

# ESTP Newsletter 2018 (4)



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## President's Column

Dear ESTP members,

This is my first President's column as ESTP Chairman and it is with great pleasure to write to you following our highly enjoyable and successful 2018 ESTP Conference. The meeting took place in the city of the HC Andersen's Little Mermaid, Copenhagen at the Novo Nordisk's site. On behalf of the ESTP members and Executive Committee, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the entire Scientific Organizing Committee which was chaired by Ingrid Sjögren, Kevin Keane and Mikala Skydsgaard. I would also like to thank Novo Nordisk for hosting us and the Local Organizing Committee members who also accompanied and guided us during the meeting. Moreover I would like to thank our excellent speakers and finally all participants, who created a fantastic atmosphere for scientific exchange and social networking.

The Annual General Assembly was chaired by Sibylle Gröters, our parting president who I would like to thank for your dedicated work, your sheer enthusiasm for the ESTP, and your colleagueship and friendship. It is big foot steps for me to follow in, but I am confident that with the support of the ESTP membership and EC member's support, I will be able to serve the ESTP as well.

I would like to thank Heike-Antje Marxfeld, parting Chair of the Award committee, and Elodie Drevon-Gaillot for their dedicated and excellent work for the award committee, and welcome Hans Harleman, who will succeed Heike, and wish him success.

For those, who had no opportunity to join the AGM, all information is available on the ESTP homepage, including the annual reports of the executive committee members, councilors and working groups.

I would like to highlight some activities which took place during the summer and some future activities and challenges. Since 2015 the ESTP had send a representative to the ECV/ESVP Summer School for introducing and promote our discipline to young pathologists in training for the Board examinations, with the aspiration to attract some new toxicology pathologist. This year Angele Breithaupt gave a presentation on career possibilities in Tox Path at the Summer School, held between 16th and 27th July in Alfara del Patriarca, Valencia, Spain. The ESTP also sponsored the travel costs of the lecture given by Glenn Cantor on genetically engineered mice "GEMS". As many students receive little or no information on Toxicologic pathology in their traditional veterinary training program, we will intensify our effort to reach out to young veterinarians and young pathologists in training with the aspiration to attract new toxicological pathologists, this crucial effort will help us since we face the battle for talents. These activities will also include a poster at the joint congress of veterinary pathology (ESVP/ECVP) and veterinary clinical pathology in Arnhem, Netherlands in September 2019. Staying with the topic, education, I would like to encourage you, whenever you encounter an interesting histopathological lesion to consider sending your case to the Guess What Committee, as well as actively take part in the discussion of the mystery cases. Please have a look at our homepage for more information:

[\(<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/guesswhat/index.php>\).](https://www.eurotoxpath.org/guesswhat/index.php)

At the Global Toxicologic Pathology President Group Meeting during the Copenhagen meeting Education and the current shortage of toxicological pathologists in the UK and Europe with difficulties to recruit for vacancies was also an important topic. The BSTP council is drafting a Mentorship Initiative in order to attract and help the next generation.

The support for the goRENI contract to complete the non-rodent has been extended for 2019. Furthermore, a new

INHAND working group on ocular toxicity of the non-rodent species has been formed, with the goal to have a draft for an article by end of 2019.

As probably most of you have heard, Solution Office headed by Pia Schröder and Kay Groothoff has decided to stop organizing any more international conferences. Therefore, regrettable the very successful collaboration with Solution Office will end after more than 15 years after the next ESTP conference in 2019, Cologne, Germany. Right now we do not have a replacement, but we are working on it, however this will not be an easy task, but with the support of Pia and Kay the EC is optimistic that we will be able to define a new Professional Congress Organizer within the next weeks. This change is likely to come with various challenges and more work attached for the congress organizer and EC for the years to follow.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, I highly value feedback from our members and would welcome suggestions and ideas for future activities from the membership, and I would gladly answer any questions. Finally, thank you to all of the ESTP Executive Committee Members, for the giving of their "spare" time and many hours of work to the organization. I look forward to meeting some of you again at the Classic Examples in Hannover, February 15-16, 2019, and if not there, then at the ESTP Meeting in Cologne, September 17-20, 2019, in Germany!

