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EADV Donates €50,000 to Dermatology

EADV has recently donated in excess of €50,000 to the on-going development of the dermatology profession and its practitioners. Through an annual programme of grants, awards and scholarships EADV provides continuing education and training opportunities for dermatologists around the globe.

Continuing Education

The annual Congress is a key tool through which the Academy offers on-going education. Each year a group of young dermatologists benefits from a scholarship to the Congress, comprising complimentary registration and travel and/or accommodation subsidies. Many individuals profit from this programme annually. (Those who attended the most recent Congress in Munich are photographed above). Three come from the United States or Canada, and are nominated by the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) through an internal selection process. They receive from EADV complimentary registration and accommodation together with an award of $750.

Opportunities for Eastern Europeans

The largest sector however comes from the Eastern European countries. Through the EADV’s Gerda Frentz Memorial Fellowship ten young dermatologists from ten different countries attend the annual Congress.

>>> continued on page 3
Dear Colleagues,

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you, your colleagues and families a very prosperous 2002.

For our Academy, 2002 should also be a very prosperous year. Much of the foundation for on-going success has been carefully thought through by the Executive Committee and put into action during the year 2001. Major landmarks such as investing in a House for Dermatology in Brussels, employing full-time staff and launching a new Spring Symposia programme (effective as of 2003) provide us with further stability and scope.

EADV staff is now fully installed in the House occupying the first floor of offices, whilst tenants occupy two other floors until the end of February. The ground floor has been furnished in a stylish and functional way, with the help of several pharmaceutical companies, thus providing us with top quality meeting facilities. We were able to hold the July meeting of the Executive Committee there and all agreed that it was a splendid purchase. Initial agreements have been made with the European Society for Dermatological Research (ESDR) and the European Dermatology Forum (EDF) to use these meeting facilities, with a view to closer collaboration once space becomes available. All members will be invited to the official opening reception of the House on Saturday 27 April. We expect to be joined by guest politicians and media.

As we embark on this landmark year, with a single European currency uniting twelve European nations, EADV is very well positioned to maintain an important role in the development of European Dermato-venereology. Our 10th annual Congress in Munich (see pages 4-5) built on the success of previous EADV events and I would like to thank Professor Johannes Ring, and the Biederstein team, for their outstanding work. They put together a first class scientific programme in an atmosphere of efficiency, quality and humour. Our annual Congress offers practitioners crucial CME points. It also provides academics and clinical dermatologists an important forum at which to present their topics and findings to a wide spread audience. We are now exploring the possibility of organising the annual EADV congresses and the ESDR annual meetings back-to-back at the same venue. The aim would be to offer a substantial registration discount to our combined members and further increase membership to the Academy and participation at the joint event.

Together with other European organisations, we can work towards our goals of a higher level of post-graduate education, increasing CME potential and a greater level of involvement between Dermatologists, Dermatology Nurses and Patient Support Organisations. All of this closer co-operation and team work will lead to better services being available to our patients.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Martin M. Black
President 2000-2002
Turkey) were awarded travel grants by the Munich Congress Local Organising Committee.

In addition both the Irish Association of Dermatologists (IAD) and the Scottish Dermatological Society (SDS) support similar programmes.

