4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FOODOMICS Cesena, Italy, 8th -9th of October 2015

The '4th International Conference on Foodomics' was held from 8th to 9th October 2015 at the Teatro Verdi, located in the city of Cesena (Italy). The conference was chaired by Dr. Franscesco Capozzi and Dr. Alessandra Bordoni, both from the Agricultural and Food Sciences Department at Bologna University, in cooperation with The Centre for Dissemination of the Results in Agricultural and Food Researches - Ce.D.R.A. The event was sponsored by the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Cesena, and several companies, such as Orogel, Kamut and Ponti, and the Patronage of Expo Milano 2015. As the name suggests, the conference was centered on the discipline of Foodomics, which is focused on the application of genomics, proteomics and metabolomics to study the relation or influence of the food in the human health and nutrition. In this 4th edition, the general trend of the conference was the exploration of new pathways for the objective substantiation with molecular evidences of health claims associated with food products, so the conference was divided according to three food groups, namely grains, dairy and herbs & spices, as representatives of the whole diet. A total amount of 21 oral communications including plenary lectures, keynotes talks and selected oral communications, and 71 poster communications were distributed among these three sessions.

The conference opened in October 8th with the 'Grain' session, previously introduced with the plenary lecture entitled 'Nutrimetabolomics and nutritional biomarkers on the Mediterranean diet' by Dr. Cristina Andrés-Lacueva from the Nutrition and Food Science Department of the Pharmacy School at the University of Barcelona. It was followed by three oral communications and a keynote talk by Dr. Alessia Di Sandro about the 'Perspective of joint initiatives with UNIBO within the H2020 framework'. Finally, three selected oral communications were presented, and a total of 18 poster communications were exhibited in this session.

The second day, after the plenary lecture 'From food to health: the industry and scientific guides of the Pathway-27 project' by Dr. András Sebök from the Campden BRI Hungay Ltd., the 'Dairy' session was inititated. A total of 6 oral communications were subsequently presented and 6 poster communications were shown in this session. After lunch time, the last session termed 'Herbs & Spices' followed the interesting plenary lecture 'FoodDB: A database of food constituents and their metabolic by-products', by David Wishart from the Departments of Biological Sciences and Computing Science at the University of Alberta, Canada. From a Foodomics point of view, this lecture was very informative because FooDB database is the largest and most comprehensive resource in the world on food constituents, chemistry and biology. This session also accounted with six oral communications and 11 poster communications.

After the last communication, the conference was closed by the organizers, who kindly invited all attendees to the next edition of the conference to be held in the same city, Cesena (Italy), in 2017. In addition, the organizers announced the publication of two special issues in the Food Research International and the Genes & Nutrition journals dedicated to the Foodomics 2015. Finally, but not less important, it is worth highlighting the great quality of all the communications, the welcoming atmosphere of the location chosen for the conference, and the social dinner celebrated in the same building.

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