

from 1991 to now:

Building international cooperations

by Dr Jacky COSSON -CNRS- (France)



It is almost 20 years from now that arose an additional demonstration showing that science operates without borders: this became obvious between the Institute of Fisheries in Vodnany and our laboratory starting from 1991. This presentation is a brief summary of these numerous cooperations.

Taiwan - 1991

**This was my first
meeting with Otomar
Linhart**

- ◆ *France - Taiwan Cooperation*

Such cooperation became naturally active since a first meeting held far away in Taipeh and called Taiwan-France Cooperative Program, a meeting where Otomar Linhart was invited as an « outsider » specialist of aquaculture and provided him a first opportunity to travel out of Czech Republic and at the same time to become an international scientist. There, I tried to help him to prepare his presentation in English, a first experience which was making him highly nervous.

As a compensation this gave us an opportunity to discuss about technologies newly developed for fish gametes studies and this is how, we, scientists, enjoy so much to build research projects.

a common goal : studies on
fish spermatozoa



Such shared projects became rapidly reality as we met again soon after to run together experiments in central part of France where Otomar had settled for a two years and a half stay. I had brought with me some pieces of my specialized equipment that we applied together to our studies on spermatozoa movements and I vividly remember Otomar becoming immediatly enthousiastic at the idea of setting such equipment in the Fish Institute of Vodnany.

France - Angers - 1992 & 93

a bilateral cooperation between

**France and
Czech Republic**



And this is precisely what Otomar did as soon as he reintegrated Czech Republic : he succeeded with his embryonic group of researcher to assemble similar equipment in this lab and this constituted a decisive milestone allowing his research group to start getting access to publication of international level.

France

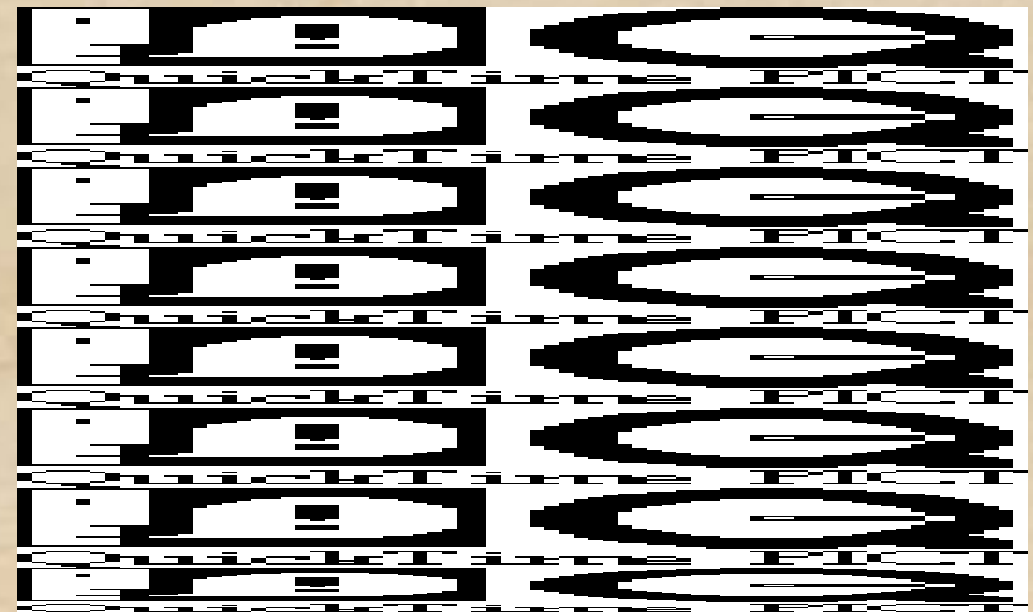
with Professor Billard



France

1995

Collaborations with Pr Billard in the
Museum of Natural History



USA Kentucky - 1997

a tripartite
cooperation
with Dr Steve MIMS



Later on in the 90s, we frequently developed discussions leading to slowly build additional international programs and this is how our initial cooperation was broadened to include US partners in the 1995-2000 period, specifically through a project dealing with fishes of the sturgeons family with Steve Mims as leader.

