Max Delbrück
and the new perception of biology
1906 - 1981

A meeting to celebrate Max Delbrück’s birth on September 4, 1906

A Centenary Celebration
University of Salamanca
October 9th - 10th 2006
Monday 2006.10.09
Memories and Reflections on Max Delbrück
Main building (“Escuelas Mayores”) of the Universidad de Salamanca.
Chair: Walter Shropshire

10.00 Opening Ceremony presided by the Rector of the University of Salamanca
Arturo Pérez Eslava. “Opening Remarks”
Enrique Cerdá-Olmedo. “A Brief Biography of Max Delbrück”
Werner Arber. “The impact of bacterial and phage genetics on research
in molecular genetics and in molecular evolution”
Walt Shropshire. “At play in the fields of Homo scientificus”
- Caltech in 1957-59
Patricia Burke. “Some ideas and paradoxes Max enjoyed”

Break

Josep Casadesús. “Mind from Matter” - Delbrück’s philosophical legacy.
Stories of problems of translation
Kostia Bergman. “Bending toward light - Max and Beckett”
Peter Fischer. “Celebrating Max in Spain” - A summary of Max’s
influence on modern science
Paul Galland. “My years with Max Delbrück, 1979-81”
Igor Gamow. “I Remember Max - Interactions between Max and my
father”
Reiner Hertel. “Some comments on Max Delbrück’s informal philosophy:
Beckett, Brock, Bohr and complementarity”

14.00 End of morning session

16.30 Afternoon session
Ed Lipson. “From Physics to Biology - My Five Years (and Beyond) with
Max Delbrück”
Antonio Montalvo. “The personality of Max D. as a university
academic”
current research”
Arturo Pérez Eslava. “Welcome to the club, down but not out”

Break

Jonathan Delbrück. “Planning a non-science biography of Max”
Nicola Delbrück Salmon. “Manny and Max”
Tobi Delbrück. “Neuromorphic engineering and silicon retinas with
demonstration”

Horace Freeland Judson. “The Eighth Day and a non-scientist’s
experiences with Max”
Audience contributions and comments

20.00 Closure of session

Tuesday 2006.10.10
Max Delbrück’s Legacy: The Biology of Phycomyces
Main building (“Escuelas Mayores”) of the Universidad de Salamanca.

9.30 Morning session
Chair: Kostia Bergman
9.30 Alex Idnurm. “The mad genes of Phycomyces, light at the end of
the tunnel”
10.00 Rainer Hertel. “Sophisticated blue light sensing in Phycomyces:
a role for several flavoproteins”
10.15 Ed Lipson. “Systems Physiology of Phycomyces”
10.45 Leonid Fukshansky. “Patterns of phototropic light perception”
11.15 Atsushi Miyazaki. “Phototropism of Phycomyces sporangiophores:
piloboloid mutants”

11.30 Break

Chair: Joseph Heitman
12.00 Ken Ortega. “Biophysical Equations for the Sporangiophores of
Phycomyces blakesleeanus”
12.30 Paul Galland. “Magnetoreception in Phycomyces”
13.00 Paul Meyer. “Searching for ‘gas X’: the avoidance response of
Phycomyces in a controlled environment”
13.15 Luis Corrochano. “Photomorphogenesis in Phycomyces”

14.00 End of morning session

16.30 Afternoon session
Chair: Patricia Burke
16.30 Enrique Cerdá Olmedo. “Life of Phycomyces and some
chemicals”
17.00 Arturo Pérez Eslava. “Light and carotene”
17.30 Santiago Torres Martinez. “A cross-talking Phycomyces-Mucor”
17.45 Alejandro Fernández Barrero. “Metabolómica de Phycomyces
blakesleeanus: Esteroles”

18.00 Break

Chair: Igor Gamow
18.30 Guadalupe Martinez-Cadena. “RhoGTPase from Phycomyces”
18.45 José Ruiz Herrera. “Chitin synthesis and growth polarization in
Phycomyces blakesleeanus”
19.15 Atsushi Miyazaki. “Developmental regulation of chitin synthase
genes”
19.30 Javier Avalos. “Transformation of Phycomyces: past and
future”
19.45 Luis Corrochano. “The Phycomyces genome”
20.00 General Discussion including planning of a Phycomyces review

20.30 End of afternoon session.

Meeting organized by:
Enrique Cerdá Olmedo (Universidad de Sevilla)
Luis M. Corrochano Peláez (Universidad de Sevilla)
Arturo Pérez Eslava (Universidad de Salamanca)