Countdown to Vienna

European Dermato-Venereology convenes in the heart of Europe at the EADV’s 16th Annual Congress

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EADV 16-19 May 2007, Vienna

Visit the LEO booth

Try the golf simulator
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Coping with Information Overload

There are thousands of scientific journals today, all trying to provide pertinent information to their readers. At the same time their combined output is so voluminous that it is no longer possible to read them all. In Dermato-Venereology alone there are at least 130 different indexed journals, making it impossible to read them all. The possibility of missing pertinent information in this flood of data is therefore real.

The advent of computers has provided some help and some problems as well. It has meant that it is possible to search for specific topics very effectively, but at the cost of a broader insight into trends and new developments. Specific searches do obviously not provide the browsing of journals which allows for serendipitous discoveries of parallel solutions to problems. It is still necessary to read broadly.

The EADV is helping its members by enabling them to download the articles from the EADV website, which saves having to order the articles or borrow the journals, a major advantage in busy Dermato-Venereology practice. The EADV congresses, symposia and courses also enable the members to keep up to date, as a personal presentation is so much more vivid and memorable, and alerts us to new advances.

One idea to cope with this information overload has been to attempt to identify journals of particularly high quality. This has been done by a private company (Thompson scientific) by inverting the so-called impact factors. The impact factor is a simple figure expressing the average number of times articles from a given journal are quoted in other articles for a given year in the database of the company. For example, in 2005 there were 462 cites to articles published in the JEADV in 2004, and a total of 282 papers published in 2004, giving an impact factor of 462/282 = 1,64. Much criticism can be directed at this simplified form of assessment, but in spite of this it appears to be gaining importance among publishers, research institutions and academics alike.

The simplicity of the calculation however also opens opportunities for you to help the Academy. The EADV and its members benefit from having a journal with a high impact factor, so next time you write a paper do not forget to quote from the latest JEADV. It will improve not only your paper but our journal as well. We would like to involve our members in helping the EADV and the JEADV, which has gone from strength to strength and has the potential to be the major clinical European journal.

Gregor Jemec
Editor

Fenella Wojnarowska
Editor

Please send your suggestions, feedback and contributions for the attention of the Editors, EADV News c/o Stefanie Blum, Administrative Officer at the EADV Office via: stefanie@eadv.org
Dear Colleagues,

The Academy has continued its ongoing work to carry forward a number of initiatives promoted in the months since Rhodes, in the spirit of teamwork that I hoped would increasingly characterise the work of EADV bodies. On an administrative level, the transfer of our registered office from Luxembourg to Switzerland, in Lugano (Canton Ticino), has been completed and will allow for greater flexibility in our activities. The procedures were handled by our lawyer Walter Cassola.

The Academy’s internal regulations (bylaws) are also about to be completed. These will enable bodies and committees to work in conditions of certainty and with utmost clarity. The document, mostly prepared by Frank Powell and Andrea Peserico, will be voted upon in Vienna following ample consultation with the members of the Board.

Notes on our journal

Also in Vienna we will have to conclude the negotiations begun with Blackwell-Wiley for the \textit{JEADV}. Our intention is to increase the number of issues of the journal to 12 per year and also, as discussed with the Editor-in-Chief Jean-Paul Ortonne, to structure the \textit{JEADV} in a way that is more suitable to our scientific needs by using the wide range of skills the Academy has to offer: the new make-up of the editorial Board is a clear preview of this.

The cost of the journal, both the printed version and the online version, is extremely important. It is currently under discussion, as it would enable the \textit{JEADV} to be sent to new members who may request it or be entitled to it. The talks regarding the overall cost of the journal - including advertising and the publication of workshops, clinical trials, etc - are also vital, as they may allow for significant savings on our budget and suitable investment in various kinds of educational activities.

Links with overseas associations

In terms of collaborations with associations from other continents, we must remember that official Chinese and Indian delegations will be present in Vienna, at the invitation of the Congress President Erwin Tschachler, as well as the well-established delegations from the USA (AAD) and South America (CILAD). In the meetings held at the AAD congress in Washington we agreed that we should intensify our scientific exchanges via the system of scholarships and a “winter” congress based on a single but extensive theme, for example immunological illnesses, during which experts from the two societies would meet and discuss their theoretical and practical experiences of the illnesses. This initiative has been promoted by Johannes Ring.

Parallel to this, the scientific programme for the 2008 Spring Symposium in Istanbul is now being defined and the one for Bucharest in 2009 is being outlined. The latter will have a single theme and it will also involve European patients’ associations.

EU issues

This year, in Brussels, we will start to hold press conferences in the European Parliament on themes of social importance such as melanoma. The conference will be held on 20 April and will deal with epidemiological aspects and new initiatives within our specialty which aim to reduce mortality through early diagnosis. It will also serve to announce Euromelanoma, which will take place on 7 May in 18 European countries, as it has for several years now. The initiative will be organised by
President’s Perspective

Andreas Katsambas, Klaus Fritz, Myrto Trakatelli and myself. It is supported by Galderma and La Roche Posay.

Also this year, in the autumn, Fostering Dermatology and Venereology courses mainly targeted at office dermatologists will start on the theme of Hand and Facial Dermatitis, followed by Dermoscopy. These are an addition to the ones on Dermatopathology and Psychodermatology that have already been put to the test.

Our collaborations with the ESDR and the EDF are being further strengthened through mutual active participation in our respective congresses, the establishment of a foundation for European dermatological research (which the three associations will participate in) and collaboration in the definition of guidelines.

Widening EADV’s membership

Perhaps the most interesting event in political terms is the widening of membership of the EADV to members of national societies, who would be enrolled by their national bodies directly, thus making the EADV a federation of organisations rather than of individual members. The discussion on this has begun in an open and amicable manner. Proposals and comments are being considered and, if certain understandable doubts can be overcome, our Academy can grow significantly and truly represent the European dermatological community. Personally I am very much in favour of this idea, which seems to be gathering support and seems to best meet the needs of the various nations and individuals. It offers the possibility for synergy and for much faster decision-sharing than at present. A very concrete and simple way of creating - together with the other initiatives mentioned - a Dermatological Europe.

Best regards,

Prof Alberto Giannetti
President EADV

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The Annual International Day of Dermatology

Dermatology can be considered the forerunner of all medical sciences due to the availability and proximity of pathological changes that have made skin accessible for early diagnosis and scientific research.

The biblical figure of Job

Biblical references show that in ancient times the first diagnoses described were of a dermatological nature. Even in the Bible, God tested many sacred figures with skin afflictions and dermatological diseases. One typical example is the suffering of Job, which was predominantly dermatological but also included some indications of internal, neurological and psychiatrist symptoms; hence, the explanation of Job’s Syndrome.

Many religions have saints who are believed to have helped dermatological patients. Some of these saints were physicians themselves. Curiously enough, many religious personalities have suffered from skin diseases; however, most of them belong to specific churches, making them unsuitable for global recognition. Job is venerated by many religions – Judaism, Islam and Christianity – even to the extent that in Orthodox Christianity Job is celebrated as a saint on a special day: 19 May.

The Bible tells us how Satan, leaving the presence of the Lord, afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. Job’s affliction was so painful that he scraped himself with a piece of broken pottery to relieve the intense itching. Despite his desperate condition, Job refused to curse God and maintained his integrity with the words: “Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?” By keeping his blameless and upright fear of God, Job saved his pure faith.

