Encouraging Young Dermatologists

EADV Enlargement
Incorporating all the EU member countries

CME in Europe
Towards a common standard
The Theme: **Skin and Sexual Health – The Challenge for Europe**

**The Time:** **October 12th to October 16th 2005**

**The Place:** **The ExCeL Exhibition Centre, London Docklands, London**

‘Come to London in October 2005 and you will be the recipient of a high quality CME update in everything relevant to our speciality. A warm welcome is assured and many of you will leave having made new friends.

I very much look forward to welcoming you personally.’

Professor Martin Black
President of the 14th EADV Congress

For further details:

- eadv@bad.co.uk
Involving Members and Patients

Our mission statement

The EADV News is gradually evolving to keep up with the changes in the Academy, which is rapidly consolidating its leading position in dermatology. The Academy does this on the basis of a strong commitment to CME and a stringent scientific programme, but the Academy will also benefit by involving members and patients. We feel tapping the pool of talent which is the EADV is the best guarantee for the future of the Academy.

It is not only customary – but also beneficial – to present a mission statement, when embarking on a new stage in the development of the EADV News. It should provide a clear guide for future editorial decisions and the development of the publication, it must be pertinent to readers and it should build on previous good efforts. Taking these points into account we are pleased to declare the following mission statement for our term as EADV News Editors:

- To celebrate European creative diversity
- To promote the dermatology community and its interactions
- To be the patient’s partner

We wish to present the human face of the EADV and its officers to our members, to show the richness and diversity of dermatology throughout Europe, and to encourage a partnership between dermatology patients and dermatologists.

To this end we are planning a series of new or redesigned features in the magazine. These will include topics such as ‘Dermatology around Europe’ (where we will spotlight dermatology, facts, figures, a typical dermatologist’s day, in specific countries or regions; formerly known as ‘Country Profile’), the ‘Patient’s Perspective’ (where we will invite patient organisations to make contributions), ‘Servicing the Dermatology Community’ (where we will profile national societies, patient groups and journals) and some clinical sections.

Your input

Editorial features are however not enough. We would therefore like our readers to submit articles and correspondence for publication, and to suggest themes they would like to see in the EADV News. Your feedback is essential to us as it represents much valued input, which we hope will help us to create a Newsletter that you will find enjoyable and informative.

Gregor Jemec
Editor

Fenella Wojnarowska
Editor
It is the tradition that the new President gives a short outline of his ideas regarding the future policy of EADV. I take over this duty as a challenge but with great joy. I will do this in the remarkable tradition of my predecessors Jean Paul Ortonne, Jose Mascaro, Martin Black and Jean-Hilaire Saurat (to name but the last few).

**Dermatology today**

At the beginning of the 21st century, the specialty of dermato-venereology seems to be in serious danger all over Europe. We are in the midst of a struggle of manifold problems arising from different sources:

- General health politics with decreasing financial resources (leading to concepts like ‘gatekeeper medicine’, ‘barefoot’ doctors, etc.).
- New university and educational laws putting economic pressure upon university departments leading also to mergers of universities and faculties for so-called “synergy” effects.
- Changes in the curriculum for medical students which tend to decrease or neglect dermato-venereology.
- Lack of adequate reimbursement for the practising dermatologist.

The tradition of dermatology/venereology in Europe is rich and diverse. So, each country is faced with different problems; however, many of the above mentioned areas of struggle are common throughout the whole of Europe. In many places our specialty is in danger of being lost to neighbouring specialties such as pathology, internal medicine, paediatrics, gynaecology, plastic surgery, etc. Therefore, we should take care and observe the right terminology (“dermatologic surgery”, “dermatology in childhood” instead of “operative dermatology” or “paediatric dermatology…”).

One of the most dangerous arguments for our specialty comes from people comparing the situation in Europe with the United States of America, where dermatology has only small departments, few residents and almost no beds for hospital dermatology. We should strongly fight against this trend. In clinical and practical dermatology the USA is not a model for Europe. Dermatology needs beds for teaching; it needs chairs and funds for science and research and it needs a sufficient amount of well-trained dermatologists to take care of the patients. Dermatology is not a “consultant” specialty!

**Collaborative efforts**

Fortunately, we are not alone in the daily fight.

With regard to research, the European Society for Dermatological Research (ESDR) has an excellent track record and has been very successful over the last few years in showing our neighbours that dermatology/venereology is a place where modern science has reached the highest level and has found entrance into patient care.

At the level of education and training, the dermatology section of the UEMS is working hard to establish a curriculum which can be accepted all over Europe and recognised by other specialties.

The European Dermatology Forum (EDF) acts as a ‘think tank’ of leading European...
venereology in Europe of EADV

dermatologists providing ideas and arguments about our work to politicians and health officials.

Finally, the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) is our common platform where we can group all our efforts and direct them into strategic actions. Over the last few years, EADV has developed at tremendous speed from a loosely structured organisation, devoted mainly to organising congresses, towards a real society taking care of the needs of dermatologists in Europe. We are in the midst of this process and many things can only start now.

Key future tasks

What are the major tasks ahead of us in the coming years?

1. First and foremost is the integration of all of Europe within our structure. EADV cannot only be confined to former ‘Western’ European nations. It is the Academy for all European dermatologists at all levels of duties; be it university, education and research, patient care or health politics. At our last Ordinary General Meeting in Florence, EADV made a major step forwards: we decided that every European nation has a right to be represented in governing structures of our Academy (see Enlargement, page 4). We will not redefine Europe geographically or culturally; we will just stick to the geographic definitions as provided by the European authorities in Brussels. This means Europe has its geographic boundaries at the Ural and the Bosphorus with 2 countries both having a large Asian and European part, namely Russia and Turkey.

The challenge of accepting all European nations into the governing bodies of our Academy means developing new structures; this in turn may mean changing our Statutes towards a “2-chamber model” with a “house of delegates”, where each country is represented and where some important decisions can be made (e.g. selection of congress venues, etc.) and a much smaller Board of Directors for the daily work of the Academy. This will be discussed thoroughly and concluded in London in October next year.

2. We encourage all members to get involved with the activities of the Academy. More and more task forces and working groups will be established to drive our projects forward. If you would like to participate in (or even form) one of these groups, please contact Johannes Ring, President, or Joseph Pace, Secretary General, c/o the EADV Office at: office@eadv.org.

3. Cooperation in daily work, active life in the time between congresses. We will found ‘working groups’ and ‘task forces’ for our daily activities in order to join forces all over Europe, besides our structural committees as determined in the Statutes. So, I would like to ask you to send us your ideas and suggestions; also, to let us know if you would be willing to participate in, or form, a working group together with other European colleagues. For example, as a basis for a common EU grant proposal, or just fostering cooperation and exchange of experience, or as a liaison group to the already existing Sister Societies.

