Dear Readers,

We hope you enjoyed the Holiday Season and wish you the best of everything for the New Year! We are pleased to share with you quite interesting information and reports in this first issue of Euro-CNS news in 2016. We are excited and happy to announce that the organization of the upcoming European Congress of Neuropathology (July 6 – 9, 2016 in Bordeaux, France) is in a very advanced stage. The website with details on the program, registration, and abstracts is open. Please take a look at the promising program-at-a-glance to get an idea of the congress content. Euro-CNS is also proud to present its new European Fellow of Neuropathology (EFN): Dr. Maher Kurdi (Canada) passed the examination in October 2015 and may carry the title “EFN” from now on. The next European examination will take place from July 4 – 5, 2016, at the occasion of the Congress in Bordeaux. Prof. Michael Buckland wrote an informative and positive experience report on the Developmental Neuropathology Course (Amsterdam, October 2015), Dr. Marilena Alexianu reported on the autumn meeting of the Romanian Society of Neuropathology in Bucharest (November 2015) and the president of the British Neuropathological Society announces the Society’s Winter Meeting which will take place from March 2 – 4, 2016 at the Royal College of Physicians in London, UK.

Last but not least we would like to thank you for renewing your subscription to Clinical Neuropathology in the New Year. We hope that the Newsletters will be of added value.

With warm regards,
The Euro-CNS News Editorial team

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11th European Congress of Neuropathology (ECNP 2016)

We are delighted to inform you that the website of the 11th European Congress of Neuropathology is online. All details about the program, registration, abstract submission, accommodation, and more can be found on the following website: www.ecnp2016.com.

About the program: The scientific program covers many aspects of neuropathology and will interact with other areas of neuroscience. Plenary lecturers: Fred H. Gage (USA): “Induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC): new perspectives for neuropathologists?” Hiroko Ohgaki (France): “Hereditary tumor syndromes”. Erwan Bezard (France): “Are synucleinopathies prion diseases?”

Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte.

Cours du Chapeau rouge.
es? Experimental evidences”. Josep Dalmau (Spain): “Autoimmune synaptic diseases”. Maria Jao Saraiva (Portugal): “Familial amyloidosis”. Parallel sessions of symposia and workshops will provide key updates and debate on recent progress in diagnostic neuropathological practice and in other interactive scientific approaches. Abstracts submitted to the Congress will be selected for inclusion in these sessions where relevant. Several sessions on different topics will also permit a large selection of posters to be presented on this platform, and a 2-hour interactive slide seminar will be organized (you are invited to submit a case for this slide seminar – please see the congress website for details).

Registration and abstracts: Register at the early registration fee until April 1, 2016. The early fee for Euro-CNS members is 400 Euro. The early fee for non-members is 500 Euro. Trainees pay 250 Euro. A limited number of travel grants (450 Euro) are available, sponsored by Euro-CNS and the French Society of Neuropathology. All abstracts must be submitted by April 1, 2016!

Dr. Maher Kurdi, new European Fellow in Neuropathology (EFN)

The 9th examination for the European Fellowship in Neuropathology (EFN) was held on October 29 and 30, 2015 in Münster, Germany. It was the third time in Münster since the inaugural examination in 2007. The examination was hosted by Professor Werner Paulus at the Institute of Neuropathology. Professors Werner Paulus and Tibor Hortobágyi (Debrecen, Hungary), members of the
Euro-CNS Examination Board, selected the case material for the examination from the extensive archival and current resource available in the Institute and acted as primary examiners.

The only eligible candidate of this year was Dr. Maher Kurdi, who is completing his residency training for the FRCP Examination in Neuropathology at Western University in Canada. He obtained an overall mark well above the 50% pass mark. The Examiners’ report and Mark book were endorsed by all members of the Euro-CNS Board of Examiners and by the Euro-CNS Executive Committee. The examiners declared that they are satisfied that Dr. Kurdi is competent to practice independently as a diagnostic neuropathologist. Dr. Kurdi received the title “European Fellow in Neuropathology” and is now included in the Euro-CNS Register of EFN. The conduct of the EFN examination in general is described in detail on the Euro-CNS website.

Dr. Kurdi: “While I am completing my residency training at Western University in Canada for the FRCP Examination in Neuropathology, I also wanted a higher qualification that would be recognized as a reliable proof of the educational achievement. I had become aware of the European Fellowship in Neuropathology (EFN) and considered the intent of the qualification to be ideal for my purposes. The training I received in Canada was a good preparation for the examination and was supplemented by advice, drilling, and practice examinations from mentors familiar with European and British training. The practice examinations were particularly useful for creating an examination environment, especially in terms of learning time management skills. The EFN examinations were extremely well organized and the examiners were fair and highly professional. All the topics I encountered were things I would expect to find in a busy general neuropathology practice and so the examination appeared a very practical exercise. I am proud that I passed the EFN examination and I look forward to using the qualification in my career development. It was an experience that I would recommend to any Neuropathology trainee.”

Figure 1. Maher Kurdi, MD, EFN, Division of Neuropathology, London Health Science Center, Western University, London ON, Canada.

Report on the Developmental Neuropathology Course

Travelling for 48 hours on a plane to attend a 72-hour meeting on the other side of the world does not sound particularly smart or fun, however if you are attending a Euro-CNS course it may well be worth it. This is what I did for the Euro-CNS CME Training Course “Developmental Neuropathology”, from October 21 – 23, 2015, in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and I am pleased to report that it definitely was worth the effort.

