

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Report on the 6th International FESTEM Symposium on “New horizons on trace elements and minerals role in human and animal health” (Catania, Sicily, Italy, May 26-28th, 2016).

Author: editors Paola Borella Bernhard Michalke



PII: S0946-672X(16)30426-6
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.jtemb.2016.12.004>
Reference: JTEMB 25865

To appear in:

Please cite this article as: Borella editors Paola, Michalke Bernhard. Report on the 6th International FESTEM Symposium on “New horizons on trace elements and minerals role in human and animal health” (Catania, Sicily, Italy, May 26-28th, 2016). *Journal of Trace Elements in Medicine and Biology* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jtemb.2016.12.004>

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Guest editors: Paola Borella and Bernhard Michalke

The meeting

FESTEM organised its 6th international meeting in Catania, Sicily, in May 26-28th 2016. The success of this fifth edition was due not only to the excellent organisation of the Italian Society AISETOV and specifically the hosting Department G.F. Ingrassia, University of Catania but in particular the local responsible organizers Prof. Margherita Ferrante and her colleagues and to the choice of the beautiful venue at the Benedictine Monastery in Catania, Sicily as the place of the meeting, but also to the attractive scientific program.

The format included sessions on

- Trace elements and human health
- Trace elements in the environment
- Trace elements and biological mechanisms
- Trace elements and human disease
- Special element session: Selenium in human health and disease
- Trace elements: Methodical issues
- Trace elements in animal health and disease
- Trace elements in toxicology
- Gabriel Bertrand Award.

About 135 scientists registered to the meeting from 23 different countries, there were 10 invited lecturer speakers, 47 oral communications, and 85 posters were exposed during the meeting.

The plenary lectures were given by the following scientists:

Speaker	Title	Session
Jean Neve	Dietary reference values and upper levels for trace element intakes revisited	Keynote session
Margarita Skalnaya	Cu, Fe, Zn metabolism derangement and impaired glucose metabolism in postmenopausal women	Trace elements and human health
Dimitriy Deryabin	Lux-based bacterial biosensors reveal toxic trace elements and evaluate anti-toxic effect of carbon-based nanomaterials	Trace elements in the environment

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