



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

ICRO INTERNATIONAL CELL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE RECHERCHE SUR LA CELLULE

**ICRO-UNESCO-EMBO International Workshop
and Practical Course
on Structural and Evolutionary Genomics:
“Genome and RNA: Expression and Functions”
Hotel Punta Leona, San Jose, Costa Rica
February 26 – March 2, 2005**

Sponsors: International Cell Research Organization (ICRO-UNESCO)
International Society of Molecular Evolution (ISME)
International Centre for Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology (ICGEB)
Keio University
European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO)

Organizing Committee:
Giorgio Bernardi (Italy), Gabriel Macaya (Costa Rica), Masaru Tomita (Japan)

Objectives:
Recent progress in molecular and genomic biology reveals more functional aspects of RNA such as alternative splicing, non-coding RNAs, RNA editing and ribozymes. It is realizing that RNA is actually much more than a simple messenger for translation. In this meeting, we are focusing on the gene regulations at the RNA level and will discuss their mechanisms through evolution.

Topics will include

- 5' and 3' UTR for gene expression regulation
- Introns and alternative splicing
- Micro RNA, RNAi, anti-sense RNA, and other non-coding RNAs and their functions
- Expressed pseudo genes and SINEs
- Ribozymes
- RNA editing, modification, processing and turnover
- Transcriptome analysis
- Other structural, functional, comparative, evolutionary and computational studies of RNA.

Poster presentation is encouraged. Some posters will be selected for oral presentation. Papers presented at the Meeting will be published in a special issue of GENE. Review articles will be especially welcome. We expect to have 70-80 participants. There will be morning and evening sessions, afternoons being free.

A Practical Course on Bioinformatics (genomics and molecular evolution) will be held during the week of the Symposium, for a small number of investigators.

Teaching Staff:
Hiroshi AKASHI, University Park, PA, USA
Fernando ALVAREZ-VALIN, Montevideo, Uruguay
Werner ARBER, Basel, Switzerland

Peter ARNDT, Berlin, Germany
Mark BATZER, Baton Rouge, LA, USA
Giacomo BERNARDI, Santa Cruz, CA, USA
Giorgio BERNARDI, Naples, Italy
Umberto BERTAZZONI, Verona, Italy
Oliver CLAY, Zurich, Switzerland
Prescott DEININGER, New Orleans, LA, USA
Giuseppe D'ONOFRIO, Naples, Italy
David FITCH, New York, USA
Katheleen GARDINER, Denver, USA
Walter GEHRING, Basel, Switzerland
Takashi GOJOBORI, Mishima, Japan
Toshimichi IKEMURA, Mishima, Japan
Kamel JABBARI, Paris, France
Jerzy JURKA, Sunnyvale, CA, USA
Dušan KORDIŠ, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Wen-Hsiung LI, Chicago, IL, USA
Wojciech MAKALOWSKI, University Park, USA
Werner MÜLLER, Mainz, Germany
Hector MUSTO, Montevideo, Uruguay
Masatoshi NEI, University Park, PA, USA
Norihiko OKADA, Yokohama, Japan
Adam PAVLICEK, Mountain View, CA, USA
Graziano PESOLE, Milano, Italy
Dmitri PETROV, Stanford, CA, USA
Cecilia SACCONI, Bari, Italy
Naruya SAITOU, Mishima, Japan
Masaru TOMITA, Kanagawa, Japan
Inder VERMA, San Diego, CA, USA
Shozo YOKOYAMA, Atlanta, GA, USA
Jianzhi ZHANG, Ann Arbor, USA

Local Faculty:

Pedro Leon, CIBCM, Universidad de Costa Rica
Gabriel Macaya, CIBCM, Universidad de Costa Rica
Mary Jane West-Eberhard, Universidad de Costa Rica

Language: Lectures will be given in English.

Participation: The course will be limited to 100 participants, 40 from Costa Rica.

Applications: Applications should be sent by email within November 30, 2004 to:

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and to
Giorgio Bernardi
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Please include CV and list of publications.