

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hendrik M. Nathoe, MD, PhD
ESCI President

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you at the 50th annual scientific meeting (ASM). The first ASM was held in Noordwijk, the Netherlands 27-29 April 1967, one year before the official foundation of ESCI Society in 1968 by prof Albert Struyvenberg. This means that next year we also have a great milestone to celebrate. The 50th anniversary of ESCI Society during the next ASM in Genoa. I expect and hope that our newly appointed



professor of Internal Medicine, **Fabrizio Montecucco** at the University of Genoa, will use this opportunity to organize a great ASM there. As president of ESCI, I will do my best to keep the fundamentals of ESCI healthy for the maintenance of ESCI for the coming 50 years. Moreover, it would be even better if we can make ESCI a bigger and stronger society. Therefore I am asking for your support and collaboration in the future.

ESCI is much indebted to **Professor Jean-Philippe Haymann**, for his willingness to house and to organize this special 50th ASM in Paris. I want to remind you that he is also the secretary treasurer of ESCI. I was in the same position at the time I organized the ASM in Utrecht in 2014. So, I can understand the tough time he is facing at now. I hope he also can enjoy the progress of the congress and will have a satisfied feeling in the end. We managed to compose an excellent scientific programme with collaboration of 9 workshops. It is a great honor to announce that the Chemistry Nobel prize winner **Professor Peter Agre** accepted our invitation to give the Albert Struyvenberg lecture this year.

We have re-installed the "Investigator Awards for excellence in Basic/Translational and clinical Research" this year. Unfortunately, we did not receive any applications from clinical researchers. Therefore, the science committee selected two excellent nominees in the field of Basic/Translational research. This again shows that the nature of ESCI has been changed into a broad society not only for clinicians but also for basic researchers. We have acknowledged this change and the council has decided to keep the name of ESCI as a brand but to also add basic/translational research as a subtitle. We keep promoting the "European Journal of Clinical Investigation: EJCI". Two excellent articles have been selected from EJCI 2015, one clinical and one basic, for an oral presentation during the congress. We hope that we can improve the impact factor of the Journal in the coming years. It is a pleasure to announce that the past president of ESCI **Professor Piero Portincasa** has accepted the position of President of the Journal Foundation for 3 years. I expect and hope he can help us to improve the Journal. For this purpose we need more active associate editors and especially reviewers. I am asking you to contact the "Editor in Chief" **Professor John Ioannidis** if you want to participate as associate editor or reviewer.

As you may know, the council of ESCI Society has previously decided to limit the number of the council to a maximum of 7. This decision was taken to attract councilors who are willing to participate actively into ESCI. This goal has been achieved

as at present we have 6 councilors in office and one vice-president. Unfortunately, the term of two councilors will end in 2016. (prof. Montecucco and dr. Oliveira). We are considering to extend the commitment of these active councilors for a longer period. The members of ESCI has already been informed and asked for their opinion. During the upcoming council and business meeting, we will take a decision, depending on the votes of the members of ESCI. Please, let me know if anyone else want to become an active member of the council.

I want to express my gratitude to **Mieke van Geffen**, who will leave ESCI central office after 8 years of great commitment to ESCI. Mieke, we will miss your knowledge, especially regarding financial issues of ESCI. We are in the process of attracting a successor for Mieke. **Agnes Vos** has left the central office last year and is already replaced by **Marliese Greven**.

I want to thank the ESCI Trust foundation for their efforts to keep the finances of ESCI in a good condition. It is very nice to see that the President of the Trust, **dr. Robin Dullaart**, is actively involved in the congress by organizing a very nice workshop: Inflammation Biomarkers and Chronic Disease.

I hope sincerely that we will have a great congress in Paris, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Please enjoy the congress and your stay in Paris.

*President of ESCI
Hendrik Nathoe*

50TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF ESCI

**Paris, France
27 - 29 April 2016**

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

It is a great pleasure to invite you to attend the 50th ESCI Annual Scientific Meeting in our city of Paris and in the very special place of Cochin Hospital and Paris V Medical University.

For this 50th congress, ESCI has focused a very special attention on young colleagues with 50 travel grants provided... And our scientific committee has prepared an outstanding program thanks to the excellence of invited speakers but also thanks to the quality of your abstracts. Indeed, ESCI 2016 will allow us to enjoy a broad program: we will have the pleasure during the opening lecture to have an insight into "Molecular gastronomy" by Pr Hervé This, to hear the viewpoint of Pr Peter Agre who won the Nobel prize in 2003, on water channels and



what he means by "science diplomacy"... We will have the great pleasure to broaden our focus with the multidisciplinary session through various translational topics such as the impact of maternal obesity on offspring metabolism, of tissue crystal deposition on inflammation, or to learn the latest discovery about iron physiology.

