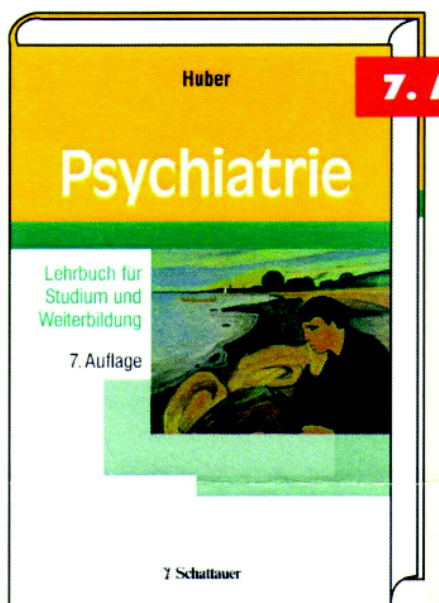


## BOOK REVIEW



***PSYCHIATRIE – LEHRBUCH FÜR STUDIUM UND WEITERBILDUNG***, by Gerd Huber. 7. völlig überarbeitete und aktualisierte Auflage. Schattauer Verlag, 2005, 879 pages, 3 figures, 44 tables. E-mail: [info@fks-buch.de](mailto:info@fks-buch.de)

The Croatian psychiatrists and neurologists proficient in German language will find highly valuable this new encounter with an old acquaintance, Gerd Huber, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry from Bonn, a renowned German and European psychiatrists, well known from the USA and Japan to India, long-standing member of the Board of Trustees of the International Congress of Neuropsychiatry in Pula, especially engaged in organizing psychiatric topics at this eminent European scientific meeting, held for five decades in Pula, Croatia.

Huber is upholder of the best tradition of the German psychiatric school, a junior coworker and disciple of K. Schneider and K. Jaspers. At the time of his active engagement in the profession, also dealing with mental health of mankind, he followed the new research directions, especially in the field of psychopharmacology, yet always respecting the principles of European tradition and concentrating his efforts on the benefit of the patient and his environment. He has repeatedly emphasized that, given the current state-of-the-art, every system in psychiatry is tentative by nature. That is why this latest edition also contains a critical review of the current concepts in the field of neuropsychiatry, with due consideration of an integral approach to each individual patient, taking into account the biological, psychological, social and somatic factors in the etiology of organic as well as so-called endogenous psychoses, dependence disorders, and problems of acute psychiatric patients. As a critical partaker in the new concepts as well as in occasional “trendy” misapprehensions, the author provides sufficient data in all his new editions for a comprehensive study of the set problems and critical observation of old problems in the new light, offering the reader a critical review of the relevant German and world literature. The issues of abnormal personality variants, social psychiatry, suicidality, forensic expertise, etc. are presented in detail.

It is a pity indeed that only few of our physicians today can read German literature, therefore translation of this book into Croatian should be considered because of its high quality in terms of systematic, at the same time modern and classic approach to psychiatric issues and overall complex relationship between organic factors of the brain function and mental life of humans. This book is also warmly recommended to all those collaborating with psychiatrists, neurologists, psychologists, special educationists in particular.

Mirjana Lisak

## NEWS



**15<sup>th</sup> International Conference Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions – Living with Radiation in the Modern World – Commemorating Chernobyl, Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki. United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA, April 19-20, 2006**

Academician Zvonko Kusić, president of the Croatian Thyroid Society and head of the University Department of Oncology and Nuclear Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital in Zagreb, Croatia, took active part in the 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions – Living with Radiation in the Modern World – Commemorating Chernobyl, Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki, held on April 19-20, 2006 at United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA, in remembrance of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nuclear reactor explosion at Nuclear Power Plant in Chernobyl, Ukraine (former USSR) on April 28, 1986, when a high amount of radioactive particles were released to the atmosphere to contaminate a great part of Ukraine and Byelorussia.

The Conference was attended by representatives of the United Nations, USA, Japan, Russia and Ukraine. Besides the ministers, ambassadors and other high-ranking officials from various UN organizations and agencies, presentations were delivered by the leading ex-

perts and scientists in the field of medicine, those dealing with the effects of ionizing radiation on human health and prevalence of thyroid carcinoma in particular.

