

## News

### 34<sup>th</sup> ANTHROPOLOGY AND HEALTH MEETING

#### »Anthropology and Personalised Medicine: Impacting the Future of Comprehensive Healthcare«

September 8-12, Dubrovnik, Croatia



Institute for Anthropological Research and Croatian Anthropological Society organize Anthropology and Health Meetings from the year 1984, and the main topic of the 34<sup>th</sup> was personalized medicine and its importance for health.

Personalized medicine is a form of medicine that uses an abundance of data collected about a person based on detailed medical tests and biochemical and molecular genetic analysis. It takes into account the anthropometric measures, family history, working and living environment and social conditions in order to prevent, diagnose and treat diseases.

Anthropological perspective on research of morphological or molecular diversity for years has been systematically ignored at international scientific meetings and conferences on the topic of personalized medicine and pharmacogenomics. As an example, seventy two confer-

ences were held in the period 2011–2012 that dealt with personalized medicine, genomic medicine, pharmacogenetics, pharmacogenomics and similar topics, and at no one was established separate sessions specifically focused on the anthropological aspect.

34<sup>th</sup> Anthropology and Health Meeting has focused on the theory and methods of sociocultural and biological anthropology, which can increase the scientific and public understanding of the promises and the current reality of personalized medicine. There were directly applied theories and methods of anthropology on scientific, social, medical and ethical issues involved in personalized or genomic medicine. So far, little attention has been given to the treatment of genetic data (except in cases of hereditary diseases), and genomic profiling has the potential to drastically change the way of implementation of medical care and to improve the efficiency of diagnos-

tic specificity. This conference has contributed to the understanding of these problems, offered education and guidelines to address them.

There was a web site established for the Conference (<http://anthrohealthconference.com/>) and with special consent of the lecturers, their presentations were filmed. Power point slides and videos will be available online in order to reach those who weren't in attendance.

34th Anthropology and Health Meeting was organized by Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatian Anthropological Society, Anthropological Centre and Scientific Council for Anthropological Research

### Organizing Committee:

Honorary president: academician Pavao Rudan, general secretary of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts

President: dr. Saša Missoni, director of the Institute for Anthropological Research.

### Members:

Prof. Leslie Sue Lieberman, University of Central Florida, USA;

Prof. Robert Meier, Indiana University, USA;

Prof. Ines Varela Silva, Loughborough University, UK;

Nedjeljko Ivančević, Croatian Anthropological Society;

Academician Nenad Vekarić, Croatian academy of Sciences and Arts;

### Lecturers and their presentations:

1. Academician Pavao Rudan, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts: *Bioanthropological Fundamentals of Personalized Medicine Perception*
2. Prof. Dragan Primorac, Pennsylvania State University, USA; University of New Haven, USA; University of Split and J. J. Strossmayer University, Osijek, Croatia: *Osteogenesis Imperfecta – Etiology, Characteristics, Current and Future Treatment*
3. Dr. Dario Rahelić, Clinical Centre Dubrava, Zagreb, Croatia: *Glycemic Variability and its Importance in Clinical Practice*
4. Prof. Ellen E. Quillen, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, USA: *How Personal is Your Genome: Family, Ethnicity, and Disease*
5. Prof. Sarabjit Mastana, Loughborough University, UK: *Anthropological Genomics in Health and Complex Diseases: The Role of Anthropologists in Personalised Medicine*
6. Prof. Florin Grigorescu, INSERM, France: *How Genetic Anthropology may Help Understanding the Metabolic Syndrome in European Populations – the MEDIGENE European Program*

of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, University of Central Florida, USA, Loughborough University, UK, and Indiana University, USA.

It was held under high auspices of Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and funded by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the republic of Croatia and by generous donations by professor Leslie Sue Lieberman and professor Robert Meier.

Morana Jarec

*Institute for Anthropological Research,  
meeting secretary*

Secretary: Morana Jarec, MA, Institute for Anthropological Research.

Tena Sarić, Institute for Anthropological Research;

Dr. Joško Sindik, Institute for Anthropological Research;

Prof. Anita Sujoldžić, Institute for Anthropological Research.

7. Prof. Damir Marjanović, Institute for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Bone Story*
8. Tena Šarić, Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia: *Mitochondrial DNA, Y Chromosome and Disease in Croatian Subpopulations*
9. Dr. Joško Sindik, Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb, Croatia: *Simple Robust Method for Quasi-confirmatory Factor Analysis (QCFA) Comparing Health Disparities (three examples)*
10. Prof. Fatimah Jackson, University of North Carolina, USA: *Population Substructure in New World Africans as a Critical Step Toward Personalized Medicine in Genetically Complex Individuals and Groups*
11. Dr. Maruška Vidovič, National Institute of Public Health, Slovenia: *Impacts on Health and Life: Consequences of Climatic Changes*
12. Prof. Ines Varela-Silva, Loughborough University, UK: *A comprehensive approach to the dissemination, tracking and assessment of the impact of the conference using the Becker Model*
13. Lee Lan Low, University of Malaya, Malaysia: *Mixed Reactions Towards the Diagnosis of Type 2 Diabetes*