Welcome

By Ivan Hvid, Newsletter Editor, ihv.eposnews@gmail.com

“In Bruges”. That’s the title of a film I saw some years ago. Quite a good film too, entertaining. And you get a feeling of Bruges. So, if you haven’t been there yet, perhaps you should consider seeing the film, and coming to Bruges will be a little bit like coming back to an old neighbourhood. And you can go and have a look at the tower, where the murder took place. In the film, that is. Whether you prepare yourself like that or not, Bruges is a very nice town to be in, and you can look forward to it. Undoubtedly, we will have a fine Congress there. The quality of papers presented have, in later years, been ever improving. So for a European pediatric orthopaedic surgeon, going to the annual Congress is, I think, a must. I look forward to seeing you there!

This issue of the Newsletter will reveal that a lot of hard work has been put into improving vital aspects of our Society.

Economy is much improved thanks mostly to huge efforts of our President and our Treasurer. They have spend a lot of time to personally contact colleagues who needed reminding that the membership fees would have to be paid if continued membership was indeed what they would want. And the effort has paid off very well.

Our Journal is now an online journal. This choice was more or less inevitable to have the Journal indexed, and to put it on the Impact Factor map. Apart from that, the economy of the Society will also benefit from that choice. There is more about this from the Editors of the Journal in this edition of the Newsletter.

The Newsletter might benefit from more input from the membership – other than members of the Board. Preferably, the Newsletter should reflect what’s going on in our subspeciality. Many great institutions around Europe are represented in the Society. It would be fine to have updates of contemporary studies being undertaken in these institutions, and to have your thoughts on where we should be heading in the future. Please think about that. It’s easy to submit to:

ihv.eposnews@gmail.com.
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is already March and 2014 is flying by with only a few weeks to go until our meeting in Bruges.

One of the many highlights of this meeting is its venue in the ‘Venice of the North’: Bruges is a compact city and all the hotels and social venues are within easy walking distance of the Concertgebouw where the meeting is to be held.

Our local organising committee, Nanni Allington, Frank Plasschaert and Renaud Rossillon have been instrumental in helping us develop the ideas for the pre-meeting course and afternoon symposia. Of course, their input to the social programme has been much appreciated too and we will be invited into some beautiful historic settings to enjoy some Belgian food and drink and plenty of conversation.

The two courses on Wednesday April 2nd that some might feel are just outside our usual knowledge base: Musculoskeletal Imaging of the Paediatric Patient: How can I see what I want to see? and Dissecting Genetics in Orthopedics: when Mendel meets Darwin. I think both will be stimulating meetings and should provoke a lot of thought and discussion.

Over the course of the Bruges meeting our international guest speakers include Prof Karen Rosendahl, Prof Ben Alman, Prof Reinhard Zeller, Prof David Little and Prof Unni Narayanan. The 80 podium presentations cover the best clinical and basic science papers submitted from Europe and the rest of the world. They will be complemented by paper posters and e-posters.

The 2nd Annual EPOS Run (with funds going to the EPOS Foundation) will take place on Saturday morning: please do join in and see if you can beat last years champion!

This year we are making great efforts to involve our younger members in the meeting and the Society’s activities: ‘YoungEPOS’ will have a social meeting on Thursday evening and we hope will be invited to attend the Gala Dinner by their more senior colleagues. We hope that this will encourage them to join EPOS and contribute to the committees such as those that run the website and the fellowship programmes.

We have been expanding the EPOS educational activities with the next BAT course planned for October and the EPOS Tutorials are open for applications (please see the website www.EPOS.org). Our Regional Core Curriculum Courses (RCCC) continue to be well received – the most recent one was in Bosnia and Herzegovina just last weekend.

At long last, we are also beginning to develop our online educational resources and the first set of lectures should be available for review soon after the Bruges meeting.

All in all, its been a very positive year and EPOS is making great strides in terms of its financial and professional standing but we are aware that there are still areas where improvements are required. If you have any ideas or would like to be involved – please do contact us via the EPOS Central Office (secretariat@epos.org) or via my email at d.m.eastwood@btinternet.com

I look forward to seeing you in Bruges next month (and/or Marseille next year).
We, as the Belgian Association for Paediatric Orthopaedics, are honoured and delighted to welcome the European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society on its continuing journey through Europe that started 33 years ago, and already first visited Belgium in 1995.

We cordially invite you to join us in this year’s programme that has been put together by a constructive and fruitful joint effort with EPOS and CAOS on a background of rapidly changing ‘regulations’ and ‘economics’. The challenges therefore put to us, were seen by all parties, as a window of opportunity to allow for slight changes in the classic build up of this meeting. The goal remains to construct a meeting that provides excellent clinical science in an environment that allows for connecting with old friends and establishing new friendships.

