

From the Editor-in-Chief

ON OCTOBER 12–17, 2005, the Third International Medicinal Mushroom Conference was held in Port Townsend, Washington, USA. Two hundred and fifty scientists from 38 countries, from all continents, presented their results in the abstracts published in this special issue of IJMM. The conference plenary lectures, parallel sessions, and poster presentations covered a wide array of topics from novel antimicrobials, antibacterials, anticancer and immunopotential, antivirals, clinical trials, cultivation, ethnomycology, mushroom poisoning, and mycoremediation. Special specific topics were dedicated to species of the genera *Cordyceps*, *Ganoderma*, *Grifola*, *Pleurotus*, and *Trametes*. Among the participants, you will recognize the names of many well-known experts in culinary–medicinal

mushrooms. The conference was organized by Fungi Perfecti LLC (USA). The sponsors of the conference were Maitake Products, Begell House, Inc. (USA), Unicorn Bags, MycoMdx, ISMS, *Explore* (*The Journal of Science and Healing*), Origins (The genius of nature™), and Andre Weil, MD (Weil™), Sylvan.

I would like to thank all organizers of this very important meeting, including the participants who presented lectures, oral presentations, posters, and abstracts, and to the sponsors (to whom we are extremely grateful, because without their support this conference could not have been held).

The Fourth International Medicinal Mushroom Conference will be held in September 2007 in Slovenia (organizers: Professors M. Borovic and N. Gunde-Cimerman, University of Ljubljana).

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