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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am very pleased to report that a liaison committee of senior members of the European Neurological Society met in January with a small team from the EFNS that for us was led by our Past President. It was a most friendly and fruitful meeting and its conclusions will be discussed at the meeting of our Management Committee in March. We hope to have a firm plan to place before Council and our members at our congress in Geneva on September 25, 2010. The plans are ambitious and look towards a joint meeting of the European Neurological Society and EFNS in 2015. It is not possible to achieve this goal earlier because both organisations have meetings booked in the intervening years, our own congresses being in Budapest in 2011, Stockholm in 2012, Istanbul in 2014 and the World Congress of Neurology in Vienna in 2013. A single neurological congress is something which is much desired by every individual European neurologist to whom I speak. Both the EFNS and the European Neurological Society have excellent annual congresses but the combined efforts of both organisations could make our annual congresses the best in the world.

One of our most important missions is to achieve high standards in neurological education throughout Europe. To coordinate our teaching activities our Management Committee has agreed to set up a Training and Education Committee which will oversee the activities of the existing committees or individuals which deal with training and educational matters: the Teaching Course, CME, e-learning, European Co-operation committees (including the EFNS Academy, Department-Department programme, Regional Teaching Courses and fellowship programme). The Management Committee has appointed Professor Jean-Marc Léger to be chair of this new Training and Education Committee.

The E-learning Committee under the Chairmanship of Professor Thomas Berger from Innsbruck is investigating setting up an e-learning programme for the EFNS. They are considering setting up a new programme or sharing the enormous e-learning programme already being designed by the British National Health Service. We have asked the European Neurological Society to help us develop the e-learning programme. We have not discovered any major programmes, in English, in any other country.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Congress in Geneva on September 25-28, 2010 – www.efns.org/efns2010 – organised by Professor Gian Luigi Lenzi, Chair of our Congress Programme Committee, and Professor Pierre Burkhard, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. I hope you will also have time to enjoy the miraculous scenery of the Swiss Alps. Their beautiful but shrinking glaciers are another reminder of the threat of global warming. Organisations like the EFNS need to consider what contribution we can make to dealing with this threat. This is not an easy task when one of our principal activities is an annual congress bringing together several thousand delegates from all over Europe and indeed the world. I shall be asking our office to look at ways in which we can reduce our carbon footprint. Our goal of having a single annual European congress would of course achieve major savings in carbon consumption. Our E-learning programme will certainly reduce the need for trainees and trained neurologists to travel to learn their craft but there is no substitute for meeting and enjoying each other’s company.

Richard Hughes
President of the EFNS
It is a great pleasure to introduce the recipients of the EFNS Fellowship 2010 (in alphabetical order):

**Scientific Fellowship:**

**Marcel Aries** from The Netherlands was selected for his project: *Optimization of cerebral perfusion pressure after traumatic brain injury* which he will carry out at the Academic Neurosurgery Unit, University of Cambridge, UK; chaired by Professor John D. Pickard

**Gunda Bence** from Hungary was selected for his project: *Whole brain histograms of ADC in CADASIL* which he will carry out at the Department of Neurology, Hospital Lariboisière, Paris, France; chaired by Professor Hugues Chabriat

**Senta Frol** from Slovenia was selected for her project: *Lesion probability maps as a tool to assess differential treatment response to Interferon-Beta, Glatiramer acetate and Natalizumab* which she will carry out at the Multiple Sclerosis Centre of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain; chaired by Professor Xavier Montalban

**Agata Gajos** from Poland was selected for her project: *Environmental modifiers of DYT1 dystonia - a case control study* which she will carry out at the Institute of Neurology, National Hospital Queen Square, London, UK; chaired by Professor Peter Brown

**Mansur Kutlubaev** from Russia was selected for his project: *Fatigue after stroke: does it have biological basis* which he will carry out at the Division of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Edinburgh, UK; chaired by Professor Peter Sandercock

