

19. Vienna 2004

Vienna, the city of arts was the host for the 19th workshop in 2004. Wolfgang Strohmeir was the president and he wanted the participants to be part of a meeting where the arts and science met to enhance each other, an idea going back to Leonardo da Vinci who believed that art was science and science an art, with the single purpose of discovering truths. More than 200 scientists from many specialties from all over the world attended the workshop which was opened by Rolf Hubmayr (Rochester, US) who in his lecture gave the latest insights on the mechanisms of "Plasma membrane stress-failure in ventilated lungs". The 7th Nils Svenningsson Memorial Lecture was given by Sam Hawgood (San Francisco, US) on "Structure and function of surfactant proteins" and other invited lectures covered topics such as basic surfactant physiology (Paul Dietl, Innsbruck, Austria), surfactant genetics (Lawrence Nogee, Baltimore, US) and the role of surfactant in immunomodulation (Joe Rae Wright, Durham, US). There were also overviews on specific problems in neonatology such as lung and brain damage (Olaf Dammann, Hannover, Germany), optimal oxygen saturation (Win Tin, Middlesborough, UK) and the impact of SARS on newborns and children (Pak Ng, Hong Kong). The proceedings of the Workshop were published in *Biology of the Neonate* [19].

The social programme was designed to give the delegates a taste of Vienna. The city is well known for its art, its cultural scene, its terrific cuisine, its "Heurigen" and its lively cosmopolitan atmosphere which were enjoyed to the full when the scientific sessions had ended.



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