

Journal für

Reproduktionsmedizin und Endokrinologie

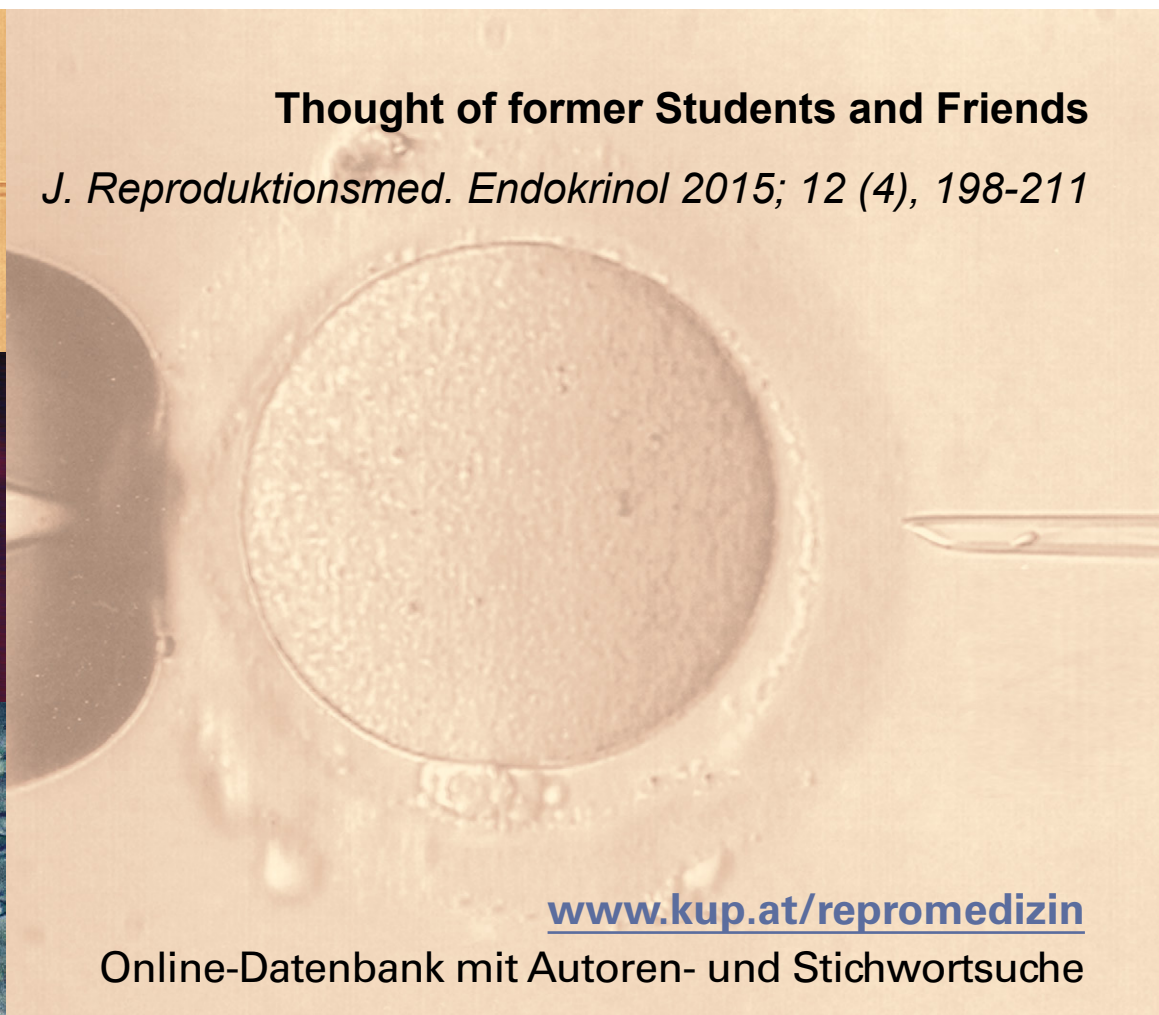
– Journal of Reproductive Medicine and Endocrinology –

Andrologie • Embryologie & Biologie • Endokrinologie • Ethik & Recht • Genetik
Gynäkologie • Kontrazeption • Psychosomatik • Reproduktionsmedizin • Urologie



Thought of former Students and Friends

J. Reproduktionsmed. Endokrinol 2015; 12 (4), 198-211



www.kup.at/repromedizin

Online-Datenbank mit Autoren- und Stichwortsuche

Offizielles Organ: AGRBM, BRZ, DVR, DGA, DGGEF, DGRM, D-I-R, EFA, OEGRM, SRBM/DGE

Indexed in EMBASE/Excerpta Medica/Scopus

Krause & Pachernegg GmbH, Verlag für Medizin und Wirtschaft, A-3003 Gablitz



ENDO FERTI FORUM

ENDOKRINOLOGIE & FERTILITÄT
FÜR KLINIK & PRAXIS

20.-21. März 2026

Universitätsmedizin Mainz

Einladung zu unserer wissenschaftlichen Veranstaltung Endo-Ferti-Forum

Brücke(n) zwischen Unikliniken und Praxen an Rhein und Main(z)

– die aus dem bisherigen Format „Ferti Forum“ ab 2026 hervorgeht –



Freuen Sie sich auf spannende Vorträge und den lebendigen Austausch mit Kolleg:innen und Expert:innen aus Klinik und Praxis. Freitagabend laden wir Sie herzlich zu einem entspannten Empfang ein – eine perfekte Gelegenheit, Kontakte zu knüpfen und den Tag genussvoll ausklingen zu lassen.

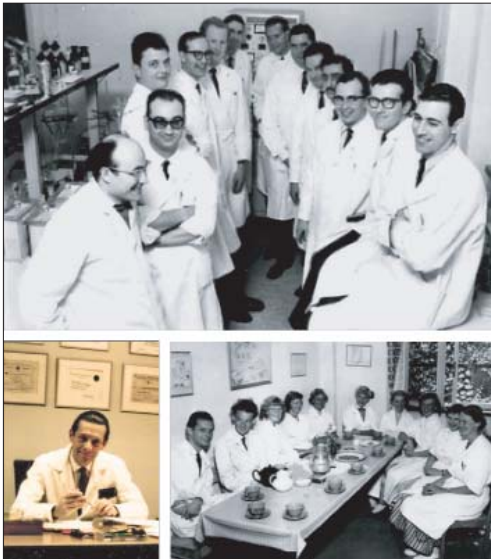
Wissenschaftliche Leitung: Univ.-Professorin Annette Hasenburg, Dr. Susanne Theis, Universitätsmedizin Mainz, Sanitätsrat Dr. Werner Harlfinger, BVF Rheinland-Pfalz Dr. Rüdiger Gaase, BVF Hessen Dr. Klaus J. Doubek

Schirmherrschaften: Prof. Nicole Sänger, Uniklinik Bonn, Prof. Jan-Steffen Krüssel, Uniklinik Düsseldorf, Dr. Annette Bachmann, Uniklinik Frankfurt am Main, Prof. Christine Skala, Uniklinik Köln

Weitere Informationen
& Anmeldung unter



Thoughts of former Students and Friends



“Egon was a master teacher with universal outlook and had students from different parts of the world. He was a great humanitarian but always practiced what he taught us. His famous dictum was that ‘nothing except the best is good enough for us’. He also encouraged us with hope that ‘progress is not only a necessity, but is the way of life’”.

