

**PROGRESS IN
BIOORGANIC CHEMISTRY
AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY**

Editor

Yu. A. Ovchinnikov

PROGRESS IN BIOORGANIC CHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Proceedings of the International Symposium on Frontiers in Bioorganic Chemistry and Molecular Biology held in Moscow and Alma-Ata, USSR, on 19-24 June, 1984. Sponsored by the Federation of European Biochemical Societies, the International Union of Biochemistry and the International Council of Scientific Unions.

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Yu. A. Ovchinnikov



1984



ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS
Amsterdam · New York · Oxford

ICSU PRESS
Paris

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ISBN 0 444 80643 1

Published by:

Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.
P.O. Box 211
1000 AE Amsterdam
The Netherlands

Sole distributors for the USA and Canada:

Elsevier Science Publishing Company Inc.
52 Vanderbilt Avenue
New York, NY 10017
USA

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

International Symposium on Frontiers in Bioorganic
Chemistry and Molecular Biology (1984 : Moscow,
R.S.F.S.R., and Alma-Ata, Kazakh S.S.R.)
Progress in bioorganic chemistry and molecular biology.

"Sponsored by the Federation of European Biochemical
Societies, the International Union of Biochemistry, and
the International Council of Scientific Unions."

Includes indexes.

1. Bioorganic chemistry--Congresses. 2. Molecular
biology--Congresses. I. Ovchinnikov, I. A. (Iuriĭ
Anatol'evich), 1934-. II. Federation of European
Biochemical Societies. III. International Union of
Biochemistry. IV. International Council of Scientific
Unions. V. Title.

QP550.I58 1984 574.19'2 84-25859
ISBN 0-444-80643-1 (U.S.)

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PREFACE

There is nothing new in the statement that the scientist nowadays has to spend more and more of time and effort simply trying to follow what is being done by his colleagues all over the world. Daily library work is essential for this, but there is one more effective (and pleasant) way to be constantly in touch with the latest advances in your field - that is to meet your colleagues during scientific meetings - to exchange information, to establish new contacts. The number of such conferences, national and international, is growing every year. This book deals with the one of such meetings, which is memorable in many ways.

The International Symposium "Frontiers in Bioorganic Chemistry and Molecular Biology" was held in Moscow and Alma-Ata, June 19-24, 1984 as a satellite conference of the 16th FEBS Meeting. It was also co-sponsored by the International Council of Scientific Unions and the International Union of Biochemistry. The Symposium which in fact became a "summit" meeting of world top scientists in the rapidly developing field of physicochemical biology, was also meant to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Shemyakin Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The Symposium programme covered a wide range of aspects of modern physicochemical biology and biotechnology: investigations into structure-functional relations in peptides and proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, lipids, and other bioregulators, elucidation of the structure, synthesis, study of conformational peculiarities, mechanism of biological action, membrane and receptor systems responsible for transfer of genetic information, regulation, as well as the most challenging problems of immunology, neurobiology, oncology, endocrinology, in order to solve them novel approaches and methods of chemistry and physics are employed.

Naturally, fundamental researches in these areas have become vitally important for modern medicine, agriculture, and industry. The advances of genetic and cell engineering, chemical and enzymatic synthesis, hybridoma analysis, that is of biotechnology, are widely applied to facilitate their development.

The global geography of the countries represented, the variety of the areas discussed, together with an exceedingly high level of presentation, make this book particularly valuable.

I believe, the atmosphere of the Symposium promoted mutual understanding, strengthening of friendly ties and collaboration among scientists throughout the world. The Organizing Committee of the Symposium "Frontiers in Bioorganic Chemistry and Molecular Biology" expresses deep gratitude to all participants for their activity and interesting presentations.

Professor Yu.A. Ovchinnikov

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