

**Virtual European Muscle Conference**  
**September 20-22, 2021**  
**Warsaw, Poland**



**EMC**



## Virtual EMC 2021 - Timetable

Hours	Monday, 20 September	Hours	Tuesday, 21 September	Hours	Wednesday, 22 September
12:30-13:30	Sponsor presentations				
13:30-14:45	Poster session 1	13:30-15:00	Poster session 3	13:30-14:00	General assembly meeting
14:45-15:00	Opening			14:00-15:30	Session chaired by W. Linke
15:00-16:30	Session chaired by K. Djinovic-Carugo	15:00-16:30	Session chaired by P. de Tombe	15:45-16:30	Jean Hanson Lecture (Eric Olson)
16:45-18:15	Session chaired by C. Ottenheijm	16:45-18:15	Session chaired by E. Ehler	16:45-18:15	Session chaired by J. Moraczewska
18:30-20:00	Session chaired by Steve Marston	18:30-20:00	Session chaired by J. Rędownicz	18:30-20:00	Session chaired by C. Tesi
20:00-21:00	Poster session 2	20:00-21:00	Poster session 4	20:00-21:00	Closing

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## Organizers

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**European Society for Muscle Research**



**Polish Biochemical Society**



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## Organizing Committee

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**Maria Jolanta Rędownicz**, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, PAS, Warsaw, Poland; head

**Paweł Pomorski**, Nencki Institute, Warsaw, Poland; Polish Biochemical Society

**Elżbieta Rębas**, Medical University of Łódź, Łódź, Poland; Polish Biochemical Society

**Ewa Jaworska**, Polish Biochemical Society

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## Session Chairpersons

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**Kristina Djinovic-Carugo**, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

**Pieter de Tombe**, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, USA

**Elisabeth Ehler**, King's College London, London, UK

**Wolfgang A. Linke**, University of Munster, Munster, Germany

**Steve Marston**, Imperial College London, London, UK

**Joanna Moraczewska**, Kazimierz Wielki University, Bydgoszcz, Poland

**Coen Ottenheijm**, Amsterdam University Medical Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Maria Jolanta Rędownicz**, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, PAS, Warsaw, Poland

**Chiara Tesi**, University of Florence, Italy

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## Session Speakers

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**Milena Bellin**, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, Netherlands  
**Carsten Bonnemann**, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NIH, Bethesda, USA  
**Laszlo Csernoch**, University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary  
**Lukas Cyganek**, University of Goettingen, Goettingen, Germany  
**Kristina Djinovic-Carugo**, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria  
**Jim Dowling**, Hospital for Sick Children and University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada  
**Ines Falcao-Pires**, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal  
**Cecilia Ferrantini**, University of Florence, Florence, Italy  
**Luca Fusi**, King's College London, London, UK  
**Vitold Galkin**, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, USA  
**Henk Granzier**, University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, USA  
**Anne Houdusse**, Institut Curie, Paris, France  
**Thomas Kampourakis**, King's College London, London, UK  
**Wolfgang Linke**, University of Munster, Munster, Germany  
**Sasha Mendjan**, Institute of Molecular Biotechnology AAS, Vienna, Austria  
**Suman Nag**, MyoKardia/Bristol Myers Squibb, San Francisco, USA  
**Michael J. Previs**, University of Vermont, Burlington, USA  
**Benjamin Prosser**, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Philadelphia, USA  
**Stefan Raunser**, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Dortmund, Germany  
**Massimo Reconditi**, University of Florence, Florence, Italy  
**Ruediger Rudolf**, IZN, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany  
**Charlotte Scarff**, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK  
**Frank Schnorrer**, Aix Marseille University, IBDM, Marseille, France  
**Urszula Sławińska**, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, PAS, Warsaw, Poland  
**James Ware**, Imperial College London, London, UK

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## Young Investigator Award Committee

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**Christina Karatzaferi**, University of Thessaly, Trikala, Greece  
**Marie-Louise Bang**, Institute of Genetic and Biomedical Research (IRGB), Milan Unit, NRC, Milan, Italy  
**Agnieszka Łoboda**, Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland  
**Jitka Zurmanova**, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

