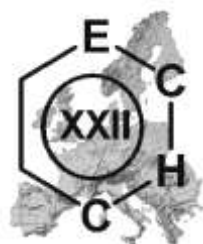


ХРОНИКА



XXII European Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry (ECHC 2006)

XXII European Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry was organized by the research group of Prof. Saverio Florio (Chairman) of the University of Bari on September 2 to 6, 2006.

The ECHC has a long-term history. Its start goes back to the beginning of the seventies of the last century. It was, indeed, in Mons, Belgium, that in 1974 the first Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry was organized by Prof. A. Maquestiau and mainly attended by French-speaking people of that area. The scientific event earned a great deal of interest so that it was decided to go on and the Colloquia that followed with annual recurrence at different places, all, however, belonging to the French-speaking area, experienced a steady increasing number of participants in meetings that took place in Pau (1975), Montpellier (1976), Lille (1977), Louvain-La-Neuve (1978), Lyon (1979), Mulhouse (1980), Marseille (1981), Rennes (1982), and Bruxelles (1983). The first meeting organized outside the French-speaking area was held in Kaiserslautern, Germany (1984). Successive Colloquia organized in Ferrara (Italy) (1985) and Reims (France) (1986) gave the Colloquium a European dimension. All the successive meetings, starting with Fribourg (Switzerland) (1988), were biennale including Toledo (Spain) (1990), Noordwijkerhout (the Netherlands) (1992), Bled (Slovenia) (1994), Regensburg (Germany) (1996), Rouen (France) (1998), Aveiro (Portugal) (2000), Stockholm (Sweden) (2002), Budapest (Hungary) (2004), till the meeting in Bari (Italy) (2006).

The scientific program of the Bari ECHC was structured in 12 plenary lectures plus an evening lecture on chemistry discoveries and social consequences, 14 selected invited lectures, 23 brief oral communications, and more than 120 poster contributions. The number of participants was quite considerable, more than 270 with some accompanying persons coming mainly from the European countries (Italy 121, France 29, Germany 15, Spain 12, Turkey 8, Austria 7, Hungary 7, Russian Federation 5, UK 4, Slovenia 4, Poland 4, The Netherlands 4, Bulgaria 3, Latvia 3, Switzerland 3, Portugal 2, Denmark 2, Belgium, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Slovak Republic, Sweden) and from countries outside Europe (Brazil 5, USA 4, India 4, Japan 4, Iran 2, Singapore, Egypt, Israel, Venezuela).

There were 4 full days of scientific work with some relaxing social events such as the evening lecture (Assault to the King of Dyes, The Synthesis of Indigo and its Social Consequences, Prof. L. Cerruti, Torino, Italy) in the beautiful "Sala degli Affreschi" of the Rectorate of the University of Bari followed by the welcome party on Saturday evening of September 2, the guided

excursion to Matera Sassi and Altamura followed by the country dinner on Sunday of September 3, the social dinner on Wednesday of September 5. All these social events, including the many coffee breaks, were free, offered by the Organizing Committee. The accompanying persons had the chance for a guided visit to the city of Bari. Everything went perfectly well both from the organization and scientific points of view.

During the meeting Prof. Victor Kartsev (Interbioscreen 119019, Moscow, Russian Federation,) awarded Professors Saverio Florio (University of Bari), Alessandro Dondoni (University of Ferrara), Francesco Naso (University of Bari), Marcello Tiecco (University of Perugia), and Domenico Spinelli (University of Bologna) with diplomas for their contribution to the world science and international scientific collaboration by the International Scientific Partnership Foundation.

The meeting, that was planned to give the participants, coming either from academy or industry, the opportunity to be acquainted with the state of the art of heterocyclic chemistry, covered several aspects of heterocyclic chemistry. Particularly appreciated and stimulating were all the plenary lectures: Biomimetic Synthesis of Natural Products (J. Baldwin, Oxford, UK), the Catalytic Asymmetric Transformations Promoted by Heterocyclic Compounds (A. Umami Ronchi, Bologna, Italy), Metallocene-Based Heterocycles: Ion-Sensing, Optical and Electronic Properties (P. Molina, Murcia, Spain), Control of Regio and Stereoselectivity in Nitrene Cycloadditions (L. Fiserá, Bratislava, Slovak Republic), Heterocyclic Chemistry of Antiulcer Agents (L. Senn-Bilfinger, Konstanz, Germany), Synthesis of Polyfunctionalized Building Blocks and Various Heterocycles from α -Azido Ketones (T. Patonay, Debrecen, Hungary), Enamines and N-Acylenamines Building Blocks for the Elaboration of 5- to 8-Membered Ring Containing Natural and/or Bioactive Compounds (A. Couture, Lille, France), Nitration of Purines, Mechanism and Conversion of Nitroderivatives into Biologically Active Systems (G-J. Koomen, Amsterdam, The Netherlands), T-Reactions – a Convenient Tool for the Construction of Novel Heterocyclic Systems (V. Kartsev, Moscow, Russia), Metal Assisted and Chemoenzymatic Synthesis of Bioactive Compound Intermediates (M. Mihovilovic, Vienna, Austria), Microwave Assisted Synthesis of New Molecular Platforms for Hit Discoveries (M. Taddei, Siena, Italy), New Preparation of Magnesiated Heterocyclic Intermediates (P. Knochel, Munich, Germany).