Kentucky University USA

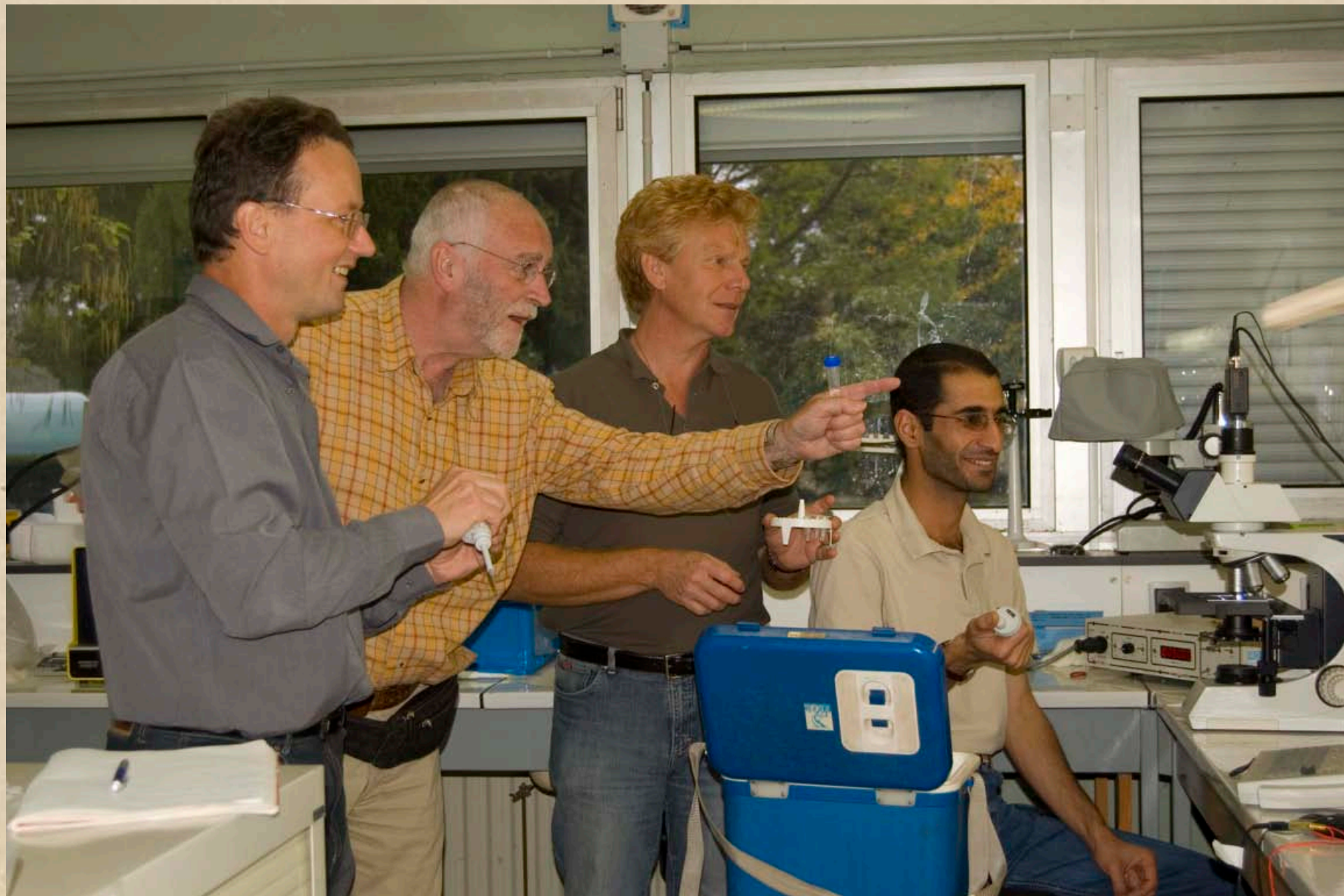
- ◆ *Paddle fish*
- ◆ *A new fish*
- ◆ *model*



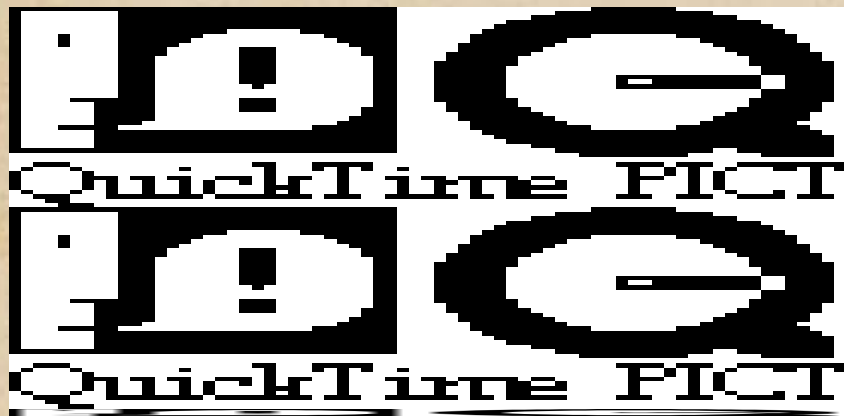
Kentucky's group



France /Montpellier - studies on tilapia with Dr Marc Legendre :



Mexico 2003



From this period, more and more countries became part of this network thanks to cooperations initiated by Otomar Linhart. This is the case of a program developed with Mexico country, which initiated a cooperation with Martha Rodriguez by the turn of last century.

