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A PHOTO REPORT
47TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL INVESTIGATION,
ALBUFEIRA, PORTUGAL, APRIL 17-20, 2013

■ ESCI
EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

**47TH ANNUAL
SCIENTIFIC MEETING**

**17 - 20 April
2013**
Albufeira Portugal
CS São Rafael Atlantic Hotel

Plenary Sessions
Workshops
Poster Sessions and Prizes
ESCI Course on Methodology
of Research
Social Program

President Local
Organizing Committee
Paulo J. Oliveira, PhD
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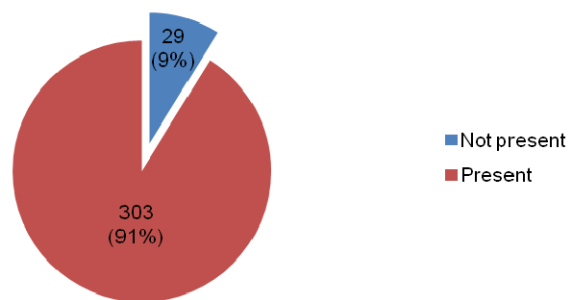
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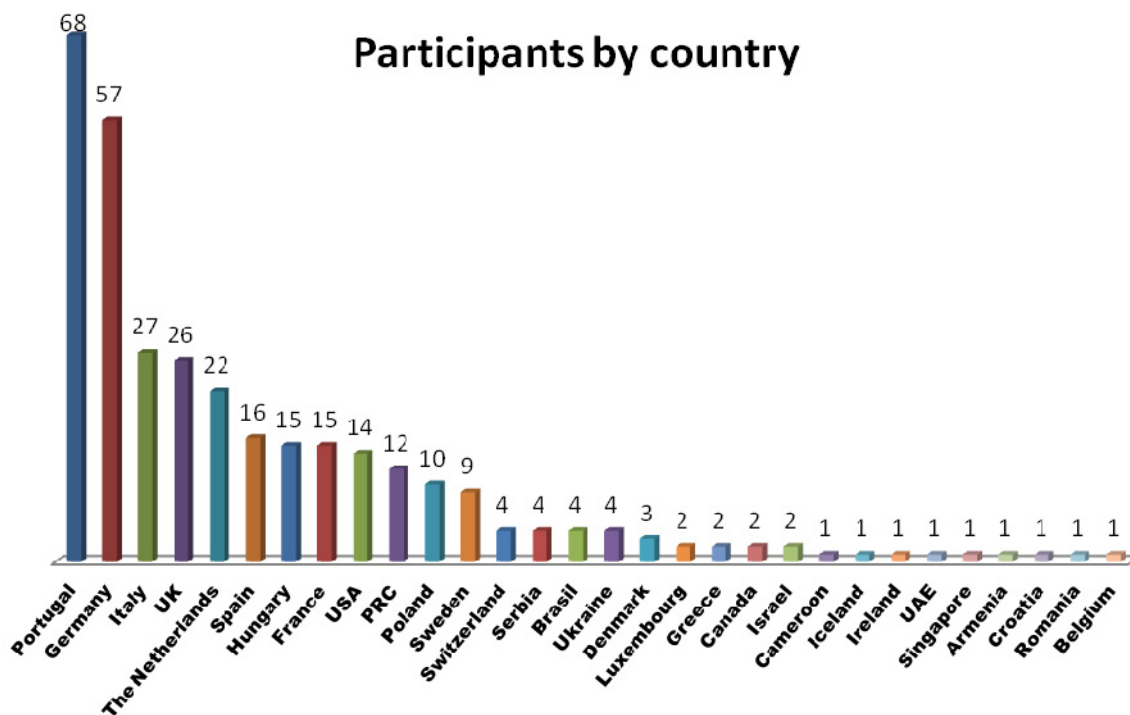
1. Overview

The 47th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation was held in the picturesque city of Albufeira, in sunny southern Portugal, from April 17 to 20, 2013. A total of 332 participants registered in the meeting, with 91% of them showing up. The Phagocyte (100-120 people in average per session) and the Mitochondrial workshop (40-60 people in average per session) had the highest number of participants.

