25th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YEAST GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

July 11-16, 2011

Olsztyn-Kortowo, Poland

ORGANIZERS:
Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences
Website: http://www.ibb.waw.pl/yeastpl2011
LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

- Joanna Rytka IBB PAS Warsaw (Chairperson)
- Piotr Zielenkiewicz IBB PAS Warsaw
- Andrzej Dżugaj, Polish Biochemical Society
- Elżbieta Kostyra, University of Warmia and Mazury, Olsztyn
- Paweł Golik, University of Warsaw
- Stanisław Ułaszewski, University of Wrocław
- Robert Wysocki, Uniwersity of Wrocław
- Grzegorz Węgrzyn, University of Gdańsk
- Anna Chelstowska, IBB PAS Warsaw
- Bożenna Rempola, IBB PAS Warsaw
- Teresa Żołądek, IBB PAS Warsaw

SECRETARIAT:

- Katarzyna Jagiełło, IBB PAS Warsaw
- Magdalrena Karońska, IBB PAS Warsaw
- Anna Płochocka, IBB PAS Warsaw

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Images of Kortowo Campus provided by the University of Warmia and Masuria
INVITATION

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to invite you to the 25th International Conference on "Yeast Genetics and Molecular Biology", to be held in Kortowo-Olsztyn, Poland, from July 11th till July 16th, 2011.

Sincerely,

Prof. Joanna Rytka PhD

Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics
Polish Academy of Sciences
Pawińskiego 5a
02-106 Warsaw (Poland)
rytka@psd.ibb.waw.pl
Localization

The Conference will be held in the Conference and Training Centre situated on the campus of the University of Warmia and Masuria in Kortowo, on the outskirts of Olsztyn. The campus is located at Lake Kortowskie, surrounded by woods, and is numbered among the most beautiful academic centres in Poland.

The region of Warmia and Masuria is in fact composed of two adjacent but historically distinct provinces. It lies in northern Poland, near the border with Russia and east of the lower Vistula River. Masuria is a sailors' paradise, nicknamed The Land of Thousand Lakes. Connected into several sailing routes, the Masurian lakes offer excellent conditions for all kinds of water sports. Warmia is famous for its historical sights, with architecture dating back to the times of the Teutonic Knights. The most remarkable tourist attractions include: tumuli and strongholds, cemeteries and battlefields, castles and churches, palaces, estate manors and outstanding farmsteads.

The capital of Warmia and Masuria, and the largest city of the region, is Olsztyn. Founded in 1353, rich in historical architecture and surrounded by lakes, the city is a very interesting tourist attraction. It is also the seat of the University of Warmia and Masuria.
Transportation to the conference site

Special bus transport from the airports of Warsaw (213 km) and Gdańsk (170 km) to the conference site will be provided by the organizers.
The Conference and Training Centre

During the Conference, we will have four meeting rooms at our disposal:

✓ The main Congress Room has 597 seats in theatrical configuration.
The Crimson and Blue rooms can comfortably seat up to 180 people each. These rooms also have seats in theatrical configuration, with embedded writing-desks.

The Lemon room can contain up to 100 people. Tables and chairs can be arranged in any way preferred. All rooms are air-conditioned and can be entirely blacked out.
Accommodation

The conference delegates will be accommodated in student dormitories, ensuring relatively low costs (the prices given below are for 2009). There will be a choice between two kinds of room standard. In the basic standard, bathroom, toilet and kitchen are shared per two-room segment. Higher-standard rooms
have their own bathrooms. Single, double and triple rooms are available and prices range from 40-80 PLN (10-20 EUR).

Breakfast and lunch are included in the conference fee. Suppers can be ordered at your own expense (cost about 25 PLN) in restaurants located within the Kortowo Campus.

A wide range of hotels (e.g. Novotel, Gromada, Warmiński) is also available in Olsztyn.
Activities

The Kortowo Campus, with a variety of attractions and a great atmosphere, is a perfect place for anyone who wants to rest and relax. The on-site resources include: water equipment rental, chaise and horse riding, guarded beach, 16 tennis courts, athletics stadium, football pitch, basketball ground, volleyball ground, fitness centre, walking and cycling routes in the woods or park. You may also use the guarded car park or gas station on the premises; the health centre, pharmacy, cafeteria, restaurants and grocery are available as well. The campus has direct bus connections with the centre of Olsztyn.
Excursions

Olsztyn
Here we can admire the late-Gothic cathedral from the 15-16th century, the bishops' palace (18th century), the 17th-century city hall, 17th- to 19th-century residential houses, and the remains of the city wall (14-15th century), especially the High Gate – one of the two gates formerly guarding the entrance to the city, in the mid-19th century used as a prison. However, the biggest attraction is the castle of the Warmian clergy council, built in 1346-1353, where the famous astronomer Mikołaj Kopernik (Nicolaus Copernicus) resided for 5 years. The castle, surrounded by a moat, can be reached only by a drawbridge over the Łyna river. Since 1921 the castle has been hosting a museum, today it houses the Museum of Warmia and Masuria. Twelve beautiful lakes are situated within the administrative borders of the town. Additionally, Olsztyn owes its unique charm to an extensive municipal woodland area (with marked tourist routes) as well as the lovely river Łyna.

