

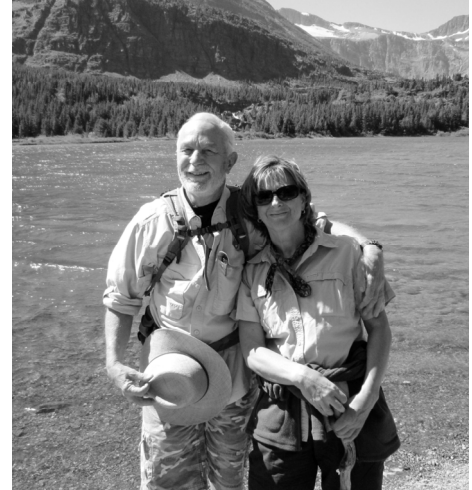


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**III International Symposium on Animal Biology of Reproduction (ISABR 2010)**  
**Focus on Epigenetics**  
**October 22-24, 2010, Águas de São Pedro, SP, Brazil**

**EDITORIAL**

The International Symposium on Animal Biology of Reproduction (ISABR) is on its third edition. Created in 2006 with the motivation of filling a niche for Brazilian researchers interested in more basic aspects of animal reproduction, this unique symposium series has kept its initial spark alive. This year's symposium focuses on the epigenetic control of reproductive processes; an up-to-date theme that is just now gaining the interest of the scientific community in Brazil. The crucial role of epigenetic regulation of gene expression and, ultimately, cell function has become widely recognized. Epigenetic implications for reproductive biology must become an integral portion of research models to study reproductive physiology and pathology in laboratory, domestic, wildlife and human species.



Thus, the Brazilian College of Animal Reproduction (CBRA) is proud to offer, for the first time in Brazil, a symposium specifically dealing with this novel theme. A selected team of world leaders on epigenetics and related fields was summoned and a well balanced, state of the art scientific program was put together to enlighten the Brazilian scientific community in this area.

The CBRA is equally proud to pay tribute to the lifetime scientific contributions of Dr. Bruce D. Murphy, to whom the III ISABR is dedicated. Bruce, as he prefers to be called, possesses a number of outstanding credentials. To name a few, he has been the Director of the Centre de Recherche en Reproduction Animale from the Université de Montréal for almost 20 years where he leads an internationally recognized prolific team of researchers, and is Editor-in-Chief of the influential scientific journal *Biology of Reproduction* (together with Dr. Bernard Robaire, also a speaker at the III ISABR). Bruce's interests in reproduction span many areas, including the regulation of steroidogenesis in the follicle and in the placenta, the control of follicle development and ovulation and the biology of implantation. The research models he uses include the mouse, the mink, the pig and the cow. This diversity in research truly signifies Bruce's fundamental interest to investigate the biology of reproductive processes, without prejudices towards a given organ, process or species. What is also unique about this successful scientist is the special way he deals with people. His philosophy of "no harassment" and "no confrontation" is the complete opposite of what many leaders in research use. I believe that all delegates at the III ISABR will learn tremendously from Bruce, both from his fascinating paper on Orphan Nuclear Receptors and from his human virtues.

The present issue of *Animal Reproduction* contains outstanding reviews from the III ISABR speakers and should be a great reference for years to come. Also, the abstracts are a sample of the excellent quality of the research on reproductive biology currently conducted in Brazil and other participating countries. On behalf of the CBRA, the Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee, I hope you will enjoy the III ISABR!

**Mario Binelli, PhD**

Chair of the ISABR 2010 Scientific Committee  
Animal Reproduction co-Editor-in-Chief