Badri N. Saxena, India



Group photo of postdoc fellows with Egon (ca. summer 1969). Sitting on the floor (left to right): Young lady; Rajesh Mathur (USA). First Row – Sitting on chair (left to right): Lucia Mody (USA); Michie Hellema (Belgium); Egon Diczfalussy (Sweden); Elizabeth Johannisson (Sweden). Second Row – Standing: (left to right): David Archer (USA); Mirabeau D’Souza (Brazil); Stan Cekan (Czechoslovakia); Ulla Olsson (Sweden); Oliver Williamson (USA); Badri Saxena (India); Ulrico Lerner (Argentina); Bartus D’La Torre (Spain).



Egon Diczfalussy taking seminar of lab colleagues summer 1969. First row round the table (left to right): Ulrico Lerner (Argentina); Rajesh Mathur (USA); Mirabeau D’Souza (Brazil); Stan Cekan (Czechoslovakia); Elizabeth Johannisson (Sweden); Lucia Mody; Egon Diczfalussy (Sweden); Badri Saxena (India). Second row – Standing (left to right): David Archer (USA); Ulrico Lerner (Argentina); Oliver Williamson (USA).

Herman Adlercreutz
Helsinki, Finland

"In 1958 I finished my medical studies at the University of Helsinki. My father associate professor Erik Adlercreutz was the first hepatologist in Finland and made me interested in the hyperestrogenism occurring in liver cirrhosis.



The only laboratory in Scandinavia measuring estrogens by chemical methods was that of Egon Diczfalusy in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Karolinska hospital. Professor Gunnar Birke in the Department of internal medicine introduced me to Dr Egon Diczfalusy, who gave me the opportunity to pursue my ideas by starting to measure estrogens in bile, something that he commented saying that it will be very difficult. Altogether I stayed 34 months in the laboratory (1958–1961), finishing the practical part of my doctoral thesis 'Oestrogens in human bile' published as a monograph.

At my disputation professor Diczfalusy came to Helsinki that I appreciated very much.

In this way I learned to know a man with many unusual talents. He is a multi-linguist and definitely the best lecturer I ever met. From his lectures I learned very much that I have used in my later life. He could see how various aspects of reproduction may influence the whole world. In addition he has a memory that few can surpass. As an example: During writing of a manuscript in his home I wrote and he dictated practically all references directly from his memory. He also read word by word my whole thesis and taught me at the same time much about writing scientific papers which I have used numerous times. There is no doubt that nobody else has had such a major influence on my whole career.

Definition of Egon Diczfalusy: A verbally unusually talented scientist with global perspectives on human life."

Biran Affandi
Jakarta, Indonesia

"Professor Egon Diczfalusy represents a father of a scientific community which has been growing and developing by itself since he graduated as a doctor.



Today the tree of scientific community consists of (mainly) his students – and has been matured enough to dedicate its fruits to the world.

Professor Egon Diczfalusy is a father, a teacher, a pioneer and a friend of medical scientists."

Doru Anastasiu
Clinica Bega, Timisoara, Romania

"For the first time I heard of Prof. Egon Diczfalusy when I was a 6th year student at the Obstetrics and Gynecology course, where he was quoted as being the person who demonstrated the fetal-placental and motherfetus unit.



Later, I met him in 1994 when, at the proposal of our clinic and University, he was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Victor Babes Timisoara.

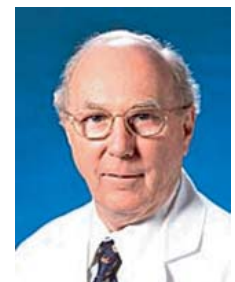
In his speech delivered at the end of the festivity, Prof. Dr. Egon Diczfalusy stated that from that moment on he considers himself as a son of the university and, as any good son, he will return home to bring his contribution to the development in scientific activities.

Prof. Egon Diczfalusy is a great researcher with important contributions in endocrine gynecology and obstetrics. He is a visionary, a great family man and a great humanist. He is a friend and a mentor for many of today's young scientists and academics worldwide.

Through the foundation Egon & Ann Diczfalusy, the Professor continues to support and stimulate young researchers. I am honored to have known him and be his contemporary."

David F. Archer
Norfolk, USA

"Egon Diczfalusy is the most unforgettable person I have ever met. His life as a scientist, academician, and international authority on human reproduction is unparalleled. His innovation and interests coupled with an intense work ethic took him around the globe and into the lives of uncountable individuals. The impact of Professor Diczfalusy cannot be easily quantified. Each of us after being with him changed what we do and how we think. My two years at the Hormonlaboratoriet in the Karolinska Hospital was well spent under his guidance. My subsequent interactions with Professor Diczfalusy were important in my life and career.



The impact of the World Health Organization Special Unit in Reproduction, which he was actively involved with for many years could be summarized in his statement. 'A modern interpretation of history is said to be based on the analysis of the history of ideas. The history of the second part of the twentieth century represents an entirely new departure in this respect; for the first time in the history of mankind the policies emerging from the World Conferences organized by various specialized Agencies of the United Nations broadened the views and perceptions of many Member States (including donor govern-

ments) and significantly influenced their Policies' [Diczfalusy E. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2005; 193: 2025]."

Takeshi Aso
Tokyo, Japan

"Professor Egon Diczfalusy input me the spirit and mission for a medical scientist."

Ten words to define Professor Egon Diczfalusy: Source of wisdom and origin of energy for activities."



Rod Baber
New York, USA

"All my warmest wishes to Professor Egon Diczfalusy whom I know since many years as a bright scientist, humanitarian and a visionary for the future. His contribution to research and the betterment of reproductive health of the less developed countries and the most vulnerable populations has been immense. I feel very honored and privileged for having met him and been asked to lecture in his honor. All my congratulations for his wonderful achievements."



Adam Balogh
University of Debrecen, Hungary

"It is extremely difficult to describe Professor Egon Diczfalusy because of the complexity of his personality. It would be too simple to say, he has been a renaissance man. He is equally knowledgeable of the antiquity, the pre-Columbian art, and the controversial modern age. He has been showing strong sympathy towards Asian people and cultures. I guess, not many of European scientists made more friends, and more devoted ones there. I also recognized his deep affinity to Latin people all over the World, perhaps for their rich history, charming languages, their enjoyment of life and elegance, as I also witnessed him having been working hard for building friendly professional bonds among scientist of Central-Eastern Europe."



Doing so, I felt a hint of his hope for better relations of these nations after centuries of troubles. He has been a real Citizen of World in a good sense proudly, and with perceived duties of this status. He believed in the mission of science in making a better life for mankind. He appreciated the progress of science that has taken place in the world during his life to date. But he warned us watchfully of the evil trends of exploitation, social

and gender inequity, continuing enmities, series of wars, their vast expenses and related human suffering throughout the world.

Characterizing Professor Egon Diczfalusy in ten words: A limited view by one of his past student and present friend. These adjectives are listed from outside to inside, as I imagine him: elegant, intellectual, wit, multilingual, hard working (still), responsible, merciful, sentimental, alert to problems of individuals and evils of our Merry New World, has a sixth sense."

Katalin Barabas
University of Szeged, Hungary

"What does Professor Diczfalusy mean to me? I have known Professor Diczfalusy personally for four years. During our first discussion that was on the moral basis of scientific research, he convinced me that I had met an exceptional personality."



This meeting has developed into a nice relationship that involves discussions and correspondence about the medical science and the history of medicine, providing me experiences in music and the fine arts pervaded by humor and containing several cultural references. His excellent organizing ability, physical strength and indefatigable social activity elicited my deepest respect and admiration."

