers have been forwarded to the Prize Committee (Gunnar von Heijne (chair), Giulio Superti-Furga, Veli-Pekka Lehto, Judit Ovadi and Peter Brzezinski) who will meet in Stockholm on 2nd April to choose the winning paper. Look out for the announcement of the winner in the next edition of the FEBS News.

If you would like to be considered for next year's Young Scientist Award, you should be to be the corresponding author, aged 40 years old or less, of a paper published in FEBS Letters during 2005.

Dr Eva-Maria Emig, who was much-valued both as a colleague and assistant editor, left the FEBS Letters Editorial Office at the end of February. The office will not be the same without her! We would all like to warmly express our thanks to Eva-Maria for all the hard work that she has put into the journal during the past three years. We wish her all the very best in her future employment.

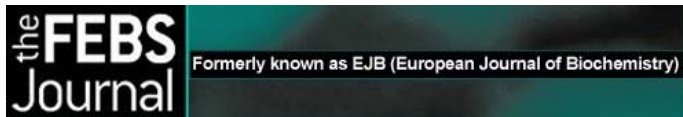
The *FEBS Letters* Editorial Office

Felix Wieland, Managing Editor
Patricia McCabe, Assistant Managing Editor
Tine Walma, Assistant Editor
Anne Mueller, Editorial Assistant



MOLECULAR MECHANISMS OF BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS 130TH NOBEL SYMPOSIUM

This meeting was held 51 years after the structure of DNA was published and 45 years after the first protein structure was reported. These achievements form the basis for much of the current research and it was highly appropriate that the meeting (and this special issue of FEBS Letters) opened with a memoir of Francis Crick presented by Aaron Klug. Download (for FREE) the special issue of FEBS Letters covering this scientific event on <http://www.FEBSLetters.com>



Dear Fellow Scientists

FEBS Journal has been appearing since 1 January 2005

To remind you, the first issue of the new *FEBS Journal* appeared on 1 January 2005; the last issue of EJB was 23/24 of volume 271 and the first issue of *FEBS Journal* has been designated issue number 1 of volume 272.

For further details, please visit the *FEBS Journal* website, <http://www.febsjournal.org>. The online submission system can be viewed at <http://febsj.manuscriptcentral.com>.

The complete digital archive of EJB is going live on Synergy and Highwire

All articles published in EJB (and now *FEBS Journal*) in recent years are available online (reviews free of charge immediately, other articles one year after original publication). As a service to our readers, FEBS has now arranged for the *whole* of the EJB archive, going back to 1967, to be prepared in digital form and mounted both on the Synergy, <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/> and Highwire, <http://content.febsjournal.org> and <http://highwire.stanford.edu/> sites, where it will shortly be possible to peruse it free of charge.

Meeting reports – a new opportunity

FEBS Journal is keen to keep its readers up to date in both established and emerging fields. If you are attending a specialized conference or participating in a focussed symposium at a broader conference, the Editors would be happy to consider publishing a meeting report in the journal. The report would need to be more than just a list of participants and who said what, *i.e.* it should give a proper introduction to the field, what the hot topics are, what the major advances appeared to be, and some critical summing up of the field on the part of the author of the report. Thus in some ways it would resemble a review, but would be centred on the meeting. *FEBS Journal* is very broadly based and catholic in the interests it serves. New topics are welcome provided they fall into the general area of the molecular life sciences. If in doubt, ask the Reviews Editor (Ferdinand Hucho) or the Editor-in-Chief (Richard Perham).

In *FEBS Journal* issue 4, we include a report by Anna Tramontano and colleagues on the latest CASP protein structure prediction competition (*FEBS J* (2005) **272**, 881-882).

Reviews

Reviews recently published in *FEBS Journal*:

Data-driven docking for the study of biomolecular complexes, by Aalt D.J. van Dijk, Rolf Boelens and Alexandre

M J J Bonvin (Vol.272/2)

Mammalian transglutaminases: identification of substrates as a key to physiological function and physiopathological relevance, by Carla Esposito and Ivana Caputo (Vol. 272/3)

Ten years of predictions... and counting, by Domenico Cozzetto, Adele Di Matteo and Anna Tramontano (Vol. 272/4)

The Theodor Bücher Lecture (2003): *Calcium - a universal carrier of biological signals*, by Ernesto Carafoli. (Vol. 272/5)

You can read reviews online and download them free of charge from the time of publication. All reviews published in EJB in recent years and *FEBS Journal* can be accessed free of charge on the *FEBS Journal* online websites: the Blackwell Publishing service Synergy and the Highwire platform. These sites are easily reached by hotlinks from the *FEBS Journal* website.