The 33rd EPOS meeting starts on Wednesday April 2nd with an EPOS BAT Educational Course entitled “Imaging of the paediatric musculoskeletal system …how to see what you want to see” coordinated by Prof Hakan Omeroglu from Turkey. This is followed in the afternoon by the Pre-Meeting course: “Dissecting Genetics in Orthopaedics: when Mendel meets Darwin”. The detailed programme for the following days which contains a classic mix of oral and poster presentations, lunch and parallel symposia can be found through www.epos2014.be

Despite the fact that some aspects of the ‘classical social programme’ had to be altered, we kindly invite you all to explore the charming town of Bruges that is often described as the ‘Venice of the North’, offering incredibly historical and beautiful scenery. In addition to attending the scientific meeting we hope that you will find the time (guided by BAPO) to wander down the cobblestone streets and discover the countless historical, architectural and artistic wonders.

We hope to meet you all on the welcome reception in the Belfry on Wednesday evening April 2nd. You shouldn’t miss the Gala Dinner on Friday evening!

The athletic and brave ones (read therefore ‘all of us’) should definitely embark on the ‘newly installed’ tradition of the EPOS Foundation Charity Run leaving early on Saturday morning from the Meeting Venue (Concert Building) and continuing over the Old City Walls of Bruges.

Over the past year, several exhibitors and companies were willing to provide continuing support to EPOS (and this meeting). We would therefore like to express our sincere gratitude for the significant and on-going efforts of industry with this respect, and like to encourage all participants to visit the technical exhibits during ‘our’ meeting.

Together with EPOS and CAOS, the local organising committee intended to compose and enhance a programme of diversity with a high scientific level. We sincerely hope that this meeting might fruitfully add to the science, education, kinship and the application of the European Values for those involved in the orthopaedic care for children.

We hope this meeting will inspire you, will initiate new collaborations and will leave you with many (new) friends.

Looking forward meeting you all in Bruges for EPOS 2014,

On behalf of the Local Organising Committee and BAPO

Prof. Dr. Frank Plasschaert, President BAPO
Dr. Renaud Rossillon, Past President BAPO
Dr. Nanni Allington, Secretary BAPO
In the past months we have made a lot of progress with regards to professionalize membership fee payments. With the help of the President’s reminder letters and the continuous efforts of the EPOS’ managing agency Torres Pardo, we achieved that 383 members have paid their fees. On the other hand 71 colleagues have been or are to be excluded from EPOS membership because they have not been willing to pay their dues yet.

With this result we are now in the position that all members have shown that they are willing to support the Society not only by taking part in its activities but also financially. In contrast to my feelings almost a year ago, I am now optimistic that the Society will be able to continue to support all its activities and may be also expanding some of them.

The annual membership fee income was € 37,505.- from the 2013 fees and € 34,145.- from the previous years, which adds up to a membership fee income of €716,50.- in 2013. EPOS is very grateful to all members that they have so actively supported our initiative and that they were so appreciative in tolerating our repetitive and persevering reminders. The Board has also set the goal to allow all members a very early annual membership fee payment through our website. The campaign to collect this year’s fees has been started on February 20th 2014 and the invitation to pay has been sent to all members. This is of importance as membership payment for 2014 is linked to the congress fee reduction in Bruges.

For the first time in EPOS history the Society will be working with an annual budget. This budget does not yet include the EPOS Annual Congress Budget but links are being made transparent. In the same manner links to the EPOS Foundation Budget will be demonstrated. All this will be the fundament of the Annual Treasurer Report being presented at the Member’s Assembly in Bruges.

Thomas Wirth

CANDIDATES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE 2014 VICEPRESIDENT

Dear EPOS Member,

The Nomination Committee has selected 3 possible candidates for the election of the 2nd vicepresident in the General Assembly in Bruges:
- Dr. Darco Anticevic
- Dr. Manuel Cassiano Neves
- Prof. Jiri Chomiak

The nomination committee has also nominated Dr. Federico Canavese for the position of Junior Councillor.

With my best wishes, on behalf of the Board of EPOS,

Dr. Ralph Sakkers
Dear friends, EPOS members,

We would like to announce that our journal, JCOR (Journal of Children’s Orthopaedics) became open access (OA) as of January 2014. Open access is about creating a more efficient way to share scientific ideas and knowledge. Open access publication is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. It gives any user the free, immediate, full-text use of digital scientific and scholarly material. It enables rapid publication, wider dissemination and increased visibility, higher citation rates and global exposure to culturally diverse opinions and practices.

Open access is a reversed model to traditional journals. Traditional publishing relies on restricting access in order to recoup the costs of the publication process, OA treats publication as the last phase of research process. The Article Publication/Processing Charge (APC) for JCOR will be paid by EPOS on behalf of all authors regardless of society membership.