If it is possible to characterize somebody in the 21st century as the Renaissance man, he is the very one. He is a real humanist and a polyhistor. Tradition and progress is mixed in a peculiar proportion in him. He is experienced both in the field of modern scientific achievements and in the world of the Old Greek dramas. His love for operas is not unintentional as this is the very genre that presents man in the most complex way, and he is mostly interested in the human being."

Professor Diczfalusy has brought me a message from a world that is very much desired by me, the scale of values and the style of which is much over our hurrying, globalized world. I consider the gift of fate that I have the privilege of knowing him. Thank you!"

If I had to characterize the personality of Professor Diczfalusy, the first word that comes into my mind would be elegant. He has elegant thoughts, elegant taste, elegant physical appearance and elegant life style; he is an exceptional man."

György Bártfai
University of Szeged, Hungary

"I spent more than one year in Professor Diczfalusy's Lab, at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm. I was lucky enough to be there in the 'golden age', when he was one of the leading figures in science on



the field of reproductive health, as well as the eminence grise of the WHO.

Professor Egon Diczfalusy is my father in research. I never forget his frequent citation by Zrínyi 'Good fortune, nothing else'. However, I would like to continue with another citation by Pasteur: 'Chance favours only the prepared mind'. He is my role model of a committed scientist obtaining outstanding professional results yet remaining an uncompromising humanist always with a good sense of humor and staying sensitive toward others."

Giuseppe Benagiano

University "la Sapienza", Rome, Italy



"Egon Diczfalusy is an eminent scientist, a humanitarian, a visionary and a man who – throughout his long life – cared for the underprivileged. His life has been dedicated as much to science and research as to improving the reproductive health of women and men of the world. For me, Egon Diczfalusy has been a figure so important as to be second only to my father.

I owe to him my introduction to research, to the world of the United Nations and to the intricacies of international public health."

Paul Brenner

University of Southern California, USA



"Professor Diczfalusy was very important in directing my research efforts early in my career. Even more than this, as a mentor he taught me the moral and ethical standards to be a success in life. He was much more than a remarkable scientist, he was a role model and in many ways a 'father' figure.

In ten words: scholarly, brilliant, kind, professional, dedicated, unselfish, modest, supportive, leader and charismatic."

Ivo Brosens

University Leuven, Belgium



"In the first place it is a great honor for me to be part of the close friends of Professor Egon Diczfalusy.

My admiration for Egon started in the late 1960s when he and his collaborators published in *Acta Endocrinologica* the classical studies leading to the concept of the feto-placental unit. At that time I was a resident at the Catholic

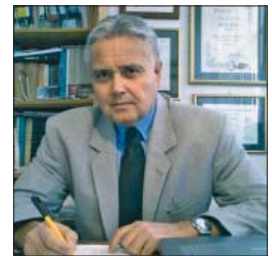
University of Leuven in Belgium and involved in the investigation of the role of the placental bed spiral arteries in obstetrical syndromes like preeclampsia and fetal growth retardation. The work of Egon has been the basis of our current understanding of what can be called the maternal-placental-fetal unit.

In the late 1990s when I was involved in ISGE Training program in gynecological endoscopy, I had the opportunity of meeting many of his friends in Hungary and Romania and learned how important it is to go and meet other colleagues in their country.

For me is Egon the outstanding person who never stopped learning and teaching."

Petru Chitulea

University County Hospital Oradea, Romania



"'The Power of Ideas'. Medicine has represented, throughout the history of humankind, a branch of science profoundly anchored in humankind and in the life of the communities, but also of the human culture, in general, of all times.

The social role of the doctor, as a holder of all the information connected with the human being's physiological and psychological needs, as a healer of physical suffering, has represented an important mark in all societies, starting with the dawns of human history until today. The history of medicine, from the healing shaman to the ultra-specialized doctor nowadays, has been interspersed with a series of technical, pharmacological, anatomo-structural, physiopathological discoveries, but, especially, with the appearance of some new concepts, innovating ideas, which propelled it. If technical and, in general, material discoveries were relatively easily accepted by the members of the medical corpus, the new concepts were always met with acerb opposition, an opposition which was worth a better cause. Throughout history we find examples of ideas, new in their time, ideas that we nowadays consider self-explanatory, which have become common places of medical thinking, but which in their time caused an uncommon opposition both from the members of the fellowship, and from society, in general.

Thus, the study of anatomy based on dissection, culminating with Andre Vesale's 'De humani corporis fabrica', the concept of vaccination against infectious diseases, whose promoter was the English doctor Jenner, Semmelweis' concepts of asepsis and antisepsis, Pasteur's discovery regarding the microbial aetiology of infectious diseases, the concepts of holistic and psychosomatic medicine, Freud's and Jung's theories, the concept of family planning and contraception, to Egon Diczfalusy's concept of the feto-placental unit, have met an opposition sometimes active, other times passive, but always consistent.

The discovery of the fact that pregnancy is not represented by the foetus together with its 'annexes', that the foetus, the pla-

centa, the umbilical chord and the amnios form a unitary whole, all of them being parts of the fecundated human egg, and that none of them has any sense in the absence of the others, having an equal importance in the accomplishment of the future human being that is going to be born, shocked the community of the obstetricians, despite evidence.

Formulated in 1970, the idea of the feto-placental unit, although it is the expression of an elementary logic, has not been totally adopted even after 40 years, medical students being taught even now, in some universities, about 'the foetus and its annexes'.

Despite all opposition to new ideas and concepts, medicine has progressed in the last two millennia, exactly because of them. The great medical progresses, which changed the face of medicine, have always been connected to the implementation of the new concepts, despite the initial opposition they were subjected to.

'When an idea corresponds to the necessities of the age, it stops belonging to those who invented it and becomes more powerful than the power-holders and it becomes a common property of humankind' (E. Diczfalussy, 2002).

That is why I consider that accepting the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Oradea, by PhD Professor emeritus Egon Diczfalussy, represents a great honour for our university, for all the members of the academic community, and last but not least, for all the members of the medical corpus in our city and county.

Professor Diczfalussy's connection with Oradea started in 1994, when he responded to an invitation made by PhD Professor emeritus academician Ioan Munteanu, at the time the President of the Romanian Society of Obstetrics-Gynaecology, by Prof. Eng. Teodor Maghiar, the founder rector of the University of Oradea, and also by me, as the President of the Romanian-Hungarian Congress of Obstetrics-Gynaecology (May 1994), and when he was awarded the title of Honorary Member and the medal of the Romanian Society of Obstetrics-Gynaecology.

Starting then, Prof. Diczfalussy's connection with the Romanian gynaecologists has been a constant, materialized through multiple meetings at scientific manifestations in our country, at scientific manifestations all over the world, where he always displayed, sincerely and warmly, his friendship and appreciation both for his Romanian fellows, and for the Romanian medical education.

Throughout all these years, I have had the privilege of knowing closely the Prof. Diczfalussy's exceptional personality, of coming into contact with his exhaustive scientific erudition, with his encyclopaedic culture, and last but not least with his fine and vivacious wit. As a matter of fact, all the great scientific personalities of our specialty, whom I have had the opportunity of meeting, have always expressed a unanimous admiration and sympathy.

That is why Prof. Egon Diczfalussy's return to Oradea, on the occasion of being awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of

our university, will always represent a glory, a memorable and bright landmark in the history of the higher education in Oradea and also of the entire Romanian scientific community."

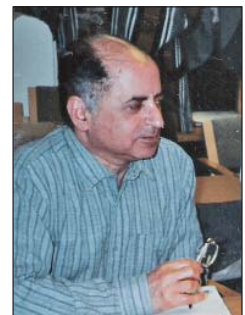
Ian D. Cooke
University of Sheffield, UK

"It is difficult in ten words, so here are more. An innovative scientist and a cultured man who first described the functioning of the human feto-placental unit".