As every year we will support our journal, the EJCI and congratulate the best clinical and basic 2015 article winners Dr Chamuleau and Dr Caballero and hope many of you will send papers in the future to even more improve the quality of the journal of our society ... We will also hear and congratulate Dr Muchir and Dr Van Egmond our two basic excellence ESCI 2016 awardees!

As you all know, ESCI congress allows clinicians and basic scientists from all over Europe to meet in a friendly atmosphere and through stimulating workshops to foster scientific collaborations and translational medicine, but also to host new workshops in order to facilitate new European networks. During the two and half days of the meeting, we will have top quality workshops focusing on a vast array of topics such as phagocyte biology, mitochondrial biology, rheumatology, cardiovascular diseases, hepatology/metabolic diseases / lifestyle, inflammation biomarkers in chronic diseases, auto inflammatory disease, pathophysiology of tissue calcifications and even emerging technologies in medical science!

Besides, we do hope we will enjoy very active poster sessions where young and senior clinical and basic researchers will have great discussions in a very special place: the cloister of Port Royal built in 1626.

By the way, do not miss our Congress Dinner in "le Capitaine Fracasse" where we will relax, taste a nice meal and chat with colleagues from all over the world while sightseeing Paris by night on the river Seine: enjoy the Eiffel tower of course but also Notre Dame and all the nice buildings of Paris downtown!

The whole local organizing committee but also all ESCI councilors and staff members look forward to welcoming you in Paris and enjoy a great 50th ESCI Meeting!

Yours Sincerely

*Professor Jean-Philippe Haymann, MD, PhD
ESCI Treasurer
Department of physiology, AP-HP,
Paris Sorbonne Université UPMC.*



ALBERT STRUYVENBERG MEDAL 2016 AWARDED TO PETER AGRE



Professor P. Agre

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg
School of Public Health
Baltimore, USA

A native Minnesotan, **Peter Agre** studied chemistry at Augsburg College (B.A. 1970) and medicine at Johns Hopkins (M.D. 1974). He completed his residency at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and an Oncology Fellowship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Agre joined the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine faculty in 1984 and rose to the rank of Professor of Biological Chemistry and Professor of Medicine. In 2005, Agre moved to the Duke University School of Medicine where he served as Vice Chancellor for Science and Technology and James B. Duke Professor of Cell Biology. Agre returned to Johns Hopkins in January 2008, where he is University Professor and Director of the Malaria Research Institute at the Bloomberg School of Public Health.

In 2003, Agre shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for discovering aquaporins, a family of water channel proteins found throughout nature and is responsible for numerous physiological processes in humans and is implicated in multiple clinical disorders. Agre has received other honors including 12 honorary doctorates, Commandership in the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit from King Harald V, and the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America. Agre is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine for which he chaired and serves on the Committee on Human Rights. In February 2008 Agre became President-Elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences.



ESCI YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD 2016



Photo: DigiDaan

Professor Marjolein van Egmond, PhD
‘Oncology and Inflammation’
VU University Medical Center
Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Monoclonal antibodies: the magic bullets to remove circulating colorectal cancer cells?

Marjolein van Egmond, PhD is professor in ‘Oncology and Inflammation’ at the VU University Medical Center in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Her research focusses on activation of the immune system by antibodies. On one hand it is investigated how abnormal antibody responses contribute to chronic inflammation and autoimmunity. On the other hand her research group studies how monoclonal antibodies can be used to activate immune responses in cancer. Her research has a strong translational approach, which is facilitated by her dual appointment at the Department of Surgery and the Department of Molecular Cell Biology and Immunology. This ensures rapid translation of pre-clinical findings into clinical applications.

ESCI YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD 2016



Dr. Antoine Muchir, PhD
Research Associate Inserm CR1
"Abnormal activation of mitogen
activated protein kinase signaling in
the pathogenesis of dilated
cardiomyopathy caused by mutation
in A-type lamins gene"
University of Paris, France

Antoine Muchir, PhD promoted chargé de recherche INSERM, classe 1, Thérapies des Maladies du Muscle Strié/Institut de Myologie, UM76–UPMC University of Paris 6/U974–Inserm/UMR7215–CNRS G. H., Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris, France, works on the nuclear envelope as a tractable model to study the development of cardiac muscle in detail as well as the pathophysiology of lamin A/C dilated cardiomyopathy, which is characterised by left ventricular dilatation associated with impaired systolic function. Up until the 1990s, studies of the nuclear lamins and nuclear envelope were primarily in the domain of basic cell biologists. In 1999, Bonne et al. reported that mutations in LMNA cause autosomal dominant LMNA cardiomyopathy. As a result, the nuclear lamina is now positioned on the interface between cell biology and medicine. Research on the genetic mutations causing LMNA cardiomyopathy took off in the first decade of the twenty first century, but understanding of disease pathogenesis lagged.

