ESTP Newsletter 2024 (1)

Editor Amy Narewski

(ESTP contact link: https://www.eurotoxpath.org/contact.php)

Administrative Assistant to the ESTP EC

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| **2024**                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| **April 26-27**                                                         | Toxicologic Pathology Training Program, Module "Skin and Special Senses", sponsored by ESTP (online and Hannover, Germany) [LINK](#) |
| **May 23-24**                                                           | SFPT Annual Scientific Meeting: practical, strategic and emerging roles of the pathologist in advancing 3Rs (Saclay, France) [LINK](#) |
| **June 16-19**                                                          | STP 43rd Annual Symposium, Innovative Therapeutics: Biology, Toxicologic Pathology and Regulatory Perspectives (Baltimore, Maryland, US) [LINK](#) |
| **July 1-3**                                                            | RITA Panel Meeting (-online) [LINK](#) |
| **July 9-8**                                                            | BSTP: Virtual Continuing Education Symposium 10 “Urinary System“ (online) [LINK](#) |
| **August 28-31**                                                        | 5th Cutting Edge Pathology Congress (ESTP, ECVP/ESVP), Neuropathology: The vast Pink Wonderland (Spain) [LINK](#) |
| **November 14-15**                                                      | BSTP ASM “Development Toxicology and Pathology” (date and place to be confirmed) [LINK](#) |
| **November 25-27**                                                      | RITA Panel Meeting (online) [LINK](#) |
Dear ESTP members,

The new year is well under way. In 2024, we have again hosted two events in Hannover: one instalment of the postdoctoral course in toxicologic pathology (GI module), and the 31st instalment of the Classic Examples. At the latter, we welcomed 110 participants from around the world to an intriguing program including far flung topics like intravitreal medical devices, GalNac targeted siRNA and -old but ever challenging – sex hormone receptor modulators. The presentations were followed by intense discussions!

Directly following the Classic Examples, the ESTP EC met for its traditional March F2F meeting. We continue important strategic work which will pave the way to bringing young talent into the ESTP leadership, improving our outreach to the European regions and ensuring a strong pipeline of scientific contributions. A special thanks here to our working groups like Pathology 2.0 and Digital Pathology, who continue to be very active and productive!

Another important point is a legal review and update of our constitution, which is in the works. The EC frequently reminds me of a swan: it seems to glide serenely across the water but is paddling furiously below the water line! I am looking forward to updating you on our progress at the AGA, which will be held as a virtual event in September.
The reason for a virtual AGA is the Cutting Edge Pathology congress in Spain in August. With three organising societies, we had to limit the number of AGAs that members could and should attend in person.

The congress itself is now quickly approaching, and I would like to remind all of you who intend to come to register and secure one of the scarce hotel rooms! El Escorial is charming and attractive, and as a result hotel rooms are booking out very quickly. The program (focusing on neuropathology on the ESTP side) already looks exciting. Please also keep your eyes open for LinkedIn posts on new developments in this field!

I hope to see many of you in El Escorial! Until then, all the best!

Silvia Guionaud
ESTP Chairwoman

**ESTP Pathology 2.0 working group**

“Complex in vitro models & Pathology” underline the importance of collaborative efforts when characterizing complex in vitro models of the use in toxicology - updates from the MPS World summit Berlin and ESTP congress in Basel 2023

The ESTP&STP working group “Complex in vitro models (CIVM) & Pathology” organized a session called “MPS for Pathology” at the 2nd Microphysiological Systems (MPS) World Summit in Berlin, June 2023 and several members were attending the ESTP congress in Basel, Sept 2023. The working group presented a poster on the activities and purpose of the working group. Nadine Stokar (Roche) presented scientific insights in her talk called “Pathology readouts of complex in vitro models in safety assessments”. Luisa Bell (Roche) received the Best Poster award of the congress, sponsored by the SFPT! Congratulations to Luisa Bell for her poster on “Histology guided engineering and characterization of complex in vitro model of blood-brain barrier for efficacy and toxicity in drug development”.