**Katiuscia Nardi** from Italy was selected for her project: *Fronto-temporal connectivity: Influence of HDL-C cholesterol levels on outcome in patients treated by intravenous recombinant tissue plasminogen activator for acute cerebral ischaemia* which she will carry out at the Department of Neurology and Neurovascular Pathology, Hospital Roger Salengro, Lille, France; chaired by Professor Didier Leys

**Kristiina Rannikmae** from Estonia was selected for her project: *Genetics of brain microbleeds* which she will carry out at the Division of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Edinburgh, UK; chaired by Professor Peter Sandercock

**Juan Carlos Sanchez Manso** from Spain was selected for his project: *Usefulness of different autonomic tests in the diagnosis of postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome* which he will carry out at the Institute of Neurology, National Hospital Queen Square, London, UK; chaired by Professor Christopher Mathias

**Johann Sellner** from Germany was selected for his project: *Immunogenetics of herpes simplex encephalitis* which he will carry out at the Department of Neurology, Christian Doppler Clinic, Private Medical University of Salzburg, Austria; chaired by Professor Gunther Ladurner
Maria Stamelou from Germany was selected for her project: *Pathophysiology of genetic primary dystonias: DYT6* which she will carry out at the Department of Motor Neurosciences and Movement Disorders, National Hospital Queen Square, London, UK; chaired by Professor Kailash Bhatia

Due to the fact that some fellowship winners had applied for short term grants, the EFNS could select 10 instead of 8 Scientific Fellowships for 2010.

**Educational Fellowship:**

Sergiu Albu from Moldova was selected for his project: *Effectiveness of transcranial direct stimulation in the treatment of chronic neuropathic pain in spinal cord injury* which he will carry out at the Institut Universitari de Neurorehabilitació Guttman, Barcelona, Spain; chaired by Dr. Josep Muñoz

Marcio Neves Cardoso from Portugal, was selected for his project: *Training and clinical and laboratory research in neuromuscular diseases (Nerve excitability studies in hereditary neuropathies)* which he will carry out at the National Hospital for Neurology, Queen Square, London, UK; chaired by Professor Martin Koltzenburg

Maria Ester Coutinho from Portugal was selected for her project: *Clinical and serological training of the myasthenic syndromes* which she will carry out at the Oxford Myasthenia Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital, London, UK; chaired by Professor David Hilton-Jones

Rui Jorge Rocha Felgueiras from Portugal, was selected for his project: *Clinical training and investigation on stroke disorders* which he will carry out at the Stroke Prevention Research Unit, University of Oxford, UK; chaired by Professor Peter Rothwell

**NEUROLOGICAL PRIZE FOR BEST NORWEGIAN SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATION 2009**

The Pfizer Neuroscience Prize is awarded each year to the best scientific presentation by a Norwegian neurologist at one of two selected international congresses. The 2009 winner was Inger Marie Skogseid, Department of Neurology, Rikshospitalet University Hospital, Oslo, for her poster presentation at the 13th EFNS Congress in Florence, entitled *Good long-term efficacy of pallidal DBS for primary cervical and generalized dystonia: A prospective, single-blinded, single center study.*

The EFNS congress has been selected as a relevant congress each year, while the other is usually for a neurological sub-speciality. The number of presentations to be judged by the committee, which is appointed by the Norwegian Neurological Association, was 30 this year. The scientific quality of the original work presented is the most important factor, but the presentation skills are also evaluated. The prize constitutes 30,000 NOK (approximately 3,260 Euro). The intention of the prize is to stimulate high-quality scientific activity in Norwegian neurology.

Ellisiv B. Mathiesen, Norway
Associate Professor of Neurology
Prize committee chair
THE PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE TEACHING COURSES AT THE EFNS CONGRESS IN FLORENCE, 2009

At the EFNS Congress in Florence for the fifth time the profile of the teaching course participants was analysed. The organisers received a record number of filled in forms – 678. In 2008 (Madrid) 503 forms were received, in 2007 (Bruxelles) – 500, in 2006 (Glasgow) – 322, and in 2005 (Athens) – 219.