China

Yang Tse

Sturgeon

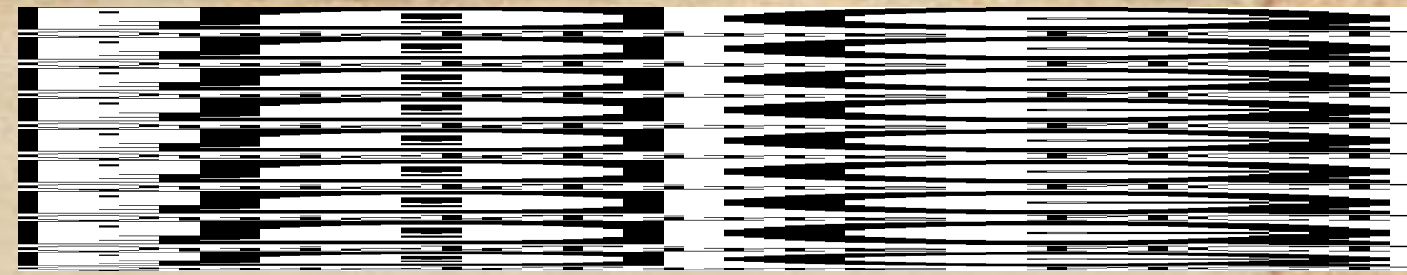


France Brittany / St Malo's meeting



not to mention, there has been also numerous opportunities to cooperate which were also developed between Czech Republic and France all along the 20 past years.

China 2006



Yang Tse paddle fish

中国科学院水生生物研究所

淡水鱼类博物馆

MUSEUM OF FRESHWATER FISHES
INSTITUTE OF HYDROBIOLOGY, CAS
1930

中华人民共和国农业部

淡水鱼类种质资源与生物技术

重点开放实验室

(2002-2006)

Key Laboratory of Freshwater Fish Germplasm Resources & Biotechnology

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

China



China

Yang Tse

Sturgeon



France Brittany / St Malo's meeting



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New Orleans - USA

International Meeting with Kentucky colleagues



Japan -
cooperation

with Dr Kazuo Inaba
Texte

on Sturgeon spermatozoa

In IRAN with Dr Hadi Alavi



from 1991 to now, what is the result:

building of a dense network between
Czech Rep.- USA - France - China
Mexico - Japan - Iran

- students exchanges
 - international meetings
- > 30 publications including book chapter

The outcome of these numerous international cooperations is highly satisfactory ; we, scientists, use a special currency for such evaluation : this currency is the number of publications in international scientific journals. A total of about 30 manuscripts where Otomar Linhart and coll. are coauthors with myself were published between 1991 and 2009.

But the best result is an undestructible friendship

Above this « cold » evaluation above mentioned emerges a much more important outcome, I mean a human benefit which does not need any evaluating factor, this benefit is rather appreciated in terms of friendship and sharing ability and is illustrated every day in terms of confidence and mutual support.

- These human aspects are confirmed by the broadening of the Faculty Institute interests matched by a higher and higher number of young collaborators coming from all over the world and who contribute to the improvement of the international fame of the Faculty Institute of Vodnany.

The general scoreboard of the internationality of this Institute would be incomplete without mentioning the numerous International Congress, meetings or workshop organized in Vodnany's Institute, all of these resulting from the above mentioned exchange network and representing so many opportunities to gather many high level scientists insufflating fresh air in this Faculty Institute.

It is the combination of all these aspects which, slowly with time, have constituted a good reason for me to consider Czech Republic as my second homeland after a very large number of visits to your country ; I feel guilty not to speak Czech language, a condition which does not restrict me to become more deeply integrated in your so pleasing nation, traditionally and historically linked to France. I have to apologize for giving this brief talk in English, but, on another hand, I feel that this does reinforce the international description of my relationship with South Bohemia University and especially Vodnany's Faculty Institute.

***Best wishes and long term to
such future international
cooperations***

Thank you for your attention



James