

## NEWS



### 53<sup>rd</sup> International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress (INPC)

The 53<sup>rd</sup> International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress (53<sup>rd</sup> INPC) was held on June 19-22, 2013, under the auspices of the Croatian president Professor Ivo Josipović. The Congress is traditionally held in Verudela Hotels Park Plaza Histria and Brioni, and the organizers are Kuratorium International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress and Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The supporting organizations of the Congress are the World Federation of Neurology, WFN Ap-

plied Research Group on the Delivery of Neurology Services, International Interdisciplinary Medicine Association, European Psychiatric Association, and Central and Eastern European Stroke Society. For the first time, this year's Congress was endorsed by WFN. The main sponsors of the Congress were the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Graz and the City of Zagreb. This year's Congress was attended by more than 350 participants from Croatia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Italy, Hungary, Macedonia, Germany, Poland, Romania, Russia, the United States, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Great Britain, Lithuania, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, India, South Korea, and many more.



*The 53<sup>rd</sup> INPC opening ceremony.*



*Professor Vida Demarin, Secretary General of the INPC Congress, and Professor Boško Barac, Honorary President of the INPC Congress.*



*Professor Lüder Deecke: Professor Hans Helmut Kornhuber Memorial Symposium.*

The main theme of this year's Congress was Depression and Pain – What Is the Link?, while the theme of the joint meeting of the International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress in the Section of Neuroscience Alps-Adria were discussions about different therapeutic approaches. Besides the main theme, numerous symposia were also held during this year's Congress, i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> European Summer School of Psychopathology in Pula, 6<sup>th</sup> Pula International Symposium on Epilepsy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Interface Providers in Neurorehabilitation Symposium, 1<sup>st</sup> Pula Neuro-Interdisciplinary School; psychiatric symposia on the Law on Psychotherapy, Forensic Psychiatry, CSF Signaling and CSF Biomarkers; neurological symposia on Music and Rhythm in Restoring the Brain, Advanced Treatment of Parkinson's Disease, and Diagnosis and Treatment of Low Back Pain. On Wednesday evening, traditional academic lecture was given by Professor Luigi Ag-

nati, who presented the latest findings on the Volume Transmission Mode and Potential Clinical Impact.

This year's International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress proved once again that there is the need and interest to organize such a Congress where multidisciplinary approaches to a number of interesting topics in the fields of both neurology and psychiatry are discussed and which has over more than half a century maintained the continuity of meeting that has become known as The Pula School of Science and Humanism, as it was often emphasized by prominent speakers, honored guests and participants of the oldest international congress in the field of neurology, psychiatry and neuropsychiatry.

The next, 54<sup>th</sup> International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress will be held on June 18-21, 2014, and the main theme of the Congress will be Prevention of Brain Impairment and Lifestyle.

*Sandra Morović*



*Poster Session.*





### 24<sup>th</sup> Summer Stroke School – Healthy Lifestyle and Prevention of Stroke

The wonderful City of Dubrovnik was the host of the 24<sup>th</sup> Summer Stroke School with international participation held on June 3-7, 2013, under the auspices of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The usual and proud auspices were Inter-University Center Dubrovnik, Croatian Stroke Society, Zagreb University School of Medicine, Central and Eastern Eu-

ropean Stroke Society, and Applied Research Group on Delivery of Neurological Services (RGODNS) of the World Federation of Neurology (WFN).

Course director, Vida Demarin, Fellow of the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences (Zagreb, Croatia), Professor Roman Haberl (Munich, Germany), Professor Kurt Niederkorn (Graz, Austria), Professor Tatjana Rundek (Miami, USA), and Professor Zlatko Trkanjec (Zagreb, Croatia), showed once again that Croatia is one of the Europe's centers of knowledge. The Course gathered many experts from all around the world who unselfishly shared their clinical and personal experience and knowledge with the Course participants.

The aim of the Course was once again to support cooperation and promote exchange of knowledge and experience among participants from different countries. This meeting shed new light on the epidemiology of stroke, its primary and secondary prevention, diagnosis, therapy and rehabilitation. All participants had a unique opportunity to share their national stroke data and discuss the specific stroke problems in their countries. Countries of the East and West Europe had an opportunity to work together on solving the problems related to stroke, either of medical, economic or of some other nature.

The diverse scientific program embraced different aspects of stroke, from the importance of spreading



knowledge about stroke; stroke prevention in 2013; prevention of stroke in atrial fibrillation; a new era, IMT/plaque; the same or different phenotypes; recent advances in ultrasound diagnostics; dissection of carotid and vertebral arteries as a cause of stroke; aortic atheroma as a risk factor for stroke; sensory impairments after stroke; silent brain infraction; thrombectomy in acute stroke; gender differences in stroke; detection of cerebral emboli using transcranial doppler; vascular mild cognitive impairment; gut – your second brain; diagnosis and treatment of vertebral artery stenosis; examination after stroke; postpartum stroke; advanced glycation end products (AGE) and their role in carotid atherogenesis; and many more interesting topics.

All the hard work was awarded by rich social and cultural program: excursion to the Island of Lokrum, the violin recital by Midori Komachi organized by Mrs. Uta Schneider in honor of Academician Vida Demarin in Rector Palace in the heart of Dubrovnik, and the closing night of this Summer Stroke School offering all flavors and tastes of the traditional Mediterranean tasty and healthy food in the peaceful atmosphere of Dubrovnik peninsula Babin Kuk. Altogether, it was a worthwhile and interesting scientific and social program and once more a successful Summer Stroke School. We look forward to the next year's 25<sup>th</sup> Summer Stroke School to be held on June 9-13, 2014.

*Sandra Morović*