

News

29th INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC-EDUCATIONAL COURSE ANTHROPOLOGY AND HEALTH

»New Challenges in Molecular Anthropology and Genetics«

September 16–18, 2009, Dubrovnik, Croatia

In September 2009 an international scientific-educational course 29th ANTHROPOLOGY AND HEALTH titled »New Challenges in Molecular Anthropology and Genetics« was held at Anthropological Centre of Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU – Hrvatska Akademija Znanosti i Umjetnosti) in Dubrovnik.

This meeting was a result of years of successful collaboration of Academician Pavao Rudan, director of Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia and Academician Richard Villems, director of Estonian Biocentre and head of Department of Evolutionary Biology, Institute for Molecular and Cell biology, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia.

The newest results from the field of molecular anthropology and population genetics were given, as well as guidelines for future research. These included analyses of mitochondrial DNA, Y-chromosome, autosomal markers and wide genome association studies (WGAS), carried with the aim of investigating phylogeography of genetic markers, population structure and association of polymorphisms and complex traits (mainly diseases). By participation of altogether 29 scientists from several institutions of Croatia and Europe, the aim of encouraging scientific interconnection was achieved.

This scientific meeting was the third one held in Anthropological Centre of Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Dubrovnik since its opening at the beginning of 2009.

Chairmen

- Academician Richard Villems (president of Estonian Academy of Sciences, Tallinn, Estonia; director of Estonian Biocentre and head of Department of Evolutionary Biology, Institute for Molecular and Cell biology, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia)

- Academician Pavao Rudan (director of Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia).

List of lectures and discussions

- Pavao Rudan (Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia): History and molecular anthropogenetics – reality or misdirection?
- Doron Behar (Faculty of Medicine and Research Institute, Technion and Rambam Medical Center, Haifa, Israel): A phylogenetic comparison of uniploid and diploid genomes
- Damir Marjanović (Institute for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina): Perspectives in molecular anthropology in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Nina Jeran (Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia): Mitochondrial DNA diversity and structure of Adriatic Isolates – example of the Island of Hvar
- Flavio De Angelis (Department of Biology, University of Rome »Tor Vergata«, Roma, Italy): HLA DQ and Onchocerciasis in Ecuador: Interactions between genetic and environment in an endemic infection
- Mait Metspalu (Tartu University and Estonian Biocentre, Tartu, Estonia): Phylogeography of man – the dawn of WGAS. The first steps, no giant leaps just yet
- Siiri Rootsi (Tartu University and Estonian Biocentre, Tartu, Estonia): Some recent and ongoing Y-chromosome projects in Tartu, Estonia
- Monika Karmin (Tartu University and Estonian Biocentre, Tartu, Estonia): Roma, Gypsies, Travelers, Gitanos, Zingaros, Tsiganos, Cigani, Cikani,... looking for the Indian connection

Participants (in alphabetical order)

Doron Behar (Haifa, Israel); Damir Carić (Hvar, Croatia); Barbara Cvitkušić (Zagreb, Croatia); Svjetlana Cvjetan (Split, Croatia); Flavio De Angelis (Roma, Italy); Zijad Duraković (Zagreb, Croatia); Dobrivoje Đorđević (Skopje, Macedonia); Georgi Hudjasov (Tartu, Estonia); Nedjeljko Ivančević (Zagreb, Croatia); Vladislav Ivanović (Podgorica, Montenegro); Mari Järve (Tartu, Estonia); Nina Jeran (Zagreb, Croatia); Monika Karmin (Tartu, Estonia); Lejla Kovačević (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina); Damir Marjanović (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina); Ene Metspalu (Tartu, Estonia); Mait Metspalu (Tartu, Estonia); Saša Missoni (Zagreb, Croatia); Jüri Parik (Tartu, Estonia); Vanda Pribačić Ambrožić (Zagreb, Croatia); Tuuli Reisberg (Tartu, Estonia); Maere Riedla (Tartu, Estonia); Siiri Rootsi (Tartu, Estonia); Pavao Rudan (Zagreb, Croatia); Jelena Šarac (Zagreb,

Croatia); Tena Šarić (Zagreb, Croatia); Andrea Tomljenović (Zagreb, Croatia); Ana Vekić (Zagreb, Croatia); Richard Villems (Tartu, Estonia).

General Secretary

Saša Missoni, Phd

Organizers:

- Croatian Anthropological Society (HAD – Hrvatsko Antropološko Društvo), Zagreb, Croatia
- Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia
- Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Tartu University and Estonian Biocentre, Tartu, Estonia.

Nina Jeran