ICE/ECE 2012
15th International Congress of Endocrinology & 14th European Congress of Endocrinology

5–9 MAY 2012, FLORENCE, ITALY

On behalf of the International and European societies of endocrinology, we are pleased to invite you to ICE/ECE 2012.

It is a great pleasure to be hosting this prestigious joint meeting which will enable us to discuss the latest advances in endocrinology and will also provide an opportunity for participants to meet and network with colleagues from across the globe. Florence is the perfect venue, offering an elegant setting for what promises to be a very stylish programme.

Our joint programme is sure to be challenging and stimulating as we consider key topics of interest and concern. A faculty of over 400 esteemed colleagues will present lectures, workshops, expert sessions and debates covering a range of topical issues. The Programme Organising Committee (POC) have identified a clinical, a translational and a basic science strand throughout the programme and introduced a dedicated nurses’ strand. The full scientific programme is now available online at www.ice-ece2012.com. In jointly hosting the congress with the International Society of Endocrinology, ICE/ECE 2012 will see the number of sessions held at the congress increase significantly, offering a diverse range of subjects and ensuring that we truly meet our collective aim of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of endocrinology information and education exchange at an international level.

The scientific programme will be complemented by new data abstracts – we expect over 1500 to be submitted for the congress. Online abstract submission is now open and the deadline is 6 January 2012. Online registration and payment is also open and ESE members receive a reduced registration rate. Early-bird registration rates are available until 16 March 2012. The POC would also like to invite you to join the congress a day early to take advantage of one of the hands-on pre-congress courses available; proper medical writing and thyroid ultrasound. Early booking may be advisable because of limitations in the number of participants. For more information about these courses and full booking details, please visit the pre-congress courses page on the congress website.

ICE/ECE 2012, as a contrast to its setting in the historic city of Florence, will welcome the introduction of contemporary congress materials designed to enhance your attendance onsite. After the success of the personal programme planner and i-posters at ECE 2011 in Rotterdam, we will be providing both of these features again. Your attendance onsite. After the success of the personal programme planner and the introduction of contemporary congress materials designed to enhance your attendance onsite. After the success of the personal programme planner and i-posters at ECE 2011 in Rotterdam, we will be providing both of these features again. Your attendance onsite. After the success of the personal programme planner and i-posters at ECE 2011 in Rotterdam, we will be providing both of these features again.

The Summer School on Endocrinology was held in Bregenz, Austria in July. ESE is keen to support our young basic science members and therefore continued their collaboration in this basic science school. The 11th ESE Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology was held in Belgrade, Serbia on 22–24 September 2011 and was a great success under the organisation of Vera Popovic and her colleagues. Alongside the course, the ESE Executive Committee held its 25th meeting and continued their discussion on the implementation of the strategic review, with the vision statement: The European Society of Endocrinology exists to support research, education and patient care in endocrinology and it will continue to achieve this by promoting excellence in endocrine science and medicine and by providing public information on endocrinology.

Our members are at the heart of the Society and the Executive Committee is keen to invest as much as possible into various membership activities. I am therefore pleased to announce that our members will receive free online access to all ESE official journals – European Journal of Endocrinology, Journal of Endocrinology, Journal of Molecular Endocrinology and Endocrine-Related Cancer – upon payment of their 2012 membership. It is also worth noting that there is no increase to the membership fee.

In addition, we are making every effort to bring more basic scientists to attend the annual congress, and have now introduced 100 ESE Basic Science Meeting Grants worth €450. Nurses also now receive a reduced early-bird registration fee of only €100 and 3 nurses’ sessions during ICE/ECE 2012. See page 3 for details.

You will soon receive your membership renewal information and I urge you to renew in order to play your important role in our Society.

Finally, ESE is currently associated with 41 countries throughout Europe and its neighbouring countries. In order to create interaction and generate better knowledge of what is happening with our colleagues, in each issue ESE News will publish a statement by an executive of a National Society. We start with Greece, where European medicine really began with the pioneering work of Hippocrates of Kos (460–370 BC), physician during the golden century of Pericles. Professor Mastorakos, President of the dynamic Hellenic Society, was kind enough to write the article on page 2. The photograph shows where Hippocrates actually worked on Kos, in the Asclepeion, both a temple dedicated to Asclepius and a hospital or rather a healing place.

