

Dear Head and Neck Working Group member:

One of the key issues discussed at the recent European Congress of Pathology in Florence, has been the communication in our group. As a means for disseminating information in a timely manner to the Group membership, we decided to start an electronic newsletter, which will have the primary function to keep members updated on the activities of the group.

Along the same way, we would like to draw your attention to a new feature of the ESP website: a **Working Group forum** can now be accessed from the main menu by ESP members using their login and password. This can certainly be a quick and effective way for exchanging information among the working group members.

### **Report on the 22<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Pathology**

The activities of our group started with the Pre-meeting held at the Grand Hotel Baglioni. As in previous editions, there was a joint program organized with our colleagues of the North American Head and Neck Pathology Society, which covered some hot topics in head and neck pathology and ended in the afternoon with a very interesting interactive session of case presentation. To view the proceedings of this meeting, please use the following link:

<http://springerlink.com/content/120733/?sortorder=asc&v=condensed&Article+Category=Head+and+Neck+Pre-Meeting+of+the+22nd+European+Congress+of+Pathology>

The congress sessions, which were dedicated to the memory of our friend and colleague Mario A. Luna, were all well attended and all participants enjoyed the scientific program and the discussions. The symposium, chaired by Gary Ellis and Ilmo Leivo, covered topics on salivary gland tumors, lesions of the maxillofacial bones and HPV role in head and neck cancer. The short course, chaired by T. Helliwell and S. El Mofty, was dedicated to the controversial topic of preneoplastic lesions and to various aspects of head and neck cancer. The slide seminar, chaired by Silvana Di Palma and Alessandro Franchi, included a pout-pourri of neoplastic conditions of the head and neck. The Business Meeting has been the occasion for a retrospective sight into the activities and the achievements of our group from its foundation, 18 years ago, up to now, as well as for an overview of possible future developments. We also had the opportunity to discuss some interesting issues with our colleagues of the North American Head and Neck Pathology Society, with whom we will continue the co-operation in scientific efforts and in the organization of future meetings.

### **Membership**

The Working Group has now 84 members, from 24 European and 3 extra European countries. Ten new members joined the group at the Florence Congress! We would like to welcome Drs. Ihrler (Munich, Germany), Kalekou-Greka (Thessaloniki, Greece), Sarioglu (Irmir, Turkey), Etit (Irmir, Turkey), Krstulia (Rjeka, Croatia), Okpokam (Newcastle upon Tyne, UK), Bloemena (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Costes (Montpellier, France), Vozmitel (Minsk, Belarus), Wenig (New York, USA) in the Working Group, and we hope they will be actively participating in our activities in the future.

### **Next meetings**

- The next meeting of the ESP will be the Intercongress Meeting in Kraków, Poland, August 31 - September 4, 2010. The program is under construction: our group will organize a slide seminar and a symposium entitled "Advances in Head & Neck Pathology". A proposal for a joint session with the Breast Working Group is also under discussion. The first deadline for early registration fee is March 1 2010 and April 15 2010 is the deadline for abstract submission.
- USCAP 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC, March 20-26, 2010.

- Fourth International Conference on Sentinel Node Biopsy 27-29 May 2010, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 4<sup>th</sup> World Congress of International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies, Seoul June 15-19, 2010 Korea
- XXVIIIth International Congress of the IAP, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 10-15, 2010.
- British division of IAP, London meeting, November 2010, Head and Neck Pathology.

December 2009,

Alena Skalova, Chairman  
Alessandro Franchi, Secretary