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An overview from the Treasurer

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Call for nominations for various leadership positions

EADV fosters dermatology
Call for project proposals

Dermatology in Greece
An overview of its development and progress
Editorial

This issue of EADV News profiles Dermatology in Greece. How appropriate, as Greece has just won the European Football trophy and soon goes on to host the Olympics! It will be obvious to many that Dermato-venereology in an ever expanding Europe is still quite diversified and varied.

The aim of the Country Profiles series is to highlight the different European countries systematically, identifying the many points of history and interest, so as to inform our ever increasing EADV membership.

As I predicted, the recent 2nd EADV Spring Symposium in Budapest was an outstanding success. This success is highlighted in this issue. It is extremely gratifying to hear how younger award winners valued the experience. The warmth and diversity of the Opening Ceremony and Gala Dinner brought much good will and new friendship to all the delegates.

We now enter the period of mid-summer ‘holiday mode’ and begin the process of recharging our batteries.

The early autumn will be a busy period for EADV as we prepare for the various elections to be held in Florence. All the details are given in Frank Powell’s report as Secretary General. Although problems remain with our existing Statutes, it is most important that these elections are held in a totally fair and democratic manner.

The next issue of EADV News to be issued in Florence will be my last as Editor – I promise you a ‘bumper’ edition in every way!

Martin M. Black, M.D.
Editor
The 2nd EADV Spring Symposium in Budapest will remain in the memories of many! Firstly, because it was excellent at all levels: Hungarian Dermatology excelled, giving us a first-class experience and a true example of achievement! Secondly, because historical decisions were made during the EADV Board meeting, which was the first meeting for many new Board members. I will summarise these in two key areas.

New projects

The Board made a strategic decision to investigate and launch several new projects to advance teaching, the promotion of the profession and Dermatology in general across Europe. This will imply the use of significant sums of money, which is made possible by the current excellent status of our finances (see Treasurer’s Report, page 6).

This has been long awaited by many and I am most pleased now to help its birth. Since there are numerous possibilities for investment in these areas, all of which deserve careful analysis and consideration, I proposed opening a “box of ideas” to allow for the democratic identification of the best and most deserving projects. All EADV members are invited to participate. The Secretary General is ready to receive any proposal (see page 16), from any member. The proposals will be studied by the Executive Committee, who will consider their relevance for Dermatology within Europe and their financial implication, and presented to the Board in Florence for possible selection.

New organisational philosophy

The Board further decided that the time had come for a new philosophy for the organisation of the EADV. There are many reasons for this almost unanimous decision of the Board: the main reason is that the current Statutes do not allow the Academy to function properly.

The Extraordinary General Assembly in Budapest was not able to ratify the slight modifications proposed to the current Statutes, which provided the ideal opportunity to consider significant change. The Board grabbed this opportunity, deciding to launch an in depth revision of the Statutes in order to render the Academy able to cope with many unworkable items such as: the elections; the democratic control of executive tasks; and the extension of the number of Board members with the introduction of new country members.

New dynamics are developing within this partly new Board (albeit many proposals came from “old” members) as it enthusiastically embarks on such important new projects.

I am confident these dynamics will move EADV forward.
Some 1500 dermato-venereologists gathered in Budapest on the eve of the European Union enlargement to exchange science, research and practical experience. Prof. Sarolta Karpati, Secretary General of the Symposium, and Prof Lajos Kemény, Chairman of the Local Scientific Committee, report on some of the highlights.

After a successful debut in Malta, the 2nd EADV Spring Symposium was held in Budapest: a great event in the life of the Hungarian Dermatological Society. It was not just the Semmelweis University who organised the congress, but rather a collaboration of the four university departments, and this was an important event for almost all dermatologists in Hungary.

On 1 May, not only did Hungary enter the European Union but we also had the feeling that, thanks to the EADV Symposium, Europe had come to us and visited us. We are at the border of Eastern, Southern, Northern and Western European countries, and our guests came together in Budapest from all parts of Europe. One day, all these nations may be part of the whole, united Europe.

Truly international

Our Symposium attracted not only Europeans but participants from 71 countries from as far a field as Martinique, Argentina, Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia, Uganda and South Africa. We were proud to welcome a total of 1,506 participants with important delegations from Hungary (304), Poland (110), Romania (123) and Belgium (125).

There was outstanding European contribution to the scientific programme, the most important part of the Symposium. On behalf of the local Organising Committee and the Hungarian Dermatological Society, we would like to thank all our guests for their active participation and their interest in the programme. The invited speakers, chairs and co-chairs should accept our particular gratitude.

Scientific highlights

Under the presidency of Attila Horváth, the Symposium provided an excellent platform to support the integration of international experience in the fields of research, therapy and patient management. The programme focused on combining clinical practice and basic sciences. “As a resident in the fourth year of training, it was important for me to update my knowledge in dermatology for the preparation of the German Facharzt exam. This more clinically oriented meeting was excellent for this purpose,” commented Dr. Christian Heinemann, a participant from Germany. “The morning case presentations gave opportunity to think about a lot of rare but interesting cases and during the main sessions important fields like inflammatory skin diseases and photodermatology were discussed extensively. However, my knowledge needs an update again soon and I am already looking forward to the next EADV Spring Symposium in Sofia!”

The plenary lectures were given by excellent speakers. Leena Bruckner-Tuderman (Germany) covered all the recent findings in human genetics, and its practical aspects in dermatology in her lecture “Human Cloning Related to Dermatology and Basic Genetics”.

>>> Continued on page 4
Two of the EADV scholarships, the Gerda Frentz Fellowship and the AMED Scholarship, once again enabled many young trainee dermatologists from Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean to attend the EADV Spring Symposium. EADV News reports on their impressions, in their own words.

Winners of the Gerda Frentz Fellowship and the AMED Scholarship receive €1,000 and €500 respectively, and free registration to the meeting, thus providing the recipients with the opportunity to experience an event which is beneficial in all aspects of their career paths.

The traditional scholarship breakfast was a very pleasant occasion that welcomed a large number of attendees and proved most successful. The Awards Committee Chairman, Prof. Andreas Katsambas and the EADV Treasurer, Dr. Jacques Houset presented each recipient with his or her award and all were congratulated on their success. A warm and friendly atmosphere filled the room with the buzzing of excited young dermatologists, having just received their award and eager to acquaint themselves with other winners and some of the EADV Officers who were also present.

"It was very nice to be in Budapest. Scientific programme and congress organisation was very satisfactory. I found the bullous diseases session very beneficial. I also want to thank the organisation committee and Prof. Otto Braun Falco, Prof. Joe Pace, Prof. Torello Lotti... The Budapest Symposium was a great success and I’m looking forward to attending the next year’s meeting of EADV."

There were two symposia during the meeting that were sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry. Fujisawa Corp. presented their results on the new topical immunomodulators. The outcome on long term results were presented, confirming previous data on the efficacy and safety of these new topical immunomodulator drugs.

