XXIX National Congress of the ITALIAN SOCIETY OF PROTISTOLOGY onlus

organized by
SOCETÀ ITALIANA DI PROTISTOLOGIA ONLUS

co-organized with
ISTITUTO SUPERIORE DI SANITA’
Department of Environment and Primary Prevention

in collaboration with
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROTISTOLOGISTS

Rome, Italy  1- 4 October 2012
Monday 1st October

12.00 REGISTRATION

14.00 Welcoming address and introduction to the work (with welcome tea)
Dr. L. Musmeci, Director of the Dep. of Environment and Primary Prevention
MC. Angelici on behalf of the Local Organizing Committee

14.20 OPENING LECTURE
How many Kingdoms?
E. Piccinni (Padova, Italy)

15.20 LECTURE
DNA splicing contributes to the evolution of the Paramecium genome
F. Catania (Muenster, Germany)

ROUND TABLE: Academic and educational activities to the Protistological Science
Chair: G. Di Giuseppe, M.G. Chessa

16.20 Protists in classroom: single-celled organisms for biology teaching
F. Buonanno, M. Aquilani, MG. Trotta, C. Ortenzi

16.35 The hall of Protistology at the Museo di Storia Naturale e del Territorio di Pisa:
developments and correlated initiatives
G. Di Giuseppe

17.50 Protist tracks
F. Cantarano

18.05 Discussion
Tuesday 2nd October

SYMPOSIUM: Sea Water Protists - Chair: P. Luporini, F. Dini

9.00 Lecture

Studying the marine environment: lessons from Oxyrrhis
D. J. S. Montagnes (Liverpool, UK)

10.00 Evolution of mating systems in Euplotes
F. Ricci, A. Vallesi, C. Alimenti, G. Di Giuseppe, F. Dini, P. Luporini

10.20 Phylogenetic systematics of the genus Condyllostoma (Ciliophora, Heterotricha) by means of a multidisciplinary analytical study of some marine morphospecies
L. Modeo, R. J. P. Dias, N. Fernandes, G. Tomei, V. Boscaro, F. Verni, ID. Da Silva-Neto, G. Petroni

10.40-11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.00 Protein cold adaptation of a novel eukaryotic phospholipase from the psychrophilic Antarctic ciliate Euplotes focardii and catalytic activity optimization for industrial application
G. Yang, C. De Santi, D. De Pascale, S. Puccionelli, M. Mariani, C. Miceli

11.20 The analysis of the transcriptome from the Antarctic ciliate Euplotes focardii: hints of cold adaptation and regulation of the genetic information.
S. Puccionelli, R. Rajan Devaraj, C. Miceli.

SYMPOSIUM: Sea Water Protists - Chair: C. Miceli, F. Verni

11.40 Lecture

Benthic microalgae in the marine environment: diversity, ecological role and relations with the substrate.
C. Totti (Ancona, Italy)

12.40 Advances in the Teredinibacter turnerel/Shipwoms/Boveria interaction: An Inter-Kingdom Tripartite Interaction

13.00 Molecular monitoring for microbial community in the mucus of Ostreopsis ovata (Dinoflagellate) mediterranean isolates
A. Curti, MC. Angelici

13.20 Intracellular protein transport mechanisms in eukaryotes: ciliates and mammals use the same translocation and nuclear localization signals.
A. Candeleri, M. Montani, A. Amici, A. Vallesi (P)

13.35-15.00 LUNCH
SYMPOSIUM: **Nobili-Franceschi Award** - Chair: G. Rosati, F. Trielli

15.00 *Multi-marker molecular characterization of ciliates and their endosymbionts*
   V. Boccaro

15.20 *Characterization of alpha-amylases from the psychrophilic Antarctic ciliate Euplotes focardii.*
   V. Turturo

15.40 *Discovering Protists: "model organisms" for a didactic project to a second class in an high school*
   M. Castioni

16.00 **MEETING SIP onlus**
Wednesday 3rd October

SYMPOSIUM: FRESH WATER PROTISTS - Chair: E. Piccinni, S Fokin

09.00 LECTURE
Towards a quality assessment of freshwater ecosystems through the morphological analysis of phytoplankton
L. Naselli-Flores (Palermo, Italy)

10.00 Distinct Functional Roles of Beta-Tubulin Isotypes in Microtubule Arrays of Tetrahymena thermophila
D. Sparvoli, P. Ballarini, S. Pucciarelli, S. Barchetta, T. Yu, C. Miceli

10.20 Paramecium genus. Main features to morphospecies discrimination.
S. Fokin

10.40 -11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.00 Molecular monitoring for pathogenic protozoa in lake water
P. Ade, MC. Angelici, E. Funari (P)

11.15 Copper induces two copper-zinc superoxide dismutase genes in Tetrahymena thermophila
D. Ferro, F. Boldrin, C. De Pitta’, F. Cattalini, L. Guidolin, L. Tallandini,
O. Coppellotti, P. Irato, E. Piccinni, G. Santovito (P)

