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message of the president

Welcome to the first issue of what we hope will be a bi-monthly newsletter of the European Proteomics Association (EuPA). EuPA was formed in 2005 as a Federation of European National Proteomics Societies, and currently has a membership of some 16 national societies. Each National Society has a representative on the EuPA General Council and in this way each society has an equal voice to give input into discussions and decisions made by the General Council. The main aim of establishing EuPA was to coordinate and integrate national initiatives within the proteomics field, so that Europe could exert more influence in the global proteomics arena. EuPA is recognised by the Human Proteome Organisation (HUPO) as the regional proteomics organisation in Europe. The main objectives of EuPA are to strengthen and promote fundamental research and applications, as well as education and training in all areas of proteomics throughout Europe. To this end, EuPA has an Executive Committee, with sub-committees responsible for the various areas of activity, some of which are reported in this newsletter. EuPA has already held a series of successful annual meetings, and plans are already advanced for the 4th EuPA Conference in Portugal (Estoril, 2010) and 6th Conference in UK (Glasgow, 2012). HUPO has also mandated EuPA to coordinate and organise the HUPO Annual World Congress when it is held in Europe every three years. The 10th HUPO Annual World Congress and 5th EuPA Conference will be held in Switzerland (Geneva, 2011). An excellent series of Basic and Advanced practical courses in various aspects of proteomics, an annual Summer School, and Education Days at the annual EuPA Conference are some of the activities that are intended to underpin proteomic education activities across Europe. EuPA also now has its own journal, Journal of Proteomics, edited by Juan Calvete and published by Elsevier. The journal is now in its second year of publication and is well on its way to establishing itself as a major proteomics journal. I hope that you will find this first



issue of the EuPA Bulletin both interesting and useful in keeping you abreast of the activities of EuPA and its Member National Societies. The Newsletter will be published on-line via the EuPA web site (<http://www.eupa.org/>). It will also be distributed to all National Societies which are Members of EuPA, for distribution to their individual members and for posting on their own society web sites.

Mike Dunn

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eupa activities

Report of the EuPA 6th General Council (Stockholm, June 14th 2009)

The EuPA General Council (GC) took place during the 3rd EuPA Conference. The Minutes of the 5th GC (August 31, 2008, Siena, Italy) were approved¹. The General Council formally approved the action of the Executive Committee with large majority .

Gyorgy Marko-Varga was elected as Vice President of the EuPA. His term of office synchronizes with the presidential term, ending by December 2011.

The Operation Committees reports on status and plans. The list of people involved in each committee, and tasks for the next period are summarized (see table next page).

Short reports from the committees

- Education (more details page 4)

The GC will request each EuPA member to determine one person to act as co-ordinator in her/his country for EuPA educational activities. It will release an appropriate call.

- Conference and Communication

Close to 23.000 pages are visited each month on average at the EuPA address. Interestingly, more than 50% of the visits come from just 2 countries: Switzerland (32%) and USA (25 %).

All Member Societies are asked to continuously announce national activities of general interest on the EuPA website. Easy contact is possible via Christine.hoogland@isb-sib.ch too.

The Journal of Proteomics could celebrate its first birthday quite successfully. 99 papers were published in 2008 with a rejection rate of 48%. The first real Impact Factor can be estimated not before 2011. The pipeline of Special Issues as specific marketing tools is well filled.

- Funding

Member fee payments together with the payment from Elsevier made up again the major income entries in the recent year, with an important part of it spent for Educational Activities. EuPA should try to establish a closer link with industrial companies supplying equipment and reagents for proteomic research.

¹ Minutes of the EC meetings appear at
http://www.eupa.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=66&Itemid=1

- EuPA / HUPO Interactions (more details page 5)

In general, EuPA's visibility in shared activities with HUPO should be increased.