4. We have to lobby for our specialty. Since we are an European organisation, the music plays mainly in Brussels. Therefore, it was a wise and visionary action to buy the house and establish an office of EADV and a

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>>> Continued on page 4
The Enlargement

President Johannes Ring and Secretary-General Joseph Pace explain the process of EADV enlargement formally started in Florence.

A top priority for EADV is to incorporate all eligible dermato-venereologists in the shortest possible time in all the social and scientific structures within European dermatology. Our first step was to ensure official Board recognition for all eligible countries since the Statutes state that:

European member countries
The countries of the EU countries of the founding members AND any other country accepted as a member country by the OGM following a recommendation by the Board.

Two possible options were available

A. To accept as EADV Board country members SOME of the countries currently not directly represented on the Board of Directors, according to criteria to be decided upon, with the rest joining in a staggered fashion later on.

OR

B. To accept as EADV Board country members ALL the countries accepted as European by the EU.

That the appropriate procedures be concluded at the next OGM in London in October 2005 following a revision of EADV Statutes and articles to enable meaningful governance of the Academy.

The two options above were presented to the Board of Directors by Joe Pace, in the name of the Executive Committee, who recommended Option B since the first was undesirable and would prove unworkable. While, with due revision of the Statutes, Option B would be of the greatest benefit to European dermatology in its widest context both at present and in the long term.

After due debate the Board unanimously resolved to accept Option B and recommend it to the Ordinary General Meeting for its adoption.

Following a further presentation to the General Meeting, this motion was adopted unanimously and is now official EADV policy.

What does all this mean?

By two historical decisions both passed unanimously, the Board and subsequently the Ordinary General Meeting agreed to officially recognise all European countries not yet so recognised (i.e. without Board representation).

In the next 12 months a special committee nominated for this purpose will draw up recommendations for changes in the Statutes. In particular:

- It will seek to enable appropriate governance and democratic consultation of members by introducing “distant” voting.
- It will enunciate further regulations in keeping with exigencies of this century to allow EADV to remain and develop further the dynamic organization it has developed into.
- It will look to ensure an equitable representation of all countries forming part of Europe in its widest connotation.

If the above necessitates, as appears likely, a formal move out of Luxemburg where EADV is currently legally seated, this will be considered and recommendations made.

At the end of 2005 we hope to have Statutes that reflect better EADV’s raison d’être and status as a dynamic organisation that moves with the times and has a magnificent future.

Johannes Ring
President

Joseph L. Pace
Secretary General
Reflections... and Dreams:
from Florence to Florence

EADV Secretary General, Joseph Pace, shares some of his hopes and aspirations for the future development of member benefits and services.

I joined EADV at the First Congress in Florence in 1989. Six years ago it was a distinct honour to be accepted on the Board of Directors and more recently to chair the First EADV Spring Symposium. I must commend the Founding members and all my predecessors for the vision that has seen EADV grow to encompass a Europe that we could only daydream about in 1979!

Future promises

European dermatology has a magnificent future, built on its history and achievements to date as well as the new input that will come from all countries within Europe in its widest connotation, extending bridges of science in all directions.

The recent unanimous decision of the OGM to incorporate all European countries officially into EADV is a major first step. 2005 will see the presentation of new Statutes to the OGM in London and the start of a new era.

EADV must show its flag through the four corners of nuova Europa, particularly where Symposia and Congresses have not yet been held. Attendance at the national society annual meetings will be a sign that EADV is here to listen...and help.

The EADV House in Brussels should continue to be promoted as the clearing house for European dermatovenerology and every effort made to utilise it more extensively.

Giving value to membership

Empowerment

Most ordinary EADV members are seemingly oblivious to EADV structures and see the Board and Executive Committee (EC) as them and us. A major reason may be that members have relatively little say in the choice of their Board member since it is those present at the General Meeting who make the decision. In my opinion we should move to have Board members elected by the EADV members from the particular country whom he/she will represent and be answerable to during his/her tenure on the Board and to whom he may eventually subject himself to re election. The Board member should be the natural conduit for all matters between his electorate and the EADV structures. I believe that this simple step will go a long way to re kindle interest in EADV and addressing our members opinions, and concerns.

Academic

EADV academic events need to be more reasonable in cost for members to decrease the steep climb of recent years. Costs of lunch meetings as well as the social events must be within the budget of the average ordinary member and could be included in the registration fees. Although not having a loss is mandatory, we should not forget that the primary aim is the scientific pro- gramme and social occasions that do so much in promoting understanding between colleagues. These are espe-

Through the innovative Fostering Dermatology programme we will construct networks of professional support for all our colleagues at all stages of their professional life. Young dermatologists brought together early in their careers are the best guarantee of EADV’s future. A committee chaired by Fenella Wojnarowska is already working to bring these ideas into practice.

With a first class web manager and web Committee, we will go far. The academic content of our meetings needs to be made available to those who cannot attend and web broadcasts will surely become an important feature of future events, going back and forth beyond current geographical confines, as our world grows ever smaller.

Lastly, improved contact with other organisations will be promoted to enable mutual advantages to the members of each society. I will be chairing a Task Force to improve relations between EADV and AAD hopefully resulting in tangible benefits for members of both organisations.

Personal

A Society with an enlarging membership should be able to negotiate attractive benefits in various areas. This area will be looked into in detail.

These then are the dreams – some will come through others may not but unless we try we will not find out! The challenge is a massive one but with hard work, vision, and diplomacy, I hope to contribute substantially to bring our ship safely to harbour.
In May 2005, the Bulgarian Dermatological Society will meet the great European dermatological family. Thanks to the tradition of holding EADV spring meetings in small countries, the 3rd Spring Symposium will be held in the capital of Bulgaria – Sofia. Symposium President Prof. Nikolai Tsankov provides an overview of the scientific programme and the delights offered to delegates by his home city.

The name of the town comes from the Greek word “Sophia” meaning “wisdom”. With this in mind we believe that we shall successfully combine the acquisition of new knowledge in the field of dermatology with the clinical wisdom of the old books.

Scientific programme

We aim to achieve this ambitious task with a rich scientific programme, which includes 14 major sessions, 15 workshops, 7 lunchtime sessions, 2 case presentations and a poster session. All leading scientists in the field of dermatology will take part in the scientific programme.

Prof. Orfanos (Germany) will offer a comparative analysis of the scientific and clinical achievements in the field of malignant melanoma. Prof. Burg (Switzerland) will dare to open the Pandora’s box of the primary cutaneous lymphomas. Prof. Stingl (Austria) and Prof. Pittelkow (USA) will present the latest experimental attainments in dermatology and Prof. Griffiths (Great Britain) will present therapeutic news in the treatment of cutaneous inflammatory disorders.

