19
March 2008

ESCI NEWSLETTER

European Society for Clinical Investigation, Bolognalaan 34, 3584 CJ Utrecht, The Netherlands, e-mail esci@umcutrecht.nl, http://www.esci.eu.com/

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In April 2007 we enjoyed a scientifically and financially very successful annual scientific meeting in Uppsala. The local organizer professor Per Venge and his team succeeded to put together an attractive scientific program, which was highly appreciated by a large audience, and obtained financial support from industry and other sponsors that multiplied compared to previous meetings.
In 2007 several initiatives were taken in order to rejuvenate ESCI, some of which I like to mention.

One point of concern is the slowly decreasing membership. ESCI has active and honorary members. Active members must reside in Europe or have strong ties with European medical science and should have accomplished meritorious original investigations in the clinical or allied sciences of medicine. They pay an annual subscription and may participate in the business and scientific sessions of the Society; they may vote at general meetings, are eligible for election to office in ESCI and receive the European Journal of Clinical Investigation. In exceptional circumstances honorary members may be proposed by the Council and approved by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly. Honorary members pay no subscription for membership and no registration fee for the annual scientific meetings. In 2007 the Council has decided to offer a 10 years free membership to active members who have served ESCI as a member of the Council, (associate) editors of the European Journal of Clinical Investigation, local organizers of the ESCI annual scientific meetings and winners of the ESCI award for Excellence in Biomedical Investigation. In addition a free corresponding membership shall be offered to high-profile medical scientists, including those who were selected to deliver a plenary lecture during an annual scientific meeting. Free and corresponding memberships will be decided by the Council. We hope to increase the number of influential medical scientists with affinity to ESCI and our Journal, with mutual benefit.

During the annual scientific meeting in Uppsala for the first time the Albert Struyvenberg Medal was awarded, a token of appreciation for outstanding achievements in the field of Clinical Investigation. The first medal was for Professor Dirk Roos. More details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

In the past ESCI has organized some practical workshops in molecular biology, which were rather successful. Due to the high costs and the amount of work this activity was not continued. From 2008 on, however, we will resume educational activities on a European level. George Chrousos has taken the initiative to organize an annual three days ESCI Core Course on Clinical Research, which will be delivered for the first time in Brussels late 2008 or early 2009. Its mission will be to educate young biomedical investigators and to update experienced clinical scientists in statistics and in clinical trials through lectures, case presentations and practical exercises. The faculty will consist of leading scientists from Europe and the USA. Funding will be provided by ESCI and the pharmaceutical industry. Grants will be available for participants from Eastern European countries.

In 2008 the European Journal of Clinical Investigation will receive a new and more attractive design. Introduction of a "News and Views" section is being discussed with the publisher. The scientific quality of the Journal continues to increase with now an impact factor near 3.

ESCI will try to expand contacts with the European Commission. We are able and willing to facilitate those meetings of EC funded biomedical research groups, which are considered to be project deliverables. This may increase the visibility of ESCI with an obvious benefit to groups that take the opportunity to use the framework of a well-organized European scientific conference for their obligatory meetings.

For 2008 we all are looking forward to a great ESCI annual scientific meeting in Geneva, which is being organized by professors François Mach and Brenda Kwak. The program contains very interesting workshops, there are again excellent plenary lectures, and there is already much interest for the subspecialty sessions. Although March in Geneva may still be rather cold, we hope for a bright sky in this old and very attractive city.

At the end of this meeting I will retire as president of ESCI, after more than 20 years of activities for the Society, as secretary-treasurer, president, editor of the European Journal of Clinical Investigation, local organizer of ESCI 2004 in Utrecht, and organizer of many workshops. I enjoyed all of it and never missed any annual scientific meeting of ESCI since Milano 1984.

I sincerely hope that in the future many (young) biomedical scientists and clinicians will take the opportunity to join and enjoy ESCI.

