

WORKING GROUP ON CELLULAR BIOLOGY OF THE HEART OF THE
EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY
(WG 2)

Annual Report 2005 / 2006

The *Working Group on the Cellular Biology of the Heart*, represents one of the basic science working groups of the ESC and is one of the founding members of Council on Basic Cardiovascular Science. WG2 Cellular Biology of the Heart spans a wide range of laboratory-based cardiology research, its members providing one of the clusters of laboratory - based science within the ESC. Accordingly the WG shares many objectives of the CBCS like to promote the integration of laboratory-based basic research and clinical cardiology, and to specifically increase the presentation of basic science at the annual congress of the ESC through the organization of symposium sessions. Also a major focus is organization and promotion of small specific focussed meetings which bring together both basic and clinical cardiologists.

The topic “ membership of WG 2 “ had been discussed at the Nucleus Meeting 2005 in Stockholm. Out of the existing membership list of around 200 only 90 turned up to be contactable. Criteria for becoming member were discussed, and particularly how to reach young basic scientists to join the WG were a topic. Several suggestions were made to increase the number of active members and to attract them to the ESC congress. The procedures, however, for the pre-selection of symposia for Barcelona by the CBCS had been somewhat strange and therefore did not really encourage potentially new members.

Nucleus

Prof. Rainer Schulz, Universitätsklinikum, Essen, Germany has been elected new Vice-Chairman of the Working Group. The acting Vice-Chairman **Prof. Pieter Doevendans**, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands, will take over the Chair at the Barcelona 2006 Congress. R.v.Harsdorf has resigned since he is now living in Canada.

Activities

The Working Group 2 and its members have proposed and actually participate in a number of the research symposia held at the society's 2006 annual congress (about 5) and have supported a number of other meetings and teaching programs.

The Working Group has participated at the **Winter Meeting on Translational Basic Science** of HFA of the ESC in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, January 2006, " From Cardiac Adaptation to Failure and Back ". This was a very successful event and certainly must be repeated.

In April 2006 the WG 2 co-organized together with the ETH Zurich the " **5th International Ascona Workshop on Cardiomyocyte Cell Biology** " at the ETH's Centro Stefano Franscini Monte Verità Conference Center in Southern Switzerland. Topic : Differentiation, Stability of Cytoarchitecture and Therapeutic Potential of Heart Muscle cells. The CBCS of ESC sponsored the participation of 10 young scientists with 5000.- €. The about 100 participants followed, presented and discussed during 3 days very high class research data.

Financial Report

Starting balance	€ 13'413.82	
Allocation ESC	€ 297.00	
Payments	€ 694.92	(not approved expenditure at ESC in Stockholm 2005 ; has to be cleared up)
Balance 21/03/06	€ 13'015.90	

24. 08. 2006 Hans M. Eppenberger, Chairman WG 2