The well-developed Bulgarian traditions in thalasso- and high-mountain- therapy will be reflected in a special workshop, where discussion on activities in other countries is expected as well. Special attention will be given to immunodermatology, dermatopathology, autoimmune bullous dermatoses, and psoriasis. The significant problems of itch and dry skin are also subjects of further discussions. Workshops and major sessions in the field of laser therapy, dermatosurgery, cosmetology and aesthetic medicine are included in the programme. Besides the major sessions dedicated to sexually transmitted diseases, a plenary lecture on HIV infection will be given by Prof. Piguet (Switzerland). For the first time ever, special attention will be drawn to some alternative approaches in the treatment of cutaneous disorders. The problems of homeopathy and acupuncture therapy in routine dermatological practice will be explored.

Prof. Dubertret (France) and Prof. Saurat (Switzerland) complete the scientific programme with keynote lectures on the innovations in diagnostics, clinics and therapy of cutaneous diseases, as well as discussion on a new problem in our everyday practice – patient-based medicine. The poster session will cover different aspects of dermatology. You may submit your abstracts until 15 February 2005.

Cultural delights

The symposium’s social programme offers a great variety of entertainment activities, too. Sofia is a town of unique cultural heritage with ancient history and numerous traces of great civilizations. The sightseeing tour of Sofia gives you the chance of getting acquainted with authentic fortifications and the archaeological remains of antique Serdika. The world’s most unique gold mask and an original torso from Thracian times are exhibited in the National Archaeological Museum. The unique Valchedram and Panagiurishte treasures and a rich numismatic collection can be seen in the National Museum of History. The National Gallery of Fine Art situated in the former Royal Palace shows remarkable collections of various ‘must-see’ pieces of art.

1. Local Scientific Committee
2. Local Organising Committee
3. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral
4. Rila Monastery
5. Sofia National Theatre
6. Sofia National Palace of Culture, Symposium Venue
Bulgaria is a well-proven example of ethnic and religious tolerance. The peaceful co-existence of different religions can be seen by visiting the “Alexander Nevsky” cathedral (the greatest Orthodox cathedral on the Balkan Peninsula), the Russian church, the Mosque and the Synagogue. A pearl in the crown of our national memorials is the Boyana church – the earliest Renaissance monument of the world. The Rila Monastery is also an interesting tourist destination.

Bulgaria is proud of its world renowned opera singers. The Sofia Opera & Ballet Theatre has a rich repertoire of classic and modern performances. The outstanding classic and pop musicians performing all over the world should not be forgotten either. Delegates can experience the magic of their art at the special performance that will be organised at the time of the congress.

A taste of the social programme

Bulgaria is becoming an increasingly popular tourist destination. Last year over 4.5 million tourists visited the country. The picturesque landscape, unique authentic customs, great number of thermal spring water spas, and highly qualified medical staff allow the development of different types of tourism. An unforgettable experience for our guests, and an integral part of the social programme, is the chance to witness the ancient pagan ritual for banishing the evil spirits called “nestinarstvo”. This barefooted dance on burning embers is mystical, leaving a great mental and physical impression.

Delegates may taste delicious local food and beverages at the Welcome Reception, Gala Dinner and in the popular public restaurants. Bulgaria is well known for its white brine cheese and yoghurt. The impact of the Near East culinary traditions is well reflected on our popular dishes: giuvetch, kappama, mousaka, sammi, kebab, baklava. High quality wines are unique for the region – Gamza, Mavrud, Melnik, Karlovski Misket.

Spring is the most charming season in Bulgaria. We believe that, notwithstanding the intensive scientific programme, there will be time left for a meeting with the beauty of our country and its hospitable people.

Welcome to Bulgaria!

Submit an abstract and plan to attend!

Early bird registration closes 15 January 2005

Register by 15 January and save up to € 80 for EADV members and € 130 for non-members

Abstract submission deadline 15 February 2005

Abstracts maybe submitted:

• by post to the following address:
  Sofia 1463, PO Box 33, Bulgaria
• online at: www.eadv.org/sofia2005
• by e-mail to: abstract@eadvosofia2005.com.

Further information at: www.eadv.org/sofia2005
Prof. Mikhail Gomberg of the Russian Society of Dermatovenereologists provides insight to the development and organization of dermato-venereology in Russia. The All-Russian Society of Dermatologists and Venereologists has almost 2,300 members from all over the country. Branches of the Society are present in all regions of the Russian Federation.

The Russian Dermato-venereological Service consists of a wide range of institutions responsible for: delivering specialized services to patients, scientific research in the field of dermato-venereology, the teaching and training of medical students and postgraduates, and for the continuing education of medical professionals.

Scientific research and education in the field of dermato-venereology are provided by 4 Research Institutes (including one which specializes in leprosy), and 65 medical school dermato-venereology departments.

Specialised patient care
Patients who seek dermato-venereology medical help have access to 3,112 specialized dermato-venereology consulting rooms/departments equipped with 964 laboratories (347 clinical, 283 bacteriological and 334 serological).

There are 331 specialized dermato-venereological centres (known in Russian as “dispensers” or “dispensary”) that cover the whole country and provide free medical care to patients officially resident within the region of the dispensary’s responsibility.

Since the early 1990s Anonymous Testing and Treatment sections were created in the dispensaries. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in these sections is not free of charge, but it is not necessary for the patients to identify themselves.

As of March 2004 there were almost 10,500 dermatologists/venereologists licensed in the Russian Federation, serving the total population of 143,329,000 (104,916,732 urban, and 38,413,089 rural; 67,006,435 male and 76,323,386 female), according to the latest census conducted in 2002.

The average monthly salary for medical staff in government-run institutions during 2003 was 1,990.5 roubles (approximately €53 per month). Research staff earned, on average, 1,455 roubles (€39) per month.

Private practice in dermatology is allowed under a special licence.

Structure and regulation
Russia’s Federal government is administratively divided into 7 federal regions (South, N-West, Central, Volga, Ural, Siberia and Far East). Every region has its own Chief Dermato-venereologist, responsible for the Service.

The Regulatory basis under which the Service is functioning is provided by the Russian Federation laws, governmental decrees, Health Ministry’s orders and other regulatory documents issued by executive and legislative authorities of the 89 regions, republics and other territories that together comprise the Russian Federation.

