

5th EBSA & 15th IUPAB International Biophysics Congress Montpellier (France), August 27th – September 1st, 2005

Organized by The French Biophysical Society and
The French National Committee for Biophysics.

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EBSA (European Biophysics Societies Association) and IUPAB (International Union of Pure and Applied Biophysics) have a long track record of overlapping interests and collaboration. In a very active field with topics that change constantly, it has not been easy to organize a Scientific Program that not only covers most of the hot topics in Biophysics, but also represents a global approach with a balanced contribution from different areas of the world. A continuous feed-back from the adhering members of EBSA and IUPAB has been instrumental and vital for this enterprise, and we appreciate most highly the continuous work from our representatives and member societies.

EBSA integrates the efforts of biophysicists from all over Europe. However, instead of a geographical limitation, Europe is also a cultural concept. Australia, Japan and other countries of the Asia-Pacific rim use our journal (European Biophysics Journal) and share our interests. A long tradition of collaborative work with scientists from North, Central and South America is a must for Europe. We anticipate meeting all our colleagues in Montpellier. Other countries, such as Egypt, have been members of our Association for a long time. We are always welcome and highly receptive to incorporation of societies that fulfil the statutory requirements, especially to those country members which have recently entered the European Union. Eastern European countries receive most of our support in terms of travel grants and student fellowships. We will work to build a sphere of interaction that increase European values in science and society. Unfortunately the economic situation of certain countries in Africa and other regions of the world does not readily facilitate science, but we will work together to build a world in which science, personal relations and democracy are the principles of a better society.

This is also my opportunity to invite you come to our next EBSA Congress in London, United Kingdom (2007). Our General EBSA Assembly will consider Genoa, Italy for the EBSA Meeting in 2009. This is also an invitation for member societies to present new venues for the EBSA Congresses which are now occurring biannually. EBSA is proud to spend most of its budget in supporting young scientists, especially those from countries with fewer opportunities. We also support joint European efforts and are working to convince the Members of the European Parliament and the European Commission that biophysics has to be supported and

science financed, at an appropriate level. EBSA is fully European organization and we work in the European space.

Both the Organizing and the Scientific Committees have worked hard to reach this point. Please enjoy the science and take some time to get to know France. Europe is a mosaic of countries where you may find almost every food, weather, cities, landscape and people. We Europeans are fortunate to gather so many personal and cultural approaches, this helps to create an extremely wealthy combination. For those of you that do not live in Europe please feel at home, we will try to do our best.

With my best wishes

Prof. Bernat Soria, MD, PhD

President of the European Biophysics Societies Association

Montpellier, August 2005

Dear Colleague,

It is an honour and a great pleasure to invite you to join us in Montpellier for the XVth International Biophysics Congress on behalf of the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics (IUPAB).

For the first time this international congress will be sponsored both by IUPAB and by the European Biophysical Societies' Association (EBSA). This joint sponsorship reflects both the vitality of the Biophysics in Europe and the commitment of IUPAB and EBSA to promote the largest coverage of researchers in this field.

The list of contributors includes the leading scientists in their respective fields. We shall have excellent facilities in the Corum for the oral and poster presentations of submitted original research.

Both IUPAB and EBSA are sponsoring younger scientists to attend the congress in their effort to promote Biophysics wherever it needs help especially in countries where this scientific discipline is not well funded.

I encourage you to spare some of your time to visit the beautiful region of Montpellier and its surroundings. The organizing committee have done their best to make your stay as pleasant as possible. Satellite conferences on special topics have been organized for the period before and after the congress.

We look forward to seeing you in Montpellier,

Sincerely yours.

Jean Garnier

President of IUPAB
