

CHRONICLE

Personalia

KÁROLY GULYA Ph.D., senior research associate from the Central Research Laboratory, Szent-Györgyi Albert Medical University, Szeged, was appointed to chair the Department of Zoology, József Attila University, from July 1, 1993, as associate professor.

Associate Professor Dr. ATTILA BARANYI (Department of Comparative Physiology) was elevated to the position of professor.

Assistant Professor Dr. MAGDOLNA ÁBRAHÁM (Department of Biochemistry) was elevated to the position of associate professor.

Scientific degree

Associate Professor Dr. JÁNOS NEMCSÓK, with the thesis "Research into the biochemical effects of xenobiotics on fish" took the degree of doctor in biological science.

GYÖRGY PÁLFI (Department of Anthropology) a research fellow of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, received his Ph.D. from the University of Provence (Aix-en-Provence, France) with his thesis entitled "Diseases, Activities and Environment of Ancient Populations in Central and Western Europe: A Comparative Paleopathological Approach".

Honours

Associate Professor Dr. PÉTER MARÓI (Department of Genetics), Dr. ISTVÁN KISS, Dr. JÁNOS GAUSZ, Dr. HENRIK GYURKOVICS (Biological Research Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Szeged) and Prof. Dr. JÁNOS SZABAD (Department of Biology, Szent-Györgyi Albert Medical University, Szeged) awarded academic prizes for their research work in the genetics of *Drosophyla*.

Anniversary

Professor Dr. ISTVÁN SZALAI, who was the head of the Department of Plant Physiology 1952-1973 and the editor of Acta Biologica Szegediensis from 1957 to

1974 turned 81 in 1993. This year the József Attila University conferred him the "Diploma of fifty years' standing".

Scientific session

An international congress, entitled "The origin of Syphilis in Europe: Before or after 1493?", was co-organized by the Centre Archéologique du Var (Toulon), the University of Provence (Aix-en-Provence) and the Department of Anthropology of József Attila University (Szeged), from 25 to 28 November 1993 in Toulon. On the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the return of Columbus' crew, this congress, dedicated to CECIL J. HACKETT, was devoted to discussing the history and paleopathology of human treponematoses and the recent research on this topic.

Establishment

PÁL GREGUSS medal



The 5th Symposium for Plant Anatomy and the Greguss-centenary was held at the Department of Botany of József Attila University on August 25-26, 1989. Associate Professor Dr. SÁNDOR GULYÁS, the student and successor of Professor Dr. PÁL GREGUSS, had the medal made for the occasion of this centenary. The medal is the work of ANDRÁS LAPIS: made either of bronze or silver, with a 44 mm diameter, 3 mm thickness, and weight of 42 g.

On the frontside of the medal is the relief of the face of PÁL GREGUSS, with his name and the following inscription: "For the 100th anniversary of his birth 1889-1989".

On the reverse side there is a three dimensional shape of the trunk of a three year old linden tree. This was a favourite drawing of GREGUSS, the world famous xylotomist. Above the linden trunk is linden fruit with bracts, under it two leaves can be seen. Beside the fruit appear the following words: "Knowledge, Love, Health". These words were often mentioned by Professor GREGUSS as the three treasures of the world.

The GREGUSS memorial medal was awarded for the first time at the 8th Symposium for Plant Anatomy to ZITA RUDNER, a young anatomist, she received this medal together with the award from fund of "Development for Plant Anatomy".

AMBRUS ÁBRAHÁM memorial medal



On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of neurobiologist Professor Dr. AMBRUS ÁBRAHÁM, member of the Hungarian Academy, in 1993 a medallion was established by the József Attila University, Szeged, and the Biological Section of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

The medallion will be awarded to researchers who receive international recognition in the field of neurohistology and who help on the international collaboration of the Department of Zoology of József Attila University, Szeged.

The medallion, made by sculptor SÁNDOR TÓTH, is 10.3 cm in diameter. On the frontside of the medal is the relief of the face of AMBRUS ÁBRAHÁM and the following inscription: "ÁBRAHÁM AMBRUS neurobiologist, Tusnád 1893, Szeged 1989". The photocopy of the medallion is shown below.

The "ÁBRAHÁM AMBRUS medallion" was awarded for the first time to former students Professor Dr. EMIL MINKER and member of the Hungarian Academy Professor Dr. JÓZSEF HÁMORI, as well to Professor Dr. SÁNDOR BENDE, a former colleague from the Teachers' Training College in Eger.

Foundation of Department

Institute of Biotechnology, Szeged, BAY ZOLTÁN Foundation for Applied Research

The BAY ZOLTÁN Foundation for Applied Research was founded in October 1993 by the National Council for Technical Development with a capital of 1 billion Hungarian Forints. The Foundation has the aim of developing a new network of institutes where problem oriented applied research will be carried out. These institutes will fill the gap between research and industry. The German Fraunhofer Institutes were taken as models for the BAY ZOLTÁN Institutes.

One of these new institutes is the Institute of Biotechnology of the BAY ZOLTÁN Foundation. The institute was established in May 1993. It is located near to the Biological Research Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Szeged and the Biological Faculty of József Attila University, Szeged. These institutes and departments provide an internationally recognized research background for the Institute of Biotechnology.

The Institute of Biotechnology of the BAY ZOLTÁN Foundation has started its activities in two fields of research and development. One is the use of immobilized enzymes and microorganisms for the production of valuable products from agricultural and industrial wastes and by-products. The other is the development of clinical diagnostic kits based mainly on molecular biological methods for the detection of different genetically inherited and infectious diseases.

The senior researchers of the Institute of Biotechnology have internationally recognized experience in biotechnology, in the monitoring of water purity, in using fish as test objects, and in different areas of molecular biology. The many Hungarian and international patents taken out by our staff members prove their innovative ability.

The head of the BAY ZOLTÁN Institute is Associate Professor Dr. JÁNOS NEMCSÓK.