

Serbian Society's 17th Annual Scientific Conference Held in Belgrade

by Dr. Snezana Jovicic, Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia

The 2014 Annual Scientific Conference “Professor Ivan Berkes” was held on December 2, 2014, at Military Medical Academy in Belgrade. This Annual Scientific Conference and Fund “Professor Ivan Berkes” were established seventeen years ago to honor the life and work of Prof. Ivan Berkes. He was one of the founders of medical biochemistry in former Yugoslavia and left an indelible trace in the basis of our profession. At the Faculty of Pharmacy University of Belgrade Prof. Berkes established the syllabus for post-graduate specialization in medical biochemistry. With over 200 publications, mentoring of 150 specialists in medical biochemistry and several tens of doctoral candidates, he immensely contributed to the development of clinical laboratory profession in Serbia. For the past seventeen years the Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia (SMBS) and the Faculty of Pharmacy University of Belgrade honor his work through the Scientific Fund and Annual Scientific Conference as a sign of appreciation and respect for this remarkable teacher and eminent expert. The Conference is organized under the auspices of the SMBS, Scientific Foundation “Professor Ivan Berkes,” Faculty of Pharmacy University of Belgrade, Institute for Medical Biochemistry of the Clinical Centre of Serbia, and Institute for Medical Biochemistry of the Military Medical Academy.



Photo: (From left to right) Sanja Kandic (awarded student), Prof. Dr. Nada Majkic-Singh (Executive Director SMBS), Dusan Ruzic (awarded student), Brigadier General Prof. Dr. Marjan Novakovic (Head of Military Medical Academy), Dr. Zorica Sumarac (President of SMBS, coordinator on the Conference), Dr. Janko Pejovic (coordinator of the Conference), and Prof. Dr. Svetlana Ignjatovic (coordinator of the Conference).

The XVII Annual Scientific Conference “Professor Ivan Berkes” was opened traditionally with the welcoming address of Prof. Dr. Nada Majkic-Singh, Executive Director of SMBS, the Brigadier General prof. Dr. Marjan Novakovic, head of Military Medical Academy, and Prof. Dr. Zorica Vujic, dean of Faculty of Pharmacy University of Belgrade. Awards from the Scientific Fund “Professor Ivan Berkes,” given yearly to the two best graduate students from the Faculty of Pharmacy, were presented to Dusan Ruzic, master of Pharmacy, and Sanja Kandic, master of Pharmacy- Medical Biochemist.

After the opening ceremony the scientific part of the Conference was traditionally dedicated to the presentation of doctoral thesis defended in the field of medical biochemistry at Faculty of Pharmacy during the past year. This year's doctorates were “The association of oxidative stress, inflammation and dyslipidemia in the pathogenesis of age-related macular degeneration” presented by Dr. Emina Colak, “The importance preoperative and postoperative determination sepsis biomarkers for diagnosis and prognosis intraabdominal infections” by Dr. Tatjana Vodnik, “Influence of inherited and acquired factors on homocysteine blood level in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease” by Dr. Andjelo Beletic, “Gene expression analyses of antioxidative enzymes in rats' tissues and human blood: the influence of external factors and correlation with biochemical markers of oxidative stress” by Dr. Ana Ninic, “The significance of determination of symmetric- L-dimethylarginine and N-terminal pro B type natriuretic peptide in chronic kidney disease patients and renal transplant recipients” by Dr. Lidija Memon, and “Importance of pentraxin- 3 determination in patients with angiographically proven coronary artery disease” by Dr. Vesna Vukovic- Dejanovic. The last lecture closed the XVII Annual Scientific Conference, leaving us assured in the bright future of medical biochemistry in Serbia thanks to the solid foundation professor Berkes left us with.