

## Euro-CNS Executive Committee

At the occasion of the Euro-CNS council meeting in Bordeaux, Johannes Hainfellner rotated off as president but will perform his duties as Editor for another 2 years. Anne Vital of Bordeaux, who had been vice-president for 2 years, was elected president (2016 – 2018). Paul Ince was elected as the new vice-president (2016 – 2018). Bjarne Winther Kirstensen, who had already been appointed as the incoming Secretary-General at the previous council meeting in September (Hungary), took over in full from Paul Ince as the outgoing Secretary-General. Martin Lammens will stay on as Treasurer for a few more years. Dirk Troost will rotate off as Chairman of the Educational Committee by the end of 2017, and Wilfred den Dunnen, his future successor, has been taking over various responsibilities from Dirk already. Tibor Hortobagyi will stay on as Chair of the Examination Committee.



## Society News

European Confederation  
of Neuropathological  
Societies

Dear Readers,

Until recently, we focused a lot on our European Congress of Neuropathology (ECNP 2016), but now we need to catch up a bit on other events. From its organizers, we received a detailed report on the Congress of the Italian Association of Neuropathology and Clinical Neurobiology, two participant reports on the Euro-CNS Forensic Neuropathology course, and a report on the meeting of the Romanian Society of Neuropathology. We will include a more detailed report on the ECNP216 in the next issue as well as on the Euro-CNS council meeting, which was held at the same occasion. If you would like us to include neuropathology news from your institute or country, please feel free to write us!

*With kind regards,*

*The Euro-CNS News  
Editorial team*

## 11<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Neuropathology

The 11<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Neuropathology was successfully held in Bordeaux, France, from July 6<sup>th</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup>. It was attended by 330 delegates. Five plenary lecturers contributed to the program as well as 44 symposium speakers. Of the 161 abstracts presented on-site, 37 were presented in special workshops, 47 as free communications (and as posters), and 77 as poster-only. We will include a detailed report in the next issue of Euro-CNS news!



Euro-CNS

## Euro-CNS Forensic Pathology course 2016 – reports

The third Euro-CNS course on Forensic Neuropathology was held in Amsterdam from June 1 to June 3, 2016, and was again very well attended. The 43 participants did not only come from Europe, but from all over the globe including Australia, Korea, New Zealand, the USA, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea. Ten had applied for a travel scholarship, and nine could be awarded. There were 14 lecturers.

### Participant report I

I am an ST3 registrar in forensic histopathology, and I attended the Euro-CNS neuropathology 2016 course at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam with the intention of gaining some basic insight into the common pathologies that I will encounter as a forensic pathologist: how to recognize these pathologies macro- and microscopically and guidance with appropriate sections to sample for histological assessment.

I had initially thought the course price was steep. However, once I engaged with the course, I was able to appreciate that this was indeed great value for money as all the lectures were delivered by high-quality speakers. I was given a USB device with all of the course material and a new neuropathology text book. Furthermore, histopathology slides were made available along with case histories to review in your own time. Each candidate had access to their own high-spec microscope, and these slides were shared between two candidates, which helped avoid any hoarding of slides by over enthusiastic candidates! There was something for everyone in the material covered in the course, and it appealed to me as topics were discussed in a manner that was appropriate for my level of training.

The refreshment facilities were fantastic as tea, coffee and biscuits were provided throughout the day and lunch on all 3 days. The dinner on both days was amazing, in particular on the second day in the Fletcher Hotel. The venue was very accessible

### Report from the

### Romanian Society of

### Neuropathology

We received the following report from our Romanian Councilor:

“I am glad to inform you that on May 12, 2016, we had the spring meeting of the Romanian Society of Neuropathology at the end of the XIV Romanian Congress of Neurology. The program included the following presentations: 1) Histopathological examination in neuromuscular diseases with cardiac involvement – presented by Dr. Alexandra Bastian, 2) Guillain-Barré syndrome or critical illness neuromyopathy, presented by Dr. Inimioara Cojocaru, 3) Endoplasmic reticulum stress – friend or foe in the pathogenesis of neuromuscular diseases, presented by Dr. Emilia Manole. There were 34 attendants.”

*Submitted by  
Marilena Alexianu,  
Euro-CNS councilor for Euro-CNS,  
Romania*

either from Amsterdam central (where I stayed), or there is a hotel nearby. Course attendees and speakers came from all parts of the world, including England, Scotland, Germany, the Netherlands, America, Australia, and New Zealand. It was a wonderful opportunity to socialize and network with some of the best in the field, and I would happily recommend this course to anyone and I will be returning for the next course.