Mahmoud F. Fathalla
Cairo, Egypt

"Most people know Egon as the great scientist, teacher and mentor. I had the privilege to know Egon, the great human being, a citizen of the world, with a big heart for all the sufferings in our global village. May God bless Egon for what he is, and all what he has done".



Cristian Furau
Secretary of the Egon and Ann Diczfalussy Foundation, Szeged, Hungary

"Professor Egon Diczfalussy reflects both the future and the past in the same time. He has had through time a vision for improving the reproductive health of people all around the world and throughout the years our generations applied his concepts and ideas. He developed and applied innovative techniques for medical research and most important he thought and guided many generations of researchers.



In the meantime he represents the role model image of the past: an eminent and distinguished figure that speaks a great number of foreign languages, appreciates arts and music, good humor and a glass of good wine in the company of his friends.

Personally, I feel honored of being the friend of such a great man, a man that shaped my mind and my heart, a man that dedicated his life to humanity through science."

Gheorghe Furau
West University "Vasile Goldi",
Arad, Romania

"I consider a gift of chance, a twist of fate, the way I met approximately 20 years ago the eminent scientist of whom I read about in almost all my medicine textbooks.



It was an honor for me, the university I represent and the city of Arad, to award the title Doctor Honoris Causa, to the distinguished professor, in the presence of many of his disciples and former students, who wished to be present.

For some that meant to cross an entire continent or ocean just to be there a couple of hours for their maestro. The message he addressed on this occasion: 'Take advantage of me as much as possible', proves the altruistic nature of a great MAN. His results show that through determination a man can make a difference in the journey to the stars. Cited from Senece-Hercules Furens 'Non est at astra mollis, e terries via' (From earth to the stars, there is no flat road). Professor Egon Diczfalusy achieved creating a real school, he himself being a true educator, teacher and mentor for many 'students' all over the globe. This altruistic spirit stood at the base of the creation of the 'Egon & Ann Diczfalusy Foundation', whose noble objectives, I am convinced, will remain for many years to come, an investment in and for the future generation.

Behind the scientist, I have to remark the extraordinary psychologist, in the person of the maestro (and friend) Egon is. In my moments of despair caused by the ones I once considered 'my brothers', he comforted me telling me that 'If 2% of those you helped in some way remember you in a good way, it is an achievement worth the cost'.

A man of chosen culture, Egon the artist, in his elegant way, forces you to enter the miraculous world of art, to learn new places, to tie friendships with people from all over the world, who 'by chance' were his student. I was impressed by the sheer easiness, the professor communicated with the young generation 'in their' and 'on their' same language. The qualities of a true pedagogue only prove his devotion to other people, in my opinion, this being the key to the professor's youth.

If I had the possibility to clone only one man for the future generations, this would be no other than the MAN, the scientist, the researcher, the pedagogue, the artist and the forever young, Egon Diczfalusy."

Kristina Gemzell

Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden



"When I came to KI Egon Diczfalusy had just retired. However, he was very much present in his former lab and also at the WHO centre at that time headed by Marc Bygdeman and later on by me. The WHO centre was established in 1972. In 1971 Egon joined as Senior Consultant of the newly established 'WHO Expanded Programme of Research, Development and Research training in Human Reproduction'. Eventually the Programme grew to become a 'Special Programme', co-sponsored by UNDP, UNFPA, WHO and the World Bank. A network of collaborating centres was established and Egon became Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre in Research and Research Training in Human Reproduction established by the Programme at Karolinska Institutet.

Egon has continuously supported and inspired us with his great energy and visions."

Kerstin Hagenfeldt

Karolinska University Hospital and Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden



"What does Egon represent for me? He was my tutor in research. I was fortunate enough to spend four years in his lab in an atmosphere dominated by his quest for knowledge, his immense devotion to science, always at hand for discussions on reproductive endocrinology, laboratory techniques, animal experiments or statistics. He introduced us fellows to his wide global network of colleagues all over the world - in my case specifically to the WHO Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction: A programme that Egon initiated together with professor Sune Bergström and Ulf Borell from the Karolinska Institutet. Since then I have had the pleasure to work with this programme during more than 35 years. For this I will always be deeply grateful to Egon as this work has been very important in my professional life.

To describe him in ten words is hard, let me try: - in science: devoted, knowledgeable, extremely well-read (in a time before the internet when you actually had to read publications and correspond and discuss by e-mail with colleagues !!); - to families and friends (including former fellows): always concerned, generous with advice and support; - in leisure times: a connoisseur on food and wine; - in life: an old-fashioned gentleman."

Wanda Holmberg

"He is my stepfather and the man who gave my mother a happy life. He also shows that you need not be old because you are aged. In ten words: Dedicated to science and friends, generous, humorous, caring, multi-lingual globetrotter, music and art lover."



Ilpo Huhtaniemi

Imperial College London, UK



"I would like to join your numerous friends and colleagues in congratulating you on your birthday. I came across your name for the first time in the late 1960s, when I as a medical student was working on my thesis on steroid metabolism in the human fetus. Your numerous seminal

publications, and the concept of the fetoplacental unit that you had created, formed the corner stone of my thesis and much of the research I carried out thereafter, some of it as postdoc of your student Bob Jaffe. I sent you a copy of my thesis in 1974 and received from you immediately a warm and friendly thank you. It was only somewhat later that we met personally, first in congresses, then in connection with WHO and the Schering/Rockefeller AMPPA Research Network, and quite a number of times in various events held in your old home town Szeged.

I have always admired your visionary scientific career in the quest for improving the wellbeing of mankind. I am ever grateful for the opportunity to have learnt to know you. With all good wishes for health and happiness."

Robert B. Jaffe

University of California, San Francisco, USA



"On the wonderful occasion of your 95th birthday, I celebrate your many achievements, but most of all, I cherish your friendship, teaching, and mentorship, and the many memories I have of our time together in Stockholm, Italy, and around the world. I am honored to be included as one of your students in this special edition dedicated to you.

One of the most pivotal points in my career was the year that I spent in your laboratory at the Karolinska, studying the human fetal gland and placenta, and subsequently the human fetal ovary.

Many years previously, I had decided that endocrinology was the most fascinating, logical, and stimulating of the various disciplines. Following my residency, I was fortunate to receive a fellowship in your program in human fetal endocrinology at the Karolinska in Stockholm, August 1963–August, 1964. That year in Sweden was a turning point for me and I worked long hours, fascinated with human fetal endocrinology, more specifically, the human fetal adrenal gland and placenta. And what an incredible experience it was! I can remember sitting on the floor of your home late into the night, literally at the knee of 'my professor', while you reviewed the work we were doing in your lab, patiently explaining the science, mentoring my work, and teaching me more about endocrinology in that year than I learned in my subsequent life.

This year also led to collaborative professional activities and the bond of friendship with colleagues from the lab that has lasted my lifetime. Subsequently, Ulla Lindholm became my lab technician in Ann Arbor, Michigan and San Francisco, California. Over the years, we have kept in touch with the Pions, Schwes, Mancusos, Dell Aqua's, and Benagianos, (whom we saw as recently as this past August, 2014 in Rome).

What I didn't realize at that time, was the lasting impression your mentorship made on my career. You were not only 'my hero', but the role model for the path my career would eventu-

ally take. Most gratifying to me throughout the ensuing years has been the achievements of my own fellows, many of whom have gone on to illustrious careers and leadership in reproductive endocrinology.