**Professional profile:** As at the previous congresses the majority of the participants were fully trained neurologists – 68.44%. At the same time an increase of the proportion of residents – 14.9% (from 5.77% in 2008) and students - 3.24% (from 0.8% in 2008) can be seen. 21.09% of participants had Ph.D.

**Age:** The participants of the TCs were from different age categories. The majority (30.09%) were between 41 and 50 years old.

**Gender:** The gender representation was almost equal with less than 2% female predominance (last year - 1% male predominance).

**Country:** The participants came from 70 countries. The majority of participants came from Turkey, followed by Sweden and Italy (in 2008 the majority came from Spain, UK and Switzerland).

**Primary specialty:** Neurologists – 85.55%. But the TCs were also attended by psychiatrists – 1.77%, neurosurgeons – 1.33%, physiologists – 0.74%, radiologists – 0.29% and others.

**How participants got to the congress and TCs:** The majority of the congress participants was sponsored by a company – 55.9%; followed by own means – 30.97%, EFNS bursary – 9.14%, bursary of their national society – 0.88%, etc. The participants got to the TCs mainly by own means.

**How did you learn about the Congress:** Most of the participants got the information via the website – 39.82%, EFNS newsletter – 27.29%, printed programme – 24.34%, colleague – 19.17%, advert in a journal – 7.82% etc.

**Future EFNS meetings:** The participants are happy with the already existing structure and organisation of the EFNS congress (see table). As usual they recommend reducing the registration fee (57% of participants). They also asked for increasing the amount of educational sessions (40%) and increasing inter-disciplinarity (31%).

Vitalie Lisnic

Member of the EFNS Education Committee

### December 

#### Appropriate %

<table>
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<th>What did you like about the Congress</th>
<th>38</th>
<th>19</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Registration fee</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational sessions</td>
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<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry representation</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinarity</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social events</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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We would like to thank everybody who has filled in the evaluation forms at the Florence congress. 10 persons out of those who had filled in the forms each received one registration to the EFNS Congress in Geneva, September 2010.

**The winners are:**

Alikmander Boika, Belarus; István Fekete, Hungary; Rui Felgueiras, Portugal; Yevgeniya Lekomtseva, Ukraine; Minna Linna, Finland; Kristian Nilsen, Norway; Dorota Religa, Sweden; Anett Schumacher, Germany; Giovanni Stefanin, Italy; Ioana Varga, Romania;

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**Table showing the decrease and increase of participants:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
<th>Appropriate</th>
<th>Increase</th>
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<tr>
<td>Registration fee</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social events</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
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</table>
DON’T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT YOUR WORK TO MORE THAN 4000 COLLEAGUES...

14th EFNS Congress, Geneva, Switzerland, 25–28 September 2010

Extended abstract submission deadline: 8 April 2010

Please submit your abstract via the congress website www.efns.org/efns2010

Bursary

The EFNS offers up to 200 bursaries consisting of free registration to the congress and four nights hotel accommodation to European neurologists under the age of 35 and whose abstract has been accepted.

The EFNS is pleased to inform that it is now also possible for young colleagues from EFNS Associate member societies (Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Syria) to apply for bursaries.

Details on how to apply for a bursary can be found on the congress website https://www.kenes.com/efns2010/Bursary/form.asp

EFNS Tournament of Young Neurologists

The tournament for young neurologists will take place at the EFNS Congress in Geneva. The tournament will be carried out in two groups, one on clinical related research, and one on basic neurological sciences.

Neurologists in training not older than 35 years are entitled to participate.

The Congress Programme Committee will select 6 candidates for each tournament group on the basis of the contents of the abstracts submitted. All persons selected will receive a bursary consisting of free registration to the Congress, up to four nights hotel accommodation, and a travel grant.