Academician Kusić held a well-received lecture entitled *Changing trends in the prevalence and mortality of thyroid carcinoma in Croatia 1968-2002*, and took active part in the related panel discussion. In his lecture, Academician Kusić underlined that the radiation level increase in Croatia due to Chernobyl accident was not high enough to cause a measurable rise in the prevalence of thyroid carcinoma in Croatia. In contrast, in the areas of Byelorussia, Russia and Ukraine that are permanently contaminated with radionuclides, populated with some 5 million inhabitants, about 4000 people are expected to develop thyroid carcinoma consequential to radiation exposure. At the time of the accident, these people at risk were mostly children or adolescents. To date, at least nine deaths from thyroid carcinoma have been recorded. It is estimated that some 4000 people may die due to the effects of radiation exposure.

These estimates issued by the international Forum consisting of more than 100 scientists from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) are by far lower than those frequently mentioned in public. This discrepancy is explained by the wide-spread and exaggerated adverse expectations and tendency for all health problems to ascribe to radiation, resulting in the perception of more severe consequences than they really are. It appears that the upset and fear from radiation consequences in the affected areas do not subside but is steadily rising. This is supported by the general attitude of the respective population about their poor health status and belief in their reduced life expectancy. As many as seven million people have been categorized as various types of victims, expecting to receive some privileges. They experience themselves as helpless victims rather than survivors.

*Jure Murgić*

## Newsletter of the Croatian Thyroid Society, Croatian Medical Association

The first issue of the Newsletter of the Croatian Thyroid Society, Croatian Medical Association (CMA), appeared at the end of March, 2006. As stated in his Foreword by Academician Zvonko Kusić, Editor-in-Chief, president of the Croatian Thyroid Society and head of University Department of Oncology and Nuclear Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, it is a newsletter of the youngest CMA society, founded on November 30, 2005, issuing its newsletter in only a few months of its foundation. The foundation conference was attended by 125 delegates of various specialties from hospitals and other health institutions from Zagreb, Osijek, Split, Rijeka, Varaždin, Dubrovnik, Zadar, Slavonski Brod, Pula and Šibenik.

The main task of the Society is to gather professionals of different specialties dealing with thyroid diseases, e.g., endocrinology, nuclear medicine, internal medicine, ENT, surgery, pathology, cytology, general medicine, laboratory diagnosis, oncology, ophthalmology, dermatology, pediatrics, gynecology, psychiatry, radiology,

physiology-pathophysiology, immunology, molecular biology, and public health. Integration of all these specialties will enable the true multidisciplinary approach to topics in the field of thyroid gland.

The Newsletter will be issued on a periodical basis, with the main purpose to inform the professionals, scientists and all those interested on the research and developments in the prevention, diagnosis, management and follow up of thyroid diseases. The Newsletter is expected to upgrade the level of professional and scientific communication in the field, and to stimulate joint projects. The Newsletter brings information on the previous and forthcoming professional and scientific meetings, and on relevant publications on the thyroid. The readers are warmly invited to send their comments and suggestions.

The first issue of the Newsletter contains a report on the meeting of the Steering Committee of the Croatian Thyroid Society, Foundation Conference of the Society, visit by Lewis E. Braverman from Boston, one of the leading authorities in the field of thyroid diseases, and notes on the forthcoming meetings. The second issue of the Newsletter has just been prepared.

*Jure Murgić*

## 17<sup>TH</sup> LJUDEVIT JURAK INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMPARATIVE PATHOLOGY, ZAGREB, CROATIA, JUNE 2-3, 2006

The 17<sup>th</sup> Ljudevit Jurak International Symposium on Comparative Pathology was held in Zagreb, Croatia in June 2-3, 2006 under the auspices of the European Society of Pathology and Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia, Institute for Medical Research of Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Zagreb and Veterinary Faculty Zagreb. The Symposium was organized by Department of Pathology, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb, Croatia, Institute of Pathology, Medical University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria and Department of General Pathology, Veterinary Faculty, University of Zagreb, Croatia.

After the opening ceremony the Ljudevit Jurak Award Ceremony for the contribution to the advancement of comparative pathology took place. The awards were presented by Professor M. Štulhofer, former vice-president of the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences and Professor G. Mikuz, vice-president of the Organizing Committee of the Symposium to Academician Z. Kusić, Zagreb, Croatia (Figure 1) and Prof. I. Selak, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Figure 2).