Current EuPA committees

COMMITTEE	PEOPLE INVOLVED	TASKS
Conference & Communication Committee (CCC)	Co-Chair <i>Concha Gil</i> (Madrid, Spain) <i>Christine Hoogland</i> (Switzerland) Team members <i>Luca Bini</i> (Italy) <i>Juan Calvete</i> (Spain) <i>Jesus Jorin</i> (Spain) <i>Gyorgy Marko-Varga</i> (Sweden) <i>Deborah Penque</i> (Portugal) <i>Jean-Charles Sanchez</i> (Switzerland)	EuPA Conferences: <u>Luca Bini</u> ² , G. Marko-Varga, J.-C. Sanchez, C. Gil, C. Hoogland EuPA Workshops: <u>Deborah Penque</u> , C. Gil, C. Hoogland EuPA Website: <u>Christine Hoogland</u> , C. Gil EuPA Newsletters: <u>Jesus Jorin</u> , C. Hoogland, C. Gil EuPA Journal of Proteomics: <u>Juan Calvete</u> , J.-C. Sanchez, C. Hoogland, C. Gil
Education Committee (EduC)	Chair <i>Garry Corthals</i> (Finland) Team members <i>Juan Pablo Albar</i> (Spain) <i>Peter James</i> (Sweden) <i>Ole Jensen</i> (Denmark) <i>Patricia Palagi</i> (Switzerland) Affiliated Members <i>Concha Gil</i> (Spain) <i>Deborah Penque</i> (Portugal)	Structure the different activities into the "EuPA Roadmap in Proteomics Education": - Basic and Advanced Practical Courses. - Summer School. - Education Days at EuPA meetings. - Open education material sources. - Locally organized workshops. - The Tutorial Program
EuPA / HUPO Liaison Committee (EHLIC)	Chair <i>Thierry Rabilloud</i> (France) Team members <i>Emoke Bendixen</i> (Denmark), <i>Bruno Domon</i> (Switzerland) <i>Helmut Meyer</i> (Germany) <i>Antonia Vlahou</i> (Greece)	HUPO-EuPA interaction Coordination of activities EuPA-HUPO meetings
Funding Committee (FC)	Chair <i>Guenter Thesseling</i> (Germany) Team members Executive Committee members (G. Corthals, M. Dunn, C. Gil, F. Lottspeich, T. Rabilloud)	Finances

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² The names underlined are the responsible persons of the different working groups

This year we saw the change of guard for the Education Committee. Conchal Gil, who now heads the "CCC" has worked very hard with all the previous members of the EdCom in starting up the operations and achieving such success and visibility in their educational activities. The new Committee is currently composed by Garry Corthals (Coordinator, Finland), Juan Pablo Albar (Spain), Peter James (Sweden), Ole Jensen (Denmark) and Patricia Palagi (Switzerland). Concha Gil and Deborah Penque (Portugal), from the CCC, link these two committees to insure the coherence in the activities and to promote them. Expansion of the committee is now open and we are currently looking for members from each country! See more about this below.



The EdCom was established with the goal to promote and enhance the quality of Proteomics knowledge by coordinating educational programmes, and to initiate European-wide scientific exchange programmes for young Proteomics researchers [1]. To achieve these goals, the following actions are pursued:

1. Coordination of workshops and courses to promote and enhance the quality of Proteomics knowledge throughout the biosciences community and among the general public and governmental bodies.
2. Coordination and promotion of European-wide scientific exchange programmes for young researchers, to enhance their scientific careers and promote cultural exchange and acceptance throughout Europe.
3. Knowledge transfer of validated and quality assured technologies and procedures to the life science community via worldwide publicly accessible information resources.
4. Promote knowledge transfer between academic researchers and the biosciences industries through collaborative research projects.

The EdCom has so far developed numerous different projects including **basic and advanced courses**, an **annual Summer School**, **courses at scientific meetings**, **workshops** and we are close to finalising arrangements for global tutorial program with the HUPO. There will be an update of this activity after the HUPO meeting in Toronto. A list of all past activities and the educational material can be found at the EuPA website (follow the links About > Education > Past activities). Similarly future courses that are to be planned can be found at the EuPA website. For a synopsis of the complete range of activities of the Education Committee, please see the presentation recently held at the EuPA Stockholm meeting, which can also be found on the EuPA website.

New call for new members to the Education Committee

Plans for the future are to rotate all basic courses around Europe, and expand on our current advanced courses (see slides from Stockholm meeting and ref 1). To achieve this ambitious goal new members are required from each of the member societies, to assist in the promotion and coordination of the courses locally. Plans

for this operation are two tiered: First, each member society/country names an education co-ordinator. Second, each society suggests a host laboratory to EuPA. To promote mobility and networking between the researchers, we strongly encourage each country to also fund one local student on each course. To realise this project, funding is required and industry aid or collaboration is welcomed (e.g. teaching material, instrument loan, lecturers, demos). Please contact garry.corthals@btk.fi if you wish to assist or for more information about this program.

Garry Corthals

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[1] Dunn, M.J., Gil, C., Kleinhammer, C., Lottspeich, F., Pennington, S., Sanchez, J.C., Albar, J.P., Bini, L., Corrales, F., Corthals, G., Fountoulakis, M.M., Hoogland, C., James, P., Jensen, O.N., Jimenez, C., Jorin-Novotny, J., Kraus, H.J., Meyer, H., Ntoukakis, D., Palagi, P.M., Penque, D., Quinn, A., and Rabilloud, T., EuPA achieves visibility - An activity report on the first three years. *Journal of Proteomics*, 2008. 71(1): p. 11-18.