19 May

The dermatological community is one of the best organised and can be considered a large family worldwide. Unfortunately, we lack an international day to recognise our discipline. A Day of Dermatology is, in our opinion, an event which will help raise our international connections to a higher level.

For this reason at the History of Dermatology Society Meeting in Sofia - in the presence of EADV officers and all the leading figures of the international dermatological community - we proposed that 19 May be proclaimed as the International Day of Dermatology. It was decided that such a day would be useful to bring our scientific minds together and to recognise the great role of our specialty among the other medical sciences. The question was voted and moved forward for approval by the WHO Board.

We are fortunate to be able to celebrate this date with the opening ceremony of the 3rd EADV Spring Symposium in Sofia, and to commemorate it again at the closing day of the 16th EADV Congress in Vienna.

Ljubomir Dtransky MD PhD
Valentina Broshtilova MD
Nikolai Tsankov MD PhD
Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine, Sofia, Bulgaria
EADV
PARIS 2008
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17-21 SEPTEMBER 2008
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OF DERMATOLOGY AND VENEREOLOGY

www.eadv2008.com
Dermatopathology Task Force

As announced in EADV News no.19, fifty EADV Task Force teams are working together in a joint pan-European effort to improve key dermato-venereological issues. Helmut Kerl, Chairman of the Department of Dermatology at the Medical University of Graz, shares in EADV News the projects, challenges and activities of the EADV Dermatopathology Task Force.

Dermatopathology is not only the most important aid to accurate clinical routine diagnosis in Dermatology, but is also an effective vehicle to teach Dermatology and pathology to medical students and residents. Furthermore, the role of Dermatopathology has expanded over the past decades in both clinical and basic research, as a number of modern techniques have become part of its armamentarium. The field can therefore be regarded as the combination of macroscopic pathology (ie clinical diagnosis of skin diseases) and microscopic pathology of the skin (ie histological diagnosis of skin diseases with a microscope). Investigative pathology of skin diseases should be integrated into the academic practice of Dermatopathology.

Principles of Dermatopathology
- Macroscopic pathology of the skin
- Microscopic pathology of the skin
- Investigative pathology of the skin

Challenges and needs
A serious issue that confronts Dermatopathology in most countries of Europe is that there are a number of dermatologists without formal training in Dermatopathology and without any background in general pathology who nonetheless interpret skin biopsy specimens, even though they are not experts in the field. This is inexcusable as general pathologists without a qualification in skin pathology and clinical Dermatology are giving diagnoses of lesions that surely are beyond their scope. The absence of written standards on who is entitled to practise Dermatopathology in Europe concerns us, as it surely would concern patients if they were aware of it. There is a pressing need for properly trained dermatopathologists in Europe to promote the highest quality care in Dermatology and Dermatopathology.

Scope
A high standard in Dermatopathology is as intrinsically bound to the experience, qualifications and knowledge of those practising it as it is based on the passion and commitment of those caring for it. The EADV Task Force Dermatopathology supports this important goal of a successful future of a crucial diagnostic field in Dermatology and Medicine.

Helmut Kerl
Department of Dermatology,
Medical University of Graz, Austria
e-mail: helmut.kerl@meduni-graz.at

Current activities
- EADV Dermatopathology Summer School 2005/2006:
  Courses for third and fourth-year residents in Dermatology were organised by J-M Naeyaert and S De Schepper in Ghent, Belgium. The next EADV Dermatopathology Summer School will be held in Graz, Austria, from 8-13 July 2007, chaired by H Kerl and L Cerroni. This is a unique possibility for young dermatologists to learn Dermatopathology and to exchange ideas with residents from all European countries.
- International Board Certification in Dermatopathology:
  These examinations, organised since 2006 by the UEMS Sections of Dermatology and Pathology under the auspices of the International Committee for Dermatopathology, have paved the way for a future of high standards in Dermatopathology (www.icdermpath.org).
- Guidelines on Dermatopathology, developed together with the European Dermatology Forum, have been published recently in the European Journal of Dermatology 2006.

How to bring Dermatopathology to pre-eminence in Europe?
- Developing a special qualification for full-time dermatopathologists with special qualification
- Devising a curriculum for specialty training in Dermatopathology
- Identifying training centres and codifying regulations for accreditation of training programmes
- Establishing an economic basis for Dermatopathology for dermatologists
- Launching a programme for residency education in Dermatopathology
- Supporting continuing professional development in Dermatopathology
Sessions on “imported dermatoses” and Dermatology in skin of colour as well as lectures of colleagues from China, India and Africa will give a comprehensive insight into Dermatology in the era of globalisation.

The “Test Yourself” sessions will be equipped for the first time with interactive voting systems which will allow the participants to anonymously assess their ability in clinical, histological and venereological problem solving.

In addition to the scientific events, the EADV will continue its partnership with specialised dermatological societies who will hold satellite meetings at the congress venue on Wednesday 16 May.

The EADV and the Local Organising Committee are pleased to welcome you to Vienna for the 16th EADV Congress hoping that it will be a most memorable scientific, social and cultural experience.

Erwin Tschachler
President 16th EADV Congress

Werner Aberer
President Local Scientific Committee
While in Vienna: What to See and Do

The Local Organising Committee of the 16th EADV Congress provides some recommendations on how to make the most of your visit.

Art & Delights: from imperial nostalgia to current trends
Discover the enchantment of bygone days and catch up with the latest trends.

There is so much to see in Vienna: from the magnificent baroque palace Schönbrunn to St. Stephen's Cathedral, Austria's most eminent Gothic edifice right in the city centre – a 10-minute subway ride away from the congress location. Also in the city centre you will find within walking distance the beautifully restored Imperial Palace, the Art Nouveau splendour of the Secession and the Museum of Fine Arts, which features one of the richest European art collections, including works by Brueghel, Titian and Cranach amongst others.

The Albertina is together with the Hermitage in St. Petersburg and the Uffici Gallery in Florence one of the most eminent collections of graphic arts. Klimt's famous painting “The Kiss” and other masterpieces can be marvelled at the Austrian Gallery Belvedere. Also, the biggest collection of paintings by Egon Schiele can be visited in the Leopold Museum at the Museums Quarter – a complex of cultural superlatives behind the baroque imperial stables.

Opera, concerts and other events
Enjoy the great sounds at the Vienna Staatsoper and the Volksoper. Enjoy concerts of prime quality at the Musikverein and Konzerthaus. Get ready for evenings of great entertainment and classical beauty.

(www.vienna.info).

Shopping, wining & dining: a taste of Vienna
Enjoy the pleasure of shopping in the fashionable first district (historic city centre) or on Mariahilfer Street, Vienna's longest shopping street. Immerse yourself in the sweet life of Vienna and visit one of the numerous coffeehouses, such as Café Landtmann at the famous Ringstrasse, Café Sacher near the Opera or Café Demel by the Imperial palace. And don't forget to savour Vienna during a gourmet meal at one of the hundreds of restaurants – in Vienna, connoisseurs find every possible gourmet delight.

Tours are organised through the symposium secretariat. For more information please visit our website www.EADVVienna2007.com Bookings are also possible onsite. (Places are subject to availability.)

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Inhabited since the Neolithic age, Vienna was the seat of the Holy Roman Empire from 1558 to 1806 and has been at the cultural and political centre of the world for about 2,000 years.

A theatre play about the city could find inspiration in the collections of the Kunsthistorisches Museum, with paintings by Brueghel, Rubens, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Durer, Raffaello, Titian and Velázquez, not to mention the works, in other museums, of more recent Austrian painters, such as Klimt and Kokoschka. The background music could be selected from the works of composers who lived and worked in Vienna, including Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms and Strauss, and it could be played by the Wiener Philharmonic or the Staatsoper. We could continue in this vein regarding history, architecture and so on.

