



LIGHT, FROM THE EARTH TO THE STARS (Lisbon, July 2-3, 2015) Report and expenditure account of the Hubert Curien Fund grant

Workshop overview

Co-organised by the Barcelona Knowledge Hub of the *Academia Europaea* and *Ciência Viva* (the Portuguese Agency for the Scientific and Technological Culture) this two-day Interdisciplinary Workshop gathered 30 speakers in an event to commemorate the International Year of Light 2015.

How did light give birth to life, how does nature communicate using bioluminescence, and what art forms are made with light were some of the topics that illuminated two days of open and lively debate. From the photon, the particle of light, to ESA's satellite Hipparcos which mapped more than 100 000 stars, to low cost solar panels and LED systems that will change the way we light up our homes and the living conditions in developing countries, researchers, artists, entrepreneurs and other experts discussed the importance of light and its links with art, science, technology, communication and history.

Speakers included MAE Denis Weaire, FRS, in representation of the president of the *Academia Europaea*, Álvaro de Rújula and Ricard Guerrero. The programme included the projection of two documentary films on light sponsored by the BKH: "Microbial Mats", shown in the lecture of R. Guerrero (5 minutes), and "Life from Light-Origin of photosynthesis" (15 minutes) especially made for the occasion. Both films has been directed by Rubén Duro, Barcelona.

Around 150 participants attended the Workshop, mostly people from universities and research centres in the Lisbon area, but there were also participants from the non-academic world.

Each participant received a copy of the Catalan edition of *Ad vitellionem paralipomena*, by Johannes Keppler, the first book on modern optics.

List of speakers

Speakers during the first day (July 2) included the following:

Rosalia Vargas (*Ciência Viva*), Ana Noronha (*Ciência Viva*), Álvaro de Rújula (CERN. Geneva) Pedro Russo (University of Leiden), André Moitinho (University of Lisbon), Carlos Fiolhais (University of Coimbra), António Sá da Costa (Apren – Associação Portuguesa das Energias Renováveis), Adélio Mendes (University of Porto), Guilherme Carrilho da Graça (University of Lisbon), Carlos Salema (Instituto de Telecomunicações, Lisboa), Miguel Castelo-Branco (Instituto de Ciências Nucleares Aplicadas à Saúde, Coimbra), Paulo André (Instituto de Telecomunicações, Lisboa), Luís Ferreira (Hbm Fibersensing, SA), and Ricardo Mendes (Tekever).

And during the second day (July 3):



Ricard Guerrero (Barcelona Knowledge Hub-AE), José Feijó (University of Maryland), José Matos (Portuguese Committee for IYL2015, Portuguese Association of Biologists and INIAV), Anna Omedes (Natural Sciences Museum of Barcelona), Rosalia Vargas (Ciência Viva), Rubén Duro (Centre for Microbiological Research, Barcelona), Mònica Rius (University of Barcelona), Catalão Alves (Ciência Viva), João Paulo André (University of Minho), Clara Azevedo (photographer), João Tiago Aguiar (architect), João Botelho (film director) and Pedro Cabrita Reis (plastic artist).

Conference follow-on actions

“Light, from the Earth to the Stars” has been the first of a series of activities that the BKH hopes to carry out in collaboration with Ciência Viva in Portugal.

Prof. Ricard Guerrero visited Lisbon immediately before (May 14-17) and after the Workshop (July 15-18) to talk to Rosalia Vargas (President of Ciência Viva), and Ana Noronha (Executive Director of Ciência Viva) about the organisation of the meeting and future joint projects, such as the translation to Portuguese of the book *Germ Stories*, by Arthur Kornberg. An homage to MAE and Ciência Viva founder Prof. José Mariano Gago (1948-2015), is also under preparation and expected to be held in Madrid in 2016, under the auspices of Fundación Ramón Areces.

The Workshop was recorded and a short video with an estimate duration of 12 minutes is currently under preparation. The video will be made available through Vimeo and the Barcelona Knowledge Hub website.

Reception by the Mayor of Lisbon

The Mayor of the city of Lisbon, Fernando Medina, was present and talked during the inaugural session of the Workshop (July 2, morning). In the evening of the same day, the Mayor and the City Council offered a reception for the speakers and attendants in the historical building of the Lisbon City Hall.



Expenditure account

The 4,000 € that allocated to the Conference by the AE's Hubert Curien Fund were used as follows.

Accommodation		
Supplier	Amount	Description
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	970,27 €	Hotel organisers
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	255,00 €	Hotel Mònica Rius
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	847,75 €	Hotel Álvaro de Rújula
SUBTOTAL	2.073,02€	

Travel		
Supplier	Amount	Description
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	393,64 €	Flight BCN-Lisbon Dr Guerrero (May 14-17)
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	227,64 €	Flight Anna Omedes to Lisbon 01-03/07/2015
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	264,64 €	Flight Mònica Rius
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	188,74 €	Flight Madrid-Lisbon Álvaro de Rújula
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	188,74 €	Flight Madrid-Lisbon Álvaro de Rújula's wife
VIAJES BARCELÓ, SL	773,30 €	Flight BCN-Lisbon Dr Guerrero + M. Berlanga (July 15-18)
SUBTOTAL	2.036,70 €	

TOTAL	4. 109,72 €
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Barcelona, 24 July 2015