



Welcome letter from the President of IBS

I am happy that the **International Biometals Society (IBS)** has now been founded and many colleagues have helped to discuss its establishment and supported the filling of the necessary documents. The announcements for the IBS have already been published in **BioMetals**, which is now the **Official Journal of the Society**.

As most of you know, the term Biometals originates from the former title of the journal **Biology of Metals** founded in 1988, together with the publisher Springer, which was later changed to **Biometals**. We also succeeded to organize Biometals meetings nearly every two years in Europe and the US which kept the biometals community together. Other meetings dealing with iron, copper and zinc and also with toxic metals have evolved in parallel and have addressed similar aims and scopes. Thus we have a longstanding cooperation between the various metal groups and I always encourage scientific exchange which improves our understanding of metals in biology, biochemistry and medicine.

I am confident that the Biometals Journal and the Biometals Society provide the ideal platform to discuss the latest advances of the role of metal ions in biological systems. Therefore, I welcome young scientists and leading experts to join our newly formed **International Biometals Society** by contacting Prof. Larry L Barton at lbarton@unm.edu to become a member of the Society.

Guenther Winkelmann
President of IBS



8th International Biometals Symposium

To be held in July 15-19, 2012 at Brussels, Belgium

The 8th International Biometals Symposium will be held in Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Brussels, Belgium in July 2012. The Symposium will be hosted by Prof. Pierre Cornelis.
(pcornel@vub.ac.be)



Local Organizer Committee:

- Pierre Cornelis (VUB)
- Joris Messens (VUB)
- Nathalie Verbruggen (ULB)
- Max Mergeay (SCK_CEN)

The website is being established and IBS members will receive 1st announcement by email.



Institute of Molecular Biology (VUB)

coexistence of French and Flemish culture, and it is nowadays home to nationalities around the world, adding a cosmopolitan flavour to its atmosphere. The vibrant atmosphere of Brussels is further enhanced by picturesque medieval streets, lively squares, beautiful boulevards, impressive monuments, spacious parks, cosy cafés, interesting restaurants and an active cultural life.

(www.brussels.org)

About Brussels

Brussels is the capital of Belgium and the administrative centre of the European Union. This has earned the city the title of the Capital of Europe. Brussels has been given its character by the



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Metals in the News

IBIS 2011 Meeting

Meeting of the International
Biolron Society
May 22-26, 2011
Vancouver, BC, Canada

FEMS 2011

4th Congress of European Microbiologists

June 26-30, 2011
Geneva, Switzerland
Workshop: **Metals and microbes**

Chairs:

Nigel Robinson, UK
Pierre Cornelis, Belgium

Gordon Research Conference

Cell Biology of Metals

July 31 - August 5, 2011
Salve Regina University
Newport, RI, USA

Chairs:

David P. Giedroc & **Sabeeha
Merchant**

TEMA14

14th International Symposium on Trace Elements in Man and Animals.

September 19-24, 2011
Enshi, Hubei, China.

ISTERH 2011

Meeting of the International Society for Trace Elements Research in Humans

October 16-21, 2011
Antalya, Belek, Turkey

ISZB 2012

Meeting of the International Society for Zinc Biology

January 15-19, 2012
Melbourne, Australia

Biometals in the desert

The 7th International Biometals Symposium (Biometals 2010) was held in Tucson, Arizona (USA) in July 2010. The meeting was hosted by Chris Rensing and Megan McEvoy, from the University of Arizona, and took place in the beautiful Westin La Paloma Resort in the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains. The meeting was a great success with 150 participants. The scientific program included sessions dedicated to siderophores and iron transport, arsenic toxicity and transformation, interplay of metals, metals and gene regulation, metals in disease, metal transport, and metals in microorganisms. One highlight of the symposium was the presentation of the Igor Stojilkovic Lecturer Award to Prof. Klaus Hantke of the University of Tübingen, in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the biometals field towards understanding iron transport. The meeting witnessed the birth of the International Biometals Society.



IBS Awards 2014

This is the time to send nominations for the following two IBS awards for 2014. The Igor Stojilkovic Award is for outstanding research in the biometals field and the Heritage Award is to recognize an individual for contributions in the area of biometals. Members of IBS are



Klaus Hantke received the Igor Stojilkovic Award in Biometals 2010.