However, of the many facts and stories possible, we have chosen one of particular interest to physicians, a perhaps little known story that involves two physicians who were active in the years around the turn of the 19th century. Both were particularly attentive to human psychology and both studied, lived and worked in Vienna. They both became famous as well. Strangely enough, even though they were contemporaries they risked never knowing each other: Sigmund Freud (born in Freiberg, Moravia, 1856) known to all as the father of psychoanalysis, and Arthur Schnitzler (Vienna, 1862). Both physicians were Jewish, brought up in Vienna and studied at the Faculty of Medicine. They were equally ambitious and interested in the then nascent fields of psychiatry and medical psychology. The fact that they did not meet in this period is very strange, indeed. In fact, they were avoiding each other. Finally, both were very good and prolific writers, and literary critics have emphasised the literary abilities and fine style of both Sigmund Freud and Arthur Schnitzler.

### Sigmund Freud

#### Security and predestination

Most of Freud’s writings deal with clinical cases and topics of psychology and psychiatry, treated in an absolutely original manner. Descriptions of his studies are occasionally summed up and recounted in his memoirs and scientific-technical works, as well as in his letters to Wilhelm Fliess, to his fiancée and then wife, Martha Bernays, and Sandor Ferenczi, among others.

What one discovers is that Sigmund’s first approaches to culture take place within the family (mother, father and five children) who moved to Vienna to improve their economic situation, given that the capital city offered better schools and thus better educational opportunities for their children. Sigmund grew up - as he wrote - feeling secure as his mother’s undisputed darling he retains throughout life the triumphant feeling, the confidence in success, which not seldom brings actual success along with it.”) and secure in the support of his father who, despite his economic problems, insisted that Sigmund “should follow [his] inclination” in his studies. He felt like an outsider at the University of Vienna, in particular because he was a Jew and thus did not belong to the “compact majority”, but at the same time this left him with a feeling of freedom to study whatever interested him most.

Some of the great men in history who were important in his studies as an adolescent included Oliver Cromwell, Ludwin Borne, Hannibal and Sophocles (especially for the story of *Oedipus Rex*). Later he experienced the World Exhibition in Vienna in 1873, attended the Sunday lectures given by the zoologist Carl Brühl (while reading Goethe’s wonderful essays on nature and the writings of John Stuart Mill) and also attended the lectures of the philosopher Franz Brentano, in particular a course on Aristotle.

#### Degree in Medicine and early career

In 1881 Freud received his degree in Medicine, which he himself noted was
achieved late compared to other students. As he said: “the various branches of medicine had no attraction for me, apart from psychiatry.” He became clinical assistant in the Vienna General Hospital, where his first teacher of psychiatry, the famous Professor Theodor Meynert, worked and Freud was enthusiastic about having given his first lecture with him in the audience. In 1884 he published a rigorously scientific article on brain anatomy and psychiatry (Eine neue Methode zum Studium des Faserverlaufs in Centralnervensystem), following with “deep veneration” in the footsteps of Prof Meynert. Convinced that this was the path he wanted to follow for his scientific career, he applied for a Dozentur (lectureship) in Neuropathology, receiving a reply from the ministry six months later. Meanwhile, he received a Jubilee Travel Scholarship that permitted him to work in the Hôpital Salpêtrière in Paris (1885-1886) with the famous psychiatrist Jean-Martin Charcot. In France he treated patients, studied hysteria and learned the technique of hypnosis. He wrote to Martha that he would soon return to Vienna to marry her and to treat “all the incurable nervous cases.” Following his return, despite numerous obstacles and difficulties, he began his historic career.

Freud was forced to leave Vienna in 1938, when he and his daughter Anna emigrated to London, where he lived and worked until his death on 23 September 1939.

**Writings: science and literature**

Although his writings often lack a traditional positivist background, Freud took great care to make them rigorously scientific. In 1895 he published a book on his experiments with cocaine (Über Coca), “experimented and studied on myself and others”. All his writings demonstrate his excellent command of language, fine style and exceptional, revolutionary inventiveness; he was very precise and attentive to detail and ensured that his writings were scientific and not works of fiction or literature. The prototype of his capabilities are evident in his “Studien über Hysterie” (Studies on Hysteria), published by Deuticke in 1895; another of his most famous and original studies, “Die Traumdeutung” (The Interpretation of Dreams), was also published by Deuticke (1890) in Vienna. Many articles and books followed; they have been translated into all the major languages, most with great difficulty and many translations are the subject of much discussion.

**Arthur Schnitzler**

**Family and studies**

Arthur Schnitzler, our second Viennese physician, was born six years after Freud, in a Jewish family of humble origins. By the time of Arthur’s birth, however, his father had already begun a successful career in medicine, and was becoming a brilliant university professor. Arthur’s mother Louise was the daughter of a famous Viennese physician, director of an important medical journal. Arthur himself studied medicine at the University of Vienna (graduating in 1885) where he, like Freud, frequented Meynert’s Department of Psychiatry as well as Neumann’s Department of Dermatology and Venereology.

**Career choices**

In the meantime, he also began writing fiction. His first published literary work was a one-act play entitled “The Adventure of his Life”. His main aspiration was to be a writer, a man of literature, but also to continue a career in medicine as a laryngologist, like his father. He became famous (in Vienna in particular) as a playwright, and worldwide for his fascinating, psychologically
Arthur Schnitzler and his wife Olga

Schnitzler lived his life along two paths: he practised medicine (he even published an article in 1889 on the cure of aphasia and its treatment with hypnosis), and, more importantly, he applied the inventiveness of his thought to literature (prose fiction and works for the theatre).

**Some links between Freud and Schnitzler**

As chance would have it, in 1891 Freud also wrote a paper on aphasia (Zur Auffassung Aphasien). But, even more surprisingly, both were passionately interested in psychiatry and dedicated to delving into the profound layers of the human conscious. After abandoning the field of neuropathological research, because he felt it did not yet produce satisfactory enough results in helping to treat the mentally ill, Freud achieved his aim using his discovery of the newly invented method of psychoanalysis, that he insisted be analytical, rigorously inductive and scientific. Schnitzler used deduction, taking advantage of the literary arts, introspection and intuition.

It seems that they did not frequent the same circles and did not wish to get to know each other. Freud did not want to be confused and led to fantasise about his patients, while Schnitzler did not want to be beholden to and accused of using the ideas and suggestions of Freud, who was known for his emerging, revolutionary new theory and technique of psychoanalysis. When Freud decided to invite Schnitzler, the summer of his 60th birthday to his home in Berggasse, he made a note that he was afraid of meeting his double (sosie). It has also been suggested that perhaps their differences in character were such that there was a basic problem of incompatibility. In any case, they avoided meeting as much as possible.

Schnitzler, we note, had declared that he wrote for “people who do not suffer from dizziness”. Freud, for sure, (as, it seems, he himself declared) did not suffer from dizziness, and in the letter of invitation he stated that Schnitzler’s “determinism, like his scepticism, his penetration into the truths of the unconscious, his demolition of conventional certainties, the force of his thought and the strict adhesion of his thought to the polarities of love and death, all this struck me with disturbing familiarity.”

