

Medicinal Chemistry Workshop in Brussels – 3-4 Sep 2010

Summary report prepared by Janos Fischer

The IUPAC Subcommittee on Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Development usually has two meetings in a year. The spring meeting is juxtaposed to the ACS National Meeting, whereas the second annual meeting is mostly in Europe in connection with a significant medicinal chemistry conference.

The present summary refers to the last meeting in Brussels on September 3 and 4, 2010 before the XXIst International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry, organized by the European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC).

The meeting was attended by Sergey Bachurin (Russia), Derek Buckle (UK), Janos Fischer (Hungary), Robin Ganellin (UK), Arun Ganesan (UK), Per Lindberg (Sweden), Peter Matyus (Hungary), Tom Perun (USA), Joerg Senn-Bilfinger (Germany), Giorgio Tarzia (Italy), Henk Timmerman (The Netherlands), Johan Ulander (Sweden) (*see group photo below*).



front row from left : Janos Fischer, Henk Timmerman, Robin Ganellin and Derek Buckle;
back row from left : Arun Ganesan, Sergey Bachurin, Tom Perun, Peter Matyus, Giorgio Tarzia,
Johan Ulander, Joerg Senn-Bilfinger and Per Lindberg

The meeting was chaired by Professor Robin Ganellin. The most important topics of the meetings are summarized below.

IUPAC-Richter Prize 2010

Professor Arun K. Ghosh (Purdue University, USA) received the 2010 IUPAC-Richter Prize (*see* Chemistry International, Vol. 32, No. 3, 2010). His lecture took place on September 7, 2010 at the EFMC symposium. The discovery of the new HIV drug, darunavir and the research work of β -secretase inhibitors for treatment of Alzheimer's disease have been recognized by the prize (*see* enclosed photo : Robin Ganellin, Arun K. Ghosh and Janos Fischer).



Robin Ganellin, Arun K. Ghosh and Janos Fischer

IUPAC Emeritus Fellow

Professors Les Mitcher, John Topliss and Camille Wermuth have been designated by the Subcommittee to be awarded as „IUPAC Medicinal Chemistry and Human Health Division Emeritus Fellows”. Camille Wermuth was in Brussels to receive the Nauta Award from the EFMC and was also able to receive his Emeritus Fellow plaque which also afforded a good opportunity for publicity for IUPAC. (Photo to the right: Robin Ganellin with Camille Wermuth)



Membership

Johan Ulander, physicochemist (Astra Zeneca) joined the Subcommittee.

Terminology Projects

1. *The Glossary of Terms for Biomolecular Screening* (chair : John Proudfoot, Boehringer-Ingelheim, USA) is ready and its publication is underway in PAC.

2. *The Glossary of Terms in Medicinal Chemistry* will be prepared (chair : Derek Buckle). The meeting thoroughly discussed this project which has the goal to update the glossary prepared in 1998.

Several terminology projects are underway on drug metabolism, pharmaceutical process chemistry, biomarkers of cancer and computational drug design. It is also planned to edit all these glossaries as a compendium.

Educational Projects

Two projects concern the teaching of medicinal chemistry in Latin-America and India.

1. Two medicinal chemistry workshops are planned in India (Rajkot and Nagpur) in February 2011. Mukund Chorghade (USA) coordinates this work.

2. The first dual language (English and Spanish or Portuguese) book on „Practical studies for medicinal chemistry students” (which is already on the IUPAC web) will be published in due course. Antonio Monge (Spain) chairs this project.

Special Topics

1. The second volume of the book „Analogue-based Drug Discovery” edited by Janos Fischer and Robin Ganellin has been published in July 2010 by Wiley-VCH. 41 authors participated from 10 countries. (see C.I. 2010, 32, N° 4 (July-August)).

2. A chapter of the above book was devoted to „Standalone Drugs”. It is planned to prepare also a journal article of these important and unique drugs which could serve as starting points for further research work.

New Projects

1. Per Lindberg (Astra Zeneca) and Paul Erhardt (University of Toledo, USA) plan to submit a project proposal on broad-based patenting questions.

2. Johan Ulander (Astra Zeneca) proposed a project of educational value to medicinal chemists to overview the modern physicochemical methods in medicinal chemistry.
3. Janos Fischer (Richter Plc, Hungary) proposed a third volume of Analogue-based Drug Discovery.
4. A plan was also outlined for a new project to extend the current project on neglected diseases in Latin America, to other regions of the world.

The subcommittee meeting discussed several further questions, eg. the participation in the IUPAC activities in 2011, for the International Year of Chemistry.

The official minutes of this meeting are available online from the Subcommittee webpage at <http://www.iupac.org/web/ins/703>

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