



## European Society of Toxicologic Pathology e.V.

Minutes of the Annual General Assembly held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016, 5-7 pm  
Barcelona, Spain

49 members attended (plus 10 executive committee members)

- 1. Welcome and introduction**

The meeting was opened timely by the chairman, Jenny McKay, who welcomed the members to the meeting. She stated that the invitation was conforming to the constitution and had been made timely, and thus the assembly had a quorum.
- 2. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved by the membership and the Executive Committee (EC).
- 3. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Assembly, 2015, Guildford/Surrey**

The minutes from the Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Guildford/Surrey 2015 were approved by the assembly and the EC.
- 4. ESTP Highlights and Achievements of Past Year (Report of Executive Committee)**

The outgoing chairman Jenny McKay presented the ESTP highlights and achievements of the past year to the membership.

Firstly, she thanked EC members for their excellent work. The achievements and highlights were part of three main categories: the Journal, educational activities and communication within the profession.

She reminded that in 2015, the membership had voted for the affiliation to the journal Toxicologic Pathology (*ToxPath*). This was followed by intensive discussions with the STP, BSTP and the journal editors. Jenny announced that in this AGA the journal strategies and consequences on the membership fees would be discussed. She presented our councillor Annabelle Heier as the contact person for journal matters within the EC.

One main educational activity in the past year has been the work with INHAND, RITA and SEND with the aim of international harmonization of toxicologic pathology data. The seminar “Classic Examples of Toxicologic Pathology” and the Annual Congress are the two main meetings held in order to distribute information among the community of toxicologic pathologists. Furthermore, the ESTP supported the ECVP/ESVP Summer School financially and gave a presentation of its activities. Finally, webinars were held regularly i.e. statistics, image analysis and stereology with the Pathology 2.0 group, and the ESTP International Expert Workshops and 2 adversity webinars have been a great success.

Jenny thanked the EC members involved in the educational activities.

- 5. Pre-Circulated Report of the Executive Committee**

Annual reports of the councillors and committees had been pre-circulated by email to the membership, together with the invitation to the AGA.

The membership granted approval for the work of the executive committee (for: 49; against: 0; abstention: 0).
  
- 6. Report of Scientific Organizing Committee and Local Representatives**

This year's scientific organizing committee consisted of 18 members, it was co-chaired by Anna-Lena Frisk and Thierry Flandre. Neus Prats Costa and Jordi Aluma Grau acted as local representatives in the comitee.

The topic of this year's congress is "Adverse or Not Adverse – Assessment and Consequences". Scientific sessions of the congress are dedicated to organ systems, as well as a regulatory expert panel and presentations concerning translation to human, clinical pathology and adversity and innovative tools and techniques, the latter organized with the Pathology 2.0 committee. Out of 29 speakers, 10 will give interactive lectures. In addition, 4 case presentations, 31 posters and 2 interactive posters will be presented. In total 169 participants from 28 countries have registered to the congress; 97 of which are ESTP members, 65 non-ESTP members, and 7 students.

Immediately preceding the main congress, an IATP Satellite Symposium has taken place, which was attended by 59 people.

Most registrations had been received in June, before closure of the early registration period with reduced fee, this corresponds to the experience of previous years. The three most represented nationalities this year were Germany, France and Switzerland; followed by the USA and Japan.

The preliminary budget of this year's congress looks well balanced. The income from delegate fees has so far reached 61,440.00 € and sponsoring and exhibition fees add up to 43,030.00 €. The expenses sum up to 106,556.00 €. The society can therefore reasonably expect a balanced final budget.
  
- 7. Questions & Answers: Pre-Circulated Reports of Committees and Councillors**

Previous to the meeting the membership had received the reports of the committees and councillors. No questions were asked during the AGA.
  
- 8. Financial Report**

The financial report was presented by the outgoing treasurer Matthias Rinke.

There are currently 303 society members, from 25 countries, and comprising 4 honorary members and 18 members paying a reduced fee (student and retired members). The annual membership fee for 2016 has already been paid by 245 members until the date of the AGA, 54 payments are still pending. Matthias mentioned the surprisingly high

number of job advertisements (14 open positions) placed on the website.

Besides the congress, which should be neutral in cost by the registration fees and sponsorship received, this year, expenses of the society are mainly the support of the Summer School, the last Expert Workshop, the maintenance of GoReni and INHAND, the survey on our profession and additional costs of this congress. Additionally, the running bank charges, secretarial help with minute writing, and running costs of the website add to the expenses.

The credit of the ESTP account on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 was 29.288,94 €. The balance on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016 was 87.512,25 €.

**9. Report of the Auditors (Exoneration of EC)**

Due to sudden illness, Wolfgang Kaufmann had not been able to perform the financial audit in time. Agnes Schulte confirmed that she had checked all balance sheets and confirmed the adequacy of the financial presentation, which is a true view of the society's treasury. She confirmed that she had found the accounts in excellent order and recommended their acceptance.