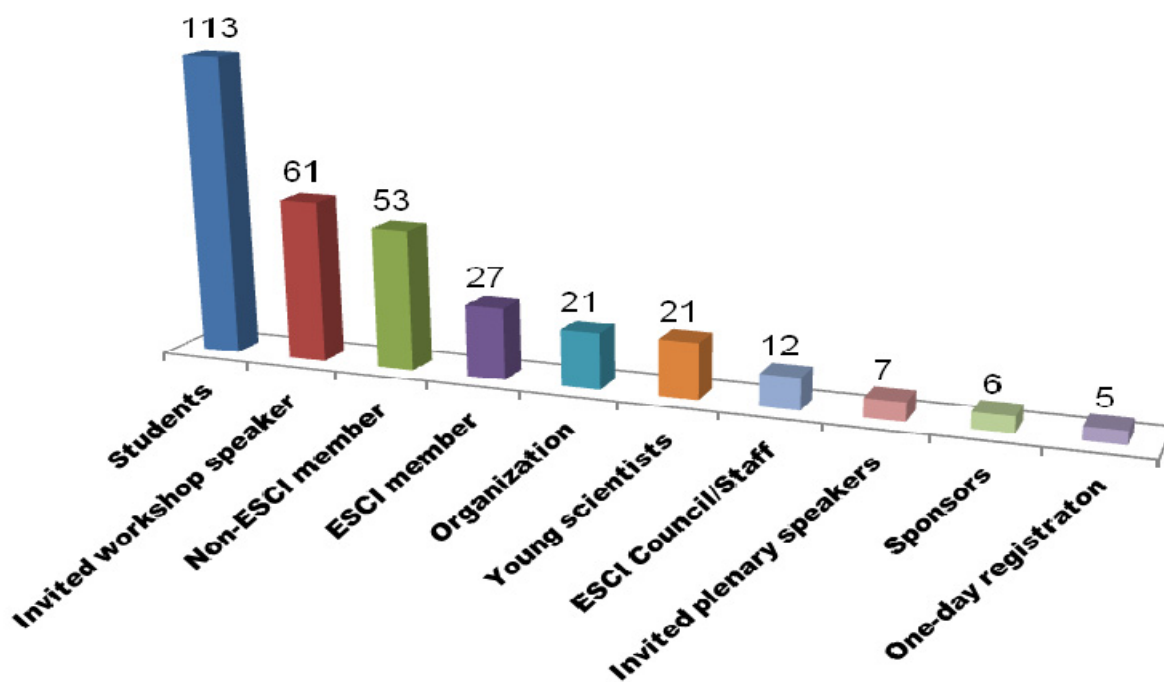
Registrations



Regarding the origin of the participants, we were surprised by the multiplicity of countries represented. Portugal, as expected, had the largest contingent (68 participants), with Germany and Italy following. It must be stressed the emergence of Eastern Europe countries such as Hungary, Poland, Ukraine and Armenia or non-European countries such as China, Canada or Israel.



As for the type of registration, it must be praised the very high number of students (a third of all participants), which gave a colourful and youthful environment to the meeting. What was disappointing was the number of ESCI members that attended the meeting, which was lower than the number of non-ESCI members.



2. Meeting venue

The meeting was organized at the five-star hotel CS São Rafael Atlantic, an excellent venue for these types of meeting. The hotel was close to the beach and had all the necessary amenities for all participants, including fitness room and spa, large rooms, a large auditorium and several smaller rooms, as well as a foyer area to organize the ESCI and registration desk, as well to potentiate interactions between participants and sponsors.



3. Opening session

The opening session of the meeting was a mix of social and scientific events, with two important highlights: the plenary opening talk by Dr. Anthony Shapira (UK) and the performance by the Fado of Coimbra group, *Tertúlia Bairradina*, which was highly praised. The opening session also had the presence of the Mayor of the City of Albufeira, José Carlos Rolo and also a introductory note about the history of the city.





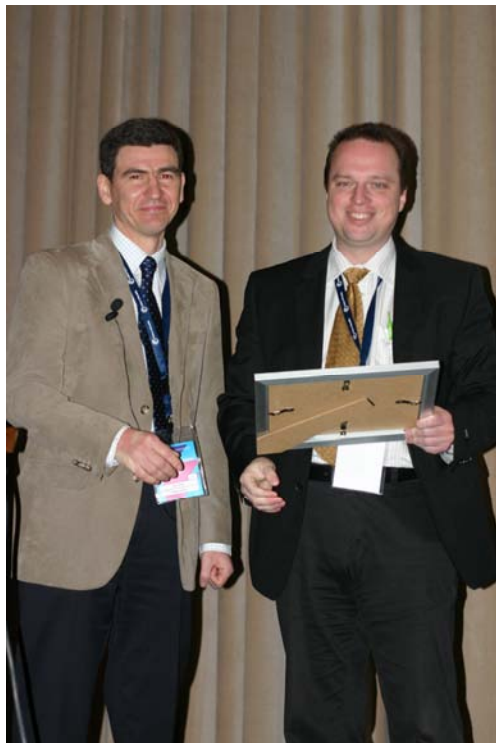
A welcome reception followed the opening session, where participants could interact for the first time in the meeting in a very informal manner.



4. Plenary sessions.

Besides the opening session, other six plenary talks were organized during the meeting. These lectures included the ESCI Award Winner 2013 for Basic/Translational Research, Luca Scorrano, the Award Winner 2013 for Clinical Research Mihai Netea and the awardee of the Albert Struyvenberg Medal, Gema Fruhbeck. The other three plenary lectures were from Gerard Pasterkamp, Brent Neuschwander-Tetri and Ira Tabas. All plenary lecture sessions had always a large attendance.





5. Scientific sessions

Eight fantastic workshops, plus a methodology course were the core of the 2013 ESCI Annual Meeting. The attendance was variable but at the end everybody agreed that the scientific quality was excellent. Besides the presentations by the invited speakers, most of them the best in their field, the discussions that followed, plus the new networks that were formed, were extremely important and valuable.





7. Meeting lunches

The meeting lunches, organized in the same space as the poster sessions, allowed to combine the excellence of the Portuguese food, with an environment prone to fruitful work discussions.



8. Meeting dinner

Without any doubt, the meeting dinner was one of the highlights of the meeting. The about 180 participants in the dinner enjoyed great food, great music (from the band “Tabacaria”, travelling from Coimbra) and great company. The young scientists enjoyed especially the moment and made it a moment to remember later. The President of the organization, Paulo Oliveira, was awarded a new very nice accessory to his wardrobe by ESCI.











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