Both Dr Freud, by choice a scientist, and Dr Schnitzler, by choice a writer of fiction, were very innovative thinkers, creative intellectualists, and they both felt a pervasive sense of unease related to the political decline of the Habsburg Empire and its capital Vienna. Both Freud and Schnitzler were strongly influenced by the deaths of their fathers: Freud’s father died in 1896: one year later, in 1897, Freud developed the technique of analysis, applying it to himself with his self-analysis, and he invented the term and meaning of the Oedipus complex. Schnitzler’s father died in 1893: the writer later recounted his 1914 dream, full of significant details, in which his father appeared to him and sat down at his desk. In fact, his father’s death left Schnitzler free to devote himself to literature.

**Schnitzler’s Writings**

Schnitzler kept a diary from 1879 to 1931 in which he noted his thoughts, his doubts, his anxieties; the last entry was written two days before he died. His life was one of success, but also marked by sadness and disappointments, especially towards the end. He married the actress Olga Gusmam, twenty years his junior, in 1899; they had two children and divorced in 1921. On July 26, 1928 Schnitzler experienced a tragedy that seemed to come straight from one of his stories: the presumed and inexplicable suicide of his 19-year-old daughter Lili in Venice, where she lived with her husband, an official in the Italian Fascist Militia.

Schnitzler’s psychological-literary works focus on Vienna and its inhabitants; he wrote mostly psychological dramas that delved into the bourgeois life of this city, the waning capital of a waning empire. Some great critics say that his work is a preview of that of the famous Austrian writer Robert Musil (1880-1942), author of the unfinished three-volume novel “The Man Without Qualities”, as well as that of other European writers, such as Marcel Proust, James Joyce, Italo Svevo and Virginia Wolf.

Some of his best known masterpieces are “Dying” (about love and death in turn-of-the-century Vienna; an example of early stream of consciousness writing); “Merry-go-round” (or “Hands Around”, depicting the game of desire); “None but the Brave” (including honour and irony; the first European literary masterpiece written as an interior monologue); “Paracelsus” (referring to this work in 1899 Freud said he was “stupefied as to how knowledgeable a fiction writer could be”); “Blind Geronimo and his Brother” (on the sense of guilt); “Rhapsody: A Dream Novel” (on psychoanalysis and shadows; this long tale returned to the fore in recent years when it was used as the basis for the film “Eyes Wide Shut”); and “Flight into Darkness” (a stage by stage depiction of the onset of madness). There are many other titles that this old
Schnitzler, the relationship between Schnitzler’s tragic family events and certain of his writings and above all the subject he was working on for a film when he died. The theme for the film had been perhaps partly inspired by Reik’s book on the impulse to confess and the need for punishment (Geständniszwang und Strafbedürfnis).

Torberg said that Schnitzler diagnosed the soul and was a therapist who gave life and was not only a writer of fiction. Would some say, in turn, that Freud was a man of letters? Who knows the intentions of both our Viennese protagonists, esteemed witnesses of the Finis Austriae and the end of an entire world?

Emiliano Panconesi

Selected bibliography
The academic history of Dermatology in Hungary is a specialty with more than 200 years of tradition. In Budapest, Dermatology training started in 1893 at the Péter Pázmány University Faculty of Medicine, when the Faculty of Dermatology was established in Budapest, at the 239 year-old Semmelweis Medical School. Other prominent Hungarian universities, which provide training and research in Dermatology are Szeged, Pécs and Debrecen.

In 1952, the Hungarian State founded the National Institute of Dermatology and Venereology in order to fight venereal diseases and provide dermatological care at a national level. Ferenc Földvári was the first Chairman of the Institute and Chairman of the Dermato-Venereology Clinic. In 2005, the Institute, together with the national institutes of other medical disciplines, was closed and its functions have been partly integrated into the Semmelweis Medical School Department of Dermato-Venereology as the National STD Centre.

**Dermatology practice today**
Currently there are about 650 registered dermatologists in Hungary who serve a population of about 10 million people. The majority of dermatologists work in large cities and in the public sector, most of them being based in outpatient departments, although there are a growing number of dermatologists working in the private sector.

Patients mostly self-refer to dermatologists. However, general practitioners, interns, or other specialists refer them too. In-patient services are located in academic centres and in hospitals, whilst other centres operate on an out-patient basis. Academic centres and larger hospitals developed sub-specialty units with specialised care for patients with chronic or complex disorders such as skin cancer, allergo-immunology, phototherapy, psoriasis and autoimmune disorders.

In the field of academic Dermatology there are currently four departments of Dermatology, each one affiliated with its respective Medical Schools (Semmelweis Medical School, Budapest; Szent-Györgyi Albert Medical School, Szeged; and the Medical Schools in Debrecen and Pécs). The academic centres organise graduate and postgraduate training, also for foreign students, in English and German, where they promote research and provide patient care.

**Paediatric Dermatology**
The history of Paediatric Dermatology started with the establishment of an orphanage from charity grants, where poor children were treated at the so-called “White Cross” hospital from 1930 until 1945 in what today is Heim Pál Children’s Hospital. The independent department was directed by Lili Farkas, then by Éva Török and since 2000 by Zsuzsanna Szalai.

**Main skin diseases**
The spectrum of skin diseases seen in Hungary is quite similar to that of other European countries. Skin cancer is a common disease due to the increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation in
Dermatology around Europe

summer in most part of Hungary. Care of homeless patients with neglected skin diseases is an emerging problem as social management is insufficient in that field. Likewise, sexually transmitted diseases remain an integral part of dermatological practice. The number of patients with traditional STDs is increasing in Hungary as in other Eastern European countries due to social and economic changes. Certain Dermatology centres are also sites of ongoing international multi-centre therapeutic trials.

Residency training
University-affiliated institutes and larger hospitals are recognised as postgraduate training centres. Residency training in Dermato-Venereology is a five-year programme, including one year’s training in internal medicine and four years in Dermatology and Venereology. During the residency training multiple rotations are required in plastic surgery, phototherapy, cosmetology, AIDS clinic, STD, histopathology and paediatric Dermatology, following a prescribed curriculum.

Hungarian Dermatological Society
The Hungarian Dermatological Society (www.derma.hu) was founded in 1928 by Lajos Nékám, who was also Chairman of the University Department of Dermatology in Budapest. Over the years, the Society has not stopped growing in terms of members and activities.

Within the Hungarian Dermatological Society, the following working groups have been formed: Paediatric Dermatology, Oncodermatology, Experimental Dermatology, Photodermatology, Cutaneous Lymphoma, Cosmetology, Dermatological Surgery, Infectious Diseases, Mycology, Psychodermatology, History of Hungarian Dermatology and Contact Dermatitis.

The official journal of the Hungarian Dermatological Society, the “Archives of Dermatology-Venereology”, was first published in 1924, and it is now published on a bi-monthly basis.

An award named after the world-famous Austrian-Hungarian dermatologist Mór Kaposi is given to dermatologists with outstanding achievement. The Hungarian Dermatological Society has a tradition of presenting honorary membership to foreign dermatologists who have established a good relationship with the Hungarian Dermatology Society and who have helped to improve its international reputation. By 2006 honorary membership had been given to 66 scientists from 14 countries.

The Hungarian Dermatological Society - together with the National Board of Dermatologists, directed by the Ministry of Health - contributes to the preparation of position statements and guidelines at a national level, in accordance with European guidelines.

International activities

1935: 9th World Congress of Dermatology held in Budapest.
1995: The Hungarian Dermatological Society and the German Dermatological Society established the joint German-Hungarian Dermatological Society (DUDG) aiming to build a bridge between the two bodies and to strengthen scientific collaboration and personal connections. DUDG holds congresses every two years alternating the venues between Germany and Hungary.