I have always found Developmental Neuropathology to be one of the most challenging aspects of neuropathology practice. The Euro-CNS course brought together some of the most respected pathologists and other clinician/researchers in the field to provide a seminar series on all aspects of Developmental Neuropathology. The course began with excellent overviews of neuropathology techniques and normal brain development. Homa Adle-Biassette provided a very clear explanation of normal brain development which really set the stage for the lectures that followed. Jeffrey Golden gave three lectures on forebrain patterning defects, cell migration disorders, and cerebellar and brainstem malformations. All these were a wonderful mix of clinical and experimental information. A few of the other excellent presentations included Hans Goebel on metabolic disorders, Anders Olffors on mitochondrial disease, Charles ffrench-Constant on myelination, Marianna Bugiani on demyelinating diseases of childhood, Waney Squier on non-traumatic brain damage, and Colin Smith on traumatic brain damage.

The lectures were interspersed with slide sessions. The supplied histology was of a high standard, with both regular and large brain sections, and covered numerous unusual or rare conditions. These slide sessions give “real world” examples of many of the entities presented in the lectures, and the overall format of the course, with lectures interspersed with slide sessions on the same topics, is a powerful learning opportunity. I also caught up with old friends and made new ones from across the globe, which in a discipline as small as Neuropathology is very important. As usual, the organization of the course was impeccable.

Perhaps the most valuable aspect of the Developmental Neuropathology course, and every other Euro-CNS course I have attended, is the relaxed format. The lecturers were a “who’s who” of international experts in the field that were also happy to share their knowledge and experience over a coffee. The informal mingling with world renowned experts is something well worth traveling to the other side of the world for.

Submitted by
Associate Professor
Michael Buckland,
Department of Neuropathology at
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and
the Brain & Mind Centre at the
University of Sydney,
Sydney, NSW, Australia
Invitation to the 117th Meeting of the British Neuropathological Society

Dear Colleagues,

The next Winter Meeting of the Society will be held from March 2 – 4, 2016 at the Royal College of Physicians. This venue provides excellent facilities and a very convenient central London location. Proceedings will commence on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 2 with a Symposium entitled “Tau pathobiology and tau disorders” organized by Professor Johannes Attems, Newcastle University and Professor Steven M. Gentleman, Imperial College. There will be further updates on The Dorothy Russell Memorial lecture. On Thursday and Friday there will be a full program of talks and posters. The Society Dinner will take place on Thursday evening at the Royal College of Physicians. Please pass this invitation on to your colleagues who may be interested in attending as a guest of the Society. I look forward to welcoming you to the meeting. Website: http://www.bns.org.uk/next-meeting/

Professor Paul Ince, President of the British Neuropathological Society

Report on the Meeting of the Romanian Society of Neuropathology

On November 26, the Autumn Meeting of the Romanian Society of Neuropathology was held at the University Hospital Ciolentina, in Bucharest. The program consisted of the following lectures:

1) Multiple cerebral hemorrhages in a normotensive patient. Is the cerebral amyloid angiopathy the etiology? (I. M. Cojocaru, D. Stefanescu, V. C. Stefanescu, M. Alexianu – University Hospital Colentina);
2) Correlations among electromyographic, immunologic and histopathologic data in inflammatory myopathies (M. M. Negru, A. Bastian, M. Alexianu, R. Ionescu – Sf. Maria Hospital);
3) Histopathological aspects in acute neuromuscular diseases (A. Bastian, V. Mageriu, M. Alexianu, E. Manole – University Hospital Colentina);
4) Study of muscle lesions regression and associated inflammatory infiltrate in dysimmune myopathies consequent corticosteroid therapy (V. Mageriu, A. Bastian, M. Alexianu, E. Manole – University Hospital Colentina).

Because of very bad weather only 10 persons could attend the meeting: 6 neurologists and 4 pathologists. There are no changes in leadership. The Romanian Society of Neuropathology has 31 members across Romania, especially in University centers.

Submitted by Dr. Marilena Alexianu, Euro-CNS Councilor, Romania

Meeting Calendar

March 15 – 18, 2016, Aachen, Germany
European Basic Course in Neuropathology

June 1 – 3, 2016, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
CME Training Course “Forensic Neuropathology”.
www.euro-cns.org

July 2 – 6, 2016, Copenhagen, Denmark
Fens forum 2016
http://forum2016.fens.org/

July 6 – 9, 2016, Bordeaux, France
11th European Congress of Neuropathology (ECNP).
www.euro-cns.org

October 6 – 9, 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Editorial Team

Euro-CNS Events

– The next European Examination in Neuropathology will be held on July 4 and 5, 2016, in Bordeaux, France, at the occasion of the 11th European Congress of Neuropathology. We refer to our website for details: http://www.euro-cns.org/home/examefn/examination/
– European Basic Course in Neuropathology: a few seats are still available for this very popular course that is held from March 15 – 18, 2016, at the Institut für Neuropathologie, Universitätshilkinikum der RWTH in Aachen, Germany. Information on the Euro-CNS website: www.euro-cns.org
– The Euro-CNS CME Course “Forensic Neuropathology”, organized for the third time in collaboration with the Netherlands Forensic Institute, will be held from June 1 – 3, 2016. Information is available on the Euro-CNS website. Registration is open.

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