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*News from the Society of
Medical Biochemists of Serbia*

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF SERBIA THE TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL PROFESSOR IVAN BERKEŠ SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

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Liaison Member of the IFCC eNewsletter Working Group

Scientific Conference dedicated to the life and work of the esteemed prof. dr Ivan Berkeš, one of the founders of medical biochemistry in former Yugoslavia, is organized for twenty one years now under the auspices of the Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia (SMBS), and Scientific Foundation »Professor Ivan Berkeš«. The Conference is the occasion when the best graduate students of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Belgrade are awarded by the Scientific Foundation »Professor Ivan Berkeš«.

The 2018 Annual Scientific Conference »Professor Ivan Berkeš« is the second co-organized and hosted by the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Belgrade. It gathered over 200 participants—students, older colleagues who were the students of Professor Berkeš, young graduated medical biochemists, and teachers of the Faculty of Pharmacy. Traditional guests were the family members of Professor Berkeš – his son and grandson, with their families. This traditional meeting of students and professors of the Faculty of Pharmacy, honoring the legacy of one of its most distinguished professors. was held on 6 December 2018.

After the opening words of the organizer, prof. Nada Majkić-Singh, the musical band of pharmacy students performed, adding the festivity to the event. Following the welcoming address of the Dean prof. dr Slađana Šobajić, prof. Majkić-Singh, together with the President of the SMBS, dr Zorica Šumarac, presented awards of the Foundation.

This year's recipients were Jelena Pavlović, Master of Pharmacy-Medical Biochemist, and Natalija Arsić, Master of Pharmacy.

During the scientific part of the program, chaired by prof. dr Svetlana Ignjatović, prof. dr Vesna Spasojević-Kalimanovska, and dr Zorica Šumarac, this year's defended doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Belgrade, were presented. This year, their doctoral theses also presented the colleagues from the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska – Bosnia and Herzegovina. The first speaker was dr Dragana Bačković, with her thesis on the influence of CYP2C19*2 gene variant on therapeutic response during clopidogrel treatment in patients with carotid artery stenosis. Dr Dragana Puhalo Sladoje's thesis was about the concentration of appetite regulators and adipocytokines in blood plasma adolescents with obesity and/or metabolic syndrome. Oxidative stress status in blood and lipoprotein fractions in patients with chronic kidney disease was the topic of the lecture of dr Milica Miljković. The lecture on risk factors for the occurrence and development of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease associated with oxidative stress in Serbian population by dr Živka Malić followed. Redox disbalance and inflammation influence on PON1 activity and distribution at the HDL lipoprotein particles in polycystic ovary syndrome was presented by dr Iva Perović-Blagojević. The conference closed the doctorate of dr Vanja Todorović on antioxidant and antimicrobial potential of cocoa powder and its impact on mice behavior after short-term and long-term supplementation.



Professor Nada Majkić-Singh address to Professor Berkeš Scientific Conference participants.



Professor Slađana Šobajić, Faculty of Pharmacy Dean address to the Conference participants.



Pharmacy students' musical band opening the Conference.



Conference presidents: Nada Majkić-Singh, Vesna Kalimanovska Spasojević, Svetlana Ignjatović, Zorica Šumarac.



This years laureates, Jelena Pavlović and Natalija Arsić, with prof. dr Nada Majkić-Singh and dr Zorica Šumarac.



Chairs and lecturers, from left to right: dr Milica Miljković, dr Iva Perović-Blagojević, prof. Vesna Spasojević-Kalimanovska, prof. Nada Majkić-Singh, dr Željka Malić, prof. Svetlana Ignjatović, dr Dragana Bačković, dr Dragana Puhalo-Sladoje, and dr Zorica Šumarac.



Professor Vesna Kalimanovska Spasojević introducing the lecturers.



Conference participants.



dr Velibor Canić and Professor Slađana Šobajić.



Lecturers: Dragana Bačković and Iva Perović Blagojević.