Due to the epidemic of STDs in the last decade the Health Ministry of the Russian Federation has issued a number of executive orders, which cover the following areas:

- Research into new diagnostic and treatment methods
- Creation of centres for prevention and treatment of children and adolescents
- Targeted programmes for risk groups
- Integration of allied specialty services
- Opening of anonymous testing and treatment centres and departments of primary prevention in dermato-venereology dispensaries
- Introduction of new forms of patient-doctor relations (confidentiality, counselling)
- Monitoring of the congenital syphilis incidence
- Monitoring of antibiotic resistance of *N. gonorrhoeae*.

Syphilis
Between 2000 and 2002 the total number of recorded STDs decreased from 1,127,247 to 933,579. The peak of syphilis infection was reached in 1997 (277 per 100,000). Since then we have observed a continuous reduction in syphilis incidence (to 119.5 per 100,000 in 2002).
However, in the composition of syphilis morbidity late forms exhibited relative increase. The maximum incidence is amongst females in the 18 to 19 year old age group. In 1998 the incidence in this group was over 1%. Since the beginning of the epidemic there has been a continuous increase in the number of pregnancies in females with syphilis, and thus since 1998 there has been a persistently high level of congenital syphilis (roughly 600 to 700 new cases registered per year). Anonymous STD Testing and Treatment Centres record up to 10% of the total number of syphilis cases registered.

HIV infections
The growth rate of new HIV infections in the Russian Federation is, at present, the highest in the world. The number of new infections recorded has gone from 4,062 in 1998 to 87,177 in 2002. Early on STDs did not seem to influence HIV infections. However, the persistently high level of STDs and common practice of unprotected sex in the country will result in further deterioration of the situation. A second wave of the HIV epidemic via sexual transmission can be foreseen in the very near future.

In 2002 a Federal Targeted Programme on the Prevention and Control of Socially Significant Diseases (2002-2006) was adopted. It contains a sub programme titled “Measures for preventing further spread of sexually transmitted diseases”. The programme’s budget is 100 million rubles (about € 2.7 million).

At present, the situation with STDs in Russia is still quite alarming and calls for additional prevention measures. The dermato-venereology service needs to be transformed to enable it to more closely interact with non-governmental structures.

Mikhail Gomberg, MD, PhD
Russian Society of Dermatology

Latvian Dermatovenerology Association

Founded
Founded as the Society of Latvian Dermatovenerologists and renamed in 1990 as the Latvian Dermato-venereology Association (LDVA). The President of LDVA since 1990 is Prof. Andris Rubins, Hab.Dr.Med., mobile phone +371 9481725, E-mail: arubins@apollo.lv. The LDVA Board was elected in 2003 for 5 years.

Membership
Current number of members: 152

Specific activities of the association
Dermatovenerologists’ board examination, lectures, seminars all around Latvia, conferences, qualification courses and annual LVDA congresses. Every five years doctors have to undertake re-certification: if during the five-year period one has not acquired adequate theoretical or practical experience, one has to take an examination in theory and practice.

The last LDVA 16th Congress was held from 10-11 September, 2004.

The relationship with EADV
It is very beneficial for the Latvian Dermatovenerologists Association to be linked to EADV in order to meet dermatovenerologists from all Europe and take part in congresses and share experiences.

Upcoming congresses
In 1991 an Association of Baltic Dermatovenerologists (BADV) was founded, with Prof Andris Rubins as President. Already 4 congresses have been organized. The 5th congress will take place in Vilnius, Lithuania from 8-10 September, 2005 (see home page www.badv.lv).

The 6th BADV Congress will be held in Riga, Latvia from 7-9 September, 2006.

Publications
The Association does not yet have its own website or journal. It published Congress Abstracts books in 2002, 2003, 2004 and some brochures.

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Prof. Andris Rubins, MD
President, Latvian Dermato-venereology Association
The continuously increasing scientific, medical and social impact of EADV led to magnificent achievements in Florence both scientifically and socially. In particular, the 13th EADV Congress broke a new record with around 9,000 registered attendees, the highest figure ever for an EADV Congress. On behalf of the Local Scientific and Organizing Committees, Congress President Prof. Torello Lotti reports.

The high quality of the programme once again demonstrated that the EADV Congress is one of the most intensive educational events in the field of dermatology. Supplying attendees with the latest information in every area of our specialty has been the main objective of the Academy since it was founded in 1987, and this year was no exception.

Scientific excellence

The 13th Congress of the EADV was one of the most important scientific, as well as dermatological, and educational events of the year. Dermatology is a very complex specialty that embraces, among others: oncology, allergology, immunology, rheumatology, infectious (including sexually transmitted), tropical, genetic, and metabolic diseases, infant dermatitis, epidemiology, and cosmetic dermatology. The overlap with other specialties results in the continuous comparison of opinions and experiences, often developed together in the context of multidisciplinary groups. The Congress approached all these questions on the basis of the most recent scientific and technological knowledge. In fact dermatology, which has always had a strong scientific and experimental base, has become enriched by new molecular and imaging technologies as well as bio-engineering that permit an early diagnosis and specific therapy.

A special mention goes to the 35 Sister Societies who organised their meetings on 17 and 20 November. These sessions, which were not included in the official scientific programme (providing evidence of the growing complexity of our specialty), offered experts interested in several different sub-specialties the opportunity to present their experiences and input to an estimated audience of around one thousand. Thus, if these extra participants were added to the official audited number of participants, the attendance at the 13th EADV Congress would be in excess of 10,000!

Great numbers, however, did not pre-
vent the Organizers from managing all aspects of the event; satisfaction and positive comments were expressed by both scientists and exhibitors regarding the high scientific level, the wide range of learning opportunities and the magnificent social programme.

Culture and recognition

The sun was shining on the vibrant city of Florence that offered visitors an array of unique attractions, from the world-renowned museums and historical landmarks to the charming craftsman shops, boutiques and typical restaurants. The culminating event of the social programme was the Opening Ceremony, during which three readings from Dante Alighieri’s “Divine Comedy” and a series of arias from two Giacomo Puccini’s operas were performed by one of the most acclaimed Italian actors and by the Puccini Festival Ensemble respectively.

During the Congress, four prestigious awards were given. First, to keep in theme with this year’s Congress motto ‘The Renaissance of Dermatology’, Prof. Emiliano Panconesi received a special Award as First EADV President and First Congress President, for giving birth to the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology and helping it grow up. Then, Prof. Stephane Belaich received the International League of Dermatological Societies Award for his outstanding international activity, while Prof. Jana Hercogová was honoured by the International Institute for Medical, Anthropological and Social Sciences and the American Academy of Dermatology for her outstanding international activity within the ‘Maria M. Duran Committee’ of the International Society of Dermatology. Finally, the Albino Project

What did the participants think of the congress?

