

## Liberiamo Let's set research free a ricerca

Italian researchers discuss the Peer-Review process
19 May 2008 - Aula Magna Santa Lucia - Via Castiglione 36, Bologna

10am

Gene Targeting in the 21st Century: Mouse Models of Human Disease from Cancer to Psychiatric Disorders

Lecture by Nobel Laureate in Medicine 2007

Mario Capecchi

Professor of Human Genetics and Biology, University of Utah Salt Lake City, USA

Introduction

Pier Ugo Calzolari

Rector, Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna

11am

Liberiamo la ricerca (Let's set research free)

Introduction

Giovanni Romeo

Professor of Human Genetics, University of Bologna President of PROGEN

**Moderators** 

To be defined

**Speakers** 

Ignazio Marino

Senator of the Republic - Professor of Surgery at Jefferson Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, USA

Fernando Aiuti

Professor of Clinical Immunology - Head of the Post Graduate School of Allergy and Clinical Immunology at the University of Rome 'La Sapienza'

Vittorio Bo

Director of the Genoa Science Festival

Giorgio Einaudi

Member of ISSNAF - Scientific Attaché at the Embassy of Italy in Washington DC, USA

**Andrea Ichino** 

Professor, Department of Economics, University of Bologna

Lucia Monaco

Chief Scientific Officer, Italian Telethon Foundation

Questions from the audience (5 minutes each)

Conclusion

L. Luca Cavalli Sforza

Emeritus Professor, University of Stanford, California, USA Transmitted via webcasting from Stanford, California

Live webcasting on: www.eurogene.org

Free entrance

For further information: www.liberiamolaricerca.it

What is the Peer-Review process?

According to NIH data, in Italy less than 10% of funding for research is allocated through the peer-review process, i.e. through an independent and regulated evaluation of scientific merit by anonymous and competent third parties. In Italy, current funding procedures allow direct, uncontrolled negotiation between the public administration and researchers, group of researchers or scientific institutions. These procedures are against the principles that inspire and regulate funding in countries where the promotion of science is considered to be of public interest and where science attains the highest levels of quality. This issue must be urgently included in current political priorities (extract from the Letter sent to the Italian President of the Republic Napolitano, subscribed by 1500 researchers).

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