



Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease

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SOMED NEWSLETTER

Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease

Winter 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members, colleagues and friends,

December 20th, 2011

The year 2011 is coming to an end and it is proper to reflect on the year past and make plans for the 2012 to come. The main highlight of the year 2011 was the joint meeting of the XVIIth International Symposium on Gnotobiology and the XXXIVth Congress of the Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease in Yokohama in November. My very special thanks go to the organizers of the Congress, Professors Shunichi Kato and Shigeru Kamiya. I would also like to thank the advisory boards and the local organizing committee for their work. The whole team really performed an excellent job! The Congress hosted 137 scientists from more than 20 countries and was supported by more than 74 sponsors mainly of International & Japanese companies. The recent developments in the basic microbiological research and clinical studies in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) were presented comprising a well intertwined basis for fruitful discussions. In microbial ecology the most interesting presentations showed the possibility of revealing the functional genes involved in the metabolism of different dietary compounds by gut microbiota, as a result influencing the immune and digestive function. The special section on "Nuclear Accidents and HSCT" was added in order to analyze the situation and discuss the new attempts of the Japan and European organizations for collecting and storing hematopoietic stem cells from the peripheral blood of the nuclear plants workers. This could help to perform the autologous transplantation if needed. However, the authorities of medical healthcare and aid have to approve the idea.

A Round Table Discussion "Regulations of Probiotics" was conducted by Professor Tore Midtvedt where the substantial differences in the regulations for the approved health claims by probiotic products were found in Japan, USA, Russia and Europe. The need for new tools for the scientific substantiation of health claims on food is obvious.

Awards of Bengt E. Gustafsson Fund were delivered to the esteemed Professor Nadezhda K. Kovalenko (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine) for the lifelong probiotic research and to a young researcher Betty R. Theriault from the recent germfree animal unit of University of Chicago. SOMED gave its award to the young researcher Sandrine P Claus from Reading University, Imperial College of London and Nestlé Research

centre for the innovative research in gut - brain axis. These studies of human microbial ecology could open new perspectives for prophylaxis and treatment of different neurologic-psychiatric diseases.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of SOMED in Yokohama were fulfilled with vivid discussions and the agreements were confirmed through e-mail by the absent members. The Board accepted that the important event in the year 2011 was the renovation of the journal MEHD. The start seems to be promising as already two papers have been published. Hopefully these papers will stimulate further discussions. At the same time, the Board of SOMED has pointed out the need for widening the editorial board of MEHD to include young perspective researches. Please send your CV and a confirmation of your willingness to serve in the Editorial Board directly to me. For instance, new forums for extended Abstracts providing possibilities to discuss recent scientific discoveries seem desirable. Also the section for the development of new terminology would be welcome. The success of the renovated MEHD is in our hands!

SOMED Councillors have been busy making plans and finding finances for the activities of the Society. The plans for the future include the congresses of SOMED for years 2012, 2013, and 2014. The Valencia meeting of SOMED 2012 is ahead and the abstracts are being collected. We are all looking forward to meeting you all at the Congress in Valencia, Spain. The Board hopes to be able to reduce the congress fees for young researchers by securing support from Sponsors.

For future, the members of the Board have approved the kind proposal of Professor Alojs Bomba of Institute of Experimental Medicine of Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Kosice to organize the XXXVI congress of SOMED in Slovak Republic in year 2013. It seems helpful that in the same year Kosice serves as a Culture capital of Europe. For 2014, Professor Alexander Suvorov from the Institute of Experimental Medicine in St. Petersburg, Russia has proposed organizing a joint congress similar to that of Yokohama in St. Petersburg.

I wish you joyful anticipation of the year to come.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Yours sincerely,

Marika Mikelsaar

Winter 2011 Newsletter's Content

1. Some moments/pictures from Joint ISG/SOMED Congress, held in Yokohama, Japan, the 20- 23 November, 2011.
2. Announcements of up-coming scientific meetings in 2012.
3. Answer to the spring Newsletter Quiz.
4. Seasonal greetings.



The Joint Meeting of the 17th ISG and the 34th Congress of SOMED
November 20-23, 2011, Yokohama

Presidents of Congress professors S. Kato and
S. Kamiya, and their highly honoured MENTOR.





Russian and Japanese scientists change their ideas.



Presentation of Brazil and USA scientists.



