

Remembering John (Jan) W. Drake (February 10, 1932 – February 2, 2020)

At the end of the last century, friends and students of N.W. Timofeeff-Ressovsky were preparing to celebrate the 100th anniversary of his birthday. Timofeeff-Ressovsky was closely associated with American geneticists. We were advised to invite Drake to the centennial of Timofeeff-Ressovsky, who knew the history of genetics well.

Then Drake became one of the founders of the conference "Modern problems of genetics, radiobiology, radioecology and evolution", dedicated to Timofeeff-Ressovsky. Co-organizer of the conference became also the Genetic Society of America. In addition to his important lectures on mutagenesis and repair, we must say that he became a bridge between young scientists coming to the conference and American geneticists.



Drake took part in all conference events; especially he supported young scientists.

Together we wrote an article for the Foreword of the [book](#) "Genetics, evolution, and radiation" (2016). In this short article "Timofeeff-Ressovsky and American scientists", a connection is traced, sometimes large, sometimes breaking off, between Russian and American geneticists. This article also refers to the [Conferences](#) "Modern problems of genetics, radiobiology, radioecology and evolution".

Yerevan, 2005

In his last letter in the summer 2019, Jan Drake wrote to me that he would like to be co-chair of the [V Int. conference](#) in October 2020 and wanted to go to Yerevan. We dedicated the conference Chapter "Genetics" to Prof. Jan Drake.

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