

Molecular and Cellular Biology of Helminth Parasites V Hydra, Greece, 12-17 September 2008

Completion of the genome sequence for a number of helminth parasites and development of tools for their genetic manipulation is ushering in a new era of research on these organisms and the diseases they cause. In addition, the ability of helminths to manipulate host immune responses is attracting interest in diverse areas of biomedical science. The Conference on Molecular and Cellular Biology of Helminth Parasites will be the fifth in a highly successful series which first started in Edinburgh in 1997, and moved to the island of Hydra, Greece in 2002. All major areas of helminth research are included, in 12 thematic sessions. An important feature of this meeting, sponsored by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, will be the introduction of investigators from worm model systems such as *C. elegans* to the major problems and questions to be solved in helminth parasitology, with the aim of bringing new blood and fresh perspectives into the field.



Hydra Town



Delegates outside the Bratsera Hotel

A key feature of the Hydra venue is the Bratsera Hotel which will host the scientific sessions, and its quiet, traffic-free town with ample facilities for informal interactions between delegates. A wide range of accommodation is available within 5-10 minutes walk of the conference venue, including pensions for those on a tight budget. Attendance is limited to 100 people, consistent with a discussion-orientated meeting in which every participant presents either a plenary talk or in a small poster session, and thus early registration is encouraged. As for previous conferences, we have invited a restricted number of selected speakers to give keynote talks across the range of themes.

Invited Speakers

Keynote

Paul Sternberg, California Institute of Technology

Klaus Brehm, University of Würzburg

Jonathan Ewbank, Centre d'Immunologie de Marseille-Luminy

James Lok, University of Pennsylvania

Alan Scott, Johns Hopkins University

Charles Shoemaker, Tufts University

Nektarios Tavernarakis, Institute of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology- Heraklion

Organizing Committee

Kleoniki Gounaris, Imperial College London

Rick Maizels, University of Edinburgh

Edward Pearce, University of Pennsylvania

Murray Selkirk, Imperial College London