

The gene EBB1: evolution and ecology

Manuel João Costa

ICVS – Life and Health Sciences Research Institute, University of Minho, Portugal

International organizations of Molecular Life scientists such as SBBQ, ASBMB, PAMBMB or IUBMB are paying increasing attention to the Teaching of Biochemistry - “Ensino de Bioquímica” (EB) in Portuguese. The expected impact would be an increase in the scientific competence of future graduates in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, as well as greater sensitivity and critical participation in the public debate of issues related to the applications of these sciences. In a recent evolutionary past, the Community of Portuguese Speakers has contributed actively to the study and development of EB, with approaches of various levels. These have covered interesting issues such as the paradigms of teaching and learning or the development and patenting of new technologies in education. Acceptance by the international community of related scholars has been demonstrated by the increasing number of papers published in indexed peer review journals. Determining the genetic origins of this mutant phenotype - as opposed to the wild type NIEB (No Investment in EB) has led to the identification of the gene EBB1 (Ensino de Bioquímica by Bayardo 1). In this communication, the gene will be characterized and the corresponding phenotype will be analyzed phylogeographically. Interesting conclusions concerning the distribution and evolution of EBB1 will be revealed, such as its role in the establishment of a collaborative community of individuals from both sides of the Atlantic.