

European Society of Toxicologic Pathology e.V.

Minutes of the Annual General Assembly held on 15th September 2022, 12.30-14.00 pm
(CEST), Maastricht

The participants list was not archived.

1.	Welcome and Introductory Remarks	The meeting was opened timely by the chairperson, Franck Chanut, who welcomed the members to the meeting. He stated that the invitation was conforming to the constitution and had been made timely, and thus the assembly had a quorum. The recording of the AGA to facilitate minute writing purposes and the deletion of this file after its use was announced.
2.	Approval of the Agenda	The Secretary Emmanuelle Balme had circulated the agenda to the membership prior to the AGA, according to constitution. The agenda was approved by the membership and the Executive Committee (EC).
3.	Approval of Minutes of Annual General Assembly, 2021	Prior to the AGA the minutes of the Annual General Assembly 2021 (virtual) had been circulated to the members by the Secretary Emmanuelle Balme. There were no comments or questions and the minutes were approved by the assembly and the EC.
4.	Report of the Executive Committee: ESTP Highlights and Achievements of Past Year	<p>The chairperson, Franck Chanut, presented the ESTP highlights and achievements of the past year to the membership.</p> <p>He mentioned that one main point was the transition to normality as during his term the ESTP has mainly been working remotely. The meeting in Maastricht is the first full face-to-face meeting after a virtual meeting in 2021, a virtual Classic Examples and many new online webinars, now reoccurring opportunities of training. The new tool Microsoft Teams is used for different working groups to organize themselves and it also hosted the Workshop on Clinical Pathology in April.</p> <p>Since this year the ESTP works with Pauwels, a professional congress organizer from Maastricht, who has created a new website which links all meetings from the ESTP, ESVP and ECVP. In order to coordinate between the board and Pauwels a new councillor position will be proposed to the members, the Congress Councillor. This will also create continuity between the SOC's.</p> <p>The society has been involved in two INHAND publications, and another was handed in by the group organizing the 8th International Expert Workshop. The Pathology 2.0 Committee has been revived and became active in various subgroups. <u>Publications are also to be expected there.</u></p> <p>Examples for the international collaboration realized through the ESTP are the webinars, which are organized in collaboration with the BSTP, SFPT and ESVP/ECVP. Apart from that, the presidents of all tox path societies meet at least three times per year, the next meeting being hosted by the ESTP just after this AGA. Apart from that, Franck will present the activities of the society to the Korean Society of ToxPath at their annual meeting to strengthen the link with Asian societies. The</p>

		<p>board has decided to propose to remove the position of Councillor of International Collaboration as this is being provided by other bodies of the society.</p> <p>A surprise to Franck was that the new communication tool, the LinkedIn account, is mainly used by senior toxpathologists. In general announcements, job advertisements and news from the ESTP are published there. It has in total 305 followers.</p> <p>Finally, he informed that the board had, on recommendation of the award committee, decided to award two professionals for their excellent publication and thesis.</p>
5.	Questions & Answers: Pre-Circulated Reports of Committees and Councillors	<p>Prior to the meeting the membership had received the reports of the committees and councillors by email. Franck presented a short, written statement made by the chairs of each committee. The highlights are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nomenclature: The INHAND non-rodent manuscripts for nonhuman primate and rabbit have been published. The manuscripts for nomenclature of fish pathology and non-rodent ocular pathology are in preparation. - Pathology 2.0.: The committee has organized a presentation for the Congress in Maastricht to show the goals and tasks of each subgroup. This will be combined with a presentation of the survey results of the <u>"AI: how it impacts the life of a pathologist"</u> subgroup. - Awardss: The ESTP Publication Award goes to: F. Romero-Palomo et al. Safety, Tissue Distribution, and Metabolism of LNA-containing Antisense Oligonucleotides in Rats. Toxicologic Pathology, 2021, 49(6), 1174-1192. The ESTP Thesis Award goes to: Vanessa Vrolyk - Postnatal ocular development in laboratory animals: A histological and immunohistochemical study, 2022. - Councillor for the Younger Generation: The society has increased its support to the ECVP/ESVP Summer School: ESTP sponsored lecture, one ESTP presentation on career opportunities in ToxPath, ESTP sponsored fingerfood get-together with ESTP representatives. An Early career pathologists' network will be launched in Maastricht. <p>No questions were asked.</p>
6.	Report of the SOC and Local Representatives	<p>As co-chair of the scientific organizing committee 2022 Eveline de Rijk presented the work of the LOC and SOC of the congress. The LOC is made up of herself, Anna-Lena Frisk, Ankie Lambregts and Melissa Czajkowski. She thanked them for their excellent work.</p> <p>She presented the scientific programme, which consists of the IATP Symposium including 4 lectures and one panel discussion; three lectures on general histopathology; two Extended One Generation Studies lectures and one panel discussion; five lectures on Human Pathology and Hormone-related Pathology; three lectures on the Mammary Gland; one lecture on Carcinogenicity; six lectures on New techniques and Alternative Models; three lectures on Endocrine</p>

