

## Eberhard Knobloch \*

President of the ESHS

### Farewell address of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICESHS

*Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

the Second International Conference of the European Society for the History of Science has come to an end. First of all, I would like to thank in the name of all of us our Polish hosts and organizers for the fantastic job they have done, above all Michal Kokowski and his co-workers and helpers, but of course also the authorities of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Jagiellonian University and the Institute for the History of Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences for their overwhelming hospitality.

We enjoyed three exciting days of scientific contributions and discussions apart from unforgettable, incomparable social events like the conference dinner in the Botanical Garden of the Jagiellonian University in a wonderful romantic atmosphere or the excursion to the Jagiellonian Library with the autograph of Copernicus's *De revolutionibus*.

There were six plenary lectures, twenty-one symposia with 173 contributed papers, poster session with five posters, three Round Table discussions dealing with topical subjects like history of science in education and training in Europe, the role of national and international societies in the history of science, history of science and the cultural integration of Europe. These themes deserve our further interest and they will certainly get it.

About 250 scholars participated in the conference coming from twenty-five European (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Ukraine, United Kingdom) and six non-European countries (Australia, Brazil, Canada, Israel, Mexico, USA).

Some important decisions have been taken so that there are good reasons to be optimistic with regard to the future of our scientific discipline and of the ESHS:

- Our Catalan colleagues from Barcelona and our Italian colleagues from Milano will organize conferences in 2007 under the auspices of the ESHS.
- 'Centaurus' will be the official journal of the ESHS from 2007 onward.
- Our Austrian colleague Hermann Hunger, member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and chairman of its Commission on the History of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Medicine, is willing to care about the Third International Conference of our European Society for the History of Science. Thus thanks to him and to the Austrian Academy we can be confident that this conference will take place in Vienna in September 2008. We are looking forward to meeting again in two years in Vienna, besides Cracow another wonderful European city.

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