

Report on 17th ISCCB
Supported by ISN

Meeting report

The goal of the *International Symposia on Chromaffin Cell Biology (ISCCB)* is to provide a forum for the discussion of original high quality research in neurochemistry and neurobiology using mainly, but not exclusively, chromaffin cells as a biological model. The 17th ISCCB meeting organized in Rouen, France, provided an opportunity to exchange ideas, promote collaboration between laboratories with complementary methodologies, foster scientific strategies, and brought together senior and junior neuroscientists. The formation of young scientists was one of the top priorities of the 17th ISCCB, and important funds were set aside to cover travel expenses and provide affordable accommodations. Many scientific ideas have emerged from this meeting and joint projects have originated between new groups from different countries. The convenient geographical setting of Rouen in Normandy provided to researchers from the five continents the opportunity to participate in the Symposium. Indeed, 131 scientists from 24 countries attended this meeting in Rouen and about 50% of the participants are young scientists.

In order to keep the scientific content of the meeting to the excellent levels of the preceding ones, we have tried to cover all the key areas related to the biology of chromaffin cells, involving chromaffin cell experts but also researchers in other fields to broaden the scientific discussions and enrich the experience of each one. The program included 4 plenary lectures by high profile scientists (Frederic Saudou, Reinhardt Jahn, Markus Sauer and Nicole Le Douarin) covering different topics in relation with the ISCCB symposia, *i.e.* vesicle trafficking, regulation of exocytosis, cell imaging and the development of the adrenal gland. The 12 symposia of the program gave an opportunity to about 50 speakers to present their more recent data on exocytosis and its regulation by SNARE proteins and lipids, molecular mechanisms of endocytosis and its coupling to exocytosis, secretory vesicle trafficking and the role of cytoskeleton and calcium, and the characterization of secretory granule proteins such as chromogranins and selenoproteins. Besides, other more general topics were also developed in sessions devoted to imaging, which gathered several experts of high-resolution microscope technologies (STED, TIRF, STORM) and fluorescent probes, and to stress and peptidergic regulation of chromaffin cells. Several breakthroughs have been presented during this meeting such as a remarkable “Nanomap of the synapse” by Dr Silvio Rizzoli, the molecular organization of the SNARE secretory nanomachinery using super-resolution microscopy by Colin Rickman and Manfred Lindau, the role of phospholipases in priming and fusion of secretory granules by Tom Martin and Nicolas Vitale, the role of antioxidant selenoproteins in catecholamine synthesis by Youssef Anouar and Isabelle Lihmann and the role of the neuropeptide PACAP in stress by Tomris Mustafa and Lee Eiden. We have also organized two round-tables for discussion on “chromogranins and their function” chaired by Bruno Tota, and “Detecting, measuring and imaging exocytosis” chaired by Ricardo Borges and Andrew Ewing.

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About 50 posters were also displayed during the entire time of the meeting, allowing further interaction with young scientists. Special sessions for poster presentations took place on the conference site every day. Thanks to our sponsors, we have been able to provide 25 fellowships to PhD and Post-doctoral fellows from 11 different countries in order to cover their housing and travel expenses. Most of the money (60%) received from ISN was granted as fellowships to these young scientists. The relaxed and friendly atmosphere that always prevails in this symposium usually derives in scientific collaborations between laboratories and job opportunities for young participants.

From all the participants' point of view, the 17th ISCCB meeting was a great success.

Youssef Anouar, PhD
Chair, Local Organizing Committee
INSERM U982, DC2N Laboratory
Institute for Research and Innovation in Biomedicine
University of Rouen
France

Fellowship awards

25 students received fellowship awards:

ALEJANDRE-GARCIA Maria Mildred Tzitzitlini, Mexico (600 €)
ARRANZ-TAGARRO Juan Alberto, Spain (400 €)
BARAK-BRONER Noa, Israël (600 €)
BAUER Claudia, United Kingdom (400 €)
BIELOPOLSKI Noa, Israël (600 €)
CALVO-GALLORDO Enrique, Spain (400 €)
DOMINGUEZ Natalia, Spain (400 €)
ESTEVEZ-HERRERA Judith, Spain (400 €)
FERNANDEZ-MORALES José-Carlos, Spain (400 €)
GAVELLO Daniela, Italy (400 €)
GONZALEZ-JAMETT Arlek M., Chile (600 €)
GUERRA-FERNANDEZ Maria José, Chile (600 €)
LIU Bin, Chine (600 €)
LOPEZ-BISTRAN Patricia, Mexico (600 €)
MARTIN Sally, Australia (600 €)
MOYA DIAZ José, Argentina (600 €)
NANCLARES Carmen, Spain (400 €)
PADIN-NOGUEIRA Juan Fernandes, Brazil (600 €)
PAPADOPOULOS Andreas, Australia (600 €)
PASQUA Teresa, Italy (400 €)
PEREDA Dani, Spain (400 €)
QIN Nan, Germany (400 €)
RODRIGUEZ-PARDO Maria, Spain (400 €)
TOMATIS Vanesa Marisa, Australia (600 €)
VANDAEL David, Italy (400 €)

Expenditure

Expenditure for 17 th ISCCB	
Travelling expenses for invited speakers	13 000 €
Accommodation for invited speakers	12 000 €
Student scholarships (accommodation, registration and travel stipends)	12 400 €
Secretariat expenses & miscellaneous (printing, postage, telephone)	1 300 €

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Renting of the meeting place	3 700 €
Abstract books	1 000 €
Social events	6 600 €
Lunch and coffee break	12 000 €
Other expenses : Persons recruited for the event	6 000 €
Total of expenditure for 17th ISCCB	68 000 €

Origin of participants



2 registered persons from Argentina
4 registered persons from Australia
1 registered persons from Austria
1 registered persons from Canada
3 registered persons from Chile
1 registered persons from China
5 registered persons from Denmark
32 registered persons from France
14 registered persons from Germany
6 registered persons from Israel

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8 registered persons from Italy
1 registered person from Japan
1 registered person from Korea
3 registered persons from Mexico
1 registered person from Norway
1 registered person from Portugal
2 registered persons from Scotland
1 registered person from Slovak Republic
15 registered persons from Spain
2 registered persons from Sweden
1 registered person from Taiwan
1 registered person in The Netherlands
8 registered persons from United Kingdom
16 registered persons from USA