

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGY.

Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly, European Society of Pathology; Hotel du Lac Congress Centre, Ioannina, Greece. Friday, 26th May 2006, 14.30 to 15.30hrs.

1. Welcome.

Professor Agnantis welcomed everyone to the meeting. About 30 members were present.

2. Approval of agenda.

Approved unanimously.

3 Approval of Minutes from the General Assembly meeting in Paris, 7th September 2005.

Approved

4. Report of the President.

Prof. Agnantis gave an interim report on the current Intercongress. The total number of participants was 1040 registrations, including 738 from Greece, 19 from the UK, 40 from Romania and 6 from the USA. All the Working Groups were represented, except for the uropathology group, which was replaced by a Greek symposium. There had been 260 posters. The social programme had been successful. The following day would feature the session, "what's new?" and the poster awards.

5. Report of the Executive Committee's strategic meeting for the future direction of the ESP held in Istanbul, Friday, 3rd February 2006.

See addendum.

This has already been posted on the website, and the decisions well received.

6. Permanent office; progress report.

The papers for purchase are ready to be signed. It is intended to occupy the office in late 2007.

7. ESP Congress, Istanbul, 2007. Report of the Chairman of the Organising Committee.

Prof. Sitki Tuzlali gave a short presentation. The congress will take place from 8th to 13th September 2007 in the centre of the city. The aim is to have a good balance between diagnostic and scientific pathology, and between speakers from Europe and outside. Pre-congress meetings will take place in the nearby Military Museum. Slide seminars will be web-based. Full information is available on the website: www.ecp2007istanbul.org

8. Intercontinental Congress, Barcelona 2008. Report of the Chairman of the Organising Committee.

Prof JA Bombí gave a short presentation. The congress will take place from 17th to 21st May 2008. The support of the Working Groups will be most welcomed.

9. Any other business.

None.

10. Date and place of next General Assembly:

During the next European Congress of Pathology, Istanbul, Wednesday, 12th September 2007.

Signed:

Niki Agnantis, President of the ESP.

Roderick HW Simpson, Secretary of the ESP.

Addendum to item 5. Report of the Executive Committee's strategic meeting for the future direction of the ESP.

The meeting took place in Istanbul on Friday, 3rd February 2006. A wide ranging discussion was summarized by 21 points:

Summary points:

1. The ESP is primarily a scientific (and educationally) orientated society.
2. Agree to move to annual congresses. The timeframe will be in about 5 years time.
3. Closer coordination with UEMS and EAPCPD.
4. Develop the professional organisation necessary to achieve 2 and 3.
5. Executive Committee members all should have specific portfolios - to be detailed soon.
6. Optimise the role of the National Societies of Pathology in the ESP.
7. The survey drawn up by Profs. Bosman and Wells will be sent out.
8. An office will be acquired in Brussels, and a Business Administrator (non-medical) appointed, as well as a Congress Coordinator (medically qualified pathologist) who will be an additional officer of the Society with a place on the Executive Committee.
9. The ESP will bear full scientific and administrative responsibility for the Annual Congresses.
10. Five days is the correct duration for the Annual Congress.
11. More time will be allocated at the Annual Congresses for mechanisms of disease and molecular pathology.
12. Quality time will be allocated for free presentations at the Annual Congress.
13. Redefine the tasks and modalities of the Working Groups.
14. An independent Scientific Committee will assist the Congress Coordinator.
15. More should be done within the ESP for Residents and young pathologists.
16. The distribution of documentation should mainly be web-based. One member of the Executive Committee will be allocated a portfolio particularly to look after the website.
17. A new ESP logo will be considered by an Executive Committee member with a portfolio for public relations.
18. There is a need for better visibility and marketing of the ESP and its excellent courses. One Executive Committee member will have a portfolio for education.
19. The website will be redeveloped by the ESP Business Administrator, Executive Committee member with a portfolio for public relations, Springer Verlag and the current website coordinator (Bjørn Risberg).
20. Virchows Archiv: a name change to European Journal of Pathology was considered. There is a need better to define the identity of the journal and its editorial policy. These issues need to be discussed with the editor (Heinz Höfler) - in particular, any effect on the impact factor.

21. It is probably advantageous to return to a printed newsletter in due course, but in the meantime, Society news will be put on the website.