*Submitted by  
Tamara McNamee,  
NHS, Dundee, Scotland*

## Participant report II

I had every reason NOT to attend this year's Euro-CNS Forensic Neuropathology Course: I was moving to a new city the following week, I was graduating from fellowship 2 weeks later, I had just purchased my first house, and I was three and a half months pregnant. However, I was encouraged, even urged, to go by several mentors and colleagues who had attended other courses in prior years and who had had wonderful, fulfilling experiences. Therefore, knowing that there really is not anything like this in the States, I registered for the course, begged my husband to travel with me, booked my plane tickets, and made the journey from Michigan, USA, to Amsterdam by way of Canada. And, wow, I certainly made the right decision! The course administrator, Astrid van Schendel, was even more delightful in person than over email – we had exchanged many, many emails! From start to finish, the course ran smoothly and was incredibly well organized. I was even handed a textbook as soon as I arrived – a nice surprise! The lecture topics ranged from neurotrauma to neurodegeneration, from cerebrovascular disease to infections. Each presentation was perfect in length – not too long and not too short

– so that even I, as jet-lagged as I was, could stay focused and engaged. There was always plenty of time for further discussion of

topics at breaks or during lunch. The presenters were knowledgeable and open to questions. Even the food was wonderful (even for someone with several dietary restrictions), and for that I must again thank Astrid!

The Forensic Neuropathology Course truly provided a worldwide glimpse into forensic neuropathology. I met attendees and presenters from all across the globe – people who had traveled just an hour or two and others who had longer journeys than I had. It was fascinating to see how many aspects of the field are so similar, while others are so much different. I actually attended the course with my cofellow from Michigan, and it was enjoyable to hear his perspective on the course as I reflected on my own.

I was even fortunate enough to spend a few extra days exploring Amsterdam and the countryside with my husband, which I highly recommend! It is truly one of the most beautiful, friendly, and clean cities that we have ever visited. We certainly hope to return in the future!

Overall, even though the Euro-CNS Forensic Neuropathology Course did not fall during the best time for me personally, I am so glad that I made the decision to attend. It was truly one of the best educational experiences that I have had during my career thus far. I certainly hope that I am able to attend another Euro-CNS course in the future.

*Submitted by  
Amanda O. Fisher-Hubbard, MD,  
University of Michigan, USA*

## Report 52<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Italian Association of Neuropathology and Clinical Neurobiology (AINPeNC) in conjunction with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the Italian Association for Research on Aging Brain (AIRIC)

The Congress took place from May 26 to May 28, 2016, in the center of the ancient Rome, near the Colosseum, in the beautiful Renaissance



Figure 1. Palazzetto Mattei is the home of the Italian Geographic Society, in the park of Villa Celimontana.

building "Palazzetto Mattei". Welcome speeches were held by the honorary president Prof. G. Bernardi, the Dean of Medical School Prof. O. Schillaci, and the President of the University of Rome Tor Vergata Prof. G. Novelli.

The congress was an interdisciplinary meeting between researchers who apply different techniques and methods to study structural changes and the molecular mechanisms of diseases of the central and peripheral nervous system and muscles. The participants were MDs specialized in neurology, neuropathology, and neuroanatomy as well as biologists and general pathologists. Such a multidisciplinary approach had been developed through joint sessions, organized with the Gruppo Italiano per lo Studio della Neuromorfologia (G.I.S.N.), Gruppo Italiano di Neuropatologia (GINP), Associazione Italiana di Miologia (AIM), Associazione Italiana di Neuroimmunologia (AINI), and Associazione Italiana per lo Studio sul Sistema Nervoso Periferico (ASNP).

### The plenary lecturers were:

- M. Bentivoglio, Verona (Italy): *Orexin neurons in the aging brain*.
- L. Parnetti, Perugia (Italy): *CSF biomarkers for synucleinopathy: State-of-the-art and future perspectives*.
- M. Pocciali, Rome (Italy): *Molecular pathogenesis of prion diseases*.
- C. Giannini, Rochester (USA): *Highlights from the updated (2016) WHO classification of CNS tumors*.
- A. Caricasole, Cambridge (UK): *Modulation of Huntington's post-translational modifications as candidate therapeutic target in Huntington's disease*.

Many sessions provided key updates and topics for debate on re-



cent progress in neurodegeneration, epigenetic, experimental neuroanatomy, neuro-inflammation, neuromuscular biology, and neuro-oncology. Abstracts submitted to the Congress were selected as slide presentations in the appropriate sessions or for poster presentation.

M. Melone (Napoli) organized the session “*Changes of the Circadian Rhythm and Neurodegeneration: Cause or Effects?*”. M. Bentivoglio (Verona) and A. Vercelli (Torino) organized the session “*The time course of neurodegeneration*”. G.L. Forloni (Milano) and A. Confalonini (Roma) organized the session “*Oligomers and fibrils in Alzheimer’s Disease*”.

