

# RGI NEWS

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## XXX ICE and Midnight Sun Symposium June 2003

The Ragnar Granit Foundation jointly with the Ragnar Granit Institute, Finnish Cardiac Society, Finnish Society for Medical Physics and Medical Engineering, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the International Society for Bioelectromagnetism organized the *XXX International Congress on Electrocardiology* in Helsinki, 11-14 June, 2003.

Professor Jaakko Malmivuo served as President of the Congress. Dr. Jari Viik and Ms Soile Lönnqvist, from RGI, served as Chairman and Secretary of the Organizing Committee. Dr. Markku Mäkijärvi, represented the Finnish Cardiac Society in the Scientific Committee.

The congress venue was the House of Estates in the heart of the monumental center of Helsinki.

The congress was participated by over 200 active participants from 30 countries from all over the world. In addition to the 64 participants from Finland, 31 participants came from the USA and 15 participants from Japan. Several participants came also as far as from Brasil, Argentina and Taiwan.

In addition to the scientific topics, which covered all aspects of electrocardiology a special session on the 30 year's history of the International Society for Electrocardiology was arranged. The history session was organized by Dr. Jerome Liebman, president of the International Society of Electrocardiology and Professor Peter Macfarlane, secretary of the Society. The congress proceedings is found at: [www.rgi.tut.fi/ijbem](http://www.rgi.tut.fi/ijbem)

The winner of the Kenichi Harumi Young Investigators' Competition was Edward J. Vigmond from the University of Calgary, Canada. The title of his talk was: "*The Cable as a Basis for a Mechanoelectric Whole Heart Model*"

From the social program of the congress it should be especially mentioned in the Opening Ceremony the concert of the Childrens' String Orchestra of East Helsinki Music School conducted by Csaba and Géza Szilvay. The orchestra had over 60 musicians aged of about 10 years. Their violin soloist was Ilona Ahlberg.

The social program also included an organ concert by Tapio Tiitu in the Tempeliahaukio Church and the congress banquet at Restaurant Sipuli. The night was fully light and from the restaurant the sun was shining on the orthodox church almost until midnight.

After the congress the *Midnight Sun Symposium* was organized in Saariselkä, Lapland, 15-17 June, 2003. Its scientific program was arranged by Professor Heikki Huikuri and Dr. Pekka Raatikainen. The Symposium was participated by about 60 participants. In addition to the scientific program the participants toured to the Saami Museum and Northern Lapland Nature Center Siida in Inari ([www.siida.fi](http://www.siida.fi)). The accompanying persons had an opportunity to experience gold panning.

[www.rgi.tut.fi/ice2003](http://www.rgi.tut.fi/ice2003)

## Olaf Dössel Received the Ragnar Granit Prize in the XXX ICE

Professor Olaf Dössel gave the Ragnar Granit Lecture in the opening ceremony of the XXX ICE. The title of his talk was: "*Modeling Cardiac Electric Fields*".



Professor Dössel is with the Institute of Biomedical Engineering at Universität Karlsruhe, Germany. He is one of the world authorities on this topic.

### **Pentti M. Rautaharju Gave the Rijland Lecture**

Professor Pentti M. Rautaharju gave the Rijland Lecture in the XXX ICE. The title of his talk was: *"Evolution of Electrocardiographic Research — Holy Doctrines and Heretic Concepts"*.



Dr. Pentti Rautaharju is the most famous Finnish cardiologist. He has worked in Halifax and in Edmonton in Canada and in Winston Salem, North Carolina. He has recently retired.

### **Veikko Suihko Defended his Doctoral Thesis**

Lic. Tech. Veikko Suihko defended his doctoral thesis on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003. Its title was: *"Transcranial Electrical Stimulation Method: a Stimulator and Modelling with a Note on EEG"*.



Dr. Anthony Parker from Sheffield University, UK and Dr. Risto Ilmoniemi from BioMag Laboratory, Helsinki University Central Hospital served as examiners. The Custos was Professor Hannu Eskola.

### **Docent Ville Jäntti Appointed Senior Researcher on Neuroinformatics**

Docent, Dr. Ville Jäntti was appointed on June 1<sup>st</sup> Senior Researcher at the Ragnar Granit Institute. His research area is neuroinformatics, especially cognitive anesthesiology and intracerebral electric fields of brain.



Dr. Ville Jäntti is Docent of Clinical Neurophysiology. He received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Turku University 1982. He has served in Lund, Sweden, 1982, London, UK, 1988-89 and Montreal, Canada, 1994. Now he serves 80% of his time at the RGI and 20% as neurophysiologist at Tampere University Hospital.

### **Dr. Tech. Tomi Heinonen Appointed Docent on Medical Image Processing**

Dr. Tech. Tomi Heinonen was appointed on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2003 Docent on Medical Image Processing at the Ragnar Granit Institute.



Docent Tomi Heinonen received the Dr. Tech. degree from the Ragnar Granit Institute in 1999. Since that he has worked at Nokia Company.



Children's String Orchestra, soloist Ilona Ahlberg



Opening Ceremony at the University of Helsinki



The House of the Estates



Edward J. Vigmond, J. Liebman, J. Malmivuo



P. Raatikainen, M. Gonzalez, M. Mäkijärvi



Jari Viik speaking in Banquet at Restaurant Sipuli



Restaurant Huippu on the top of Kaunispää Fjell



H. Huikuri, M. Malik, T. Klingenheben, M. Franz



Hauskaa Joulua

## *Season's Greetings*

*The personnel of the Ragnar Granit Institute thank all their friends for good co-operation during 2003 and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a successful New Year 2004.*