International conference

The hidden side of DNA profiles. 
Artifacts, errors 
and uncertain evidence

Auditorium, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Rome, 27-28 April, 2012

President
Vincenzo L. Pascali

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Friday, 27 April

8.00-9.45 Registration

9.45-10.00 Opening addresses
  V. Pascali (Rome - I), M. Prinz (New York - USA),
  R. Bellantone, Faculty Dean UCSC (Rome - I)

10.00-12.30 Session
LOW-QUALITY TESTS, LOW-AMOUNT TEMPLATES
Chairman: M. Prinz (New York - USA)

Low-quality DNA profiles, and the issue of overstatements in Court
  A. Carracedo (Santiago de Compostela - E)

Low-template (LT) / low copy number (LCN) DNA profiles as a paradigm
of uncertain evidence with DNA
  P. Gill (Oslo - N)

A probability model for profile evaluation in complex mixtures with dropout
  D. Balding (London - UK)

General discussion

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.00 PANEL DISCUSSION 1
THREE KEY-QUESTIONS POSED TO INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS
Chairman: N. Morling (Copenhagen - DK)

Is there an ad hoc laboratory protocol to deal with low template DNA?
  C. Doutremepuich (Bordeaux - F), P. Gill (Oslo - N), N. Morling (Copenhagen - DK),
  P.M. Schneider (Köln - D), A. Tagliabracci (Ancona - I)

Is there a DNA template threshold beneath which PCR amplification misleads?
  B. Budowle (Fort Worth - USA), A. Carracedo (Santiago de Compostela - E),
  F. De Stefano (Genoa - I), P.M. Schneider (Köln - D)

Is the absence of a peak an evidence of [peak] absence? What mathematics for
low-template DNA profiling?
  D. Balding (London - UK), P. Dawid (Cambridge - UK), R. Domenici (Pisa - I),
  J. Mortera (Rome - I)

16.00-16.30 Break

16.30-18.30 PANEL DISCUSSION 2
TOP HEADLINE TRIALS IN ITALY. DOES OUR DOMESTIC DNA EVIDENCE BETRAY
INCOMPLIANCE TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF GOOD PRACTICE?
Chairman: J. Mortera (Rome - I)

With the participation of magistrates, experts, journalists
Saturday, 28 April

9.00-10.30  **Session**  
**MIXTURES, AND THEIR TREATMENT**  
Chairman: **P. Gill** (Oslo - N)

Mixtures: extracting evidentiary value from their constituents  
**P. Schneider** (Köln - D)

Addressing DNA mixtures: the probabilistic approach  
**P. Dawid** (Cambridge - UK)

General discussion

10.30-11.00  Break

11.00-13.00  **Session**  
**ERRORS, FABRICATION**  
Chairman: **P.M. Schneider** (Köln - D)

Is DNA forensic analysis an error-prone process?  
**B. Budowle** (Fort Worth - USA)

Weighting the real DNA evidence - risk considerations  
**N. Morling** (Copenhagen - DK)

Current progress on the issue of uncertain DNA evidence  
**M. Prinz** (New York - USA)

General discussion

13.00  Closing address  
**V. Pascali** (Rome - I)
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FACULTY

David Balding
Professor of Statistical Genetics, University College Genetics Institute
London - UK

Bruce Budowle
Professor of Forensic and Investigative Genetics, University of North Texas
Fort Worth - USA

Angel Carracedo
Professor of Forensic Science
University of Santiago de Compostela
Executive Director, Fundacion Pública Galega de Medicina Xenómica (FPGMX)
Health Council of Galicia - E

Philip Dawid
Professor of Statistics
University of Cambridge - UK

Francesco De Stefano
Professor of Forensic Medicine
University of Genoa - I

Ranieri Domenici
Professor of Forensic Medicine
University of Pisa - I

Christian Doutremepuich
Professor at the Laboratoire d'Hématologie
Université Victor Segalen, Bordeaux 2 - F

Peter Gill
Professor of Forensic Genetics
Oslo University - N

Niels Morling
Director and Chairman of the Department of Forensic Medicine
University of Copenhagen - DK

Julia Mortera
Professor of Statistics
School of Economy, University of Rome - I

Vincenzo L. Pascali
Professor of Forensic Medicine
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome - I

Mechthild Prinz
President of the International Society of Forensic Genetics,
Department of Forensic Biology
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in New York - USA

Peter M. Schneider
Professor of Forensic Medicine
University of Köln - D

Adriano Tagliabracci
Professor of Forensic Medicine
Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona - I
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GENERAL INFORMATION

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT and ORGANISING COMMITTEE
Antonio Oliva
Ilaria Boschi
Laura Baldassarri
Fabio De Giorgio
Sara Merigioli
Riccardo Rossi
Francesca Scarnicci

Department of Forensic Medicine
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

CONFERENCE VENUE
Main Auditorium
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Largo Francesco Vito, 1
00168 Rome - Italy

ORGANISING SECRETARIAT
Viale G. Matteotti, 7
50021 Florence - Italy
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Fax +39 055 5001912
ForensicGenetics@oic.it

The registration desk will be open with the following time schedule:
Friday, 27 April 2012 8.00-18.30
Saturday, 28 April 2012 8.30-13.30

Simultaneous translation English-Italian will be provided.

CONGRESS REGISTRATION FEES
(VAT included)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EARLY by 31 January 2012</th>
<th>REGULAR from 1 February to 31 March 2012</th>
<th>LATE from 1 April and on site</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>€ 180,00</td>
<td>€ 220,00</td>
<td>€ 250,00</td>
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<td>Congress Dinner, 27 April</td>
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Congress Registration fee includes:
- Attendance to all Scientific Sessions
- Access to the Technical Exhibition
- Congress kit and name badge
- Certificate of attendance
- Lunch on 27 April
- Coffee Breaks on 27 and 28 April

More info and on line registration available at www.oic.it/ForensicGenetics