Many other aspects of heterocyclic chemistry have been presented in invited lectures, short oral presentations, and poster communications dealing with new materials, methodologies as well as novel products with potential applications in a variety of fields.

The meeting was patronized by several institutions including the University of Bari, the Italian Chemical Society and financially supported by the Consorzium CINMPIS (Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale sulle Metodologie e Processi Innovativi di Sintesi), Università di Bari, Angelini S.p.A., Dompé S.p.A., Elsevier, Georg Thieme Verlag, Lachifarma, Lab. Instruments S.r.l., Levanchimica S.r.l., Stepbio S.r.l., Syngenta Crop Protection AG, TCI Europe NV, Varian S.p.A.

The organization of a meeting always counts on the efforts and contributions of any kind of many persons and institutions. Thus, for the Bari meeting sincere appreciation is addressed to the members of the Scientific Advisory Board

(Professors M. Begtrup, A. Dondoni, J. Elguero, G. Hajos, G. Quèguiner, B. Stanovnik, H. C. van der Plas) for choosing the University of Bari as the venue of XXII European Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry and for their advices and suggestions. Warm thanks must go to all the members of the Organizing Committee (Professors V. Capriati, R. Luisi and D. Spinelli, Dr. L. Degennaro, F. M. Perna, A. Salomone, I. Nuzzo, B. Musio, M. Tocco, R. Mansueto, M. Petrera, C. Carlucci) for their hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication. Without their contribution this meeting would not have been possible. All the institutions and organisations which have made this meeting possible with their financial support are gratefully acknowledged, too. Finally, thanks are addressed to all the participants for coming and contributing to make this Conference successful.

During the meeting the Scientific Advisory Board decided that XXIII European Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry will be organized in Belgium at the University of Antwerp in September 2008 by Professors G. Lemiere and B. Maes.

Impressions of a participant of XXII European Colloquium on Organic Chemistry

XXII European Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry was organized in Bari on September 2 to 6, 2006. Prof. Saverio Florio, Dipartimento Farmaco-Chimico, University of Bari, was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee. The members of the Organizing Committee were mostly young coworkers of Prof. Florio and have done excellent job in every aspects.

The crucial element of a scientific meeting is its program. The program of Colloquium was composed with advice of International Scientific Committee in good balance between lectures of senior, well-known scientists and a plethora of young rising stars, who in a series of invited lectures presented interesting results in various aspects of heterocyclic chemistry. As one could expect from such thematic symposium the majority of lectures and communications were oriented to the synthesis and transformations of biologically active heterocyclic compounds. Judging by these presentations this practically important field of organic chemistry is doing well. Relatively less attention was devoted to methodology of construction of heterocyclic rings or generally speaking new chemical reactions and transformations involving heterocyclic systems as a tool of organic synthesis without stress on potential applications of the produced compounds. This approach reported by Prof. P. Knochel, who in the fascinating lecture that closed the symposium, presented almost unlimited possibilities connected with formation and reactivity of magnesium arenes produced *via* halogen-metal exchange in heterocyclic and carbocyclic arenes. It should be stressed that most of the lectures were followed by animated discussions, but, as a rule, the schedule of the scientific sessions was kept on time.

It was a good idea to start the Colloquium with the evening lecture on history of discovery and manufacturing of indigo, perhaps the first and the most important heterocyclic product industrially produced. The historical building where the lecture was presented gave a special flavor of this opening lecture.

The Colloquium proceeded in the Palace Hotel located in the vicinity of the Castle of Bari and the old town. Selection of this site was very fortunate; the hotel provided excellent facilities – a spacious lecture room with adequate audiovisual facilities and air-conditioning as well as proper rooms for coffee breaks, poster sessions, and exhibitions.

The social program of the Colloquium well matched its high scientific level. The participants have had occasion to meet at the opening get-together in the premises of the hotel with champagne and snacks.

Further social events of the Colloquium: excursion to Matera and Altamura followed by country dinner and the conference dinner were really memorable events. The excursion gave participants an opportunity to see landscape of the interior of the Southern Italy, very interesting dwellings digged in tuff in the town of Matera as well as the old town and Cathedral in Altamura (unfortunately the latter visit was too short and the cathedral was too crowded). The country dinner in the old farm Masseria San Giovanni that concluded the excursion with a great variety of food and fine wine was a great experience.

The conference dinner organized in Villa Romanazzi Carducci was an excellent occasion for the participants to enjoy informal interaction with old and new friends enhanced by fine food and wines.

I am sure that this flawlessly organized Colloquium will remain in memory of the participants as an interesting and valuable scientific event connected with very enjoyable experience of the South Italy – its historical monuments, landscape, food, wine and, what is the most important, fine people who extended to us great hospitality.

Prof. Mieczysław Mąkosza