



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of  
The European Society of Veterinary Pathology  
Dubrovnik (Croatia)  
September 19 2008**

**Agenda**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Obituary – in memoriam of Prof. Dämmrich
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting in Munich (August. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007)
4. Election of new ESVP members
5. President's and Hon. Secretary's report
6. Hon. Treasurer's report
7. Legal basis of the ESVP: current situation
8. E-learning proposal
9. Scientific committee: role and interactions with local conference organisers
10. Cost of Fall meeting 2008
11. European College of Veterinary Pathologists: ESVP-ECVP interaction, including the results of the ECVP ballot.
12. Summer school 2008.
  - a. Report of the 2008 school
  - b. ESVP grants
13. Fall meeting in Dubrovnik 2008: ESVP grants.
14. Krakow 2009 meeting. Information concerning expenses and the ISVD combined meeting
15. Future meetings.
16. Any other business
  - a. Poster award
  - b. Annual payment for the ESVP website

From the circulated attendance list it was deduced that 89 members were present.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Prof. Roderick Else (UK), Prof. François Crespeau (F), Prof. Brian Sheahan (IRE) and Prof. Walter Hermanns (GER).

**2. Obituary – in memoriam of Prof. Dämmrich**

Prof. Dämmrich (Berlin) died early this year and during the meeting, the assembly was informed that Dr. Appel (Berlin) had also died. The meeting observed a few moments silence in their memory.

**3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting in Munich (August 31 2007)**

The minutes had been sent to all members with the annual circular. No additions or corrections had been requested.

**4. Election of new ESVP members**

The following 40 new members were elected by acclamation:

No.	Country	Surname	Name	Proposer	Second
1	Austria	Bagó	Zoltán	Weissenböck H.	Loupal G.
2	Belgium	Maes	Sofie	Chiers K.	Ducatelle R.
	Belgium	Saey	Veronique	Chiers K.	Ducatelle R.
1	Denmark	Jansen	Ellen Charlotte	Jensen H.E.	Leifsson P.S.
1	Estonia	Järveots	Tõnu	Fontaine J.J.	Wyers M.
9	Germany	Alfaro	Alejandro	Reinacher M.	Burkardt E.
	Germany	Borschensky	Christina	Reinacher M.	Burkardt E.
	Germany	Bothe	Melanie K.	Grüber A.	Mundhenk L.
	Germany	Brosinski	Katrin	Von Bomhard W.	Schmahl W.
	Germany	Fischer	Ulrike	Reinacher M.	Burkardt E.
	Germany	Hohloch	Corinna	Reinacher M.	Burkardt E.
	Germany	Kershaw	Olivia	Grüber A.	Mundhenk L.
	Germany	Schröder	Sabrina	Reinacher M.	Burkardt E.
	Germany	Weiss	Alexander	Reinacher M.	Grüber A.
1	India	Singh	Ashwini Kumar	Gärtner F.	Militaru M.
1	Italy	Fusaro	Laura	Marcato P.S.	Sarli G.
1	Japan	Komine	Misa	Shimoyama Y.	Akihara Y.
1	Latvia	Piginka	Inga	Sukura A.	Szarek J.
1	Mozambique	Laisse	C. João Mourão	Gärtner F.	Faustino A.
1	Norway	Falk	Michaela	Sukura A.	Benazzi C.
1	Portugal	Ferraz Amorim	Irina	Gärtner F.	Faustino A.
2	Romania	Ardelean	Adrian	Militaru M.	Soare T.
	Romania	Urdes	Laura Daniela	Militaru M.	Soare T.
	Romania	Dinescu	Georgeta	Militaru M.	Ciobotaru E.
1	Spain	Barranco Cabezudo	Inmaculada	Perez Ecija R.	Gomez Laguna J.
2	Serbia	Kukolj	Vladimir	Jovanovic M.	Aleksic- Kovacevic S.
	Serbia	Marinkovic	Darko	Jovanovic M.	Aleksic- Kovacevic S.
1	Switzerland	Wiederkehr	Danja Damaris	Pospischil A.	Hauser B.