The FEBS Journal Prize 2005

The Editors of the journal will shortly be announcing the winner of the first of the new *FEBS Journal* prizes, to be awarded to a graduate student or young post-doctoral research worker who is the first author of a paper judged to be the best published in EJB during the year 2004. The prize is worth 10,000 euros, and the winner will be announced shortly. Further details can be found on <http://www.febsjournal.org>. The prize is being continued this year for papers published in *FEBS Journal* during 2005.

Mathematical model database

Mathematical models from papers published in EJB and the *FEBS Journal* are available on the mathematical modelling website linked to *FEBS Journal*. You can access and try them out free of charge online, <http://jjj.biochem.sun.ac.za/database/index.html>. Full details of how to submit models for inclusion on the mathematical model database can be found in our Instructions to Authors at <http://www.febsjournal.org> and at the relevant website, <http://jjj.biochem.sun.ac.za/ejb/>.

With best regards,

Richard Perham, Chairman of the Editorial Board
Vanessa Wilkinson, Editorial Manager
Gail Entwistle, Deputy Editorial Manager
Jane Bartolozzi, Editorial Secretary
Juanita Goossens, Editorial Secretary
Ilana Wooster, Editorial Secretary



FEBS WORKSHOP: RECENT ADVANCES IN LIPID METABOLISM AND RELATED DISORDERS (COURSE CODE 05-28W)

FRANCE, JUNE 21– 24, 2005

The organization of a Workshop "**Recent Advances in Lipid Metabolism and related Disorders**" is timely and the subject is of wide interest, not only for its basic biochemical and cell biological aspects, but also for its health implications. Subtle, but chronic, dysregulations of metabolism are the basis for many diseases of affluent societies. This is particularly true for diseases such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, atherosclerosis, hypertension, metabolic syndrome.

Three sessions will be devoted to the presentation of the most recent findings in the following areas: **session 1** *Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids* (sources, metabolism, diseases, signalling precursors); **session 2** *Lipid rafts, Lipid trafficking and movement, relations to diseases* (cholesterol uptake and scavenging, lipoprotein and receptors, fatty acid binding proteins); and **session 3** *Lipid signalling and gene expression* (disorders, metabolic syndrome, proteomic linked-transcription)".

The programme is formed into invited lectures, oral presentations from selected abstracts, posters, and round tables, providing an excellent opportunity for cross-fertilization among different basic and healthy science disciplines in the area of the "Recent Advances in Lipid Metabolism and Diseases".

Venue: University of Burgundy, Faculty of Life Sciences, Building "Gabriel" - 6 Blvd Gabriel - F21000 Dijon, France

Attendance:

Lectures: 23

Participants: 80

Application Deadline: March 31, 2005

Deadline for submission of abstract for selection of oral communication or for poster presentation: March 31, 2005

Number of Grants from FEBS Youth Travel Fund; 14+5 additional youth travel fund will be offered by SFBBM (French Biochemical Society) for young French scientists.

Applications and questions should be addressed to the organizer:

Professor Norbert LATRUFFE

Laboratory of Molecular Biology of the Cell (LBMC)

Université de Bourgogne

Faculté des Sciences Gabriel - 6 boulevard Gabriel - F21000 Dijon FRANCE

Telephone: +33.3 80 39 62 36 Telefax: +33.3 80 39 62 50

E-mail address: latruffe@u-bourgogne.fr

Further information: <http://www.diwol.com>



POSTDOCTORAL POSITION OFFERED IN MOLECULAR GENETICS

Researchers interested in the paradox of sex in evolutionary biology are strongly encouraged to apply for a research position in the European Union Marie Curie Research Training Network SEXASEX, which is co-ordinated by Prof. Dr. Koen Martens, RBINSc, Brussels. One postdoctoral position remains to be filled, out of a total of 10 positions. Criteria of eligibility include: EU citizenship, less than 10 years for Experienced Researchers (ER), and a willingness to work in a European country other than the country of origin. We seek candidates who are enthusiastic about evolutionary biology, travelling and living abroad, learning in a multidisciplinary research environment and working in teams. This appointment will be for 3 years.

The application of female candidates is especially encouraged; detailed information on child care facilities at the different institutions will be provided upon request. Aid can be sought if accompanying spouses also require employment abroad.