The main topic of the Symposium was Advances in oncopathology. Memorial lectures on the Predicting response to chemotherapy: a challenge for molecular pathologist by Prof. H. Höfler, Munich, Germany (Figure 3) and Cancer metastatic phenotype: molecular target discovery in human archive tissues by Prof. G. Stanta, Trieste, Italy (Figure 4) were presented. Other invited speakers were Prof. G. Bussolati (Italy), Prof. Z. Gatalica (USA) and Prof. K. Pavelić (Croatia) who presented lectures about neuroendocrine differentiation in prostate cancers, molecular classification of breast cancer and molecular mechanisms of breast carcinoma metastases. Veterinary pathologists Prof. F. Del Piero, Pennsylvania, USA presented lectures about use of animal models and genomics technologies for the <http://www.kbsm.hr/Jurak/symposium.htm>  
E-mail: juraks@kbsm.hr

identification and mechanistic understanding of carcinogenicity and idiosyncratic toxicity. In the session Herman Jurak Round Table on Rheumatologic Diseases an interesting invited lectures on rheumatoid arthritis and seronegative spondylarthritides was presented by Prof. W.G. Fassbender from Germany.

The Croatian Association of Laboratory Medicine (CALM) organized advances in patomorphology techniques session where new methods and possibilities on laboratory medicine were presented. This year CALM become a member of International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science

During the Symposium histopathology and cytopathology slide seminar was held. The Slide Seminar included interesting cases of human and animal tumors. The cases were presented by Z. Gatalica (USA), S. Frković Grazio (Slovenia), F. Del Piero (USA) and M. Vučić (Croatia).

Free papers were mainly presented as posters. The authors from Slovenia, Spain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Kosovo, Macedonia and Croatia presented recent data on the diagnosis, protocols and pathohistologic, immunohistochemical and molecular findings in different human and animal diseases.

At the end of the Symposium, a poster discussion and poster presentation award session was held. Poster Presentation Award was given to Lj. Šerman et al., Zagreb, Croatia. The next Symposium will be held in June 1-2, 2007. The main topic will be Gynecological and perinatal pathology and Advances in pathomorphology techniques.

Abstracts and full conference papers are published in the journal Acta Clinica Croatica and can be found at web site <http://www.acta-clinica.kbsm.hr>. All data about symposium can be found at our web site <http://www.kbsm.hr/Jurak/symposium.htm>.

*Davor Tomas*



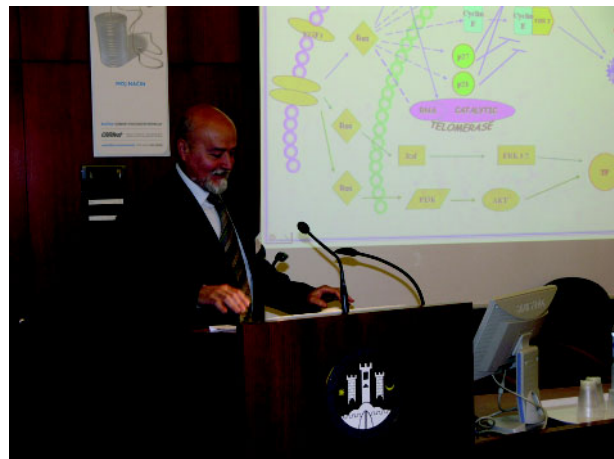
*Fig. 1. Academician Z. Kusić with awarded Ljudevit Jurak Medal and Professors Štulhofer and Mikuz*



*Fig. 2. Professor I. Selak receiving Ljudevit Jurak Medal from Professor Štulhofer*



*Fig. 3. Memorial lecture on the Predicting response to chemotherapy: a challenge for molecular pathologist presented by Prof. H. Höfler, Munich, Germany*



*Fig. 4. Memorial lecture on the Cancer metastatic phenotype: molecular target discovery in human archive tissues presented by Prof. G. Stanta, Trieste, Italy*

## IN MEMORIAM

### DR. DR. H.C. HELMUT LECHNER



Helmut Lechner greeting guests and participants of the 45<sup>th</sup> jubilee International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress (June 16, 2005, Pula).

On March 27, 2006, Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Helmut Lechner, a world known Austrian neurologist, Austrian Secretary General of the International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congresses, and since 2005 Honorary President of the Kuratorium, a distinguished scientist and humanist died after brave and arduous battle with relentless disease.