EuPA - HUPO Liaison Committee

The following letter represents the points that have been discussed during first within the EuPA-HUPO Liaison Committee (Thierry Rabilloud (FR), chair, Esmo Bendixen (DK), Bruno Domon (CH), Helmut Meyer (DE) and Antonia Vlahou (GR)) then at the EuPA General Council meeting in Stockholm. They have been conveyed to HUPO Executive Council and are now presented openly in this newsletter.



1. Organization points. Articulation between EuPA and HUPO

As the European arm of HUPO and a regional organization, EuPA would like to structure more precisely its interactions with the governing bodies of HUPO, especially at the level of the HUPO Board of Directors. Up to now, this interaction has been carried out via individuals that are both HUPO directors and members of the EuPA council. This relies on a nomination process in both cases, by national proteomics societies in the case of EuPA and by direct election by members in the case of HUPO.

As such a system based on individuals may not remain sustainable over time, EuPA would like to see HUPO set in place a system that would allow participation of the regional organizations in the governance of HUPO. In EuPA's view, the favoured system would be that some seats at the Board of Directors shall be reserved for representatives of the regional organizations by right. If HUPO declines this type of proposition in the modifications of its By-Laws, then EuPA would like to see implemented an alternative mechanism by which representatives of regional organizations might participate in the work of the HUPO Board of Directors.

2. Proteomics science development. Scope issues

On a more scientific point, EuPA would like to question HUPO about the balance of the various proteomics areas in HUPO. Apart from technological and

standardization issues, that are common to everyone in the proteomics community at large, HUPO is centered (as is implied in its name) on human proteomics, proteomics of model systems (essentially rodents) and proteomics of pathogenic micro-organisms. At the level of EuPA, the spectrum is much larger, including for example plant proteomics, proteomics on non-model animals and proteomics of non-pathogenic microorganisms.

There is thus some kind of discrepancy in the scope of science covered by HUPO and at least some of its regional organizations, and EuPA would like to know whether HUPO intends to address this discrepancy or not (i.e. widen its scope or stay focused) and if yes, how HUPO plans to build this enlargement. It should be made very clear that HUPO is the only master of its scientific policy, and that EuPA just wants to know HUPO's position in order to know at what level (i.e. worldwide or regional) the development of this "non medical proteomics", in the widest sense of the wording, should be envisioned.

3. Education and training

Last but certainly not least, EuPA would like to know how HUPO intends to share the tasks and responsibilities with its regional organizations as to the promotion and development of education and training in what we could call the "proteomics less advanced countries". Within this topic, a highlight should be made at how to deal with the geographical differences between EuPA and the zone defined as "Europe" by HUPO. However, this topic is certainly not limited to this issue, and shall also cover the education in countries that are covered both by EuPA and HUPO as far as Europe is concerned. Beyond that, the general policy about sharing proteomics education between HUPO and its regional organizations shall be also addressed.

A topic related to education and training consists in the tutorials program. Just following the Stockholm meeting, HUPO EC made interesting proposals to the other parties involved (including EuPA). There will be a round table discussion between the journal editors (including of course EuPA's Journal of Proteomics), the HUPO officials (EC and education committee), a representative from the EuPA education committee, and last but definitely not least, the proposed coordinator of the program (Peter James from Lund University, SE). HUPO claims that the aim of this meeting is to reach a principle and technical agreement between all the parties, so that the program can be officially announced publicly in Toronto for a start in 2010, for the benefit of the proteomics community at large.

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3rd EuPA Congress 2009

Stockholm Sweden | June 14 - 17 2009



DAPSOC

Danish Proteomics Society

FinnPro

Finnish Proteomics Society



report from stockholm

The 3rd EuPA Congress was held in the heart of Stockholm at the Stockholm Convention Centre 14-17 June, 2009 with close to 500 participants. This EuPA event was a collaborative effort of the Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Danish Proteomics Societies, sponsored and supported by the Swedish Academy of Science, and the Swedish Proteomics Society.

The theme of this year EuPA Congress was. "*Clinical Proteomics – Protein Expression Research within Disease*", with a focus within the respective sessions addressing many different disease areas and patient challenges that modern society is facing. An increasing demand on the Health Care system, where the patients have difficulties in getting the treatment and effective care that is needed.

As a scientific outcome of the Congress, we published a 673 page Proceedings Volume with 125 colour images that presents the science ongoing in many European, as well as Japanese and US laboratories. We were extremely pleased to see this excellence of research results being presented and debated during the meeting. This Proceedings volume has ISBN notation, which means that EuPA has protected the published contributions, and that you can give references to the papers published therein. As an additional step in supporting EuPA scientific activities, the EuPA Home page (<http://www.eupa.org/>) will hold all these papers available for keyword, and author browsing.