		<p>Disruption; two Mystery Cases and one lecture on Fish Pathology. A total of 17 posters were submitted.</p> <p>The congress was accompanied by various side meetings and a social programme. The following awards were presented: the Chirukandath Gopinath Award (BSTP), the Maronpot Guest Lecture Award (IATP), SFTP Best Poster Award, the ESTP Best Publication Award and the ESTP Thesis Award. As a gesture towards the presentation of an endometriosis patient, the ESTP will donate 1400 EURO to the European Endometriosis League (preferably for the endometriosis training program).</p> <p>Eveline informed the members that there were in total 145 participants including the speakers, members and non-members. 41 attended the IATP Symposium. The current budget is higher than expected thanks to the generous sponsorship.</p> <p>The preliminary expenses were estimated at € 114,619.57. The main costs consist of the location, organization of the congress, social programme and speaker support. The estimated income is € 129,750.10 from the registration and sponsorship. In total € 50,590.10 was received from registration fees and € 79,160.00 from sponsorship, resulting in a profit of € 15,130.53.</p>
7.	Financial Report and Membership Fees	<p>The financial report was presented by the treasurer Kuno Würsch, it included a report on the year 2021, an update on 2022 and a financial outlook on the budget for 2023.</p> <p>The main activities of 2022 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the years 2019-2021 Kuno made the tax submission with support of the tax consultant Confidia. • The ESTP has opened a new bank account in order to avoid negative interests. • Classic Examples and the Expert Workshop were two very successful meetings. • The virtual meeting in 2021 created a surplus. • The administrative support from Amy is appreciated by the EC. • Stripe is resulting in being the main payment platform although bank transfers are still being made. Especially for payments from outside of the EU it is very attractive. <p>The surplus in 2021 was € 1,319 despite the fact that a deficit of € 7,000 was calculated. It was not foreseen as the pandemic influenced the events and, therefore, the financial situation of the society. Two other incomes were higher than expected: More job advertisements than calculated were posted and the Classic Examples created a higher income. Higher costs than expected were created through the webinars and the IT infrastructure. As in the past, the surplus will be used to build up reserves for the INHAND and the Classic Examples.</p> <p>The financial report of the account on the 31st December 2021 stated that the current amount on the account was € 167,731.00. This account is separate from the congress account.</p> <p>The financial update for 2022 (11th September 2022) stated an amount of €183,356.00 (surplus of € 41,197.00) on the account. The revenue</p>