The winner of each group will receive the Uschi Tschabitscher Prize for Young neurologists consisting of: free registration at the 15th EFNS Congress in Budapest, 10-13 September, 2011, up to four nights hotel accommodation, a travel grant, as well as €1,000.

If you wish to participate, please browse to: https://www.kenes.com/efns2010/Tournament/form.asp

Teaching Courses

Please register well in advance for the teaching courses, since only a limited number of places is available.

In addition to the traditional teaching courses, there will be the following new TCs:

Teaching Course 17: Therapy in neurology I
Teaching Course 18: Therapy in neurology II
Teaching Course 19: Controversies in neurology

Sunday, September 26, 2010 15:30 – 17:00 h
Teaching Course 20: Free Teaching Course: How do I write a scientific paper?

Monday, September 27, 2010 15:30 – 17:00 h
Teaching Course 21: Free Teaching Course: Methods and their pitfalls in clinical science

Hands-on courses on clinical neurophysiology

Practical early morning breakfast sessions

Sunday, 26 September 2010, 07:30 – 09:00 h
Teaching Course 22: Hands-on Breakfast Seminar – practical course: Therapy in BPPV: all kinds of manoeuvres

Th omas Lempert, Berlin, Germany

Sunday, 26 September 2010, 07:30 – 09:00 h
Teaching Course 23: EMG – practical demonstration

Y ann Péréon, Nantes, France

Monday, 27 September 2010, 07:30 – 09:00 h
Teaching Course 24: Doppler sonography – practical demonstration

David Russell, Oslo, Norway

Tuesday, 28 September 2009, 07:30 – 09:00 h
Teaching Course 25: Nerve conduction – practical demonstration

Peter van den Bergh, Brussels, Belgium

Don’t miss the Scientific Raclette Dinner: The changing world of stroke on Sunday, September 26, 2010, 20:30 h

Chairperson and speaker: Vladimir Hachinski, London, ON, Canada

Limited space – early booking is recommended.
The EAYNT is an independent non-profit organisation with the main purpose of representing the interests of junior neurologists at the European level. Major activities include the exchange of information on educational and research opportunities in Europe and the interconnection of junior mates. Hence, we are actively involved in aiding clinical excellence and promoting careers of our members. Upcoming opportunities for our members include the nomination as a EAYNT representative to an EFNS scientific panel, recommendation as a poster session co-chair and the chance to apply for a travel grant.

We would like to invite you to attend our activities at the 14th EFNS conference in Geneva. During the traditional EAYNT special session you will get insight to our work and ongoing projects. Noteworthy, senior colleagues will give hands-on talks which we believe will change your clinical and scientific thinking. Most importantly you will have the chance to meet new friends from all over Europe at the session and at the subsequent social event. This is really an opportunity which you should not miss. Regular updates on our activities can be found on our web page at www.eaynt.org.

**EFNS-EAYNT Travel Grant Call**

The EAYNT invites their members to apply for travel grants to support their attendance at congresses in 2010. Fifteen travel grants, 175 Euro each, will be awarded to EAYNT members under the age of 35 who attend a neurology congress or summer/winter schools where they present their original work. Application forms can be found on our homepage; deadline is 31 May 2010.

**EAYNT Special Session at the 14th Congress of the EFNS in Geneva**

17:30-18:40 Sunday, 26 September 2010

**Chairs:** Laszlo Sztriha (London, UK) and Johann Sellner (Munich, Germany)

**Laszlo Sztriha** (President, EAYNT) and Martin Rakusa (President-elect, EAYNT): EAYNT present and future

**Jacques De Reuck** (Ghent, Belgium): A key to scientific literature - what he said and what he means

**Marianne de Visser** (Amsterdam, The Netherlands): Visions for pan-European subspecialty education

**Peter Schellinger** (Erlangen, Germany): What I would do if I were you - key issues for a career in clinical neurology

If you got interested in our activities, join us by simply filling in a membership application form on our web page (www.eaynt.org). Membership in the EAYNT is free! You will definitely benefit from this membership without taking any obligations. Do not wait any longer, come and join our family and remember to invite your fellow trainees as well. We would also kindly request all supervisors and mentors to tell their trainees about the EAYNT and encourage them to join this group.
EUROPEAN BOARD EXAMINATION IN NEUROLOGY

