

**General Assembly of the European Society of Pathology.
Helsinki Convention and Exhibition Centre, Helsinki, Finland
Wednesday, 31st August 2011, 11.30-12.30 hrs.**

Agenda.

1. Welcome.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Approval of the Minutes from the General Assembly in Kraków in 2010.
4. Report of the President.
5. Report of the Treasurer.
6. Report of the Chairman of the Education Committee.
7. Report of the Chairman of the Advisory Council.
8. Report of the Chairman of the Working Group Chairs.
9. Report of the Editor of Virchows Archiv.
10. Election of new Officers and Members of the Executive Committee.
11. Progress report of the European Congress of Pathology in Prague in 2012.
12. Progress report of the European Congress of Pathology in Lisbon in 2013.
13. Approval of sites for future European Congresses of Pathology.
14. Place and date of the next General Assembly.

Minutes from the General Assembly.

1. Welcome.

Prof. Wells welcomed all participants to the meeting. A total of 81 members were present.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the General Assembly in Kraków in 2010.

The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Report of the President.

The President has already reported on his activities in the ESP Newsletter. His goal has been to support the development of pathology in Eastern Europe including his address to the Bulgarian parliament and visits to several Eastern European countries. The EORTC and the ESP have outlined joint guiding principles aimed at raising the level of histopathology in clinical trials in order to meet the increasing importance of histopathology in translational research. The ESP has generated a long-term strategic plan for the development of Virchows Archiv. The President thanked the outgoing Editor-in-Chief Heinz Höfler for his dedication to the journal. In an improvement of the European Congresses of Pathology, admission to all slide seminars will be included in the basic registration fee. The ESP has offered a total of 100 bursaries to young pathologists to participate in the Helsinki congress. A programme of video masterclasses for residents has been started at the ESP office.

5. Report of the Treasurer.

Prof. Han van Krieken has carried out a gradual change from a long-term low-risk investment strategy of ESP funds to a bank-managed low-risk investment plan. At the end of 2009 the financial situation of the ESP was 1.941.813 € and it increased by the end of 2010 to 1.977.549 €. The main sources of income are the membership fees, the royalties from Virchows Archiv, and the surplus from congresses. The latter will be used to continuous improvement of new congresses, while the royalties are used to run the Society. The main expenditures are accommodations, salaries, financial costs, and taxes. The ESP saves now 50.000 € annually by posting its membership data on the ESP website instead of printing a Members Handbook. In the budget proposal for 2012, membership dues are expected to increase, while royalties from Virchows Archiv are expected to decrease in a general trend of the publishing industry, and income from the finances may decrease somewhat due to the financial crisis. The total income, however, is expected to remain similar as in recent years. Also the expenditures will remain mostly unchanged. In addition, in 2012 the ESP will start new projects aimed at strengthening pathology in Europe. Recently, the ESP had 2731 members including many resident members.

6. Report of the Chairman of the Education Committee.

Prof. Fred Bosman reported on the expanding EScoP courses run presently in Kraków, Craiova, Belgrade, Zagreb and Ankara. In a new development, courses on molecular pathology will be arranged by the Molecular Pathology Working Group in Pisa. A new e-learning policy of the ESP is being developed including educational materials from ESP congresses and courses made available on the ESP website. The ESP will also be administering a European progress test.

7. Report of the Chairman of the Advisory Council.

Prof. Günter Klöppel concluded his period as Chairman of the Advisory Council. He emphasized the significance of the national societies of pathology as the basis of the ESP.

8. Report of the Chairman of the Working Group Chairs.

Prof. Fred Bosman described a new three year rolling approach for the Working Groups when they prepare scientific programmes to the new annual congresses of the ESP. Furthermore, it will not be necessary for every Working Group to arrange programme every year.

9. Report of the Editor of Virchows Archiv.

The new Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv Prof. Fred Bosman reported on his plans for the journal including continued solid publication policies, the addition of review issues, and the appointment of new managing editors.

10. Election of new Officers and Members of the Executive Committee.

The following Officers were elected:

- New President elect: Han van Krieken (The Netherlands).
- New Treasurer: Marco Santucci (Italy).

The new Members of the Executive Committee are:

- Aurelio Ariza (Spain).
- Arzu Ensari (Turkey).
- Jean-Francois Fléjou (France).
- Janina Kulka (Hungary).

The outgoing Members of the Executive Committee are:

- Loukas Kaklamanis (Greece).
(He will remain as an Ex officio member for 2 more years as Editor of the ESP Newsletter).
- Bodil Laub Petersen (Denmark).
- Theresa Ribalta Farres (Spain).
- Jovan Vasiljevic (Serbia).
- Mia Marichal (Belgium).
- New Congress Coordinator: To be recruited.
- New Chairman of the Advisory Council: Fred Bosman (The Netherlands).
- New Chairman of the Education Committee: Helmut Popper (Austria).
- New Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv: Fred Bosman (The Netherlands).

11. Progress report of the European Congress of Pathology in Prague 2012.

Chairman of the Local organising committee prof. Ales Ryska gave a progress report on the Prague congress.

12. Progress report on the European Congress of the Pathology in Lisbon 2013.

Chairman of the Local organising committee prof. Manuel Sobrinho-Simoes gave a progress report on the Lisbon congress.

13. Approval of sites for future European Congresses of Pathology.

European Congress of Pathology in 2014 was approved for London (a joint congress with the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland) and in 2015 for Belgrade. The General Assembly also approved that the planning for a joint congress of the IAP and the ESP in Cologne in 2016 may proceed.

14. Place and date of the next General Assembly.

The next General Assembly of the European Society of Pathology will be held in Prague, 12 September 2012.