IBS Logo Contest

The IBS needs a logo and you can help by suggesting one to Larry Barton (lbarton@unm.edu).

A suitable "prize" will be given to the author of the logo selected. Logo will appear on the Biometals journal, IBS Newsletter and all official communications.

IBS Constitution and Bylaws

A copy of the constitution of IBS will be published in the August, 2011 issue of BIOMETALS. Discussion, vote and approval of the constitution and by laws of the IBS will occur at the General Assembly associated with the 8th Biometals Symposium.

requested to send names of nominees for the Igor Stojilkovic Award and the Heritage awards to: omartzwg@hotmail.com. To help in the evaluation of your nominee, please provide a few sentences about the individual. Previous winners of the Igor Stojilkovic Award are Volkmar Braun, 2006; James Camakaris, 2008; Klaus Hantke, 2010; and Jorge Crosa, 2012. The previous winner of the Heritage award is Guenther Winkelmann, 2012. The 2014 awardees will be announced at the 2012 International Biometals Symposium.



Memories from the past Biometals Symposium

The 6th International BioMetals Symposium (BioMetals 2008), which was held in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) from 14th to 18th July 2008. The Symposium was really a great success with almost 200 participants from more than 20 countries who

enjoyed the science but also the nice weather, the food and the social events. The scientific program included several sessions dedicated to siderophores and iron transport, metal transport, metals and disease, toxic metals, heme transport, metal-protein interactions and metals and gene regulation. The meeting was opened by a keynote from Kenneth Raymond (University of California, Berkeley, USA), and James Camakaris (University of Melbourne, Australia) give the closing lecture as the Igor Stojilkovic Memorial Lecturer Award for his outstanding contributions to the Biometals field. The participants also enjoyed the cultural Heritage of Santiago de Compostela.



Meetings Reports

FEBS Advanced Course "Chemistry of Metals in Biological Systems"

May 15-22, 2011. Robert Crichton & Ricardo Louro
Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

On the third week of May, we held the latest edition of the Advanced Course *Chemistry of Metals in Biological Systems*. This is an initiative which has been organized in Louvain-la-Neuve since 1985 and has already trained more than 850 students, making it an important pillar in the development of a community dedicated to the study of the interplay between metals and the living world. The lectures provided a multidisciplinary view of the field that extended from theoretical methods for studying metal-ligand bonds to molecular biology tools adapted to metallo-proteins. Practical sessions took place in the laboratories of the University of Louvain providing a venue for direct contact with experimental tools of general application in the broad area of biometals. The feedback of the students was very positive both on the scientific and the community building aspects. A new edition is anticipated to take place in 2012.

Report from Ricardo O. Louro, Instituto de Tecnología Química e Biológica, Oeiras, Portugal.

Australian Academy of Science Boden Conference for 2010: "Metals in Biological Systems - Structure, Catalysis and Metabolism"

The conference was held in Canberra from November 28 to December 1, 2010. The conference bid was supported by the Australian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. Approximately 90 delegates from Australia and New Zealand turned out for what proved to be an excellent three days of productive interaction. The international speakers were Dennis Winge (University of Utah), David Richardson (University of East Anglia), Guenter Weiss (University of Innsbruck) and Les Dutton (University of Pennsylvania). Besides that were 11 sessions which covered topics as metal transport and acquisition, the synthesis, structure and function of metalloproteins, metals and infection, disorders of metal homeostasis, the use of metal complexes in medicine, metals and the environment, and technologies for studying metals in tissues and organisms. The middle two days each ended with a convivial poster session. Perhaps the most appealing feature of this meeting was that it was truly multidisciplinary. We had chemists mixing with physiologists, and clinicians mixing with molecular biologists. As a result of people being exposed to areas they may not usually encounter, many new ideas were developed and new collaborations initiated.



There was unanimous agreement that a similar metals in biology meeting should be held in Australia every two years. To facilitate this, we have constituted the Australian Biometals Group, an informal assemblage at present that may grow into a formal society in time.

Report from Greg Anderson, Queensland Institute of Medical Research, Australia (Greg.Anderson@qimr.edu.au)