1997 – 1998:
The 2nd EADV Spring Symposium was held in Budapest in 2004. This Symposium was a great event in the life of the Hungarian Dermatological Society. It was a great success as some 1,500 dermato-venereologists convened in Budapest on the eve of European Union enlargement, on 1 May 2004, when Hungary together with seven other Eastern European countries joined the EU. The President of the Symposium was Attila Horváth, the Secretary General was Sarolta Kárpáti and the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee was Lajos Kemény.

Future prospective
Social, political and economic changes in Hungary caused profound alterations in the healthcare system. Driven by the need to provide better care under strict regulations and decreased financial support is a great challenge for our discipline.

EADV and Hungarian Dermatology
At the EADV Congress in Lisbon (Portugal) in 1996, a Hungarian Slide Clinic session was presented along with a lecture on the history of the Hungarian Dermatological Society by Imre Schneider, Chairman of the Society.

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Although the impressive memories and informative activities of the congress in Rhodes are still fresh in our minds, the Media & PR Committee is already actively organising some events for the upcoming months.

**Euromelanoma**

The first big event is the EADV’s support for Euromelanoma Day 2007. Euromelanoma is a pan-European prevention campaign against skin cancer and is organised by dermatologists. Each year, on a set day in May, people are given the opportunity to have a free screening of their moles and other skin lesions by dermatologists. There are many European countries participating in this action, including Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Greece, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Iceland, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain and the UK. This campaign aims to raise public awareness about skin cancer and the importance of early detection and treatment.

As a part of our lobbying and campaigning activities, the EADV is organising together with Prof Katsambas and the Belgium representatives of Euromelanoma - a press conference on 20 April in the European Parliament to support this campaign and to achieve more media and political attention for this important topic.

We will report more on this press conference in the next issue of **EADV News**.

**Media Workshop in Vienna**

We would like to invite you to join the next “Media Workshop” during the EADV Vienna congress. Participants will be informed about the ‘Euromelanoma’ and ‘UV-Check’ campaigns, which are designed to create interest in the media for Dermatology and for the unique skills of dermatologists. You will learn how to present yourself as a “media dermatologist” and how to approach the media. The speakers will give you practical training on the use of microphones and on how to spread dermatological messages in public relations. Participants will also learn how to phrase press releases or prepare and give televised interviews.

Due to technical equipment constraints, the number of places to attend the workshop is limited. Therefore we would like to encourage people interested in the workshop to register well in advance. Unlike other similar courses, this workshop does not entail any cost and training is provided for free. Please

**Media Workshop in Rhodes: Statements from the participants**

“**When managing media relations, working with a PR professional plays an important role and his or her contribution enables us to achieve progress in a field that we are unfamiliar with. In this respect, I have been working with a PR professional for over one year now and the benefits are clear. No matter how successful you are in your profession, creating awareness is an important factor to achieve success and the advantages will be lost if no one knows you.**”

**Dr Ercin Özüntürk, Turkey**

“I had great expectations because I really needed some training in this field as I am rather frequently exposed to journalists from TV, radio and the press. Often they call or come during a stressful day full of patients and they always want immediate attention and answers. The Media Workshop made me aware of some important things that I now have to bear in mind and need to practise. I am most grateful for the good tips received!”

**Dr Agneta Troilius, Sweden**

“For me, the Media Workshop was the most innovative and useful session organised during the last EADV Congress. The practical introduction to the subject focused on professional tips, ranging from the importance of short, clear-cut answers delivered in 20 seconds, to choosing the right clothing for interviews. All of these were highly appreciated by the participants. The lecture on different “types” of journalists - including precise data on how to handle tricky questions - gave us a lot of practical information on how to cope with the media. Then, the interviews of the participants in front of the camera on one of the hot-topics such as skin cancer prevention, sun beds and STD followed. Thus, the theory was introduced into practice. It was a great experience.”

**Dr Anna Zalewska, Poland**
In an effort to increase the efficiency and decrease the operating costs of the EADV, the Website Committee is about to implement a Document Approval System (DAS). Board members and Committee members will have a special section in the restricted members’ section of the EADV website to upload documents for discussion, to add comments to the documents and to vote on them.

Recent decisions
At the last Board meeting, the EADV agreed to implement the electronic membership form. Some of our members will only receive electronic mail and the electronic version of the JEADV. This option will be linked to a reduced membership fee. With a view to helping members, the Website Committee is going to implement a webmail system, which includes the name of the EADV in the address. This e-mail address will be given to any member who requests it. We hope to have this service available very soon as most details of the service have been arranged. New documents for membership and renewal now include fields to deal with these changes.

CME opportunities
We are committed to providing European dermatologists with Continuing Medical Education (CME) opportunities. The Website Committee decided to increase both the diffusion of the work of our speakers and the learning opportunities of our members. EADV Congresses and Meetings are our most important CME activities, but they are limited in time and space. We have transferred some of the presentations from the Lapland Spring Symposium and the Rhodes Congress to our website where they are available to our EADV members only. We hope to increase the number of presentations and improve the format in the future. Moreover, EADV members have access to the abstracts of posters and oral communications to EADV congresses in the members’ area under the Education heading.

EADV’s virtual library
Lastly, the Website Committee has developed a Virtual Library for all members. The first service is the EBSCO’s Comprehensive Edition of the Biomedical Reference Collection. This database provides access to nearly 900 journals, including full text for nearly 850 peer-reviewed publications, with some months of embargo. This means that EADV members have access to the full content of the journals except for some of the latest issues published. Every month, new accesses will be granted automatically.

Pablo Fernández Peñas
Chairman

Website Committee:
Steingrimur Davidsson
Olle Larkö
Sorin George Tiplica
Governing the EADV in a way that is transparent to all members can be a complex business at times! Many of you are well aware of the time and effort that a lot of people (including the members of this committee) put into the formulation of new Statutes for the EADV.

The Statutes were circulated to all members and received an unprecedented unanimous vote of approval at the Spring Symposium, which was held in Lapland last year. This approval allowed us to move the registration of our Academy from Luxembourg to Switzerland, which in turn allowed us to have the first mail and electronic vote of all our members in the recent President-Elect election in Rhodes.

Under our old statutes, only members who attended the OGM in person or those who gave authority to another member present to vote on their behalf (proxy vote) were able to cast votes in elections. In the last President-Elect election, for the first time in the history of the EADV, all the members throughout Europe were able to participate in this important democratic process.

So, you might ask: Is the task not finished and the job completed? Unfortunately not!

**Statutes**

The Statutes (or Constitution) of the EADV are the most important and fundamental rules of the Academy. They supersede all other rules and regulations and should not be changed unless considered absolutely essential. They can only be amended by a majority vote of the entire membership of the EADV after the proposed changes have been circulated to all members. The Statutes have been recently reviewed as outlined above and hopefully will not require change for some time to come!

**Internal Rules**

We also need Internal Rules in our Academy. These are to clarify and interpret how the principles outlined in the Statutes are put into practice in a fair transparent way that allows for consistency and the democratic participation of all members (for example how our committees are elected, the term of office of committee members and chairpersons, the mechanism of choosing Board representation on the Executive Committee, etc). The Internal Rules are decided by our elected representatives on the Board and must be consistent with the Statutes. They usually remain unchanged once established, but can be amended by the Board by a majority vote, after due notice of the proposed changes is given to its members, as an important agenda item for the next meeting. Our committee will be bringing several important proposed Internal Rules to the Board meeting in Vienna for its consideration. We anticipate that others will be proposed to forthcoming Board meetings as we “flesh out” the principles outlined in our Statutes.

