

Alfonso Valencia receives a “*Doctor Technices Honoris Causa*” from the Technical University of Denmark

Madrid May 3rd, 2010 - Every year since 2000, the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) awards the degree of “*Doctor Technices Honoris Causa*”, the highest honour it confers, to individuals with outstanding technical and/or scientific achievements and who have made important contributions to the DTU.

In 2010, Dr. Alfonso Valencia, Director of the CNIO’s Structural Biology and Biocomputing Programme, was chosen as the recipient of this honorary degree for his contributions to the development of computational methods for the extraction and analysis of protein function and structure at the genomic level. In 2009 the degree was awarded to Prof. Peter Roepstorff for his scientific achievements in the area of mass spectrometry.

The award ceremony will take place on May 5, 2010 in the presence of the Danish Royal Family.

The history of DTU dates back to 1829, when it was founded as the College of Advanced Technology. In 1933, the College was renamed to Danish Technical College and finally, in 1994, it became the Technical University of Denmark (DTU). Its founder was H.C. Ørsted, the man who discovered electromagnetism and built the College in the image of the French *École Polytechnique*. In the 2008 Leiden Ranking’s “Crown Indicator” listing of the largest European universities in terms of the number of citations per publication in scientific journals listed within the *Web of Science* for the period 2003-2007, DTU ranked 6th place in Europe and 58th worldwide. In the CWTS’ University-Industry Cooperation Scoreboard 2008, DTU ranked 3rd in Europe and 10th internationally. In terms of citation impact, DTU scores similarly to the two best European Technical Universities, the ETH in Zurich, Switzerland, and the TU in Munich, Germany.