

# NEWSLETTER

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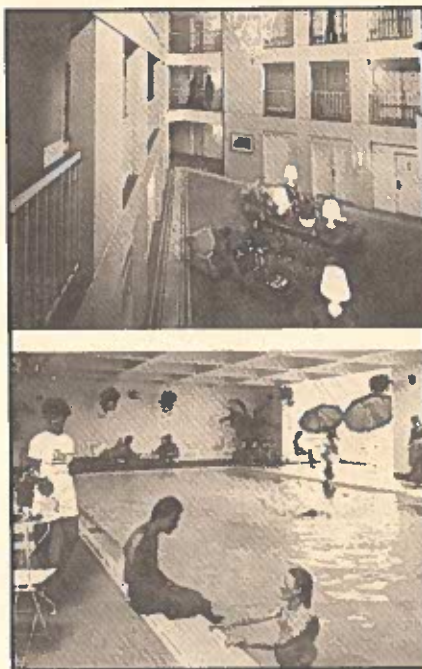
• • • • No. 118 Dec/Jan 1988-9 • • • •

## Boston Beckons

The clams are baking, the Pops is rehearsing and Tom Coohill is hard at work assembling what promises to be the best ASP Annual Meeting yet. The Lafayette Hotel, smack dab in the middle of Boston, will be the setting for the Society's XVIIth Annual Meeting, 2-6 July, 1989. It will also host a Photodynamic Therapy Workshop immediately preceding the meeting, on July 1-2. The meeting's list of symposia truly includes something for everyone. Circadian and neuroendocrine rhythms, photoaging and carcinogenesis, and cellular repair and mutagenesis are complemented by more traditional symposia on vision, photosynthesis and chemi- and bioluminescence, to list just a few. In addition there will be a special symposium on Ozone Depletion and its Biological Consequences.

The social program is highlighted by a New England-style clambake on Wednesday evening, the 4th of July, followed by a Boston Pops concert and fireworks. Earlier in the week there will be a special public lecture entitled "Uses of Electro-Magnetic Radiation in Art", by Eugene Farrell, Conservation Scientist of the Harvard Museum.

The Lafayette promises "a



taste of Europe in the Heart of Boston" and features a quadruple atrium concept, providing the feel of a small hotel with the benefits of a larger facility. Each atrium serves about 130 rooms with individual lobby, information desk and cocktail/reception area. Dining facilities include Restaurant Le Marquis de Lafayette, a 4-star gourmet French restaurant, Cafe Suisse, specializing in Swiss and American dishes, and indoor access to Lafayette Place Food Garden, an emporium of 21 food outlets with seating in an informal garden-like atmosphere. Rooms are available for the handicapped and for non-smokers, as are an indoor swimming pool and sun terrace.

Come join us and celebrate the 4th of July in one of the cradles of American liberty!

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Letter from JPP Editor, Jori	

Dear members,

The letter from Giulio Jori [pg. 4], editor of the *Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology*, Photobiology Section, (JPP) makes interesting reading. The ESP is a resounding success, and is to be congratulated. Clearly, it provides a previously unmet need for interaction among European photobiologists and also for local meetings that are more accessible to the Europeans than ASP meetings in North America. Their journal is also a success from all reports.

The ASP Council is attempting to answer some of the questions Dr. Jori asks concerning, for example, the effect of JPP on P&P, particularly in regard to library subscriptions. As I remarked in this space previously, it seems unlikely that many libraries can afford to carry two journals for a small field such as ours. So far, there does not seem to be any interruption in the supply of papers to P&P or anything more than a continuation of the slow, long-term attrition of library subscriptions, but we will continue to monitor the figures carefully. It may be too early to feel the ultimate effect.

Some of Dr. Jori's suggestions make a great deal of sense. I believe the time has come for a Federation of Photobiology Societies, leading to more cooperation rather than competition (though competition is not necessarily bad). Such a federation might sponsor meetings annually or biennially, alternating between sites on the European and American sides of the water, with local societies holding their own meetings at intervals to be determined. Perhaps the Japanese Society could be involved as well. I agree that the role of the Association Internationale de Photobiologie would need to be reevaluated if these suggestions are accepted.

What we need are concrete suggestions if the membership feels that the directions suggested here should be implemented. I intend to appoint a committee to continue such discussions, not limited to Journal matters, at the November Council meeting.

