



Preface

The 20th International Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics was held from the 9th to the 13th of September 2003 in Arcachon, France. The president of the congress was Professor Christian Doutremépuich, Laboratoire d'Hématologie, Université Victor Ségalen, U.F.R. des Sciences Pharmaceutiques, Bordeaux, France.

A pre-congress Forum on DNA Databases was held on the 9th of September 2003 with presentations by invited international speakers. The congress began on 10th September 2003 and had six invited speakers on specialist themes of forensic interest, 52 selected, oral presentations as well as 239 posters.

The board of the ISFG presented a prize for the best oral presentation to Ms. Martina Nilsson for the work M. Nilsson, U. Gyllensten and M. Allen: Sequence analysis of the complete mitochondrial genome. The prize for the best poster was given to Ms. Christine Keyser-Tracqui for the work C. Keyser-Tracqui, P. Blandin, E. Petkovski, F.X. Ricaut, E. Crubezy and B. Ludes: SNP analysis of a 2000-year-old Xiongnu population from Mongolia.

This volume of Progress in Forensic Genetics contains mainly short three-page manuscripts of the oral and poster presentations at the congress. The manuscripts have been through a reviewing and an editing procedure in order to maintain the high quality of the series and in order to keep the total volume of the book at a level that can be afforded by the ISFG. However, priority was given to fast publication of the volume and, therefore, the manuscripts were not edited in details if the message was clear to the reader. We hope that the readers will understand and agree in this decision.

Professor Christian Doutremépuich
President of the ISFG Congress
Niels Morling
Treasurer of the ISFG