Focus on youth

Key to the above mentioned initiatives is the focus on youth. The EADV is determined to offer opportunities for continuing education to young practitioners, particularly those who might not otherwise have the means to attend its annual Congress. Two new areas for support have recently been identified and approved by the Executive Committee (EC) at its Munich meeting. Starting with the Prague Congress, the EADV will award five annual scholarships for attendance, together with €1,000 per person towards accommodation and travel expenses, to a doctor being trained in Africa under the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD) programme. At the same time, the EC decided to double its support of the IFD’s activities in Africa. Two years ago, the EADV awarded a $10,000 annual training scholarship - for a three-year period commencing January 2000 - to African students attending the IFD’s Regional Dermatology Training Centre (RDTC) in Moshi, Tanzania. As a result of positive feedback from EADV representatives in the field and participating African health workers, together with EADV’s sound financial position, the EC voted to increase this to $20,000 annually for the next three years. The main aim of the IFD is to improve dermatological care in developing countries. This has been successfully achieved through the RDTC in Moshi where medical assistants and health workers from surrounding East, Central and Southern African countries are housed and enrolled in a two-year training programme. The first medical worker to be sponsored by EADV’s scholarship, Albert W. Taiti from Nakaru, Kenya, expressed his gratitude in a letter to EADV’s President in June 2000: “I wish to most sincerely thank you and the whole membership of EADV for your great generosity in sponsoring my two-year Dermato-venereology course at the RDTC in Moshi. I am hopeful that after the 2 years training I will be able to extend the same generosity and kindness to needy patients back home in Kenya, directly through patient care or indirectly through training others.”

Support for developing countries

Looking further afield, the EC also decided in Munich to offer an attendance scholarship to the annual EADV Congress and a grant of €1,000, towards travel and accommodation expenses, to a doctor being trained in Africa under the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD) programme. At the same time, the EC decided to double its support of the IFD’s activities in Africa. Two years ago, the EADV awarded a $10,000 annual training scholarship - for a three-year period commencing January 2000 - to African students attending the IFD’s Regional Dermatology Training Centre (RDTC) in Moshi, Tanzania. As a result of positive feedback from EADV representatives in the field and participating African health workers, together with EADV’s sound financial position, the EC voted to increase this to $20,000 annually for the next three years. The main aim of the IFD is to improve dermatological care in developing countries. This has been successfully achieved through the RDTC in Moshi where medical assistants and health workers from surrounding East, Central and Southern African countries are housed and enrolled in a two-year training programme. The first medical worker to be sponsored by EADV’s scholarship, Albert W. Taiti from Nakaru, Kenya, expressed his gratitude in a letter to EADV’s President in June 2000: “I wish to most sincerely thank you and the whole membership of EADV for your great generosity in sponsoring my two-year Dermato-venereology course at the RDTC in Moshi. I am hopeful that after the 2 years training I will be able to extend the same generosity and kindness to needy patients back home in Kenya, directly through patient care or indirectly through training others.”

Providing education, relative to skin diseases and related problems, and the increased sharing of information across the world is an essential part of EADV’s mission. The Executive Committee will continue to assess new opportunities for the Academy to offer its support to the profession and welcomes any suggestions from members.

4 recipients of the Gerda Frentz Memorial Fellowship. From left to right: Agnieszka Wasik (Poland), Anna Gorkiewicz-Petkow (CEEDVA representative), Carmen Slavastru (Romania), Renata Kuciauskiene (Lithuania).

Below: EADV scholarship winner Mayumi Fujita (USA) (right) with EADV Past Secretary General Prof. Andreas Katsambas (left) and EADV President Prof. Martin Black (centre) during the Munich Congress.

African health workers in training, together with dermatologists from across Europe and elsewhere, outside the RDTC in Moshi, Tanzania.
The biggest yet

The EADV Congress is the second largest annual dermatology congress in the world (only the American Academy of Dermatology congress and the five-yearly "Congressus Dermatologiae mundi" are bigger). This year's event was set to break all records with more participants than ever registered. We were encouraged that the tragic events of 11 September did not put people off travelling to Munich. Only 300 people cancelled, bringing the final attendance figure to 5,725 (3,550 delegates, 525 speakers, 250 guests and 1,400 exhibitors). We were particularly grateful to those North American speakers who came and gave excellent lectures at this congress under these tragic circumstances! Their presence was greatly appreciated and they were warmly welcomed by the audience.

Reaching all corners of the world

Our EADV Congress is growing steadily, each year attracting people from new countries far beyond the European region. Amongst the one hundred nationalities represented in Munich, the largest contingent of 994 attendees came from Germany, followed by Italy (464 attendees), Switzerland (444), Belgium (324) and the United Kingdom (204) with a remarkable 142 from the United States. It was surprising to the organizers that the first three abstracts came from countries like Uzbekistan, Libya and Iran. Also growing in importance is industry support for the EADV Congress. 120 pharmaceutical companies participated at this year's event as exhibitors.