A well attended and highly successful symposium was organised by Serono Corp, in which the results of the biological treatments for psoriasis were presented in a variety of lectures. In this session the world’s best ‘psoriasis experts’ discussed the efficacy, safety and the use of new biological treatments for psoriasis.

An in-depth programme and many parallel sessions offered delegates a wide choice of topics, presenting some with the nice “problem” of not being able to attend every session of interest. “A very well organised conference in a well chosen site with enough space for participants without the danger of developing deep venous thrombosis! For my taste, psoriasis research and treatment topics were a bit over represented,” remarked Dr. Sebastian Reischle from Austria. “Regrettably, most of the topics which interested me were at the same time in parallel sessions. The lunch sessions, with their practical advice for the everyday work of a dermatologist, are a good tradition.”

>>> Continued from page 3

Thomas Krieg (Germany) updated our knowledge about the pathogenesis and therapy of connective tissue diseases. Meenhard Herlyn (USA) gave a very good overview on the most recent findings in melanoma research. In the What’s New session, EADV’s President-Elect, Johannes Ring (Germany), summarised the most recent findings in allergological research and therapy.

Petar Bojanic from Serbia and Montenegro found “the symposium to be a great opportunity for me to enrich my knowledge in the field of dermatology and to meet many new colleagues from all parts of the world. I was also impressed with a lot of famous professors of dermatology attending this year’s meeting and I had the pleasant opportunity to talk to some of them, like Prof. Otto Braun Falco, Prof. Joe Pace, Prof. Torello Lotti... The Budapest Symposium was a great success and I’m looking forward to attending the next year’s meeting of EADV.”

Prof. Sarolta Karpati (right), Congress Secretary General, addresses delegates

Andreas Katsambas for the EADV scholarship breakfast which helped me to meet other young EADV members.”

Dilek Bayramgürler, Turkey

“I would like to thank the EADV Scholarship Committee, especially Prof. Andreas Katsambas, for the Gerda Frentz Fellowship. It made it easier for me to attend. I found Prof. Jana Hercogova’s workshop about Lyme disease very interesting. The meeting in Budapest was in the time when Eastern Europe countries joined the EU. So it was very special time for me and my country Latvia.

Marcis Septe, Latvia

“As a recipient of the AM ED scholarship for attendance to this meeting, I would like express my sincere appreciation to AM ED and EADV officials and would like to emphasize that increasing such opportunities should
Hungarian music and folklore

A successful meeting is not only about the scientific programme however: much is shared during the social programme. Orchestrating the informal exchange of knowledge, throughout the Symposium's networking events, was Hungarian music and folklore dance. During the Welcome Reception delegates were entertained by the Tükrős Ensemble, a 6 member band from Budapest which has been instrumental in the revival of Hungarian village music. Guests were welcomed to Budapest by the Symposium's President, Prof. Attila Horváth, Chair of the Department of Dermatology at the Semmelweis University, Budapest and Prof. Jean-Hilaire Saurat, President of EADV, officially opened the reception. As delegates met each other, some for the first time, others greeting old friends, songs and bag pipe music from the west part of Hungary helped to animate the conversations. Later in the evening, Tükrős played dance music from Kalotaszeg, Transylvania, and participants enjoyed two excellent dancers from the Bihari Dance Group. To finish, guests were treated to the unusual sand animation show presented by Hungarian sand artist Mr. Cakó.

Highlight of the social programme was the Gala Dinner which took place in the beautiful building of the Museum of Applied Art, inaugurated in 1896: the third to be founded in Europe, following those of London and Vienna. Also of interest to guests as they arrived at the Museum were the building of the Dermatology Department of the Semmelweis University, just across the street, and the narrow Corvin passage which was the centre of the Hungarian revolution in 1956.

The dinner was hosted by the Symposium’s Secretary General, Prof. Sarolta Karpati, who proudly greeted participants to an evening of Hungarian folklore and cuisine form the famous kitchen of the Gundel restaurant. Kicking off the entertainment was Hungarian music and folklore dance presented by one of the most famous Hungarian folklore ensemble, the Honvéd Artistic Ensemble. With their roots in gypsy families, the artists entertained delegates with a series of popularised arrangements of gypsy tunes. As the evening drew to a close, it was time for participants themselves to dance accompanied by the pleasant salon music played by the Holiday Star Gala Band.

Hungarian dermatology was proud to welcome its European colleagues to Budapest for the 2nd EADV Spring Symposium. We now look forward to meeting all our new acquaintances at the 3rd EADV Spring Symposium in Sofia, Bulgaria in May next year.

Ekin Savk, Turkey

“The whole symposium was outstanding, particularly the high standard of the lectures and friendly atmosphere during discussions. It was also very nice to stay in Budapest in the time when Hungary and other Eastern European countries became members of EU because we had opportunity to celebrate this important event with our foreign colleagues all together. I would also like to thank CCEEDVA very much for the Gerda Frentz Fellowship that facilitated my participation in this important meeting.”

Veronika Slonková, Czech Republic
Once a year, on the occasion of the Ordinary General Meeting, the Treasurer stands in front of the EADV members. The rest of the time, he is like a worker ant: busy but unobserved. Therefore, I am very grateful to the Editor Prof. Black who enables the members to notice that their Treasurer is more than a virtual reality!

I am very pleased to announce that, at the beginning of May, the accountants (PricewaterhouseCoopers) were able to provide the auditors (KPMG Belgium) with the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2003. These 2003 accounts are now fully audited. Despite this prompt schedule, this update does not contain specific figures, for two major reasons.

Firstly, the 2003 accounts cannot be split from the 2005 budget. As a result, the Treasurer is not entitled to circulate the official figures for 2003 until the 2005 budget has been carried out. This should be available soon.

Secondly, these items can only be released once they have been circulated to the Board members as, in accordance with the Statutes, the Board is responsible for drawing up the annual accounts for the expiring year and the budget for the following one. At the last Board meeting on 29 April in Budapest, the Board was only presented with major trends and main figures, which were unofficial at the time, because the KPMG audit had not yet occurred.

Having been in office since his election in October 2003, and busy at work on behalf of the Academy, Treasurer Jacques Houset is now delighted to provide members with a clear overview of EADV’s financial affairs.

Of course, accounts and budget will be duly presented to all the EADV members in ample time before the Ordinary General Meeting that will take place in November during the 13th EADV Congress in Florence. In the meantime, I am delighted to provide you with a broad outline as follows:

**General overview**

Of course, accounts and budget will be duly presented to all the EADV members in ample time before the Ordinary General Meeting that will take place in November during the 13th EADV Congress in Florence. In the meantime, I am delighted to provide you with a broad outline as follows:

**Revenues**

- The first Symposium, that took place in Malta, showed a noticeable surplus. Congratulations to Dr Pace and his team for this success!
- The surplus of the Barcelona 12th Congress reached a very high level, thanks to numerous attendees and rigorous organisation. Well done, Prof. Lecha and team!
- Membership contributions and sponsorship are in line with expectations.