This EADV congress was very well organised. I am especially interested in clinical issues rather than research techniques, as many of the participants are. For me, it is extremely interesting to see the differences regarding clinical integration (totally different perspectives in different countries). In my work I am confronted with lots of hurdles, selfishness and also hidden racism concerning the medical community – there is for example no acceptance of new directions. The congress gave me an impression of how other countries organise their system of health care.

The lectures I cherished most due to their highly skilled speakers, presentations and scientific views were ‘Contact and Occupational dermatitis’ and ‘Human immunodeficiency virus infection in Europe in 2004’. But above all, the Lunch-with-Experts-session entitled ‘Report on food allergy’ impressed me a lot. The Finnish speaker Dr. Kristiina Turjanmaa held a fantastic presentation on the food allergy issue taking as example children younger than 2 years having atopic eczema.

Dr. Stephen Dunlap • Family practice in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

I found the Test-Yourself-sessions [Test Yourself: What’s your diagnosis] to be the best of all - these should be maintained for all coming EADV events. These kinds of presentation assure that the participants stay awake and active due to the great interaction and astonishing opinion exchange possibilities. Here I would like to mention the session chaired by Dr. Karel Ettler (Czech Republic).

In addition, the plenary lecture of Dr. Stephen Katz (Recent advances in connective tissue diseases) and the workshop of Dr. Szepietowski (How to solve problems with psoriasis patients) was simply marvellous. I appreciated both the presentation and their scientific views on these subjects. The presentation of the EADV Sister Society ESDaP (European Society for Dermatology and Psychiatry) was also very interesting.

Dr. Anna Zalewska • Medical University of Lodz, Poland

All the courses I attended were very well presented, especially those entitled ‘Photodermatology’ and ‘Paediatric Dermatology’ which presented scientific topics in an extremely practical way – not just blank theories but also showing lots of examples, which I find attractive for the participants.

Also, if someone is particularly interested in a specific topic the sessions offered matched perfectly, nearly no overlap, so one could get to know various aspects of one and the same topic.

>>> Continued on page 12
This year’s scholarship ceremony in Florence reached record breaking attendance, with 42 out of the 43 recipients participating. Prof. Andreas Katsambas, Chair of the Honours & Awards Committee reports on the success and outlines plans for future EADV awards.

**Scholarship breakfast**

With yet another successful EADV Congress having come to a close, the scholarships ceremony in Florence was one of many memorable moments. In addition to enthusiastic attendance from the award winners, it was a pleasant surprise to welcome some of their superiors from countries such as Cyprus, Israel, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine, whose presence provided extra support towards their younger colleagues.

Torello Lotti  
President 13th EADV Congress

A warm and friendly atmosphere quickly developed in the Massaccio room of the congress centre, as the enthusiastic winners expressed their gratitude at having received this opportunity to participate and where the murmur of excitement created a feeling of delight. The formalities began with Prof. Houset, EADV Treasurer, etc.

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The only negative for me – but which will never be changed – is the industrial exhibition. The exhibitors tried by all means to persuade people to try/buy their products or services. In that hall everything is so exciting that one just simply gets lost.

**Dr. Hans-Peter Rudel**  
Streekziekenhuis Konigin Beatrix, The Netherlands

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What I really appreciated were the Test-Yourself-sessions and the wide range of topics at this congress – without exception there was something for everyone. But unfortunately some of the scientific lectures were held parallel to the company-sponsored sessions, as a result only few people participated in the scientific ones because the company-sponsored sessions were free of charge.

**Prof. Torsten Zuberbier**  
Charité Berlin, Germany

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The organisation of the congress is really awesome and the location as well – Florence is such a beautiful city. Anyway, it is a pity that the courses are not “classically” organised. Which means that they do not base on/refer to each other. Each speaker simply presented his/her own view on a specific issue. The result is that one gets to know a little bit of everything, one topic is not being presented in depth. All subjects were just “touched” on and not profoundly evaluated.

**Dr. Alireza Firooz**  
Teheran Hospital, Iran

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The AMED Scholarship and Gerda Frenzel Fellowship will again be offered for the EADV Spring Symposium in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Interested candidates may contact their AMED or CEEDVA representative in their country in order to apply for these awards. Each National Society will be advised shortly in this regard and the announcement will soon be published in the JEADV.
and Prof. Katsambas presenting the awards to each recipient: each individual moment of appreciation being captured by the photographer. The photos, the chatting and the buzzing ambiance continued, whilst the winners began to integrate with one another and with the EADV officers, exchanging thoughts, ideas and even contact details, as some had already established new friendships.

Future scholarships planned
The overall result of the EADV scholarships ceremony was that it is indeed a worthwhile event and one that should be continued; and it will be. With a bigger and better budget set aside for scholarships it is hoped that the number and the types of awards and scholarships offered through the EADV will increase in the future.

During the meeting of the Awards Committee in Sofia, May 2005, it is foreseen that new awards for research and training will be discussed and hopefully materialise by the end of 2005. These awards will support young doctors to further their training or research projects by providing the opportunity to undertake training in different institutes throughout Europe. Initial plans are being discussed; however the logistics are yet to be confirmed. Additionally, other scholarships will gradually be developed so that the Academy can increase its support of younger colleagues in their careers.

The value of EADV scholarships - 13th EADV Congress seen through the eyes of the award recipients

I am very happy that I was able to participate in the 13th EADV congress in Florence. The scientific programme was very interesting, especially the lectures concerning skin cancer. I had an opportunity to meet dermatologists from other countries, discuss some interesting scientific and clinical issues and finally join them in a pleasant social programme. Florence is a great and cultural city and I am glad I could be there!

Nadezda Vojackova
Dept. Dermatovenereology at University Hospital, Prague, Czech Republic
Winner of Gerda Frentz Scholarship

It was very nice to be in Florence because the city was very beautiful and lovely.

The whole symposium was outstanding, particularly the high standard of the lectures and friendly atmosphere during discussions. The ‘Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer’ symposium and ‘Cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma’ workshop were the most impressive for me because of the new treatment modalities highlighted in these lectures.

Ayten Ferahbas
Erciyes University, Kayseri, Turkey
Winner of AMED Scholarship

I had a great time at the Congress in Florence. I wish it had lasted longer. Everything was perfectly organised. There were many interesting topics. The lecture on genodermatosis was one of the most impressive for me. It was interesting and clear, with many good photos. Also topics about cosmetology were good opportunities to hear a lot of useful information.

Jelena Vukovic
University Center, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro
Winner of AMED Scholarship
At the 18th OGM, Prof. Alberto Giannetti, Italy, was elected to the position of President Elect of EADV with an absolute majority. He will take office as President in October 2006, as successor to Prof. Johannes Ring. In the meantime, Prof. Giannetti shares his vision of the future of EADV and European dermatology.