Wide range of topics

The scientific content of the meeting embraced the wide spectrum of our specialty whilst also covering related disciplines. The involvement of over fifty German and European subspecialty or sister societies in the programme was very visible and much appreciated. Four major themes dominated the programme and were organised into "tracks" allowing those with specific interest in the field to clearly follow a particular track. These four themes were:

- "Skin and environment" (as per the congress theme) with environmental influences, toxic, and allergic reactions, eczema, UV light...
- Skin cancer and oncology together with skin surgery
- Dermatological infectiology and venereology
- Inflammatory dermatoses and general dermatology

Furthermore there was a strong input of aesthetic dermatology and dermatological cosmetology. My personal opinion is that we should not totally follow our American friends where this aspect gains more and more dominance at the AAD meetings. However, European dermatology cannot afford to have "blind spots". We should take care of the problems in a scientific way, not just treating wrinkles but actively pursuing pre-
vention of skin disease and skin damage. Thereby the same methods (laser, peeling, surgery) are used. However the protection of the integument and the preservation of skin functions should remain the focus of our activities. In all areas we heard exciting new data and very good lectures which will be evaluated by our CME system. All the information can be read in the proceedings volumes to be published by Monduzzi. To obtain a copy, please contact the EADV office in Brussels.

**New features**

There were some interesting new aspects to this congress. We started the day with the clinical cases "wake up session" in the tradition of the Dia-Klinik, first introduced in Germany by Otto Braun-Falco (well organised with much love and effort by Reinhard Breit). Unfortunately the 8:00 start was a bit too early for many people, however those attending enjoyed the sessions and found them very beneficial!

This year numerous sister and subspecialty societies became even more involved not only in the pre-congress organisation but also in the congress programme itself.

For the first time, abstracts could be submitted online. This experiment worked very well, with only about 200 out of the 1,400 abstracts being sent by ordinary mail or fax. Also, we saw a great increase in the use of PowerPoint presentations. Even in dermatology, more and more speakers prefer this way of presentation to the typical slide projection.

The most challenging task of this congress, however, was the new principle: one person, one show! This meant that a speaker could only present once in the official programme (subspecialty, satellite or political events were not included in this rule). This newly introduced principle offered a chance to many young people from all over Europe to appear in the programme and to perform for the first time. The same held true for the abstracts of free communications. Those with the same person appearing twice or more (often as first author) were rejected, as well as all abstracts with too obvious a commercial character or without scientific data.

**And some fun too!**

Not only did the congress benefit from an outstanding scientific programme but there was plenty of time for informal exchanges as well. Highlight of the social programme was our Bavarian evening in the Löwenbräu-Keller. Sadly, space was limited to 1,200 but those able to attend greatly appreciated the one-off showing of the musical 'The Odyssey of Allergy', performed exclusively for EADV by the Biederstein team. I was very glad to be able to share my hobby - namely looking at scientific and medical affairs with "a humorous eye" - with many friends.

**The way forward**

EADV Congresses have a remarkable tradition of continuous growth and improvement. My colleagues and I, responsible for the Munich congress, have merely tried to follow the standards set by our colleagues at the last three events in Nice (J-P. Ortonne ’98), Amsterdam (W.A. van Vloten ’99) and Geneva (J-H. Saurat 2000). I am sure that Dr. Jana Hercogova and the Czech dermatologists will organise a splendid congress next year in Prague. All my best wishes are with her!

From the first opening speech of our President Martin M. Black, until the handing over of the flag to Dr. Hercogova, all of us had the feeling that this congress was held in the spirit of both hard work, in science and medicine, as well as one of friendly contact. This should be the way forward for our Academy and for European Dermatology!
Upon the request of the Secretary General, Dr. Frank Powell, Drs. Duesberg and Waugh look back on the founding of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology.

