



BIOSCIENCE  
AND  
SOCIETY

The international conference

**GENial Future:  
Genetics, Determinism and Freedom**

Ljubljana, October 4-5, 2007

## Programme

### Thursday, October 4, 2007

8:00-9:30 Registration

9:30-9:45 Welcome address, Gregor Mohorčič, the director of the National Educational Institute of Slovenia, Milan Zver, Minister of education and sport

#### **Session I:**

**Advances in genetic research, possible biotechnological applications and future prospects**

*Chair:* Radovan Komel

10:00-10:30 Renée Schroeder: RNA world and molecular evolution

10:30-11:00 Špela Schrader: An example of gene expression in ontogenetic development

11:00-11:30 Radovan Komel: Human hereditary diseases, their expression and forecasts

*11:30-12:00 Coffee break*

12:00-12:30 Gregor Serša: What controls the length of the life in cells and humans

12:30-13:00 Social aspects of health and aging

*13:00-14:15 Lunch*

#### **Session II:**

**Genetics, determinism and human freedom**

*Chair:* Andreja Barle Lakota

14:15-14:35 Janek Musek: Genetic applications and prospects in psychology

14.35-15.05 Andrew Moore: Biology education in a rapidly changing scientific and socio-economic context

15.05-15:25 Gregor Tomc: Freedom resides in determinism

*15:25-15:50 Coffee break*

15:50-16:10 Andrej Kirn: Reductionism, determinism and culture

16.10-16.40 Maja Bresjanac: The influence of genes on brain development and function

16.40-17.20 Oren Harman: Shakespeare got it wrong: Why biology and culture are more intimate than we thought

17:20-18:50 **Panel discussion**

*Chair:* Alexis Zrimec  
Peter Raspor  
Oren Harman  
Renée Schroeder  
Roman Globokar  
Blagajana Herzog Velikonja

19:00-21:00 *Conference dinner*

**Friday, October 5, 2007**

**Session III:  
The ethics of research and its applications**

*Chair:* Simona Strgulc Krajšek

9:00-9:20 Borut Peterlin: The use of genetic information in pre-natal diagnostics  
9:20-9:50 Franc Mali: Ethical dilemmas and hazards of privatisation and commercialisation of the biogenetic science  
9:50-10:20 Katja Drobnič: Determination of personal identity on the basis of genetic information, PCR and computer technology  
10:20-10:50 *Coffee break*  
10:50-11:20 Goran Klemenčič: Use and abuse of information  
11:20-11:50 Jana Žel: Genetically modified plants  
11:50-12:10 Milan Zver: Ethics and culture  
12:10-12:30 Jože Trontelj: Bioethics, research and the risk of abuse  
12:30-14:00 *Lunch*

**Session IV:  
The progress of science and the role of education for the future society**

*Chair:* Barbara Vilhar

14.00-14.30 Miomir Knežević: Stem cells  
14.30-15.00 Špela Baebler: Systems biology  
15:00-15:25 Barbara Vilhar: Importance of biology in general education  
15:25-15:50 *Coffee break*  
15:50-16:15 Andreja Barle Lakota: The future society and the importance of education

16:15-17:45 **Panel discussion**

*Chair:* Gregor Zupančič

Andreja Barle Lakota

Jože Trontelj

Marjana Peterman

Goran Klemenčič

Miomir Knežević

Oren Harman

17:45-18:00 Conclusion, Gregor Mohorčič, director of the National Educational Institute of Slovenia