**Expenses**

- Leadership expenses (that mainly consist of the travel expenses linked to the 2 Board meetings and the 3 Executive Committee meetings held during 2003) are below expectations.
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**Overview of EADV Finances**

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**Expenses**

- Leadership expenses (that mainly consist of the travel expenses linked to the 2 Board meetings and the 3 Executive Committee meetings held during 2003) are below expectations.
- Administration expenses are significantly higher than expected, mainly due to staff expenses (increased staffing and recharging of some secretarial assistance to the Secretary General) and to the cost of the new professional accountant (PWC).
Development expenses are lower than expected. (Development mainly concerns the Blérot project, including the costs of replacing Brussels staff, related investigations made by accountants and lawyers, and the initial payment of the Senior Administrative Officer until May 2003).

Scientific expenses are higher than expected, due, on the one hand, to secretarial assistance for the JEADV Editor and, on the other hand, to higher costs of the JEADV publisher.

**Surplus**

- The surplus of 2003 is more substantial than 2002.

**Balance sheet**

- No major investment.
- Cash and cash equivalents slightly increased.
- Receivables and payables fully in line with prior years and no problems are expected in this respect.
- Fund balance slightly increased.

**Thoughts for consideration**

Over and above the basic facts I would like to share some private reflections, by way of conclusion.

The professionals working for the EADV, especially financial professionals, do cost a lot, like all capable professionals. In my opinion, all the professionals that currently work for the EADV are excellent professionals and are absolutely essential. Essential because they are highly qualified. The responsibility of the Board and Officers is to continuously check their level of relevance, efficiency and impartiality. Essential also because they work independently from any mood of the day, independently from any kind of pressure. They are consequently invaluable points of reference. Finally, they are essential because of the voluntary, unpaid work of the Board and Officers. The day to day management of the EADV needs regular attention and close supervision, with a close eye for details as well as a concern for the whole... Quite simply unachievable, however willing or enthusiastic we might be: we have to delegate many sectors of responsibility.

The potential risk of such a situation, our current situation, is the gradual and imperceptible evolution towards a kind of control of the EADV, with the professionals gaining increasing power and autonomy in all good faith... How can we avoid such a risk? By a frequent turnover of professionals? I don’t think so: as time goes by, they acquire more and more accurate knowledge of our Academy and we need their experience. The best solution is certainly a closer relationship with professionals, a more satisfying penetration within the professional mazes. This requires investing a lot of time and, most of the time, this is thankless work.

On this point, I think that the EADV is now sufficiently mature that we could reconsider the concept of totally voluntary work for the elected persons in charge and, why not, even demolish it... Such an evolution would stimulate increased and quality involvement from the elected Officers and, as a result, improve the mastery of the Academy by its members and their representatives.

Finally, we are in the process of sorting out the very big concern of the EADV’s VAT status, as explained by Dr. Jon Hjaltalin O’laffson in the previous issue of EADV News. The possibility that EADV may have to apply for VAT status is almost certain. Such a project involves considerable negotiations between the Academy and the Belgian authorities, via our professional accountants and lawyers (this is a good example of our current semi-subordination). The Finance Committee is on the watch, so is the Treasurer.

The Treasurer jumps at this opportunity to thank Dr. O’laffson and the Finance Committee. The latter is both the safeguard of the Treasurer and its close auditor. The days of work we spend in Brussels are extremely fruitful and hearty, and for the greater good of the EADV!

Dr. Jacques Houset
Treasurer
Several important elections will take place this year in Florence. All nominations must be received by 31 August 2004.

President-Elect
At the OGM on 19 November there will be an election for President-Elect. Nominations to go forward for election to this post can be made using the form to the right. Nominations must be made only with the candidates’ permission and candidates must be proposed and seconded by two ordinary members. Nominations must be received at the EADV House by 31 August 2004.

Treasurer-Elect
It is with regret that we have to announce that our friend and colleague Jacques Houset will not be going forward for another term of office as Treasurer when he completes his 2-year period in October 2005.

We are therefore asking our members to consider proposing a candidate for the post of Treasurer-Elect, to take office as Treasurer in October 2005 at the London Congress. If you would like to propose a candidate please complete the form below and send it to the Secretary General at the EADV House to be received by 31 August 2004. The election of the Treasurer-elect will take place at the Board meeting in Florence.

Board members
Retiring from the Board in Florence this year will be:

Ole Christensen (Norway)
Dimitris Ioannides (Greece)
Finn K. Jacobsen (Denmark)
Jose Mascaro (Spain)
Jon Olafsson (Iceland)

Deadline 31 August 2004 - Deadline 31 August 2004 - Deadline 31 August 2004
Elections

We thank these members for their efforts on behalf of the Academy over the past 6 years, and hope that they will continue to contribute their expertise to the EADV in different ways in the future.

Finishing their terms of office on the Board, but eligible for re-election are:
- Simon Barton (U.K.)
- Christine Birringer (Luxembourg)
- Jose Diaz-Peres (Spain)
- Jana Hercogova (Czech Republic)
- Dimitrios Rigopoulos (Greece)
- Maria Zaoura Petranyi (Cyprus)

EADV members in each of these countries are entitled to nominate a candidate for election to the Board of Directors at the OGM in Florence. As each Board member also represents their country, we would ask that you liaise with your National Society in proposing an individual for this important office.

Please complete the form below which should be received by the Secretary General at the EADV House by 31 August 2004.

EADV PROPOSAL FORM for BOARD MEMBERS

(Name of candidate) ................................................................. (EADV membership number)

is proposed by ..................................................................................................................

(Member’s name and EADV membership number)

and seconded by ..........................................................................................................

(Member’s name and EADV membership number)

as Board Member to represent .................................................................

(Country)

and endorsed by ..........................................................................................................

(Name of Association)

to take up position on the EADV Board in November 2004

Signed: ....................................................................................................

President of Association  Secretary of Association

Please enclose a 2 page CV of the proposed candidate.

Send the complete Proposal Form, together with 2 page CV, to:

Frank C. Powell, Secretary General, EADV House,
38 Avenue General de Gaulle, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.
Fax: +32-2-650 0098, e-mail: office@eadv.org

To be received by: 31 August 2004

Volunteers for Committees

Would you like to become more actively involved in the activities of the EADV?

Why not volunteer to become a member of one of the many EADV Committees?

Committee members are appointed by the Board of Directors at their meetings and the Board is always interested in knowing if members are interested in serving on committees.

Send a 2 page C.V. with an indication of the committee you would like to serve on to the Secretary General by 31 August 2004 and your name will go before the Board at their next meeting as a possible committee member.