**Administrative Regulations**

The EADV also requires Administrative Regulations. These are necessary to facilitate our professional staff in their day-to-day running of the business of the Academy. Administrative Regulations are guidelines to the management of practical issues that arise in the course of the work of administrative staff on behalf of the EADV - for example, evaluating membership applications, making arrangements for Board and Executive Committee (EC) meetings, protocols for Congress bids and so on. The Administrative Regulations are decided by the EC and they will require updating on a regular basis as the needs of the Academy change. The Administrative Regulations must be consistent with the Statutes and Internal Rules and are superseded by both of these if doubt arises. Our committee is working with Nancy Induni and the administrative staff to formulate the Academy’s Administrative Regulations, which will be put before the EC for its approval.

**Statutes, Rules and Regulations.** It seems that the work of this committee will continue for some time yet!

As a democratic organisation the functioning of our Academy must be transparent to all our members. In future, any EADV member in any European country will be able to review our Statutes, Internal Rules and Regulations and fully understand them. They will also be able to participate in all the activities of the EADV. This is the primary goal of our committee.

Frank C Powell
Chairman

**Development and Statutes Committee:**

Dan Forsea
Andrea Peserico
Sarah Rogers
IGEA is delighted to introduce a new therapeutic approach for local tumour control:

**ELECTROCHEMOTHERAPY and CLINIPORATOR™**

ELECTROCHEMOTHERAPY and CLINIPORATOR™

Electrochemotherapy applied with Cliniporator™ is an innovative therapeutic approach for the treatment of cutaneous and sub-cutaneous tumours of any histology. It combines:

→ Administration of reduced dose of drugs
→ Electroporation of cells membrane

Electroporation is a physical phenomenon which, applying short high intensity electric pulses, increases the permeability of cell membrane. This allows anti-cancer drugs, non permeant or poorly permeant, to enter the cytosol and increase their intrinsic high cytotoxicity and anti-tumoral efficacy.

Cliniporator™ is the most advanced device for the application of Electrochemotherapy in clinical practice, whose efficacy was validated by the ESOPE study (European Standard Operating Procedures for Electrochemotherapy - EU 5th FP: Quality of Life).

**Electrochemotherapy clinical indications**

Primary cutaneous tumours: basal and squamous cell carcinoma

Single and in transit melanoma metastases

Cutaneous metastases from any tumours independently of histology

IGEA is present as exhibitor (stand Y83) at the 16th EADV Congress
Vienna, Austria 16-20 May 2007.

Electrochemotherapy and the results of the ESOPE study will be presented by dr. L. M Mir (CNRS – Institut Gustave Roussy, Villejuif) during the EADV President’s Symposium on 18 May.
The Fostering Dermatology and Venereology Committee has launched an ambitious programme of Skills Development for private practitioners, to extend their skills repertoire and enhance their existing skills. In addition, we hope this programme will encourage a feeling of community among our members.

There are two components to this programme:

- Visiting centres of excellence
- Practical workshops and courses

**Visits to centres of excellence**

We have a list of centres with different expertise, so that practitioners can either have a skills update or learn new skills, including both University Centres and Private Practices which have special proficiency in these areas (Beacon Private Practices).

The first two applications from dermatologists in private practice from outside Europe, who are EADV members, have been accepted. They are visiting European centres. We hope that more of our members will apply.

**Practical workshops and courses**

A programme of practical and interactive courses, run by EADV members, has been prepared and is open only to EADV members in Private Practice.

The first course is an interactive course on Hand and Facial Dermatitis, run by Dr Christa De Cuyper, in November. This course is being held at the EADV House, so the participants will be able to enjoy this facility.

**Trainee courses**

These are continuing with a course on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, run by Professor Nikolai Tsankov, in Bulgaria, the first in Eastern Europe, and the second, Dermatopathology Summer School, but this time run by Professor Helmut Kerl in Graz, and a Psychodermatology course organised by Dr Françoise Poot in Brussels. This course is breaking ground in being held at the EADV house for the first time.

These courses have now led to many friendships among trainees across Europe, and have contributed to the involvement of trainees in the EADV and foster a sense of European community. It is even bridging the generation gap, as trainees and new specialists from all over Europe come up to me and greet me as a friend due to having been on the courses.

We are really excited about this programme, but need your help to ensure that we are serving your needs, please continue to help us to help you.

*Fenella Wojnarowska*

Chairwoman
New Faces at the EADV Board of Directors

EADV News presents four members who recently joined the EADV Board.

Anna Gorkiewicz Petkow (Poland)
Dr Gorkiewicz Petkow was born in Warsaw and graduated from Warsaw Medical University in 1972, working since 1979 in its Department of Dermatology. In 1984 she defended her thesis on collagen diseases.

For the last 15 years Dr Gorkiewicz Petkow has presided over the Warsaw Branch and is the Secretary General of the Polish Association of Dermatology. She was also a founding member of the Central Eastern European Dermato-Venereological Association, later becoming its Secretary General and President. Involved in EADV activities since 1986, Gorkiewicz Petkow was happy to see how the EADV was evolving towards the Eastern European countries, thus giving European dermatologists more possibilities to integrate through education and science and to improve standards in educational and training programmes.

“Through my participation in the EADV Board as a representative of Poland, I would like to work further for a Dermatology without borders, with good standards in training, science and treatment”, says Gorkiewicz Petkow.

George-Sorin Țiplica, MD PhD (Romania)
Graduating in 1993 from the Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, George-Sorin Țiplica obtained his PhD in 2002 and became a senior specialist in Dermatology and Venereology one year later.

He is currently Assistant Professor at the Department of Dermatology of the Carol Davila University and Senior dermato-venereologist at Colentina Hospital in the Romanian capital. Fluent in English, French and Romanian, he is also the Executive Director of the Romanian Society of Dermatology and Treasurer of the Central East European Dermato-Venereological Association, among other administrative duties.

According to Dr Țiplica, “having had the privilege of serving the Romanian Society of Dermatology for many years, I am aware of some of the difficulties encountered by my colleagues. Developing research projects, educational programmes and receiving a valuable recognition of our dermatological work will be my goals as an EADV Board member. Being appointed to the EADV Website Committee will give me the possibility to actively participate and test my resources.”

Alexander J Stratigos (Greece)
Alexander J Stratigos graduated in Medicine in 1989 from the University of Athens Medical School, and specialised in Epidemiology and Dermatology two years later. His current position as Assistant Professor in Dermatology-Venereology at the Andreas Syngros Hospital for Skin and Venereal Diseases in Athens was preceded by ten years of experience at Harvard Medical School in Boston.

“As a representative of Greece on the EADV Board of Directors”, says Dr Stratigos, “I look forward to serving these important goals and to working with my colleagues for the growth and further development of the Academy. The rapid expansion of our specialty and the changes of the medical care system in Europe are generating new challenges. There is a stronger need to reach out to all European dermatologists, to attract new members, to encourage collaborations at the clinical and basic science level and to build a consensus among our members with regard to clinical care in Dermatology.”

Jasna Lipozenčić (Croatia)
Jasna Lipozenčić graduated in Medicine in 1969 at the Zagreb University School and specialised in Dermato-Venereology four years later. In 1984 she obtained the title of allergologist and clinical immunologist and received her doctorate in 1992.