Nuclear Accident and HSCT presentation.



Professor B. Shenderov in vivid discussion.



Professors A. Suvorov (Russia) and Ph. Carter (USA).



Round Table Discussion headed by professor Tore Midtvedt.



Cruise Dinner Ship.



The SOMED award winner Sandrine Claus (UK) (on the right).



The two Bengt Gustafsson prize winners Nadezhda Kovalenko (Ukraine) ...



... and Betty Theriault (USA).

2. Announcements of upcoming meetings in 2012

35th International Congress of the Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease (SOMED), 15-17 May 2012, Valencia, Spain

Preliminary Program

- * Human microbial ecology in health and disease;
- * Biofilms and human infections;
- * Gut microbiota, diet and metabolism;
- * Probiotics and prebiotics: efficacy and challenges;
- * Microbial food cultures;
- * Microbial ecology and *omic*-technologies;
- * Host-microbe interactions and immunity;
- * Roles of gut microbes beyond the gut;
- * Food microbial ecology;
- * Food safety and antibiotic resistance.

More information:

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Website: www.somed2012valencia.com

Technical Secretariat



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Prof. Simon Cutting is organizing **The 5th European Spores Conference** at Royal Holloway, University of London, UK (16-19th April, 2012). There will be a session on probiotics. More details are available at:

<www.sporesconference.com <<http://www.sporesconference.com/>>

International Scientific Conference on Probiotics and Prebiotics,
during 12-14th June 2012 in the University city of Kosice, Slovakia, in Doubletree Hilton Hotel.

IPC2012 will be the leading scientific forum where academic and industrial scientists involved in research of all aspects of probiotics and prebiotics meet.

- Key themes will be evidence-based benefits of the use of probiotics and prebiotics, health claim substantiation and new product development.
- Sessions on the development and use of probiotics and prebiotics in animals is also planned.
- Registration starts 1st December 2011. Abstract submission starts 15th January 2012.
- You may also candidate or nominate keynote speakers for the consideration of the Organiz. Committee.
- For further information please visit the conference homepage www.probiotic-conference.net

http://ethreemail.com/e3ds/mail_link.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.probiotic-conference.net&i=0&d=91216185-9V72-4U62-81U9-103W34537W43&e=gianfranco.donelli@iss.it

In case of any question, please do not hesitate to contact us. Xenia Eliasova - Organising Committee Member of IPC2012 [cid:70CBCA6F-EEBF-4EEC-9927-DF243A3A6D92]

The International Scientific Conference on Probiotics and Prebiotics

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http://ethreemail.com/e3ds/mail_link.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.probiotic-conference.net&i=0&d=91216185-9V72-4U62-81U9-103W34537W43&e=gianfranco.donelli@iss.it

ESPID 2012, 30th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID), Thessaloniki, Greece, May 8-12, 2012



1-3 Rue de Chantepoulet, PO Box 1726, CH-1211, Geneva 1, Switzerland, Tel: + 41 22 908 0488, Fax: + 41 22 906 9140

E-mail: espid@kenes.com

Abstract topics for ESPID 2012 include:

Antibiotic resistance	Diagnostic methods	HIV/AIDS	Sexually-transmitted infections	Vaccines and prevention
Bacterial infections	Epidemiology and evidence-based medicine	Infections in the immunocompromised host	Toxin mediated infectious diseases	Viral pathogenesis and infections
Central nervous system infections	Gastrointestinal tract infections	Pathogenesis of infections	Tropical and neglected infectious diseases	Zoanthroponoses

See the ESPID 2012 Preliminary Timetable Online



The unparalleled ESPID 2012 scientific programme features internationally recognized opinion makers who will be discussing the latest developments in the field of paediatric infectious diseases. To learn more about the Oral Communication sessions, Meet the Expert sessions, Poster Symposia, Industry Satellite Symposia, and much more take place.

Access the ESPID 2011 Webcast!



Following the success of webcasted scientific sessions of the 2010 ESPID Annual Meeting in Nice, we are delighted to announce that you may now continue to webcast selected sessions of the 29th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID 2011) held in The Hague, The Netherlands, June 7-11, 2011 as well as electronic access to 101 ePosters kindly released by ESPID Poster Presenters.