EADV Committees
- Finance
- Honours and Awards
- Scientific
- Website and EADV News
- Membership
- Press and Media
- Continuing Medical Education
- Ethics
- Nominations and Elections
- Monitoring

Send your application to:

Frank C. Powell
EADV Secretary-General
EADV House
38 Avenue General de Gaulle
1050 Brussels
Belgium
Fax: +32-2-650 0098
e-mail: office@eadv.org

To be received by: 31 August 2004
As the 13th EADV Congress rapidly approaches, Professors Torello Lotti and Ruggero Caputo provide a brief overview of what participants can expect when the EADV Congress returns home to where it started, Florence.

**From old to new**

“The Renaissance of Dermatology”, taking place from 17-21 November 2004, will be the perfect opportunity for the EADV to rediscover its European origins and identity. Looking back to September 1989, when the first ever EADV Congress took place in Florence, it is clear to see how far we have travelled and how much we have achieved, together, along the way.

Emiliano Panconesi, the first President of EADV and organiser of the first Congress, understood the important role this medium played. A resounding success in 1989 with some 1.000 participants, the EADV congresses have gone from strength to strength, now bringing together over 6.000 dermatologists and venereologists from across Europe.

**A wide variety**

The 13th EADV Congress in Florence will continue, as in years before, to present a rich, interesting and informative programme. Speakers from four countries will be looking into a variety of topic areas during the 8 Plenary Lectures. S. Katz (USA) will explore ‘Recent Advances in Connective Tissue Diseases’ while R. Capputo (Italy), Chairman of the Local Scientific Committee of the Congress, will look at ‘New and Unusual Forms of Non-Langerhans cell Histiocytosis’. O. Chosidow (France) will assess ‘Treatments of Genital Herpes: old trends revisited and new directions’.

R. Marks (Australia) will provide an update on ‘Public Health in Dermatology’ and B. Thiers (USA) on ‘News in Dermatological Therapy’. Next ‘Ethiologic Factors in Atopic Dermatitis’ will be analysed by A. Giannetti (Italy) and then back across the Atlantic for R. R. Anderson’s (USA) ‘Light in Diagnosis and Treatment’. During the final plenary R. Modlin (USA) will stimulate thoughts on ‘Infectious Diseases’.

Following the plenaries, participants will be able to choose from any of the following sessions: 23 Symposia; 40 Workshops; 9 Courses; 16 Lunches with the Experts; 24 Satellite Symposia as well as Free Communication and Posters Sessions. Furthermore the popular What’s New Sessions will provide updates on ‘Apoptosis and Skin Disease’, ‘Lyme Borreliosis’ and ‘Sexually Transmitted Infections’.

In addition, the Scientific Programme will be introducing, for the first time, a new session: Test Yourself. This session will allow for the presentation of clinical cases, to stimulate and enable the audience to participate in an informative discussion on current developments in the field of dermato-venereology and where the future lies.

One forum which has proved to be extremely successful and enjoyed, year after year, is the “Lunch with the Experts”. This session gives a limited number of delegates the opportunity to lunch with the experts and network with colleagues from across Europe and beyond who share similar interests. This rare opportunity only costs €35.00 (including...
A meeting of minds

The 13th EADV Congress will witness the coming together of experts from over 30 countries and across 3 continents, bringing with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. The EADV Executive Scientific Committee (ESC – see update page 17) and the Local Scientific Committee have worked hard to ensure that the 5 days you spend in Florence exploring the most up to date themes and developments are complemented by the right specialists who can stimulate those topics into informative and worthwhile discussions.

In addition, prior to the Opening Ceremony, some 20 Sister Societies will organise meetings on Wednesday, 17 November. These meetings are always extremely successful and add in-depth discussions on specific specialties. It is also a nice opportunity for the numerous societies involved in the dermatological field to be able to organise a meeting, open to their members and also to all the congress attendees.

For those with time for Florence

Florence is a beautiful city and one not to be missed. O.I.C. Way srl, the official travel agent for the 13th EADV Congress, has organised a wonderful programme for accompanying guests to ensure that whilst you are busy working, your partner is busy enjoying everything else Florence has to offer. A comprehensive walking tour of the city includes a visit to the Cathedral of Florence (Santa Maria del Fiore) and the famous Giotto’s Belle Tower plus Palazzo Vecchio, the seat of city government under the Medici family, where magnificent rooms were frescoed by Ghirlandaio, Bronzino and Vasari. For art lovers, a Michelangelo Tour will comprise the most outstanding pieces of Michelangelo’s work, including a visit to the Museum of the Opera del Duomo. The programme also includes guided bus tours to neighbouring Siena and S. Gimignano; the Florentine Hills, Fiesole and Piazza Michelangelo or Pisa.

What not to forget!

Hotel accommodation can be reserved at reduced rates in a number of hotels in Florence through the official travel agent. These rates are only guaranteed if the reservation is received prior to 31 August 2004 and will be treated on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. For further information on the hotels, their rates and how to book please visit www.eadv2004.org.

A limited number of special education grants, including complimentary accommodation, are being offered to young European Dermatologists under 40. Interested applicants should apply to the Congress President. Further information can be found on the congress website.

Palazzo Corsini, one of the most prestigious palaces in Florence, will be the venue of the Congress President’s Dinner, its magic atmosphere providing a beautiful backdrop for a special night all together. Don’t forget to reserve your place.

We look forward to welcoming you to Florence.

Prof. Torello Lotti
President 13th EADV Congress

Prof. Ruggero Capputo
Chairman Local Scientific Committee

Opening Ceremony Welcome Cocktail

Wednesday, 17 November 2004
at 18.00

EADV would like to invite all the participants to the Opening Ceremony, which will mark the official start to the 13th EADV Congress.

It will be held inside of the Fortezza da Basso. A monumental complex built on the outskirts of a mediaeval city, designed by the great architect Antonio da Sangallo, now the main exhibition centre in Florence.

It’s not too late to register!

Register before 15 October 2004 and you could save more than €100 off the standard registration fee.

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<tr>
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<th>Before 15 October 2004</th>
<th>Standard Fee (onsite)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EADV Members</td>
<td>€534</td>
<td>€660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Members</td>
<td>€732</td>
<td>€864</td>
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Further information on the programme and registration visit: www.eadv2004.org
GRAPPA, the recently formed Group for Research and Assessment of Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis, invites EADV members to share knowledge during the 13th EADV Congress.

40 representatives from rheumatology and dermatology, as well as the pharmaceutical industry, came together at the initial meeting of GRAPPA, held in New York in August 2003. Two days were spent discussing a wide variety of subjects, including basic science, clinical diagnosis, classification, genetics, outcome measures, clinical trials and patient service organisations. At that time, the name the group adopted was GRAPPA, Group for Research and Assessment of Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis. Since this initial meeting, multiple telephone conferences have been held in conjunction with rheumatologists and dermatologists, the most recent being 18 May 2004.

GRAPPA and EADV

It is hoped that this important international group, together with involvement from many others, will be able to focus on specific projects of mutual interests to both dermatologists and rheumatologists and particularly on all aspects of psoriatic joint disease, incidence of which now appears to be in over 30% of all patients with cutaneous psoriasis.

