

Preface

During last year, I received a message from Dr. Jerome EYER of the University of South Carolina, that Dr. D. ENGEHARDT passed away on February 13, 2000. His death caused a great loss in Palynology, as he has contributed excellent works on Eocene palynomorphs of U.S.A. Later, within a year Prof. Dr. h.c. Knut FAEGRI, K.St.O.O., passed away on 10th December, 2001, at the age of 92 years. He served 56 years in the Department of Botany of the University of Bergen (Norway). He was one of the pioneer of the modern Palynology and popularized by his book "Text-book of Modern Pollen Analysis" by FAEGRI and IVERSEN (1950). This is one of the fundamental contribution in Science of Palynology, received a wide recognition and a guide reference book for the beginners.

The traditional exclusive reception of the Laboratory was held on the 19th August, 2002, but not on the date as usual. At this occasion two Commemorative Medals of the Laboratory were presented to the following personalities:

Andrea BORBOLA, a PhD. student of the Institute of Genetics of the Biological Research Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. She started her works in the Laboratory as a middle-school student and continued until receiving her Diploma. Her contributions are very important in the realization of the scientific programs of the Laboratory. She has received several grants to proceed her research works. A short review of her Diploma Dissertation is included herein.

Prof. Dr. Jorge Adalberto Lagos (Universidad Salvadoreña "Adalberto Mansferrer", San Salvador, El Salvador) for his important contribution in the realization of the joint research program.

Prof. Dr. A.K. SINHA Director of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, India was awarded with the Millenium Medal of the Laboratory.

For the generous financial support of the publication of this number, I would like to express my sincere thanks:

to the Grant OTKA T 31715,

to Prof. Dr. R. MÉSZÁROS, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Rector of the University,

and to Prof. Dr. G. MEZŐSI, Dean of the Faculty of Science of the University of Szeged.

In consequence of new financial restrictions of the University, the Department of Botany do not assure the salary of the technician of the Laboratory. So the Laboratory is facing much difficulties but research works are still alive. In this respect a fruitful discussion was held with the Rector of the University and I hope that the Laboratory, its research and other academic activities will continue successfully with encouragements and full supports of the Rector of the University, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Grants of OTKA.

Szeged, December 2002.

M. KEDVES
Head of the Laboratory