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## Jean Hanson Keynote Speaker

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**Eric N. Olson**



**Jean Hanson**

When the European Muscle Conference series returned to the UK for a meeting in 2019, it was decided to honour this occasion with a new keynote lecture series and since this was the centenary year of Jean Hanson's birth it was agreed that the series should bear her name. Jean Hanson was a Professor of Biophysics at King's College London and made major contributions to the elucidation of the ultrastructure of skeletal muscle and of actin filaments. The first Jean Hanson Keynote lecture at Canterbury in 2019 was given by Prof Malcolm Irving, the current Professor of Biophysics at King's College London. For the second Jean Hanson keynote lecture we have invited **Prof Eric Olson** from the University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas USA.

**Prof Olson** and his collaborators have led the field of molecular muscle research for the last 30 years and more recently moved from mainly fundamental science to more translational approaches to treat muscle diseases such as muscular dystrophy. To reflect Jean Hanson's English origin, the gift for the Jean Hanson lecturer is not a conventional plaque but a customised tea mug with her picture.

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## Institutional Patronage

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**Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology,  
Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland**



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## Sponsors

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**Aurora Scientific**



**Ion Optix**



Dear Muscle Researchers,

We welcome you to the first ever virtual European Muscle Conference organized by the board of the European Society for Muscle Research in partnership with the Polish Biochemical Society. The conference is to be operated from Warsaw, Poland by the members of the Local Organizing Committee headed by Prof. Jolanta Redowicz from the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, which took the institutional patronage over the meeting.

The decision to organize the conference in the current form was made in April/May when the board members realized that organizing the traditional meeting in Prague could be too risky, as the COVID-19 pandemic is unpredictable. We also received many signals indicating that the muscle community missed the ESMR conference, which had been canceled in 2020. This encouraged us to organize the virtual meeting in a form that is somewhat shorter than usual (as who could sit five days in front of a computer...?). Considering that our delegates also come from overseas, we decided to assemble the sessions in the afternoons and evenings according to Central European (Summer) Time, so colleagues from other continents can actively participate.

When setting up the scientific program, we concentrated on familiar topics also represented by the various expertise of the board members (who in most cases chair the sessions), so we apologize if some topics may be less represented than they deserve. We are glad that our invitations to prospective speakers have been enthusiastically accepted and, the more, that over 280 scientists from all over the world have registered and submitted altogether over 160 abstracts. We have participants from 28 countries and five continents, and nearly half of them are young researchers.

We have assembled 9 scientific sessions with 26 lectures delivered by the invited speakers and 27 oral presentations, with a high fraction of young researchers. Also, thanks to Elisabeth Ehler we are able to continue the Jean Hanson Keynote Lecture series and we are proud to announce that the Second Jean Hanson Keynote Lecture will be delivered on Wednesday afternoon by Professor Eric N. Olson from UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, USA.

We have organized virtual poster sessions and hope you will enjoy these presentations, although we do realize that they are a less-than-perfect ersatz of real person-to-person discussions. Moreover, we have again implemented our Young Investigator Award contest named after the late Marcus C. Schaub. Participating young researchers will present their achievements as the poster or oral presentations. We are quite sure that the Marcus C. Schaub Award Committee, chaired by Christina Karatzaferi, will have a hard time to make the right decisions.

We have scheduled company presentations by two long-time supporters of the European Muscle Conferences, who thankfully also sponsor this conference: Aurora Scientific and IonOptix. We are glad to announce that their 30-minute presentations will be given on Monday, Sept 20, 2021, starting at 12:30 p.m.

We are happy that despite the circumstances you have decided to join us September 20-22, 2021, to discuss the latest achievements in muscle research with top scientists in the field. We do hope that next year we will all meet in person in Prague!

Prof. Wolfgang A. Linke, chair of the ESMR board  
Prof. Maria Jolanta Rędownicz, head of the Local Organizing Committee