Helmut Lechner was born in 1927, graduated medicine from Karl Franzens University in Graz (Austria), specialized neuropsychiatry in Graz, receiving further studies at neurological institutions in Marseilles, National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queens Square, London, as well as in the leading neurological institutions in the USA. He habilitated neuropsychiatry in Graz in 1959, became full professor in 1972, and in the same year was elected Head of Neuropsychiatric, later Neurology Department, University Hospital in Graz, which

he successfully ran until 1995. He was Dean and Vice-Dean of the Medical Faculty in Graz.

Professor Lechner belonged to the leading neurologists of his time. He dealt with clinical neurophysiology, the epilepsies, wake-sleep disorders, and especially with the most serious problem in neurology of the past century, cerebrovascular diseases. In this field he gained world acknowledgments and reputation, belonging to pioneers in new investigations which have brought to modern views that they are not one's fate: stroke occurs abruptly, but it develops slowly and progresses with the now well-known risk factors; cerebrovascular diseases are preventable, and if diagnosed early, they can be successfully treated. Together with pioneers in these investigations, J. St Meyer, J. Marshall, C. Loeb and others, in 1961 he founded the Research Group for Cerebrovascular Diseases of the World Federation of Neu-

rology (WFN). He was also a founder and for many years the leader of the Salzburg Conferences on Cerebrovascular Diseases, which were one of the most important places of interdisciplinary exchange of scientific and clinical experiences in the field during two decades. In the past years he was Secretary Treasurer of the WFN Research Group for Organization and Delivery of Neurological Services.

He was honorary member of many respectable national and international scientific societies, visiting professor at many universities, highly acknowledged in the world, well known and respected among specialists and experts from the USA and Mexico to India, China and Japan, from Scandinavia to Argentina, Greece, Israel and Arabic countries. He loved and appreciated the most noble in every man, not making differences among people of various races, religions and nationalities, which he brought in the best possible way into our region collaborating with holders of the same views. Because of various kinds of cooperation with the scientists from the former Yugoslavia he gained the status of honorary member of the Associations of Neurologists and of Clinical Neurophysiologists of Yugoslavia.

In 1985, together with Boško Barac, the then Head of Rebro Neurology Department (Zagreb, Croatia), he started conducting the International Neuropsychiatric Pula Symposia (now Congresses) as Secretary General, now the oldest scientific medical meeting in Europe, founded in 1961 based on traditional cooperation in medicine between Graz and Zagreb, Austria and Croatia. The greatest credit of Pula meetings for the region of Central and South East Europe is establishing mutual links of neurologists and psychiatrists of the region with representatives of the European and international science and its achievements, as well as fostering international cooperation, building it into the tradition of Pula meetings. The new organization included cooperation with the South Eastern European Society for Neurology and Psychiatry and with the Alps-Adria and Venetian Symposia. The main ideas of the "Pula School" coming from its founders, continued with numerous innovations: postgraduate courses, satellite symposia and workshops. The common language, English, enormously simplified mutual understanding and the problems of organization. The scientific program was extended, high internation-

al standards were achieved, and the Symposia were prolonged to five-day duration. Active participants were coming from South East and Central Europe, and eminent speakers from many countries.

During the war, Professor Lechner made sure that these meetings would not die out during the war, and later he significantly contributed to their regular continuation. Taking place for the fifth decade in Pula, dealing with the borderline areas of neurology, psychiatry and neurosurgery, they have gained special significance for the countries in the region in the years when they are approaching the European Union.

Back in 1978, he was elected honorary member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia for his cooperation with Croatian neurologists and psychiatrists, so he also gained high Croatian tributes: honorary citizen of Pula (1995), Diploma of Croatian Medical Association for fostering Croatian medicine (2000), and from President of the Republic of Croatia he was given the Order of Croatian Morning Star (Danica) with the image of Katarina Zrinska (2005), as an expression of appreciation and gratitude of the host country for all he had done for the promotion of national and international science. No one could have known that only 8 months after his last academic lecture in Pula in June 2005, entitled Bridges between neurology and psychiatry: example of dementia and stroke, and after his optimistic speech at the opening and closing ceremonies of the Congress, sad news would come that he had to leave us.