To this end, and to maximise the input of specialists, GRAPPA will host a three-hour meeting during the 13th EADV Congress in Florence on Friday, 19 November. Experts in psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis are encouraged to participate. The cooperation between dermatologists and rheumatologists is critical for the further elucidation of the stated goals of GRAPPA.

It is hoped that during this meeting further progress will be made in finding specific study key domains in inquiry in psoriatic arthritis, including: classification criteria of psoriatic arthritis; assessment tools utilised in both the cutaneous and joint forms of psoriasis; standardisation of clinical registries; development of treatment guidelines and more.

A committee has been formed of key thought leaders internationally in both specialties, the majority of whom are expected to attend the GRAPPA-EADV meeting. We are delighted to have Professor Jean-Hilaire Saurat, current President of the EADV, as one of the members of this steering committee.

Overall goals

The stated goals of the GRAPPA organisation are as follows:

- Provide a forum for acquaintance, networking, and communication between international researchers in rheumatology and dermatology, industry, patient service leagues, and regulatory agencies.
- Provide the opportunity for in-person meetings and intranet communication to share knowledge, research findings, and develop and conduct collaborative research, education, and other projects.
- Develop and validate a criteria set for the definition of PsA.
- Prioritize domains of inquiry within PsA and psoriasis for research.
- Review, develop, and validate effective and feasible outcome measures for the assessment of PsA and psoriasis.
- Promote the development of national and international collaborative registries of PsA and psoriasis patients to standardize the data being obtained and learn more about the natural history of the disease as well as its genetic underpinnings.
- Work closely with representatives of patient service leagues to promote public education and awareness of PsA and psoriasis.
- Work closely with representatives of biopharmaceutical companies to promote and conduct research on effective therapies for PsA and psoriasis.
- Work closely with representatives of regulatory agencies to establish appropriate guidelines for regulatory approval of new therapies.
- Work with other professional bodies, such as the ACR, AAD, EULAR, EADV, patient leagues (e.g. the National Psoriasis Foundation) OMERACT, etc. to promote knowledge of and research about PsA and psoriasis.
- Develop treatment guidelines for governmental and other interested parties.

For further information about GRAPPA or to express your interest in the Group, please contact Alan Menter at: amresearch@texasderm.com.

Alan Menter, M.D.
Dermatology Representative
GRAPPA
In anticipation of the 15th EADV Congress being held in Rhodes, Greece in 2006, Professors Andreas Katsmabas (right) and Alexander Stratigos provide an overview of the history and development of dermatology in Greece.

Within Greece’s rich and longstanding medical tradition, originating from the years of Hippocrates and Galenos, dermatology is a rather ‘young’ specialty with a history of just over 100 years. Despite difficult and often unfavourable circumstances, Greek dermatology has grown and evolved into a well-respected, independent entity within the medical field. Today, it is one of the most rapidly advancing medical specialties in Greece, with an increasing number of practising dermatologists, a growing list of sub-specialties, and an expanding role in the treatment and care of patients with skin diseases.

Early developments
The historic landmark of Greek dermatology is 1837, just a few years after the end of the War of Independence, when the University of Athens and its Medical School were founded. Dermatology and venereology were initially taught to a limited degree by professors of hygiene and later on by surgeons. Immediately after the turn of the 20th century a rudimentary interest in dermatology-venereology emerged and the subject was taught by more specialised teaching personnel. At the same time, the three volumes of the work of Gruveillier were translated from French and a primitive hospital for venereal diseases was founded to treat prostitutes in the context of the anti-venereal disease struggle.

Turning points
In 1910, two events of decisive significance took place. The first was the establishment of a new hospital, the Andreas Sygros Hospital for Skin and Venereal Diseases, which was named after the rich businessman who donated the funds for its development. Aside from its long history and its importance as a referral centre for skin diseases in Greece, A. Sygros Hospital is currently one of the few remaining dermatological hospitals in Europe providing outpatient and in-patient care exclusively for dermatologic and venereal patients.

The other important event of the time was the appointment of George Photinos at the dual post of Professor of Dermatology-Venereology of the University of Athens and Director of A. Sygros Hospital. Photinos was an individual with a dynamic and creative personality who had trained extensively abroad and who maintained a close contact with many European countries, especially Paris and the French School. Despite the unfavourable political conditions, he succeeded in organising the A. Sygros Hospital in accordance with international standards, in establishing the training requirements for the specialty of dermatology-venereology, and in founding the Hellenic Venereological and Dermatological Society in 1914.

In 1917, the Greek State founded a similar, albeit smaller, hospital in Thessaloniki (60 in-patient beds) and established the Faculty of Dermatology within the University of Thessaloniki. Given the incidence of venereal diseases
at the time and the public demand for preventive measures and effective treatment, the focus of interest was in venereology. Its “sister” specialty, dermatology, was neglected.

Stagnation and regeneration

Due to the unstable political situation and World War II, an apparent stagnation was noted in the academic development of dermatology-venereology that lasted until the 1960’s. Despite the sporadic appearance of noteworthy scientists, Greek dermatology remained isolated from the international dermatologic society at a time when contemporary dermatology was rapidly moving forward.

In the late 1960’s, two exceptional individuals, Professors John Kapetanakis and Constantinos Kanitakis were assigned as Chairmen of the Dermatology Clinic in Athens and Thessaloniki respectively. Both had great faith in collaboration and collective work and with their vitality and enthusiasm, contributed to the scientific organisation of our specialty, creating the modern era of Greek dermatology. A representative example of the prevailing climate was the fact that young doctors visited reputable dermatologic centres in Europe and the USA. and, with their return to Greece, brought back novel methods and approaches that were gradually integrated into routine clinical practice. The number of hospital visits for cutaneous disorders increased and a gradual shift of interest towards dermatology took place.

Contribution of John Stratigos

In 1981, John Stratigos became Chairman of the Department of Dermatology in the University of Athens and Director of A. Sygros Hospital. Among his many contributions, Prof. Stratigos reorganised the educational programmes of dermatology, revitalised the role of dermatologists in the management of STD’s and AIDS, and transformed A. Sygros Hospital into a modern medical centre with upgraded facilities and new specialised units. Along with his late colleague Nikolas Parisis, Prof. Stratigos participated, as a founding member, in the launching of the European Academy of Dermatology-Venereology in 1989. In that context, Greek dermatology became more international and established a network of collaborative links with important European dermatological centres.

EADV and Greek dermatology

In 1991, Prof. Stratigos and his colleagues organised the 2nd Annual Congress of the EADV in Athens with over 4,000 attendees. His work and international involvement were continued by his successor, Prof. Antónios Vareltzidis. In 1992, Prof. Andreas Katsambas further strengthened the representation of Greek dermatology within the EADV by his election and subsequent term of eight years as Secretary General of the Academy (1992-2000). The international outreach continued and was further reinforced with the election of Prof. Katsambas as a member of the International Committee of Dermatology (ICD), which followed in 1997 during the World Congress of Dermatology in Sydney, Australia.