The 13th EADV Congress in Florence was very successful in terms of attendance, high scientific quality and the participation of pharmaceutical companies. European “dermatology” can be proud of the productive and friendly atmosphere experienced in Florence. EADV is a flourishing Academy which should show its generosity by investing both in the continuation and improvement of the excellent achievements reached to date but also it should concentrate more on young doctors and those European countries with major difficulties.

Collaboration is key
The time has come for the project of a European Foundation for Dermatology to be fully accomplished, chiefly in collaboration with ESDR, EDF and other European societies. This will facilitate the creation of a clinical-scientific network. In this perspective, collaboration with ILDS, ISD and AAD should be improved. Harmonisation of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures at European level is a further primary goal to be achieved, keeping the office dermatologist at the highest academic and professional standard. A permanent dialogue with Patients’ Associations should also be institutionalised.

I am strongly convinced that team work is needed to get new results, as well as a number of changes including, first and foremost, that of the Statutes - in order to favour a wider participation of those people and those countries who want to work within and for the Academy. I also feel that criticism or adverse opinions should be taken in to account, respected and assessed seriously. EADV complexity requires this attitude.

Finally, I wish to thank everybody for their kindness and friendship.

True European
This is not just a dream: my wish is to favour interrelationships among all the most prestigious scientific institutions all over Europe. This way, dermatologists in each European country may confront and improve their knowledge. Scientific organizations must be faster than politics while the borders of scientific and cultural Europe are not well defined yet and more and more colleagues want to join us.

At a national level, EADV can contribute by organizing national educational courses, as agreed with UEMS and above all with national societies, according to specific national goals and requirements. To increase the participation in EADV, more suitable cultural services are necessary.

Alberto Giannetti, M.D. has been Professor and Chairman of the Department of Dermatology and Director of the Resident School in Dermatology and Venereology, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy since 1986. In addition, he was recently appointed as Director of the Department of Medicine and Medical Specialties of the University.

Since 1988 he has held a number of important positions in various National Institutes for health, research and treatment. He is currently President of the European Dermatology Forum (EDF) and the former Chairman of the Italian Society of Dermatology (SiDeMaST) (formerly SIDEV).

He is the author of 593 publications (including original articles, chapters in books, reviews and abstracts) and of 5 books and was Editor of the Trattato Italiano di Dermatologia (6 Volumes).
Raimo Suhonen, chair of the EADV Website Committee invites members to participate fully in the successful functioning of the EADV website, www.eadv.org.

Today a functional and comprehensive, updated website is a must for an active society like EADV. The first impression when opening the home page may be decisive, whether to go on or to exit. If a website visit does not satisfy, it will be the last visit.

Structure and services

The presentation of EADV website is an obvious functional matter. The design is attractive, the structure advanced, but more importantly it fills most of the members' needs – for example: the online application for membership, payment of membership fees, online publication and article submission for JEDAV etc. The congress calendar helps you plan attendance at important meetings, years in advance. The future EADV Congresses and Spring Symposia have their information with links to individual websites. 'About EADV' tells the structure of the organization, officers and committees.

The previous problems we faced in keeping the website up to date are now over since Marika Wendler was employed at the EADV House, with one of her duties being the maintenance and updating of the website. Marika is a young, active lady with fresh ideas, multilingual skills and no fear of computers.

Room for improvement

Dermatology is a visual specialty, which should be reflected also in our website. As a photographic enthusiast I would be happy to include more photos in for example the patient information section of the site (so far empty). One model might be the photo gallery like in www.ihotauti.net (ihotauti = skin disease).

In the member-only section of the website members' e-mail addresses are available (for use by members only). The group e-mailing could be used for important news with a link to respective current topics in the website. This could be a very effective way for interaction of members, if the list of addresses are comprehensive (see also Secretary General's Update, page 20: either modify your personal contact details, including your e-mail address, directly online via the website section 'My Corner' or send your e-mail address to: office@eadv.org).

EADV website includes a 'Forum' for discussion. So far this seems to be only a possibility, as members do not use it. Multiple mother tongues and discussion cultures appear to be a limiting factor in this type of activity. The website committee welcomes suggestions for further development of this part of the website.

Your feedback

The Website Committee is committed to a better website, a user friendly interface, with useful information to the European dermatologist, also helping our patients and co-workers. I strongly suggest the membership to express their ideas and criticism. In the case of no feedback we may imagine that everything is OK!

Raimo Suhonen, MD
Website Committee
John Hawk, immediate past chairman provides a short overview of the principal activities of the Scientific Committee (recently renamed as the Scientific Programming Committee) over the last few months. Future updates will be provided by the newly appointed chair, Thomas Luger.

The EADV Scientific Programming Committee (SPC) has been considering a broad range of matters since its last report in EADV News (No. 11, Summer 2004). Of these, the most relevant to the EADV membership is the current state of organisation of future Annual Congresses and Spring Symposia, to be held as ever in a series of most interesting and attractive venues.

**Annual Congresses**

**London 2005:** This programme taking place in a very famous city is virtually complete, and was agreed with minor modification by the Executive SC in London in March. Some innovative, interesting, educative and entertaining interactive symposia and workshops have been scheduled, and venereology is well represented by two specialists on the local committee.

**Rhodes 2006:** This excitingly situated meeting is in the early stages of planning. The Executive SC will make a site visit there in early 2005 to finalise its scientific programme.

**Vienna 2007:** This meeting is in the very early stages of planning and will be visited by the Executive SC in early 2006.

**Spring Symposia**

**Sofia 2005:** An excellent and productive meeting between the Executive SC and Local Scientific Committee was held in Sofia in January 2004, where the programme moved from a draft to an excellent near final version. Most Sofia events are now finalised and the meeting appears certain to be a major success given its excellent faculty and a clear commitment to attend by many Eastern European dermatologists.

**Finland 2006:** This meeting at a particularly fascinating venue in Finnish Lapland is well developed in its planning, and the Executive SC will make a site visit there in early 2005 to finalise its scientific programme.

In addition to meetings, administrative matters are also under consideration by the SPC as follows.

**SPC members**

New committee members (as listed) were appointed to the SPC by the EADV Board in Florence to replace several members who had come to the end of their three-year term. Ways are currently being sought to adjust the size of the SPC such that all EADV countries are fairly represented, without the committee becoming too cumbersome.

