4th Annual Meeting of the ESP History of Pathology Working Group

The Annual Meeting of the ESP History of Pathology Working Group was held in Coimbra (Portugal) on 30 June-1 July thanks to the efforts of the local organizers: Lina Carvalho, Rosa Henriques de Gouveia, Vítor Sousa, Mª João Martins, Teresa Ferreira, Mª João d’Aguiar, Ana Alarcão, Maria Silva, Lia Teixeira, Ana Filipa Ladeirinha, Deolinda Costa and Ana Carvalho (IAP Team). The meeting included 30 invited lectures, 2 oral presentations and 5 posters, with speakers from several countries. For over a hundred years the medieval capital of Portugal and site of the country’s greatest university for the past five centuries, Coimbra gave participants the opportunity to visit the outstanding Joanina Library.

The History of Pathology Working Group Survey

Preservation of anatomical specimens is neither easy nor uncostly, and calls for patronage. In order for it to develop, a European Pathology Museum Network should aim to promote the study, access and divulgation of antique collections. The Chair of the History of Pathology Working Group launched a survey among ESP members concerning Pathology Museums across Europe. The results will serve to improve the knowledge of history, location, institutional status, audiences and policies of our collections. Preliminary findings were presented at the ESP Congress in Amsterdam and the final analysis is scheduled for the end of June 2018.

Pioneers in Pathology

In 2017, the volume entitled “Pioneers in Pathology” (Springer), part of the Encyclopedia of Pathology, was released. The History of Pathology Working Group supporters are grateful to the Editor, Jan G. van den Tweel (The Netherlands) for turning their efforts into a brilliant success.

29th ESP Congress of Pathology

The ESP History of Pathology Working Group met again at the 29th European Congress of Pathology held in Amsterdam, (The Netherlands) on 2-6 September, where a dedicated symposium and business meeting took place. The Symposium was entitled: “Pathology museums around the world” and was chaired jointly by Gabriella Nesi, Roland Sedivy (Austria), Rosa Henriques de Gouveia (Portugal) and Gaetano Thiene (Italy).

The lecture by Robin Cooke (Australia) focused on the numerous Pathology Museums scattered around Europe, a priceless treasure for our discipline. Rosa Henriques de Gouveia followed with a lecture highlighting the role of Pathology Museums in research and teaching throughout the ages. Gaetano Thiene detailed feasibility and limits of organ retention in contemporary medicine. Subsequent oral
presentations addressed the experiences of individual institutions: the Viennese Museum of Pathology (Roland Sedivy, Austria), the Gordon Museum of Pathology (Jon van Der Walt, United Kingdom), the Morgagni Museum of Padua (Alberto Zanatta, Italy) and the Museum Vrolik of Amsterdam (Laurens de Rooy, The Netherlands).

The Chair of the WG gave a brief summary of the activities of the group during the Business Meeting. It was decided to hold the 5th WG meeting in Gdansk (Poland), 29-30 June 2018, with Jacek Gulczynski, Ewa Izycka-Swieszewska, Adam Szarszewski and Marek Bukoski as the local organizers.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Gdansk (Poland) will host the 5th International Meeting of History of Pathology from 29 to 30 June 2018. History of Pathology sessions will be organized within the ESP Congress in Bilbao and during the XXXII International Academy of Pathology Conference in Amman (Jordan) on 14-18 October 2018.

Thank you for reading this short document, please feel free to contact me regarding any questions.

Gabriella Nesi