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## Foreword

C<sub>i</sub>PP'99, the European Workshop on Protein Purification, in conjunction with the European Contest for Young Scientists on Protein Purification, took place in Paris, from 10–11 June, 1999. The French capital, with its famous Universities and with the Pasteur Institute close to the meeting venue proved to be a successful choice for this meeting. Many took the opportunity to explore the sites of the city.

Based on the strategy of *Capture–Intermediate Purification–Polishing* (C<sub>i</sub>PP), the workshop focused on the development of efficient purification schemes, faster protein purification method development and shorter time scale to achieve sufficiently pure product. The meeting was organized by a scientific committee comprising Dr. Octavian Barzu (Institute Pasteur, France), Dr. Chris Fuller (Cambridge University, UK), Dr. Uwe Gottschalk (Bayer AG, Germany) and Dr. Bengt Österlund (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, Sweden). Almost 200 scientists from 13 countries used this opportunity to meet, present and discuss the development of efficient purification schemes for proteins. The purpose of the meeting was to allow young researchers to practice giving scientific presentations in front of a big audience and participants to meet other scientists and to exchange experience and knowledge in an informal atmosphere.

The workshop also hosted the final of the European Contest for Young Scientists. More than forty contributions were accepted for either oral or poster presentation, covering methods and development aspects and the purification of recombinant human proteins, viral proteins and antibodies, and proteins from both bacterial and eucaryotic sources. The contributions competed for a total of 10 prizes, granted by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech Europe. The prizes went to: 1. Joris Messens, University of Brussel/Flemish Institute for Biotechnology, St.

Genesius Rode, Belgium (5,000 Euro), 2. Doris Willflingseder, Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria (3,000 Euro), 3. Jan Abendroth, University of Köln, Germany (2,000 Euro), 4. Alexandre Bota, University of Barcelona, Spain (1,500 Euro), 5. Barbara Comuzzi, IRCCS, Milano, Italy (1,000 Euro), 6–10. A. Beleén Blazquez, University of Madrid, Spain; Fabrice Bouillenne, University of Liege, Belgium; Stéphanie Gibert, University of Bordeaux, France; Anni Linden, University of Hamburg, Germany; Jeanny Laroche-Traineau, Hospital of Pessac, France (500 Euro each).

The contributions were grouped in sessions, based on protein type and source of raw material. The presentations, which were focused on how one can apply an efficient C<sub>i</sub>PP strategy to isolate the protein, were framed in a setting of functional aspects of the protein of interest and why it was selected for isolation, as well as description of procedures for the analysis and determination of its purity. These aspects are considered important if one should be successful in the purification of a protein. The poster session, and the social program, which included an evening reception gave the attendees time to interact and continue the purification discussions.

I wish to thank the Scientific Committee for their efforts in establishing an excellent scientific program and to Isabelle Henry, Elke Wehrle and Karin Beck for handling all the practical arrangements in connection with the meeting. My thanks to Amersham Pharmacia Biotech Europe, whose support and sponsorship made this meeting possible. Finally, I want to thank all, who participated and shared of their knowledge in the application of successful strategies in the purification of proteins.

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