

Conferences on Isoprenoids

The first conferences of this series were organized in 1960-ties by professor Marian Kocór of the Institute of Organic Chemistry (Warsaw) of the Polish Academy of Sciences as national meetings on the steroids chemistry. Soon the scope of conferences was broadened and professors Vaclav Cerny and Vlastomil Herout of the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (Prague) shared responsibility for their management. Since the early 1970s the meetings have taken place every two years, alternately in Poland or Czechoslovakia. The Conferences have hosted the greatest chemists of the times, including the Nobel Price laureates - Derek H. R. Barton and Ryoji Noyori. It is not possible to acknowledge the all outstanding participants and lecturers. However, we would like to mention names of our renowned friends and recent guests: Arthur Birch, Joe Connolly, Aede de Groot, Clayton H. Heathcock, Mark Julia, Philip Kocienski, Wolfgang Kreiser, Steven V. Ley, Armin de Meijre, Kenji Mori, Koichi Mikami, Koji Nakanishi, K. C. Nicolaou, Torbjoern Norin, William H. Okamura, Guy H. Ourisson, Franco Piozzi, Amos B. Smith III, Gilbert Stork, Masakatsu Shibasaki, Lutz F. Tietze, Igor V. Torgov, Barry M. Trost, Jiro Tsuji, Karl Wiesner, Biao Yu, Samir Z. Zard.

The Isoprenoid Conferences have integrated chemists from different countries, that has been especially important when the World was divided by the "Iron Curtain". Presently, the main purpose of conference is to promote research at the interface of chemistry, biology and medicine as well as industrial ventures. The Conferences facilitate the networking and cooperation between researchers from different countries and provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and promoting new ideas.

In recent years the formula of the Isoprenoid Conferences has changed. It achieved the character of the pan-European event. The last conferences were held in Prague (Czech Republic, 2014) and Minsk (Republic of Belarus, 2016). For the succeeding meetings, after the Białystok Conference (Poland, 2018), Astana (Kazakhstan) and Naples (Italy) are considering.

The conference is usually attended by about 120 scientists from all over the world. Friendly open atmosphere and personal contacts between the participants made easy by informal discussions and social events are specific features of the Conferences.