

## XL Jubilee Winter School of Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology, Jagiellonian University "Contemporary insights into cancer. Risk, perspectives, expectations"

Fortieth Jubilee Winter School of Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology, Jagiellonian University "Contemporary insights into cancer. Risk, perspectives, expectations" took place on February 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> and was organized under honorary patronage of the Dean, prof. Wojciech Froncisz, and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Collegium Medicum of Jagiellonian University, prof. Tomasz Grodzicki.

Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology is the youngest Faculty of the Jagiellonian University – established in 2002. It originated from the Institute of Molecular Biology, which had been a part of Faculty of Biology and Earth Sciences since 1970. First Winter School took place in 1970 and since then is a constant feature of our tradition.

170 people attended this year's school, including 17 from France. There were a total of 36 presented lectures and 73 posters in two sessions. The keynote address entitled "Dark side of the moon – the consequences of curing cancer", was given by Prof. Tomasz Grodzicki. The presentations were divided into the following sessions:

- Mechanisms of tumour growth and differentiation
- Angiogenesis and anti-angiogenic therapies
- Targeted therapies
- Anti-cancer molecular biology strategies
- Radiotherapy of cancer
- Phototherapy of cancer
- Immunotherapy of cancer
- Novel ideas in cancer therapy
- Carcinogenesis and tumour development

The Winter School presented an excellent opportunity for the attendees to familiarize themselves with research being conducted at our Faculty and at other research institutions both in Poland and abroad. Moreover, it was a perfect occasion for networking and starting new collaborations with scientists from other institutions. The School could not have taken place without the generous support of its sponsors which included Adamed, Life Technologies Poland, Malopolska Centre of Biotechnology, Selvita, MicroBioLab, Merck, Bruker Poland, Kawa.ska, Sarstedt, Jagiellonian Centre of Innovation – Life Science Park, ImmunoGen, Sigma-Aldrich, Meranco Instruments and Laboratory Equipment, ABE-IPS, and Lajkonik Snacks GmbH.

The Winter School's programme also contained special attractions including a gala dinner and a presentations organized by Nobel and Mygen students' associations. Thanks in large part to the beautiful weather there was also widespread interest and participation in the hikes and skiing trips that were organized for the participants. This also included the 4th Annual Prof. Z. Wasylewski Memorial Ski Race which was held at Harenda Ski Area.

The present number of "Acta Biochimica Polonica" contains several papers related to the main topic of the XL Jubilee Winter School, covering the wide spectrum of experimental and sometimes clinical oncology.