



Szent-Györgyi Conference 22-25 March 2012



The Szent-Györgyi Conference has been launched

Szeged hosts a Conference with the most outstanding representatives of scientific life including nine Nobel Laureates

The international conference series held on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of Albert Szent-Györgyi's Nobel Prize Award has been officially launched with a great public interest. During these 4 days Szeged will host a Conference with the most outstanding representatives of scientific life including the 9 Nobel Laureates who accepted the invitation of the University of Szeged and will discuss their recent achievements. According to the Organizing Committee it is possible that a future Nobel Prize winner is also amongst the participants.

„The personality of Albert Szent-Györgyi is still very important to the University of Szeged. The conference series will be an opportunity not only to discover the heritage of his scientific life, but also to discuss recent achievements” - said Gábor Szabó, President-Rector of the University of Szeged at the Opening Press Conference. The event – that attracts great public attention - was held by the invited Nobel Laureates and the Conference’s session leaders.

The president of the Conference, László Vécsei said that Albert Szent-Györgyi is the only researcher who has been honored with the Nobel Prize for his scientific work realized in Hungary. András Varró, Vice Rector of the University of Szeged for Science, Research Development and Innovation has mentioned that besides the discussion of actual topics of scientific life, the Conference gives opportunity for creating national and international cooperation as well.

The internationally acknowledged scientific work of the University of Szeged has contributed a lot to the realization of this event of great significance. Never before have so many Nobel Laureates stayed in Hungary at the same time. This unprecedented moment would not be realized without the support of the Conference’s sponsors. *„It is well-known that pharmacology is an area where research is necessary. That is why Richter find it important to develop its R+I activities, especially in the field of biotechnology which is one of the breakthrough opportunities” - said István Greiner, Deputy of research director at Gedeon Richter Plc, one of the important sponsors of the event, who is financing the visit of the nine Nobel Laureates in Hungary.*

During the 4 days of the Conference, six parallel conferences will be held in Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Immunology & Inflammation, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Neuroscience, and Tuberculosis Evolution with the participation of the Nobel Laureates.

Péter Hegyi, Secretary of the Conference said: from 30 countries more than 1100 researchers have registered to the Conference series to take part in more than 400 lectures. It is possible that one of the lecturers is giving a presentation that will be honored with a Nobel Prize in the future. According to the Organizing Committee there are several participants *„who could be awarded in any moment”.*

Lajos Kemény, Vice Dean of the University of Szeged has expressed his gratitude to the sponsors of the event, including the city as well. László Botka, mayor of the city of Szeged said that as the scientific heritage of Szent-Györgyi defines the University’s everyday life, so the University defines the life of Szeged. The city of Szeged has been put on the map of scientific life when Szent-Györgyi was honored with a Nobel Prize for Medicine. He added: *„our city is very proud of its traditions, but also of its capacity of renewal.”*

József Pál, Vice Rector of the University of Szeged for Foreign Affairs and Public Relations, coordinator of the Conference’s social programs presented the Youth Forum, as well as the cultural and culinary events organized in the framework of the Conference. He concluded: *„Like the Nobel Prize of Szent-Györgyi, the Conference held on the occasion of its anniversary has become a story of Szeged.”*

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