Minutes of the General Assembly of the European Society of Pathology

Wednesday, 12 September 2018, 12:00-13:00 h
Room A1, Euskalduna Conference Centre, Bilbao, Spain

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly in Amsterdam, 6 September 2017
4. Report of the President
5. Report of the Treasurer
6. Report of the Chair of the Advisory Board
7. Report of the Chair of the Working Groups
8. Report of the Chair of the Education Subcommittee
9. Report of the Chair of the Trainee Subcommittee
10. Report of the Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv
11. Approval of Honorary Membership for Prof. Ilmo Leivo
12. Progress report of the 31st European Congress of Pathology in 2019, Nice, France
13. Progress report of the 32nd European Congress of Pathology and the XXXIII International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology in 2020, Glasgow, United Kingdom
15. Any other items
16. Place and date of the next General Assembly of the ESP
   11 September 2019 in Nice, France
Minutes of the meeting:

1. Welcome
The President welcomed the participants. There were ca. 140 participants.

2. Approval of the Agenda
The Agenda was approved.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly in Amsterdam, 6 September 2017
The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Report of the President
Prof. Dina Tiniakos gave the report of the President. The present ESP Congress in Bilbao has been very successful, with over 1,700 abstracts accepted and 3,477 registered participants from 87 countries (Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Russia and Germany, in that order, provided the higher numbers of delegates).

The programme for the Nice Congress is already being worked by the Congress Scientific Committee. A joint meeting has been held with the British Division of the IAP (BDIAP) in preparation for ECP Glasgow 2020.

There are proposals for three new ESCoP courses. Since 2015 forty-four Giordano Fellows (30 females, 14 males) from 20 countries have attended 22 European Advanced Training (EAT) Centres thanks to an overall investment of €181,800.

It is important that Giordano Fellows make the commitment of going back to their countries after their training. The ESP requests from them the dissemination of knowledge to colleagues at their home institutions and a report one year after their training.

The first edition of the ESP Academy (ESPA), lasting three days, took place in Waterloo, Belgium, in June 2018. ESPA’s aim is to promote academic leadership among young pathologists and allied professionals. Participants are proposed by the pathology national societies and selected by the ESP. The plan is to hold an ESPA meeting every two years.

Collaborative agreements are being concluded with a variety of scientific societies, including the European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO), the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) and others.

5. Report of the Treasurer
Prof. Marco Santucci gave the report of the Treasurer. He presented the balance sheet of 31.12.2017, which has been approved by the ESP Council in February 2018 and has been fully audited by the auditors of the Society. There has been an increase in general assets, the global 2017 result being a positive sum of €120,688.70. ECP Cologne 2016 and ECP Amsterdam 2017 were very successful also from the financial point of view. The fact that ESP expenses have remained quite stable while income has increased substantially is an expression of how sound the ESP economic condition is.

6. Report of the Chair of the Advisory Board
Prof. Fátima Carneiro gave the report of the Chair of the Advisory Board. She thanked Prof. Fred Bosman for his efforts to revitalise the Progress Test. In agreement with the increasing importance of the National Societies in the ESP, they should participate ever more actively in the ECPs. It is also important for National Societies to stimulate their members to become ESP members.

7. Report of the Chair of the Working Groups
Dr Raed Al Dieri gave the report of the Chair of the Working Groups on behalf of Prof. Pierre Bedossa. Replacement of WG Chairs after completion of their terms in office is important. Every WG has the responsibility of presenting proposals for educational activities and submitting an annual report to be posted on the ESP website. Collaboration of WGs with other scientific societies should be bidirectional, so that there is reciprocity in regard to participation in each other’s activities. Some WGs have already sent their proposals for ECP Nice 2019 and the rest will do it soon.

8. Report of the Chair of the Education Subcommittee
Prof. Aleš Ryška gave the report of the Chair of the Education Subcommittee. This year there were 30 applications for Giordano Fellowship, 15 of which were awarded (rate of acceptance: 50%). Five EScOp courses were approved in the last 12 months. There has been a good feedback from the participants in the first edition of the ESP Academy, although some of them complained about the lack of time for productive social exchange. The ESP Pathology Progress Test continues to improve in its successive editions and the Educational Portal is being built.

9. Report of the Chair of the Trainee Subcommittee
Dr Daniel Pinto gave the report of the Chair of the Trainee Subcommittee on behalf of Dr Charlotte Kweldam. The two joint sessions (with the Electron Microscopy WG and the Cytopathology WG) arranged by the trainees for the Bilbao Congress, as well as their social programme, have been quite successful. A survey of European trainees is being conducted and future plans include organisation of short courses, engagement in social media, and arrangement of joint sessions with additional WGs.

10. Report of the Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv
Prof. Aleš Ryška gave the report of the Editor-in-Chief of Virchows Archiv on behalf of Prof. Daniela Massi. Information on the Journal’s editorial committee, submissions received, peer review turnaround times, impact factor trend, and global usage was provided.

11. Approval of Honorary Membership for Prof. Ilmo Leivo
ESP Honorary Membership for Prof. Ilmo Leivo was unanimously approved.

12. Progress report of the 31st European Congress of Pathology in 2019, Nice, France
Prof. Jean-François Fléjou gave a progress report of the Nice Congress.

13. Progress report of the 32nd European Congress of Pathology and the XXXIII International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology in 2020, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Prof. Ray McMahon gave a progress report of the Glasgow Congress.

15. Any other items
   None

17. Date and place of the next General Assembly of the ESP
   The next General Assembly of the ESP will be held on 11 September 2019 in Nice, France.