You not only launched my own career in fetal endocrinology, but you provided me the tools to create the Reproductive Endocrinology Center at UCSF, which fosters the career development of clinical and postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty in the reproductive sciences. Your influence made me realize that mentoring promising scientists was the most important aspect of my career and also led to founding the NIH NICHD Reproductive Scientist Development Program (RSDP). This program places the most promising scholars in the laboratories of experienced scientists in major medical centers around the country. These scholars now hold leadership positions in many institutions nationally and are pushing the envelope of scientific discovery in reproduction, endocrinology, and development.

On the occasion of my retirement from UCSF, the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences hosted a research symposium and dinner in April, 2013. I received notes from many colleagues and former fellows that could not attend in person. Miraculous sleuthing on the part of one of my former fellows, Dan Dumsic at UCLA, found a paper about you authored by Giuseppe (Pino) Benagiano. Correspondence between Pino and Dan led to finding your address in Rönninge. Most important to me was the touching and telling letter you wrote, that I truly cherish. It states so eloquently my own feelings about my professional activities. You wrote: 'There is no greater satisfaction in the life of a research worker than to see that his students reached further in their career than he did. [...] Looking back on my life I have an honest feeling of achievement – not because of what I have done but because of what my research students have done. The true measure of a good scientist is in fact the achievement of his or her students. By this measure I don't have to be ashamed when looking around in the world which has certainly been made richer by the achievements of you and of my other students.'

Egon, with sincere appreciation, my wife, Evie, and I wish you all the best on this wonderful occasion."

Elisabeth Johannison

American Society for Reproductive Medicine, Birmingham, Alabama, USA



"In a few words I would like to say that Professor Diczfalusy has been my only and most important mentor in my entire professional life. I started to work in Prof. Diczfalusy's research group already in the early 1960 and my first publication appeared already in 1961 in collaboration with Egon Diczfalusy and Carl Gemzell ("Effect of a single injection of human pituitary follicle stimulating hormone on urinary estrogens and vaginal smear in amenorrheic women." J Clin Endocrinol, 1961). Finally let me say that

Prof. Diczfalussy introduced me to the world of the spirit of international research in the field of human reproduction and for me this collaboration has resulted in more than 100 publications (fetal endocrinology the development of the feto-placental unit and the human endometrium). He stimulated a great number of fellows all over the world and he also had a great influence in the development of the WHO programme of research in human reproduction.

Last but not least let me mention his creation of the Egon and Ann Diczfalussy foundation for supporting research in reproductive health. The Foundation was introduced in Szeged, Hungary, in 2008 and it is continually developing. I am convinced that the activity of Prof. Diczfalussy's creative work, his initiatives and his look for the future will continue."

Laszlo Kovacs

Szeged University, Hungary

"I met Professor Diczfalussy and his wife Ann the first time in 1973 during the FIGO Congress in Moscow. In the past almost four decades we have met many times in Hungary and all over the world, and during these years a close friendship developed between us. I look at Egon as my master from whom I have received very much help and advice in the activities of the Szeged WHO Collaborating Centre of Research in Human Reproduction as its Director.



In the 1990s we have organized several international symposia with his very effective assistance.

The 'Egon Diczfalussy Lecture Award' that I received in 1999 in Stockholm is one of my most respected medals. Professor Diczfalussy is highly respected in Hungary as a famous Hungarian-born scientist. He is honoris causa doctor of the Szeged University, invited member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, h.c. member of the Hungarian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, invited member of the Editorial Board of the Hungarian Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

My short character-painting: Excellent scientist, fascinating speaker, effective organizer, hearty supporter of young researchers, warm-hearted friend and a real cosmopolitan."

Emmet Lamb

Stanford University, California, USA

"Your two questions – 1. What does Professor Egon Diczfalussy mean to you? and 2. How would you define him in ten words? – posed quite a challenge and I spent several enjoyable days exploring the proper answers.



Egon Diczfalussy was my most influential mentor and advisor. I officially retired fourteen years ago from a long academic career but am still slightly active in research. Throughout those

years I have profited from my time with him even though the minutia of steroid metabolism have long ago left me.

I was in the Hormone Laboratory for a little over a year in 1965–66 during the peak years of Egon's work on the fetoplacental unit and contributed one small piece of the jigsaw puzzle he was solving. In his 1997 book 'The Contraceptive Revolution: an era of scientific and social development', Pantheon, page 7, there is a list of 35 scientists who worked in the lab at that time. Fourteen were in Stockholm during the time I was there and it is likely that each had a publication to show for their efforts and some had many. The first two words, therefore, in my litany of adjectives to describe him are organized and indefatigable as a research mentor. He found time to meet with each of us to discuss the state of our project on a regular basis and reviewed our data with unflagging enthusiasm and interest.

He was a polyglot, speaking often to his students in their native language. Occasionally when he would find himself using words from two different languages of the half dozen or more in which he was fluent, he would say 'Oops' and twirl an imaginary dial to switch his brain and tongue from one to the next.

Egon was also a polymath, a renaissance man with an encyclopedic knowledge in many fields. Every lecture and every publication began with an apt quotation. He must have memorized many of these since he also sprinkled his every day conversation with quotations. I have suspected that he used his long late evening commute time to memorize quotes or perhaps to read books by the likes of Blaise Pascal.

He was demanding, requiring that we meet rigid standards. Recrystallizing to constant specific activity the steroids we isolated from various tissues and fluids obtained from subjects who had received injections of a radioactively labeled precursor condemned us to many hours in the weight room in those days of mechanical, not electronic, balances. This did not make up a large proportion of the time I spent on my project but it was lonely grunt work which I dreaded. Much of the other time was fun with 14 other postdocs with whom to socialize. He was gracious in occasionally entertaining us for a noon meal of corn flakes and fil mjolk in his office with his chief technologist (was her name Leda?) or for an evening feast of reindeer meat and all the Swedish fixings with his wife Anna at his home in the distant suburbs.

He was polished and impeccably dressed, a suave, and urbane European intellectual, a delightful conversationalist. He was trusting once he came to know you. He even sent his son Bo to live for a summer with us when we had returned to California. I was delighted to find forty five years later that the shy teenage pianist who joined our family for a few months had become a very important figure in green energy in Sweden, or so a Google search revealed."

Britt-Marie Landgren

University Hospital and Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden



"I did spend four years in Egons lab, working with my thesis, he was my tutor. After I had finished my PhD, our collaboration continued for 15 years until Egons retirement from Karolinska Institutet. We published a number of papers on the menstrual cycle, contraception and infertility. After his retirement I continued with research using what he had taught me about how to do research in the field of human reproduction. We have now been friends for more than 40 years."

Salvatore Mancuso

Catholic University, Rome, Italy



"When I first read his thesis on 'Placental Hormones', at the early 1960s, I realized that I could not miss the opportunity to be one of his fellows at the Karolinska group. He accepted my application and once in Stockholm I became during five years one of his numerous pupils."

Now, after 50 years, I can say that Professor Diczfalussy provided an essential turning-point to my life, he has greatly influenced my way of thinking, has instilled the philosophy of research and gave the most important incentive to build up my academic career. Not only he was the perfect mentor in endocrinology and biology, but he greatly contributed investigate the early origin of human life and today to search the roots of our western culture, enjoying together the wonderful Greek tragedies.

Scientist able to transfer ideas, culture, knowledge and opinions to a multitude of people."

Riccardo Marana

Catholic University, Rome, Italy



"My two year stay at Karolinska, from 1978 to 1979, represents a milestone in my professional and personal preparation. It greatly influenced my growth and my career in the years to follow."

