CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: GHEORGHE BENGA
Date and Place of Birth: January 26, 1944, Timişoara, Romania
Citizenship and Nationality: Romanian
Married with ILEANA BENGA (Professor of Pediatric Neurology, "Iuliu Haţieganu" Univ. of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Chief of Pediatric Neurology Clinic, Cluj Children University Hospital). We have two children.

I. Education, Degrees, Titles

M.D. University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMP) Cluj 1967;
B.Sc. (Chemistry) 1972, M.Sc. (Chemistry of Macromolecules and Surfaces), 1973,
"Babeş-Bolyai" University Cluj-Napoca
1973: Ph.D. (Medical Biochemistry), UMP Cluj
1974: accredited as Principal Specialist Physician (Clinical Laboratory)
1974-1975: One year postdoctoral work with Dennis Chapman, University of Sheffield and Chelsea College, University of London, UK
1993: Full Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Romania
1997: accredited as Medic Primar (the highest professional qualification of physicians in Romania) in Medical Genetics and Genetic Pathology
2001: Elected as Member of the ROMANIAN ACADEMY
2003: DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA "Vasile Goldis" West University, Arad, Romania
2004: DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania (the first Romanian awarded with the title)
2004: DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA "Grigore T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Iassy, Romania
2004: DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA "Victor Babes" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania
2004: HONORARY PROFESSOR University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Tg. Mures, Romania

II. Professional Positions

1966-1969: Rotating Intern in Laboratory Specialties (one year in each of Clinical Laboratory, Microbiology, Biochemistry)
1969-1972: Ph.D. Student in Medical Biochemistry (Professor Ion Manta, Dept. Biochem., UMP Cluj)
1972-1978: Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, UMP Cluj-Napoca
1978-1991: Senior lecturer, then Reader and Chairman of the new Department of Cell & Molecular Biology, UMP Cluj-Napoca and of the Laboratory of Human Genetics, Cluj County Hospital (integrated in the Department)
1991-present: Professor and Chairman, Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, and Chief of the Laboratory of Human Genetics, Cluj County University Hospital, Romania

III. Special Scientific Activities

1977; 1984: Visiting Scientist to the University of London (3 months), and respectively (1 month)
1981 (2 weeks): Visiting Scientist, Lab. Biochem. Genetics, Childrens Hospital, Utrecht, The Netherlands
1983: Visiting Professor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Campaign
1991 (3 months): Visiting Scientist at the Department of Biochemistry, University of Sydney, Australia
1992: Visitor to Facultes Universitaires Notre Dame de la Paix, Namur, Belgium under a TEMPUS Programme (two weeks)
1992, 1993: (3 months each year) Visiting Research Professor, King's College London, U.K.
1994 (3 months): Visiting Research Professor, Royal Free Hospital School Med.,Univ. of London, U.K.
1995 (2 months): Visiting Researcher, Dept. of Biochem., Univ. of Sydney, Australia
1999-2000 (7 months): Visiting Researcher (Senior Invitation Fellowship of The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Senior Fellow), Institute of Applied Biochemistry, Mitake, Gifu, Japan
1998, 2001, 2002: Visiting Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Sydney, Australia
Since 2003 - 2006: Honorary Associate, School of Molecular and Microbial BioSciences, University of Sydney, Australia
January - June 2005: Visiting Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Osaka, Japan

IV. Romanian Awards

1950-61: First prize in each grade of School, with Diploma for Special Merits
1959-61: Prizes in the Mathematics Olympics for School Students at the local, regional and national level
1961: Special Diploma for Outstanding School Students at Graduation of Lycee; First in the class
1964: Special Fellowship for Outstanding Students during medical studies
1964-1967: Several prizes at local and national Scientific Sessions of Student Research
1984: "Emil Racovită" Prize of the Academy of Romania for the work in the field of MEMBRANE MOLECULAR BIOLOGY WITH MEDICAL APPLICATIONS
1994: "Iuliu Moldovan" Prize of The "Iuliu Haţieganu" Univ. of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca for special merits in teaching and research
1994: Diploma of The "Iuliu Haţieganu" Univ. of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca for special contributions to the development of the Cluj school of medicine and pharmacy
1994: Medal of The "Iuliu Haţieganu" Univ. of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca "75 years of Romanian Medical and Pharmaceutical Higher Education in Transylvania"
1999: Diploma "80 years of Romanian Medical and Pharmaceutical Higher Education in Transylvania" of The "Iuliu Haţieganu" Univ. of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca for special merits in the development of the Romanian school of medicine and pharmacy
2002: Lions Club of Cluj-Napoca "Certificate of Appreciation for Invaluable Services Rendered for Medicine"
2002: "Grigore T. Popa" Medal of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iassy, Romania
2003: OPERA OMNIA Prize of the National Council for Higher Education Scientific Research ("for excellence in scientific research")
2003: Prize for Science of Cluj Prefecture and County Council
2003: Great Prize "Iuliu Hatieganu" of the "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca "for contributions to the discovery of aquaporins"

2003: Prize "Man of the Year 2003" of the daily newspaper "Adevărul de Cluj" for the world priority in the discovery of the first water channel protein in the human red blood cell membrane
2003: Prize "Laurels of Sciences" of Radio Romania
2003: Prize for science of Cluj mass-media
2004: Citizen of Honor of Cluj-Napoca Municipium "to recognize the remarkable activity in higher education and for the outstanding contribution in cell and molecular biology research lead that has to the increase in the prestige of Cluj scientific school at the national and international level"
2004: Diploma of Honor of the Romanian Association of Algaesiology
2004: Diploma of Honor of the Senate of the "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca "in appreciation and gratitude, on 60th birthday, for the whole activity dedicated to the glory of Romanian Science"
2004: Diploma of Excellency of The Academy of Scientists from Romania "for the discovery of the first water channel protein (aquaporin 1) in the human red blood cell"
2004: Great Prize "Iuliu Hatieganu" of the "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca "for the whole activity (research and teaching)"
2005: Diploma of excelency for 2004 awarded by the Romanian medical press

V. Romanian Recognition

1971 - 1982: Secretary of the Cluj-Napoca Biochemistry Section of The Union of Medical Sciences
1979 - 1984: Secretary of the Series of Lectures "Modern Methods and Techniques in Medical Research" resented every month by Faculty Members of "Iuliu Haţieganu" UMP Cluj-Napoca
1972 - 1989: Member in the Subcommission of Biochemistry, Cluj Section of Romanian Academy
1981 - present: President of Cluj-Napoca Section of the Romanian Society for Cell and Molecular Biology
1990 – present: Member in the Council of the Faculty of Medicine, UMP Cluj-Napoca
1990 - 1992; 2004 - present: Member in the Senate of the UMP Cluj-Napoca
1995- present: Founding Member and Vice-President of the Romanian Society for Medical Genetics
1995 - present: Expert Member of the Commission of Medicine, National Council for Higher Education Scientific Research, Ministry of Education and Research of Romania
1999 - present: Founding Editor and Director: "Bulletin of Molecular Medicine"
2001 - 2004: Director of the Sub-Program on Molecular and Cellular Medicine of the Romanian National Program of Medical Research VIASAN (Viaţa şi Sănătatea - Life and Health)
1982 - 2004: Invited lecturer at several national congresses, symposia, lecture courses, invited professor at "Vasile Goldis" West University, Arad
2004 – present: Member in the Bureau of the Cluj Section of Romanian Academy
2004 – present: President, Romanian Society of Laboratory Medicine
2005 – present: Co-president, Commission of Laboratory Medicine of the Ministry of Health of Romania

VI. International Awards and Recognition

1984: Active Member of The New York Academy of Science (awarded without payment, in recognition of the volume 414 of Annals of N.Y Acad. Sci., BIOMEMBRANES AND CELL FUNCTION, F.A. Kummerow, Gh. Benga, R.P. Holmes (Eds.), the most successful of all volumes published in 1983.
1987: Laureate of The Annual Prize for scientific research awarded by The Balkan Medical Union
1987: Medal 50th Anniversary of the Balkan Medical Union Bucharest, Romania
2000: K. Miras Award (First Prize) of The Balkan Clinical Laboratory Association

2004: OUTNOBEL Laureate (2003 in Chemistry "for the discovery of water channels") of The OUTNOBEL Foundation

1987: Life Member of The American Association for the Promotion of Science
1996-1999: Member of the Steering Committee "European Union Action for Cystic Fibrosis Research and Therapy", invited to all Int. Symposia on Cystic Fibrosis
2000 - present: Member of the European Union Network on Cystic Fibrosis
2000: Founding Member and Vice-President of The Romanian - American Laboratory Medicine Assoc.
2002 (July): Member of the UNESCO Expert Panel in Medical Genetics assembled in Rome

1980; 1983; 1985; 1988; 1990; 1991; 1992; 1995; 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005: Invited Visiting Lecturer at several laboratories in Europe, USA, Australasia: The Rockefeller University New York, Columbia University New York, Mount Sinai School of Medicine New York, New York University Medical Center, Yale University New Haven, Harvard Medical School, University of Chicago, University of Illinois Urbana - Champaign, University of Farmington Conn., University of Wisconsin Madison, Michigan Molecular Institute, University of Ohio Columbus, Medical College of Minnesota Mineapolis, Research Triangle Park North Carolina, University of Utah Salt Lake City, University of California Berkeley, University of California San Francisco, Baylor College of Medicine Houston, Purdue University Lafayette IN, University of Virginia Charlottesville, Wright State University Dayton OH, Bowman Gray School of Medicine Winston Salem NC, Louisiana School of Medicine Shreveport, University of Osaka, Institute of Applied Biochemistry Mitake Gifu, Keio University Tokyo, Juntendo University Tokyo, University of Kobe, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Hokkaido University Sapporo, Osaka Bioscience Institute, King's College University of London, University of Edinburgh, University of Newcastle UK, University of Amsterdam, University of Utrecht, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Facultees Universitaires de Namur, Max Planck Institut Frankfurt/Main, University of Köln, University of Leipzig, University of Hannover, ETH Zürich, University of Bologna, University of Sydney, Howard Florey Institute of Medical Research Melbourne, University of Prague, University of Belgrade, Nencki Institute Warszaw and many others.
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1977-present: reviewer of manuscripts for international journals (Cell Mol. Biol., Biochim. Biophys. Acta, J. of Cell. Mol. Med., Eur. J. Biophysics), of grant proposals for National Science Foundation, for Gordon Conferences, for NATO grants etc

1986: Invited speaker at the 2nd European Congress of Cell Biology (Budapest) and lecturer at the Biological Research Center Szeged (Hungary)
1988: Invited speaker at the International Congress of Biochemistry and the Satellite Symposium on BIOMEMBRANES AND DISEASES (Prague - Czechoslovakia).
1989: Invited speaker at 4 International Symposia: Turku - Finland, Berlin - Germany, Bucharest and Târgu-Mureş, Romania
1991: Overseas invited speaker and representative of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the Annual Meeting of the Australian Biophysics Society, Sydney, Australia
1994: Invited speaker, Symposium of Membrane Transport European Cell Biol. Congress, Prague, The Czech Republic

1995- European Society of Human Genetics
1995: Invited speaker, Symposium "Looking in cells with NMR" 7th Int. Congress of the Federation of Asian and Oceanian Biochemists and Molecular Biologists, Sydney, 25-29 sep.
2001: Invited speaker, 13th Meeting of the Eur. Assoc. for Red Cell Res., Barcelona, Spain
2002: Oral communication, 15th International Congress on Electron Microscopy, Durban, South Africa
2002: Invited speaker, Symposium on Aquaporins in the COMBIO 2002 Meeting, Sydney, Australia
2002: Invited speaker in the 6th Int. Cystic Fibrosis Symposium, Dubrovnik, Croația (November 1)
2002: Special Seminar "The Birth of Aquaporin" at Wayne State University, School of Medicine, Detroit
2003: Invited speaker 7th Int. Cystic Fibrosis Symposium, Bratislava, Slovakia
2003: Invited seminars: The Rockefeller University (NV) and (Farmington (CT) "From the discovery of the first red blood cells water channel protein in Cluj-Napoca, Romania in 1995 to the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry"
2004: The 3rd Congress of The Academy of Scientists from Romania (Constantza, Romania, June 1-4)
2004: The 9th National Congress of The Romanian Society of Physiological Sciences (Timisoara, Romania, June 3-5)
2004: The 5th Congress of The National Therapeutical Farmacology and Clinical Toxicology (Calimanesti-Caciulata, Romania, June 9-12)
2004: Minisymposium: "Discovery of aquapoprins", at The 22nd Annual Scientific Session of The Romanian Society of Cell Biology (Sighisoara, Romania, June 10-13)
2004: Days of Cluj Branch of Romanian Academy (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 24 – June 12)
2004: Bioinformatics and Genome Based Medicine (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, June 27 – July 7)
2004: The 12th Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation (Neptun, Romania, September 15 - 17)
2004: 28eme Semaine de l'Union Medicale Balkanique et 7eme Congres de l'Entente Medicale Mediteranne (Oradea, Romania, September 16 - 19)
2004: Advanced Spectroscopies on Biomedical and Nanostructured Systems (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, September 19-22)
2004: The 14th National Conference of Hematology (Bucharest, Romania, September 23 - 24)
2004: The 6th Symposium on Metal Elements in Environment, Medicine and Biology (Timisoara, Romania, November 8 – 10)
2004: The 3rd National Congress of the Romanian Federation of Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolic Diseases (Arad, Romania, November 10 - 12)
2004: Symposium of the Romanian Society of Laboratory Medicine (Cluj -Napoca, Romania, November, 18 – 21)
2004: The 1st OUTNOBEL SYMPOSIUM (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, December 10).
2005: Honorary President at The 9th World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics (Orlando, Florida, USA, July 10-13).

VII. Main Organizer of International Scientific Events

1980: Chairman of a session on membrane transport at the Frankfurt/Main Membrane Symposium (satellite to the 2nd International Congress of Cell Biology, Berlin, Fed. Rep. Germany)
1980, October 2 - 4: Romanian-British Workshop "Membrane processes: molecular biological aspects and medical applications", Cluj-Napoca
1981, May 19-24: Romanian-American Workshop (Cluj-Napoca), continued in 1982, August 4-6 (New York) "The role of biomembranes in the integrity and function of cells"
1986 (June): FEBS Course "BIOMEMBRANES AND DISEASES" (Cluj-Napoca)

1986 (June): Co-chairman of the IUB Symposium "MEMBRANE LIPIDS AND PROTEINS IN TRANSPORT AND ASSEMBLY PHENOMENA

1988: Co-Chairman of a Symposium on Membranes and Transport in the International Congress of Cell Biology (Montreal - Canada)

1999 (July 19 - 30): organizer of the ICRO (International Cell Research Organization)/UNESCO Training Course on BIOMEMBRANES AND MOLECULAR MEDICINE

2001: 1st CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: "Air Pollution at Low Altitude and Cystic Fibrosis" (November 17-18)

2002: 2nd CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: Health Effects of Combustion Products from Natural Gas with Reference to "Appartment" Heating Appliances Installed in Building Blocks from Romania (February 9)

2002: 3rd CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: Molecular Genetics (March 16)

2002: 4th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: Recent Progress In Pancreatology (December 5)

2003: 5th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: NMR Spectroscopy: Principles and Biomedical Applications (March 11)

2003: 6th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on Glycobiology: from Basic Aspects to Clinical Applications (April 8)

2003: 7th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: Landmarks in transport across cell membrane: a Symposium in the honor of Nobel Laureates George Emil Palade and Günter Blobel (May 27)

2003: 8th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: Neuroimmunomodulation – a Symposium dedicated to the pioneers of the field: Ion Baciu and Novera Herbert Spector (August 4)

2004: 9th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH, Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of VICTOR BABEŞ, the 25th Anniversary of the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology of the "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy and of the Laboratory of Human Genetics of Cluj County University Hospital and the 60th Birthday of Professor GHEORGHE BENGA (April 23 – 24)

2004: 10th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH, Celebrating Professor CLAUDE MATASA, DCE, DSc, DHC, (SUA) (May 24)

2004: Minisymposium: "Discovery of aquapoprins", at The 22nd Annual Scientific Session of The Romanian Society of Cell Biology (Sighisoara, Romania, June 10-13)

2004: The 1st OUTNOBEL SYMPOSIUM (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, December 10)

2005: 12th CLUJ-NAPOCA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH on: Structure Physiology: a Symposium dedicated to Professor Yoshinori Fujiyoshi (Kyoto, Japan) (October 5).