Research on pathophysiology using cellular and animal models subsequently began to catch up. To explore the pathogenesis of LMNA cardiomyopathy, Dr. Antoine Muchir carried out a genome-wide RNA expression analysis of hearts from mouse models of LMNA cardiomyopathy. Analysis revealed significant differences in expression of genes encoding proteins in MAP kinases pathways in the mutated mice. Dr. Antoine Muchir demonstrated an aberrant increase in MAP kinases in hearts from mice and patients. This led him to hypothesize a model of how abnormalities of lamin A/C in the nuclear envelope may lead to the cardiomyopathy. These results provide proof of principle for MAP kinase inhibition as a therapeutic option to prevent or delay the onset of cardiomyopathy in LMNA cardiomyopathy. Pharmacological blockade of signaling in the MAP kinase cascade in Lmna H222P knock-in mice improves cardiac ejection fraction and blunts further increases in left ventricular dilatation. Treatment also decreases cardiac fibrosis, an end-stage and irreversible feature of cardiomyopathy in LMNA cardiomyopathy. While it remains unclear how alterations in A-type lamins lead to activation of MAP kinase signaling in the heart, these studies clearly show that the abnormal activation involved is the pathophysiology of LMNA cardiomyopathy. Inhibitors of MAP kinase signaling are currently in human clinical trials for other indications and could potentially be tested in human subjects with LMNA cardiomyopathy.

2016 ESCI AWARD FOR THE BEST BASIC ARTICLE OF EJCI IN 2015



S.A.J. Chamuleau, MD, PhD, FESC
Professor of Cardiology
University Medical Center, Utrecht,
the Netherlands.

Professor Steven Anton Jozef Chamuleau (MD, PhD) (born October 28, 1969 in Amsterdam) is a cardiologist and professor at the University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU) (the Netherlands), specializing in cardiac regenerative therapy, valvular disease and cardiac imaging.

Before he attended medical school at the University of Amsterdam, Professor Chamuleau started a study Econometrics and received a propaedeutics in Biology. He finished medical school in Amsterdam and subsequently received his PhD degree cum laude in 2001 on intracoronary derived physiological parameters for clinical decision making at the Academic Medical Center (AMC) in Amsterdam under supervision of prof. Jan Piek. After his PhD he started his residency at the AMC, where he also

did his fellowship training in cardiology and cardiac imaging. After a year in Louisville in the lab of prof. Bolli, focusing on cardiac stem cell treatment, he became a staff cardiologist at the UMC Utrecht. In 2016 he was appointed a professor position at the UMCU.

Dr. Chamuleau has published over 90 peer-reviewed papers and is an active member in the European Society of Cardiology and American Heart Association.[1] He is a reviewer for many cardiac journals, such as Heart, Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, International Journal of Cardiology and Catheterization and Cardiovascular Interventions. He is on the editorial board of 'Frontiers in Heart Surgery'. He is a (co-)PI in several large international research consortia and clinical trials, primarily focused on stem cell treatment and valvular disease.

2016 ESCI AWARD FOR THE BEST CLINICAL ARTICLE OF EJCI IN 2015



Dr. Luis Caballero

Cardiology Department
Hospital Universitario Los Arcos del Mar Menor, San Javier, Murcia, Spain

Nationality: Spanish

Age: 34 years old

1999-2005 Medicine graduate at University of Murcia

2006 - 2011 Specialized medical training in Cardiology at University General Hospital of Alicante (Spain)

2012-2014 Research Fellowship "Rio Hortega" at Cardiac Imaging Unit of Hospital Clínico Universitario Virgen de la Arrixaca, Murcia (Spain)

2014 Research period in Echocardiography laboratory of Sart Tilman Hospital in Liege (Belgium)

2012-2014 Master in "Methodology of Investigation in Health Science" at Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona

2014 European Association of Echocardiography Accreditation in Adult Transthoracic Echocardiography

2015 Doctorate in Medicine in University of Murcia

Nowadays, working as Cardiology Consultant in the Cardiology Department of Hospital Universitario Los Arcos del Mar Menor (Murcia, Spain).