- Chris Foote

Plans are proceeding for the expansion of P&P to include additional photochemical papers in a joint effort with the European, American and Japanese Photochemical Societies. Current, tentative plans call for the two year trial period to begin 1 Aug 1989. Editorial responsibilities during the trial period will initially be handled by the current editorial board - Harry Morrison (US manuscripts), Anthony Gorman (European manuscripts), and Noboru Hirota (Japanese manuscripts). The additional papers will appear in the issues published in even-numbered months, about 50 added pages in each of these issues. They

## Gleanings from the ESP Newsletter

The September ESP Newsletter was highlighted by a letter from ESP President T. George Truscott describing the composition of the ESP Council of National Representatives. The Council, is comprised of one representative from each member, European nation. Tom Dubbelman has been named interim chairman.



The proceedings of the 2nd Congress of the ESP are now available. There are 59 original papers covering a broad range of photobiology. ESP members receive a 40% discount. For details see the books section on page 6 of this Newsletter.

## P&P Developments

will be listed in a separate section of the "Table of Contents" on the back cover.



In an effort to encourage libraries to continue multiple subscriptions to P&P, the Executive Committee has raised the possibility of offering a significant discount to libraries receiving more than one copy of the journal. The Publications Committee has been charged to consider the proposition, and to report to the ASP Council, Nov 19-20.

## Dues Waivers

Members of the ASP who are presently unemployed may apply to the Grants and Awards Committee for a waiver of membership dues. The dues grants are available for a one year period. Interested members should apply through the Secretariat at the following address:

Secretariat, ASP  
8000 Westpark Drive  
Suite 400  
McLean, VA 22102

ESP's journal, JPP, is doing well enough that an increase in the number of issues for 1988 and 1989 is being considered. From Sep '87 to Jul '88 JPP received 150 manuscripts and accepted 52.3%. Over a quarter of the submissions were in spectroscopy/photophysics followed by photosensitization, photosynthesis and UV effects. FRG and Italy each accounted for about 12% of the manuscripts, with another 9% each from France, the UK and the USA.

## Niels Rydberg Finsen

### Pt. II—Electric Lights & Broken Needles

By 1894 Niels Finsen had earned a reputation with his "red room" treatment for smallpox (see Part I, NL #117). Still he remained a struggling young physician with no job and no recorded means of support. But he was convinced that light could cure as well as harm. Building on the demonstrations of Duclaux, which showed that sunlight could kill bacteria, Finsen reasoned that tubercle bacilli, the bacteria responsible for the disfiguring lesions of lupus vulgaris, might succumb to sunlight. But how could the theory be tested? Where does one find sunlight in Copenhagen in winter? Again the Copenhagen medical establishment turned him away. How could light which could kill smallpox patients, cure lupus patients, they asked? Finsen persisted and arranged with the chief engineer of the electric light works for the use of a 25 amp D.C. carbon arc lamp. There, in the electric light plant, Finsen treated the lupus vulgaris of a Danish engineer named Mogensen who had been given up by countless doctors as untreatable. For two hours every day over the course of 4 months the treatment persisted. But at the end of that time, Mogensen emerged a cured man, causing an uproar in the medical community.

Finsen's fortunes changed dramatically. In 1896 the Medical Light Institute (now the Finsen Institute) was founded and placed under his direction providing him with a modest annual salary. During the next few years he refined his treatment to obtain more consistent success, but his health continued to fail. Despite a self-imposed diet of desiccated food and almost no water, he continued to accumulate fluid as a result of constrictive pericarditis. In the winter of 1902 as a physician began yet another drainage of fluid from Finsen's abdomen, there was a snap. The needle used to perforate the abdomen had broken from its handle and had slid down the trocar into Finsen's abdomen. Both Finsen and his physician knew that an operation to remove it was hopeless given Finsen's condition. Keeping his composure, Finsen directed the physician to get the strongest magnet available in the engineering college. If the end of the needle was still in the trocar, perhaps it could be removed. Thus, in the summer of 1904 Niels Finsen, a man whose intellect and composure had saved his own life, as well as the lives of countless others, sat in his wheel chair and received the Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine. Later the same year, still planning whole body sun bath treatments, he died with his wife at his side.

