Euro-CNS Tumor Course – Reports

Course report by Marisol Ferrer, Argentina

“I am a pathologist from Argentina and very interested in Neuropathology. I learned about this course on the Internet, while I was looking for updated information concerning the classification of tumors of the CNS. I am really grateful for having had the opportunity to apply for a grant given by the International Society of Neuropathology; otherwise my attendance would not have been possible. Being able to attend the Euro-CNS Tumor course last October was an extraordinary experience for me. The event was well organized from the beginning until the end. Secretary Mrs. Astrid van Schendel was really kind and stayed in contact all the time, facilitating accommodation, transfers to and from the airport, and providing any other information needed. The course had a fluent program with highly academic content that covered updated topics and cutting-edge research, and also reinforced essential and basic aspects for the correct diagnosis of CNS tumors, identifying possible diagnostic errors which are relevant for daily clinical practice.

The lecturers were not only highly qualified but also very accessible, willing to teach and clarify doubts in a clear and practical way. I am deeply grateful for all the answers given by the speakers, especially to Prof. den Dunnen who provided me with additional training to expand a specific subject I am particularly interested in; and also to Prof. Tarik Tihan with whom I could share a difficult case I am dealing with in the laboratory where I work.

The course included a practical area to examine histological slides that were perfectly selected and interesting to study, as well as a booklet containing clinical and radiological data with representative pictures attached. At the beginning of the course, it was a pleasant surprise to receive at the beginning of the course the WHO Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System 2016 book, which was a very useful gift for consulting during the revision of the slides so as to reinforce some concepts.

There was also a social event consisting of a dinner party at the hotel where most of the participants were accommodated. It was a very nice evening where the camaraderie among us was strengthened. I was delighted with being able to talk to many of my colleagues and to realize that we were all over the world. We were all having a wonderful time.

I would definitely recommend attending this course. Not only because the organization and the academic contents were superb but most of all because all the organizers were experts on the subject as well as incredibly passionate, which made the course memorable.”

Submitted by Marisol Ferrer, MD, Pathologist, Grupo Oroño, Rosario, Argentina

Course report by Mahan Kouhsari, Hungary

“The course was very well organized. Regarding the WHO New classification in Brain Tumors, as the diagnosis of brain tumors in the field of pathology sometimes can be very controversial, it was really necessary for me to take this course to upgrade the data according to the latest WHO classifications. I will use the newly gained knowledge in my career to obtain a better aspect in differentiating brain malignancies and to improve my understanding of molecular mechanisms and the usage of new molecular techniques in the field.

The lecturers were from various countries and had a wealth of experience. We were provided with the very latest book of the WHO classification of Brain tumors and a very nice memory stick that included all the lectures of the course. We also received a high-quality case report book, and everyone had the chance to view the slides of the different cases under the microscope. We had a very nice lunch and coffee breaks each day. On the second evening, Euro-CNS had organized a brilliant dinner.

We conclude this introduction by wishing all our readers a very happy New Year!

With warm regards,

The Euro-CNS News Editorial Team
The first Joint-Meeting of the German Society for Neuropathology and Neuroanatomy (DGNN) and the Scandinavian Neuropathological Society (SNS) took place from September 22 to 24, 2016, in the Museum of Medical History in Hamburg. The venue, which once housed the Institute of Pathology and now features lecture auditoriums, exhibition rooms, and a large historical dissecting room (hosting the poster exhibition during this meeting) gave this congress a very special atmosphere linking the newest developments in neuroscience to the long history of experimental neuropathology. The program covered the broad spectrum of diagnostic and experimental neuropathology including neurodegeneration, neuroinflammation, neurooncology, and neuromuscular biology. Interdisciplinary lectures, panel discussions, poster presentations, and workshops enabled a lively exchange between young and experienced scientists, experimentally oriented researchers, and physicians. The concept of continuing medical education was brought to life in a pre-meeting where Carola and Anders Oldfors, Göteborg (Sweden), together with Christian Hagel, Hamburg (Germany), gave an interactive teaching course on muscle pathology and detection of tumor cells in cerebrospinal fluid.

The plenary lecturers in the field of neurooncology, given by leading experts such as Guido Reifenberger, Düsseldorf (Germany), Rolf Bjerkvig, Bergen (Norway), Stefan Rutkowski, Manfred Westphal and Ulrich Schüller, all Hamburg (Germany) and David Jones, Heidelberg (Germany), gave a good overview on the newest developments in genetic and epigenetic classification of brain tumors and novel therapeutic concepts. Tightly connected talks in the field of prion diseases and de-

Submitted by
Mahan Kouhsari,
2nd year Trainee of Neuropathology,
Institute of Pathology,
University of Debrecen, Hungary

at the Fletcher Hotel with an amazing atmosphere. In short, I should mention that attending the course brought major benefits to me, and I recommend this course to everyone who works in the field of pathology or neuropathology.”
mentia research provided an in-depth look at the molecular mechanisms and categorization of these diseases. The plenary lecturers were given by Adriano Aguzzi, Zurich (Switzerland), Manuela Neumann, Tübingen (Germany), Bart de Strooper, Leuven (Belgium), and Markus Glatzel, Hamburg (Germany). Further plenary speakers coming from the fields of neuromuscular biology and neuroinflammation included Anders Oldfors, Göteborg (Sweden), Joachim Weis, Aachen (Germany), and Trevor Owens, Odense (Denmark).