Dermatology in the 1980s
During the 80s many active practitioners in Europe were members of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) Dermato-venereology monosection. The section would meet annually in the autumn in different European cities to discuss matters common to specialists throughout Europe. It was apparent however that there was more diversity than commonality. Training methods differed widely throughout Europe. Dermatological societies and traditions went back to the classical foundation of dermatology over one hundred years earlier. There was no unification of programmes between the various societies and no common ground driving continuing medical education (CME). There was also no free circulation of specialists within European countries. The group identified the very real need for a pan-European society dedicated to Dermato-Venereology similar to the American Academy of Dermatology.

EADV founded in 1987
In October 1986 Professor Emiliano Panconesi of Florence was elected President of the UEMS Dermato-venereology monosection. He immediately let it be known that his plan was for a European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology. Together with others from the monosection (amongst which our two Honorary Members) he started to identify objectives and prepare the necessary legalities for this new pan-European society. The statutes of the EADV were signed by the 21 members of the UEMS monosection on 3 October 1987 in Luxembourg.

Further work on finances and structural organisation took place over the following year, leading to the first Congress and official Inauguration of the EADV in Florence in 1989. In his inaugural speech Professor Panconesi shared the founding group’s vision for the EADV: "It seemed to us that the prospect of a united Europe, which was finally becoming a political, economic and cultural reality could, and should, also become a useful achievement in the circumscribed domain of the very interrelated medical specialities of dermatology and venereology. The particular principal aims of the European Academy were specified as the promotion and realisation of continuing medical education and exchange of both scientific and practical information (the two cannot be separated) among dermatologists and venereologists".

EADV would like to thank Drs. Duesberg and Waugh for their contribution to the EADV News.
EADV Elects Future President

Elected Professor Jean-Hilaire Saurat from Switzerland is to take the helm of the EADV for two years as of October 2002

Professor Jean-Hilaire Saurat is very well known both nationally and internationally. He completed his graduate school of training at the Faculté de Médecine de Paris in 1968, and soon after, entered postgraduate school training in Dermatology at the Hôpital Saint-Louis in Paris, where he later became Chef de Clinique. He achieved Dermatology certification in 1972 and also studied Experimental Pathology (Immunology) at the Faculté Necker Enfants Malades, where he assumed the position of University Professor in 1978. Twenty years ago, he became full Professor of Dermatology at the Faculté de Médecine, Geneva, Switzerland, where he remains to this day and where he served as Vice-Dean between 1991 and 1999. He became Chairman of the Western Switzerland Department of Dermatology in 1996-2000.

Professor Saurat is a member of many national dermatological societies. He has served on the International Committee of Dermatology as an ad-hoc member since 1998. He has been on the Board of the EADV for the past three years. He has served as Chief Editor of Dermatology for the past 15 years and is one of the Editors of a French textbook of Dermatology, now in its third edition. Professor Saurat's main areas of research relate to Pharmacodermatology, with extensive experience in retinoids and also Graft-versus-host reactions. He has given several honorary lectures abroad and was the Marchioni prize winner at the World Congress in Mexico in 1977. Professor Saurat organised the 9th Congress of the EADV in Geneva, Switzerland in October 2000 and this was a huge success with nearly 6,000 physicians attending.

We wish Jean-Hilaire Saurat a very successful term of office as President-Elect, leading into the full Presidency of the EADV, commencing October 2002.

More than Skin Deep

Jana Hercogova, M.D., Congress President invites you to Prague for the 11th EADV Congress, themed ‘More than Skin Deep’.

First class programme

Skin is a fascinatingly complex organ. It is not only the site of local disorders, but it is also a mirror of general health and mind. Many skin diagnoses can be made by simple inspection leading non-dermatologists to believe that dermatology is simple, and treatment even easier. As dermatologists we know our speciality is more than skin-deep. It is subtle, complex and testing of diagnostic acumen.