Jo Marx
President of ESCI

THE ESCI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN BIOMEDICAL INVESTIGATION 2008

Professor László Nagy
MD, PhD, Dr. Habil, MHAS
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Medical and Health Science Center, University of Debrecen, Hungary

winner of the 2008 ESCI Award for Excellence in Biomedical Investigation

Professor László Nagy was born in Debrecen, Hungary, in 1966. He graduated as a medical doctor with honors („summa cum laude") from the Debrecen University Medical School in 1991. He then moved to the United States to complete his PhD studies with Peter Davies at the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. After receiving his PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology in 1995, he began a three-year postdoctoral training with Ronald Evans at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California, USA. He returned to Hungary in 1999 to establish his own research group. At present, he is Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of the Medical and Health Science Center of the University of Debrecen and Head of the Debrecen Clinical Genomics Center.

During his scientific career, Professor Nagy made groundbreaking observations related to the role of nuclear hormone receptors in basic biological processes and the pathogenesis of major human diseases. His most important discovery was that of a molecular machinery involved in the early events of atherosclerotic plaque formation. In a series of papers published in Cell in the late 1990's,

Professor Nagy and his co-workers identified an intracellular signal transduction mechanism that is initiated by sensing of oxidized LDL (oxLDL) by the nuclear receptor peroxisome proliferation activated receptor (PPAR) γ, and leading to the uptake of oxLDL by macrophages which thus become foam cells, one the hallmark cell types of the atherosclerotic plaque. His other studies focused on the intimate molecular details of how nuclear hormone receptors fulfil their physiological function, or the role of these receptors in non-metabolic processes such as inflammation or the development and function of the innate immune system. His research activity combines tools of cell and molecular biology with the analysis of intact organisms such as genetically modified mice or samples from human patients. This approach places him at the forefront of the newly emerging field of molecular medicine.

Professor Nagy received a number of major awards and honors during his career. He was ranked as the fifth most cited scientist based on the Thompson Scientific Hot Papers database in 1999. He was selected as a European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) Young Investigator in 2000 and became member of EMBO in 2007. He is an International Scholar of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute since 2000 and an International Senior Research Fellow of the Wellcome Trust since 2004. He became Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) in 2005 and he was elected to be a Corresponding Member of the HAS in 2007.

Based on his groundbreaking contributions to our understanding of the physiology of nuclear hormone receptors and the molecular pathomechanism of atherosclerosis, as well as for his active leadership role in biomedical sciences in Europe, the ESCI Council proudly selected Professor László Nagy as the recipient of the 2008 ESCI Award for Excellence in Biomedical Investigation 2008.

Attila Mócsai, MD, PhD
ESCI councillor

THE FIRST ALBERT STRUYVENBERG MEDAL AWARDED TO DIRK ROOS

During the annual scientific meeting in Uppsala on April 19th, 2007 the first Albert Struyvenberg Medal was awarded to professor Dirk Roos from Amsterdam, The Netherlands, for Excellence in the Clinical Investigation of Immunology and Phagocyte Biology. The selection committee was chaired by George Chrousos.

The Society named the Award after one of its founding fathers, professor Albert Struyvenberg, who achieved excellence in clinical science, teaching and training of young scientists and medical specialists. He was head of the Department of Internal Medicine of the University Medical Centre in Utrecht. Albert Struyvenberg is one of the very few honorary members of ESCI. His portrait is depicted on one side of the medal. The other side of the medal shows the remains of the temple of Asklepios on the Greek isle of Kos. This is the place were the first hospital was founded and where Hippokrates, born in 460 BC, for the first time, performed clinical investigation and practiced evidence-based medicine. The roots of ESCI, devoted to spreading knowledge and understanding of mechanisms of disease, go back to the still existing plane-tree in the city of Kos. In the shade of that tree Hippokrates discussed clinical science with his students as it is still being pursued during ESCI workshops.