I wish you a relaxing pre-Christmas period!

Best regards,  
Your Chairman

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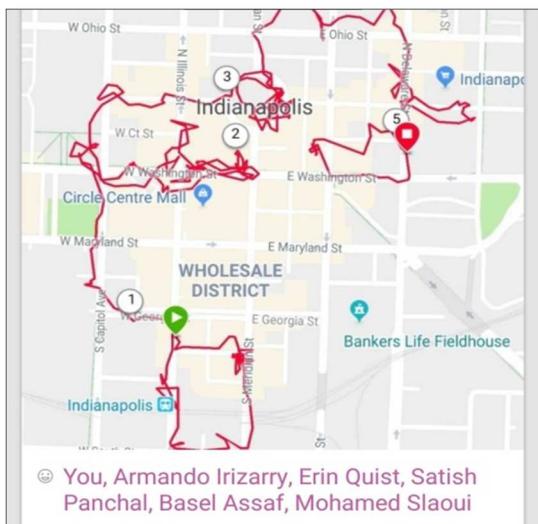
## **STP 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium June 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 – Indianapolis, Indiana**

A diverse array of professionals met in Indianapolis this past June for the 37<sup>th</sup> STP Symposium, "Keeping It Renal". The meeting was headlined with a talk by Dr. J. Charles Jennette, a renowned human nephropathologist, on "Glomerulonephritis: Human Diseases and Animal Models". Through collaborations and training Dr. Jennette has nurtured the development of veterinary nephropathology and continues to contribute to the field by furthering the understanding of animal models of human disease. His talk was followed by a Glomerular Grab Bag of topics focusing on the clinical translation of biomarkers, drug-induced glomerulonephritis with oligonucleotides, and lupus nephritis in the clinics. Both acute and chronic kidney injury and disease were discussed during the Monday and Tuesday sessions, followed by "Animal Models of Kidney Disease" on Wednesday. The Clinical Translation and New Frontiers sessions focused on biomarkers and image analysis. Several other breakout topics decided to keep their topics decidedly non-renal, including "Standard for the Exchange of Nonclinical Data (SEND): Challenges and Promise", "INHAND Terminology – How Is It Working in the SEND Era", and "The Evaluation of Stem Cell-Derived Cellular Therapy Products".

The meeting initially kicked off on Saturday with the NTP Satellite Symposium: Pathology Potpourri headlined by Dr. Susan Elmore. As always, the crowd was engaging, happy to debate (and disagree with) interpretations, and participants enjoyed a music playlist inspired by the State of Indiana (with the Jackson 5 family members in heavy rotation)! What I love most about this symposium is the diversity of species presented (fish, otters, rabbits, and more!) and the enthusiasm of the presenters which ranged from current resident students, to newly minted ACVP diplomates, to those I may venture to describe as mid-career pathologists and beyond.

For Sunday's Continuing Education courses an exciting array of timely topics were offered, including the Clinical Pathology of Biotherapeutics, Gene Therapy Products, Oligonucleotides, and Peripheral Nervous System Toxicology. The gene therapy session, which I attended, focused on the development of adeno-associated viruses (AAVs). Dr. Guangping Gao provided historical background on the development of AAVs and highlighted his work to treat those suffering from Canavan disease, a devastating heritable neurological disorder. Drs. Laurence Whitely (Pfizer) and Katherine High (Spark Therapeutics) thoughtfully highlighted the unique preclinical and clinical challenges presented in the development of these novel therapeutics and emphasized the innovation in processes and assays needed to support their development.