PHILIPPE BOUCHARD, ESE PRESIDENT

To keep up-to-date with all congress news we invite you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.facebook.com/EuropeanSocietyofEndocrinology
www.twitter.com/ESEndocrinology

If you are tweeting about the congress, we ask that you use #icece12 to allow interested parties to follow the feed of tweets about the meeting.
Young Active Research (YAR) update

Warsaw International Medical Congress for Young Scientists (WIMC) 2011

The Students’ Scientific Association of the Medical University of Warsaw in Poland organised for the 7th time the annual Warsaw International Medical Congress for Young Scientists (WIMC; 6–8 May 2011). The WIM congress is the biggest event for young medical scientists in Warsaw. Polish and international students, PhD candidates and young post-docs are invited to present their work during this event. The sessions are split into the respective medical research areas, including a 2 hour session on Endocrinology and Diabetes. For the second time, the organisers of WIMC invited a YARE representative to join this great meeting. Like last year, the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) generously supported YARE by fully taking over the travel costs of the representative.

This year, Dr Max Bielohuby was in the lucky position to visit WIMC and Warsaw. During the Endocrinology and Diabetes session, the audience could follow eight exciting talks and three poster presentations. A jury, composed of five established endocrine researchers from Poland and our YARE representative, evaluated each presentation and assigned scores for novelty of the topic, research design, methods and presentation skills. Based on the scores of all six jury members, the best presentations were chosen to receive a €200 travel grant. The travel grants are intended to enable young endocrine researchers who presented their work during the WIMC to join our next annual YARE meeting, taking place in Stockholm.

Thanks to the generous support of the Polish Society of Endocrinology (PSE), YARE was able to issue three travel grants. The three 2011 travel grant winners and the titles of their talks are:

1. Beata Szymańska, Medical University of Warsaw
   "Serum cortisol measurements are not helpful in assessment of glucocorticoid replacement in adrenal insufficiency"

2. Vadims Titovics, Medical Faculty of the Riga, Stradins University
   "Blood glucose level association with multiple organ distress syndrome severity and hospital mortality in intensive care unit patients"

3. Artur Dobrońak, Medical University of Warsaw
   "NET patients after Peptide Receptor Radionuclide Therapy – quality of life. Questionnaire based study."

Congratulations!

Once again, YARE would like to thank the ESE and the PSE for generously supporting this great event, enabling exchange between Young Endocrine Researchers throughout Europe!

DOMINIK M SCHULTE
YAR-ENDOCRINOLOGY BOARD AND ESE MEMBER

Hellenic Endocrine Society

The Hellenic Endocrine Society is a founder member of ESE and was established in 1963 by a small group of young doctors who had two things in mind: a) how to develop in their small country the art of a new, most promising discipline of medicine, endocrinology; and b) how to manage, with the poor means of communication, to keep pace with the continuing progress of knowledge.

Almost fifty years later the Hellenic Endocrine Society has more than 600 members, including endocrinologists specialising in all areas of the discipline such as diabetes mellitus, reproductive endocrinology, andrology, osteoporosis, paediatrics etc. The increased number of members has not, however, dissolved the original spirit of the society, the legacy for scientific merit, and the persistence of continuous education of the younger in the observing presence of the older.

To fulfil these goals the Hellenic Endocrine Society has built over the years a precise road-map with ever-increasing targets that are realised by dedicated councils and presidents. The national meeting is held in early springtime and includes, among others, presentations on hot points of the scientific actuality (clinical, translational and basic research) by Greek and invited speakers of known scientific and academic merit, and presentation of the research accomplishments of young Greek investigators. Furthermore, annual meetings are organised by the different sections of the society keeping up with the novelties of their fields. Finally, a set of prizes for innovative research in Greece as well as scholarships to young investigators for improvement of their science in renowned European centres are awarded annually.

Having accomplished this annual programme, 14 years ago the society launched its most ambitious plan, the publication of an international journal in endocrinology, in English, with an international editorial board. HORMONES, first published in January 2002, appeared in PubMed a couple of years later as a free-access peer-reviewed journal, and was honoured with its first impact factor (2.097) this year. It goes without saying that it is the pride of the society but it should be openly stated that a major part of its success is due to our European and international colleagues who wholeheartedly embraced this effort and assisted it with their advice and their work as reviewers, as well as authors of interesting original papers and reviews.

