

Actualități

Second World Congress on Water Channel Proteins (Aquaporins and Relatives) Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Discovery of the First Water Channel Protein (Later Called Aquaporin1) Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 20-24, 2015

PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD CONGRESS GHEORGHE BENGA

The first water channel protein (WCP) was discovered in the 1980s during studies of the human red blood cell membrane. In the 1990s it became obvious that WCPs constitute a large family of membrane proteins that are present in all kingdoms of life: plants, microorganisms (archaea, bacteria, yeast, and protozoa), and animals including humans. WCPs exist in three subfamilies: (1) aquaporins (AQPs) that are mainly water channels; (2) aquaglyceroporins (and glycerol facilitators) that convey water and/or other small molecules across membranes; and (3) S-aquaporins “superaquaporins” or subcellular AQPs. WCPs (over 450 members) belong to the superfamily of major intrinsic proteins (MIPs, over 800 members). The atomic structures of some MIPs have been determined and common structure–function relationships are expressed in microorganisms, plants, multicellular species and humans. The physiological roles of WCPs, and some of their involvement in diseases, are known; thus in the past 30 years WCPs have become a “hot” area of

research in biochemistry and molecular cell biology, with wide and increasing implications for human health. In fact, a new domain of natural and biomedical sciences was born, domain which was called **aquaporinology (Benga, 2013)**.

In 2011 **The First World Congress on Water Channel Proteins (Aquaporins and Relatives) celebrating the 25th anniversary of the discovery of the first water channel protein (later called Aquaporin 1) was held in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, October 27-29, 2011**. It was attended by hundreds of scientists and students, and was unanimously appreciated as a great success.

Since the progress of knowledge in this new field is taking place at such a fast rate, we invite all scholars working in the field, or those interested in the general topic of WCPs, to become valued participants in the **Second World Congress** dedicated to all scientific aspects of WCPs, that will take place in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 20-24, 2015.

PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD CONGRESS:

GHEORGHE BENGA

**Member, Romanian Academy, Academy of Medical Sciences of Romania,
President, Cluj Branch of the Romanian Committee for the History and
Philosophy of Science of the Romanian Academy
President, The GHEORGHE BENGA FOUNDATION
President, The OUTNOBEL FOUNDATION
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The Second World Congress is organized under the Auspices of:



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“Gheorghe Ionescu-Sisesti” Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences



Cluj City Council



Cluj City Hall

The Second World Congress is organized by: The GHEORGHE BENGA FOUNDATION

In collaboration with:

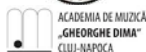
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Romanian Academy – Cluj Branch
Romanian Society of Laboratory Medicine

SECRETARIAT AND MANAGEMENT OF SERVICES:



Wens Tour:

Phone: +4 0264 590 749; Fax: +4 0264 595 755;

E-mail: aquaporin@wens.ro;

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Wednesday May 20, 2015: 17:00 – 19:30 Opening Ceremony, Opening Lecture, Concert
20:00 – 22:00 Welcome Cocktail

Thursday May 21, 2015: 8:00 - 19:00 Registration
09:00 – 11:00 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:30 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
13:30 – 15:00 Poster Discussions (and Snack Break)
15:00 – 17:00 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
17:00 – 18:00 Coffee Break and Poster Discussions
18:00 – 20:00 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
20:30 - 22 :30 Gala Dinner

Friday May 22, 2015: 8:00 - 17:00 Registration
09:00 – 11:00 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:30 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
13:30 – 15:00 Poster Discussions (and Snack Break)
15:00 – 17:00 Plenary Lectures and Scientific Sessions
17:00 - Closing Ceremony, Award of Certificates of Attendance

Saturday May 23: Tour of Cluj-Napoca

Sunday May 24: Excursions

CALL FOR PAPERS

Participants wishing to contribute to the Scientific Program with Lectures, Oral Communications, Short Communications or Posters are kindly requested to submit their **ABSTRACTS**, together with the **REGISTRATION FORM** of at least one author. For the abstract to be included in the final program at least one author should have paid the Registration Fee **BEFORE** sending the **ABSTRACT**. If the paper is not accepted, the Registration Fee will be returned, after bank charges and a handling fee of 5 EUR is deducted.

Abstracts should be submitted by E-mail to: aquaporin@wens.ro.

The authors should indicate the preferred form of presentation. The scheduled time is: Lecture (25 min presentation, 5 min discussion), Oral Communication (12 min presentation, 3 min discussion), Short Communication (8 min presentation, 2 min discussion).

For Lectures the dead-line of Abstract submission is March 15, 2015.

The decision regarding the form of presentation will be taken by the Abstract Committee and will be communicated to authors by April 15, 2015 (at the latest).

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 20-24, 2015: Meeting dates

November 30, 2014: dead-line for payment of “Early Bird” (Reduced) Registration Fee

April 15, 2015: dead-line for for payment of Regular Registration Fee

Late payment: after April 15, 2015

April 1, 2015: dead-line for Abstract submission for Lectures, Oral and Short Communications

April 15: dead-line for Abstract submission for Posters

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: ggbenga@gmail.com