

FEBS NEWS



July 2005 (4/2005)

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FEBS — FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Dear Colleagues,

It was nice to see so many familiar faces at the annual FEBS Congress, and to meet new ones! This issue of FEBS News has been slightly delayed to allow me to include some highlights from this combined FEBS Congress/IUBMB Conference, including news from the FEBS Council Meeting, which took place in context of the Congress. At p. 3, you will see some key decisions from the Council Meeting, and on p. 4 some pictures from the congress. The latter and many more will be available via www.febs.org later this summer.

As you might notice from the pictures at p. 4, this year's FEBS Congress indeed lived up to its motto: *Science is Fun: a Conference for your Creativity!* The Congress was attended by a total of 2646 participants from 89 countries, and had many highlights. One being the awarding of two young promising scientists: On behalf of my colleagues in FEBS, FEBS Letters, FEBS Journals and our two publishers (Elsevier and Blackwell Publishing), I would like to once again congratulate Elke Deuerling and Christian Klammt; the two winners of FEBS Letters and FEBS Journal Award, respectively (see page 6-8).

Other news in this issue of FEBS News include the list of FEBS Advanced Courses 2006; the tentative version is now available (see p. 9). This issue also has a handful of open post doc positions at hand for you (p. 10), and as usual: A list of up-coming Congresses and meetings (p. 11).

If you have contributions or announcements for the next issue of FEBS News (see details below), I would be happy to hear from you. And remember, you are always welcome to contact us, if you have questions regarding FEBS.

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 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 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) and others offers that corresponds to the mission and activities of FEBS. To post a vacancy in this newsletter and/or our website, please forward all relevant details (including full contact details and deadlines), using no more than 300 words to newsletter@febs.org. Remember that in addition, you yourself can post vacancy needs or announcements within the FEBS Bulletin Board (www.FEBS.org/FebsBB)

Next issue will be out on **September 12, 2005**. Deadline for entries, incl. advertisements, for the September issue is **September 5, 2005**. Enquiries about FEBS News should be addressed to Camilla Krogh Lauritzen (camilla@febs.org).



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF MAIN CONCLUSIONS FROM THIS YEAR'S FEBS COUNCIL MEETING IN BUDAPEST NOW ONLINE!

At this year's FEBS Council meeting, several new and important decisions were taken by Council. One of these was to accept an application from the Kyrgyz Biochemical Society to become Associate Member of FEBS as per 1.1.2006, bringing the total member societies up to 43. Also, several new FEBS officers were elected including:



NEW CONGRESS COUNCELLOR

Adam Szewczyk (Polen) was elected Congress Counsellor of FEBS as per 1.1.2006. In addition to being professor at the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology in Warsaw, A. Szewczyk is Secretary of the Polish Biochemical Society. He's extensive experience in organising large scale scientific meetings include the role as main organiser of the 2005 FEBS Congress in Warsaw. Adam Szewczyk is will replace the present Congress Counsellor, **Joan Guinovart** (Spain), who has has been FEBS' Congress Counsellor for a full term of nine years in total (right picture).



NEW CHAIRMAN OF FEBS PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Felix Goñi (Spain) was elected Chairman of the Publications Committee as per 1.1.2006. F Goñi, is — apart from professor and Head of Biophysics Unit, CSIC-UPV/EHU, Spain — at present member of FEBS Publication Committee, and will be replacing the present Chairman of the Committee, Willy Stalmans (right picture), who has served as Chairman of the Committee for the past nine years.



NEW MANAGER OF THE FEBS RECYCLING PROGRAMME

Prof. Karel W. A. Wirtz (NL) was appointed manager of FEBS' Scientific Apparatus Recycling Programme (SARP). Karel Wirtz takes on this task after Peter Campbell (right picture), who started and successfully managed this programme (formerly known as Scientific Apparatus Recycling Scheme, SARS), to the benefit of colleagues from Eastern Europe, until he passed away in February 2005. Prof. Wirtz highly welcomes enquiries from colleagues in need for apparatus, as well as from donors of these; if you have spare equipment that is



no longer is in use at your lab, do let us know — it might very well be needed by fellow scientists within the FEBS community! All correspondence regarding SARP should be addressed to:

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Utrecht University
P.O. Box 80.054
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The Netherlands
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The news above are just some of the highlight from the 45th FEBS Council Meeting. If you are interested in reading the conclusions in their full length, please visit the FEBS website, where you will find the full summary:

www.febs.org/News/Secretary_General/2005/45th_febs_council_meeting.htm



Julia Sadovnikova (Russia); one of the 10 young scientists, who won a free registration to next year's FEBS congress in Turkey* in the daily draw that took place at the FEBS stand. *see www.febs2006.org



Donald (Don) Nicholson (UK), IUBMB, was kept busy all week manning the IUBMB Stand. Done as always with an admirable enthusiasm!