*Every 4 years the Association Internationale de Photobiology presents the Finsen Medal on behalf of the Niels Finsen Foundation of Denmark for outstanding contributions to the science of photobiology. We can take pride in the fact that many of the medal's recipients who share in the legacy of Niels Finsen have been ASP members. Recent awardees include K.C. Smith (1984), R.B. Setlow (1980), H.F. Blum and S.B. Hendricks (1976), A. Hollaender (1968), and C.S. Rupert and A. Kelnner (1964).*

## Michael R. Wasielewski

The new quartet of ASP Councilors who took office in March of this year is completed by Michael R. Wasielewski. Michael was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1949, where he completed local primary and secondary schools before entering the College of the University of Chicago in 1967. There he majored in chemistry and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1971. After 6 months of service with the U.S. Army Reserve



he returned to the University of Chicago in 1971 and began graduate studies in chemistry under Prof. Leon M. Stock. He received a masters degree in 1972, followed by a Ph.D. degree in 1975. During this time his work involved magnetic resonance studies of the mechanism of electron spin delocalization in conformationally rigid paramagnetic organic

molecules. Following reception of the Ph.D. degree he was awarded the Norton Prize by the University of Chicago Chemistry Department for Excellence in Research. Michael spent 1974-1975 performing postdoctoral research in the laboratory of Prof. Ronald Breslow at Columbia University. His research during this time involved studies of the acidity of cyclopropene and its derivatives using rapid electrochemical techniques. Following postdoctoral studies Michael joined the scientific staff of the Chemistry Division of the Argonne National Laboratory. His research interests focus on chlorophyll and porphyrin chemistry and photochemistry, ultrafast optical and magnetic resonance techniques, and the biophysics of proteins involved in the primary processes of photosynthesis.

### *Words of Enlightenment*

Time flies like an arrow;  
fruit flies like a banana!

Groucho Marx

# JPP Editor Looks to the Future

*Giulio Jori, the Editor of the ESP's Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology (JPP) has responded to the editorial in the Jun/Jul Newsletter. His letter, edited for brevity, follows. Since his identity would be obvious from his response, he has agreed to the inclusion of his signature. For letters from other members see pg. 5.*

As a member of ASP of more than ten years' standing and a founding member of ESP, I completely agree with your statement that "we are first and foremost photobiologists." This means that a major aim of our scientific activities should be the progress of photobiology as a science, as well as the qualitative and quantitative increase of its impact on society.

There were several reasons for which ESP was founded, reflecting the efforts of European photobiologists towards the achievement of these goals. Just think of the new, often unique, possibilities opened by the existence of a European society for the exchange of information and the promotion of a network of interactions between Western and Eastern photobiologists. Similarly, the organization of comprehensive photobiology meetings by ESP is extremely useful for young scientists, especially students, who can establish contacts with the international photobiology community. Lastly, ESP is quickly becoming an important reference point for national photobiology groups and, most of all, for those photobiology laboratories working in countries where no photobiology society is present. Hopefully, in perspective, ESP can play a role similar to that typical of other European scientific organizations (e.g. European Molecular Biology Organization, European Society for Cancer Research, etc.) which are presently the preferred interlocutors of European community agencies for the funding of research projects, creation of new supranational research laboratories, and stimulation of different types of collaboration between research groups. From these points of view, the founding of ESP appears to me as an important, perhaps necessary, step for the development of photobiology in Europe and, consequently, also outside Europe. By no means can it be interpreted as an indication of disaggregation or even rivalry towards ASP.

A serious problem, on the other hand, may be represented by the coexistence of two international photobiology journals. For several months this issue has been debated at various levels in ESP. Certainly, the first choice of the ESP founders and, at a later stage, the ESP executive committee, was to join the official ASP journal, i.e., P&P. As many of us know, the negotiations between representatives of the two societies were unsuccessful. I still regret that such a negative conclusion was reached, especially since quite recently ASP decided to "open" P&P to the International Photochemistry Society; as far as I know, the conditions offered by ASP to the photochemists are far more generous than those proposed to ESP during the negotiations. At this point, a legitimate question may be raised: would the same conditions have been offered to photochemists, had P&P been the only photobiol-

ogy journal in the field? In any case, it is my firm belief that, if we want to be constructive, even these recent events must be forgotten and we must start again from where we are now. Thus, as the editor of JPP, I can state that during a period of about one year, 190 papers have been submitted to this journal. In spite of strict refereeing, about 50% of these papers have been accepted for publication. I imagine that our rejection rate is close to that of P&P. Therefore, it would be interesting to ascertain whether: i) the flow of papers to JPP has coincided with a decline in the number of papers submitted to P&P; ii) JPP is attracting papers which would otherwise have been published elsewhere; or iii) there is a qualitatively important expansion of photobiological research all over the world. I feel that a comparative analysis of the geographical origin, photobiology field and scientific level of the papers submitted to both journals would be a preliminary step in deciding whether or not there is nowadays enough space for two photobiology journals having a high scientific standard.