The 11th Congress of the EADV will encompass all aspects of dermatology and venereology, and emphasize their relationship to other medical specialities, its important position among them and the necessity of up-to-date knowledge of all dermatological sub-specialties to keep pace with current medical science.

The scientific programme will comprehensively cover all the main topics in dermatology and venereology and focus upon interaction of skin with other organs. The programme will include keynote lectures, symposia, workshops and courses, free communications, case presentations and poster sessions. Time is also reserved for sponsored satellite symposia. Another important feature of this congress will be the exhibition of pharmaceutical, technical and research products.

With more than 6,000 participants expected, the 11th Congress of the EADV offers you the first class opportunity to meet a large forum of clinicians in the field of dermatology and venereology.

We look forward to meeting you in Prague!
Update from the Secretary General

As we move into 2002, I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming some new faces to new positions and of thanking those who have served us so well in the past. First of all, let me update you on the result of our elections in Munich.

Election success

As you can see from page 7, a new President-Elect for our Academy was elected by the membership during the OGM in Munich. Many members attended in person casting their vote on the day, whilst those unable to attend used the EADV Proxy Form to influence this key decision for our Academy. Prof. Jean-Hilaire Saurat of Geneva, Switzerland was elected by the majority of the votes cast, and will assume his position as President at the end of our 11th Congress in Prague (2-6 October 2002). In the meantime, we welcome Jacques Delescluse into his position as Treasurer and wish him well in this responsible role.

A tribute

Jacques takes over responsibility for the financial welfare of the EADV from Prof. Roseeuw who has served our Academy with unbending diligence throughout her six years on the Executive Committee. Diane was of course President of the 4th EADV Congress in Brussels in 1995. The significant profits generated by this and other successful congresses have allowed the EADV to flourish financially and to make a long-term investment in our EADV House in Brussels. On behalf of all the members of our Academy, I would like to give our most sincere thanks to Prof. Roseeuw for her years of commitment, hard work and dedication.

New Board members

Also in Munich new members were elected to the EADV Board of Directors using a recently introduced voting system of Internal Rules. For the first time, members of the EADV in various countries, together with the national society, selected their candidate to represent them on the EADV Board. We therefore welcome for a two-year term: Yves Dinet (Belgium), Raimo Suhonen (Finland), Pascal Joly (France) and Antonio Picoto (Portugal) together with Erwin Tschachler (Austria) and John Bourke (Ireland). We welcome Jacques Delescluse into his position as Treasurer and wish him well in this responsible role.

Future EADV events

One of the top priorities facing the new EADV Executive Committee and Board during the early months of 2002 is identifying the venue for future Congresses (2005, 2006) and Spring Symposia (2004, 2005). If you are interested in hosting either an EADV Congress or Spring Symposium in your country, contact the Administrative Officer, Els Vanpee for tender documents at: EADV House, Ave General de Gaulle 38, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium, Fax : +32 2 650 00 98, e-mail : office@eadv.be. The closing date for notification of Congress and Symposium bids is 31 January 2002.

Finally, in sympathy for the very many people who are sadly missing family and friends at this time as a result of the tragic events of 11 September, the EADV has donated € 5,000 to the International Red Cross Relief Fund set up for victims of this disaster. We are sending this money to the fund through the American Academy of Dermatology as a measure of sympathy with our colleagues in the U.S. at this difficult time.

On behalf of the Executive Committee and the EADV Board, I wish you a very happy, peaceful and prosperous 2002.

Frank C. Powell
Secretary General

Mark your Calendar!
Opening Reception
Saturday 27 April 2002
EADV House
Brussels

Invitation
All members are invited to:
The EADV Reception
18:30 - 20:00
Monday 25 February 2002
Oak Alley Room
Hilton New Orleans
Riverside Hotel
New Orleans, USA
during the AAD Annual Meeting

11th EADV Congress
2-6 October 2002
Prague
Closing date for abstracts 31 March
Full information and to submit your abstracts on line: www.eadv2002.cz

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