The region takes pride in the following monuments and tourist attractions:

One of the major attractions of the region is the Malbork Castle – the former seat of the Teutonic Knights’ Order – situated 140 kilometers northwest of Olsztyn. The castle is a classic example of a medieval fortress and is the world’s largest brick Gothic castle. The castle and its museum are on the Unesco list of World Heritage Sites. The castle was founded in 1274 by the Teutonic Order during their government of Prussia and is located on the southeastern bank of the river Nogat.

The greatest tourist attraction of the small town Olszynek is the outdoor Museum of Folk Architecture where examples of many types of traditional timber houses from the region of Warmia and Masuria have been brought together. The most interesting
buildings include a water mill, Masurian farmyard, cottage with porch, inn, wooden church and three windmills. Some of the buildings contain original furnishings and tools.

In Gierłoż, near Kętrzyn, lies Wilczy Szaniec (The Wolf's Lair) – Adolf Hitler's wartime headquarters. It consisted of a group of eighty strong bunkers built in the years 1940-44, a small railway station and an airfield. The Wolf's Lair was destroyed by the German army as it withdrew in late January, 1945. The area that housed Hitler's headquarters, with the ruins of the bunkers, is open for tourists.

Six kilometers away is Reszel, an estate belonging to the bishops of Warmia from the mid-13th to the end of the 18th century. Towering over the historical town here is the late Gothic bishop's castle, featuring a cylindrical tower and a defensive gallery which today houses the Warmia and Masuria Gallery of Modern Art and a display of natural history specimens and hunting exhibits.

To the southwest of Kętrzyn, between two lakes, lies the old village of Święta Lipka – a religious center and a place of pilgrimage, known for the Jesuit monastery complex built here in the 17th century. The pilgrimage Church of the Visitation is noteworthy for its lime tree with a silver figure of the Virgin Mary, its huge, three-story altar dating from the beginning of the 18th century, and its Baroque organ, while the treasury contains richly embroidered chasubles, gifts from Polish lords and bishops.

The battlefield and Museum of the Battle of Grunwald in Stębark. On July 15, 1410, the combined Polish, Lithuanian and Russian forces under King Władysław Jagiełło defeated here the army of the Teutonic Order. Guided tours of the museum and of the Grunwald battlefield include visiting the granite monument, ruins of the chapel raised after the battle and the Jagiełło mound. On the summer weekend closest to the battle anniversary various celebrations are organized here, including an enactment of the battle, military and scout commemorations, knights' tournaments, fairs and concerts.
In Golub-Dobrzyń, formed in the 17th century from two separate towns, there is a 14th-century castle built by the Teutonic Knights. Later, in the 17th century, the Golub castle was transformed into a summer residence of Anna Waza, sister of the Polish king, Zygmunt III Waza. Currently, the place houses a small museum and a tourist hotel. In late July knight tournaments are organized here.

Golub-Dobrzyń castlephoto by Magda Karońska

Places connected with the life of Mikolaj Kopernik form the Copernican route, including: Dobre Miasto (enormous Gothic church and fragments of defensive walls), Lidzbark Warmiński (Gothic castle), Frombork (group of historic buildings on the Cathedral Hills).

One of the great attractions of Masuria is the Elbląg Canal – an inland waterway connecting Elbląg and Ostróda. The Canal, a great feat of engineering, was built in 1848-1876 and is the only watercourse of its kind in Europe. The Elbląg Canal is 81 km long and passes through a long chain of lakes with a difference in water levels of nearly 100 m. The route passes forests and lakes, and today is used mainly for recreation. A one-way journey by boat takes about eight hours.

photo by Marta Czerwieniec
The Masurian Natural Landscape Park is one of the oldest and biggest natural landscape parks in Poland. It embraces the biggest lake in Poland – Lake Śniardwy – and numerous smaller lakes, among them the deepest lake of the park (51 metres deep) – Lake Mokre. The park is covered with forests, including swamp forests and alder woods in the vicinity of water.

Guided tours in the Warmia and Masuria region (one or several days) organized by a travel agency will be available for delegates both during and after the conference.

We hope to see you in Poland in 2011!