The funeral of the eminent scientist on April 1 in Straß (Styria) was attended by many friends, colleagues, distinguished personalities, as well as by Ms Rauch-Kallat, Minister of Health of the Republic of Austria. After solemn funeral mass, a commemoration was held in church. Among speakers who said their farewell were Professor Walter, Head of the Medical University in Graz, representatives of scientific, social and political institutions in Austria, also including representative of the Pula Congresses and the World Federation of Neurology, his below-signed longtime partner in the organization of International Pula meetings, who is convinced that the participants of the Pula Congresses will remember him for a long time, as an upright and proud, at the same time warm man and good friend.

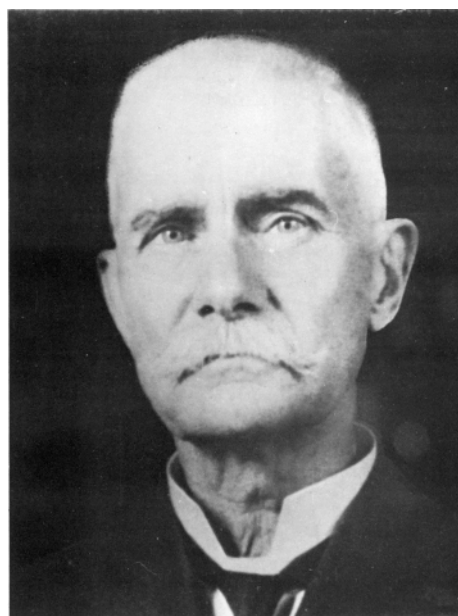
*Boško Barac*

Sestre milosrdnice



University Hospital

## HISTORICAL REVIEW



Professor Teodor Wickerhauser, one of the most eminent figures in the history of our Hospital and Croatian health care, died sixty years ago. Because of his extraordinary contributions, respective notes related to some anniversaries have already appeared in this section before<sup>1,2</sup>. His disciples wrote extensively about Professor Wickerhauser; even the first memorial in tribute to him, prepared by his disciples, then already renowned surgeons, was published<sup>3</sup>.

Teodor Wickerhauser was born in 1858, studied medicine in Graz, stayed at University Department of Surgery at Professor Albert in Vienna, worked and completed residency at Brothers of Charity Hospital at Dr. Josip Fon, to come to our Hospital as junior surgeon in 1885. From the beginning, he headed the so-called "external department", i.e. surgery, ENT, ophthalmology and dermatovenereology.

When the Hospital moved to the new site in Vinogradska, Professor Wickerhauser took active part in the creation and construction (1894) of the then most modern hospital in the region. In 1900, Department of Surgery had 200 beds and seven physicians; headed by Professor Wickerhauser, the professions of surgery and operative gynecology were upgraded to the European level.

During World War I, he headed Red Cross war hospital. Upon foundation of the Zagreb University School of Medicine at the end of World War I, Professor Wickerhauser and his two senior disciples, Professor Čačković and Professor Mašek, were appointed first professors at the Zagreb School of Medicine.

He had high reputation and esteem not only among his fellows and disciples at the Hospital but also in Zagreb and all over Croatia. In 1914, he was appointed honorary member of the Yugoslav (now Croatian) Academy of Science and Arts and was conferred the freedom of the City of Zagreb.

Unfortunately, Professor Wickerhauser was not spared of personal distress in his life: as a young physician, he lost his daughter who died from diphtheria, whereas in his very old age of 87 years he lost his grandson, who was killed by the Ustasha in the infamous Jasenovac camp.

Professor Wickerhauser was a true Nestor of the Croatian surgery and medicine, the oldest and most honorable representative of our surgery and the first generations of physicians who actually created this Hospital.

*Tanja Sušec*

### References

1. Historical review. Acta Clin Croat 2000;39:135-6.
2. Historical review. Acta Clin Croat 2001;40:71.
3. Dr. T. Wickerhauser Memorial at 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sisters of Charity Hospital in Zagreb (from April 1, 1885 till March 31, 1910), Zagreb, 1910.



## INTERNET GUIDANCE

Although there are numerous websites in the field of statistics, this one should always be consulted when searching for various statistical tests, analyses, etc., as it contains a huge collection of 600 links providing connection to different statistical databases.

**<http://statpages.org>**

It may prove highly useful to have an opportunity to recommend a good e-book with free access, in case of an atlas in particular. Now we present an online atlas of the brain, The Whole Brain Atlas by Keith A. Johnson and J.Alex Becker, intended for physicians and medical students, and probably especially valuable for neurologists, neurosurgeons and radiologists.

**<http://www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB>**

*Tanja Sušec*

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