Concurrent with the meeting, numerous STP committees, SRPC Working Groups, INHAND Working Groups, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and the ACVP STP Veterinary Coalition for Veterinary Pathology Fellows met to discuss ongoing aims and initiatives. I initially joined STP as a student member and around the same time initiatives were undertaken for two new SIGs in which I participate: the Medical Device SIG (MDSIG) and Digital Pathology and Image Analysis SIG (DPIA SIG). The specialty knowledge, interest, and enthusiasm demonstrated by these groups have propelled them to initiate early publication discussions and submission of articles to Toxicologic Pathology and other prestigious journals. In short order, DPIA SIG has facilitated numerous online meetings to review software presentations, image analysis strategies, and stereologic approaches. It will be exciting to see what is generated from these dynamic interactions and cross collaborative opportunities supported by the STP. Student engagement is a priority for the STP membership and they truly enjoy mentoring their future colleagues. This is evidenced by the numerous awards and events held for students throughout the meeting. Nine students received competitive Travel Awards to attend the meeting, including an international student as well as those from the United States. A student/trainee mixer was hosted by the Career Development and Outreach Committee (sponsored by EPL, Inc.) where pathology textbooks and even an antique microscope were raffled off to student attendees! On Tuesday students and mentors participated in an EPL, Inc. sponsored Strayboats scavenger hunt throughout downtown Indianapolis (requiring many ‘urea-ka’ moments to solve the clues)! The activity came to a dramatic conclusion when a thunderstorm swept many participants in to the downtown venue where the group celebrated with awards and rehydrated with much-needed refreshments.

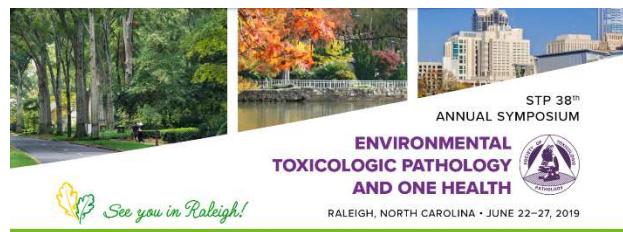


*One of the routes Strayboats sent Team Renal Failures on through downtown Indianapolis. Apparently the Warehouse District is quite large!*

At the awards ceremony Nancy Everds, DVM, DACVP, a former STP President, was awarded the 2018 STP Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the society as well as the field of toxicologic pathology. The 2018 STP Distinguished Early Career Award recognized Danielle Lewis Brown, DVM, DACVP, DABT. Danielle is well-known for her expertise in stereology and image analysis as well as her contributions to numerous STP committees. Jack Harkema, DVM, PhD, DACVP, of Michigan State University was selected as the 2018 recipient of the STP Outstanding Mentor Award. Dr. Harkema has served as a mentor to undergraduate, graduate, medical, and veterinary students during his tenure. In 2016 the Daniel Morton and Laura Dill Morton Scholarship was established to award an outstanding student/trainee with an interest in toxicologic pathology. The 2018 recipient was Greg Krane, DVM, DACVP of North Carolina State University. Rebecca Kohnken, DVM, PhD, DACVP of The Ohio State University, received the 2018 IATP/STP Charles Capen Trainee Award for her paper, “Diminished microRNA-29b level is associated with BRD4-mediated activation of oncogenes in cutaneous T-cell lymphoma”. STP seeks nomination of exceptional colleagues for their diverse array of awards – please consider nominating those that are deserving of this consideration.

Environmental Toxicologic Pathology and One Health is the focus of 2019 STP Symposium to be held from June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Raleigh, North Carolina. The meeting is strategically positioned at the confluence of the Research Triangle Park (RTP), premier educational institutions, and delicious BBQ restaurants. I highly recommend a food excursion to explore regional differences between Eastern and Western Carolina BBQ.

Don't forget to submit your abstracts and encourage students and residents to apply for travel awards – applications are due March 30th!



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## 16<sup>th</sup> ESTP Congress September 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Copenhagen, Denmark

From September 11 to 14, the 16th European congress of Toxicologic Pathology was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, the beautiful city of One Thousand and One Bicycles.



Novo Nordisk was the impeccable host for the international attendees who, once again, responded to the invitation of the European Society of Toxicologic Pathology.

