



Newsletter No. 32

Report on the First Latin American Workshop on Electroporation and its Applications (1st LAWE2018)

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The First Latin American Workshop on Electroporation and its Applications (1st LAWE2018) to which the Encontro Brasileiro de Electroquímico Veterinaria (EBEV) was incorporated, took place from 8th until 9th of October 2018 at the campus from the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) with the purpose of promoting its use in the region, and of reuniting academics from different disciplines, such as Biology, Medicine, Veterinary and Food Processing doing research in electroporation (EP) as well as developers and users of EP-based technologies. It was organized by the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, UBA with the sponsorship of UBA, the National Research Council of Argentina, the Ministry of Science and Technology through the Bilateral project Slovenia-Argentina 1918, ISEBTT, EBEV, ADOX, TRITON VET, Italian Embassy in Argentina, Argentine Embassy in Italy, FOTOMED, RCAI, IILA and MIRAI MEDICAL.

Participants of the workshop came from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Italy, Paraguay, Perú, Portugal, Slovenia, Uruguay, and the USA, and altogether there were more than 70 of them. The official languages of the Workshop were English and Spanish. The workshop was composed of invited keynote speakers and contributed talks from researchers and users of EP-based technologies. A total of 17 lectures were delivered, 7 of them from world experts. The workshop opened with a ceremony in which Dr. Lluís Mir received a diploma of Dr. Honoris Causa awarded by the University of Buenos Aires, in recognition to his leadership in Pulsed Electric Fields Applications in Biology and Medicine, followed by Lluís Mir lecture on An introduction of Electrochemotherapy (ECT) and other clinical applications of EP: history, fundamentals and recent methods of study.

Next, a talk on Brownian dynamics simulation in EP was presented by Juan González Cuevas, followed by a talk on Electromagnetic fields: biological effects and possible effects on health, by Víctor Cruz Ornetta. After lunch, Richard Heller gave a lecture on potential therapeutic applications of gene electrotransfer (GET), followed by Loree Heller's lecture, on Innate immunity induced by GET. Next, Samo Mahnič-Kalamiza lectured on uses and applications of EP in food processing and biotechnology, followed by a talk by Nahuel Olaiz on EP in continuous-flow food processing. Next, Emanuela Signori lectured on EP as a new tool in cancer immunotherapy, followed by Rafael Davalos lecture on High-Frequency irreversible electroporation for brain cancer therapy.

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**3rd World Congress on Electroporation
& Pulsed Electric Fields in Biology, Medicine
& Food and Environmental Technologies**
Toulouse, France September 3–6, 2019





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The last activity of the workshop was a round table chaired by Victor Cruz Ornetta about extending the implementation and applications of EP-based technologies in Latin America. One of the main conclusions of this last event was the need of creating a Latin American electroporation society possibly as an offspring of the ISEBTT and the organization of the second Latin American workshop possibly in charge of the Brazilian delegation.

The second day started with the Vet. Matías Tellado works on ECT for treating oral malignant melanoma, followed by Marcelo Monte Mór Rangel talk about treating bladder cancer with ECT. Next, Urša Lampreht Tratar gave a talk on GET with Ca-IL-12 in veterinary medicine. The session continued with Lluís Mir second lecture on EP: dosimetry, accuracy, and uncertainties, followed by Felipe Maglietti talk on treating nasal tumors with ECT and Joseph Impellizeri talk on veterinary experiences with GET and ECT in the United States. After lunch, Victor Faricha lectured on Medical applications with ECT, followed by Marisa A. Garabalino work on boron uptake with EP.

Next followed a forum for the presentation of 5 veterinary cases chaired by Matías Tellado and Marcelo Mór Rangel: first case delivered by Javier Ojeda was on Experience on multilobular osteochondrosarcoma treated with ECT (two cases); the second case presented by SCC Laura Pisano was on ECT plus cryosurgery in feline, the third case presented by Dr. Priscila Gil Quadros on conservative surgery plus ECT on intranasal carcinoma; the fourth case shown by Daniela Ota Hisayasu Suzuki, was on a Computational model applied for the treatment of a bone tumor in canine patient; the fifth case was presented by Julio Fernández on a Case report of ECT applied in a horse sarcoid.

Between morning and afternoon sessions with coffee breaks, lunch was served (these goodies were included in the registration fee). During coffee breaks and lunch, participants were able to have lively discussions with the experts. Participants of all backgrounds without distinction were enthralled with EP-based technologies spectacular results.

The Organizing Committee was chaired by Guillermo Marshall and included Felipe Maglietti, Matías Tellado, Nahuel Olaiz, Carolina Schebor, Emmanuel Luján all from the University of Buenos Aires and Samo Mahnic-Kalamiza, from the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Ljubljana, Slovenia. The book of abstracts containing the program, abstracts and the list of all participants can be downloaded from <https://workshoplattinep.com/program>.

Forthcoming events

4th Veterinary Workshop on Electroporation-Based Treatments

Ljubljana, April 2 – 3, 2019

<https://goo.gl/vUKxtX> (click on the first entry, “Electroporation”)

6th School on Pulsed Electric Field Applications in Food and Biotechnology

Cesena, June 3 – 7, 2019

<http://pefschool2019.electroporation.net>

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*Group photo of participants of
the 1st LAWE.*

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