



Preface

The 21st International Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics was held from the 13th to the 16th of September 2005 in Ponta Delgada, The Azores, Portugal. The presidents of the congress were Professor António Amorim, Institute of Molecular Pathology and Immunology, University of Porto (IPATIMUP), Portugal, and Professor Francisco Corte-Real, National Institute of Legal Medicine and University of Coimbra, Portugal.

The congress began on 13th September 2005 and had five invited speakers on specialist themes of forensic interest, 33 selected, oral presentations as well as 313 posters.

The board of the ISFG presented a prize for the best oral presentation to Ms. Lourdes Prieto Solla for the work: Montesino M, Salas A, Crespillo M, Albarrán C, Alonso A, Alvarez-Iglesias V, Cano JA, Carvalho M, Corach D, Cruz C, Di Lonardo, Espinheira R, Farfán MJ, Filippini S, Garcia-Hirchfeld J, Hernández A, Lima G, López-Cubría CM, López-Soto M, Pagano S, Paredes M, Pinheiro MF, Sala A, Sónora S, Sumita DR, Vide MC, Whittle MR, Zurita A, Prieto L. “Analysis of mtDNA mixtures from different fluids: an inter-laboratory study”. The prize for the best poster was given to Ms. Caroline Murray for the work: Murray C, McAlister C, Elliott K. “Use of Fluorescence In Situ Hybridisation and Laser Capture Microdissection to isolate male non-sperm cells in cases of sexual assault”.

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 with this decision.

António Amorim*

*IPATIMUP, R. Roberto Frias s/n,
Porto 4200-465, Portugal*

Tel.: +351 22 5570700; fax: +351 22 5570799.

E-mail address: aamorim@ipatimup.pt.

*Corresponding author.

Francisco Corte-Réal
National Institute of Legal Medicine & University of Coimbra, Portugal

Niels Morling
*Department of Forensic Genetics, Institute of Forensic Medicine,
University of Copenhagen, Denmark*