From 1999 to 2005 she presided over the Croatian Dermato-Venereological Society and since 2006 she has been a lecturer at Mostar and Tuzla Medical School in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Her involvement in research and editorial projects includes three textbooks, seven manuals of medicine and active participation in five international journals.

According to Prof Lipozenčić: “as a new EADV Board member from Croatia I am very satisfied to participate in the scientific programmes and activities of the EADV. I hope to achieve a better understanding of Dermato-Venereology practice in Croatia and across Europe. I feel very proud to be a part of the EADV.”
It was with great pleasure that I accepted the honour of being nominated to chair the EADV Membership Committee at the memorable Rhodes congress last October. Due credit must also be given to the hard and fruitful work of the outgoing Chairman, Demetris Ioannides and committee members. I, together with committee members, Sarah Rogers, Jorgen Ronnevig and Karel Ettler, promise to carry on with the task at hand in the best interest of our Academy.

Membership figures
By the end of 2006, EADV membership stood at 2,656. This amounts to a 23% increase over the previous year. Furthermore, the 2006 statistics translate into a staggering 73% increase over 2000. There has been a consistent increase in members from 2000 to 2006 in both the European category (69%) as well as in the non-European category (93%). Nonetheless, this is not the time to sit back and admire these figures since there are still a vast number of non-members out there. More work and incentives are needed to attract them into the fold.

At the Rhodes meeting updated membership categories as enshrined in the new EADV statutes were approved and are now being implemented (See table on this page). Membership fees have also been revised accordingly. Such changes better reflect current needs and realities.

Membership incentives
As things stand the various incentives for joining the EADV represent by far the best package ever:

- The differential in congress registration fees between members and non-members has been increased further. It now stands at €380 for members in contrast to €695 for non-members for the Vienna congress. Although this is still a far cry from the AAD situation having a four-fold difference (US$350 for members against a hefty US$1400 for non-members in 2007), it certainly represents a decisive step in the right direction.
- One year’s free membership is being offered to non-member congress registrants provided they fulfill the entry criteria.
- In the foreseeable future members will be able to register for congresses earlier than non-members and will have priority in registering for popular courses and hotels.
- Junior members can benefit from heavily subsidised intensive courses and exchanges organised by the EADV Fostering Dermatology and Venereology Committee, as well as from generous grants for attending congresses.

New measures
In order to facilitate the processing of new applications a couple of new measures are being imposed. New membership applications must be accompanied by English translations of specialist diplomas and/or certificates. Full details of endorsers, that is, EADV membership number and contact details, are required in order to allow validation

### New EADV membership categories and fees as of January 2007

1) **Ordinary**: Specialist of any nationality certified in Europe; European national certified as specialist outside Europe; scientists of European nationality practising anywhere or of non-European nationality practising in Europe, holding a PhD or equivalent in Dermatology and/or Venereology or cutaneous biology engaged in full-time research in these related fields. (€105 with electronic correspondence and publications comprising circulars, quarterly newsletters, and JEADV; €150 with hard copies, instead of the previous €115 with hard copies).

2) **Junior (formerly trainee)**: European trainee or specialist under 35 years. (€75 with electronic correspondence and publications instead of the previous €50 with hard copies).

3) **International (formerly corresponding)**: Specialist of non-European nationality certified and practising outside Europe; scientist of non-European nationality holding a PhD or equivalent in Dermatology and/or Venereology or cutaneous biology engaged in full-time research in these related fields outside Europe. (Fees same as ordinary members).

4) **Retired**: Ordinary member who has reached the age of 65 years and/or who has retired from active practice (€75 with hard copies of correspondence and publications instead of the previous €50).

5) **Supporting**:

- **Individual**: Individual active in Dermatology and/or Venereology who is not eligible for the other membership categories and who is not employed in the pharmaceutical/medical devices industry. (New category - €250 with hard copies of correspondence and publications).

- **Company**: Company active in Dermatology and/or Venereology. (€1000 with hard copies of correspondence and publications as was in the former associate member category).
Towards Continuing Professional Development

There is an increasing importance of Continuing Medical Education in all European countries. In many countries of the EU and the EFTA it is or will soon be compulsory.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) is increasingly being called Continuing Professional Development (CPD), a term created by the UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialists) which emphasises the continuing, lifelong quality assurance in knowledge, skills and humanities (i.e. contacts to peers, patients and medical staff).

The EADV and the UEMS are in permanent contact. One of the pivotal events was the mutual agreement signed in November 2005, concerning the accreditation of CME-CPD credits: The convention says that a maximum of 6 credits (called ECMECs, European CME Credits) can be achieved per day, and 3 per half a day. ECMECs are convertible, i.e. the National Accreditation Authorities of each country in the EU and EFTA may give doctors a different number of credits according to the rules in their country.

In the last decade, lots of data have been collected about the quality assurance of our CME-CPD events (congresses and symposia). Ratings and rankings have been established on the basis of the evaluation of the speakers provided by participants, evaluating content, presentation and relevance of CME-CPD for the daily practice.

From now on and at a reasonable time after the event, steps will be taken to make personal data accessible to speakers upon request to: judith@eadv.org or jgabbud@bluewin.ch.

And the future? Firstly, our interest will focus on Long Distance Learning (LDL), which means that CME-CPD should possibly be made accessible online and in the JEADV in a near future, and secondly, special attention will be given to the problems created by industry sponsored CME-CPD: accredited CME-CPD will never be connected to a single pharmaceutical product. And last, research is being made on a move towards a CME point collection by barcode operation.

We warmly welcome your critical comments!

Jean-Paul A. Gabbud, MD, Bern
Chairman
First, there is the number of memberships and the membership fees. 2006 has been pivotal for the future development of the EADV. Several important goals were achieved: the Statutes were approved and now guarantee a greater democratic basis; the system for voting by mail or e-mail was introduced and the decision was taken to move the society’s legal-administrative offices from Luxembourg to Switzerland. These changes, together with the new countries joining the EADV, will make it possible for over 30,000 dermatologists to now join the EADV.

However, at this moment the EADV has approximately 3,000 members with extreme fluctuations between new members and those not renewing their membership (from 300 to 500 each year).

Fees and incomes
Last year the Board of the EADV decided to increase the membership fees from €115 to €150, but also introduced smaller fees for members under the age of 35 (€75), or those preferring to receive an electronic version of the JEADV (€105). Hopefully these flexible types of membership fees will encourage dermatologists from all over Europe to become members, since it is clear that the number of EADV members needs to grow. This is needed not only to secure its income but also to strengthen the position of the EADV. In the meantime, the EADV has to find other ways to increase its income since the real cost of membership is considerably higher than the full membership fee. It is clear that there is a tension between the will to increase the number of EADV members, on the one hand, and the fees on the other hand. It is therefore vital that the Membership Committee and Finance Committee find a way to solve this matter.

The EADV wants to increase the number of services for its members. Just to mention several services, our journal, the JEADV, is now published 10 times a year and the intention is to take it to 12, the website is growing at a fast pace and is now an important source of scientific education and the Fostering Courses have turned out to be a huge success. These initiatives are also costly.

Structuring and evaluating finances
The incomes of the EADV should therefore be increased and this can be done via the restructuring of the financial organisation of the EADV Congresses and Symposia. In addition, the revenues from the advertisements of the JEADV may be increased. Furthermore, costs related to the running of the EADV should be constantly re-evaluated and carefully addressed.