Dirk Roos is a biochemist who specialized in cellular innate immunology. His PhD thesis at the University of Amsterdam was on lymphocyte metabolism (1973). After a postdoc position with Dr.

Gerald Weissmann in New York he returned to Amsterdam, where he became (among others) head of the Department of Blood Cell Chemistry at the Central Laboratory for Blood Transfusion in 1977, and Professor of Immunology at the University of Amsterdam in 1992. In 1996 he received the Van Loghem Award from the Netherlands Society for Immunology. The research activities of Dirk Roos are on phagocyte-mediated defense against infections by micro-organisms, with a special focus on the NADPH oxidase system, the signal transduction between cell surface receptors and neutrophil functions, the interaction between plasma proteins and neutrophil functions, and neutrophil apoptosis. He also published in the fields of genetics of blood groups, allo-immunisation against blood group antigens, interaction of leukocytes and endothelial cells, and hematopoietic stem cell biology. Dirk Roos is author or co-author of more than 400 publications, many of them being of superior quality and highly cited, and is frequently asked as a speaker at international meetings. He is an active member of ESCI since 1981, when he co-organized the first Phagocyte Workshop at the Annual Scientific Meeting. Since then, he organized many more Phagocyte Workshops and was a member of ESCI council until 2006.

The medal was designed and made in 2007 by Willem Noyons, a well known Dutch artist, using an etching technique on guilded sterling silver. The Albert Struyvenberg Medal is awarded for outstanding achievements in the field of Clinical Investigation, in line with the spirit of the founding-fathers of ESCI, established on February 12th, 1967.

The picture was made during a lunch in Utrecht in December 2007, celebrating the ESCI medal with Dirk Roos (left) and Albert Struyvenberg (right).

Jo Marx
President of ESCI

NEW COUNCILLORS 2008

During the next Annual Business Meeting of ESCI on 28 March 2008 Professor Jo Marx, president, and Professors François Mach and Anetta Undas, vice-presidents, will finish office. Consequently a new vice-president should be appointed. You will find his name on the ballot paper. The new president was elected in 2007: Professor George Chrousos from Athens, Greece.
New councillors will be appointed for France, Poland, Switzerland, The Netherlands and United Kingdom.

The curricula vitae of the candidates nominated for councillorship are listed below. As usual you can vote through the ballot paper. The ballot paper should be returned to the Central Office of ESCI as soon as possible. Precise instructions can be found on the ballot paper.

Council candidate for France

Jean-Jacques Boffa, MD, PhD
Department of Nephrology and Dialysis
Tenon Hospital
Paris, France

Jean-Jacques Boffa, 42 years old, is associate professor at the Department of Nephrology, University Pierre and Marie Curie. He graduated from medical school in 1992. After completing his residency in nephrology, he specialized also in intensive medical care. He next became a research fellow in renal physiology and got his PhD degree in 2002. He was assistant professor of nephrology at Tenon hospital, Paris for 2 years. Then, he spent two years as a visiting research assistant professor in renal physiology & vascular biology laboratory of W. Arendshorst, University of North Carolina, before he returned to Paris in 2004 as an associate professor. He currently actively participates in clinical and basic research and educational activities of the department.

First, his scientific work focused on the role of endothelin and angiotensin in renal fibrosis development. Using high dose of antagonists, he showed that renal fibrosis could reverse. In animal models of septic shock, he demonstrated the role of thromboxan and its receptor in acute renal failure. Current basic and clinical work aims to understand renal fibrosis mechanisms and its determinants, to identify biomarkers of progression of renal diseases. He is (co-)author of about 20 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Boffa is a member of the French Société de nephrology and the Société of hypertension.

