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These proceedings are published under:

ISBN 3-00-010597-2



Georg-August-University



City of Göttingen

*Dear colleagues,
on behalf of the Local Organizing Committee, the International Society for Animal Genetics and the Georg-August-University of Göttingen, we would like to welcome all delegates and accompanying persons to the 28th International Conference on Animal Genetics in Göttingen. It is a great pleasure and honor for us that a conference of the ISAG will take place again in Göttingen after 17 years.*

*The conference will be a unique blending of individual sessions and themes designed to provide you with an exceptional experience. The conference gathers a cadre of international experts in molecular genetics, molecular biology and related fields. These world-class presenters bring together a wealth of experience and knowledge for your benefit. Add to this the ability to share ideas and interact with a global network as well as to view the latest results in Animal Genetics from around the world and you have a conference that cannot be missed. The ideal forum to increase your personal knowledge and professional capabilities, the **ISAG2002** conference will sure exceed your expectations.*

We wish you all pleasant, inspiring and motivating days in one of the oldest and most attractive University cities in Germany. Because of its central geographical position in Germany, Göttingen is also an extremely good starting point for pre- and post conference tours.

We hope to see you in Göttingen at the International Conference and look forward to welcoming you to the "City of Science".

Bertram Brenig

Jan-Nikolaus Meyer

Greeting from the Minister for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony,

Thomas Oppermann



Only 17 years ago the term Animal Genetics was in public at most connected with the attempt to increase the milk production through breeding. Today it can be found in almost any news media, related to a variety of issues.

“Dolly”, the name of the first ever sheep that had been cloned is just as well the label for a milestone in the history of modern science. For weeks on end “Dolly” made headlines and triggered controversial discussions about genetic engineering and biological sciences. But another problem just as well represents the new requirements Animal Genetics is facing today: The public world-wide was alarmed when BSE spread among the cattle all over Europe. Suddenly, everybody was looking at this field of veterinary medicine, at Animal Genetics, as a source of hope and wishes as well as fear and worries.

Considering this growth in importance, I am especially happy the 28th International Conference for Animal Genetics is taking place in Göttingen again after 17 years. Surely triggered by Animal Genetics, genetics has undergone quite an astonishing development during this time and is becoming one of the most important science branches in the 21st century. The genetic mapping of animals has progressed so far that in the years to come there could be enormous breakthroughs concerning the resistance to illnesses in animals and breeds. As well, the existing methods of animal breeding are going to change drastically due to the progress in Animal Genetics.

The 28th International Conference for Animal Genetics is approaching the complexity of these issues from several sides. I am especially pleased that in addition to the participation of several veterinary and biological branches of science, bioethical aspects will be discussed as well. The general public will be expecting the new biological sciences to put up a critical reflection on this issue in particular.

I'd like to thank the International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) for being host to this conference and the Institute of Veterinary Medicine and the Institute of Animal Breeding and Genetics of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen and the Chairmen of the local organizing committee, Professor B. Brenig and Dr. Jan Meyer for preparing it and I wish all participants of this conference good progress and stimulating discussions.

Local Organizing Committee 2002

Sabine Bramsmann

Andreas Müller-Belecke

Bertram Brenig

Ina Pfeiffer

Claus-Peter Czerny

Henner Simianer

Gabriele Hörstgen-Schwark

Helge Täubert

Christoph Knorr

Clemens Wollny

Ute Margan

Secretary: Kaarina Hillmer

Jan-N. Meyer

Katharina Kurth

Burchhard Möllers

Treasurer: Monika Werst

Institute of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Albrecht-Thaer-Weg 3

D-37075 Göttingen, Germany

Institute of Veterinary Medicine, Groner Landstraße 2,

D-37073 Göttingen, Germany



Göttingens most famous monument „Gänseliesel“