Member of the Spanish Society of Cardiology, European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI) and the ESC Working group in Valvular Heart Disease.

Areas of interest: Echocardiography, cardiovascular imaging and valvular heart disease.

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE

Retirement



Mieke van Geffen

After nearly 9 years at ESCI I am leaving! I am retiring on 1 May 2016.

From 2007 until today I worked at the ESCI Central Office with 4 presidents, 4 secretary-treasurers, 30 councillors and 4 colleagues.

Most conversations went by e-mail. There were thousands of e-mails compared to a few phone calls. That's why I enjoyed the meetings: we saw and spoke to each other twice a year at the Council meetings and the Annual Scientific Meeting.

I loved my work. For me it was the ideal combination of medical science, finances and foreign languages. From the abstract handling to the complexity of the accountancy reports, from composing the programme book to writing minutes, from helping to organize the ASM's to creating financial surveys, I liked it all. The autonomy and self-reliance of the job appealed greatly to me as did the contact with so many different people and cultures.

During my time at ESCI the Central Office went through a modernization process. The greatest progress was the automation of the abstract handling. The abstract database was upgraded so we no longer had to manually feed the database with the abstract information, or send out hundreds of e-mails manually. It now happens with one mouse click.

All in all I had a great time at ESCI. I learned a lot and worked with many kind and interesting people.

Mieke van Geffen

Agnes Vos-Leung left the Central Office in October 2015.

Marliese Greven started on September 1 2015.

FUTURE SCIENTIFIC MEETING

2017 Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation in Genoa, Italy

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to invite you on 17th-19th May 2017 to attend the 51th ESCI Annual Scientific Meeting, which will take place in Genoa, Italy.

You cannot miss the meeting in Genoa due to both "scientific" and "good" reasons.

Science: the meeting will last two and half days (from Wednesday to Friday), with high quality workshops on phagocyte biology, mitochondrial biology, rheumatology, cardiovascular diseases, metabolic diseases/lifestyle and nephrology. Young investigators will be able to meet in the San Martino Hospital (Congress venue) several senior scientists from all Europe Countries. Keep in mind to attend to the Congress Dinner!



History, art and tourism: starting from the middle age, Genoa was one of the so-called "Maritime Republics" where trade and banking supported the development of a very powerful and rich town in the Mediterranean Sea. This resulted in one of the largest historical Center in Europe characterized by an intricate maze of alleyways "Caruggi" that open unexpectedly into small squares and fantastic buildings and churches. The soul of the city lives here, where smells, tastes, and cultures have been combined. Genoa also attracted several artists, including Rubens, Caravaggio and Van Dyck and you can visit their wonderful paintings. Do not miss the house of Christopher Columbus who, although some controversy exists, the Genoese are proud of his birth in Genoa!! Genoa was chosen as European Capital of Culture in 2004 and the UNESCO has currently recognized 42 historical buildings (known as "Palazzi dei Rolli") as World Heritage Sites.



Finally, keep in mind to stay and visit during the weekend beautiful seaside villages next to Genoa, such Portofino, Camogli, Sestri Levante and the Cinque Terre.

Food: Genoa is between the mountains and sea and the "cucina ligure" is characterized by a perfect mix of foods and wine that you cannot miss. The "Focaccia al formaggio di Recco", the "Focaccia Genovese", the "Farinata di ceci", the "Panissa", the "Trofie al pesto", the "Pansotti con sugo di noci", the "Bagnùn d'acciughe", the "Coniglio alla ligure" are only some examples of what you can eat. White wines like "Vermentino" and "Pigato" are also recommended.

We look forward to welcoming you all in Genoa and enjoy a great 51st ESCI Annual Scientific Meeting!

Fabrizio Montecucco

ADDRESS ESCI CENTRAL OFFICE

Central Office
European Society for Clinical Investigation (ESCI)
Bolognalaan 34
3584 CJ Utrecht
The Netherlands

phone +31 88 755 8787
fax +31 30 251 5724
E-mail esci@umcutrecht.nl
Website <http://www.esci.eu.com>

SUMMARY PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

I Plenary Sessions and Esci Council Meeting

Wednesday 27 April 2016

- 09.00 – 11.00 Council meeting
- 11.00 – 11.30 EJCI meeting council
- 11.30 – 12.30 Journal foundation and Trust
- 12.30 – 13.00 Business meeting
- 18.00 – 18.45 **Opening Lecture**

Professor Hervé This (Paris, France) *"Molecular Gastronomy and its latest application: note by note cooking. New questions for science, technology, technique, including nutrition and toxicology"*.