Practice of dermatology today

Currently there are about 900 registered dermatologists in Greece, who serve a population of about 10.5 million people. Most dermatologists work privately, some work in the social security sector, and a few practise within hospitals and academic centres.

The vast majority of dermatologists practise in large cities (more than 70% of Greek dermatologists practise in Athens and Thessaloniki). This uneven distribution of dermatologists, partially justified by the current socio-economic situation, has led to an over-saturation of dermatology practices in major cities and an under-representation of dermatological care in rural areas and the
islands. Membership of the specialty has also changed over the years and has become predominantly female.

Although a significant number of patients are referred to dermatologists by general practitioners, internists, or other specialists, most patients are self-referred. This is expected to change in the future as primary care medicine is further developed and the referral system becomes more subject to managed health care regulations.

Hospital-based dermatologists practise in dermatology clinics in either public hospitals, as part of the National Health System, or in private medical centres. Most dermatology clinics operate on an out-patient basis, and some have in-patient services. Certain clinics have developed sub-specialty units in an effort to provide specialised care and better continuity to patients with complex or chronic disorders (psoriasis units, skin cancer units, hair and nail disorder units, phototherapy units, lasers and chemical peel units).

In the field of academic dermatology, there are currently seven Departments of Dermatology, each one affiliated with its respective Medical School (University of Athens, Thessaloniki, Patras, Ioannina, Crete, Alexandroupoli, and Thessaly). These academic centres assume the triple task of organising undergraduate and post-graduate training, promoting research, and providing patient care.

**Spectrum of disease**

The spectrum of skin diseases seen in Greece is quite similar to that of other European countries. Certain diseases are more prevalent, for instance classic Kaposi Sarcoma, cutaneous leishmaniasis, photo-induced eruptions, and certain keratodermias.

Despite the myth of a sun-resistant, ‘Mediterranean’ phototype, skin cancer, is a common disease among Greeks, perhaps due to the increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation year-round. The increased incidence of skin cancer as well as the popular demand for aesthetic procedures, has produced a shift of interest towards dermatologic surgery and cosmetic dermatology, especially among younger dermatologists. Interestingly, Moh’s micrographic surgery is not routinely practised in Greece. Venereology and sexually transmitted diseases remain an integral part of dermatologic practice.

It has been estimated that in a major referral centre such as A. Sygros Hospital, 5-10% of the patients seek medical attention for a venereal disease, while 90-95% are purely dermatologic patients. During the AIDS epidemic, dermatologists were actively involved in the management of affected patients. In fact, the largest AIDS unit in Greece, with respect to the number of monitored patients, operates within the A. Sygros Hospital. Recently, a recurrence of traditional STD’s (syphilis, gonorrhoea) has been observed and attributed to the influx of immigrants from countries of Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa.

**Hellenic Society of Dermatology-Venereology**

The Hellenic Society of Venereology-Dermatology was founded in 1914 by Professor G.T. Fotinos. In 1968, the Society was re-organised and its name was changed to the Hellenic Society of Dermatology-Venereology (HSDV), given the growing importance of dermatology. Over the years, the Society has grown greatly in terms of members and activities. It is currently one of the most active medical societies in Greece, with over 900 members. HSDV holds regular scientific meetings four times a year, which alternate between Athens, Thessaloniki and other major cities.

It also organises the Pan Hellenic Congress of Dermatology-Venereology every four years, with national and international participation. The official journal of HSDV, the Hellenic Archives of the Dermatology-Venereology, has been published since 1990.

**Residency training in dermatology**

Currently, all dermatologists complete a 4-year residency programme, which is accredited by the Central Health Committee and includes one year of training in internal medicine and three years in dermatology-venereology. In accordance with European guidelines, an addition of one year of training is expected to take effect in the near future (total of five years of training).

Unfortunately, the number of dermatology residency positions nationwide is small. Additionally, there is no entry exam or selection process, hence, the waiting period for commencing dermatology in one of the major training facilities may be several years. Residency training is carried out based on a consistent, well-prepared curriculum that may differ from centre to centre, but overall has the same structure.

Residents rotate in general dermatology clinics, dermatologic surgery and laser clinics, phototherapy centres, dermatopathology units, and dermatology specialty clinics. They also participate in didactic conferences (patient rounds, bibliography updates, resident didactic sessions, visiting professor lectures). Certification as a dermatologist is based on completion of supervised approved training and an exit exam.

Lately, there has been a concentrated effort in promoting continuing medical education (CME) activities through domestic and international congresses, conferences, post-graduate seminars, and the regular meetings of the HSDV. A recording system of CME hours/credits for each dermatologist is currently being worked out.

>>> Continued on page 16
Research

Limited funding, resources and the lack of an organised research strategy have hampered the development of dermatological research in Greece. Despite these obstacles, clinical and epidemiological research has been successfully pursued by numerous Greek dermatologists, whose work has been published in international, peer-reviewed journals. Certain dermatology centres are also sites of on-going international multi-centre therapeutic trials, while others receive EC- or State-funding for participation in clinical projects. Basic dermatologic research is rather limited and mainly done on a collaborative basis.

The future of Greek dermatology

The tremendous advances in basic science and the introduction of new diagnostic techniques and novel treatment modalities are rapidly changing the way we practise dermatology. Greek dermatology has made great strides over the past 100 years and has established a strong international presence.

Our major goals for the future are to incorporate these recent advances in routine clinical practice, to promote clinical and basic research in diseases of ‘local’ interest, to enhance CME programmes, to foster collaborative efforts with international centres, and to become more involved in public education campaigns that relate to skin diseases.

Our involvement in the EADV will strengthen our connections with European dermatology and help us achieve many of these goals in the future.

Andreas D. Katsambas, MD
Alexander J. Stratigos, MD

References

Update from the Executive Scientific & Scientific Committees

Striving for Scientific Excellence

The two committees continue to be very active behind the scenes to ensure scientific excellence for EADV members. John Hawk, Chairman of the committees, explains some of their key initiatives.

The EADV Executive Scientific (ESC) and Scientific (SC) Committees, especially the ESC, continue to be very active in pursuit of the objective for which they were created: namely the provision of up-to-date, innovative and comprehensive scientific programmes for the membership, delivered by top quality speakers. In addition, the ESC ensures that these presenters are chosen from as broad a spread of EADV countries as possible; that no person is used more than once as chair at any given meeting; and that the chairs and co-chairs for any individual event are from different countries.

To achieve this, a year or so before each annual Congress or Spring Symposium, the ESC meets with the Local Scientific Committee at the actual venue to ratify the scientific programme and ensure the meeting site is suitable. Additionally, the ESC and SC have business meetings at all annual Congresses and Spring Symposia. The ESC also regulates overall programme policy as the EADV evolves, and deals with many day-to-day problems. Specific points currently occupying the ESC and SC are detailed below.