Project overview:

Sex is the queen of evolutionary problems. It will be tackled by SEXASEX in a multidisciplinary approach, providing training and transfer of knowledge for a total of 360 person-months. 10 network researchers (6 young researchers (YR) and 4 experienced researchers (ER)) will receive training in 9 institutions across as many countries. A wide array of research tools will provide excellent training opportunities, for example through individual career development plans, individual tutoring and secondments, which will be supplemented by participation in courses and external workshops. Network-wide training will exploit the extensive experience of the partner institutions through five courses and summer schools for all network researchers. Complementary skills such as management and communication (verbal, written) will be developed, and gender awareness will be raised, in two network-wide meetings. The network's theoretical and empirical research will apply 13 major approaches, including novel genetic and cytogenetic approaches, intraspecific phylogeography, ecology, behavioural studies, GIS analyses and theoretical modelling. With this multidisciplinary toolkit, SEXASEX will investigate why sex exists at all, given its evolutionary costs, using the model organism *Eucypris virens*, a non-marine ostracod species with both sexual and asexual reproduction. What determines its gender, what are the genomic consequences of long-term asexuality, what is the cohesiveness of a species with mixed reproduction, how do asexuals and sexuals compete and what is their historical zoogeography? The pluralistic approach of SEXASEX is unique and timely, using highly novel methodologies and dealing with cutting edge science based on European excellence and tradition. Please refer to <http://www.naturalsciences.be/EVIRENS/> for more information.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION: *MOLECULAR GENETIC AND CYTOGENETIC APPROACHES TO THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF ASEQUAL REPRODUCTION*

Starting date: 1st May 2005 or as soon as possible thereafter

Duration: 36 months

Salary: Country-specific plus tax-free mobility allowance

Locations: München (Germany), Brno (Czech Republic) and Sheffield (UK) - 12 months funded in each location but the final arrangements are open to negotiation with the appointee.

Further info: For a detailed description (Word doc.), please contact Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (camilla@febs.org)

Send full applications, comprising letter of interest, CV and coordinates of at least two potential referees **before the 18th of March 2005** to

Dr Isa Schön,
 Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences,
 Freshwater biology, Vautierstraat 29,
 B-1000 Brussels,
 Belgium
 E-mail: Isa.schoen@naturalsciences.be
 Fax : +32 2 62 74 113



10 FULLY FUNDED POSTS AVAILABLE

MARIE CURIE EARLY STAGE TRAINING INTERNATIONAL PHD PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY

The primary objective of this unique international PhD program (INTERDEC) is to train the highest quality PhD level researchers from Europe and associated countries at the interface of Developmental and Cellular Biology. The International PhD Program in Developmental and Cellular Decisions is a three-year multi-stage program at the University of Nice, France emphasizing a broad knowledge base and exposure to a range of state of the art biological techniques. Research topics include signalling cascades, cell growth and division, apoptosis, cellular differentiation, epithelia formation and organ formation. Research in the areas of Genetics, Development, Cell Biology, and Disease is carried out on a range of different model organisms including yeast, Drosophila and mice.

All instruction will be in English.

For further information, please see: <http://www.unice.fr/isdbc/interdec>

Application deadline: March 31st. 2005

Contact: interdec@unice.fr

POST DOC OFFERED

GUY'S, KING'S & ST THOMAS' SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, UK

A Postdoctoral Research post (RA1A), is available in the laboratory of Dr. Susan John at the Peter Gorer Dept. of Immunobiology, Guy's Campus of King's College London.

The successful applicant will study the molecular regulation of STAT protein expression and function in human peripheral T cells and in malignant T cells in Sezary Syndrome.

This post requires a person with experience in biochemistry and molecular biology. The successful candidate will join a friendly, dynamic and well-funded group located in the newly established Programme in Infection and Immunity.

Salary will be offered on the RA1A scale £21,640 per annum plus £2,323 London Weighting Allowance per annum. The post is full-time and is funded by the MRC for 5 years.

For further information, please see: <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/jobs>

Application deadline: March 10, 2005

Informal enquiries about the post may be made to **Dr. Susan John** (susan.john@kcl.ac.uk). Please quote reference W2/MI/365/05 in all correspondence.

Equality of Opportunity is College Policy

Would you like to post a vacancy or a fellowship here?

FEBS offers free advertising of academic fellowships and vacancies within Europe in **FEBS News** and at www.FEBS.org — Please contact Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (camilla@febs.org) for further information.

