

ANSR ID: ANSR550313E01

Editorial

This number contains four distinct manuscripts from the Institute of Normal and Pathological Physiology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (INPP SAS). They all are dedicated to the 60 anniversary of grounding the Institute and so the institutional research of higher nervous functions in Slovakia as well. The INPP SAS is focused at basic research in experimental medicine, oriented mainly on the nervous and cardiovascular systems. The emphasis is placed on integration which illustrates also the Laboratory of neuro-cardiovascular integrations. Moreover, the INPP SAS is the seat of the Centre of Excellence for Examination of Regulatory Role of Nitric Oxide in Civilization Diseases (CE NOREG).

Prof. Gian Franco Goldwurm (2004) wrote following lines: *„the important idea of an international association that could foster a scientific dialogue between East and West with periodical meetings of the scholars was born at the end of the 50s in the mind of numerous scholars“*. In the October 1960 in the castle of Smolenice near Bratislava there was a symposium on corticovisceral relations with participation of Czechoslovak Society for Higher Nervous Activity, Pavlovian Society of North America, Japanese Society for the Study of Conditioned Reflexes (J. Neuroscience Soc.), I.P. Pavlov Physiological Society of the USSR Academy of Sciences and The Pavlovian Committee (GDR Neuroscience Society) and other scientists as well as a 'round table discussion about terminological problems'. The symposium was organized by the Institute of Experimental Medicine SAS (since 1965 renamed as the INPP SAS). I. Ruttkay-Nedecký (2000) pointed out that at this meeting of representatives from Western and Eastern countries, a preliminary agreement was obtained concerning the foundation of an International association of societies involved in the study of higher nervous activities.

The INPP SAS grew into a Slovak corner stone concerning the study of physiological regulations which are specific to humans that is which bear upon human psychic status and his activities and psychic activity and vegetative reactions. The focus of its research activities became gradually much broader, nowadays including the cognitive neuroscience as well. All the years the INPP SAS was very active within the Czechoslovak Society for Higher Nervous Activity (CsS HNA). Since 1969 the Slovak Society for HNA was established and his repeatedly elected president prof. V. Zikmund chaired also the CsS HNA. The Czechoslovak Society belonged to the most active C.I.A.N.S. members. Since 1990 the autonomous Slovak Society was renamed to the Slovak Society for Higher Brain Functions and from 2000 took the active role in organizing the C.I.A.N.S. activities not only at home but abroad also. The INPP SAS together with the Slovak Society for Higher Brain Functions organized five International C.I.A.N.S. Conferences (2000, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2012) in various regions of Slovakia and three international C.I.A.N.S. symposia abroad (Palermo, St.Petersburg, Milano). All the Organizing committees were chaired

by members of the INPP SAS. Outside of these activities the INPP SAS regularly organizes the international symposia on the regulation of human postural activities, on the lifestyle and risk factors in diseases from civilisation and, of course, on the nitric oxide from molecular level to clinical applications. Since 2009 the official journal of the C.I.A.N.S., the *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva* is published by the Institute of Normal and Pathological Physiology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (INPP SAS) together with the St. Elisabeth University College of Health and Social Work, in cooperation with Maghira & Maas Publications.

We greatly appreciate the scientific and organizational support of INPP SAS and wish its scientists a lot of original ideas, success, and appreciation for their work within the international scientific community as well.

Fedor Jagla a Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh
Editors of ANSR

G.F. Goldwurm: The concise history and purpose of CIANS. Presented at the Symposium of CIANS in St. Petersburg, May, 17–19, 2004.

I. Ruttkay-Nedecký: Presented at the International CIANS Symposium 2000, Piešťany, September 20–22, 2000.