F. Tagliavini and O. Bugiani (Milano) organized the session “*Proteinopathies and prion-like mechanisms*”. E. Scarpini and D. Galimberti (Milano) organized the session “*Tauopathies*”.

A. Fuso (Roma) organized the session “*Epigenetic factors leading to neurodegeneration*”.

L. Parnetti (Perugia) organized the session “*Synucleinopathy: heterogeneous neuropathology, neuroimaging, and biomarkers*”. G. Cenacchi (Bologna) and F. Giangaspero (Roma) organized the session “*Neuro-oncology up to date in diagnosis and therapy*”. E. Pegoraro (Padova) and R. Massa (Roma) organized the session “*Inflammatory myopathies*”. A. Schenone (Genova) and B. Giometto (Padova) organized the session “*Autoimmune diseases of the central and peripheral nervous system*”. F.R. Fusco (Roma) and A. Mauro (Torino) organized the session “*Young Researchers in Neuropathology*”.

A special mention deserves the presentation of Prof. D. Schiffer (Torino) “*Critical considerations on the recognition of markers in gliomas*”, summarizing his longstanding experience in neuro-oncology.

An exceptional case report entitled “*Subpial Hemorrhage: a diagnostic challenge*” was presented on platform by F. Di Lorenzo (Roma). The discussant was N.B. Mercuri (Roma).



Figure 2. Congress hall and participants on May 27.



Figure 3. Poster session hall on May 27.



Figure 4. The youngest presence in the congress hall.

Poster sessions: A. Martorana (Roma) managed the poster session “*Experimental Neuropathology*”. D. Galimberti (Milano) managed poster session “*Clinical and genetic studies*”, and G. Marcon (Trieste) managed the poster session “*From diagnosis to care*”.

#### Award “*Michela Morbin*”

O. Bugiani, N. Rizzuto, and B. Pollo commemorated Michela Morbin who recently passed away, emphasizing her high human and professional qualities as a neurologist and researcher. The “*Michela Morbin*”

award was assigned to G. Napoli and to R. Sabatino for the best oral and poster presentation at the congress: G. Napoli (Roma): *The ALS-associated microRNA-125b regulates microglia signaling and motor neuron death via classical NF- $\kappa$ B pathway*. R. Sabatino (Verbania): *A syngeneic rat model of polyclonal glioblastoma*.

#### Participants and acknowledgments

More than 140 researchers met from all over Italy and presented more than 50 oral communications and 30 posters. We would like to mention the efficiency of the Organizing Secretary

Barbara Frati and Matteo Burresi (CONVENTUR), and the high quality of food and drink service provided by “Pepe catering”. A welcome cocktail as well as ample coffee breaks and lunches were held in the delightfully landscaped park of villa Celimontana. Finally, we enjoyed the attendance of the proud young mother Emanuela Paldino, giving her slide presentation at the congress with her baby Daniele, most likely the youngest attendee in a scientific conference so far.

*Submitted by the organizers:  
Giuseppe Sancesario and  
Francesca R. Fusco  
Rome, Italy*

## Meeting Calendar

September 22 – 24, 2016, Hamburg, Germany  
Joint meeting of the German Society of Neuropathology and Neuroanatomy (DGNN) and the Scandinavian Neuropathological Society (SNS).  
<http://www.dggn-conference.de/>

September 28 – October 1, 2016, Niagara on the Lake, London/Ontario, Canada  
Meeting of the Canadian Association of Neuropathologists.  
<http://www.canp.ca/annual-meetings>

October 6 – 9, 2016, Erlangen, Germany  
International Summer School for Neuropathology and Epilepsy Surgery.  
<http://www.neuropathologie.uk-erlangen.de/>

October 6 – 9, 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
11<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Non-Motor Dysfunctions in Parkinson's disease and Related Disorders (NMDPD 2016).  
<http://nmdpd2016.kenes.com/>

October 12 – 14, 2016, Amsterdam  
Euro-CNS Neuropathology Course  
“Tumors of the Central Nervous System”,  
[www.euro-cns.org](http://www.euro-cns.org)

March 22 – 24, 2017, Aachen, Germany  
CME Training Course  
“Muscle and Peripheral Nerve Pathology”.  
[www.euro-cns.org](http://www.euro-cns.org)



Euro-CNS

March 29 – April 2, 2017, Vienna, Austria  
The 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Diseases and related neurological disorders.  
<http://adpd2017.kenes.com/>

September 23 – 27, 2018, Tokyo, Japan  
19<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Neuropathology, Tokyo, Japan

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