Contact :
Tél. : 02.504.92.40.
Fax : 02.504.92.10.
mairesse@frs-fnrs.be

Fonds Fund
InBev-Baillet Latour

THE INBEV-BAILLET LATOUR HEALTH PRIZE - 2011

H I S T O R I C A L B A C K G R O U N D

1. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FOUNDATION

The ARTOIS-BAILLET LATOUR Foundation was established on the 1st of March 1974 at the initiative of Count Alfred de BAILLET LATOUR, Director of the ARTOIS Breweries, who presented it with a considerable endowment. The aim of the Foundation was defined as follows :

"The sole aim of the Foundation shall be to encourage and reward achievements of outstanding human value in the Arts and Sciences by means of Prizes, study and travel grants, donations in cash or kind, or by any other means that the Foundation might deem appropriate. The Foundation shall be a non-profit institution and shall have no political, trade-union, philosophical or religious affiliation or allegiance".

The Foundation was initially called “Artois Baillet Latour Foundation. In 1995 it became the "Interbrew-Baillet Latour Foundation” and in 2005, the name was changed to "InBev-Baillet Latour Fund". The Board of Directors became the Management Board. It is presently chaired by Baron de SCHOUTHEETE de TERVARENT, former Belgian ambassador and Permanent Representative to the European Union.

2. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRIZE

With a view to implementing the wishes of Count Alfred de BAILLET LATOUR, the Board of Directors of the Foundation under the Chairmanship of Mr. Robert VANDEPUTTE, former Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of Belgium, Honorary Governor of the National Bank of Belgium, decided in 1977 to establish a Prize to be awarded periodically to recognize the merits of a person whose work has contributed prominently to the **improvement of human health**. The Prize was called the ARTOIS-BAILLET LATOUR HEALTH PRIZE.

In 1995, the Board of the Directors of the Foundation has changed the name to INTERBREW-BAILLET LATOUR HEALTH PRIZE and from 2005 on to INBEV-BAILLET LATOUR HEALTH PRIZE.

The Health Prize, which today amounts to **two hundred and fifty thousand euro**, was awarded every two years until 1999, and every year since 2000.

The regulations concerning the Prize are approved by the Management Board of the Fund. A new set of regulations entering into force for the Health Prize 2006 give a broad delegation of power to a newly created SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE who is in charge of the scientific management of the Prize. The Scientific Committee receives administrative support from the Fund for Scientific Research-FNRS.

The Scientific Committee is presently composed as follows :

- Professor Rik CASTEELS, President
- Professor Jacques BROTCHI
- Professor Désiré COLLEN
- Professor Walter FIERS
- Professor Guy ROUSSEAU

FORMER PRIZEWINNERS

- **The 1979 Prize** was awarded to **Sir James W. BLACK** (Great-Britain), for his conclusive contribution to the development of medication regarding high blood pressure and other cardiovascular disorders, and for the discovery of new drugs which are effective in the treatment of peptic ulcer and other gastro-intestinal diseases.

- **The 1981 Prize** was awarded to **Sir Cyril A. CLARKE** (Great-Britain), for his basic and clinical contributions to the control of Rhesus haemolytic disease of the newborn.

- **The 1983 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Jean BERNARD** (France), for his more than 40 years' contribution to the treatment of acute leukaemias and hematosarcomas.

- **The 1985 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Johannes J. van ROOD** (The Netherlands), for his contribution to the discovery of the genes and antigens of the major histocompatibility complex of man, the HLA system (Human Leucocyte Antigen).

- **The 1987 Prize** was awarded to **Professors Viktor MUTT and Tomas HÖKFELT** from the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm (Sweden), for their outstanding and complementary contribution to the elucidation of neuropeptide function.

- **The 1989 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Walter FIERS** from the Universiteit Gent (Belgium), for his outstanding contributions to molecular virology and the isolation and expression of genes for a number of lymphokines which are proving to be of significant therapeutic value.

- **The 1991 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Thomas WALDMANN** from the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda (United States of America), for his outstanding contributions to the use of monoclonal antibodies in diagnosis and immunotherapy through the recognition of a cell surface receptor indicating cell proliferation in normal and malignant conditions.

- **The 1993 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Jean-François BOREL** from the University of Bern (Switzerland), for his exceptional contribution to the problems of transplantation through the discovery of a remarkable immunosuppressive agent, cyclosporin, which has revolutionised the clinical results of organ and bone marrow transplantation.

- **The 1995 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Roger TSIEN** from the University of California, San Diego (United States of America), for his work which has profoundly facilitated the discovery of key intracellular events critical for the action of hormones, neurotransmitters, mediators of immunity, and growth factors by introducing particularly elegant, original, and widely applicable methods. His methods, which are used in numerous laboratories around the world, have revolutionized the analysis of intracellular level of calcium and acidity, two central messengers in physiology and in pathophysiology.

- **The 1997 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Michael SELA** from the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot (Israel). He has pioneered the development of chemically built peptides to understand the immune response. These peptides became a crucial tool to show that the immune response is under genetic control. Professor Michael Sela showed that such peptides could be used to regulate the immune system. That allowed him to develop a new generation of vaccines that could interfere with autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis.

- **The 1999 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Julien MENDLEWICZ** of the "Université Libre de Bruxelles", Brussels (Belgium). As a major pioneer of the genetics of manic-depressive psychosis, Professor MENDLEWICZ performed the first adoption studies revealing the genetic basis of this important disease, and he has demonstrated a genetic mechanism which may underlie the increase in psychotic severity with successive generations. Professor MENDLEWICZ also has contributed importantly to many other areas of biological psychiatry. Thus, for several psychiatric diseases, he has identified genetically-based disorders of biological rhythms, sleep and hormone secretion.