		<p>of the journal is a special case as the invoice is sent irregularly, not yearly. The budget of 2022 will be higher than expected and the society will be able to build reserves, which will be needed because of the inflation and they allow the society to function well.</p> <p>For 2023 Kuno is planning a deficit of €2,500 and also allocating reserves for e.g. workshops and webinars. The congress in Basel will create a deficit as it is an expensive location.</p> <p>Demographics and Statistics:</p> <p>There are currently 318 society members from 25 countries including 7 honorary members and 22 members paying a reduced fee (student and retired members). 273 have already paid for 2022 (38 have not paid yet). Open fees for 2021 are 19, 9 are behind for 2020 and 5 for 2019. Five members have not paid for more than three years and will be written off.</p> <p>The EC proposes maintaining the current fees (regular fee € 80 and reduced fee € 35).</p> <p>There was one comment from the membership underlining the importance of expenses. Kuno referred to the webinars which are offered free of charge and the fact that virtual events made participation rise and costs reduce. The inflation will lower the budget of the society automatically and the Classic Examples anniversary and the congress in 2023 will be higher than in past years.</p>						
8.	Report of the Auditors	<p>Six weeks prior to the AGA the society auditors Wolfgang Kaufmann and Pierre Maliver had received all balance sheets from 2021. Wolfgang confirmed that they had found the accounts in excellent order and recommended them for acceptance by the membership.</p>						
9.	Votes: Exoneration of Executive Committee	<p>The membership granted its approval for the acceptance of the financial report.</p> <p>The membership voted for maintaining the current fees (regular fee € 80 and reduced fee € 35), so the fee will not change for 2023.</p> <p>The membership granted its approval for the work of the executive committee. The EC has herewith been exonerated.</p>						
10.	Confirmation of Auditors	<p>Franck thanked the auditors for their work. The assembly approved of the continuation of Wolfgang Kaufmann and Pierre Maliver as auditors.</p>						
11.	Results of Electronic Elections to ESTP Executive Committee	<p>Emmanuelle Balme presented the results of the electronic election of Executive Committee members, which took place from 27th of June until 8th August 2022. The results had already been announced by email to all members after the end of the election period. 98 ESTP members had submitted their vote.</p> <p>The following nominees were elected or confirmed by re-election (in brackets: votes for/against/abstention):</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Position</th><th>Name</th><th>Votes (for/against/)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Position	Name	Votes (for/against/)			
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		Designated chairman	Dr. Vanessa Schumacher	89/1/8														
		Vice chairman	Dr. Lars Mecklenburg	91/0/7														
		Secretary	Dr. Raffaella Capobianco	90/1/07														
		Treasurer	Dr. Kuno Würsch	89/1/8														
		Congress Councillor	Dr. Anna-Lena Frisk	90/1/7														
		Councillor for Digital Pathology	Dr. Lise Bertrand Dr. Robert Klopffleisch Dr. Pierre Maliver Dr. Patricia Neves Dr. Elizabeth Neyens	42/1/8 10/1/8 25/1/8 8/1/8 4/1/8														
		Councillor to represent University Teachers	Dr. Ingo Gerhauser	78/6/14														
		Councillor for the Early Career Pathologists	Dr. Simone Tangermann	85/0/13														
		Councillor for Electronic Communication	Dr. Rupert Kellner	93/0/5														
		Councillor for Classic Examples	Dr. Thomas Nolte	92/0/6														
		Councillor for Nomenclature	Dr. Ute Bach	89/0/9														
		She thanked Rupert for his support in the elections. She thanked all candidates for running as candidates and their willingness to share their expertise and time for the benefit of the ESTP.																
12.	New Members	The secretary presented the new members. All of them were approved as members by the EC as they fulfil constitutional criteria. The new members are (in the order of entry date): <table><tr><th>Name</th><th>Entry Date</th></tr><tr><td>Olivier Blanck</td><td>29.11.2021</td></tr><tr><td>Sigrid Johannes</td><td>29.11.2021</td></tr><tr><td>Laura Setyo</td><td>01.02.2022</td></tr><tr><td>Shanon Seger</td><td>23.02.2022</td></tr><tr><td>Virginie Piccicuto</td><td>08.04.2022</td></tr><tr><td>Ricardo de Miquel</td><td>08.04.2022</td></tr></table>			Name	Entry Date	Olivier Blanck	29.11.2021	Sigrid Johannes	29.11.2021	Laura Setyo	01.02.2022	Shanon Seger	23.02.2022	Virginie Piccicuto	08.04.2022	Ricardo de Miquel	08.04.2022
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13.	Proposal for Honorary Members	<p>Dirk presented Susanne Rittinghausen as a candidate for honorary membership. She has not only been in the board as councillor for Nomenclature but also for the “Guess What” Committee, published in total 80 publications as author and co-author and worked in the early stages of the harmonisation of terms in a data base. On a global level, she has been heavily involved in INHAND, chairing the respiratory group. Apart from this enthusiastic involvement, she is a lecturer at the veterinary school in Hannover teaching postgraduate students, focussing on toxicologic pathology and laboratory animal pathology.</p> <p>Silvia had the joy to present Thomas Nolte as candidate for honorary membership. He has strongly contributed to the profession of Toxicologic Pathology, authoring more than 50 papers, among which one is the INHAND monograph on the rodent GI track. He has also contributed to two INHAND papers and several best-practice papers. He has consistently raised visibility of the European toxicologic pathology through his participation at numerous NTP Symposia. His greatest achievement is that he has chaired and single-handedly organised the Classic Examples for over 15 years. Beforehand he was already behind the scenes, creating a unique workshop.</p> <p>Emmanuelle also contributed to recommending him as an honorary member, focussing on his amazing expertise and personality: He always welcomes one with a smile and warm gesture and is extremely supportive, patient, modest and eager to share knowledge. She thanked him for making a difference in her career.</p> <p>The membership expressed its approval for granting the honorary membership status to Thomas Nolte and Susanne Rittinghausen.</p>												
14.	Presentation and Vote: Amendments to ESTP Constitution	<p>Emmanuelle presented the proposed amendments to the paragraph 7 of the ESTP Constitution regarding the executive committee. These had been circulated to the members prior to this AGA with the invitation.</p> <p>These amendments were discussed extensively in the EC and it realised that there was some need to update the names and roles of the board positions.</p> <p>The amendments, concerning §7: Executive Committee, proposed for vote were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- to delete the position “Councillor for International Collaboration”- to change the name of the “Councillor for the Younger Generation” to “Councillor for Residents and Early Career Pathologists”- to add the position “Congress Councillor”												