JCOR will be operated in the same way as before. Authors, readers and editors will continue to use the same online-system for manuscript submission and peer review. Any article submitted to JCOR will continue to be subjected to the journal's thorough peer-review process and will be accepted or rejected based on the reviewers’ evaluation, article’s quality and relevance. Only articles that have been formally accepted for publication according to JCOR’s high standards will be published. Articles will instantly be freely available to read, download and share from the moment they are published.

Springer will use its best practice to ensure the widest possible visibility and dissemination of the Journal, including immediate access to journal articles via PubMed Central and PubMed without embargo.

All articles published in the Journal will be published under the Creative Commons Attribution license (CC-BY), which is industry ‘best practice’ and meets requirements by research funders such as RCUK, Wellcome Trust, US NIH and many academic and clinical institutions.

We are looking forward to your continuous support in our journal. We are sure that our society will benefit from the new mode of publication and JCOR will improve and will become a major education platform for us, EPOS members.

Professor Fritz Hefti
Editor-In-Chief

Professor Shlomo Wientroub
Editor-In-Chief
The Scientific Committee is currently working on an EPOS-wide study to determine provider characteristics, care pathways, and methods of diagnosis and treatment in patients with osteofibrous dysplasia. Another EPOS-wide study examines predictors of late recurrence of clubfoot in children following Ponseti treatment.

The Scientific Committee remains involved in the teaching of clinical research methods. A successful symposium on the topic of observational study design was held during the 2013 Annual Meeting in Athens. Guest speakers included Dr. James G. Wright and Dr. Unni Narayanan from Toronto, Canada. Members of the Committee continue to run workshops on the topic of clinical research methods during the BAT Courses.

An EPOS-wide research mentorship database has now been established. This interactive database should facilitate research collaboration and exchange of trainees. The database can be found on the EPOS website and all members of EPOS are encouraged to complete a profile using this link:

http://www.epos.org/committees/scientific-committee/epos-research-mentorship-programme

Levels of evidence have been introduced to all abstracts presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting in Athens. Levels of evidence are hierarchical rating systems for classifying study quality in clinical research. The system has five levels for each of four different study types (therapeutic, prognostic, diagnostic, economic). Introducing levels of evidence will have several benefits: authors, reviewers, and the conference audience will become familiar with the concept of levels of evidence; studies will be improved by an explicit articulation of the primary research question; and members of the Reading Committee will be able to monitor trends in the quality of submitted abstracts.

The Scientific Committee is looking for new members. We encourage all members of EPOS and allied societies to submit new study proposals or new ideas for studies that can be performed within EPOS. In particular, the Committee is keen to support research of clinically important questions that use a multi-national, collaborative design.

Andreas Roposch MD MSc FRCS
Chair, Scientific Committee
Regional Core Curriculum Courses
28 February-1 March 2014, Medjugorje, Bosnia Herzegovina
October 2014, Ukraine (Kiev ? exact date ?)

Advanced Course
2 April 2014, Bruges, Belgium; Imaging of the pediatric musculoskeletal system; How to see what you want to see

BAT Basic Course
24-26 September 2014, Vienna, Austria

Hakan Omeroglu
Educational Committee Chairman

EPOS NEWSLETTER

PLANNED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES 2014

EPOS is striving to increase the interaction between senior EPOS members and young generation of EPOS community. For this purpose, we are defining ‘young’ generation as those under 40. During the 33rd annual meeting in Bruges, EPOS will be launching various initiatives to involve our young associates in EPOS activities more.

There will be a YoungEPOS lounge at the meeting. This will be a designated area that young members can easily identify, meet at and talk in quietly. We are also planning to organize some informal meetings to facilitate interaction between seniors and juniors. A warm environment including free Wi-Fi connection will be provided here.

We also hope that senior EPOS members will invite their juniors to the Gala Dinner in Bruges. This will be a lively and relaxed event where all delegates, whatever their age and experience can meet and share.

We would like to invite all EPOS members regardless of age to visit our lounge in Bruges.
PICTURE QUIZ

Which syndrome?

Answer to ihv.eposnews@gmail.com
Here are some articles that I particularly appreciated, published since the last issue of the Newsletter. This obviously is a highly subjective and individual choice of mine. I included links to the home pages of these journals for easy browsing.

In the future, I invite you to inform me on particularly important or innovative recent original papers that you come across in these or other journals. Please submit your motivated suggestion to ihv.eposnews@gmail.com

**Acta Orthop**

http://www.actaorthop.org


**BJJ**


**Clin Orthop Rel Res**


**JAAOS**


J Bone Joint Surg Am


J Child Orthop


J Pediatr Orthop


33rd Annual Meeting of the European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society
2nd - 5th April 2014

Bruges · Belgium

www.epos.org