The Monday evening Reception was held at the Stockholm City Hall.

Where the City of Stockholm and Stockholm County Council gave a warm welcome inviting us to an evening Buffet Reception at the City Hall, famous for its architecture, and for hosting the Nobel Banquet in December every year.

The Congress Dinner was held at Norra Latin, June 16th 2009, in the Pillar Hall of Old style building "Norra Latin" close to the Congress Centre.

The building has a Florentine new renaissance style by architect Helgo Zetterwall. The 3 course dinner, along with a spectacular show given by Stephan and Kim, was a memorable musical show that captured funny specifics in many of the European countries, even including the very home town village of Juan Pablo Albar in Spain. Our President Mike Dunn gave the honourable EuPA Senior Scientist price to Peter Roepstorff. This was a highly popular price and Peter gave an emotional talk, inspiring the young scientists to continue this important area of research. Peter also acted as the chairman of the committee that gave their views on the EuPA Young Scientist Award candidates. Cynthia Wright was given the price as the winner if the award, and the three additional candidates were congratulated on stage by Peter.

A memorable moment to us during this evening was the talk that Garry Corthals gave as head of the Committee of the young scientific award, giving a historical perspective on how the actual ideas of EuPA was discussed in Geneva many years back with Jean-Charles Sanchez. Now he was On Stage in Stockholm and the



dream came through.....

The Exhibition part of the Congress was also a great success where the vendor representatives not only presented the newest instrumental developments and products; they also took part in the overall scientific activities and challenged many of the young scientists in discussions and debating. These technology, and biology interactions were of high value, to drive the efforts and developments to a next level.

- As satellite activities to the EuPA Congress, we organised the EuPA Bioinformatics course in Stockholm, and the "Tissue Imaging Workshop" in Uppsala. Highly appreciated and well organised activities. This was made alongside the EuPA Executive-, and General Council- meetings held in Stockholm.

Despite the global recession, and the difficulties that this sudden world market event had on our work to organize a cutting edge high profile European Congress, I would say that this was solved by strong support from many of you in the EuPA general council, members and companies, who stood up and gave the necessary help.

We are most thankful !

- As a resulting outcome of the 3rd EuPA Congress, a special Congress issue from the meeting will be published in Journal of Proteomics (Elsevier), the dead-line of manuscript submission is **October 14, 2009**.

Along with my co-chair Thomas Laurell, I would like to thank all of the participants and the supporting organisations, companies at the exhibition, as well as the Swedish Academy of Science that made this entire event possible, as well as the Malmö Kongressbyrå for their professional organization, resulting in a highly successful EuPA Congress.

We now give the responsibility to Deborah Penque in Estoril in Portugal to arrange the 4:th EuPA Congress 2010.

GOOD Luck , and we will Help and Support You !

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upcoming events

October 14-16, 2009 - Nitra, Slovakia
WG2 meeting of "Plant proteomics in Europe" (COST Action FA0603)
<http://www.costfa0603.org/>



October 16, 2009 – Belvaux, Luxembourg
ProteomLux 2009 "Proteomics and disease-related studies"
<http://www.lippmann.lu/index.php?id=27&L=2>



December 1, 2009 – Odense, Denmark
5th Symposium of the Danish Proteomics Society
"Clinical Proteomics: From bedside to bench"
<http://www.dapsoc.org/>



Abstract deadline is October 15th, 2009.
<http://www.swissproteomicsociety.org/congress09/>

next eupa events

October 23-27, 2010 – Estoril, Portugal
4th EuPA Annual Scientific Meeting – 6th PROCURA meeting
<http://eupa2010.fc.ul.pt/>



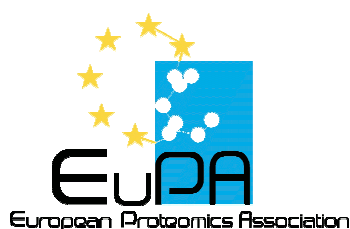
September 3-7, 2011 – Geneva, Switzerland
10th HUPO World Congress – 5th EuPA Annual Scientific Meeting – 8th SPS scientific meeting
<http://www.hupo2011.com/>



about this bulletin

This bulletin is the official newsletter of the European Proteomics Association. A bi-monthly online publication edited by the EuPA Conference and Communication Committee. Through short articles it aims at being the vehicle for the dissemination of the EuPA and the different Proteomics National Society activities and initiatives, its committees, and representatives. It also expects to be a forum for discussion and ideas exchange on all areas of proteomics. It may contain information on "who is who in proteomics" (research groups, scientists), books, papers, databases, and announcements of meetings, courses, thesis and job offers.

You are more than welcome to contribute to this bulletin content, please send your contribution by **November 15th** to be included in the next issue.



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