## 5. President's and Hon. Secretary's report

The report was relatively brief because many of the items had been listed separately on the agenda. The President thanked Dr Grabarevic and colleagues in Croatia for their hard work in organising this highly successful conference in the magnificent setting in Dubrovnik. He stated that the attendance of over 300 was excellent and it was particularly pleasing to see so many younger members present. He also thanked the members of the joint ESVP/ECVP Scientific Committee - Federico Valenza and Brian Sheahan (ESVP representatives), Anja Kipar and Lluís Ljuan (ECVP representatives), Walter Hermanns (representative from Munich organising committee) and Zeljko Grabarevic (representative from Dubrovnik organising committee). He also thanked the Atlas Travel Agency for their highly professional role in the conference organisation. Dr Kennedy also thanked the other members of the ESVP Board (Felix Ehrensperger, Józef Szarek, Rod Else, Antti Sukura, Jakob Walter, Cinzia Benazzi) for their work during the year, and particularly Prof. Cinzia Benazzi and Dr. Jakob Walter for their tireless support as Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, respectively.

Summer School: The 2008 Summer School would be the last to be covered by the EU grant (Marie Curie Action). A table of the comparison of the expenses for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 showed a major increase in costs, which for 2008 amounted to 56,900 euro. Therefore, the ECVP/ESVP Education Committee had investigated ways of containing expenses and decided that, for the summer school 2009, the provisional budget should not exceed 30,000 euro.

The ESVP Board proposed that the Society contribute 7,500 euro to the 2009 Summer School in recognition of its importance to Society members. The Honorary Treasurer provided an assurance that the Society could afford this amount and the proposal was agreed by the assembly. As in former years, it was agreed that the ESVP would support members at the beginning of their career with stipends. Ten stipends of 400 euro each were agreed.

The President referred to a proposal from the College Council to negotiate a relationship with the ACVP in which *Veterinary Pathology* would become the official journal of the ECVP. This change would necessitate an increase in the registration fee for diplomates.

The President reported on an ECVP Council request for visible recognition for the College in the title of the annual conference. After discussion, the ESVP Board had agreed the title, "Annual Meeting of the European Society of Veterinary Pathology and the European College of Veterinary Pathologists".

The President updated the Board on the work of the joint ESVP/ECVP Scientific Committee. He thanked the members of the committee for their

work during the year. The remit and composition of the committee would remain the same as for the Dubrovnik conference (two members from ESVP, two from ECVP, one from previous year's conference organising committee and one from the next year's organising committee). Dr Hermanns (Chair of the Munich organising committee) had therefore now retired from the committee and was being replaced by Dr Grabarevic as Chair of the Dubrovnik organising committee. The single change in committee structure was that a Chair would be appointed. The committee members had agreed to invite Professor Brian Sheahan to take on the role of Chair for the coming year.

## 6. Honorary Treasurer's report

The Honorary Treasurer presented his annual report for the period August 2007 to August 2008. The current financial position of the ESVP is summarised below:

### **Membership Account**

Opening Balance (AUG 2007)	75.458,96 €
Receipts within the period	32.639,84 €
Expenditure	6.681,13 €
Cash Takings	1.125,00 €
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<b><u>102.542,67 €</u></b>

### **Fund Account**

Opening Balance (AUG 2007)	11.006,47 €
Receipts within the period	0
Expenditure	72,45 €
Cash Takings	0
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<b><u>10.934,02 €</u></b>

**Total (Member and Fund Accounts) 113.476,69 €**

## 7. Legal basis of the ESVP: current situation

The Board had revisited the Constitution of the Society and agreed that some unclear clauses should be modified. It was agreed that the society should be established either in The Netherlands or in Germany. Prof. Van den Ingh, at the request of the President, had kindly agreed to seek advice from a notary in The Netherlands while Dr. Walter, Hon. Treasurer, offered to seek advice from a German lawyer who is an expert in EU legislation.

**8. E-learning proposal**

The ESVP Board had discussed the Swiss virtual e-learning proposal at its winter board meeting in Zurich earlier in the year. Prof. Andreas Pospischil and colleagues had earlier updated the Board in Dubrovnik about his faculty's virtual pathology teaching programme and also demonstrated the system to the AGM. It is an internet-based resource that links large and growing databases of digital images with concisely presented expert comment. The virtual programme interconnects the different aspects of pathology, and has the great advantage of being capable of remote updating or revision by remotely located authors. The President stated that the ESVP Board had been very impressed by the system and was of the opinion that it had the potential to be an important learning aid for trainees and experienced pathologists alike.

