



Report – Society for Free Radical Research – Europe

1st FEBS Redox Medicine Workshop “From cellular signaling to systems physiology and therapeutic targets”

Luso, Portugal, 22-25 May 2023

Organizers

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Summary

The 1st FEBS Redox Medicine Workshop was held between May 22-25, at the *Grande Hotel do Luso*. The workshop gathered 57 participants between invited speakers, PhD students, post-doctoral researchers and senior scientists from 14 countries. The program of the workshop aimed to bridge the gap between basic and clinical research in the field of Redox Biology. This was accomplished by combining in each scientific session a speaker from each research field, but both working on the same subject (ex: Redox Biology of Aging). Furthermore, the workshop contained sessions focused on training and career development, including a round table to discuss bioanalytical tools and sessions of improving communication skills.

In addition to the invited lectures, an important effort was made to have as many oral presentations by participants, having selected 15 from submitted abstracts and posters were evaluated for selection for flash presentations (6). This allowed the participants (PhD students and Post-doctoral researchers) to highlight their research and discuss it not only with colleagues, but also the invited lecturers.

Despite the broadness of themes addressed, all sessions were highly participated. The scientific program was accompanied by a social program which included lunches and dinners in a reserved area of the hotel, a Happy Hour accompanying the first Poster Session as well as a Workshop Dinner held at a local winery in the Bairrada Region during which four awards for best presentations were attributed with the



support of Society for Free Radical Research – Europe, FENS OpenBio, and the Portuguese Society for Biochemistry.

The Scientific Programme

The scientific program was organized with a goal in mind: to bridge the gap between basic and clinical/applied research in the field of redox biology, spanning several systems (cardiovascular, nervous, host-microbiota interactions) and (patho)physiological processes (oncobiology, aging, cell reprogramming and metabolism). Besides the thematic sessions, the program included **3 special lectures**: an opening lecture by the IUBMB speaker Prof. Enrique Cadenas, a Women in Science Lecture, by Prof. Cristina Polidori and a Closing Lecture by Prof. Jose Vina. These special lectures were 60 min in duration (45 min talk + 15 min discussion) and were selected to highlight highly accomplished scientists in the field of Redox Biology working and the fundamental/basic research level (Professor Cadenas) or applied/clinical level (Professors Cristina Polidori and Jose Vina).

The scientific program also included a **special session** dedicated to bioanalytical tools and a **round table** to debate strengths and limitations of the methods used in redox biology research. This aimed not only to highlight relevant and up-to-date analytical approaches such as genetically encoded biosensors and high through put mass spectrometry, but also to discuss caveats and limitations of these and other tools commonly used in the field of redox biology, discuss the importance of identification of the chemical identity of redox species in detriment of simply labeling them as “ROS”.

Career development sessions included one focusing on communication skills in science which was as interactive session led by Dr. Ana Salgado and a second oriented towards writing and published scientific articles and the publication process, led by Senior Editor at Elsevier Dr. Anthony Newman.

Each **thematic session** included 2 invited lectures (20 + 10 min), one focusing on basic research and the other on clinical or applied research in redox. Each session was followed by 3 oral presentations selected from submitted abstracts (10 + 5 min). The selection of the submitted abstracts for oral presentation was made by the organizing committee based on scientific merit and considered also the importance of representing all the subjects and as many different research groups as possible. In addition, 6 posters were selected by the evaluation panel for flash presentations (5 min) in the final day of the workshop. The poster presenters had the opportunity to present their posters to the evaluation panel (composed of 3 of our invited lecturers;



Professor Joao Laranjinha, Professor Corinne Spickett and Professor Harry van Goor) and were rated by each member of the panel. This designed allowed for a span of talks from highly accomplished senior scientists and PhD students and post-doctoral researchers, considered very positively by participants.

Considering the importance of promoting interaction between participants and speakers, the program also contained several social events, from the welcome reception to the farewell dinner at a local winery. The lunches and dinners took place in a reserved area of the hotel restaurant, allowing for discussions and exchanges between students and speakers.

We were also able to attribute several **awards for best oral and poster presentations**, selected by the evaluation panel and organizing committee. These awards were supported by FEBS OpenBio, the Portuguese Society for Biochemistry and the Society for Free Radical Research – Europe.

List of Invited Speakers Attending the Workshop:

- Enrique Cadenas
- Giovanni Mann
- Dorthe Katschinski
- Joao Laranjinha
- Jon Lundberg
- Bato Korac
- Anna-Liisa Levonen
- Corinne Spickett
- Vsevolod Belousov
- Cristina Polidori
- Consuelo Borrás
- Marzia Perluigi
- Harry van Goor
- Sandra Morais Cardoso
- Jose Vina

In addition to the above speakers, the following presented the career development sessions:

- Ana Salgado (University of Porto, Portugal): “Not-so-soft-skills”
- Anthony Newman (Elsevier, The Netherlands): “How to Write a Great Research Paper, and Get it Accepted by a Good Journal”

Key Figures on Participants

The **Total Number** of regular participants, including plenary speakers but excluding accompanying guests and local organizers of the Course/Workshop/Special Meeting was: **55**

Regular Participants Included:

- 24 graduate students
- 7 postdoctoral students
- 24 principal investigators from academia & industry

Geographic distribution of participants

- 55 participants from Europe & Turkey
- 2 participants from USA & Canada & South America

The Scientific Presentations Comprised

- 15 invited plenary lectures
- 15 selected talks or student presentations of 15 minutes
- 6 selected talks from posters of 6 minutes
- 19 poster presentations
- 0 no presentation (visitors & company representative)

Photos taken during the 1st Redox Medicine Workshop:

Group Photo at Grand Hotel do Luso Entrance



Lecture Hall and Poster Session



Lunch and Dinner Hall



Workshop Dinner



Best Presentation Awards