GEORGE MASTORAKOS
PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC ENDOCRINE SOCIETY

International Endocrine Scholars Programme (IESP) - 2012

Following the success of the 2011 ENDO ESE International Endocrine Scholars Programme (IESP), we are pleased to announce that the programme will continue in 2012.

The IESP is aimed at promoting the career development of young endocrinologists from around the globe by identifying talented young investigators and offering them an exceptional training experience. The purpose of the programme is to select highly qualified candidates who wish to gain training for a period of 2-3 years in an outstanding laboratory. The training focuses on laboratory-based research. Clinically qualified candidates could have an additional clinical observer status, if relevant, however, clinical training is not part of the program.

ESE will offer additional funding to support travel costs for preparatory visits and will offer support to a limited number of selected scholars for up to six months at the host laboratory in Europe. Further details regarding this funding and the criteria will be announced in due course. Full details of the IESP and application process can be found on the ESE website at http://www.euro-endo.org/education/iesp.aspx. The closing date for applications is 31 December 2011.

Follow ESE on Twitter at http://twitter.com/ESEndocrinology
Follow ESE on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/EuropeanSocietyofEndocrinology
Announcing new benefits for all ESE Members in 2012!

- ESE’s Executive Committee is continuously reviewing the benefits on offer to its members and is very pleased to announce the following new benefits to be introduced, with no increase in the membership fee, in 2012!

  - All ESE Members will receive free online access to all four of its official journals: *European Journal of Endocrinology, Journal of Endocrinology, Journal of Molecular Endocrinology* and *Endocrine-Related Cancer*.
  - The introduction of the ESE Basic Science Meeting Grants. ESE is making every effort to bring basic scientists to its annual meeting by the introduction of the ESE Basic Science Meeting Grant. There will be 100 grants of €150 each available to applicants to attend ICE/ECE 2012, who are members of ESE and are not more than 10 years post-PHD or MD, and are the first author of an accepted abstract. Proof of eligibility will need to be provided.
  - A reduced early bird registration fee of €100 for Nurses attending ICE/ECE 2012.

These new benefits will be offered together with the current range of benefits, which include:

- Reduced registration rates for ICE/ECE 2012, saving €300 compared with the non-member fee.
- Option to purchase preferential print subscriptions to *European Journal of Endocrinology, Journal of Endocrinology, Journal of Molecular Endocrinology* and *Endocrine-Related Cancer*.
- Tri-annual newsletter and regular email alerts with up-to-date news.
- Access to a web-based directory of European endocrinologists.
- Reduced registration rates for ESE courses in clinical and basic science.
- Prizes and awards.
- ESE Meeting Grant and *Journal of Endocrinology* Travel Grants.
- Voting rights and attendance at the Annual General Meeting.

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Membership fees for the 2012 membership year must be paid by 31 December 2011. Full details on how to arrange payment will be included in your renewal notice.

Amendment to the ESE Constitution

We would like to inform ESE members that, during the AGM held on 3 May 2011, it was agreed to amend clause 7.5 of the Articles of Association regarding proxy voting. The updated version of the ESE Constitution can be found via the About page of the ESE website.
The levels of peptide YY (PYY) produced by L cells is known to change in both anorexia nervosa and in obesity. Whilst high levels of PYY are known to be present in anorexia, the postprandial PYY secretion is blunted in morbid obesity. Somatostatin (somatotropin release-binding factor (SRIF)) has been shown to inhibit plasma PYY in animals and healthy humans; however the effect of an SRIF infusion on spontaneous PYY secretion in anorexia nervosa and obesity is unknown.

Rigamonti et al. conducted a study to determine the effect of an SRIF infusion on spontaneous PYY release in patients with anorexia nervosa, in the acute (A-AN) or recovery (R-AN) phases of the disease and in obese subjects. They found that elevated PYY secretion was unaffected by SRIF infusion in acute A-AN whilst in R-AN and obesity, an SRIF infusion inhibited plasma PYY levels. The authors speculate the existence of a hypo- and hypersensitive state of the L cells to the inhibitory effect of SRIF in A-AN and in obesity.