

# 11<sup>th</sup> Winternational Symposium Held at Mont Sainte-Anne, Québec

The 11<sup>th</sup> Winternational Symposium entitled “Dynamics of Intracellular Organelles and Molecular Machines” was held February 8 – 11, 2001 at Château Mont Sainte-Anne, Beaupré, Québec. This exciting meeting, sponsored by CSBMCB, brought together a renowned group of international and Canadian scientists. Topics included protein folding, degradation and trafficking, organellar biogenesis and dynamics, inter-organellar signalling and diseases associated with protein folding. Each session was complemented by oral presentations by a select group of young investigators, students and fellows chosen from the submitted abstracts. The meeting attracted participants from as far away as Japan, Italy, Finland and the UK. The CSBMCB provided Merck-Frosst travel awards to a number of students who submitted abstracts. The winners of the travel awards were Kazuko Miyakawa (Japan), Diana Bellovino (Italy), Edith Wong (UC, Davis), LaSaunda King (U. Illinois) and Julian Guttman (U. British Columbia).

The poster sessions were packed and ran well into the evening. The quality of the presentations was excellent and the poster judges (Michel Bouvier, Richard Wozniak and Reinhart Reithmeier) had a difficult task in selecting the winners of the poster competitions. The winner of the Jake Duerksen Memorial Graduate Student Poster Award, supported by Roche Diagnostics, was Roberto Botelho from the Hospital for Sick Children and the Department of Biochemistry, University of Toronto. The NRC Research Press Poster Award was won by Marie-Eve Paquet from the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto.

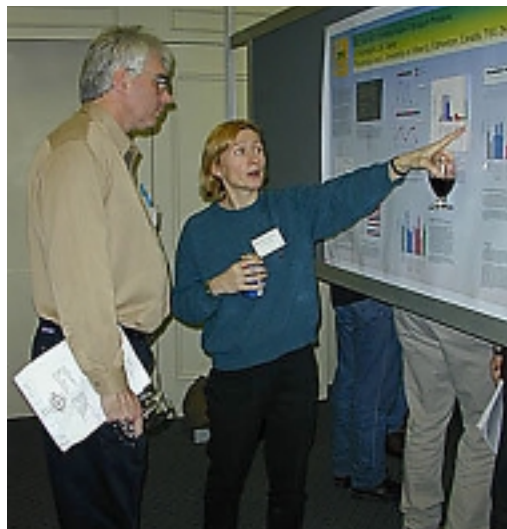
Early Saturday morning a “mini-ice storm” brought down local power lines. The hotel staff rose to the occasion and arranged a candle-light breakfast and provided a gasoline generator to run the slide projector. Our American friends were impressed by the ability of Canadians to adapt so quickly and easily. Saturday evening saw the group in Québec City enjoying the Winter Carnival parade. For many, the bone-chilling weather was tempered with the help of a hot “caribou” drink. The meeting finished with a session organized by John Bergeron who proposed the creation of a Canadian

Molecular Biology Organization with the view of creating a Canadian equivalent to laboratories at the EMBL in Heidelberg. Rod McInnis brought us up-to-date on the exciting developments happening with the Institutes at CIHR.

A meeting of this calibre could not be arranged without the untiring efforts of the organizers and the generous contributions of the sponsors. John Bergeron (McGill), John Aitchison (Institute for Systems Biology, Seattle) and David Williams (Toronto) are congratulated for a superb job. We thank the sponsors for their continued support of the Winternational Symposium.

The next Winternational, organized by Joe Casey (Alberta), will be held March 21-24, 2002 in Banff, Alberta. We look forward to another exciting meeting.

Reinhart Reithmeier



(left) Winternational symposium poster presentation. (below) The organizers of the 11th Winternational Symposium

