



FEPS NEWSLETTER

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FEPS

Federation of European Physiological Societies

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Letter from the President

Federation of European Physiological Societies meeting in 2012: Santiago de Compostela (Spain)

The 2011 FEPS meeting was held at the eastern margins of Europe, in Istanbul. Indeed, the more pedantic amongst us noticed that the meeting was actually held in Asia. Whichever continent it was in, there is no doubt that the meeting was a great success and, for this, credit is due to Bayram Yilmaz and his colleagues.

The **2012 meeting** marks a jump across virtually all of Europe, to Spain. The meeting will be held in Santiago de Compostela from 8-11 September 2012. This will be a joint meeting of FEPS with the Spanish Physiological Society and also the Endocrine Society of Portugal. Many members of FEPS will have been to meetings in Spain and will know that these events are both scientifically stimulating and socially fun. The meeting will begin with a Young Physiologists Symposium and will then continue with symposia and poster sessions designed to cover a broad range of physiological topics. The major scientific highlights will include the plenary lectures. At this stage three are confirmed. The meeting will begin with Fran Ashcroft (Oxford) giving the Annual FEPS Lecture entitled "*ATP-sensitive K channels, from molecule to disease*". Rafael Yuste (Columbia, New York) will lecture on "*Dendritic Spines and Distributed Circuits*". Finally, the meeting will close with Ramon Latorre (Valparaiso, Chile) giving the Juan Negrin lecture of the Spanish Physiological Society "*Spying the molecular workings of ion channels*".

I went to Santiago de Compostela for the first time in November to help plan the meeting. The town is a beautiful place to visit and it is immediately clear why it has become a focus for pilgrims for the last thousand or so years. It is a UNESCO World Heritage City.



The university is right in the middle of the town next to the old cathedral and accommodation for the meeting is within easy walking distance.

Last, but most certainly not least, there are any number of restaurants and bars in which to continue discussions after sessions.

Do come and join us in September!

David Eisner (President, FEPS).

Meeting website www.feps2012.org

FEPS 2013: Birmingham, UK with IUPS

The 2013 FEPS meeting will be held in Birmingham (UK) from 21-26 July in conjunction with the meeting of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS).

IUPS meetings are held every four years; the 2009 one was in Kyoto, Japan and the 2017 one will be in Brasil. It is therefore very good that the 2013 meeting is in Europe.

The main host of the 2013 meeting is The Physiological Society (TPS). However, from almost the first days of planning, TPS realized that it made great sense to involve as many European colleagues as possible in the meeting.

To this end, FEPS has become a partner and the meeting will be a joint one. Other partners include The Scandinavian Physiological Society, The European Vascular Biology Organization and The European Society for Microcirculation.

A major part of the meeting will be the 32 keynote and plenary lectures. These will begin with the opening lecture from Roger Tsien (Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, 2008). Of particular note from a FEPS point of view is that the Annual FEPS Lecture will be given by Juleen Zierath (Stockholm). A full list of lectures can be found at the website (details in box below). The meeting will also contain 90-100 half day symposia. The exact symposia are currently being selected by the Scientific Programme Committee and a full list should be available by April 2012.

Each symposium will have five speakers. Three of these will be established scientists with the other two talks being given by early career researchers. Finally, posters will be very much at the heart of the meeting. All posters will be displayed for a full day.

The Conference Centre is ideally designed and situated for a meeting of this nature. It is situated right in the middle of Birmingham and backs onto the rejuvenated canals with countless cafes, bars and restaurants. There is therefore no shortage of places for informal conversations during and after the working day. A large number of hotel rooms, to suit all tastes and budgets, is available within walking distance of the venue.

Finally, why not combine the meeting with a holiday? Birmingham is ideally suited for travel westwards to Wales, southwest to the Cotswolds or, indeed, to anywhere in the UK.

www.iups2013.org

1 July 2012: IUPS travel award application process opens

1 September 2012: IUPS travel award application process closes

1 September 2012: Abstract submission opens Registration opens Accommodation booking opens

1 November 2012: Abstract submission closes *For those applying for IUPS travel awards*

ALVAR WILSKA (1911–1987) – INTRODUCTION OF AN EXCEPTIONALLY MULTITALENTED FINNISH PHYSIOLOGY PROFESSOR, INVENTOR, SCIENTIST, AND A PHYSICIST AHEAD OF HIS TIME

In the year 1944 Alvar Wilska was appointed to the post of Professor of Physiology at the University of Helsinki. After the war in the 1950's, Alvar Wilska was one of the best-known researchers in Finland, and a real science celebrity of that time. At the 1960's, on the other side of the world in Arizona, United States, his electron microscopy laboratory was considered to be one of the top laboratories in the world.

After his death, in the 1990's, he was listed among the most important nation builders of Finland. However, until now his work was practically forgotten.

Who was Alvar Wilska?

Check out the whole article about Alvar Wilska on:

http://feeps.org/fileadmin/files/Alvar_Wilska_1911-1987.pdf





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