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## Jori suggests joint ASP-ESP efforts to explore the future of P&P and JPP.

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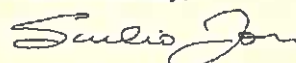
I would like to conclude this letter (which reflects my strictly personal point of view) by formulating some practical proposals, as suggestions for future initiatives:

i) the role and field of activity of the Association Internationale de Photobiologie should be rediscussed in light of recent developments;

ii) the present schedule of photobiology meetings should be re-examined, e.g., could the ASP and ESP meetings be organized on a biennial basis, with an international congress in the intermediate year?

iii) the publication committees of ASP and ESP should thoroughly examine the situation of P&P and JPP in order to provide both societies with the necessary objective information on the possibility of the two journals coexisting. Should the conclusion be negative, it is my opinion that efforts must be made on both sides to merge the two journals; alternatively, the two societies may wish to consider modalities for the coexistence of the journals while avoiding undue competition, creating, rather, positive synergism for the progress of photobiology.

Yours sincerely,



Giulio Jori

# Readers' Reflections

*The following letters are additional responses to the editorial suggesting an expanded, international role for ASP, which appeared in the Jun/Jul Newsletter.*

You ask specifically whether ASP should serve the international photobiological community as its common forum. I do not believe this role is appropriate for ASP. ASP should remain a regional society for America as ESP is for Europe. Although I'm not sure, I feel that Societe Internationale de Photobiologie already serves as an international forum for all photobiologists. National societies also exist in a number of countries. I therefore can see 3 levels of photobiology societies: national, regional, and international.

There is probably no need for a yearly meeting in the international society as long as the national and regional organizations have meetings every year and biannually. An advantage of frequent regional meetings is that more scientists can afford to attend than if international meetings are arranged every year at remote sites.

I do think there will be a problem in the future to produce interesting articles for two journals. Whether they are easy to sell, is a different question.

Norway

There were two major questions posed by the editorial which I will address separately below:

1) **Should the name of the Society be changed?** I am not opposed to changing the name of the Society to reflect the international membership. The foreign membership has grown considerably and I think that such a change may be warranted.

2) **How can ASP best serve the international photobiology community?** The major ways that the ASP could serve their international membership would be: i) to sponsor joint meetings with other photobiological societies (such meetings could alternate between the US and other countries every 5 years or so); ii) to encourage greater participation of foreign speakers in symposia at annual meetings of the ASP; iii) consider a wider scope of meeting sites not limited to the US (i.e. Canada, Mexico, Caribbean, etc.); iv) consider sponsoring joint symposia on topics of interest which could be published jointly with other societies; and v) consider offering travel assistance to foreign members interested in attending annual meetings (or discounts on registration, etc.).

Other points raised in the editorial are somewhat superfluous and cannot be properly addressed [e.g., the disenchantment of foreign members (foreign membership should be polled concerning their likes, dislikes, etc. if this is a major issue) or whether two photobiology journals can co-exist successfully (a moot point since two such journals already exist), etc.].

Miami, Florida

I am very neutral concerning the name of the Society. If this[name] is so offensive to non-citizens of the US that it stands in the way of important scientific objectives then I can concur with the decision to drop the "American".

Of greater importance are the other issues raised. I view the 2 most important roles of a society to be to facilitate the exchange of valuable scientific information by 1) journal(s) and 2) conference(s). In these 2 crucial areas I perceive that the Society is accomplishing objectives nicely.