It was my first time studying abroad for such a long period and my knowledge of English was poor. I immediately felt welcomed in Prof. Diczfalussy's laboratory, as if part of his big family. There I learned, starting from the bench, all that is fundamental to become a knowledgeable researcher. Under his supervision, as well as that of his team, I cultivated a critical eye, an intuition for research and the ability to develop a project and write papers. I still remember fondly the staff reunions during tea, often in his company.

Prof. Diczfalussy taught me to have faith in myself and in my capabilities, and demonstrated appreciation in my work. I greatly admired his humanity and empathy that always accompanied his indisputable leadership. Even though I was stimulated by pure research and was offered to join his team, I realized that my real interest was in gynaecological surgery.

Therefore, I returned to Rome, applying my acquired knowledge in clinical research. No doubt, Prof. Diczfalussy's Letter of Recommendation led the way to many opportunities abroad, especially in the U.S. Since my years at Karolinska, Prof. Diczfalussy has always been near and genuinely interested in my achievements, both academic and personal. If I am where I am today, it's thanks to his precious teaching, guidance and support. I am grateful having him as a mentor and friend."

Edoardo Menini

Catholic University, Rome, Italy



"A few days ago my close friend Ninny Mancuso told me about a project concerning Professor Egon Diczfalussy. As you certainly know I was the first 'Italian' researcher to work at the Hormonlaboratoriet of the Karolinska Sjukhuset under the direction of Prof. Diczfalussy. In May 1957 I visited Prof. Diczfalussy's laboratory with the intention of spending there a fortnight seeing what was going on in the field of 'hormones'. To my surprise, Prof. Diczfalussy spoke Italian very fluently. As a consequence of an ordinary laboratory incident (in which I was marginally involved) occurred during the last stages of the isolation of 16-oxo-oestradiol from placental tissue by Eva Axelson and Anne Marie von Munsterman I stayed in Stockholm for four years, until July 1960. At that time the main interest of Prof. Diczfalussy was the development of the new concept of foeto-placental unit which largely depended on the isolation of oestrogens (and other steroids) in foetal and placental tissues and some body fluids. At that time the identification of the isolated steroids was accomplished, among others, by the technique of countercurrent distribution (CCD) a very tedious and time consuming operation as well as unhealthy (one had to manipulate and breathe consistent amounts of toxic volatile solvents). Being myself a chemistry graduate with some knowledge of analysis, I introduced in the laboratory as a criterion of specificity the techniques of paper partition chromatography and paper electrophoresis."

I remember that at the beginning Prof. Diczfalussy was very skeptical about the use of these 'new techniques' and that it was very hard for me to convince him that it was worthy to try them. Later on, these new techniques became standard and CCD abandoned. I mention this to point out how careful Prof. Diczfalussy was about the validity of the laboratory results and the reliability of the methods employed.

Prof. Diczfalussy represents for me the person that has introduced me to the field of hormone biochemistry a subject that has been the daily bread of my work as a teacher and as a researcher until my retirement in 2001. From Prof. Diczfalussy I

have learned the value of good research and how to make research (what I call the 'grammar' of research), although I do not remember having ever seen him with a test tube or a glass-flask in his hands. For this I am indebted to Prof. Diczfalussy.

A wise and highly cultured man as well as a great scientist that considered research a value in itself and a service to mankind".

Daniel R. Mishell Jr.

University of Southern California,
USA



"Professor Diczfalussy has been a close friend and colleague of mine for nearly 50 years. I have read his marvelous books on modern contraception and attended many of his outstanding lectures at various international symposia. I have also been present at several meetings of the WHO which were chaired by Professor Diczfalussy. I learned from his actions at these meetings how to develop consensus and conclusions from a diverse group of scientists from many different nations. I utilized his methodology when I needed to chair scientific meetings and am grateful for having the opportunity to learn from this master. In addition to science, Egon Diczfalussy taught me how to enjoy good food and fine wine. I am forever grateful that he taught me that wines from Burgundy were superior to those from Bordeaux. I recall fondly the erudite conversations we had at many outstanding dining events.

The ten words I would use to define Egon Diczfalussy are: brilliant, sophisticated, erudite, charming, cosmopolitan, elegant and an outstanding educator, mentor and gourmand."

Alfred O. Mueck

Menopause Center and Fertility Protection Center, Beijing, China



"I want to send my greatest thanks to Professor Egon Diczfalussy for all his scientific work, for the most excellent lectures I ever have heard, that he has being teacher and mentor of students and physicians all over the world.

Starting my medical work regarding endocrinology and reproductive medicine also now in China, many friends here tell me that he also has strong sympathy towards Asian people and cultures. He helps us to make bridges, not only in medicine. I hope this will continue for many years."

Ioan Munteanu

Clinica Bega, Timisoara, Romania



"In the second half of the 7th decade of the last century, I was a young assistant at the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department of the Faculty of Medicine Timisoara. Back then, my professor, I. Nubert, attentioned me that in our field of research had appeared a new concept.

This new concept – the fetal-placental entity – replaced the old concepts which were sustaining that each segment (the fetus and the placenta) were something completely different and apart. The promoter of this new concept was a Swedish physician by the name Diczfalussy. My professor was sustaining that this Swedish physician must be a Hungarian physician who has moved to Sweden. The concept was completely new and interesting and had captured the attention of the entire obstetrical world. The book published in relation with the new concept (Foetus and placenta – Author Egon Diczfalussy) became the reference book in the obstetrical field in that period. The new concept opened the ways for the perinatal medicine which is today in full development.

From the beginning I considered Egon Diczfalussy to be a great scientist, a genius man and I did not allow myself to even think that I could ever meet him and nevertheless become one of his close friends.

In 1991 I met Professor Laszlo Kovacs from Szeged, in Singapore with whom I became, shortly after that, a close friend and together we established to renew the traditional connections between the Romanian and Hungarian practitioners of obstetrics and gynecology. Those connections were disrupted for a period of twelve years by the dictatorial couple who considered the relations of any kind with our neighbours to be forbidden.

In 1993 I organized the first Romanian-Hungarian meeting of obstetrics and gynecology. At that meeting I invited professor Diczfalussy, who surprised me by accepting the invitation and was the buffer of the meeting. He advised us to continue and to strengthen these meetings. We followed his advice and in the following years we organized alternative meetings of the gynecologists and obstetricians in Romania and Hungary. Even since then, Professor Diczfalussy had the genial vision to advice us to organize meetings grouped on European regions to advance specialists. In this way we could meet each other and we could become stronger and influence in good the politics in our origin countries. Therefore we could form the organization DKMT (Danube-Cris-Mures-Tisa), an organization of the Romanian, Hungarian and Serbian specialists, which takes place periodically in Timisoara, Diczfalussy accomplished the reunion of specialists in this part of the Europe. Beside this international organism, professor Diczfalussy formed the foundation Egon & Ann Diczfalussy at which reunion are invited professors from all Europe and USA.

For his exceptional career, Professor Dicsfalussy was elected in 1994 Honorary Member of the Romanian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology and received the title Dr. h.c. at the Universities from Timisoara, Cluj, Oradea and Arad as well as Szeged,

Belgrade and Novi Sad. A memorable event was the summer of the year 2008 when I become Emeritus Professor at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy 'Victor Babes' Timisoara.

At this event, together with other important professors from Europe and other countries, the main guest was Professor Egon Diczfalusy, who sustained a wonderful speech about me.

This special relation that I have with Professor Diczfalusy allows me to consider myself a disciple of the great professor and to carry for him feelings of respect and consideration.

In ten words: genius, family man, polyglot, humorous, respectful, intuitive, modest, people oriented, grateful, talented."