- **The 2000 Prize** was awarded to **Professors Jacques VAN SNICK and Jean-Christophe RENAULD** both from the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research of the « Université Catholique de Louvain » (Belgium). Cytokines are proteins that play a central rôle in the regulation of cellular proliferation, especially within the immune system. Professors Jacques VAN SNICK and Jean-Christophe RENAULD, in the twelve years of their fruitful collaboration, made a decisive contribution to our knowledge of the field of cytokines. Their work on Interleukin-6 and Interleukin-9 is unanimously recognized by the international scientific community as being seminal and incisive.

- **The 2001 Prize** was awarded to **Dr Jan D.A. van EMBDEN** from the Laboratory for Infectious Diseases of the "Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu", Bilthoven (The Netherlands). He has been highly committed to the study of infectious diseases in the past 25 years. Elucidating first the rôle of heat shock proteins in inflammation, he has concentrated later entirely on the study of the re-emerging disease of tuberculosis. Not only did he standardize the DNA fingerprinting technique but also invented other molecular methods for the genetic characterization of strains. Also, he established the global network for typing Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

- **The 2002 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Robert M. KRUG**, Austin (United States of America), for his discovery of cap-snatching and its importance in viral replication. The virus uses the cellular machinery and diverts the cell to making more virus particles instead of normal cell components. Cap-snatching is one of the major tricks the virus uses for that purpose.

- **The 2003 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Nancy C. ANDREASEN**, Iowa City (United States of America), for her pioneering contributions to our understanding of the early identification, mechanisms and treatment of schizophrenia. Dr. ANDREASEN's work greatly contributed to our understanding of the rôle of the prefrontal cortex in negative symptoms of schizophrenia by demonstrating an association between neuropsychological abnormalities associated with prefrontal cortical dysfunction and negative symptoms in schizophrenia.

- **The 2004 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Elio LUGARESI**, Bologna (Italy), for his pioneering contribution to the field of sleep medicine. Professor LUGARESI greatly contributed to our understanding for the pathophysiology and consequences of major sleep disorders such as sleep-related movement disorders and sleep-related breathing disorders. His discovery of the Fatal Familial Insomnia and the rôle of the Prion gene mutation is a seminal contribution not only to the field of sleep disorders but also to Neurology, Neurosciences and the Prion protein Biology.

- **The 2005 Prize** was awarded to **Professors Désiré COLLEN and Peter CARMELIET** from the "Katholieke Universiteit Leuven" and "Vlaams Interuniversitair Instituut voor Biotechnologie" (Belgium) for their pioneering work on genetic engineering.
  Through the development of a recombinant protein, tissue plasminogen activator, it has changed the practice of cardiovascular medicine throughout the world. This discovery reduced the death rate from heart attacks and stimulated novel research to increase blood flow to the heart during an acute heart attack.
  This work was further extended by Peter CARMELIET through the generation of animal models of human cardiac diseases.

- **The 2006 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Hidde L. PLOEGH,** from the Whitehead Institute at the Massachussetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge (United States of America), for his pioneering work on the ways viruses evade immune responses.
  He has made fundamental discoveries on how abnormal proteins are broken down in cells and how viruses manipulate these processes to gain advantage. His work has changed our understanding of how normal cells eliminate newly made proteins that are incorrectly folded, and of how viruses evade immune responses.

He has also made critical contributions to our understanding of how foreign proteins are processed as antigens within cells. His work has implications for vaccine development and has led to the discovery of small molecules, with drug potential, that interfere with protein degradation and antigen processing.

- **The 2007 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Peter H. SEEBURG**, from the Max-Planck-Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg (Germany), for his discoveries of fundamental mechanisms of postsynaptic transmission and postsynaptic level in the brain.
  He has made fundamental discoveries on neurotransmitter receptors that mediate excitation and inhibition in the brain. His work has not only changed our understanding of how postsynaptic transmission proceeds at the postsynaptic level but also elucidated basic mechanisms of synaptic plasticity at the molecular level. Further more, he discovered new mechanisms of receptor localisation in the postsynaptic membrane.
  His work has major impact on the basic and applied pharmacology of the brain.

- **The 2008 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Robert A. WEINBERG**, from the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, M.I.T., Cambridge (United States of America).
  Robert WEINBERG has made some of the most significant contributions to the field of molecular oncology. The molecular biology of human cancer genes started with his transformation studies in cell culture and were followed by the identification of the retinoblastoma tumor suppressor gene and more recently by the unravelling of the mechanisms underlying tumor progression and metastasis. These contributions have dramatically advanced our understanding of how cancer arises and progresses. This will also have a major impact on how cancer will be treated in the time to come.

- **The 2009 Prize** was awarded to **Professors Kari ALITALO,** Biomedicum Helsinki and **Seppo YLÄ-HERTTUALA**, University of Kuopio, Finland for their outstanding contributions in the field of angiogenesis and lymphangiogenesis and their modulation by signaling pathways.

- **The 2010 Prize** was awarded to **Professor Stephen O'RAHILLY**, from the Institute of Metabolic Science, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom).
  Professor Stephen O'RAHILLY has made seminal contributions to our understanding of how alterations in single genes can cause common and important metabolic disorders, especially obesity, in humans.
  These studies have paved the way for understanding how hormones and receptors work in humans, often differently from their actions in animal models.

- **The 2011 Prize** is devoted to "Infectious Diseases and Immunology".

29.3.2010