



«ETTORE MAJORANA» FOUNDATION AND CENTRE FOR SCIENTIFIC CULTURE
TO PAY A PERMANENT TRIBUTE TO GALILEO GALILEI, FOUNDER OF MODERN SCIENCE
AND TO ENRICO FERMI, THE "ITALIAN NAVIGATOR", FATHER OF THE WEAK FORCES



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ETHOLOGY

27th Workshop: *CONCEPTUAL ISSUES IN STRESS RESEARCH*

ERICE–SICILY: 1 – 7 NOVEMBER 2011

Sponsored by the: • Italian Ministry of University and Research • Sicilian Regional Government

TOPICS AND LECTURERS

THE STRESS CONCEPT

The history of the stress concept

• J.M. KOOLHAAS, University of Groningen, NL

Animal models in stress research: the good, the bad and the future

• E. FUCHS, German Primate Center, Goettingen, DE

Conceptualization and Measurement of Life. Stress in humans

• J. ORMEL, University of Groningen, NL

Stress and stress research in the fetus, infant and child

• B. VAN DEN BERGH, University of Tilburg, NL

STRESS RESPONSE

Time for the HPA axis to move aside: inflammation is the most critical element of the stress response

• T. DAY, University of Newcastle, NSW, AU

The socially stressed heart

• A. SGOIFO, University of Parma, IT

Epigenetic mechanisms underlying gene transcription and behavioral responses to stress

• H. REUL, University of Bristol, UK

FUNCTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STRESS RESPONSE

The metabolic consequences of the stress response

• G.J. VAN DIJK, University of Groningen, NL

Coping with a capricious world: mechanisms to avoid stress

• J.C. WINGFIELD, University of California, Davis, CA, US

Adrenal stress hormones, amygdala activation, and memory for emotionally arousing experiences

• B. ROOZENDAAL, University of Groningen, NL

Prenatal stress: epigenetic programming of brain and immune function

• S. MACCARI, University of Lille, FR

DEVELOPMENTAL ASPECTS OF VULNERABILITY / RESILIENCE

Adaptive modulation of behavioural profiles by social stress during early phases of life and adolescence

• N. SACHSER, University of Munster, DE

Stress during development in humans

• K. RAIKKONEN, University of Helsinki, FI

Juvenile stress as a risk factor to developing stress-induced depression and PTSD in adulthood

• G. RICHTER-LEVIN, University of Haifa, Israel

The Early Life Stress (ELS) concept: implications for the match/mismatch theory

• E.R. DE KLOET, University of Leiden, NL

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

The School aims at PhD students who are actively involved in stress research. The team of teachers includes many of the internationally leading stress researchers. They will discuss their view on conceptual issues and new developments in stress research. The themes are: 1. History and current view of the stress concept. 2. Physiological stress response. 3. Functional significance of the stress response. 4. Developmental aspects with special emphasis on the match/mismatch hypothesis. There will be plenty opportunity for the students to discuss their own work and views with the teachers. The School is a combined activity of the Eurostress program of the European Science Foundation and the Erice School of Ethology. The latter is organized on a regular basis in the framework of the Ettore Majorana Foundation aimed to support the medieval city of Erice as a city of Science.

APPLICATIONS

Persons wishing to attend the Course are requested to write to:

• Professor Andrea SGOIFO
University of Parma, Italy
e-mail: andrea.sgoifo@unipr.it

They should specify:

- (i) full name, address, age, nationality
- (ii) present position and affiliation and curriculum studiorum.

PLEASE NOTE

Participants must arrive on 1 November, not later than 6 pm.

More information about the «Ettore Majorana» Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture can be found on the WWW at the following address:
<http://www.ccsem.infn.it>

POETIC TOUCH

According to legend, Erice, son of Venus and Neptune, founded a small town on top of a mountain (750 metres above sea level) more than three thousand years ago. The founder of modern history — i.e. the recording of events in a methodic and chronological sequence as they really happened without reference to mythical causes — the great Thucydides (~500 B.C.), writing about events connected with the conquest of Troy (1183 B.C.) said: «After the fall of Troy some Trojans on their escape from the Achaei arrived in Sicily by boat and as they settled near the border with the Sicanians all together they were named Elymi: their towns were Segesta and Erice.» This inspired Virgil to describe the arrival of the Trojan royal family in Erice and the burial of Anchise, by his son Enea, on the coast below Erice. Homer (~1000 B.C.), Theocritus (~300 B.C.), Polybius (~200 B.C.), Virgil (~50 B.C.), Horace (~20 B.C.), and others have celebrated this magnificent spot in Sicily in their poems. During seven centuries (XIII-XIX) the town of Erice was under the leadership of a local oligarchy, whose wisdom assured a long period of cultural development and economic prosperity which in turn gave rise to the many churches, monasteries and private palaces which you see today.

In Erice you can admire the Castle of Venus, the Cyclopean Walls (~800 B.C.) and the Gothic Cathedral (~1300 A.D.). Erice is at present a mixture of ancient and medieval architecture. Other masterpieces of ancient civilization are to be found in the neighbourhood: at Motya (Phoenician), Segesta (Elymian), and Selinunte (Greek). On the Aegadian Islands — theatre of the decisive naval battle of the first Punic War (264-241 B.C.) — suggestive neolithic and paleolithic vestiges are still visible: the grottoes of Favignana, the carvings and murals of Levanzo.

Splendid beaches are to be found at San Vito Lo Capo, Scopello, and Cornino, and a wild and rocky coast around Monte Cofano: all at less than one hour's drive from Erice.