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Dear Members of the AECVP,

This is the traditional Christmas and end of year newsletter, which summarizes our activities during the year.

2021 was the year of our 9th Biennial Meeting, hosted by Stephen Preston in Cambridge in September. It was a great experience, even if for most of us, including myself, it was virtual. I would like to thank Stephen once again for the excellent work he did to make the meeting a success. The update of "AECVP Mission Constitution and By-Laws" was approved at this meeting. I would like to thank Allard van der Wal for coordinating this project.

Regarding other activities of 2021, we participated in the 33rd (virtual) Congress of European Society of Pathology (ESP) with a joint short course on cardiac hypertrophy at autopsy, a joint symposium on research on autopsy material, a joint symposium on organ involvement in COVID-19 and a slide seminar on endomyocardial biopsy. We also organized a symposium "Sudden cardiac death - AECVP 2021 update" during the virtual meeting of the International Academy of Legal Medicine. In summary, 2021 was virtual and really, I hope to meet you in person next year. One of the occasions will be the 34th meeting of the ESP in Basel; four scientific sessions involving AECVP have been

accepted: a long course on transplant, a short course on non-ischemic myocardial pathology, a slide seminar on challenging cases in vascular pathology and a joint course on hereditary diseases at autopsy organized by the Autopsy and Endocrine working groups. And as you know, the next Biennial meeting will be organized by Cristina Basso in Padua in 2023.

In 2021, the AECVP paper by Basso *et al.* entitled "Cardiac hypertrophy at autopsy" was published in *Virchows Arch* and new projects, one on cardiomyopathies and another on imaging of sudden cardiac death, are in progress. Finally, in 2021 we stated a new collaborative project on myocarditis with our American colleagues from SCVP.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Board for their contribution to the activity of the Association during this difficult period. In particular, I would like to thank the Executive committee for its advises, Cristina also for the help with the website, Giulia for her support in coordinating the educational activities and Ivana for her invaluable and efficient support as Secretary-Treasurer.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Katarzyna Michaud

6th December 2021

AECVP President