

PREFACE

The present issue of *Acta Biologica Hungarica* is dedicated to Professor George Ádám, M. D., ordinary member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, emeritus professor of the Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest, at the occasion of his 80th birthday. As a mark of their respect and honor a group of his colleagues, friends and scholars working in the field of neurobiology and experimental psychology wish to contribute to the celebration of this jubilee by presenting research papers appearing in this volume.

After graduating at the Budapest Medical School in 1949 George Ádám started his scientific carrier by joining the teaching and research staff at the Physiology Department of his mother University. From 1952 to 1955 Dr. Ádám was carrying out research in Leningrad (today St. Petersburg) at the famous Pavlov Institute, dealing with processes and neurophysiological correlates of interoception, which became later his favorite and rewarding topic. Back to his home laboratory he devoted himself to studies of interaction between interoceptive signalization and brain processes, including behavior regulation, learning and memory. His main original achievements touched upon two main fields of research: (i) He had initiated, elaborated and had priority in publishing the *electrophysiological model of classical pavlovian conditioning*, applied worldwide as *conditioned evoked potential* (first paper: *Nature*, 209, 920, 1966, monograph: *Interoception and Behaviour*, Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 1967). (ii) He had studied and analysed in detail the whole cluster of problems concerning *visceral perception* and its relation to borderline phenomena of *consciousness* (monograph: *Visceral Perception. Understanding Internal Cognition*. Plenum Publishing Corporation, New York and London, 1998).

By working in laboratories abroad, publishing books and numerous research papers, organizing international Symposia he became an outstanding and recognized scientist both in Hungary and all over the world.

In 1966 Professor Ádám founded and became head of the Department of Comparative Physiology of the Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest. Beside teaching students of biology and psychology, he led a research group of the Academy of Sciences, expanding experimentation from animals to human subjects. For several

years he was also Director of the Institute of Psychology of the Academy of Sciences, and served as Rector of the University for six years.

Professor Ádám has educated a large number of teachers and scientists, he was writing textbooks of Physiology, and dealt also with popularization of scientific information by lecturing and writing articles for the public. He had been President of the Society for Dissemination of Science for more than a decade, supporting strongly protest against pseudo-science.

As a recognition of his scientific achievements, Professor Ádám was elected corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1970 and became ordinary member in 1979. He has been decorated with scientific and state awards, and was also elected to a number of foreign Academies and Scientific Organizations, like the Pavlovian Society of America, and others.

Together with scholars, friends, Hungarian and foreign colleagues the Editorial Board of *Acta Biologica* congratulates Professor George Ádám to his 80th birthday, wishing him further creative years and successes in neuroscience.

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Editor-in-Chief