



**PPS Annual General Meeting
President's Report
Philadelphia, 2009**

This is my last report as PPS president and I am happy to say our Society is in excellent shape. It has been wonderful working for the 3 last years with our two successive Honorary Secretaries, Phillip Cox and now Ronald de Krijger and our Treasurer, Robert Nairn. The success to the Society is their success and I would like to thank them for their help.

Web site

Thanks to Roger Malcomson, our web master, and to our Membership Secretary, Marie-Anne Brundler, the present website is one of the most effective and user friendly I know. Whatever you are looking for, you find it: current and previous Newsletter, present and past Committee members, application forms, how to pay the Society dues, previous venues of meetings, and this list could go on for long. The number of visitors which is displayed in small letters on each accessible item demonstrates of the interest of the membership. If some of you are not yet familiar with PPS website, I urge you to visit it soon at <http://www.paedpath.org/>

Membership

Our membership has been steadily increasing in the last years. These are the figures for the last 3 years: 9 new applications in Istanbul 2007, 20 new members voted in at Helsinki 2008. According to the web site our society has now 288 members, 272 with accessible records. As of September 24th 2009, there have been 12 new applications and I am sure there will be more in the coming weeks

Meetings

All those present in **Helsinki** enjoyed an excellent meeting and all those who were not able to attend and heard about the scientific and social program regretted their absence. The Gala dinner was held a fantastic castle and we were able to benefit of a group of very much appreciated singers, called, if I am not mistaken, "The Marylins". Riitta Karikoski should be nominated for a merit award (if they existed in our society...) not only for this but also for the financial success of the meeting which brought more than 1400 £ in the finances of the Society (see treasurer report).

This year joint meeting in **Philadelphia** has been more of a hassle to the past and present Honorary Secretaries, who have had to deal with the very demanding administrative requests necessary for each contribution to the meeting accreditation to ACME. Our American colleagues have guided them in this maze and should be really thanked. Nevertheless it will be worth the trouble: 81 platform presentation and poster are presented, over one third by

members of our Society. This is in proportion with the size of both Societies and number of abstracts submitted. The usual number of papers submitted at SPP fall meeting is around 30/35, showing the interest of our sister Society in this joint (ad) venture.

Next year meeting will be in beautiful and ancient Padua, mid September 2010, organized by Rita Alaggio. Splendid venues have already been selected by Rita both for scientific meeting and social program.

Developing education

The French speaking African division of IAP met in Kinshasa last January, with participations of many African Countries. PPS president and one other PPS member, sponsored by PPS and IPPA, have been actively promoting paediatric and perinatal pathology at this meeting. PPS may discuss to evaluate the input of our participation and to participate again in future African meetings.

The Digital Slide Server project was presented to the Society last year. We have proceeded to a feasibility study and received a proper business plan. According to last year discussion, PPS is participating with 5000 £ and IPPA with 2500 £. Long term presence of educational material and of our slide seminars on the PPS web site through this server should begin within less than one year. We hope no bugs will interfere and hopefully we will be able to have access to the Padua 2010 Slide Seminar on this server.

Thanks

It is not possible for me to end this last report without thanking all the members of the Committee during my term. Our relationship with the Membership Secretary, Marie-Anne Brundler, the web master, Roger Malcomson, the liaison committee with ESP, Irene Scheimberg, the Treasurer, Bob Nairn, the previous and present Honorary Secretaries, Phillip Cox and Ronald de Krijger have been excellent and I really want to thank them for their efficiency and the time consuming tasks they have accomplished for the Society.

I wish good luck to Christina for her Presidency. She has everything needed to be a wonderful president.

Liliane Boccon-Gibod, PPS President 2006-2009

September 24th, 2009