Speakers and programmes
A Speaker-Topic database of potential EADV speakers for use by EADV meeting organisers is currently being compiled. This will need updating every few years. All new EADV countries and a few remaining established ones are currently being asked to contribute towards the database by providing lists.

Integration of Sister Societies
The possible incorporation of EADV Sister Societies with appropriate special interests into the main Annual Congress scientific programme is being investigated (Spring Symposia are too small and themed for similar incorporation, although local committees may choose suitable societies at their own discretion to conform to their theme). At present, Sister Societies meet only on the day before the congress or after it.

All suitable societies will now be contacted and asked if they wish to participate in the main programme. If so, they will be informed of the EADV-approved programme format and topics for their subjects for day or half-day courses, two-hour workshops or symposia, or hour-long lunchtime sessions, depending on the size of the society and its subject. For example, the European Society for Photodermatology would be asked to provide a course and symposia or workshops on the photodermatoses, phototherapy, porphyria and photodynamic therapy, and perhaps an invited major speaker or speakers to talk on current hot topics.

Sister Societies agreeing in principle would be required to submit the names, addresses and affiliations of chairs for their events to the EADV SC secretariat for review at the usual ESC site visit eighteen months before the congress in question, drawn up in accordance with EADV Scientific Programme Rules. If approved, the society-selected chairs would then submit their topics and speakers in the usual way when requested by the congress organisers. Interested societies would be admitted gradually according to their enthusiasm and retained if they perform satisfactorily on CME assessment.

Advantages to the EADV from this arrangement would be a moderate reduction in workload for the ESC and Local Scientific Committees and greater certainty that state-of-the-art work in the various specialist topics was presented. Advantages to the Sister Societies would be shorter and cheaper stays for delegates in the host city, bigger meeting attendance and less duplication of topics presented. Sister Societies wishing to retain their present status of meeting before or after the Annual Congress would be entitled to do so.

Other business

New members of the Scientific Committee will be appointed by the EADV Board in Florence (a number of vacancies exist). If you would like to actively participate in the scientific planning of EADV programmes, please complete the nomination process (see the Call for Volunteers, page 9).

EADV members are invited to provide constructive suggestions, comments or questions on the functioning of the ESC and SC if they wish. These will be very welcome and should be sent to the EADV House (e-mail office@eadv.org, fax: +32-2-650 0098) for the attention of the: Chairman, ESC and SC.
Meet More New Members of the Board

In the last issue of EADV News, we profiled three of the new Board members elected in October 2003. Meet 6 more below.

Fenella Wojnarowska (UK)

I come from a Pan-European background (English, Irish, Polish, Russian, and Scottish) which has always given me an interest in Europe. So, the idea of the EADV was very appealing to me, and I was disappointed to miss the first EADV congress. However, I have attended almost all the meetings since.

Ever since my days as a medical student I wanted to become a dermatologist. In 1984, I joined Oxford University and in 1999 became a professor. My major research interests include autoimmune/ immunological diseases, including immunobullous diseases, lichen sclerosus, and lichen planus. In addition I have both clinical and research interests in hair biology and skin problems in transplant recipients.

I am the Regional Specialty Adviser for Training, and a chair/board/committee member for national and international multidisciplinary societies for the care of Transplant Recipients, Skin Cancer Patients, and Vulval Disease. I also review for Dermatology and Gynaecology Journals and Transplantation.

I am dedicated to the concept of improving the care of dermatology patients throughout Europe. The EADV is ideally placed to do this by supporting training and continuing education, setting ethical standards, fostering collaborations and exchanges between different countries, providing information for medical professionals and patients, and by supporting patient groups. I look forward to being part of the EADV Board and participating in the exciting projects that will soon be underway. The great strength of Europe is its diversity, and the EADV reflects this. The EADV must use the talents of all its members to aspire to excellence in dermatology and to ensure the optimum care of patients throughout Europe.

Jean-Paul Claudel (France)

I graduated from the Medical University Centre of Tours, France in 1989. I currently work in a private office in Tours and twice a week in the paediatric University Hospital of Tours as a consultant of paediatric dermatology, which is one of my favourite areas of interest.

After being elected president of the regional association for continuous medical education in 2000, I was chosen to become a board member of the French Federation of CME (FFFCDV) in 2002.

Since the EADV Congress in Geneva in 2000, I have been one of the 10 French journalists for the FFFCDV tasked with reporting on these congresses in France. Consequently, I have been able to appreciate their friendly atmosphere and the quality post graduate teaching they provide. After each congress, I organised small conferences in my own region and naturally became an "Ambassador" for the EADV.

I am a deeply European individual (with French and Hungarian origins and a wife with Spanish and Maltese origins) and it is due to this that I am convinced by the necessity for this kind of European wide organisation. I think that every European dermatologist should belong to our Academy and one of my aims, as a member of this prestigious Board, will be to increase French membership.

Finally, being a very new member of the CME Committee (since the Spring Symposium in Budapest), I will work to harmonise evaluation processes in Europe.

Thomas Luger (Germany)

I obtained my MD from Vienna University, Austria, where I was Resident and Assistant Professor of Dermatology. I am now the Director and Chairman of the Department of Dermatology. As well as fulfilling this responsibility I am also the Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Cell Biology and Immunobiology of the Skin at Münster University.

My clinical interests currently focus on allergic and autoimmune diseases of the skin, with my main areas of research including the role of neuropeptides in mechanisms of immune tolerance and the significance of endothelial cells in the pathogenesis of inflammatory reactions.

At present, I am the Secretary General of the German Society of Dermatology and Editor of the journal Experimental Dermatology. As well as being a former Dean of the Medical Faculty and former Chairman of the European Immunodermatology Society.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the EADV I intend to strengthen the Academy’s legislative and regulatory activities as well as educational programmes. Another important issue is to support the Academy’s involvement in international dermatology.
Jean Marie Naeyaert  
(Belgium)

I completed my residency in dermatology at the University of Ghent in 1986. I was then lucky to spend 6 months working on cultures of human keratinocytes in Jean Thivolet's lab, Lyon. After obtaining a John Fogarty NIH grant I became a research fellow at Barbara Gilchrest's lab in Boston from 1988-1989. My main research topic was the biology of human melanocytes.

I obtained my PhD in 1992 on "Regulation of human melanogenesis". In 1994 I became chair of the Dept. of Dermatology at Ghent University Hospital. I am presently Secretary General of the European Society for Pigment Cell Research (ESPCR) and President of the Society for postgraduate training of Dutch and Flemish dermatologists. My main interests are pigmentation disorders, melanocyte biology, dermatopathology and connective tissue diseases.

