

To all the members of the Advisory Committee of the European Society for Clinical Haemorheology and Microcirculation (ESCHM)

Sofia, October 20, 2009

Dear colleagues - members of the Advisory Committee of the ESCHM,

At the end of these 4 months following the Pontresina Conference in 2009 I would like to inform you about the results achieved.

The 15th Conferences of the European Society of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation (ESCHM) in Pontresina/St. Moritz, Switzerland (June 28th – July 1st, 2009), organized by Prof. Walter H. Reinhart, MD, Chur, was full of valuable scientific contributions (<http://www.congress-info.ch/eschm2009>): plenary lectures by Sandro Forconi, Shu Chien, Tommaso Gori, Herb Meiselman, Gerard Nash, the Fahraeus award lecture, and a special lecture on high altitude physiology by Peter Bärtsch from the University of Heidelberg, accompanied by symposia, oral presentations and poster sessions covering the whole field of Hemorheology and Microcirculation.

During the Pontresina meeting Prof. Friedrich Jung from Dresden, Germany has been honored with the Fahraeus Medal Award and the Laudatio has been given by Dr. Mike Rampling (London) – the Fahraeus Medal Award winner from the Dresden Conference. The Conference report about the Pontresina meeting has just been published in J. Applied Rheology by Prof. W. Reinhart.

All the acts and the decisions regarding the Society has been and will be shared on the web site of the ESCHM, which will be regularly updated (please, take a look at it now: <http://www.esch.unisi.it/>) or <http://www.unisi.it/ricerca/asso/esch/index.htm> or simply type ESCHM with Google. From the web site you can get all the possible information regarding the activities of the ESCHM and of the last Conferences. The Pontresina Proceedings will be published in a Special Issue of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation after the usual reviewing procedures.

During the 15th Conference of the ESCHM a meeting of the Editorial Board of J. Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation and the Head of journal department Mrs. Marleen Berfelo at the IOS Press was held. The journal is well developed and its Impact factor has gone up to 1.814 for 2008. We take the occasion for thanking the Editorial Staff of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation at the IOS Press for their precious collaboration.

During the 15th Pontresina Conference the new Council of the European Society of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation has been elected:

President: Dr. Nadia Antonova (Bulgaria) (President of the Bulgarian Society of Biorheology and Member of the Department of Biodynamics and Biorheology at the Institute of Mechanics and Biomechanics to the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia)

Vice-Presidents: Prof. Lajos Bogar (Hungary) (President of the Hungarian Society of Haemorheology and Member of the Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care at the University of Pecs), Prof. Gregorio Caimi MD (President of the Italian Society for Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation) and PhD Dr. Dirk Clevert from Germany (Vice-president of the German Society for Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation and Associate Professor at the University München, Head of the Interdisciplinary Center of Ultrasound, Department of Radiology).

Prof. Friedrich Jung will remain as Past President as well as Prof. Sandro Forconi as Honorary President.

It was decided the next meeting – the 16th Conference of the ESCHM to be a joint meeting with the International Society of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation (ISCH) and the International Society of Biorheology (ISB) (3 Societies Meeting) and to be held in Munich in 2011. Prof. Clevert will be the President of the 16th Conference and of the Meeting. The Advisory Board nominated also two delegates for the coordination among the three Societies: Dr. F. Jung (past-president of ESCHM) and Dr. N. Antonova (president of ESCHM). They will be members of the proposed and accepted a 6-person scientific/program committee of the future joint meeting with 2 people from each society.

Two months after the Pontresina Conference in cooperation with the European Society of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation in Borovets resort, Bulgaria the 3rd Eurosummer School on Biorheology & Symposium on Micro and Nano Mechanics and Mechanobiology of Cells, Tissues and Systems (August 29th – September 2nd, 2009) (<http://www.biorheo2009.bsb-bg.eu>) was held too. This is the third meeting, organized by the Bulgarian Society of Biorheology in cooperation with the European Society of Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation (ESCHM) and a co-organizer - the Institute of Mechanics and Biomechanics to the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The meeting was important for the future investigations and collaboration, encouraging new generation of students, postgraduate students and young researchers in this area. There was an interest from the most of the participants in the next similar meetings to be held the future.

I do hope that the new Council will act well for the Society and I can guarantee my full co-operation for the future. I am also sure that during the Munich Conference in 2011 we shall meet together in that friendship mood which has always been a characteristic of our meetings. I do hope too that the Council will aim at high international standing and will keep the excellent level of our Society to adapt it to the future needs.

I wish you all fruitful cooperation in the future.

Best regards,

Nadia Antonova

President of the European Society for Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation