



## HISTORY OF SDRM

**SDRM** was founded in the early '70s in Paris by a group of medical doctors under the leadership of *Prof. Jean Durlach*, who foresaw how magnesium status could be crucial in a wide variety of relevant pathologies ranging from cardiovascular to metabolic and neurological diseases. Soon after the foundation, **SDRM** promoted **International Magnesium Symposia** (IMS) that were held regularly every 3 years worldwide. (*see history of magnesium meetings*)

In parallel to this European initiative, in the USA another group of physicians led by *Drs. Ronald Elin, Mildred Seelig and Burton and Bella Altura*, became intrigued by the role of magnesium in pathophysiological settings. In 1978 the first **Gordon Research Conference** (GRC) entitled "Magnesium in Biochemical Processes and Medicine" took place in California, starting a series that was successfully repeated for 13 editions, up to the latest in 2008. (*see history of magnesium meetings*). The GRCs on magnesium were characterized by a remarkable interdisciplinarity. Basic scientists and clinicians gathered together to discuss and share experience and expertise on magnesium and to promote scientific cooperation.

Soon, the international magnesium research community became a whole with successful exchange of ideas and collaborations, as witnessed by the fact that IMS and GRC Presidents and Chairmen were alternatively chosen among American and European representatives.

The global economic crisis, which meant a substantial reduction of grants for scientific research and mobility, was the main cause limiting the number of attendees (about 80) to the last GRC on magnesium. This jeopardized the confirmation of future GRCs entirely dedicated to magnesium research, in the face of an ever flourishing scientific quality, which on the contrary experienced the rising of a new exciting era.

The new **SDRM** website intends to facilitate the exchange of information, ideas and communication among the international magnesium research community. We count on your active collaboration to spread magnesium science and to promote new initiatives.