The EADV has become a major player in postgraduate training in Europe and has done this at an extraordinary pace, not always without "growing pains". Through a strong but flexible leadership the organisation will have to cope with the ever-changing demands of its members, firmly maintaining its principal goal: providing outstanding CME. The EADV can also play a major political role in defending our profession. Another extremely important mission is the safeguarding of domains which is of paramount importance to dermatologists and, most importantly, to patients. I hope that the coming years will allow me to contribute towards these goals.

Pablo Fernández Peñas  
(Spain)

I started my dermatological training in 1990, and attended my first EADV meeting in 1991 in Athens. I completed my residency in 1994 at the Hospital Universitario de la Princesa, Madrid, and then joined the staff there. I am now an Associate Professor of Dermatology in the Universidad Autónoma, Madrid.

We have a small but worthwhile laboratory here at the university and, together with my clinical work, I am involved in basic research. My areas of interests are adhesion and the motility of epidermal cells and photobiology. Lastly, I have been the webmaster for the Spanish Academy of Dermatology, http://www.aedv.es since 1998 and I have been involved in the Board of the Spanish Academy.

EADV supports all aspects of our specialty and should be a reference for all European dermatologists. Many achievements have been obtained but still many remain. A strong and well focused website could help in the endeavours of the EADV; gathering information, building knowledge and distributing results. I intend to contribute to the EADV website to help accomplish these goals. Also, my involvement in both basic research and clinical dermatology has given me the conviction to overcome all dangers within our specialty by creating a solid ground of basic and clinical research that supports the work of clinical dermatologists. I hope I can help the EADV in these developments.

Olle Larkö  
(Sweden)

Born in Malmö, Sweden in June 1952, I started my medical studies at the age of 19, becoming a fully licensed doctor in 1979. Since 1983 I have been a specialist in the area of dermatology and venereology, working in a number of clinics across Sweden, including within the Department of Internal Medicine at Sahlgrenska Hospital, Gothenburg.

In 1984 I joined the Department of Dermatology at Sahlgrenska Hospital University, after becoming an Associate Professor in 1983. I became a full professor of dermato-venereology in 1999 and proceeded to take on the responsibilities of Head of the Dermato-venereology Clinic and Head of the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at the University.

In addition to being head of the clinic for dermato-venereology, rheumatology, plastic surgery, and physiotherapy, my current responsibilities include being a member of the central management group for Sahlgrenska University Hospital and an area manager for dermato-venereology, plastic surgery, rheumatology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy at Sahlgrenska University Hospital.

In 2002 I was appointed as scientific advisor for the medical products agency, Sweden and scientific advisor for the Swedish radiation protection authority.

I am honoured to be a part of the EADV Board, having worked extensively with administrative matters in health care during the last 15 years. My special interests are health economics and focusing on how much can be achieved by dermatologists with very little monetary resources, for example in the area of melanoma diagnostics.
This has been an eventful few months in the life of the EADV!

Following the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Academy held in January in Interlaken Switzerland, and approval of the proposed changes to the Statutes, a further EGM was held in Budapest during the 2nd Spring Symposium. At this meeting the proposed changes failed to achieve a two thirds majority and thus were not passed. Validating the allocation of proxies was a lengthy procedure, which confirmed to all those present the limitations of the present system of voting which is required by our Statutes. It was the unanimous feeling of the Board after the EGM that this whole issue would need to be addressed once again and, if necessary, the registration of the EADV moved from Luxembourg where the laws do not allow a vote of the membership by post. The Statutes Working Group is urgently looking into this matter and will make proposals as soon as possible.

The 2nd Spring Symposium in Budapest was an outstanding success! Over 1,500 people attended this excellent meeting which was superbly run by Profs Horváth and Karpati. There was a wonderful atmosphere of friendship and goodwill amongst all who attended. Congratulations to all the organisers in Budapest!

Future Projects

There were several important decisions made at our Board Meeting in Budapest. One of these was to launch a project to Foster and Promote Dermatology and Venereology in Europe, with a major budget allocated to this. We are now asking for suggestions from our membership for projects which could foster dermatology and promote education in dermatology in Europe, including scholarships, travel grants, exchange programmes, clinical skills updating etc. and other important aspects (see page 16).

We have a robust active membership which continues to grow and become involved in the affairs of the Academy. membership which continues to grow and become involved in the affairs of the Academy. We are working hard to increase the democratic involvement of our members in all the affairs of the Academy including elections (there will be a President-Elect election, and election of members of the Board of Directors at the OGM in Florence), participation in committee work and input into decisions regarding the expenditure of our funds.

Meet the staff

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our team of administrative officers (pictured at the Gala Dinner of the 2nd Spring Symposium in Budapest from left to right Judith Strasser, Nancy Induni, Catherine Cathala and Gess Farrell) for their excellent work behind the scenes in helping to run our Academy! They do a great job and there is an excellent spirit of cooperation amongst all the team. Well done ladies!

Frank C. Powell
EADV Secretary General
Important Reminders

**EADV Elections**
All nominations for EADV elections (President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect and Board members) must be received at the EADV House by:
31 August 2004

**Nominations for Committees**
Must be received by:
31 August 2004

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**13th EADV Congress**
Advance registration closes:
15 October 2004

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Important Notice

**Foster and Promote Dermatology**
EADV members are invited to submit proposals for projects by:
31 August 2004

**Annual Congress 2008**
EADV members are invited to submit tenders for hosting the Annual EADV Congress in 2008. Tenders must be submitted by:
31 August 2004

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> 2004

**34th Annual ESDR Meeting**
Vienna, Austria
9-11 September 2004

**2nd Consensus Meeting on Urticaria**
Joint Symposium of the EADV, EAACI and ECARF
Berlin, Germany
1-2 October 2004

**4th EDEN-IDEA Congress 2004**
Venice, Italy
10-12 October 2004

**Psoriasis 2004**
European Congress on Psoriasis
Paris, France
21-24 October 2004

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**13th EADV Congress**
Florence, Italy
17-21 November 2004

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> 2005

**AAD 63rd Annual Meeting**
New Orleans, LA, USA
18-23 February 2005

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> 2006

**4th EADV Spring Symposium**
Saariselkä, Lapland, Finland
9-12 February 2006

**15th EADV Congress**
Rhodes, Greece
4-7 October 2006

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**Society of Investigate Dermatology (SID) 2005**
St. Louis, MO, USA
4-7 May 2005

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**3rd EADV Spring Symposium**
Sofia, Bulgaria
19-22 May 2005

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**World Allergy Congress**
Munich, Germany
27 June-1 July 2005

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**35th Annual ESDR Meeting**
Tübingen, Germany
22-24 September 2005

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**14th EADV Congress**
London, UK
12-15 October 2005

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**Anti-Aging World Conference 2005**
Aesthetic Dermatology and Surgery
Monaco, France
10-12 March 2005
"THE RENAISSANCE OF DERMATOLOGY"

Florence, Italy - November 17-21, 2004

EADV

13th Congress of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology
Congress President - Tiziana M. Lotti

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