The MPS World Summit congress was organized by the John Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT) and the European Organ on a Chip Society (EUROoCS) and attracted over 1300 MPS experts from academia, regulatory agencies, pharmaceutical, chemical and cosmetics industries as well as MPS platform technology leading companies. The session was moderated by Lindsay Tomlinson (Pfizer), Nadine Stokar (Roche) and Julia Kühnlenz (Bayer), featuring five talks highlighting the importance of integrating pathology into the development of optimization of CIVM and application in drug development. Danilo Tagle (CAAT, NIH) opened the session, stressing the importance of collaboration across disciplines for CIVM advancement. Luisa Bell (Roche) presented her PhD work on blood-brain barrier organoids readouts for efficacy and toxicity testing. Randolph Asthon (University of Wisconsin) introduced the novel platform Rosetta™ technology, which uses morphological screening to identify risk factors in the human brain and spinal cord development. Tomomi Kiyota (Genentech) presented Renal Proximal Tubule-on-a-Chip, outlining challenges and advantages in using the model in drug development. Samy Aliyazdi (Helmholtz...
Institute for Pharmaceutical Research, Saarland) showcased his PhD project on 3D-printed hair follicle model for studying nano-antibiotics. For his excellent talk, Samy received the young investigator award of the congress!

The session was well attended and was able to underscore the critical role of pathologists expertise and tissue technology / image analysis in collaborative teams (i.e. with bioengineers, biologists, toxicologist and others) in assay development, validation and applying morphologic readouts to the novel CIVMs in drug development.

Basel, 02/29/2024, Nadine Stokar, co-lead ESTP & STP working group / SIG “Complex in vitro models & Pathology”

Speakers and Chairs of the Pathology session at the MPS World Summit Berlin 2023.

from left to right: Tomomi Kiyota, Samy Aliyazdi, Julia Kühlbenz, Randolph Ashton, Nadine Stokar, Luisa Bell, Danilo Tagle

Members of the ESTP & STP working group “Complex in vitro models & Pathology” at the ESTP congress in Basel. from left to right: Dirk Schaudien, Nadine Stokar, Luisa Bell

Submission process for manuscript that are solicited or supported by the ESTP

Authors: Annette Romeike (Chair of Committee of Regulatory & Scientific Standards) & Béatrice Gauthier (ESTP Toxicologic Pathology Journal Associate Editor)

The Committee of Regulatory & Scientific Standards (CRSS) and the Associate Editor in charge of the liaison with the journal of Toxicologic Pathology recently revised the
procedure for the review and submission of manuscripts, which was subsequently endorsed by the ESTP Executive committee. The document, comprising a flowchart for better overview was send out in an e-mail blast to all ESTP members, and provides very comprehensive information for authors.

**Background:** Since 2018, the CRSS and ESTP Council members had worked on an internal process to ensure correct categorization and review of ESTP supported high impact publications, to ensure harmonization of publication categories published in the Journal of Toxicologic Pathology and two ESTP SOPs were published. Shortly thereafter, ESTP, STP, and BSTP agreed in a Memorandum of Understanding on a common process for mutual information and review to ensure transparency and harmonized structure for high impact papers. Beginning 2022, Beatrice and Annette largely improved the process document regarding structure and clarity.

**Scope:** all manuscripts that are established in the scope of specific expert workshops, established by ESTP Committees, by other working groups comprised of ESTP members, or by individual ESTP members, and consequently are eligible for an ESTP banner when publishing in the Journal of Toxicology Pathology.

**Process:** As early as possible, the author/authors should contact the ESTP CRSS and ESTP AE liaison to confirm the foreseen category: ESTP Best practice, ESTP Expert workshop, ESTP regulatory responses, ESTP Point to consider, or ESTP Opinion Paper. Depending on the category, the review process and reviewing entities will differ as described in the decision tree below. The review process is driven by the CRSS committee and ESTP EC.