The present Finance Committee is lucky to benefit from the former Committee members who have achieved some valuable goals such as the formulation of an important set of rules for the daily financial management of the EADV. It is clear that the EADV is, thanks to the efforts of so many dermatologists from all over Europe, a dynamic organisation with lots of services for its members. It is the task of the new Finance Committee together with our Treasurer, Jon Hjaltalin Olafsson, to find ways to secure the healthy financial situation of the EADV.

Menno de Rie
Chairman

Finance Committee:
Luca Borradori (CH)
Mario Lecha (ES)
Jon Hjaltalin Olafsson (IS) Treasurer
Dimitrios Rigopoulos (GR)
Angela Robinson (UK)

Update from the Finance Committee

During the last EADV meeting in Rhodes the Board of Directors set up a Finance Committee. This new Finance Committee faces a dynamic and healthy EADV but also an organisation with several financial concerns that need more than just topical treatment.

Menno de Rie
Menno de Rie studied medicine at the University of Amsterdam, he wrote his thesis on immunology in 1988 and became a dermatologist in 1993. He joined the staff of the Department of Dermatology of the Academic Medical Centre / University of Amsterdam in 1993. In January 2004 he became Vice-Chair of this department. His topics of interests are Immunodermatology, especially psoriasis and immunomodulating therapies. In 2003 he joined the EADV Board of Directors and was elected Chairman of the Finance Committee in 2006.
Dear friends, as this year’s pseudo winter draws to a close, I am writing this message on the way home from a site visit to Gothenburg. But more on that later.

Since my last message, elections for three new Board members have been announced and will have been concluded by the time you receive this copy of EADV News. In Vienna new Board members will be representing Serbia and Slovakia for the very first time. It is my pleasure to announce that Prof Ljiljana Medenica has been elected as Board member for Serbia and Prof Juraj Pec has been elected as Board member for Slovakia. To them both I extend my warmest congratulations.

Also, although a vacancy exists for a second Board member for Italy following the resignation last October of Prof Ruggero Caputo, no nomination has been forthcoming by the closing date so Italian members will continue to be represented by Prof Andrea Peserico in spite of having reached the “over 100” voting members required by the statutes to elect a second member. This is not new since Slovakia too last year made no nomination in spite of its entitlement to have direct board representation.

The next round of Board elections will take place in the autumn when a good number of current members will either be up for possible re-election or have ended their term completely. At that time an election for Treasurer will also be held with incumbent Treasurer Jon Olafsson eligible for a four year term of office. Details will be announced in due course.

New working rules

The Statutes committee has been requested to formulate new Working Rules for our Academy. These are being circulated to the Board in the near future and then hopefully adopted at the Vienna Board meeting. One suggestion that should lead to wider involvement of our members if accepted by the Board is for Sub Committee membership to be made by elections open to all EADV members. These would be properly advertised, nominations taken, and a transparent voting process carried out.

Membership

New applications have been simply flooding in and our new system to streamline the whole process appears to be giving satisfactory results. Regular meetings are held between Membership Committee Chair Lawrence Scerri and myself and with the hard work of our Brussels and Malta office staff, the time between application and Board decision has been reduced to the absolute minimum. Similarly, requirements for each category of members have been greatly simplified and confirmation of specialist status can be made by a letter from National society or from an EADV member from the applicant’s country as easier alternatives to copies of diplomas etc.

We have insisted however that proposers take the responsibility of confirming the suitability of the person they are proposing to be a member of EADV. Much work also continues on innovative suggestions to significantly increase EADV membership and be truly representative of all dermato-venereologists in Europe. President Alberto Giannetti is devoting much of his endless energies to this aspect and I am sure that an understanding will be reached with a very satisfactory conclusion.

Academic events

Future EADV academic events should see a progressively greater involvement by our central office where our staff certainly possess the ability to deal with many Congress issues currently outsourced. This will provide continuity and also reduce budgetary expenses. Staying with meetings, a couple of days were spent on a flying visit to Gothenburg, the only applicant city for the 2010 Congress. While the full report of the visiting team will be presented at the Board meeting in Vienna, I may state that my preparations for Lapland II were unfounded. The mild climate on that first spring weekend was only equalled by the warmth of the welcome we received. The professionalism of the Gothenburg team was impressive and all felt that EADV would be truly welcome in this beautiful city. The decision will of course be made by the Board in Vienna.

Ms Marika Wendler has left the staff in Brussels and has returned to her hometown in Germany. She has been working at EADV House since June 2004 and her main duties were administering the Fostering Dermatology Committee, the Website Committee and EADV News. She was also responsible for updating the website. She was hard-working, diligent and reliable and she shall be sorely missed by us all. We wish her well in her new endeavours. May I take this opportunity to welcome to the EADV family Ms Ildiko Papp who has replaced Marika.

Not for the first time, I have run out of space! So as always I wish you all good health and look forward to meeting all of you in Vienna.

Joseph L. Pace
Secretary General
Send your pictures to EADV News...

Send us pictures of Dermato-Venereology practice to: stefanie@eadv.org
A selection of these images will be published in upcoming issues of EADV News.

Important note: Pictures must be submitted in one of the following formats: eps, jpeg, tif. (Please ensure that your pictures are high resolution images: 300 dpi.)

Encourage other colleagues to join EADV!

The EADV membership application form is available on the website: www.eadv.org
Candidates for membership will find all details in the ‘Join EADV’ section

Notice is hereby given that the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the EADV will be held on Friday, 18 May 2007 in Hall K, Austrian Vienna Centre, Vienna, Austria at 08:00 a.m. The Agenda is available on the members’ only section of the EADV website

Calendar of Events

> 2007

16th EADV Congress
Vienna, Austria
16-20 May 2007

1st Bosnia and Herzegovina International Dermato-Venereology Conference
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
23-26 May 2007

11th World Congress on Cancers of the Skin
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
8-11 June 2007

2nd World Congress on Work-Related and Environmental Allergy
Weimar, Germany
13-16 June 2007

12th Congress of the European Society for Dermatology and Psychiatry
Wroclaw, Poland
14-17 June 2007

2nd International Congress on Psoriasis
Paris, France
21-24 June 2007

“Dermatopathology and Beyond It”
Eisenach, Germany
29 June - 1 July 2007

First World Meeting of Interdisciplinary Melanoma Centres
Barcelona, Spain
5-8 September 2007

7th Congress of BADV
Riga, Latvia
6-8 September 2007

21st World Congress of Dermatology
Buenos Aires, Argentina
1-5 October 2007

26th PAD & 5th SARAD Conference of Dermatology
Lahore, Pakistan
15-18 November 2007

> 2008

66th Annual Meeting AAD
San Antonio, TX, United States
1-5 February 2008

Global Dermatology
Genova, Italy
23-26 April 2008

9th Congress of the European Society for Paediatric Dermatology
Athens, Greece
15-17 May 2008

5th EADV Spring Symposium
Istanbul, Turkey
22-25 May 2008

17th EADV Congress
Paris, France
17-21 September 2008

> 2009

6th EADV Spring Symposium
Bucharest, Romania
23-26 April 2009

18th EADV Congress
Berlin, Germany
7-11 October 2009
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5TH EADV SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Istanbul, Turkey
May 22-25, 2008

SYMPOSIUM SECRETARIAT
5th EADV Spring Symposium
Prof. Mehmet Ali Gürer
Ayazmaderesi Cad. Karadut Sok. No:7 34394 Dikilişas - ISTANBUL - TURKEY
Telephone: +90 212 258 60 20 pbx - Fax: +90 212 258 60 78
E-mail: info@eadvistanbul2008.com / president@eadvistanbul2008.com
www.eadv.org/istanbul2008