



Newsletter 2016:2

President

Annalisa Angelini, IT (2016)

Past Presidents

Allard van der Wal, NL (2014)

Patrick Bruneval, FR (2012)

Ulrik Baandrup, DK (2010)

Patrick J Gallagher, UK (2008)

Gaetano Thiene, IT (2006)

Anton E Becker, NL (2004)

President Elect

Mary Sheppard, UK (2016)

Secretary Treasurer

Katarzyna Michaud, CH (2016)

Councillors

Joachin Lucena, ES (2016)

Augusto Orlandi, IT (2016)

Giulia d'Amati (2018)

Standing Committees

Education

Cristina Basso, IT, Chair (2017)

Loukas Kaklamanis, GR (2018)

Rosa H. de Gouveia, PT (2017)

Membership

Ivana Kholova, FI Chair (2017)

Jytte Banner, DK (2017)

Vacant (Rainer Bohle)

Nominating

Allard van der Wal, NL, Chair (2016)

Helen Doran, UK (2016)

Stephen Preston (2018)

Cardiac Transplantation

Ornella Leone, Chair (2018)

Claire Toquet, FR (2015)

Heike Goebel (2018)

Webmaster

Cristina Basso, IT, (2016)

July 2016

Dear members,

before the summer break, looking forward to our 7th biennial AECVP meeting in September, I would like to update you with some important information regarding our activities:

AECVP 7th biennial meeting

You can find all the informations related to the meeting at the dedicated website arranged by Heike Göbel, available at <http://aecvp2016.weebly.com>. Take note that the meeting will start at 11.00 on Friday and end at 5.00 pm on Saturday to fit better with the combined meeting of the World Congress of the International Academy for Pathology, the European Society of Pathology (ESP) and the German Society of Pathology. The final program will be uploaded soon, after the abstract selection and notification.

As tradition, to favour young people attendance, there will be five award grants (300 Euros each), three for the best oral presentations, one for the best poster and one for the best *what is it case*.

MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER SOCIETIES

ISHLT 2016 annual meeting in Washington, DC, USA 27-30 April 2016, (<http://www.ishlt.org/>). Some of our board members attended this important appointment (see below the report by Ornella Leone).

2016 Symposium of the International Academy of Legal Medicine (IALM) has been held on the 21-24 June 2016 in Venice, Lido, with a joint AECVP-IALM pre-meeting symposium of one day and a AECVP parallel CV session inside the main congress with contribution of our members entitled Autopsy Pathology of Sudden Cardiac Death. The two sessions have been very well attended and the scientific contributions outstanding.

The European Society of Cardiology meeting in Rome, 27-31 August 2016, see website for all informations <http://www.escardio.org/Congresses-&Events/Upcoming-congresses/ESC-Congress/ESC-Congress>. A joint symposium ESC/AECVP will be organized on mitral valve and Cristina Basso, Patrick Brunewald, and Allard van der Wal will represent AECVP. The traditional live video demonstrations again a joint activity ESC/AECVP will be given by Yen Ho, Annalisa Angelini and Gaetano Thiene with the moderation of Giulia D'Amati and Stefania Rizzo.



The European Society of Pathology (ESP) and IAP meeting will be held on 25-29 September 2016, in Cologne following our Biennial meeting. As tradition, we will actively participate to this meeting with relevant activities, see website (<http://www.espcongress.org/>).

STATUE and BY-LAW

During the board meeting Gaetano Thiene presented some proposals for modifications to the statue and by-law of our association which should be finalized and further discussed among all the members. These modifications will be finally presented to the business meeting in Cologne to be voted. Gaetano and Ulrik will produce some materials, which will be soon circulated among the members.

CARDIAC TRANSPLANT STANDING COMMITTEE (Ornella Leone)

Springer-commissioned book on “Pathology of Cardiac Transplantation”: the book is complete and will be published by late 2016. We hope to see an advance copy by the Cologne Meeting.

36th Annual Meeting of the ISHLT, Washington, April 27-30, 2016. For us the main events at Washington were:

- a) **the Consensus Conference on the management of antibodies in heart transplantation**, endorsed by ISHLT and sponsored by the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute, whose main objectives were:
 - to educate the heart transplant community on current understanding of the role of antibodies both pre and post heart transplantation;
 - to standardize identification and treatment of antibodies both pre and post heart transplantation.

A detailed report of the consensus conference by Dr. Jon Kobashigawa and his co-chairs will be published in the JHLT.

- b) **ISHLT Pathology Council** organized a meeting in Washington (20 pathologists present) to explore the possibility of a digital-microscopy based multicentre study. The current AMR grading scheme is now widely used in clinical programs and is being evaluated in studies. The idea of this digital-microscopy based multicentre project arose from the results of an AECVP multicentre controlled-case pilot study, which examined the myocardial inflammatory burden and cell phenotype in EMBs with pAMR and produced some interesting points worth developing:
 - great heterogeneity of IB in cardiac AMR
 - presence of a gradient of inflammation and of different cell profiles in pAMR grades
 - complex interplay between ACR and AMR immunological processes, i.e. mixed rejection.

In this multicentre study the Pathology Council decided to include a proposal from the French group on assessing a grading system for microvascular inflammation, with particular attention to sensitivity and specificity of histologic aspects, inter- and intra-observer reproducibility, and correlation with current AMR histologic criteria, clinical and immunologic findings and ultimately with outcome data.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Allard van der Wal)

During the board meeting in Padua, Allard van der Wal has proposed the name of Joaquin Lucena as candidate for the position of president elect. He will be voted during the business meeting in Cologne. Katarzyna Michaud has been proposed (second term) for the position of Secretary Treasurer.



Moreover, for the vacant positions on the board which should be renewed in Cologne, Arian Vink and Jan Lucas Robertus have been nominated by the committee. In addition, after the Board meeting in Padua 3 members have indicated their interest to join the board of AECVP and applied for a board position at our secretarial office. A call for more applications will be sent out soon to all the members of AECVP which should be in a good standing position. More positions will be available in 2017 as new vacancies will arise and /or terms will end and new by-law will be introduced.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Ongoing European projects on sudden cardiac deaths (SCD)

During the IALM meeting in Venice last June, many of our members involved in forensic cardiovascular pathology activities got the opportunity to meet and further discuss about the two projects on SCD in preparation for Cologne meeting:

Current autopsy practice in SCD in Europe (Patrick Gallagher and Jytte Banner) to report on similarities and differences in the current autopsy practice in different European countries.

Update of the SCD AECVP guidelines published in 2008 (Cristina Basso, Katarzyna Michaud) to update the paper on the experience gained through the last eight years and considering the progresses made in diagnostic tools.

UK protocol for autopsy examination in cases of Adult Congenital Heart Disease

Helen Doran has recently been asked to draw up protocols for her region (North West England) for autopsy examination in cases of adult congenital heart diseases. Since it was recognized that congenital heart disease is a very specific topic and that there is nothing available in the literature it was agreed that some members, practicing the autopsy of congenital heart diseases after surgery (H. Doran, R. de Gouveia, S. Preston, O. Leone, M. Sheppard, G. D'Amati, A. Angelini and G. Thiene), led by Gaetano Thiene, will write the protocol.

Best wishes,

President AECVP
Annalisa Angelini

Secretary Treasurer
Katarzyna Michaud