FEBS Website Manager, **Peter Ott** (CH), together with five Danish FEBS members from University of Roskilde (Denmark).



A large group of local students wearing a characteristic yellow T-shirts (which quickly gave them the nickname "Yellow Angels") had been mobilised by the congress organisers to provide a fantastic help (and concept) to the many congress participants. Always ready with an answer to your practical question. Always ready to ask you back about your field of science, in the name of networking.



The two FEBS Secretaries, **Inge Detlefsen** (DK) and **Louise McSeveny** (UK) all set at the FEBS stand 15 minutes prior to the opening of the Congress.



Elke Deuerling and **Christian Klammt**, the winners of FEBS Letters Young Scientist Award and FEBS Journal Prize, respectively.



Are you looking for something, e.g. a PhD or Post Doc position? Then post your announcement at this message board for *free* ! Include your text (all relevant details related to your offer or 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.

FREE ISSUES OF FEBS LETTERS!

FEBS Letters offers you the shown issues free of charge — more info here: www.febsletters.org



DISCOUNT FOR FEBS CONGRESS PARTICIPANTS

We have a **special promotion price (20% off) for the FEBS 2005 congress participants**: when buying our products through CytoLab (the office in charge of PeproTech's activity in Asia, East Europe and Africa). PeproTech is the leading manufacturer of Cytokine and Anti-Cytokine products offering more than 300 products.

Please share your cytokine needs with us and we will provide you with our special offer and further information. Details can be also found at: www.peprotech.com or www.cytolab.com.

We offer products like:

- Interleukins
- Chemokines
- Growth Factors
- Interferons
- Monoclonal Antibodies
- ELISA Kits
- Other recombinant proteins

Sincerely,

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SEEKING POSTDOCTORAL/ SCIENTIST II POSITION

Broad experience in protein isolation and characterisation. Specialised in signal transduction/ apoptosis research. Preferentially looking for an opportunity to conduct research on PKC structure and function. Have already worked on this topic since 1999. Professional cooperations with laboratories in the USA and Sweden exist. Currently located in Hannover/ Medical School. Willing to relocate within Europe or to the USA (have Green Card)

agoerke@freenet.de / Fax: +49-1212-511087264 ph: +49-162-9416169

online petition
increase EU funding
for research



SCIENTISTS PETITION FOR INCREASED EC FUNDING

The collapse of the discussions on the EU budget has been highlighted in media. What receives less attention is the fact that preparatory discussions on a new budget were pointing towards a very major reduction on the doubling of funds for Framework 7 that had been requested by the Commission. Included in this funding were increases for the Marie Curie programme, expansion of the standard Framework activities and, significantly, the funding of the European Research Council (ERC).

All of this is now at risk and the voices of scientists need to be heard. As one effort to ensure that the politicians get a message from the scientific community, we, supported by ELSF, (European Life Sciences Forum) have opened an online petition on the EMBO website. **If you are in agreement with the petition, sign it at www.embo.org/petition/petition.php**



FEBS *Letters*

Dear Fellow Scientist,

The FEBS Letters Editorial Office has just returned from a very busy week in Budapest. We started the week with our Editorial Board meeting in which over thirty of our editors participated, including the former managing editor of FEBS Letters, Giorgio Semenza. During the meeting we discussed topics relevant to the editors including manuscript handling, editorial policy and topics for future special issues. The discussion was lively and there was a lot of good input from the editors as to how we could improve the journal making the editorial process even more efficient for our authors. In addition, we had an update from our publisher Adriaan Klinkenberg and a very interesting talk on bibliometrics by David Tempest of Elsevier. Jeff Schatz also gave us his view as to how FEBS Letters could develop in the next few years. Thanks to Judit Ovadi one of our Hungarian editors, for giving us the opportunity to visit the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, which is located in a beautiful building on the banks of the Danube.

The end of the editorial board meeting was timed to coincide with the beginning of the 30th FEBS Congress. Many members of our editorial board remained in Budapest and either presented data at the congress or learned about the latest developments in the protein world. Congress activities that FEBS Letters participated in included "Meet the FEBS publications" where staff from the Editorial Office were available to answer questions on all aspects of the journal. The congress highlight for us was the FEBS publications reception for young scientists. The reception for young scientists opened with the presentation of the prizes to both the FEBS Letters and the FEBS Journal young scientist award winners. The winner of the 3rd Annual FEBS Letters Young Scientist Award is Dr. Elke Deuerling from the University of Heidelberg in Germany (see picture). Following the award ceremony, other young scientists had the opportunity to talk to the prize winners in the relaxing atmosphere of the reception where excellent food and Hungarian wine stimulated interesting discussions.