**Incorporating sister societies**

The SPC has been considering the previously proposed incorporation of Sister Society programmes into the main Annual EADV Congress, thereby reducing delegate costs, improving programme quality, increasing Sister Society attendances, and reducing SPC and local SC workload. It had previously been proposed that all Sister Societies be asked if they wished to participate in the main meeting, but it is now clear that they are too disparate in size, nature and aims for this, and some also have overlaps in interests. It is therefore now asked that any interested society make a formal application to the SPC Chairman, providing detailed information about the society and its programme proposals. Any admitted society will then be offered an appropriately sized place in future congresses, but with its performance reviewed for a year or so according to Continuing Medical Education criteria before final approval.

**Speakers database**

The Speaker-Topic database being compiled as a guide for Annual Congress and Spring Symposium organisers is nearly complete. However, not quite all EADV member countries have provided lists as yet, and new member countries are just being asked to do so. In addition, available competent speakers are changing all the time, so continual updating of the list will be necessary.
Prof. Jørgen Serup, Chairman of the CME Committee, provides an overview of the status of CME in Europe and explains how the EADV CME fits into the overall system.

Continuing medical education (CME) is an official system that sets and maintains standards for the development of postgraduate knowledge and skills in medicine, and ensures quality assurance and recognition of educational achievements by the CME authority.

CME in Europe

Formal CME programmes are new in medicine and those for dermatology are still in their infancy. Currently national bodies grant certification of doctors and recognition of individual doctor’s postgraduate education, and will probably continue to do so. European culture is enriched by many national traditions, differences and challenges, along with many common traits that make us Europeans. Professionally and educationally the map is very different. We all belong, independent of country, to Western medicine with roots in the old Europe. There will always be simultaneous synergy and conflict between what we do and learn at home and what we learn from outside. The scientific programme of EADV congresses is new and unique for each congress, open to change and dynamic, and thus concordant with the culture of the new Europe and, hopefully, our real life.

European CME is organized by the European Medical Association UEMS, Brussels, which has formulated rules for CME and established an accreditation council (EACCME) common for all European countries and recognized by most countries including the UK and Germany, while other countries currently prefer to have their own national CME systems, as exemplified by Italy. Thus, European CME, although not complete or perfect, is moving towards covering the whole of Europe. It is a question of time and development over decades.

We issue the EADV CME certificates, which in some countries are recognised automatically, but not yet in others. We work with a trustworthy and open system, which documents earning of points hour by hour, and we include session evaluation and quality control in our system to ensure that the educational value is as good as possible. We meet with all the requirements of valid CME and, in our experience, CME certificates issued by the EADV are respected in countries with no official national recognition of the UEMS system.

CME at EADV

The EADV CME Committee is the main organiser of CME at our congresses, and the EADV refers back to EACCME in Brussels. CME points are according to a charter recognised by the American Medical Association and the specialties referring to this. Global CME is designed to overcome diversities, and the system is oriented to the future, but nevertheless respects local traditions.

We linking the setting of standards and monitoring of postgraduate development (CME) with the provision of high quality postgraduate education (congresses) is in a unique position to formally and safely lead dermatology in the expanded Europe into the future.

Jørgen Serup
Chairman CME Committee
Managing EADV’s Finances: an Inside View

EADV Treasurer, Jacques Houset, and newly elected Treasurer Elect, Jon Olafsson, provide a general overview of EADV finances as well as insight to the organisation of the team managing these crucial assets for the Academy.

The EADV is going through a period of great change. We do have a strong financial situation with total assets of more than €6 million. That does not mean that this entire amount can be spent. Part of it is tied up in our house in Brussels. We also need funds for running our organisation as well as reserve funds should our income diminish within the next few years. We have committed ourselves in some educational programmes that will need steady funding for the next few years.

Revenue channels

Our main income sources are the membership fees and the revenues relating to the annual congresses. The costs incurred to service each member in the form of various benefits, are quite close to the actual membership fee. Members’ benefits include: our journal the JEADV, the newsletter, letters to the members, as well as running our office in Brussels and, not to be forgotten, the substantially reduced registration fees to congresses and symposia. Should we be able to increase the number of members in the Academy, lower fees might be possible.

Future investments

As we have pointed out above, there are some funds available. Our Board of Directors has therefore recently decided to fund educational projects, both for our practising members as well as for our young doctors in training (see Secretary General’s Update, page 20). The EADV is a non-profit organisation and therefore it has never been, and never will be, our goal to gather large funds in the EADV. Rest assured, funds will be spent on worthwhile projects as decided by the EADV Board and Executive Officers, but without leaving us financially vulnerable.

Our growth is accelerating fast, with our membership now close to 2,200. This leads unavoidably to increased costs, like the JEADV, the Newsletter and increasing our staff. The last item is still small compared to some European dermatological societies, not to mention our AAD friends across the Atlantic who have more than 100 persons employed. We believe that we should be able to have 10,000 members within 5-10 years.

Structure of the EADV

Financial Team

The Finance Committee (FC) of the EADV has been working hard over the last few years. Amongst the guidelines and documents we have been working on is the structure of the ‘Financial team’ which will deal with the practical finances of the EADV. Based on the decisions taken in our 27 April, 2002 meeting (see insert below) we have outlined the following structure and organisation for the EADV Financial Team.

EADV FINANCIAL TEAM

Below is a quote from the Finance Committee’s report after a meeting in Brussels, 27 April 2002, on the purpose and the tasks of the Finance Committee.

“It was agreed that the tasks of the FC should be better delineated based on the propositions and guidelines proposed by the EC in their 52nd meeting in Brussels:

The purpose of the Finance Committee is to:
1. Review the accounts and budget as prepared by the Treasurer.
2. Review the assets and investments of the EADV.
3. Propose suggestions to increase the financial security of the EADV.
4. Monitor the liability to taxation of the EADV.

Dividing these into (a) short-time goals, and (b) long-term goals.

All participants agreed that the FC should put efforts in supporting the difficult and demanding work of the Treasurer of the EADV by giving advice and practical help when needed and requested.”
The Treasurer, the Senior Administrative Officer, and eventually a Treasurer Elect, the Finance Committee and the accountants compose the Financial Team.

- **Finance committee**: The FC has five members, including the Treasurer. The Treasurer Elect also participates in the FC.

- **The EADV accountants**: Currently PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) takes care of our accounting, pays our invoices (after they have been signed by our Treasurer and one other Executive Officer), prepares our annual accounts and gives advice in various situations.

- **EADV Auditors**: KPMG are currently our auditors and are therefore not a part of our Financial team.

- **Congress and Symposia**: In the new financial structure concerning our congresses and symposia, the EADV central office employs either PWC (or a similar firm) located where the congress is to be held. All incoming and outgoing payments go through this office. This does not include the activities of the local Professional Congress Organizers (PCO) who still do the majority of the preparation of the congresses, not counting the scientific part and the important “local flavour” which we do not want to loose. The congress organizers now have to adhere strictly to our guidelines and to the budget they submit when the congress contract is signed. Transparency here is of the utmost importance. Our former president Jean-Hilaire Saurat implemented this system.

