

„The Thinker..“ by Duskana Jovic



Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology

PROGRAM AND ABSTRACT BOOK 2nd Retreat

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Lecture Hall of

Bernhard Gottlieb University Clinic of Dentistry

Sensengasse 2a | 1090 Wien



WELCOME ADDRESS

Dear colleagues,

With pleasure and loftiness I have collected the last days the 89 abstracts that you submitted to our retreat and you can find compiled on the next pages. These short presentations of 89 research projects reflect the high scientific potency of our Center. These projects are based on bright ideas of 32 research group leaders that have been able to stand the intense competition for the limited money available in the research pots of the public funding agencies and industry. Despite the increase in competition and decrease in third-party funds we could keep our third-party volume of nearly 10 million € per year that allowed us to hire 150 co-workers and provide education and training places for more than 50 undergraduate students and scholars. Thus, the global staff of 98 full time equivalents financed by the University represented the last year occasionally less than a third of the total staff of the Centre of more than 300. The scientific strength of the Center is also demonstrated by the 728 impact factor points that you collected within the last year by authoring/co-authoring and assisting 168 papers published mainly in highly prestigious journals that is nearly 10% of the scientific output of the University. Furthermore, the staff of the Center is responsible for approximately 4% of the teaching activity of the University. Moreover, a considerable moiety of our Center is doing service and research in the health care sector by providing special and often unique assays to monitor immunological and infectious diseases and analyze the hygienic quality of materials used for treating patients. To pursue some of these activities extramural facilities had to be established, which will be introduced this year by the respective facility heads.

To keep this standard it is not only necessary to have brilliant ideas but also to be aware of the different funding systems and the underlying mechanisms. During the last year I drew your attention to the European Research Council (ERC), which was introduced by President Helga Nowotny at the Advent seminar and recently by key program manager Jonas Bunikis. I hope that I will have soon the privilege to sign a research proposal submitted by one of you to the ERC. Please prepare yourself also to get ready for 2 research programs, which will be announced soon and which are of high interest for us: First, there will be a new call for clinical studies from the FWF; budget will be again around 3 million €. This is unofficial but I have the information from reliable sources. The call will open middle of December 2011 and the deadline will be end of February 2012. Thanks to Barbara Bohle, whose project was among the 15 that were accepted out of 180, our Center received one project of this year's call. Frankly, the quality of the majority of the other proposals was objectively not top. To support the applicants and to give advices how to write a good proposal, the FWF will organize coaching workshops in the Hotel Strudelhof middle of October, middle of November and beginning of December. I strongly recommend that all those of you participate who intend to submit a proposal. Second, the FFG is opening on October 17 a new call for K-projects within the COMET program. Deadline March 29. Requirements: at least 1 academic partner, 3 industrial partners, support from the public sector: up to 0,675 million €/year.

In respect to collaborations I am happy that for this year's retreat we are guests at the Bernhard Gottlieb University Clinic of Dentistry and can use the new lecture hall and other parts of the newly reconstructed house. There has been an old tradition in collaborations between dentistry and immunology that unfortunately declined during the last decades. However, the recent insights into the interactions of the immune system with bone metabolism and the unraveling that the microbiota is not only a first relatively inert innate defense line but also a regulator of the immune system and consequently also of the bone calls for common state-of-the-art projects. Thus, I cordially invite the members of the University Clinic of Dentistry to join our retreat and discuss in a friendly atmosphere new strategies and common future projects.

I wish a fruitful and inspiring meeting

Hannes Stockinger
Head of the Center



PROGRAM

08.00 – 09.00 Poster Mounting

09.00 – 09.45 Opening Session

09.00 – 09.05 [Hannes Stockinger](#)
Welcome

09.05 – 09.25 [Georg Watzek](#)
The Bernhard Gottlieb University Clinic of Dentistry

09.25 – 09.45 [Hannes Stockinger](#)
The Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology: Recent achievements, current status, future developments

09.45 - 10.45 The Extramural Facilities of the Center

Chair: [Ursula Wiedermann](#)

09.45 - 10.00 [Talin Barisani-Asenbauer](#)
The Trachoma Research Laboratory at the University of Jimma, Ethiopia

10.00 - 10.15 [Erika Jensen-Jarolim](#)
Comparative Medicine, a joint venture with the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna supported by the Swiss Messerli Foundation

10.15 - 10.30 [Harald Nödl](#)
Bridging the gap between research and medical aid: The MARIB Research Center of the MUV in Bangladesh

10.30 - 10.45 [Regina Sommer](#)
Water Research Facility Wiental: A joint venture with the Vienna Waterworks of the City of Vienna, the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna and the Austrian Institute of Technology

10.45 - 11.15 Coffee Break

11.15 - 13.15 Highlights from the Subunits of the Center

Chair: [Gerhard Zlabinger](#)

11.15 - 11.45 The Institute for Hygiene and Applied Immunology (HAI)

11.45 - 12.15 The Institute of Immunology (IFI)

12.15 - 12.45 The Institute for Pathophysiology and Allergy Research (IPA)

12.45 - 13.15 The Institute of Specific Prophylaxis and Tropical Medicine (ISPTM)

13.15 - 14.00 Lunch Break

14.00 - 17.30 Viewing and Discussion of the Posters with Coffee and Cake

14.00 - 16.15 Oral poster presentations
Poster 01-23. Chair: [Barbara Bohle](#), Co-chair: [Michael Duchene](#)
Poster 24-45. Chair: [Heimo Breiteneder](#), Co-chair: [Gerold Stanek](#)
Poster 46-67. Chair: [Wilfried Ellmeier](#), Co-chair: [Isabella Ellinger](#)
Poster 68-89. Chair: [Rudolf Valenta](#), Co-chair: [Herbert Strobl](#)

16.15 - 17.30 Free poster touring

17.45 “Get Together” at the Restaurant Culinarium, Währinger Straße 21

P26 CONSERVATION MEDICINE`S WARD: HAEMOPIS ELEGANS, AN ENIGMATIC TOAD-INJURING AUTOCHTHONOUS LEECH

Andreas R. Hassl, Andreas Kleewein

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In addition to the two well-known, native but allochthonous, sanguivorous medical leeches, *Hirudo medicinalis* and *H. verbena*, only three more, autochthonous leeches are known sucking blood from amphibious vertebrates: *Placobdella costata*, the ectoparasitic European turtle leech, and the endoparasitic duck leeches *Theromyzon tessulatum* and *T. maculosum*. However, species of the leech genus *Haemopsis* (Deutsch: Roßegel) are considered to be macrophageous in all cases, yet never to be sanguivorous. Recently the superb species *Haemopsis elegans* has been re-erected and habitually separated from the ubiquitous, common, sober *H. sanguisuga*. The primary record of this unbeknown leech species in Carinthia in 2005 by one of us (AK) was concatenated with the startling realization, that *H. elegans* attacks and injures spawning toads by biting during an unsuccessful effort of blood sucking. If this preliminary observation can be validated, *Haemopsis elegans* would be the only known ectoparasitic species within the leech genus *Haemopsis*, the set-in-stone doctrine of haematophagy on amphibians exclusively by medical leeches must be reconsidered, macrophagous feeding behavior will be no longer regarded as a helpful taxonomic criterion within the family Hirudinidae, and the thesis of poly-paraphyly within the mentioned leech family would be reinforced.

Supported by the  Micro-Biology Consult Dr. Andreas Hassl

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