

## *Biopolymers and Cell* Celebrates Its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In January 2010 *Biopolymers and cell* Scientific Journal celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A quarter of a century passed impulsively, as both the Soviet Union and Academy of Sciences of USSR were dissolved. The independent states, which emerged after the devolution, were battered by political and financial crisis. In spite of these unfavourable events, Ukrainian scientists have worked enthusiastically and made significant achievements in fundamental and applied fields of research, which were reported in national and international journals, including *Biopolymers and cell*. Notably, the Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (IMBG, NAS of Ukraine) has remained the sole founder and publisher of the journal.

Throughout time, the journal changed its transcription twice. Initially, it was known as *Биополимеры и клетка* (Russian transcription) and in 2001 the Ukrainian transcription *Біополімери і клітина* was approved. Since April 2009, the journal has acquired a legally approved name – *Biopolymers and cell* with its official abbreviation, *Biopolym. cell*. This was an important step for establishing a credible citation index. On this occasion, we would like to bring these changes to the attention of our readers and authors and ask them to use the above abbreviation for future references.

To date, the journal has published over 1800 scientific articles, including 160 reviews, 1550 experimental articles and short communications, outlines of national and international conferences, symposia and congresses, as well as numerous scientific book reviews.

The journal prevailed over the hardship of perestroika in 1990's and post-Soviet Union's instability and bureaucratic hurdles, which threatened on so may oc-

casions its continuation and advancement to its current international recognition. It would hardly be possible without a leadership of Professor Gennadiy Kharlampievych Matsuka, who was a full member of NAS of Ukraine, the founder of our journal and its first editor-in-chief. He was also a great scientist and wonderful colleague, and therefore, the Institute and the journal are very much obliged to him for his guidance and contribution. It was due to his tireless efforts that all the issues of the journal were published even during the hardest times. Our journal published the original findings of internationally recognized scientists, such as S. M. Gershenson, S. G. Inge-Vechtomov, E. D. Sverdlov, L. L. Kisselev, S. B. Serebryanny, D. Yu. Lando, Yu. Yu. Gleba, M. D. Frank-Kamenetskii, E. R. Zabarovsky, V. V. Vlassov, V. L. Knorre, A. S. Spirin, A. A. Aleksandrov, V. I. Evsikov et al.

Prof. Matsuka had also the aptitude to identify talented colleagues and to create the environment for their development by promoting their innovative and professional growth. Prof. Anna Valentynivna El'skaya is one of his closest associates. She is a full member of NAS of Ukraine, Director of IMBG of NAS of Ukraine and the editor-in-chief of the journal. In 2006, Prof. El'skaya initiated the launch of the web-site for *Biopolymers and cell*, [www.biopolymers.org.ua](http://www.biopolymers.org.ua), which provides all necessary information for authors, allows the access to the archive of articles, and informs the reader about the contents of the current issue.

The question of the most appropriate language for our journal, which can be appropriate for scientists from Russia, Belarus, France, United Kingdom, USA, and Ukraine, has been the subject of intense discussions at the editorial board meetings. To date, English is common language of science, and therefore publishing articles in English would promote a greater recognition

of our journal abroad. However, the necessity of developing the Ukrainian scientific terminology and expanding educational and methodological databases for students and young scientists prompted the editorial board to allow the publication of articles in either Ukrainian, Russian or English and having abstracts in all three languages. In 2006, Prof. El'skaya initiated and later coordinated the translation into English of articles, published in Ukrainian and Russian, and posting them as PDF files on the journal's web-site.

Internet has significantly changed our life. The overwhelming amount of scientific information which is currently available on the World Wide Web and the need for efficient navigation and data mining dictated the establishment of specialized databases. Due to relentless efforts of the editor-in-chief *Biopolymers and cell* has been recently accepted to various international citation databases. Since 2008, the journal has been actively cooperating with elibrary.ru and is included into the Russian Science Citation Index as well as *Index Copernicus*. A year later, the journal was registered with *Scopus* and *EmBase*. These memberships had an immediate impact on qualitative and quantitative indices of traffic flow to our journal web-site. Notably, *Biopolymers and cell* is also cited by VINITI, *Dzherelo*, *DOAJ* etc.

In 2008, Google Inc. made an offer to digitize archive issues of the journal and since September 2008 all issues of our journal for 1985–2006 have been available on Google Scholar. We are very grateful to Google Inc.

for this initiative, which prompted us to create our own digital archive of the journal available at the web site. By the end of 2010, we plan to complete digitisation of the remaining archive issues of 1985–1990 which would provide the access to full-text articles.

The journal was successfully re-registered by the Highest Attestation Commission of the Ukraine. The studies dedicated to the most pressing problems of molecular biology, genetics, cell biology, biotechnology, biomedicine, research on genome expression, molecular mechanisms of cell differentiation and signal transduction pathways, molecular biophysics, bioinformatics, and bioorganic chemistry are published in our journal in the form of reviews, short communications, experimental and methodological articles. We also publish reviews of scientific books and modern experimental techniques, outlines of scientific conferences and symposia. The journal also invites reviews/articles on controversial of research and is open to advanced hypotheses and innovations.

We are very grateful to a large contingent of authors from Ukraine, Russian Federation, Belarus, Kazakhstan, United Kingdom, France, SAR, USA, Poland and other members of the European Union for publishing their original data and interesting reviews in our journal. We value your trust and look forward to further broaden this fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation in future.

*Editorial Board of Biopolymers and cell*