Council candidate for Poland

Maciej Tadeusz Malecki, MD, PhD
Department of Metabolic Diseases
Jagiellonian University Medical College
Krakow, Poland

Maciej Malecki (1963) graduated cum laude from the Krakow Medical School in 1988. He started his academic carrier as an assistant resident in internal medicine in the Department of Metabolic Diseases, Krakow Medical School. He spent 3 years (1996-1999) as a research fellow at the Joslin Diabetes Center, Harvard Medical School, in Boston, MA, USA. After his return to Poland he received a lecturer position at the Department of Metabolic Diseases, Jagiellonian University Medical College. He received his Ph.D. in 1998 from Jagiellonian University Medical College. His Ph.D. dissertation "Search for type 2 diabetes mellitus genes on chromosome 20q" was honored by Aurelia Baczko Prize for the best doctoral work in Poland in 1999. In 2001 he received the Polish Diabetes Association Prize for achievements in the field of diabetology. In 2004 he defended his habilitation dissertation "The molecular background of type 2 diabetes mellitus- pathophysiological and clinical aspects" and received Associate Professor position.

Dr. Malecki is a specialist in internal medicine and diabetology. The major scientific interest of Dr. Malecki is the genetics of type 2 diabetes mellitus and monogenic forms of the disease such as MODY and permanent neonatal diabetes. His papers include many important clinical observations associated with insulin secretion in those forms of disease. He participated in the discovery of NEUROD1 gene as responsible for MODY6 form of diabetes.

Dr. Malecki published about 80 original and review papers in respective scientific journals including Nature Genetics, Nature Clinical Practice Neurology, New England Journal of Medicine, Diabetes, Diabetologia, Diabetes Care, Stroke, Neurology, Diabetic Medicine and others. He serves as a reviewer for European Commission and important international journals including Endocrine Review, Diabetes, Diabetes Care, and Diabetologia. He is a member of EASD, the Polish Diabetes Association, and the Polish Society of Internal Medicine.

Council candidate for Switzerland

Brenda R. Kwak, PhD
Division of Cardiology
Geneva University Hospitals
Geneva, Switzerland

Brenda Kwak was born in 1966 in The Netherlands. She studied medicine at the University of Amsterdam and obtained her PhD in 1993 at the same university. Her main research interests are the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis and connexin-mediated intercellular signalling.

Dr. Kwak is board member of the working group on cardiovascular biology of the Swiss Society of Cardiology. In October 2003, she obtained a professorship of the Swiss National Science Foundation to initiate her research group in the Division of Cardiology, Geneva University Hospitals in Switzerland.

Brenda Kwak has performed 8 years of research in the physiological laboratories of Prof. Habo J. Jongsma in Amsterdam and Utrecht. She initially studied the physiological regulation of gap junction intercellular communication in the heart. Aspects of modulation of connexin-mediated intercellular communication in relation with cardiac ischemia were later studied as well. Interested in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis, she joined in Geneva the research group of Prof. François Mach at the Division of Cardiology. She found that HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, so-called statins, exhibit pleiotropic immunomodulatory properties in addition to their cholesterol-lowering effects. Later on, she focussed her research on the role of connexins in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis. She showed that a genetic polymorphism in the human connexin37 gene was associated with increased risk for coronary atherosclerosis in the Swiss population and identified the molecular basis for this beneficial effect. Cx37 hemichannels control the initiation of atherosclerotic lesion development by inhibiting autocrine ATP-dependent regulation of monocyte adhesion. Her work is published in journals such as Circulation, Circulation Research, Arteriosclerosis Thrombosis and Vascular Biology, Journal of Physiology (London) and Nature Medicine.