Deadline of application: 18 April 2010

UEMS – European Board of Neurology arranges the 2nd European Board Examination in Neurology during the 14th Congress of the European Federation of Neurological Societies on Friday, September 24th, 2010 in Geneva.

To be eligible to sit in the examination applicants have to be board certified by the respective national authority or have the national board certification eligibility confirmed by the respective national authority. Candidates are also eligible for the European Board Examination in Neurology if they fulfill all the conditions to sit for the particular national examination (if implemented) regardless of whether the candidate has yet taken this examination or not. Also the fulfillment of the conditions to sit for the national examination has to be confirmed by the respective national authority.

For the moment only candidates that are board certified or board certification eligible in an EU or EEA member country are allowed to take the examination. The maximum number of candidates is 40 selected on a first come first serve basis according to eligibility criteria fulfillment and necessary admission restrictions.

Taking into consideration the national approval of the candidates’ training, the examination is a three step approach:

1) national approval
2) written examination
3) oral examination

The written examination is a MCQ test consisting of 120 questions of which 75% must be answered correctly to pass before proceeding to the oral examination. In the oral examination 4 written case stories in regard to diagnosis and differential diagnosis, additional diagnostics and therapy are to be discussed by the candidate. Additionally and optionally he or she may present an own case history, scientific work or other own neurological achievements. It is an oral presentation only with no audiovisuels.

Successful candidates will be conferred to the title “Fellow of the European Board of Neurology”.

The European Board Examination in Neurology is an additional sign of excellence, but with neither legal consequences attached nor affecting the right to practice as neurologist in the EU or elsewhere.

Application can be done through www.uems-neuroboard.org from October 19, 2009 to April 18, 2010. The examination fee is €600 and has to be paid upon acceptance.

For details and registration please visit www.uems-neuroboard.org.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF NEUROLOGY

The following articles are available free of charge on https://www.efns.org/EFNS-Continuing-Medical-Education-online.301.0.html

Answer all questions correctly and you will receive one hour of CME.
This service is free of charge!


The first 3 persons will receive one copy of the handbook.

Winners will be notified by email and their names will be published in the next issue of the EFNS Newsletter.

We congratulate the winners of the last competition:

Peter Gray, UK
Antonio Oliveros Cid, Spain
Mohammed El Sherif, Egypt
The EFNS Offices in Vienna (Head Office), Florence and Prague, taking care of the administration of the European Federation of Neurological Societies, are pleased to announce that they have been certified by Quality Austria to be in compliance with International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2008 standards. EFNS Admin received ISO 9001 certification, after thorough audits of its administration, service and design processes.

The ISO 9000 program is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies from some 100 countries. It is a process oriented management system, designed to help organisations set up quality systems for design, development, installation, testing of products and services. The standard is based on the fundamental principle of continuous improvement at all levels. This ensures that the EFNS employees deliver quality on the project’s full life cycle, using optimal work processes and the best practices in project management. As part of the ISO 9001:2008 certification programme, EFNS Admin had to prepare documentation that pertained to its quality system. The offices then required to pass an accredited third-party assessment to prove that the system is in place and working effectively.

For EFNS Admin the primary goal was and remains the satisfaction of their customers. The most important task is the perfect understanding of the needs of every customer and developing lasting partnerships based on trust and professionalism.

EFNS Admin will be required to undergo regular audits to maintain its ISO 9001 status. A continuous surveillance certificate is issued every three years.