Michael Oettel

Jena, Germany

"It was 1976, when I met Egon Diczfalusy first time. As a member of the Human Reproduction Program (HRP) of the WHO he visited (together with Alexander Kessler) the Central Institute for Microbiology and Experimental Therapy (ZIMET) at Jena (GDR) in which I headed the group of experimental endocrinology. Our field of work was focussed on the endocrine profile of new estrogens/anti-estrogens and progestins/antiprogestins coming from the chemical synthesis group of Kurt Ponsold and from the steroid biochemistry headed by Kurt Schubert.



In addition to this, we were engaged on the physiology and pharmacology of the nidation phase and on new approaches for male fertility control. Egon was interested immediately and proposed a collaboration with the HRP. With his special feeling for complicated West-East relationships he found a way for the regularly participation of Kurt Schubert and me on the meetings of two Task Forces of the HRP. It was the begin of my work over seven years for the WHO. My entry into the western scientific world was for me fascinating because I have had the opportunity to present our results twice per year and discuss these findings with well-known international experts. One of the children of this fruitful period was the progestin STS 557, today known as dienogest.

And every time, Egon was my skillful teacher and experienced adviser. From the point of view for the concept and methodology his scientific work was every time on top. Therefore, his advice cannot be overestimated. Egon's worldwide scientific and personal network is still very useful for me (despite my lousy English). It's a great honour to be a member of this outstanding family.

After my time at the WHO, Egon not let me out of his sight. But, a second intensive period of collaboration started after the falling of the wall in Germany. Main topics were Women's Health Care in a more broadened sense, the endocrinology of aging males, and the socio-cultural background of the aging society

in different regions and countries of the world. Aging without feeling aged – Egon Diczfalusy per se is the best example for the realization of this theory.

Also, in this time I became a lot of knowledge of human nature from Egon, especially for differentiating between unpretentious creative people and the hyperactive, loud dazblers. But Egon is not only a successful scientist. He is much more. I'm impressed about his broad interests and immense education and refinement on history, politics, fine arts including music and the visual art of different civilizations. I'm remembering on a lot of outstanding concerts and exhibitions which we visited together.

He was also interested to hear what was new with me and my saxophone at the Jazz-Scene. On the occasion of a scientific symposium dedicated to Egon's 80th birthday in Berlin, he was delighted about a saxophone-concert. Unforgettable were the visits in Rönninge (sometimes together with my wife Gisela), on which Egon presented his abilities as a first-class host and cook before starting the good talks also with his wife Ann.

Finally, I would like to remember on a common book that we – with a twinkle in one's eye – published 2002: 'To Our Optimopessimist Friends – Selection of quotations from useful and some less useful presentations.' This special volume has been prepared only in 16 copies – a true rarity!

Egon, thank you for steering so deeply my professional life!"

Attila Pal

University of Szeged, Hungary

"He is not just a pure scientist and an ideologist but a person who has recently shown philosophical characteristics also."



Alessandro Pala

University "la Sapienza", Rome, Italy

"Egon represents for me a model of clearness of mind."



Trying to define him, I would say he is able to teach his students how to give invaluable and true pieces of scientific information."

Peter Petrusz

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

"Professor Diczfalusy belongs to a breed of scientists that, unfortunately, is becoming nearly extinct. He possesses the rare combination of extraordinary talent, an almost super-human memory, power of reason-



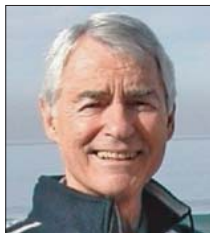
ing, capacity for work, high culture, unfailing moral compass, and a compassionate, deeply human, and politics-free philosophy that only the greatest, if anyone at all, can match. It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to be able to work, high culture, unfailing moral compass, and a compassionate, deeply human, and politics-free philosophy that only the greatest, if anyone at all, can match.

It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to be able to work under his guidance and supervision for almost five years during the late 1960s and until 1971. His name is forever preserved in the scientific literature but I hope that we, who had the good fortune to be close to him personally, will be able to pass on some of what we learned from him (and what we learned goes way beyond 'simple' science) to future generations.

In five words only I would say about him: the best mentor I ever had."

Ronald J. Pion

UCLA School of Medicine,
Los Angeles, USA

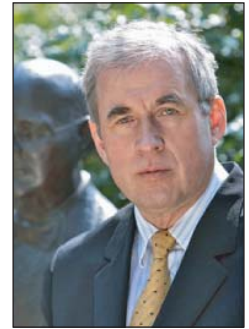


"With fond memories of the Hormone Laboriet at Karolinska Sjukhuset: In my second year of a USPHS fellowship (July 1963) under the auspices of the department of OB-GYN at the UCLA School of Medicine I was offered an opportunity to study under the direction and mentorship of Dr. Egon Diczfalusy. I had completed a year's study of androgenic steroids with Dr. Hans Zimmer at UCLA. To further prepare me as a research scientist in academics it was suggested that I pursue additional research in estrogens. Egon's lab was renowned for the work that he guided in evaluating the steroid milieu and relationship between the maternal/placenta/fetal units. My early work in association with Dr. Bob Jaffe and laboratory staff – Berit and Ulla – involved analyzing blood and urine samples that traced the relationship of injected radioactive isotopes into the identified umbilical cord vessels at the time of therapeutic abortion. Results pointed us in the direction of analyzing pregnenolone/progesterone pathways – an opportunity that we had not anticipated pursuing. Dr. Diczfalusy's intellectual curiosity permitted our exploration of these precursors and their relationships. The work environment among the other research scientists gathered from around the world was stimulating and Egon's passion for seeking new knowledge was 'contagious'. My year's experience remains a highlight of my career. Egon is the 'titular' Godfather to our second child, Dana Laura, born December 15, 1963 at the Karolinska Sjukhuset.

Egon is my 'heroic' mentor-learning model for me to emulate."

Thomas Rabe

University Women's Hospital,
Heidelberg, Germany.



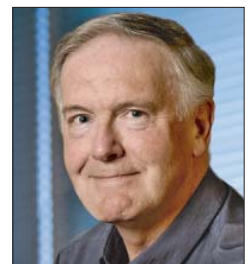
"Our friendship lasts for more than 30 years. When Professor Josef Zander (at this time ordinarius in Cologne/Germany) discovered progesterone in the peripheral blood, one of his technical assistants, Mrs. Annemarie von Münstermann, had been trained at Egon's lab at the Karolinska Institute. Later on she worked with Zander's assistant and later chief of the Department of Gynecological Endocrinology and Reproductive Medicine at the Women's Hospital in Heidelberg, Professor Benno Runnebaum, who discovered the steroid exchange in the feto-placental unit (progesterone to 20 α -dihydroprogesterone and vice-versa). In Benno Runnebaum's group I studied the regulation of placental steroidogenesis at molecular level again with the technical assistant Mrs. Annemarie Bierwirth (née von Münstermann). Dear Benno, thank you for the wonderful opportunities in research and clinics in your group and for our long standing friendship.

For me Egon was all the time a father-like mentor in science, publishing books and organizing world-wide conferences in contraception together with the WHO.

In a view words: 'Outstanding scientist, brilliant analyst of past and future global development with a view to the need of mankind. Unique global player in gynecological endocrinology and reproductive medicine fighting lifelong for Women's Health. Grand senior, multilingual gentleman with multicultural behaviour, homo sapiens extraordinarius.'"

David Robertson

Prince Henry's Institute of Medical
Research, Melbourne, Australia



"I was a research fellow (initially a Ford Foundation Fellow) in Professor Diczfalusy's laboratory from October 1971 until February 1979 when I returned to Australia. This was a very important and by far the most enjoyable time in my research career.