The assembly accepted the accounts by vote (for: 49; against: 0; abstention: 1) and approved the activities of the board. The EC has herewith been exonerated.

Matthias emphasized that it had been a pleasure for him to work on the EC for so many years. Nevertheless, being no longer active in his profession, he felt it was time to hand over his duties to a younger treasurer who is actively involved in our profession. He especially expressed his gratitude to Rupert Kellner, our councillor for electronic communication, whom he thanked for his excellent technical support.

The chairman thanked Matthias warmly for his longstanding service on the EC.

**10. Confirmation of Auditors**

The chairman thanked the auditors for their work.

The assembly approved of the continuation of Wolfgang Kaufmann as an auditor. As Agnes Schulte wishes to discontinue, Pierre Maliver volunteered to act as auditor and was approved by 49 votes, against 0 objections and 1 abstention.

**11. Strategy for Society Journal Subscription**

Jenny presented the strategy for the society journal subscription and the considerations which were taken into account. The ESTP has committed to STP to "buy" at least 80 copies of the journal, and this number determines the relative representation of the ESTP on the journal's editorial board. By a short membership survey this summer, the EC had gained a better view of the member's wishes concerning options for the journal subscription. It appears that the number of 80 copies can be reached easily. In the survey, 169 members opted for the printed journal, 57 members opted for the online journal only, and 74 members do not wish to receive the journal, probably due to dual or triple membership.

The EC proposes therefore, that, starting with 2017, each individual member will choose one of the options for journal subscription which will be added to a basic membership fee. For administrative reasons, invoices will have to be sent out and fees need to be paid early in the year, in order to receive the journal.

The following proposal for 2017 fees also tries to align to the fee strategy of the BSTP and STP, and to encourage environmental-friendly

paperless journal subscription:

	Full member	Student member or retired member
Sole membership	80,00 €	35,00 €
Membership + online access to journal	130,00 €	85,00 €
Membership + printed journal (incl. online access)	170,00 €	125,00 €

As next steps, the journal should be available online from October onwards, and printed journals should then also be received by those members who asked for it.

Finally, Jenny also asked the membership to use *ToxPath* as the first choice journal for publications.

The assembly endorsed the new membership fees including the costs for the *ToxPath* Journal by the following vote: for: 49; against: 0; abstention: 1.

**12. Society Journal: Editorial Work and Future Projects**

Susanne Rittinghausen is the ESTP representative as associate editor in the *ToxPath* editorial board and briefly presented the work that is carried out by the journal.

She informed the assembly that the editorial board is chaired by Susan Elmore (editor-in-chief) and holds monthly teleconferences. Among 54 qualified editors from the STP, BSTP and ESTP on the editorial board, 6 represent the ESTP. In 2015, eight journal issues were published, including a special issue on the 33<sup>rd</sup> NTP satellite workshop. Future special issues will cover the topics: Clinical Pathology (2017), Nanotoxicology (2018), and Medical Devices (2019).

*ToxPath* gratifies yearly awards for one original article and one review article per annum, which are presented at the STP annual meeting.

**13. Results of Electronic Elections to Executive Committee**

Rupert Kellner presented the results of the electronic election of EC members, which took place from 30<sup>th</sup> May until 10<sup>th</sup> July 2016, and the results of which had been announced by email to all members after the end of the election period. 113 ESTP members submitted their vote:

The following nominees were elected or confirmed by re-election (in brackets: votes for/against/abstention):

Position	Name	Votes (for/against/ abstention)
Designated chairman	Dr. Anna-Lena Frisk	69/1/6
	Dr. Franck Chanut	37
Vice chairman	Dr. Lars Mecklenburg	97/1/15
Secretary	Dr. Gabriele Pohlmeier-Esch	105/1/7
Treasurer	Dr. Kuno Würsch	94/1/18
Councillor for representation at IFSTP	Prof. Dr. Johannes Harleman	88/4/21
Councillor for digital (tele-)pathology	Dr. Thierry Flandre	92/1/20
Councillor to represent University Teachers	Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Baumgärtner	94/2/17
Councillor for the younger generation	Dr. Annabelle Heier	96/0/17
Councillor for electronic communication	Dr. Rupert Kellner	98/1/14
Councillor for Classic Examples	Dr. Thomas Nolte	105/1/7
Councillor for Nomenclature	Dr. Susanne Rittinghausen	104/0/9

Dr. Franck Chanut, second candidate for the position of designated chairman, was not elected (for: 37 votes).

Sibylle Gröters, who had been elected as designated chairman at the council elections 2014, automatically took over the position as chairman according to the constitution.

Jenny McKay, according to the constitution, retired as chairman and becomes past chairman without election.

Past chairman Dr. Frédéric Schorsch stepped also back and is now no longer member of the executive committee.

All elected persons accepted the vote.

