

ISPPP 2017 is a stimulating event where biopharma professionals can network and advance their knowledge on the separation, purification and characterisation of biologically important molecules

It is an exciting time in separation science as the field continues to grow and adapt, enjoying better materials, instruments and methods, and a seemingly never-ending list of interesting molecules to work on. We continue to confront analytical, productivity and financial challenges with ever more vigour.

For the past 37 years, the International Symposium on the Separation of Proteins, Peptides and Polynucleotides (ISPPP) founded in 1980 by Professors Fred Regnier and Milton Hearn – has been uniquely focused on bringing together experts on the materials and methods of biomolecule separations, with specialists in developing applications of separations for discovery, analysis and structural characterisation of biomolecules. The upcoming Symposium will feature a programme well balanced between basic science on biomolecule separations and applications development for discovery and analysis of biotherapeutic proteins, modifications thereof, nucleic acids, metabolic transformations and complex carbohydrates.

The ISPPP is a truly international symposium, with alternate meetings organised in Europe and North America. The 36th ISPPP was held in Salzburg, Austria, and the upcoming 37th event will take place in Philadelphia, US, on 19-21 July in the intimate setting of the Loews Hotel on Market Street.

Over the course of the conference, there will be ample opportunity to engage presenters, attendees and exhibitors during and after the various presentation formats. In addition to scheduled

lectures, there will be poster sessions, an exhibition area, expert tutorials and catered refreshment breaks. As with past ISPPPs, the meeting is organised to encourage an atmosphere of collegial interactions as well as the formation of collaborative efforts. There will also be various social events, including an opening reception and a banquet.

This year's conference will be cochaired by Dr Barry E Boyes (Advanced Materials Technologies) and Professor Ron Orlando (Complex Carbohydrate Research Center, University of Georgia), two long-standing supporters. In addition, both the programme and international conference committees are working with the chairpersons to assure an exciting and relevant schedule.

Highlighted presentation themes at ISPPP 2017 include:

- Proteomics, glycoproteomics and phosphoproteomics
- Therapeutic biomolecules and biosimilars
- Monoclonal antibody analytics
- Novel protein structure analysis
- Novel separations materials and methods
- Interactions, aggregation and conformational effects
- Nucleic acids
- Metabolomics and enzyme analyses
- Glycans and complex carbohydrates
- · Higher order structure determination

As with recent ISPPP symposia, this year's programme will be enriched with examples of high-resolution analytical applications, particularly on the use of

liquid chromatography (LC) and LC/mass spectrometry (MS) methods for complex molecule analyses and applications of high-resolution methods during target discovery, validation and product development. This is especially relevant at a time when therapeutic and diagnostic humanised monoclonal antibodies are undergoing an explosive growth in clinical and research applications. The scientific programme features many examples of novel applications of separations and MS technologies by expert scientists from biopharmaceutical, industrial and academic organisations.

Since the 33rd ISPPP, we have enjoyed a joint assembly with the PREP Symposium, and will again in Philadelphia. The event will be chaired by Professor Giorgio Carta (University of Virginia). Please visit the website at www.prepsymposium.org. This collaboration offers a great opportunity for synergy on a joint day (Wednesday 19 July) and throughout the week. Both symposia will feature exhibitor areas, allowing attendees to share and receive valuable information on recent and upcoming commercial products and services.

**ISPPP 2017** 19-21 July Philadelphia, US www.isppp.org janet@barrconferences.com