The scientific and local organising committees, chaired by Ingrid Sjögren, Mikala Skydsgaard and Kevin Keane succeeded in delivering a comprehensive and topical program dedicated to “Adipose tissue and Central nervous system in Metabolic and Neurodegenerative diseases”.

On Tuesday morning, the International Academy of Toxicologic Pathology workshop started this educational week. It addressed the evolutionary topic of non-clinical safety assessment of stem cell based therapies. Five sessions were then combined in the ESTP scientific program over 3 days of congress.

The introduction was presented by Albert Gjedde with the keynote lecture on metabolic syndrome in the brain. It emphasized the putative causality between insulin resistance and some neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer’s disease.

The *biology* of adipose tissue (*white, bright and brown!*) and central nervous system was featured with up-to-date presentations. The functionality of the so-called lipid rafts, the role of fat-associated lymphoid clusters, the development and metabolism of bone marrow adipose tissues or the glymphatic clearance of the brain are a few examples of the tackled themes.

The vast topic of *toxicological pathology* of metabolic and neurodegenerative diseases (ND) was relevantly tightened with discussions on specific diseases, such as Parkinson’s disease (*from gut to brain*) or Type III diabetes in ND, and specific focus points (the role of adult neurogenesis in

brain aging and ND, the regulatory role of apelin, etc.). Several speakers clarified the histopathology terminology (INHAND updates on primates and rabbits) and gave illustrated examples of microscopic findings for these conditions in non-clinical species. Not to forget as well, the entertaining case presentations illustrating real life scenarios and questionings. The use of animal or in vitro models in toxicology testing was well covered in their variety, their translational heterogeneity and was the object of a constructive regulatory debate.



*Chirukandath Gopinath Lecture Award given to Dr Brad Bolon*

*Investigative methods* for evaluating lipids (lipidomics), adipose and nervous tissues were featured all along but were also addressed in dedicated presentations on targeted sampling and analyses methods.

At tea times, gathering with colleagues and friends, discovering sponsors’ news or exploring the variety of the poster themes was as delightful as tasting one of those buttery Danish pastries...

To sum up, this 2018 edition will be reminded as another successful meeting: Tak! Thank you!

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## Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology XXVI - Announcement -

For many of us, the “Classic Examples” in Hannover are an important date in the calendar: it is the first important scientific meeting and the first occasion in the year to meet colleagues and friends. Our next slide seminar “Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology” will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 15 and 16, 2019. As in the past, it will be jointly organized by the Hannover Graduate

School for Veterinary Pathobiology, Neuroinfectiology, and Translational Medicine (HGNI) and the Department of Pathology of the University of Veterinary Medicine in Hannover and the ESTP. It will take place at the Department of Pathology of the University of Veterinary Medicine in Hannover, Bünteweg 17.

Examples of toxicologic pathology will be presented and discussed by the participants. Our preliminary program for this year includes presentations on the following topics:

BTK-inhibitors  
T-cell bispecific antibodies for cancer immunotherapy  
STING agonists  
Isolated chicken eye test  
Thyroid gland pathology – direct and indirect mechanisms  
Autotaxin inhibitors  
PEG 400  
Immunoprotective medical devices  
Synthetic amorphous silica  
Intrathecal antisense oligonucleotides

During the seminar, the participants will have the possibility to examine the lesions by themselves: We will provide microscopes for all participants. Sixty sets of glass slides will be provided for in maximum 120 participants. In addition, all slides to be shown, and also those from which the full set of recuts cannot be prepared, will be digitalized and demonstrated with a beamer during the seminar. Registrants will have on-line access to the digital slides some weeks prior and after the seminar.

Join us for an informal get-together in the Foyer of the meeting venue on Friday evening after the end of the last session. We will provide finger food and drinks which are covered by the registration fee.

Registration for the seminar is possible via the ESTP homepage (<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/meetings/index.php?id=class&sexamp2019>) by January 31. At the ESTP homepage you will also find useful information regarding accommodation

The organizers

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