The new executive committee is therefore composed of: Sibylle Gröters (chairman), Lars Mecklenburg (vice chairman), Anna-Lena Frisk (new designated chairman), Gabriele Pohlmeier-Esch (secretary), Kuno Würsch (treasurer), Johannes Harleman (councillor for IFSTP), Thierry Flandre (councillor for digital pathology), Wolfgang Baumgärtner (councillor for university teachers), Annabelle Heier (councillor for the

younger generation), Rupert Kellner (councillor for electronic communication), Thomas Nolte (councillor for Classic Examples), Susanne Rittinghausen (councillor for nomenclature).

#### **14. New Members**

The secretary presented the list of 17 new members. All of them are recommended for membership by the EC as they fulfil constitutional criteria.

All of these new memberships were approved by the assembly.

The new members are (in the order of entry date):

- Peter Hall
- Preethne Böser (granted a one year free membership)
- Renaud Fleurance
- John Eighmy
- Petrina Rogerson
- Stefanie Lapp
- Brent Marvin Witgen
- Charline Alleaume
- Karine Egebjerg
- Nikolai Krüger Jensen (student member)
- Terry Martin
- Laura Boone
- Alexandra Deviers
- Daniela Emrich
- Kevin Keane
- Catherine Thirion-Delalande
- Enrico Vezzali

#### **15. Proposal/ Nomination of Representatives for Sister Societies/Other Bodies**

Prior to the AGA, the secretary had asked sister societies to nominate their representatives within ESTP. The following representatives had been re-nominated by the societies:

Erio Barale-Thomas (SFPT)  
Peter Hall (BSTP)  
Eveline de Rijk (Dutch society)  
György Selenyi (Hungarian society)

#### **16. Election/ Ratification of Representatives**

The representatives named above were confirmed by the assembly by unanimous vote.

**17. Report on ESTP International Expert Workshops**

On behalf of the organizing team, Gabriele Pohlmeier-Esch presented further achievements of the 4<sup>th</sup> ESTP International Expert Workshop “Adversity”

After the face-to-face (F2F) workshop, posters had been presented at the STP, ESTP and JSTP meetings in 2015, and two webinars had been organized and co-sponsored by the STP, ESTP, BSTP and SFPT, with altogether 12 presentations. The results and recommendations of the workshop were endorsed by all major societies and published in *ToxPath* (August 2016).

For the ongoing 5<sup>th</sup> Workshop “Adversity of Lysosomal Accumulation”, Barbara Lenz has joined the organizing team, together with Gabriele Pohlmeier-Esch, Wolfgang Kaufmann and Xavier Palazzi. This workshop comprises 23 international experts and members of the ESTP. After eight preparatory telephone conferences with a total of 16 presentations, the F2F workshop will take place as a satellite event after this year’s congress, at the congress venue. Posters and a publication are planned.

The workshop organizers wish to receive some feedback from the membership, in order to better plan workshops for the future.

**18. Survey about Toxicologic Pathology in Europe**

Erio Barale-Thomas presented the main results of the demography and salary survey which was conducted to gain an overview of the situation of our profession in Europe. The survey was conceived and evaluated by Lars Mecklenburg and him, with the professional support by a statistician. A detailed evaluation will still be carried out and the results then be made available to the members.

There was a short discussion about confidentiality of the results, and the executive committee will discuss this question at the next teleconference.

A publication of the results is also planned, and it was found important to re-conduct such a survey at regular intervals and in close coordination with other societies in the field.

**19. Presentation of 2017 Cutting Edge Meeting in Lyon, France**

As co-chair of the scientific organizing committee 2017 (together with Catherine Botteron), Franck Chanut presented the plans for next years’ congress which will take place in Lyon, France from 30<sup>th</sup> August until 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017. It will be a joint “Cutting Edge” meeting with the ESVP and ECVP:

Pierluigi Fant is the chair of the Local Organizing Committee. He presented the congress venue. Lyon is situated in the south of France and easy accessible from all European airports. The meeting will be held at the Catholic University of Lyon, and the topic will be “Translational Science in Drug Development”. As usual, the program will include an INHAND session, IATP seminar and joint keynote lectures. Subtopics still need to be determined in co-operation with the other societies.

**20. Any other business**

Thomas Nolte announced the next seminar of Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology, which will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Currently, options are evaluated whether a SEND workshop could be organized on the Friday morning. A RITA meeting will precede the seminar.

The first steps towards organization of the 2018 annual congress in Copenhagen are underway. Brent Marvin Witgen and his colleagues from Novo Nordisk offered to take a significant part in the local organization.

At the end of the meeting, Jenny, as leaving chairman, presented her best wishes to Sibylle Gröters for her presidency. The new chairman Sybille Gröters, in turn, thanked the leaving chairman and treasurer for their excellent work in the service of the society.

The meeting was closed timely.

Gabriele Pohlmeier-Esch  
Secretary, ESTP

Jenny McKay  
Chair, ESTP