**Articles under ESTP banner are a great way to show case the dynamism and scientific excellence of the ESTP!**
Dear colleagues,

The ESTP Science Award is a recognition that ESTP gives every year to individuals for their outstanding contribution to the science of toxicologic pathology. This year, the ESTP board selected the awardee from the nomination list set by the scientific conference organizers of the BSTP Annual meeting, which was held in Verona on 15-16 November 2023.

I was honored to present the award to the ESTP member Magnus Söderberg! The choice was not easy because of the high level of scientific lectures.

Magnus is an MD pathologist, with extensive clinical experience mainly in renal and transplantation pathology from Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden, where he was also Head of the Pathology department between 2004 and 2009. He joined AstraZeneca in 2009, where he remains, currently in Gothenburg as Director and Lead of the pathology team supporting Cardiovascular, Renal and Metabolic disease. He is a member of ESTP and ESP. He received his PhD at Karolinska Institute and has published more than 60 peer reviewed articles, most in the field of renal pathology, toxicology and biomarkers.

The lecture he gave at the Annual BSTP meeting was entitled “Role of pathology in regenerative solid organ cell therapy strategies”. Magnus well outlined the new significant challenges and opportunities for how pathology is applied to ensure optimal efficacy and safety of new treatment modalities that use different cell therapies to reverse solid organ damage.

Congratulations to Magnus!

Raffaella Capobianco
ESTP Secretary

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2024 ESTP Publication Award – Call for Papers or Theses

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to ask you to submit papers and/or thesis on toxicologic pathology for this year’s ESTP publication award.

The European Society of Toxicologic Pathology (ESTP) was founded in 2002 to promote the importance of toxicologic pathology as an independent, specialized scientific area in Europe. To honor advancements in this field, impactful publications (either theses published in academia or papers published in a peer-reviewed journal) are annually awarded by the ESTP. We ask for nominations of impactful Theses or Publications in the field of toxicological pathology that were published throughout 2023 - 2024. Applications will be evaluated by the ESTP award committee, and the best submission will be awarded with 1.500 Euros. The 2024 ESTP Publication Award will be presented at the 21st annual meeting of the ESTP, which will be part of the cutting-edge
pathology congress in San Lorenzo de El Escorial (Madrid) Spain, August 28-31 2024. It is mandatory that the recipient attends the awards ceremony. The admission fee for this meeting will be waived and travel support will be provided, should this be required, according to ESTP travel guidance. The award recipient will be notified in July. The deadline for submission will be June 1st, 2024.

Please send your proposals to the head of the ESTP awards committee: Prof Dr. Johannes (Hans) Harleman via the ESTP contact link
Hans Harleman

The award committee:
Heike Marxfeld
Lars Mecklenburg
Matthias Rinke
Thomas Nolte
Régis Masson
Fernando Romero-Palomo

Announcement of SFPT congress 2024
Authors: Flavia Pasello dos Sants, Céline Thuilliez and Béatrice Gauthier

Dear ESTP members, we would like to invite you to the forthcoming annual congress of the French Tox Path Society (SFPT) on 23rd and 24th May in the brand new Servier’ s site in Saclay near Paris. The topic will be: ‘Practical, strategic and emerging roles of the pathologist in advancing 3Rs’. Selected speakers from industry and academia are from Europe, UK and USA and, all presentations will be in English. Moreover, the SFPT congress is always cozy with a friendly atmosphere, great buffets and dinner, don’t hesitate to come and join us!

In the first session - the practical roles of the pathologist in advancing 3Rs- , you will understand why the pathologist can help in advancing refinements for animal welfare. Then, the second session will give you strategic insights showing how the pathologist role is shaping the drug development plan. This session will include a round table around the impact of NHP shortage, the impact of stress and the potential role of pathologist in severity classification.

The last session will cover emerging roles with comprehensive talks about the ongoing European consortia and how they may change the game (digital pathology and virtual control groups), about the New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) in safety assessment, innovative in vitro models, fish models and the use of genetically modified animals in drug development.

The program is almost finalized, and practical details will be available soon: stay tuned!
Link to website: https://toxpathfrance.org/gen.php3?id_rubrique=131