A panel discussion on novel sequencing methods in neuropathology between the human geneticist Christian Kubisch, Hamburg (Germany), the neuropathologists Joachim Weis, Guido Reifenberger, and the biologist David Jones with lively participation from the audience gave an impression on how high-throughput genetic and epigenetic techniques have already changed and will continue to change the diagnostic and research landscape not only in neuropathology but in biomedical diagnostic as a whole. The discussants agreed that this is a unique opportunity for neuropathology if adequately grasped.

Well known, highly-established, and junior scientists were honored with medals and prizes. The Jakob Medal, named after Alfonso Maria Jakob, the past director of the Institute of Neuropathology in Hamburg and known for his seminal discoveries in the field of neurodegeneration, was awarded to Isidro Ferrer, Barcelona (Spain). The Patrick Sourander Memorial Lecture, held in the honor of this Scandinavian neuropathologist who uniquely combined basic neurobiology and clinical investigations, was given by Rolf Bjerkvig, Bergen (Norway). Other prizes such as the Werner Rosenthal-
Prize for junior researchers and the Theodor-Schwann-Prize for research on neuromuscular diseases were awarded to Karin Steinbach, Geneva (Switzerland), and Carola Oldfors, Göteborg (Sweden).

More than 230 researchers from all over the world met and presented 40 oral communications and 52 posters. We would like to thank the Organizing Secretary, the speakers, the session and poster chairs, and all attendees. Following this very productive and scientifically stimulating meeting it was agreed by both societies that this first Joint-Meeting of the German Society for Neuropathology and Neuroanatomy and the Scandinavian Neuropathological Society will certainly not be the last Joint-Meeting between these two societies.

Submitted by Markus Glatzel, Institute of Neuropathology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany, and Bjarne Winther Kristensen, Department of Pathology, Odense University Hospital and Department of Clinical Research, University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark

EURO-CNS Educational Activities 2017

- CME Training Course in Muscle and Peripheral Nerve Pathology, Amsterdam, March 22 – 24, 2017
- CME Training Course in Neurodegenerative Diseases, Amsterdam, October 2017.
- European Examination in Neuropathology, Autumn 2017. Date and time will be announced.

Information on these events can be found on the Euro-CNS website: www.euro-cns.org
This photo “Oligodendrocyte” was modified for artistic purposes. Source: Del Rio Hortega. Title “Errant Oligodendrocyte”. First prize for most artistic photo at the Slide Seminar of the European Congress of Neuropathology, July 6 – 9, 2016, Bordeaux, France. Submitted by PD. Dr. med. José Rafael Iglesias Rozas, Tudela, Navarra, Spain.

June 3 – 6, 2020, Odense, Denmark
12th European Congress of Neuropathology
www.euro-cns.org

Editorial Team
Euro-CNS News
Johannes A. Hainfellner, e-mail: johannes.hainfellner@meduniwien.ac.at
Ilija Huang, e-mail: i.m.huang@amc.uva.nl
Ellen Gelpi, e-mail: ellen.gelpi@gmail.com
Website: www.euro-cns.org

Executive Officers of Euro-CNS
President Professor Anne Vital, Bordeaux, France
Vice President Professor Paul Ince, Sheffield, UK
Past President and Editor-in-Chief of “Clinical Neuropathology” Professor Johannes A. Hainfellner, Vienna, Austria
Secretary-General Professor Bjørne Winther Kristensen
Treasurer Professor Martin Lammens, Edegem, Belgium

Euro-CNS Councilors
The Council of Euro-CNS is composed of two representatives per member Society including the Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, and Editor of Clinical Neuropathology).

Austria: Johannes A. Hainfellner and Adelheid Wöhrer
Belgium: Patrick Cras and Martin Lammens
Bulgaria: Svetdalin Nachev
Estonia: Enn Jõeste and Andres Kulla
France: Anne Vital and Emmanuelle Uro-Coste
Germany: Manuela Neumann and Christian Mawrin
Greece: Estratios S. Patsouris and Penelope Korkolopoulou
Hungary: Tibor Hortobagyi and Gabor Kovacs
Ireland: Niamh Bermingham and Francesca Brett
Italy: Alessandro Simonati and Fabrizio Tagliavini
Latvia: Zane Jaumuktane
Lithuania: Inga Gudinaivičienė and Donatas Petroška
Poland: Beata Sikorska
Portugal: Mrinalini Honavar and Manuel Melo Pires
Romania: Marilena Alexianu and Emilia Manole
Scandinavia Denmark: Bjørne Winther Kristensen
Finland: Maria Gardberg
Norway: Bård Kronen Krossnes
Sweden: Elisabeth Englund
The Netherlands: Johan M. Kros and Dirk Troost
Slovenia: Mara Popović and Clara Limbaeck-Stokin
Spain: Miguel Angel Idoate and Alberto Rábano
Switzerland: Emikó Kovári and Markus Tolnay
Turkey (associated society): Büge Öz and Figen Söylemezoğlu
United Kingdom: Paul Ince and Ute Pohl