## Chair's Report on the 16<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Photobiology, Córdoba, Argentina September 8–12, 2014

The 2014 International Congress of Photobiology was held in the "Pavillion Argentina" located within the University Campus of the National University of Córdoba, Argentina. This conference was the 16<sup>th</sup> in a series sponsored by the International Union of Photobiology (IUPB, <a href="www.iuphotobiology.com">www.iuphotobiology.com</a>). This was the first time that the IUPB Congress was held in the Southern Hemisphere and also the first time held south of the Rio Grande. The University of Córdoba is the oldest in Argentina (founded 401 years ago) and the City of Córdoba offered a wonderful frame (and great weather) for the Congress.

The International Organizing Committee, listed in the web page of the Congress (www.photobiology2014.com.ar), addressed nearly all areas of photobiology and were from many countries. All areas of the interaction of light with the biosphere were covered, such as photosynthesis, photomorphogenesis, photomovement of plants and bacteria, the interaction of UV light with ecosystems (including bacteria, phytoplankton, zooplankton, algae, plants, mammalian cells, and humans), circadian rhythms in plants and animals, vision and light-induced damage to the retina, UV induction of skin cancer, as well as the use of light for the treatment of various illnesses and the photochemistry of xenobiotics and biological molecules. The use of light-based technologies for the study of biological processes was also the subject of various symposia.

The Congress registered 507 participants from 38 Countries. 160 participants were from Argentina, 44 from Brazil, 17 from Chile, 60 from the USA, 50 from Germany, 20 from Japan, etc. 280 of the registered participants were young fellows (graduate students and young researchers).

The **Scientific Programme** can be found in (www.photobiology2014.com.ar/programme).

The Science administration Agencies from Argentina strongly supported the Congress with grants from the National Research Council, CONICET, (ca. 10.000 U\$S) and from MINCyT (ca. 12.000 U\$S). This permitted waiving the registration fee of all Argentinian graduate students and several young scientists. In addition, the programme **Raices** from MINCYT financed the travel to the Congress of several of the Argentinian colleagues working abroad.

There was also important support (both financial and logistic) by the German Institutions (**Research in Germany** grouping DAAD, DFG, Fraunhofer, Humboldt Foundation) and the Max Planck Society as well as financial support from **IUBS** (International Union of Biological Societies), **IUPAC** (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry), **TWAS** (The World Academy of Sciences) as well as **ESP**, **ASP** and the French Society of Photobiology, who helped financing the participation of young graduate students. These grants permitted waiving the fees of Latin-American graduate students and young researchers.

All abstracts of Plenary, Special, and Keynote Lectures, as well as of the contributions to the Symposia and the posters presented were published on-line and can be found at: <a href="http://www.photobiology2014.com.ar/website/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/abstractBook.pdf">http://www.photobiology2014.com.ar/website/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/abstractBook.pdf</a>.

The 17th ICP will be held most probably in 2018 in the UK. Silvia Braslavsky Chair, 16<sup>th</sup> ICP October 2014





**Panoramic Photo of participants** 



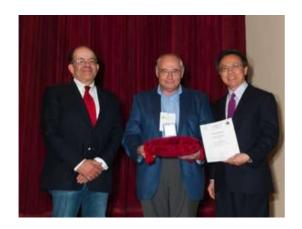
Winslow Briggs between Roberto Bogomolni and Silvia Braslavsky



Finsen Medalists Douglas Brash (left) and Masamitsu Wada







Herbert Hönigsmann, Finsen Medalist, between Robert Knobler and Henry Lim (right, President of IUPB)

Henry Lim, IUPB President (2009-2014), and John Spudich (right), elected IUPB President (2014-2018), offer the Finsen Lecture Award to Roman Ulm (centre)





Chikako Nishigori, Edna Roe Lecturer, between Herbert Hönigsmann (left) and Franz Trautinger



IUPAC supported: Aba Losi (lecturer) and Dimitra Markovitsi (right, Keynote speaker)



## **Plenary Lecturers**

Nathan Nelson



**Thomas Schwarz** 



**Ernst Bamberg** 

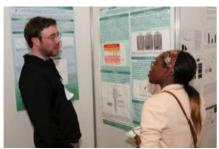


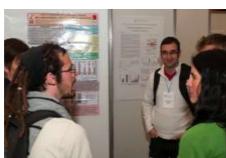
**Lively Posters Discussions** 

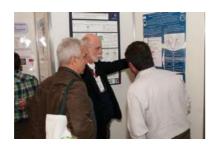




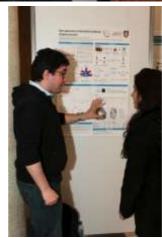


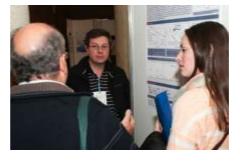


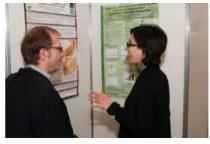


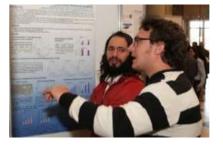












## **Keynote Speakers:**

## **Rosalie Crouch**



Alberto Kornblihtt



Carlos Ballaré



Mario Guido



Hideki Kandori



Frank Vollmer



Horacio Zagarese



**Anderson Garbuglio** 

