Florence, January 30, 2011

Dear WG member:

23rd Congress of the ESP - Helsinki, Finland, August 27 - September 1, 2011
"Pathology – Diagnostic, prognostic, predictive"
http://www.esp-congress.org/

Our next ESP Congress will be held in Helsinki, Finland on Aug 27-Sept 1, 2011. Educational Courses of the ESP (not related to skin pathology) will also be held in St. Petersburg, Russia, on Saturday 3 Sept, following the Congress. Prof. Veli-Pekka Lehto (Chair) and Prof. Ilmo Leivo (Secretary) of the Local Organising Committee, will provide an up-to-date scientific programme with special emphasis on the latest discoveries in all major areas of surgical and investigative pathology.

Deadlines:
April 1, 2011: deadline for early registration fee
April 15, 2011: deadline for abstract submission
July 1, 2011: second deadline for early registration fee

The Dermatopathology programme has been preliminarily fixed for Sunday 28 Aug (Symposium, Short Course and Slide Seminar) and Monday 29 Aug (Videomicroscopy and Business Meeting). The program is awaiting for final approval, but we can anticipate that our proposals include:

i) Symposium "Understanding melanoma biology from pathologists' perspective" (main topics: novel hypermethylated tumor suppressor genes, micro-RNA, stem cells, TIL).
ii) Short Course "Approach to the diagnosis of problematic tumors of the skin" (main topics: clear cell lesions, low grade and high grade spindle cell lesions, spitzoid and blue melanocytic lesions, lymphoproliferative disorders)
iii) Slide Seminar "Emerging entities and concepts in dermatopathology"
iv) VideoMicroscopy “Challenging melanocytic and lymphoid proliferations”
v) Business Meeting "Novelties in dermatopathology" (main topics: soft tissue tumors, Merkel cell carcinoma, bullous diseases)

Collaborative, inter-institutional scientific projects

During the last meeting of the WG representatives, we were welcomed to come up with interesting proposals on collaborative, inter-institutional scientific projects to be developed among WG members. Exchanges of young fellows to support such collaborative studies may be financially supported by our Society. Thus, I strongly encourage you to make your proposals.

Ongoing and past collaborative projects

FS-DFSP (ongoing).


**Educational Activities**

**ESP Videomicroscopy masterclass** - The masterclass was held by Prof. Marco Santucci and myself in November 2010 in the ESP headquarters, in Brussels. It focused on cutaneous melanocytic lesions and lymphomas and gave us the opportunity to interactively debate challenging cases in a friendly and informal atmosphere. We may consider the possibility to repeat this experience in 2011 and we look forward to receiving your suggestions on this regard.

**ESP Educational Course** - Thomas Brenn and myself have recently drafted a proposal for an Educational Course consisting in an annual 2-day course with rotating topics alternating between inflammatory and neoplastic disorders, in a four year cycle. The proposed course would provide an update of new developments in the field through a combination of traditional lecture style teaching and practical teaching using the Aperio technology and projection microscopy. We are currently waiting for the approval by the ESP Education Committee (ESP EdCom). An update will follow.

**Membership**

Members of the WGs should be members of the ESP. The annual subscription fee for ESP membership includes participation in all WGs. Application is now easy by web site http://esp-pathology.org.

**Forthcoming Meetings**

- **14th Joint Meeting of The International Society of Dermatopathology (ISDP).** New Orleans (LA), February 2-3, 2011
- **23rd Congress of the ESP - Helsinki, Finland, August 27 - September 1, 2011**
- **XXXII ISDP Symposium, Geneva, Switzerland, 31 August - September 3, 2011**
- **24th Congress of the ESP – Prague 2012**
- **XXXIII ISDP Symposium, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 2012**
- **XXXIV ISDP Symposium, Florence, Italy, September 26-28, 2013**
- **25th Congress of the ESP – Lisbon 2013**
- **26th Congress of the ESP – London 2014**

With warmest regards,

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Daniela Massi, MD
Chairman Dermatopathology Working Group
European Society of Pathology