		<p>The assembly voted by majority vote for the proposed amendments to the ESTP constitution.</p>
15.	<p>Proposal and Ratification of Representatives for Sister Societies/ Other Bodies</p>	<p>Prior to the AGA, the secretary had asked sister societies to nominate their representatives within ESTP. The following representatives had been renominated by the societies:</p> <p>French Society: Béatrice Gauthier</p> <p>Dutch Society: Eveline de Rijk</p> <p>Hungarian Society: György Selenyi</p> <p>British Society: Zuhail Dincer</p> <p>The assembly approved the above-mentioned societies as sister societies of the ESTP.</p> <p>The representatives named above were confirmed by the assembly by unanimous vote.</p>
16.	<p>ESTP International Expert Workshops</p> <p>- Update on 8th Workshop "IT Aspects of Digital Pathology in Nonclinical Safety"</p> <p>- Update on 9th Workshop "Assessment of Toxicological Relevance of Clinical Pathology Changes"</p>	<p>- Update on 8th Workshop "IT Aspects of Digital Pathology in Nonclinical Safety"</p> <p>Julie Boisclair outlined the development of this workshop: The idea for the 8th workshop had started at the congress in Köln because there was a lack of information on "IT Aspects of Digital Pathology in Nonclinical Safety". During 14 telephone conferences, which were attended by 45 multidisciplinary experts, members from the ESTP from 17 different pharmaceutical companies, 2 CROs and the European HA agency, very interesting discussions were held, which concluded in a publication in the summer of 2022. A workshop with 180 participants had taken place in November 2020.</p> <p>- Update on 9th Workshop "Assessment of Toxicological Relevance of Clinical Pathology Changes"</p> <p>Gabi informed the membership that apart from additional aims, the two main goals of the workshop were to better align the positioning of clinical pathology findings in reports and regulatory documents according to their biological and/or toxicological importance and discuss the inconsistent utilization of terms such as "biological relevance" and "toxicological relevance".</p> <p>The expert panel of the workshop had a dedicated Microsoft Teams workspace and held 12 monthly videoconferences, which started in March 2021 and in which 16 subtopics were presented. In April 2022 a two half-day interactive virtual seminar was held with more than 170 participants. Posters were presented at the STP and ESTP meeting and the group is currently preparing a publication.</p> <p>The main outcome was that there is not one formula or method which can be applied to all descriptive decisions for clinical pathology. Nevertheless, lively discussions and the overwhelming interest in the interactive seminars underscored the importance of the topic and workshop. Consensus definitions of the terms "biologically relevant" or "toxicologically relevant" were not achieved. The group agreed that any use of terminology used to convey the importance of a finding</p>

		would need additional substantiation or context as these terms, when used in isolation, are vague and lack clear meaning.
17.	Report of SOC and Presentation of 2023 ESTP Meeting in Basel (Switzerland)	Josep Monné Rodriguez (Roche) presented the LOC co-chaired by Enrico Vezzali (Idorsia), Kuno Würsch (Novartis) and himself. The preliminary congress topic is “Emerging Therapeutic Modalities: Gene and Cell Therapies, New Generation Biologics Targeted Protein Degradators”, and the scientific organizing committee with 27 participants held its first meeting on 29 th August 2022. The congress venue will be the Hyperion Hotel in Basel. The expected expenses are € 170,000 incl. VAT. Major risks which are being considered are the inflation and recession.
18.	Vision for the Society	<p>Silvia presented the activity within this task force, which had been started by Franck, giving a short overview of the current vision of the society to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect man against harmful effects of drugs or agrochemicals - Promote the profession and influence regulators - Support scientific research and new technology - And provide continuing education. <p>She thanked those who had participated in a recent survey and the task force meeting at the congress. She underlined the importance of reviewing the vision and mission of the society in a rapidly changing business, scientific and technological environment and invited volunteers to join the initiative.</p>
19.	Announcement: Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology XXX	Thomas Nolte announced the next seminar Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology XXX which is scheduled for March 17 th and 18 th , 2023. He informed the membership that the anniversary dinner is planned to be held at the Hannover Zoo. For 2024 the seminar will be held on a Thursday and Friday, this was not possible for 2023.
20.	Any other Business	There were no additional questions by the membership.
21.	Transfer of Responsibility to new Chairman and End of Meeting	<p>Franck expressed his pleasure to have been the chair of the ESTP. Silvia feels it a privilege to serve as a chairwoman in such a fantastic international organization.</p> <p>Both, Franck and Silvia, thanked Gabi Pohlmeyer-Esch and Emmanuelle Balme for their fantastic work done in their position as Secretary. Silvia also thanked Franck for his excellent leadership in the past two years.</p>

Secretary, ESTP

Chairperson, ESTP