Development of the system for ESVP members would require a contribution of 15,000 euro in the coming year with an annual "maintenance" contribution of around 5,000. The proposal was unanimously agreed by the assembly.

**9. Scientific committee: role and interactions with local conference organisers**

This item was covered under the President's and Hon. Secretary's report.

**10. Cost of Fall meeting 2009**

The President stressed the importance of keeping registration fees as low as possible. The local organiser of the 2009 meeting in Krakow, Prof. Szarek, presented the first announcement. The meeting will take place from Sept. 9-13, 2009. Prof. Szarek kindly agreed to limit the congress registration fees as follows: members 390 euro for early registration (i.e. until May 1<sup>st</sup>), 450 euro for late registration, 480 euro for on-site registration; for non-ESVP members from 480 to 540 to 570 euro, respectively; for one-day delegates from 190 to 230 to 260 euro; for students from 160 to 240 to 270 euro; and for accompanying persons from 150 to 200 to 250 euro.

**11. European College of Veterinary Pathologists: ESVP-ECVP interaction, including the results of the ECVP ballot.**

The ESVP Board welcomed the decision of ECVP diplomates to reject the proposal that diplomates should not be required to maintain membership of the Society. The Board was unanimous in its view that this was a good decision for the future of veterinary pathology and pathologists in Europe. The President reported that he had written to ESVP members to express the satisfaction of the ESVP Board that ECVP diplomates had voted against separation from the Society. (On behalf of the ESVP Board, he had written to diplomates before the ballot to recommend a "no" vote).

12. **Summer School 2008**

a. Report of the 2008 Summer School

Prof. Kipar presented an extensive report on the 2008 Summer School, which had been held last July in Jaca, in the Pyrenees region of Spain, 120 km from Zaragoza. The local organiser was Prof. Lluís Luján. Among the topics of the lectures were infectious diseases, the gastro-intestinal, respiratory, musculoskeletal and nervous systems, primates and reptiles. A mock examination was held at the end of course.

Prof Kipar had enquired whether the ESVP would support the organisation of the Summer School in 2009 in view of the fact that the Marie Curie grant had now expired. The Board sought approval from the AGM for a financial contribution of 7,500 euro to the 2009 Summer School. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the audience.

b. ESVP grants

In 2008, the ESVP supported ten members, who are pathologists at an early stage of their career, with ten scholarships of 400 euro each to cover the registration fee.

For the Summer School 2009, the Board proposed to offer ten scholarships for the same amount (400 euro each) to support ten members, who are pathologists at an early stage of their career. The members unanimously approved this proposal.

13. **Fall meeting in Dubrovnik 2008. ESVP grants.**

Nine grants (300 euro each) were assigned to young members for participating in the Dubrovnik meeting. The Board proposed to assign 10 scholarships (the same amount, i.e. 300 euro each) for the Krakow meeting. The AGM approved unanimously.

14. **Krakow 2009 meeting. Information concerning expenses and the ISVD combined meeting**

Prof. Józef Szarek, the local organiser of the Krakow meeting, informed the meeting that the provisional budget was being prepared, and that he would present it at the next (winter) Board meeting.

The International Society for Veterinary Dermatopathology (ISVD) is interested in organising a mystery slide seminar on dermatopathology on the Saturday morning of the ESVP meeting.

15. **Future meetings**

Future meetings had been allocated as follows:

Krakow 2009, Belgrade 2010, Uppsala 2011, Leon 2012, and Venice 2013. Prof. Szarek presented an introduction to the Krakow 2009 conference.

16. **Any other business**

A - Poster award: As in the past, the Board had appointed a committee to select the best posters for an award of 300 euro each. The members of this committee were Prof. Manfred Reinacher, Prof. Zeljko Grabarevich and Prof. Massimo Castagnaro. The awards will be presented at the Congress dinner.

B - Annual payment for the ESVP website: It was agreed that job announcements should continue to be posted free of charge on the ESVP website.

The meeting closed with the final remarks of the President at 7.10 p.m.

The Hon Secretary  
Prof. Cinzia Benazzi

The President  
Dr. Seamus Kennedy