Specifically, in the area of journals I am concerned that significant changes in the present structure will lead to publication of a flood of "international" papers of significantly lower quality. .... In answer to the question "can two photobiology journals coexist?", I believe the answer is yes as long as one is a first-rank journal and the other is a second-rank journal. The field is not sufficiently large for two first-rank photobiology journals. .... P&P should not require ASP membership for publication of articles, and this makes it an instrument for publication for the international community. .... I believe that the realities of the world of scientific publication should now be allowed to affect the relative fates of the two journals; I don't think major changes and/or promises in regard to P&P publications should be used as an inducement for the ESP to discontinue publication.

If the Society were to embrace an "international" concept, the logical step would be to hold meetings in different countries. The cost would prohibit my attendance at those conferences. .... Thus, I am strongly opposed to changes that would make such a shift in policy likely.

I might point out that among larger disciplines, such as chemistry, an international society has not become important, apparently due to the important role of national conferences. The American Chemical Society and the role it fulfills for chemistry is the model that I see for the ASP.

Storrs, Connecticut

Your editorial and letter raise questions of substance for both photobiologists and scientists in other fields. But I, for one, am not fully informed on the existent organizations and what their relationships may be. For example, how is the International Congress (e.g. XIII, Jerusalem) sponsored and organized? I can imagine that the several different "regional" societies might very well form a federation, if that would address some of your concerns. I would like to know more about the current situation and problems (are there really pe v jealousies and angry words?) and possible relations. I agree that it would be well to have Councilors informed of our opinions before acting (as is sometimes not done), but it would be good to know what alternative moves are being considered.

Thanks for your initiative in this.

Cambridge, Mass.



## POSTDOCTORAL POSITION

A postdoctoral research position is currently available to study *the role of protein phosphorylation in phytochrome-mediated signal transduction in higher plants and algae*. The initial focus of the research will be the identification and purification of light-regulated protein kinase/phosphatase substrates and determination of their subcellular localization. Subsequent studies will involve molecular characterization and cDNA cloning of the kinase substrates. Applicants should have experience with enzymology and an interest in plant biochemistry/molecular biology. A Ph.D. in biochemistry or molecular plant biology is required. Initial appointment will be for at least one year and salary will be commensurate with qualifications. Applicants should send *curriculum vitae* and names, addresses and phone numbers of three references to:

Dr. J. Clark Lagarias  
Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics  
University of California  
Davis, CA 95616

*The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/  
Affirmative Action Employer.*

## Fox Honored by ACS

ASP member Marye Anne Fox was awarded the Garvan Medal sponsored by Olin Corporation at the Third Chemical Congress of North America in Toronto this past June. She was cited for "her very original and significant contributions to organic photochemistry and electrochemistry, in particular photocatalysis of organic reactions by wide-band semiconductors, chemically modified photoelectrodes, and the photochemistry of organic anions."

## Cellarius is Sierra Club President

ASP member Richard Cellarius has been elected as the 40th president of the Sierra Club. He has been a member of the club's Board of Directors 11 of the past 14 years. He has also served as secretary for 5 years and as vice-president for a year.

**Photodynamic Therapy**  
A Special Issue of *Photochemistry and Photobiology*  
Ed.; Charles J. Gomer  
391 pages, hardbound, 1988  
Pergamon Press

**Light in Biology and Medicine, Volume 1**  
2nd Congress of the European Society for Photobiology  
Padua, Italy 6-10 September, 1987  
Eds.; R.H. Douglas, J. Moan, and F. dall'Acqua  
US and Canada \$85, elsewhere \$102, 458 pages, 1988  
Plenum Press

**Laboratory Management: Principles and Practice**  
Series in Managerial Skills in Engineering and Science  
by; Homer C. Black, Ronald C. Hart and Orrin M. Peterson  
235 pages, 10 chapters, 1988  
Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, Inc.

**Biological Applications in Raman Spectroscopy**  
Vol. 3: Resonance Raman Spectra of Heme Proteins  
and Other Metalloproteins  
Ed. T.G. Spiro  
£ 75.00, 576 pages, 1988  
John Wiley and Sons Inc.

### \*\*\* NEW JOURNAL \*\*\*

**Laser Therapy: An International Journal of Low  
Level Laser Therapy and Bioactivation**  
Volume 1 - 1989 4 issues  
UK £ 75.00, elsewhere US \$150.00  
John Wiley and Sons, Ltd.

