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Grădina Botanică “Alexandru Borza”
Cluj-Napoca



**DR. PIERRE TABERLET – DOCTOR
HONORIS CAUSA
OF THE “BABEȘ-BOLYAI” UNIVERSITY
OF CLUJ-NAPOCA**

On 1 June 2012, the ceremony to award the title of *Doctor Honoris Causa* to Dr. Pierre TABERLET – an extremely well-known researcher of the “J. Fourier” University of Grenoble (France) – took place in the *Aula Magna*.

The proposal of awarding this title was supported by Acad. Octavian POPESCU, Prof. Dr. Nicolae DRAGOȘ and Prof. Dr. Vasile CRISTEA, whence it was adopted by the Teaching Council of the Faculty of Biology and Geology, and validated by the Senate of “Babeș-Bolyai” University.

The ceremony was attended by the members of the Senate, the Administration Council, and participants in the scientific meeting on “*Current Issues in Plant Biology*” – 18th edition, as well as by a number of guests from the academic and political-administrative world.

The *Laudatio* (presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ioan COROIU – Dean of the Faculty of Biology and Geology) emphasized the scientific contributions and innovations achieved by Dr. Pierre TABERLET, and his international recognition, as well as his fruitful collaboration with the biologists of our university.

The entire ceremony was run by Acad. Ioan Aurel POP, Rector of “Babeș-Bolyai” University, who handed Dr. TABERLET the signs of the distinction “*for excellence and innovation in the field of Molecular Biology and for the successful collaboration with the biologists of our university*”. Prior to this, a *Proclamatio* was read by Father Prof. Dr. Ioan CHIRILĂ, President of the Senate of our university, who synthesized the motivation of the award: “*Pro sua praestantia, opera studioque rerum novarum biologiae molecularis, qui cultores disciplinarum biologiae Universitatis nostrae Claudiopolitanae feliciter adiuvans in politioem iuventutis humanitatem subvenit*”.

Finally, Dr. Pierre TABERLET gave (in French, with slides in English) his inaugural speech on “*Emergence of Molecular Ecology*”, impressing the public through the clarity of the discourse, its logical structure, the novelty of approaches in this field and the diversity of inter- and multidisciplinary collaboration modalities.

His presentation on “*DNA metabarcoding: high throughput taxa identification for biodiversity research*”, delivered on 2 June at the above-mentioned scientific meeting, was equally appreciated.

The discussions between Dr. TABERLET and the other participants in the scientific meeting were extremely useful, both during the debates and during the practical application developed in the “Dragons’ Garden” Nature Reserve (Sălaj county).

Welcome to *Alma Mater Napocensis*, dear colleague, Dr. Pierre TABERLET !

The Editorial Board