Thursday 28 April 2016

- 10.30 – 11.15 **Albert Struyvenberg Medal**
Professor Peter Agre (Baltimore, MD, USA)
- 11.30 – 12.30 **2016 ESCI Awards**
- 11.30 – 12.10 **ESCI Young Investigator Award 2016**
- 12.10 – 12.20 **ESCI Award for the Best Clinical Article of EJCI in 2015**
- 12.20 – 12.30 **ESCI Award for the Best Basic Article of EJCI in 2015**

Friday 29 April 2016

- 11.00 – 12.45
Multidisciplinary focus: molecular medicine and genetics
Peter W. Nathanielsz (San Antonio, TX, USA and Laramie, WY, USA)
"Developmental programming of offspring metabolism by maternal obesity"
Saeed Khan (Gainesville, FL, USA)
"What relations between crystals and inflammation in the kidney?"
Sophie Vaultont (Paris, France)
"Hepcidine in iron regulation"
Yigal Pinto (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)
"Heart Failure in Young People: Difficult to Treat?"

II Workshops

- 1. Autoinflammatory Disease**
Organizers: Piero Portincasa (Bari, Italy) & Gilles Grateau (Paris, France)
- 2. Cardiology**
Organizers: Dirk van Osch (Utrecht, The Netherlands) & Nadjib Hammoudi (Paris, France)
- 3. Hepatology / Metabolism / Life Style**
Organizers: Piero Portincasa, Gianluigi Giannelli (Bari, Italy), Dan L. Dumitraşcu (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) & Gema Frühbeck (Pamplona, Spain)
- 4. Inflammation Biomarkers and Chronic Disease**
Organizer: Robin Dullaart (Groningen, The Netherlands)
- 5. Mitochondria, Metabolism and Disease**
Organizers: Paulo Oliveira (Coimbra, Portugal), Mariusz Wiecekowski (Warsaw, Poland), Frederic Bouillaud (Paris, France) & Carlos Palmeira (Coimbra, Portugal)
- 6. Phagocyte Biology**
Organizers: Véronique Witko-Sarsat & Florence Niedergang (Paris, France)

7. Rheumatology

Organizers: György Nagy (Budapest, Hungary); Kris Reedquist (Utrecht, The Netherlands) & Jérémie Sellam (Paris, France)

8. Tissue Calcifications

Organizers: Michel Daudon, Dominique Bazin & Jean Philippe Haymann (Paris, France)

9. Emerging Technologies in Medical Sciences

Organizers: Jean-Jacques Boffa & Jean-Philippe Haymann (Paris, France)

III Poster Sessions

- Autoinflammatory Disease
- Cardiology
- Hepatology/Metabolism/Lifestyle
- Inflammation Biomarkers and Chronic Disease
- Mitochondria, Metabolism and Disease
- Phagocyte Biology
- Rheumatology
- Tissue Calcifications
- Emerging Technologies in Medical Sciences
- Other topics: basic research
- Other topics: clinical research

The poster sessions will be held on 28 April 17.00-19.00 hrs and on April 29 12.45-14.30 hrs. The presence of the poster authors or representatives is restrained during the poster sessions and be eligible for a poster award.

Poster Award 2016: The eight best posters will be chosen and awarded to an amount of EURO 200 per poster.

The **Poster Awards Ceremony** will take place on Friday evening 29 April at 18:00 hrs.

VI Social Event

On Thursday April 28, you are invited to a special evening at "Le Capitaine Fracasse": boat boarding ile aux cygnes (Metro Bir Hakeim – ligne 6).

For more information and registration, please check at the congress hospitality desk and the ESCI hospitality desk.

Congress Venue

Faculté Cochin, first floor, 24,
Rue du Faubourg, Saint Jacques,
75014 Paris, France

For Further Information

Congress secretariat:

MCO Congres
www.mcocongres.com

E-mail Claire Bellone: Claire.bellone@mcocongres.com

E-mail Florence Goudard: Florence.goudard@mcocongres.com

Phone +33(0)495093800

Updated information on the congress: www.esci.eu.com

51ST ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

May 17th-19th 2017

Genoa, Italy

IRCCS San Martino Hospital-IST and
University of Genoa

Main topics

Cardiology
Rheumatology
Phagocyte biology
Mitochondrial biology
Gastroenterology/Life style
Cancer

Do not miss the Meeting for the
excellence of:
Science, history, art and tourism

Organizers:

Fabrizio Montecucco, Aldo Pende,
Franco Dallegri (Genoa, Italy)



www.esci.eu.com