## FYM\* - HOLIDAY EDITION

From the Soviet Union comes news of a marital problem between Rudy and Natasha. It seems that Rudy reported that it was raining. "No," countered Natasha, "it's snowing." "Raining," said Rudy. "Snowing," insisted Natasha. "My dear," Rudy finally retorted, "I say it's raining, and believe me *Rudolph-the-Red* knows rain dear!"

The editor, the Secretariat, and the ASP assume no responsibility concerning the veracity of this claim.

\* For Your Misinformation

## Announcements



### American Society for Photobiology XVIIth Annual Meeting

July 2-6, 1989  
Boston, MA

The XVIIth Annual Meeting of the Society tentatively will feature 10 symposia, including a special symposium on Ozone Depletion and its Biological Consequences, a special public lecture Sunday night on Uses of Electro-Magnetic Radiation in Art, and a clambake on the 4th of July.

Contact: Mr. Richard Burk  
ASP Secretariat  
8000 Westpark Dr.  
Suite 400  
McLean, VA 22102  
Tel.: (703) 790-1745

### International Symposium on Photobiology and Biotechnology

June 27-30, 1989  
Poznan, Poland

The purpose of the meeting is to review the present state and trends in photobiology, its application in biotechnology and to provide a forum for discussion on a variety of interdisciplinary topics, including: solar energy conversion, environmental photobiology, photoreceptors in photobiology, spectral methods in photobiology, and photobiotechnology trends.

Contact: Prof. D. Frackowiak  
Institute of Physics  
Poznan Technical University  
Piotrowo str. 3  
60-965 Poznan, Poland

### Third Congress of the European Society for Photobiology

August 27-September 2, 1989  
Budapest, Hungary

The 3rd Congress of the ESP will follow the traditions of earlier meetings, dealing with fundamental and applied aspects of photobiology. The scientific program, in English, will include plenary sessions, short contributions, and works-in-progress poster sessions.

Contact: Dr. Gyorgyi Ronto  
H-1371 Budapest  
MBFT, P.O. Box 433  
Hungary  
Tel.: (36-1) 337-965

### Workshop on PDT of Neoplastic Disease

Boston, MA  
July 1-2, 1989

The workshop will consist of a roundtable relating to clinical trials and drug development, a full day of invited talks, and a half day poster-discussion session.

Contact: Dr. David Kessel  
Department of Medicine  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI 48201  
Tel.: (313) 577-1766

### Pittsburgh Conference and Exposition

March 6-10, 1989  
Atlanta, GA

The 40th Annual Pittsburgh Conference and Exposition is the largest gathering of analytical chemists and spectroscopists in the world. There will be more than 2300 booths representing 825 companies. The technical program includes over 130 sessions and 30 symposia presented by more than 1300 speakers.

Contact: Stephen G. Weber  
Program Chairman  
1989 Pittsburgh Conference  
12 Federal Drive  
Suite 322  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
Tel.: (412) 795-7110

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**1988**

- Dec 1-3 Lasers in General Surgery –  
Denver, CO [117]
- Dec 16-17 Towards a Molecular Basis of Skin  
Photobiology – London, U.K. [117]

**1989**

- Jan 13 **Deadline for receipt of student travel  
award applications.**
- Jan 29-Feb 2 Amer. Soc. for Cell Biochem. & Molec.  
Biol. and Amer. Soc. for Cell Biol. –  
San Francisco, CA [117]
- Feb 13 **Deadline for receipt of abstracts for  
the XVIIth ASP Annual Meeting**
- Feb 13-15 Biophysical Society Meeting –  
Cincinnati, OH
- March 6-10 40th Pittsburgh Conference and  
Exposition– Atlanta, GA [118]

- June 27-30 Internat. Symposium on Photobiology  
and Biotechnology – Poznan, Poland  
[118]
- July 1-2 PDT of Neoplasia Workshop – Boston,  
MA [118]
- July 2-6 **XVIIth ASP Annual Meeting –  
Boston, MA [118]**
- July 2-7 19th Meeting Federation of European  
Biochemical Societies – Rome, Italy
- July 30-Aug 5 Summer School on Photochemistry –  
Spiez, Switzerland
- Aug 27-Sep 2 3rd Congress, European Society for  
Photobiology – Budapest, Hungary  
[118]
- September Society for Free Radical Research,  
Summer Meeting – Varna, Bulgaria

[ ]–Square brackets denote the Newsletter issue in  
which additional information may be found.

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McLean, Virginia 22102

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