VIII. Grants obtained as Principal Investigator

1978 - present: Several grants from the Academy of Medical Sciences and the National Council for Science and Technology of Romania
1981; 1984; 1987: Grants from The Wellcome Trust (U.K.) for a co-operative Research Programme with Chelsea (King's) College, University of London on "MEMBRANE STUDIES WITH MEDICAL APPLICATIONS"
1983-1986: Grant from the National Science Foundation (USA) for a Co-operative Research Programme with Burnsides Research Laboratory, Urbana, Illinois
1992-93: Grant from The Wellcome Trust (U.K.) to perform a research programme at King's College, Univ. of London, U.K.
1994: Grant from The Wellcome Trust (U.K.) to perform a research programme at Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Univ. of London, U.K.
1995: Grant of the Academy of Romania
1995-96: Grant of the Ministry of Teaching of Romania
1998-2000: Grant of The National Council for Education Scientific Research (NCHES) for a Major Research Programme on "Molecular Basis, Physiological Significance and Pathologic Implications of Water Permeability of Red Blood Cell Membrane"
2000-2002: Grant of The National Council for Higher Education Scientific Research (NCHES) for a "Post-Graduate Programme in the Field of Molecular Medicine and Neurosciences"
2004: Grant of The National Council for Higher Education Scientific Research (NCHES) for equipment

IX. Statements of Romanian Scientists and High Rank Officials (from the Guest Book of the Department)

"Laboratory of Cell Biology of the Faculty of Medicine in Cluj represents a true scientific achievement for which congratulations are deserved by both its author (Gheorghe Benga) and those who have understood and helped him in developing it. From here many important things for the Romanian science and for Science in general will be said. Grateful for the collaboration with the chief of this laboratory and his group."

16 Jan 1982, Dr. Caius Dragomir, Head of the Laboratory of Cell Biology, "Victor Babeş" Institute Bucharest

"I appreciate the organization and facilities of the laboratory. The research topics are in very hot fields. I wish full success in the activity of this group integrated in education and research."

Cluj, 2 VI 1983 G. Ciucu, Vice Minister of Education and Teaching

"I have visited with great interest and profound satisfaction the research laboratories organized by Gheorghe Benga. It is a proof of love for science, of passion for research and of strong wish for important achievements in the beloved fields. I cordially congratulate the young specialist Gheorghe Benga for his opus and wish him many and new successes in the serious activity that he is performing I am very glad that I have been here."

Cluj, 29.11.1984 Acad. E. Macovschi
Director of the Institute of Biochemistry, Romanian Academy

"The impredictable is inevitable in our existence! I checked this on the occasion of participation in the "Cluj Academic Days" between 9-14 November 1987, by visiting and especially by "knowing" the personality of our coleague Dr. Gheorghe Benga. Everything was surprizing in the laboratories of the Department of Cell Biology, from the topics of research, accomplishments and equipment, but especially by the creative tonus of the leader. I admired the many publications, symposia and monographs. Everything confers the certitude of a valuable "construction" in biological sciences along the years. Let it be as I said and I wish, with affection and with due esteem"

10 Nov. 1987 Acad. Prof. Stefan Milcu
President of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Romania

"Having the opportunity to accompany the distinguished Acad. E. Macovschi in the visit to the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology I was extremely well impressed by the scientific achievements of the young and very valuable research group lead with a lot of passion and skilfullness by the renowned professor and scientist who is Dr. Gheorghe Benga. Sincere congratulations."

Cluj, 29.11.1984 Prof. Univ.Dr. C. Neamțu
Chairman of the Biochemistry Department, The Univ. of Agricultural Studies, Cluj-Napoca

"Impressed by the accomplishments of our coleague Dr. Benga, by his enthusiasm, by the organizatioon of his laboratories, I congratulate him with sincere admiration and I wish him the deserved successes of which I am sure".

29 III 1991 Acad. Nicolae Cajal
President of the Section of Medicine, Romanian Academy
Vice- President of Romanian Academy

X. Statements of foreign scientists (from the Guest Book of the Department, letters and conferences)

"To Gheorghe Benga and the Romanian Cluj membrane group: my thanks for both a profitable and memorable visit and interactions at both scientific and personal levels."

24 may 1981 Larry Berliner
Ohio State University

"Although my visit was very brief and unexpected, I have been able to admire the modern equipment in this laboratory. I also recognize the dynamic spirit inspired by Prof. Benga to his collaborators. I have no doubt that this work will be appreciated the international scientific journals of the highest levels. With my thanks for interesting discussions we had about my own work."

May 28 1981 Frank Roels
Vrije Universiteit Brussels

"I am grateful for the hospitality I enjoyed here in Cluj. The efforts to establish a new Cell Biology Department impressed me deeply. The research efforts and teaching are as high as any Department I visited in USA. I wish good succes to everybody in this nice Department. Thank you."

June 15, 1984 Dr. Miklos Kellemeger
University Medical School
Pecs, Hungary

"To Prof. Gheorghe Benga with much gratitude for his hospitality in Cluj-Napoca, with compliments for the organization of the beautiful FEBS Course I have enjoyed very much – with many wishes and hoping to come back soon in Cluj."

24 VI 1986 Prof. Giorgio Lenaz
Department of Biochemistry, Univ. of Bologna, Italia

"I appreciate being here and seeing the work of cell biologists which is quite impressive. Hope to develop collaborative project on Chromosome Registry. Thank you for having me as a guest of the Ministry-NIH-FIC Program."

September 28, 1988 Prof. W.H. Borgaonkar
Medical Research Center of Delaware, Newmark, Delaware

"A mon collégue et ami G. Benga, en souvenir des excellents moments passés en sa compagnie, dans son laboratoires et chez lui. J'ai été tout particulièrement impressionné par la qualité et l'abondance des recherches qu'il a pu réaliser ici, malgré toutes les difficultés qu'il a à faire de la recherche scientifique en Roumanie."

Cluj, April 11, 1991 Prof. Ernest Feythmans
Fac. Univ. de Namur, Belgium

"Dr. Benga, I wish to congratulate you on your achievements, not only as a researcher, but also as a creative teacher. I hope that when I visit Cluj again, I will see your concepts in Molecular Biology well integrated into The Biochemistry and Diagnostics framework. I will be following your work with great interest – you are a model for the University!"

15.03.1994 Best wishes , Vinda L. Patel
Mc Gill University, Montreal, Canada

"It has been a great pleasure to be in Cluj-Napoca for the third time. I wish to thank professor Benga for his hospitality and for organizing, as always, a wonderful and very instructive course."

July 22, 1999

Prof. Giorgio Lenaz — Univ. of Bologna, Italia
Prof. Oscar A. Candia — Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York

Prof. Zdenek Drahota — Charles Univ., Prague
Prof. Alan S. Verkman — Univ. of California, San Francisco

Prof. Lech Wojtczak — Nencki Institute Warsaw, Poland
Prof. Helga Stan-Lotter — Univ. of Salzburg, Austria

"Dear Dr. Benga: I was pleased to receive your letter of December 10, 1977 in regard to our possible cooperative project under NSF sponsorship. ……I believe you are the only researcher on the European continent that could make some meaningful progress in this field….Your work with Chapman in Great Britain and your knowledge of the latest research on the European continent will allow you to make some real contributions to science in Romania"

Jan. 9, 1978 F.A. Kummerow, Director
Burnsides Research Laboratory, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

To: Aurel Sanislav, Head of the Office for Foreign Relations, Ministry of Education, Bucharest, Romania
"Dear Dr. Sanislav:… I have over a period of twenty years visited every important laboratory in Japan, Mexico, Canada, the USA, Israel, and Eastern and Western Europe. It is my opinion that the staff members I met at Cluj are as competent as any I have met anywhere. They are dedicated scientists determined to bring Romania into the forefront of science. It is difficult to teach and at the same time do outstanding research such as Dr. Benga has been doing. However, he is so capable that he is an effective teacher as well. He can manage both teaching and cooperate in international research if he is allowed to do so."…
Nov. 14, 1979 F.A. Kummerow, Director
Burnsides Research Laboratory,
Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

ROMANIAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH
(Lecture of George E. Palade at the International Conference: Romania and Romanians in the Contemporary Science, Sinaia, 24-17 May, 1994)
" Regardless of the accomplishments of the diaspora, the researchers who came or stayed in Romania and have worked hard with some help from the government of Romanai, as the two Simionescus - or without any help, as Gheorghe Benga and others, deserve a special appreciation. They have maintained alive the spirit of the biomedical research in Romania."

LETTER OF George E. Palade to Professor Dr. Nicolae Oprean, July 7, 1993
"Dear Professor Oprean,
… I congratulate you for the initiative of going together with Professor Benga to President Iliescu to urge him in developing an institute of research at the Medical School of the University of Cluj-napoca. Dr. Benga is certainly the person qualified to organize and lead such an institute."

PUBLICATIONS (selected from over 450)

I. BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

1. METODE BIOCHIMICE ÎN LABORATORUL CLINIC, I. Manta, M. Cucuianu, Gh. Benga, Adriana Hodârnău, Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1975.
2. BIOLOGIA MOLECULARĂ A MEMBRANELOR CU APLICAȚII MEDICALE, Gh. Benga, Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1979.
3. MEMBRANE PROCESSES: MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND MEDICAL APPLICATIONS, Gh. Benga, H. Baum, F.A. Kummerow, (Eds.), Springer Verlag, New York, 1984.
4. BIOMEMBRANES AND CELL FUNCTION, F.A. Kummerow, Gh. Benga, R.P. Holmes (Eds.), Annals of New York Academy of Sciences, vol. 414, New York, 1983.
5. BIOLOGIE CELULARĂ (MANUAL UNIC), I. Diculescu, D. Onicescu, Gh. Benga, L. Popescu, Editura Didactică şi Pedagogică, Bucureşti, 1983.
6. STRUCTURE AND PROPERTIES OF CELL MEMBRANES, Gh. Benga, (Ed.) CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, SUA, vol. I-III, 1985.
7. BIOLOGIE CELULARĂ ŞI MOLECULARĂ, Gh. Benga, Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1985.

8. CĂLĂTORIE ÎN MICROUNIVERSUL CELULEI, Gh. Benga, Editura Ştiinţifică şi Enciclopedică, Bucureşti, 1986.
9. BIOMEMBRANES BASIC AND MEDICAL RESEARCH, Gh. Benga, J.M. Tager (Eds.), Springer Verlag, Berlin, 1988.
10. WATER TRANSPORT IN BIOLOGICAL MEMBRANES, Gh. Benga, (Ed.) CRC Press, Boca Raton, SUA, vol. I-II, 1989.
11. SERIES OF MONOGRAPHS "MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH". Vol. 1, MULTIPLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF REPLACING CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEMS OF BUILDING BLOCKS IN ROMANIA WITH INDIVIDUAL THERMAL APPLIANCES FUELLED WITH NATURAL GAS ("APARTMENT" HEATERS, CONVECTORS, ETC.), Gh. Benga, D. Fowler, I. Haiduc, I.M. Năstase (Eds.), "Iuliu Haţieganu" University Press, Cluj-Napoca, 2003.
12. SERIES OF MONOGRAPHS "MOLECULAR MEDICINE, SOCIETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH". Vol. 1, MULTIPLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF REPLACING CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEMS OF BUILDING BLOCKS IN ROMANIA WITH INDIVIDUAL THERMAL APPLIANCES FUELLED WITH NATURAL GAS ("APARTMENT" HEATERS, CONVECTORS, ETC.), Gh. Benga, D. Fowler, I. Haiduc, I.M. Năstase (Eds.), "Iuliu Haţieganu" University Press, Cluj-Napoca, 2nd Ed. (revised and enlarged), 2004.
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III. REVIEWS

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