Elke presented her research at the closing ceremony of the congress along with the FEBS Journal prize winner and the EMBO young investigator award winner. If you would like to learn more about Elke or read her award winning paper, log on to: www.febsletters.org and click on the icon for the Budapest Special Issue. In this issue she is highlighted in a special section entitled "Featuring..."

We are pleased to announce that a new plant editor joined the Editorial Board on July 1st. Professor Mark Stitt, director of the Max Plank Institute of Molecular Plant Physiology in Golm-Potsdam Germany, joined the board to provide us with his expertise in the area of plant biochemistry. If you are thinking of submitting a plant molecular biology manuscript to FEBS Letters, we now have three expert editors who can deal with the topic.

The FEBS Letters impact factor for 2004 has just been announced. We are pleased to inform you that the impact factor has increased to 3.84. It is significant that despite increasing competition from new journals, the impact factor of FEBS Letters has increased. We would like to thank all of our authors for submitting high quality papers to FEBS Letters.

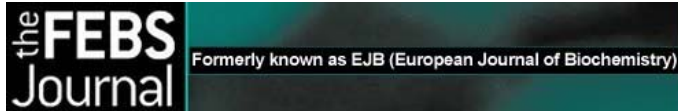
Best wishes,

The FEBS Letters Editorial Office

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



Giorgio Semenza, Elke Deuerling and Felix Wieland at the award ceremony in Budapest. Read more about the FEBS Letters and this years awardee at www.febsletters.org/content/youngscientist



Dear Fellow Scientists

Impact Factor

The latest release of Impact Factors in June 2005 indicates that for 2004 the value for EJB was **3.260**. This is a significant rise from the value of 3.001 in 2003 and reflects what we have felt is the increasing quality and penetration of the journal. We do not take the impact factor as being the only criterion of quality (see the editorial in *Nature* **435** 1003, 23 June 2005) but we are encouraged by the rise. We are particularly pleased to note that the high long-term quality of the papers in EJB (and now *FEBS Journal*) is reflected in the fact that the half-life of citations of papers in EJB is the longest of any journal in the molecular life sciences other than the major review sources (*Annual Reviews*, etc). Importance persists....

Some reminders

The first winner of the first *FEBS Journal* Prize of 10,000 euros was Mr. Christian Klammt, of the University of Frankfurt, for his paper:

High level cell-free expression and specific labeling of integral membrane proteins

Christian Klammt, Frank Löhr, Birgit Schäfer, Winfried Haase, Volker Dötsch, Heinz Rüterjans, Clemens Glaubitz and Frank Bernhard
European Journal of Biochemistry (2004) **271**, 568-580

The prize is being continued this year for papers published in *FEBS Journal* during 2005 and further details can be found on the journal website, www.febsjournal.org

The whole of the earlier EJB archive, going back to 1967, has been mounted on both the Synergy and Highwire sites, where it can be accessed free of charge.

Meeting reports are now appearing in the journal. A report 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 should resemble a review, but should be centred on the meeting. All topics in the general area of the molecular life sciences are welcome. Prospective authors should consult the Re-

views Editor (Ferdinand Hucho) or the Editor-in-Chief (Richard Perham).

Reviews in *FEBS Journal*

The following have appeared in recent issues of *FEBS Journal*:

FEBS Anniversary Prize Lecture 2004
Nature, nurture and neurology: Gene-environment interactions in neurodegenerative disease by TL Spires and AJ Hannan (Vol. 272/10)

Biogenesis of peroxisomes: topogenesis of peroxisomal membrane and matrix proteins by I Heiland and R Erdmann (Vol. 272/10)

PABMB Lecture 2004
The yeast stress response: role of the yap family of the b-zip transcription factors by C Rodrigues-Pousada (Vol. 272/11)

Molecular mechanisms in successful peripheral regeneration by M Makwana and G Raivich (Vol. 272/11)

The small heat shock proteins and their role in human disease by Y Sun and TH MacRae (Vol. 272/11)

Sir Hans Krebs Lecture 2004
Pharmacology of vascular endothelium by RJ Gryglewski (Vol. 272/12)

A minireview series coordinated by Graeme Milligan was published in *FEBS Journal* vol 272/12 with an Introduction entitled: *The quaternary structure of G protein-coupled receptors*. The series comprises:

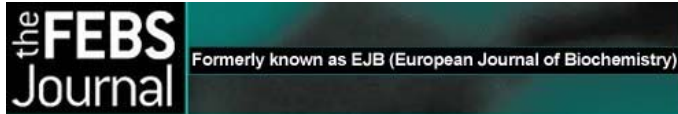
Methods to monitor the quaternary structure of G protein-coupled receptors by G Milligan and M Bouvier

The impact of GPCR heterodimerization on function and pharmacology by R Maggio, F Novi and M Scarselli

The study of G-protein coupled receptor oligomerization with computational modeling and bioinformatics by M Filizola and H Weinstein

Allosteric functioning of dimeric class C G-protein coupled receptors by JP Pin, J Kniazeff, J Liu, V Binet, C Goudet, P Rondard and L Prézeau

continues..



(..continued)

Forthcoming reviews:

Histone H2A phosphorylation in DNA double-strand break repair by ER Foster and JA Downs

Diego and friends play again: old planar cell polarity players in new positions by J Mihály, T Matusek and C Pataki

Mediation of long-range interactions between regulatory elements promoter in the Abd-B domain of the Drosophila bithorax-complex by L Sipos and H Gyurkovics

Origins of DNA replication in the three domains of life by NP Robinson and SD Bell

Integrating signals between cAMP and the RAS/RAF/MEK/ERK signaling pathways by N Dumaz and R Marais

You can read reviews online and download them free of charge from the time of publication. All reviews published in EJB and *FEBS Journal* can be accessed free of charge on the *FEBS Journal* online websites: the Blackwell Publishing service Synergy (www.blackwell-synergy.com) and the Highwire platform, <http://content.febsjournal.org>, and <http://highwire.stanford.edu/>). These sites are easily reached by hotlinks from the *FEBS Journal* website.

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 www.febsjournal.org) and at the relevant website (<http://jjj.biochem.sun.ac.za/ejb/>).

Paper with mathematical models recently published in *FEBS Journal*:

Quantitative assessment of the glyoxalase pathway in Leishmania infantum as a therapeutic target by modelling and computer simulation by M Sousa Silva, AE Nascimento Ferreira, AM Toma, C Cordeiro and A Ponces Freire (Vol. 272/10)

With best regards, and all good wishes for an enjoyable summer,

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



Richard Perham (left) congratulates the FEBS Journal Prize awardee 2004, Christian Klammt, at the FEBS Congress in Budapest, Hungary. With the award follows 10,000 Euro. Read more about the winner here www.blackwellpublishing.com/febs_enhanced/journalnews.asp and about the FEBS Journal Prize here: www.febsjournal.org



FEBS ADVANCED COURSES — 2006 LIST OUT NOW!

Below you will find the list of our Advanced Courses in 2006. More courses will be added and appear on the website in October 2005. For additional info on FEBS Advanced Courses, see www.FEBS.org.

Proposals from individuals or groups to organise Advanced Courses, workshops or special meetings are very welcome and should be addressed to the Chairman of the Advanced Courses Committee, Prof. Karl Kuchler, Department of Medical Biochemistry, Max F. Perutz Laboratories, Medical University Vienna, Dr. Bohr-Gasse 9/2, A-1030 Vienna, Austria, Tel + 43-1-4277-61807
Fax + 43-1-4277-9618, e-mail: karl.kuchler@meduniwien.ac.at

Biology and Pathophysiology of Poly (ADP-rybosilation) (course code 06-01C)

Lecture Course (10 lecturers/ 50 students)
Granada, Spain, January 26-29, 2006
Deadline for applications: November 15, 2005

ABC Proteins: From Multidrug Resistance to Genetic Disease (course code 06-11M)

Special Meeting (32 lecturers/ 300 participants)
Innsbruck, Austria, March 4-10, 2006
Deadline for applications: December 15, 2005

Structure of Amyloid Aggregates, Mechanisms of Formation and Dysfunction (course code 06-14W)

Workshop (30 lecturers/ 70-90 participants)
Firenze, Italy, March 25-28, 2006
Deadline for applications: January 15, 2006

Cellular Signaling – Dubrovnik 2006 (course code 06-10M)

Special Meeting (33 lecturers/ 300-400 participants)
Cavtat, Croatia, May 26 – June 1, 2006
Deadline for applications: To be announced at our website

Frontiers in Molecular Biochemistry of Mitochondria (course code 06-06C)

Practical Course (12 lecturers/ 24 students)
Warsaw, Poland, June 9-17, 2006
Deadline for applications: April 1, 2006

