

FOREWORD

The idea for a meeting on the structural aspects of the cytochrome *P450* function was given originally by Dr. K. Ruckpaul, and later tested during the Vth International Biophysics Congress in Copenhagen, in August 1975. Several colleagues reacted favourably that it may be timely to survey »the state of the art« from the more physical point of view.

The joint organization of the Conference, by the Department of Natural Sciences, the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts and the Institute of Immunology in Zagreb, under the High Auspices of the President of YASA, Academician Grga Novak, was made possible by grants from the Committee for Science and Technology Coordination of SFR Yugoslavia and the Research Association of SR Croatia. It is also a pleasure to acknowledge the travel grants by the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics and the Australian National University, and to thank all those government science agencies that helped lecturers from different countries to come to Primošten and share their knowledge and ideas with their colleagues.

The co-sponsors of the Conference were the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics and the Yugoslav Biophysical Society.

The organizers were greatly supported by the Organizing Committee — Z. Devidé, A. Ehrenberg, S. Maričić, K. Ruckpaul, V. Ullrich — with the generous guidance of the Advisory Scientific Board — A. Archakov, M. Coon, P. Douzou, R. Estabrook, I. Gunsalus, F. Jung, H. Schleyer, T. Traylor.

The participants agreed to publish the Proceedings in a scientific Journal — to direct this little stream towards the flow of scientific information within its known banks. The Editorial Board of *Croatica Chemica Acta* accepted the recommendation of the Conference participants to entrust M. J. Coon, I. C. Gunsalus and S. Maričić with the editing of this issue of C.C.A.

A special effort was made to publish the Proceedings within six months from the time of the Conference. Our thanks to the authors who submitted their papers on time. The printing stage was greatly facilitated by the patient professional cooperation of the »Vjesnik« printers, M. Baliija, S. Gelli, A. Grladinović, and J. Posavec, outside the ordinary routine.

Thanks are due to Compagnia di Ricerca Chimica (Chiasso, Switzerland), for the financial help of the printing.

Small scientific meetings of an interdisciplinary nature provide the inductive atmosphere for exchange of ideas focused on a well specified theme. The inherent disadvantage, that particularly affects young scientists, is that only a limited number of people may attend them and benefit. This will partially be compensated perhaps in the future when videotapes become a common practice, but until then the quick publishing of the proceedings is the only answer. Let us hope that the present Proceedings will be found useful by the readers.

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S. M.