The members of the Finance Committee for the last three years have been as listed at the beginning of this article with Jon Olafsson serving as Chairman until his recent election in Florence to the position of Treasurer Elect. Since EADV’s current Treasurer Jacques Houset did not want to continue after his first term ends (October 2005) due to unexpected heavy workload in his office, a new Treasurer Elect was elected by the Board (namely Jon Hjaltalin Olafsson). The new chairman of the FC, elected by the Board, is now Mario Lecha from Barcelona. He has extensive experience both after the presidency of the Barcelona Congress but also as a member of the FC for the last 3 years.

We hope we have succeeded in casting some light on the way the finances of the EADV are organized. We will continue to let you know how the finances evolve on a regular basis. If you, the ordinary member, have any questions or good ideas, please feel free to contact us.

Jacques Houset,
EADV Treasurer
Jon Hjaltalin Olafsson,
EADV Treasurer Elect

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**IN THE NEXT ISSUE**

EADV News No. 14 (May 2005) will feature an update from the newly formed Fostering Dermatology Committee outlining various new projects. The committee is currently working on a number of programmes due to be approved very soon. Members are encouraged to check the EADV website (www.eadv.org) on a regular basis for more information and refer to the Committee Update section of the next issue of EADV News for further details.
Update from the Secretary General

Having taken over from Frank Powell as Secretary General of the EADV in Florence, Joseph Pace provides members with a short overview of important decisions taken during the Ordinary General Meeting (OGM).

13th Annual Congress
This was held in Florence and ended on Saturday 20 November. The superb scientific programme and the sheer splendour of the city of Florence joined hands to result in a triumph aptly predicted in the choice of congress theme: the Renaissance of Dermatology.

A record attendance of nearly 9,000 participants from the four corners of the world showed that European dermatology is alive and well. Scientific events were of the highest level and very well attended and the social programme, the Opening Ceremony in particular, was una meraviglia as expected under the Presidency of Prof. Torello Lotti and his colleagues. Our thanks are due to all involved in the tremendous organization of this memorable meeting.

New initiatives
The Renaissance spirit also affected the organizational and executive sector of the EADV most positively. Two initiatives of the utmost importance were proposed by the Board of Directors and accepted unanimously by the General Meeting:

• Expansion of Board recognition was extended to all countries within the geographical boundaries of Europe (as defined by the EU). Statute changes will be implemented by October 2005 after due discussion, to allow appropriate and effective governance of the EADV.

• A Fostering of Dermatology programme has been agreed to that will provide substantial funds for programmes aimed specifically at younger dermatologists and those in training. A number of suggestions are under consideration and the committee will be chaired by Fenella Wojnarowska (UK) and includes Erwin Tschachler (Austria), Rugero Caputo (Italy) and others. Other projects to foster dermatology in Europe will also be included.

New leadership
A new President Elect Alberto Giannetti (Italy) was returned after the first ballot in an election that was perhaps the smoothest run ever and all involved should be congratulated for their contribution and co-operation. Jon Olafsson (Iceland) was elected Treasurer Elect and will take over from Jacques Houset (France) in London.

The new Officers who took office in Florence for 2004-6 are Johannes Ring (Germany) President, and Joseph Pace (Malta) Secretary-General, replacing Jean-Hilaire Saurat (Switzerland) and Frank Powell (Ireland) respectively. Jon Olafsson (Iceland) joins the Executive Committee as Treasurer Elect.

Membership renewal forms.
Try to return these promptly. You may otherwise forget and if not renewed by 31 August 2005, you will lose certain privileges including your vote at the OGM and preferential rates at the Congress/Symposium.

EADV web site
The news section of the EADV web site will be updated frequently and should become part of every member’s essential browsing. May I make a personal plea here - as we move ever more to electronic transmission of information it is CRUCIAL that we are informed of each and every member’s e-mail address together with any change that occurs. With this information we can reach you quickly with important news, reminders on deadlines, etc. Printed material takes longer to arrive at its destination, is much more expensive to produce, and may be out of date by the time it arrives. So let’s all go electronic and stay in touch in real time.

Forthcoming events
If attending the AAD meeting in New Orleans, do your best to attend the EADV reception (details to follow). Mark your diaries now for the 2005 foremost European dermatology events: the Symposium in Nikolai’s surprising Sofia in May and the Congress in Martin’s exciting London in October.

Get in touch
EADV welcomes comments/suggestions/constructive criticism. Write to your national Board member who is there to look after your interests or to me at eadvsecgen@keyworld.net. If you like what EADV is doing do not keep it to yourself - enroll a colleague, there is place for everybody in EADV!

Joseph L. Pace
Secretary General

EADV Officers during the Ordinary General Meeting

Send your e-mail address and any change of contact details to the EADV House at: office@eadv.org or visit www.eadv.org (My Corner) and update your full contact details online.
Important Reminders

3rd EADV International Spring Symposium
SOFIA 2005
19-22 May 2005

3rd EADV International Spring Symposium
First early bird registration closes:
15 January 2005

Deadline for abstract submission:
15 February 2005

All members are reminded to renew their membership without delay (and by 31 August at the very latest) to avoid interruption of member services, such as receipt of JEADV and preferential registration rates at the Symposia/Congresses.

> 2005

African Leprosy Congress
Johannesburg, South Africa
31 January - 3 February 2005

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

Anti-Aging World Conference 2005
Aesthetic Dermatology and Surgery
Monaco, France
10 - 12 March 2005

Hot topics in Dermato-oncology
Florence, Italy
15 - 17 April 2005

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

8th Congress of the European Society for Pediatric Dermatology
Budapest, Hungary
5 - 7 May 2005

XXIV RADLA - Annual Meeting of Latin American Dermatologists
Buenos Aires, Argentina
6 - 9 May 2005

10th World Congress on Cancers of the Skin
Vienna, Austria
13 - 17 May 2005

4th International EUROSKIN Conference
Lyon, France
18 - 20 May 2005

> 2006

International Meeting on Advanced Dermatologic Surgery
Manaus, Amazon, Brazil
23 - 26 June 2005

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

European Hair Research Society 11th Meeting
Zurich, Switzerland
7 - 9 July 2005

6th World Conference on Melanoma
Vancouver, BC, Canada
2 - 9 September 2005

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

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

> 2007

16th EADV Congress
Vienne, Austria
16 - 19 May 2007

21st World Congress of Dermatology
Buenos Aires, Argentina
1 - 7 October 2007