I learnt a lot about undertaking research. Professor Diczfalusy emphasized the need for method development as an essential prerequisite in undertaking research as well as the need for project planning with sufficient power to obtain a clear result. In addition, the research should have tangible health relevance even if it is long term. These lessons I have employed throughout my research life. The enjoyable aspects relate to the calm and stable laboratory atmosphere where strong personal relationships between researchers from many countries and staff were fostered.

Professor Diczfalussy was my supervisor and mentor during my PhD candidature whose support I highly valued. We published over 20 papers together. In ten words: A statesman with a world vision, an excellent scientist, a fair and reasonable man."

Benno Runnebaum
University Women's Hospital,
Heidelberg, Germany

"In the early 1960s, when I was working in the laboratory of Prof. Dr. Josef Zander in Cologne, I was deeply impressed by the new data of Dr. Egon Diczfalussy shedding light on the hormone exchange between pregnant woman, placenta and fetus.



Egon Diczfalussy has discovered the maternal feto-placental unit of the estrogens. Later on he has shown me and my research team including Thomas Rabe the importance of the close hormonal relationship between mother and fetus.

Based on our inspiring personal exchange and his data, we studied the metabolism of progesterone in fetal tissues and in the pregnant uterus, to understand the mechanisms of maintenance of pregnancy and the onset of labour.

Furthermore, Prof. Diczfalussy visited us many times in my Department at the University of Heidelberg and he gave excellent lectures at various symposia.

With his outstanding intellectual and philosophical background, we and the entire field were and still are grateful for the exchange of ideas on how to fulfill a fruitful future endocrinological research."

Adolf Eduard Schindler
University of Essen, Germany

"Through personal exchange with scholars of Professor Diczfalussy (for instance R. Pion), personal contact at international scientific meetings (such as Sero Symposia), Prof. Diczfalussy had direct or indirect influence on my scientific work in gynecological endocrinology.



I am happy to contribute a paper to the special issue celebrating Prof. Diczfalussy's 95th birthday and wish him all the best for the future."

Nevena Secen
Faculty of Medicine Novi Sad, Vojvodina,
Serbia

"It is a great privilege to know such a huge person as Professor Egon Diczfalussy is with his outstanding personality, energy and fruitful life. It is amazing inspiration for us!



Dear Professor Egon Diczfalussy, we wish you a very happy and healthy birthday and may you have many, many more!"

Régine Sitruk-Ware
Rockefeller University, New York, USA

"All my warmest wishes to Professor Egon Diczfalussy whom I know since many years as a bright scientist, humanitarian and a visionary for the future. His contribution to research and the betterment of reproductive health of the less developed countries and the most vulnerable populations has been immense. I feel very honored and privileged for having met him and been asked to lecture in his honor. All my congratulations for his wonderful achievements."



Gyula Telegdy
University of Szeged, Hungary

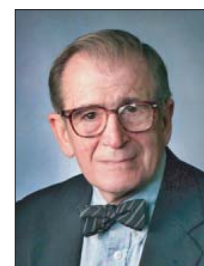
"When I have read the publications about the fetoplacental unit, it became my dream to be able to work on this subject. Between 1968 and 1971 having a Ford fellowship from Egon in his laboratory, my dream became reality. I enjoyed very much the time I spent with him.



I have learned very much from him: Planning experiments, evaluating results, writing scientific papers, how to handle peoples coming from different backgrounds, cultures, religions, etc. He is an outstanding person with an exceptional personality, an excellent scientist with global perspectives on the role of science in everyday life, and warm-hearted friend."

Philip Troen
University of Pittsburgh, USA

I am very pleased to have this opportunity formally to acknowledge again the great opportunity Professor Diczfalussy gave me and the important experience I had at the Karolinska with him. Here are my brief responses to the request by Cristi:



I met Egon at a Laurentian Hormone Conference following the recommendation of Al Albert with whom several years previously I had an endocrine fellowship at the Mayo Clinic including research on the endocrine function of the human placenta. Egon was kind enough to invite me to join him in Stockholm. This invitation allowed me to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship to make the trip to Stockholm feasible.

The time (1960–1961) spent with Egon in his laboratory represented a major event in the development of my academic career. He provided me with the opportunity, encouragement and support (including space for my 100 tube countercurrent distribution machine) to establish myself further as a productive endocrine researcher.

An important aspect of my time in the Hormone Laboratory with Egon was the discipline of analyzing the data and preparing the paper. Particularly rewarding was the writing with him of our major review, 'Endocrine Functions of the Human Placenta', for Vitamins and Hormones.

His friendship to my family and me was invaluable in making our stay in Stockholm both pleasant and successful.

I believe the following words capture the essence of this remarkable man: dedicated, disciplined, focused; creative, thorough, organized; supportive, thoughtful; literate, intelligent.

Egon, your picture with its inscription still hangs next to one of Al Albert in my office.

My sincere thanks and appreciation."

Tihomir Vejnovic

University of Novi Sad, Vojvodina, Serbia

"On Himalaya Mountains, there is a spring with streaming water 'without gas'. If you take a nip from that spring, a legend says that you would become immortal. Many people have tried to reach the spring that cannot congeal, but using the shortcuts they missed the main lead and never reached the "path of the stars."

A Latin proverb says "per aspera ad astra" and that is why I consider that friendship with Professor Egon Diczfalussy might be a thorny path, but a path that certainly leads to the stars. Our friendship for all these years was a motive for me to gain new acknowledgement, but also new friends and new horizons.

In few words – Professor Egon Diczfalussy is Schiller's, 'Ode an die Freude' for quartetto Vejnovic and me.

Definition in ten phrases: King of Ronninge, Crown-prince of 'Libamay', Veteran from Stockholm, The Phantom of the Opera, Chardonnay Kovacevic, Formula one fighter-pilot with Corgy, 'No problemo', Ziveli!, Ziveli!, Ziveli!"



Mitteilungen aus der Redaktion

Besuchen Sie unsere Rubrik

☒ Medizintechnik-Produkte



Neues CRT-D Implantat
Intica 7 HF-T QP von Biotronik



Artis pheno
Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics GmbH



Philips Azurion:
Innovative Bildgebungslösung

Aspirator 3
Labotect GmbH



InControl 1050
Labotect GmbH

e-Journal-Abo

Beziehen Sie die elektronischen Ausgaben dieser Zeitschrift hier.

Die Lieferung umfasst 4–5 Ausgaben pro Jahr zzgl. allfälliger Sonderhefte.

Unsere e-Journale stehen als PDF-Datei zur Verfügung und sind auf den meisten der marktüblichen e-Book-Readern, Tablets sowie auf iPad funktionsfähig.

☒ Bestellung e-Journal-Abo

Haftungsausschluss

Die in unseren Webseiten publizierten Informationen richten sich **ausschließlich an geprüfte und autorisierte medizinische Berufsgruppen** und entbinden nicht von der ärztlichen Sorgfaltspflicht sowie von einer ausführlichen Patientenaufklärung über therapeutische Optionen und deren Wirkungen bzw. Nebenwirkungen. Die entsprechenden Angaben werden von den Autoren mit der größten Sorgfalt recherchiert und zusammengestellt. Die angegebenen Dosierungen sind im Einzelfall anhand der Fachinformationen zu überprüfen. Weder die Autoren, noch die tragenden Gesellschaften noch der Verlag übernehmen irgendwelche Haftungsansprüche.

Bitte beachten Sie auch diese Seiten:

Impressum

Disclaimers & Copyright

Datenschutzerklärung