SYMPOSIUM: SOIL PROTISTS - Chair: O. Coppellotti, A. La Terza

11.30 LECTURE
Testate amoebae communities in soils: from point to global scale
Y. Mazei (Penza, Russia)

12.30 Ciliate community structures correlates with environmental variables: investigation on agricultural and natural soils
D. Bharti, S. Kumar, S. Marinsalti, MG. Molina, M. Tiberi, G. Ciabocco,
C. Bernacconi, E. Insom, A. La Terza

12.50 Ciliate biodiversity and preliminary behavioral observations from the chemosauatrophic cave ecosystem of Frasassi, Italy
S. Kumar, D. Bharti, F. Buonanno, C. Ortenzi A. La Terza

13.10 Immunohistochemical detection of aquaporin-like proteins in Dictyostelium discoideum and Paramecium primaurelia
A. Amaroli, L. Gallus, M. Rossi, S. Ferrando, S. Scarfi, MA. Masini,
MG. Chessa

13.30 -15.00 LUNCH
ROUND TABLE: Secondary metabolites of protists: new tool in pharmacology?
Chair: F. Buonanno, C. Vannini, A. Vallesi

15.00  *Ciliate lipidomics: the case of Coleps hirtus*

  A. Anesi, F. Buonanno, M. Planchestainer, C. Ortenzi G. Guella

15.15  *Mechanical and chemical interactions in offense-defense strategies of freshwater ciliates.*

  F. Buonanno, A. Anesi, G. Guella, S. Kumar, D. Bharti, A. La Terza, C. Ortenzi

15.30  Discussion

FREE TIME

20.00  Social Dinner - *(with possible boat cruise on the Tiber river)*
Thursday 4th October

SYMPOSIUM: PATHOGENIC PROTISTS - Chair: M. Gramiccia, D. Savoia

9.00 LECTURE
Targeting the unique thiol metabolism in Leishmania, the Achilles’ heel of the parasite. A structural biology study.
G. Colotti (Rome, Italy)

10.00 Shift towards zymodeme homogeneity of Leishmania infantum from HIV-positive patients in the HAART era
M. Gramiccia, T. Di Muccio, A. Scalone, L. Gradoni

10.20 Molecular diagnosis of Plasmodium vivax infection in the frame of European project pregvax (Plasmodium vivax infection in pregnancy).
M. Menegon

10.40-11.00 COFFEE BREAK

SYMPOSIUM: PATHOGENIC PROTISTS - Chair: S. Pucciarelli, A. Amaroli

11.00 LECTURE
Dynamics of harmful algal blooms in the Mediterranean sea
A. Penna (Urbino, Italy)

12.00 Detection of parasitic protozoa DNA in sea water of the Taranto Bay
A. Curti, A. De Sanctis, MC. Angelici (P)

12.15 Use of photosensitized processes in the prevention and control of water- and vector-borne diseases caused by protozoa
O. Coppellotti, L. Guidolin, C. Fabris

12.35 Toxoplasma gondii DNA in goats: a preliminary report
F. Mancianti, S. Nardoni, L. Mugnaini, F. Pedonese, C. D’Ascenzi, F. Franco, R. Papini (P)

12.50 Detection of Toxoplasma DNA in serum samples of sheep from South Africa
L. Mugnaini, NA. Samra, CM. McCrindle, S. Nardoni, F. Mancianti, MC. Angelici

13.10-15.00 LUNCH
SYMPOSIUM: Pathogenic Protists - Chair: F. Mancianti, MC. Angelici

15.00 Lecture
Fungi toxins
P. Battilani (Piacenza, Italy) and C. Brera (Rome, Italy)

16.00 Antimycotic activity of some Mediterranean autochthonous plants essential oils against canine isolates of Malassezia pachydermatis
L. Mugnaini, S. Nardoni, L. Pistelli, A. Bertoli, M. Leonardi, F. Pisseri, F. Mancianti (P)

16.15 Identification and susceptibility to some antifungal drugs of yeasts isolated from healthy animals
S. Nardoni, L. Mugnaini, R. Papini, F. Mancianti (P)

ROUND TABLE: Emergent Protists - Chair: G. Petroni, L. Gradoni

16.30 Endemic and emerging Phlebotomine-borne diseases in Italy: a short review in the light of the EU projects EDEN and EDENext
M. Gramiccia

16.45 Molecular tools for an environmental monitoring of emerging pathogens
MC. Angelici

17.00 Toxin production in dinoflagellates: focus on Ostreopsis cf. ovate
L. Pezzolesi

17.15 Discussion

17.30 Final remarks

Acknowledgement - on behalf of the Italian society of Protistology (SIPonlus) the President would like to thank the International society of Protistology (ISOP) for supporting the student travel during the organization of this congress, by the will of the Executive Committee.