Timeless Thessaloniki



ESPID 2012 is being held in the timeless city of Thessaloniki, the second largest city in Greece. Thessaloniki is one of the country's main industrial and commercial hubs. This ancient city is known for its Byzantine monuments, including the Paleochristian and Byzantine monuments. Thessaloniki also contains as Ottoman and Sephardic Jewish structures. The city is home to the largest university in Greece, Aristotle University.

Joint International Congress of the American Society for Reproductive Immunology (ASRI) and the European Society for Reproductive Immunology (ESRI) 2012 Chamber of Commerce (Hamburg/Germany) • 31 May - 02 June 2012

Relevant topics will include:

- Immune regulation during gestation
- Epigenetic regulation of genomic imprinting and fetal development
- Macro- and micro-environmental challenges in reproduction
- Immune aspects of male reproduction and contraception
- Sexually transmitted diseases and intrauterine infections
- Checkpoints during trophoblast invasion: from normalcy to pathology
- Cell incognito: Do we underestimate the Function of Fetal and maternal microchimerism?

- Cutting edge topics in reproductive medicine
- It takes 2 to tango: endocrine-immune cross talk in reproduction

Well known international speakers will present the actual state of the art of reproductive immunology. There will be a various and interesting scientific programme consisting of invited lectures, a presidential symposium and a young investigator session. So you will have the possibility to discuss the latest alterations in that special subject in the attractive ambience of the Chamber of Commerce in Hamburg. Constantly updated information - are available on the website www.asri-esri-2012.de.

For further information or any questions please contact the conference organization: Conventus Congressmanagement & Marketing GmbH, Ms. Marlen Fleischer (phone +49 (0)3641 31 16 103, E-mail: asriesri2012@conventus.de).

Conference Chairs : Prof. Dr. Petra Clara Arck, Dr. Nazeeh Hanna, Prof. Dr. Udo Markert

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The 18th Congress of the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology 2012 (ISHAM 2012) to be held in Berlin, Germany, June 11-15, 2012.

Please visit: <http://www.isham2012.org/>

This will be the largest meeting dealing with human and animal pathogenic fungi ever organised in Germany and the first time that an ISHAM conference will be in Germany. We have already more than 300 confirmed invited chairs and speakers from all over the world.

Prof. Bernhard Hube (member of the local organizing committee)
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e-mail: bernhard.hube@hki-jena.de webpage: www.hki-jena.de

3. Answer to the spring Newsletter Quiz:

Down: French chemist who discovered asymmetry of crystals – **LOUIS PASTEUR**

1. Name of the microbiologist who suggested to change the name SIMED (Society for Intestinal Microbial Ecology and Disease) to SOMED during the minutes of the SIMED Business Meeting held in the occasion of the XIII International Symposium on Intestinal Microecology, September 11-14, 1988, Porto Conte, Sassari, Italy – **SIDNEY FINEGOLD**
2. One of the two discoverers of *Lactobacillus* GG – **BARRY GOLDIN**
3. All SOMED members dream that MEHD will be indexed in this database – **PUBMED**
4. Imbalance of oral microbiota characterized by decrease of lactic acid bacteria will lead to this disease – **PERIODONTITIS**
5. Delicious seafood whose name was given to a method of quantitative microbiology – **FISH**
6. Live microorganism which when administered in adequate amounts confers a health benefit on the host – **PROBIOTICS**
7. The counts of this microorganism increase in case of aggressive periodontitis – **AGGREGATIBACTER ACTINOMYCETEMCOMITANS**
8. Modern molecular method in microbial ecology – **PYROSEQUENCING**
9. Anaerobic lactic acid microorganism – **BIFIDOBACTER**
10. Name of the microbiologist who organized an educating trip for SOMED members in September 2010 – **EUGENIA BEZIRTZOGLU**
11. A potent antimicrobial substance produced by one *Lactobacillus* species – **REUTERIN**
12. Name of the composer whose endocarditis was first diagnosed by blood culture – **GUSTAV MAHLER**

4. *For all SOMED members and friends,*

Merry Christmas and a Happy and successful New Year 2011!



Executive Board

SOMED Newsletter is an electronic, periodic publication of the Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease, open to contributions from members and colleagues on the Society's related matters.

Contributions can be e-mailed to the SOMED President (marika.mikelsaar@ut.ee) and/or to the SOMED Secretary (veronica.lazar2009@gmail.com).

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