.....*More opportunities available at* <http://www.FEBS.org>



EU FUNDED POST DOC POSITION OFFERED

BEERSHEBA, ISRAEL

Within Department of Life Sciences, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beersheba, Israel, is offered two-year position as post doc.

We are a yeast laboratory working on the degradation of Ho endonuclease of yeast via the proteasome.

Ho is marked for degradation by functions of the DNA damage response and is then recruited for ubiquitylation via the SCF ubiquitin ligase complex by the F-box protein, Ufo1. There are indications that Ufo1 has a role in maintenance of genome stability and that it is activated by the DNA damage response.

The successful candidate will be joining a group of 5 graduate students investigating fairly closely related topics. All of whom speak fluent English and one is French.

We are part of the Life Sciences Departments of Ben Gurion University of the Negev, working in a modern new building which is well equipped for molecular biology and biochemistry. Specialized equipment, e.g. Confocal microscope, various kinds of electron microscopes and mass spec are available at the Interdisciplinary Science Facility. The University is in the city of Beersheba in the Northern Negev, about an hour south of Tel Aviv. Salary: Negotiable.

For further information please contact:

Dina Raveh, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Life Sciences

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beersheba, 84105, Israel

E-mail: raveh@bgumail.bgu.ac.il

POST DOC POSITION OFFERED

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

A position is open for an externally funded postdoctoral fellow who is interested in studying the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis in uremia.

In patients, kidney failure results in markedly increased risk of dying from cardiovascular disease. We have recently established a uremic mouse model (by surgical removal of 5/6 of the kidney tissue) and have seen that uremia causes an enormously accelerated development of atherosclerosis in apoE-deficient mice. DNA micro-array analysis and other studies have given us several clues to putative mechanisms and we wish to continue the investigations of the pathogenesis and putative interventions in our mouse model.

Therefore we are seeking a postdoctoral fellow to join our group. The group consists of 8-10 people (including technicians, phd students and a post doc). We are combining basic studies in cell culture and genetically modified mouse models with patient-oriented research with focus on atherosclerosis and lipoprotein metabolism. We are situated in the Department of Clinical Biochemistry at Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen. Rigshospitalet is part of the University of Copenhagen, which is located next door to the hospital. The department has a research division with ~40 persons and contains state of the art equipment for molecular biology and protein studies. Also, the animal facility is located close by which gives close to ideal conditions for our studies. One of our aims is to combine a nice working atmosphere, a good training environment, state of the art methods, and high ambitions to achieve the best possible scientific results. The group is lead by Lars B. Nielsen.

Deadline: March 23, 2005

Contact: Applications (CV +cover letter) by 23th March 2005 to:

Rigshospital - Diagnostisk Center

Personalefunktioner, Afsnit 4412

Blegdamsvej 9, 2100 København Ø

Denmark

or e-mailed to: dia@rh.dk



What: International Symposium on Metals in Biology and Medicine
When: March 1-2, 2005
Where: Seville, Spain

For detailed information please contact:
 Prof. Miguel A. De la Rosa
 Universidad de Sevilla
 E-mail: marosa@us.es

What: Euroconference On Stem Cell Research
When: April 15 — 17, 2005
Where: Cascais, Portugal

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.esh.org>

What: Protein Kinase Targets — Drug Discovery and Design
When: June 6 — 7, 2005
Where: Boston, USA

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.healthtech.com/2005/kin/index.ASP>

What: 14th Annual Bioinformatics and Genome Research
When: June 12 – 14, 2005
Where: San Francisco, USA

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.beyondgenome.com/05bin.asp>

What: 7th Annual Systems Biology
When: June 15 – 16, 2005
Where: San Francisco, USA

For detailed information please contact:
<http://www.beyondgenome.com/05isb.asp>

What: 14th International Scientific Congress CNIC
When: June 27 — 30, 2005
Where: Havana, Cuba

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.cnic.edu.cu/14Congreso/Bienvenida.htm>

What: 52nd Symposium: Cellular Responses to DNA Damage
When: August 22 — 25, 2005
Where: Copenhagen, Denmark

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.benzon-symposia.dk>

What: International Conference on Aquaporins
When: September 10 — 13, 2005
Where: Brussels, Belgium

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.aquaporins2005.com>

What: EMBO Conference on Nuclear Structure and Dynamics
When: September 24 — 28, 2005
Where: La Grand Motte, France

For detailed information please see:
<http://congres.igh.cnrs.fr/EMBO-nucleus2005/>