DNA and Chromosomes: Physical and Biological Approaches (course code 06-05C)

Lecture Course (20 lecturers/ 80 students)
Corsica, France, June 19 – July 1, 2006
Deadline for applications: January 20, 2006

Molecular Basis of Bacterial Virulence and Survival Within Infected Hosts and in the Environment (course code 06-04C)

Lecture Course (16 lecturers/ 80 students)
Spetses, Greece, September 5-15, 2006
Deadline for applications: April 15, 2006

Spatial and Temporal Regulation of Signalling (course code 06-15W)

Workshop (30 lecturers/ 60 participants)
Oslo, Norway, September 21-24, 2006
Deadline for applications: August 31, 2006

New concepts in lipidology: From lipidomics to disease (course code 06-07M)

Special Meeting (35 lecturers/ 300 participants)
Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands, October 21-25, 2006
Deadline for applications: June 30, 2006



POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

FRANKFURT/MAIN, GERMANY

The Institute of Biophysical Chemistry at the University of Frankfurt/Main is looking for two highly motivated PhD students for research projects on the structural and functional analysis of membrane proteins. The successful candidates will have the opportunity to work on a new and challenging field with a high potential for the fast characterization of integral membrane proteins. Key techniques will be high resolution NMR spectroscopy and an efficient cell-free protein expression technique that has been developed in our lab and allows the generation of NMR-ready samples of membrane proteins in as fast as 24 hours. The candidates should have excellent knowledge in molecular biology and biochemistry and preferentially practical experience in NMR spectroscopy.

The institute is located at the biocentre of the University of Frankfurt and provides excellent facilities for NMR spectroscopy and biochemical and molecular studies. The biocentre is host of the Center of Membrane Proteomics, of the Max-Planck-Institute for Biophysics and of the Center of Biomolecular Resonance and provides an international and highly interactive scientific community with special emphasis on membrane research.

Application deadline: August 19, 2005

For further information, please contact:

Prof. Volker Dötsch,

Institute of Biophysical Chemistry, University of Frankfurt

Marie-Curie-Str. 9, 60439 Frankfurt, Germany.

Email: vdoetsch@em.uni-frankfurt.de



POSTDOC FELLOWSHIPS FROM THE HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAM

The Human Frontier Science Program has published the latest guidelines for their postdoctoral fellowship programs. The Long-Term Fellowships and Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are aimed at young scientists who wish to obtain advanced research training abroad. Long-Term Fellowships are for scientists with a PhD or equivalent in the life sciences who aim to broaden their training by gaining experience in another field of research. The new Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are for young scientists trained in a field outside biology, particularly in physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science or engineering, who wish to enter research in the life sciences.

These three year postdoctoral packages for training abroad are particularly attractive due to their flexibility and the chances they offer young scientists in the critical period during their move to independence. Fellows can either remain in their host laboratories for the three years of the fellowship, or they can take the third year in a laboratory back in their home countries. The return home may be deferred for up to two years if the host is prepared to support the Fellow from other sources. Those who return home are eligible to apply for a Career Development Award to help them start up their own independent laboratories.

More details are available on the HFSP web site at www.hfsp.org.

Important deadlines:

August 25th 2005 - pre-registration on web site (compulsory!) September 1st, 2005

2005 - submission of applications for pre-registered applicants



What: Cancer Immunotherapeutics — Biological Therapies for Cancer For detailed information please contact:
When: September 19 - 20, 2005 www.healthtech.com
Where: Massachusetts, USA

What: ESF-EMBO Symposium on Probing the Molecular Basis of Protein Function through Chemistry For detailed information please see:
When: October 29—November 3, 2005 www.esf.org/conferences/lc05195
Where: Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain

What: In vivo Molecular Imaging For detailed information please see:
When: November 16 –17, 2005 www.imaging-week.com
Where: California, USA

What: Genes and Cancer For detailed information please see:
When: December 12-14, 2005 http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/genes_and_cancer/2005/
Where: University of Warwick, UK

What: Gordon Research Conference on New Antibacterial Discovery & Development For detailed information please contact:
When: March 5—10, 2006 www.grc.org/06sched.htm
Where: Ventura, California, USA

What: First Mediterranean Congress on Biotechnology (MCB1) For detailed information please see:
When: March 25 – 29, 2006 www.fmcb.africa-web.org/
Where: Hammamet Yasmine, Tunisia

What: 31st FEBS Congress For detailed information please see:
When: June 24 -29, 2006 www.febs2006.org
Where: Istanbul, Turkey