

## 37th Congress of the Czech Anatomical Society with International Participation

The city of Brno hosted the 37th Congress of the Czech Anatomical Society on August 28-31, 1996. The organizers were the Czech Anatomical Society, Department of Anatomy and Department of Histology, Medical Faculty of the Masaryk University, Brno, and the Institute for Medical Postgraduate Studies in Brno. More than 150 experts from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, Austria and Poland participated in this event.

The introductory session was devoted to the history of morphological sciences in Brno, presented by Professors S. Čech, D. Horký, L. Páč, and O. Štěrba. Their presentations remembered with pride numerous personalities of European reputation (Otomar Völker, František Karel Studnička, Jan Florian, Karel Šulc, Karel Žlábek, Jan Koloda). Apart from this reminiscence invited speakers Professors Milan Doskočil, Karel Smetana and Jaroslav Slípka, present top Czech specialists in their areas, outlined the perspectives of research in anatomy, histology and embryology.

In two simultaneous sessions, 72 papers were presented covering neuroanatomy, cardiovascular system, skeleton, experimental morphology, reproduction biology and embryology, and further 75 communications were presented as posters, including modern presentation forms (video, large-scale video).

The Congress programme was enriched by 12 firms that presented their products mostly used in morphology (e.g. Olympus, Polysciences, Mikro, PCS, Dispolab).

A very successful supplement of the scientific programme was the round-table discussion on teaching morphological disciplines and sharing the experience of Czech and guest morphologists from abroad.

Great attention was paid to the half-day "Symposium on Image Analysis and 3-dimensional Computer Reconstructions". Its primary significance lies, no doubt, in that the participants received an up-to-date theoretical and practical coverage of research in morphology and its perspectives. Furthermore, it enabled to map the creative and technical background for implementation of these new techniques at various institutions and make new contacts as well as initiate collaborations. I am deeply convinced that the enthusiasm of scientists involved in image analysis and three-dimensional computer reconstruction will soon be reflected in organizational structures with a special work-group or committee within the Czech Anatomical Society.

This goal will, no doubt, be further approached by publishing in extenso the papers presented at this symposium in a special issue of *Acta veterinaria Brno*.

Prof. MUDr. et RNDr. Svatopluk Čech, DrSc.  
Secretary of the Congress