

**PPS Annual General Meeting
Philadelphia 2009
Honorary Secretary's Report**



Since our successful meeting in Helsinki, in September 2008, organized by Rita Karikoski, much attention has been devoted to the organisation of the second joint meeting of the Society for Pediatric Pathology and the PPS in Philadelphia. The organising committee has been led by Professor Pierre Russo, who has done a tremendous job as the local organizer. He was much helped by the Ona Faye-Petersen and Marie-Anne Brundler from the respective educational committees. The entire meeting has been an excellent example of transatlantic collaboration. There will be ample room for poster and platform presentations and there have been many abstracts submitted that have been dealt with by the abstract subcommittee, led by Eileen McKay. The abstracts have been analysed by a group of reviewers from both societies.

The PPS website is now firmly established as THE platform of communication within our Society and Roger Malcomson has done a great job to maintain the site and keep it free of digital waste and outside attacks. The newsletter is posted on the website and sent to those members who do not have access to the internet. All contributors are wholeheartedly thanked for their contributions and the membership is reminded that unsolicited contributions are much welcomed.

The number of new membership applications that has come in over this year is in the range of what we have seen in past years, and usually there are some last minute arrivals. We do encourage our members to consider stimulating other colleagues to become Society members if they spend a sufficient amount of their time on perinatal and/or paediatric pathology.

The financial basis for the Society is still very solid and thus, like in previous years, we are in a position to issue financial support to valuable activities in the field of perinatal/paediatric pathology. Examples of such activities have been discussed previously.

At this meeting we will see an important change in the Officers of our Society, as Professor Liliane Boccon-Gibod will finish her term as President and will hand over to Dr. Christina Vogt Isaksen from Trondheim, Norway. She has been a distinguished member of our Society since many years, having organized a previous PPS Annual Meeting in Trondheim in 2003. The Society would like to thank Professor Boccon-Gibod for all her efforts and her achievements during the 3 years that she has led the Society.

From the interest to host future meetings in the field of perinatal and paediatric pathology, not only the PPS annual meeting, but also IPPA courses, I draw the conclusion that our subspecialty is booming and we have had many offers for hosting the PPS in coming years. Although it is still some years away, I would already like to draw your attention to the 60th meeting of PPS, which will take place in 2014. Given our financial basis, this would be an excellent occasion to put our field in the spotlight.

For now, I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable joint meeting in Philadelphia and a prosperous year for the Society.

Ronald de Krijger
Honorary Secretary PPS
Rotterdam, August 2009