Council candidate for The Netherlands

Frank L.J. Visseren, MD, PhD
Department of Vascular Medicine
University Medical Center Utrecht
Utrecht, The Netherlands

Frank L.J. Visseren (1965) is internist and associate professor of Vascular Medicine at the Department of Vascular Medicine at the University Medical Center (UMC) Utrecht, The Netherlands.
He received his training in Internal Medicine and in Vascular Medicine at the UMC Utrecht. Frank Visseren was research fellow at the Department of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, University of Minnesota, USA and at the Department of Cardiology, University of California, San Francisco. In 2007 he finished the Master Program Clinical Epidemiology.
His clinical work is concentrated around patients at high risk for the development of cardiovascular diseases including patients with familial hypercholesterolemia. He is the clinical director of the Second Manifestations of ARTerial disease (SMART) cohort at the UMC Utrecht. This is a cohort of over 7000 patients, growing with 800 patients annually, for etiologic, prognostic, diagnostic and therapeutic research. He is a strong advocate of a multidisciplinary approach in the treatment of patients at high risk for the development of (new) vascular diseases.
His main research interest is in the field of insulin resistance and vascular diseases and consists of translational and epidemiologic research focusing on the role of visceral adipocytes in the development of atherosclerosis and diabetes.
Frank Visseren is head of the clinical research unit Vascular Medicine at the UMC Utrecht and has (co-)authored over 70 articles and (chapters in) books. In 2004, Frank Visseren was one of the local organizers of the Annual Scientific Meeting of ESCI in Utrecht, The Netherlands. Currently he is president of the Dutch Society of Vascular Medicine for Internists.

Council candidate for United Kingdom

Ashley Grossman
BA, BSc, MD, FRCP, FMedSci
Department of Endocrinology
St. Bartholomew's Hospital
London, United Kingdom

Ashley Grossman, born in 1948, initially graduated with a BA in Psychology and Social Anthropology from the University of London, then entered University College Hospital Medical School in London and took the University Gold Medal in 1975. He also obtained a BSc in Neuroscience.

Following junior posts in cardiology and neurology, Grossman joined the Department of Endocrinology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital where he has been for the past 28 years, and where he is currently Professor of Neuroendocrinology and Consultant Physician. In 2000 he was appointed a fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Professor Grossman has published over 500 research papers and reviews, and has particular interests in pituitary and hypothalamic tumours, endocrine oncology, and the molecular pathogenesis of neuroendocrine tumours. He is currently President of the European Neuroendocrine Association, and Chairman-elect of the UKI Neuroendocrine Tumour Association. He is past editor of the journal Clinical Endocrinology, on the editorial board of the major textbook De Groot and Jameson's Endocrinology, is Vice-Chairman of the major on-line textbook Endotext.org, and serves on the editorial boards of many journals.
He is married and has 6 daughters who occupy most of his time when he is not working.

42ND ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF ESCI

Geneva, Switzerland
26 – 29 March 2008

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee I would like to extend you a warm invitation to the 42nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation. The Meeting will be held at the Geneva Unimail University, 26 – 29 March 2008.

Geneva is situated in one of the Europe's most beautiful scenery, between lake and mountains and has all the advantages of a small city combined with the facilities and services usually only found in much larger cities. Ski resorts either in nearby France or in Switzerland will still be open and you can combine your meeting with an extension in the Alps. The city has excellent conference facilities, which have been improved recently, and also hotel capacities in all categories and for all budgets. You may know that our city has a long history in hosting keynote meetings in all fields and we are very pleased to see this conference coming to Switzerland and choosing our city.

Geneva is well connected by air to Europe and the rest of the world. There are regular direct flights to nearly 90 international destinations. Easyjet offers more than 25 destinations in Europe and several other lowcost carriers are completing the offer. There are good road, rail and air links to all parts of Switzerland and the rest of Europe.

Perhaps most importantly of all, Geneva is a very friendly city and welcomes visitors wholeheartedly.

We very much hope that you will come to the Geneva ESCI Meeting 2008 to experience a scientific meeting of the highest quality whose main topic will be the different aspects in Cardiovascular treatment and enjoy a taste of the history, culture and friendliness of the people of Geneva.

See you in Geneva!

Professor François Mach
President of the local organizing committee

SUMMARY PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

I Plenary lectures

Six plenary lectures, including the lecture by the winner of the **ESCI Award** for Excellence in Biomedical Investigation 2008: László Nagy, Debrecen, Hungary

- Gene therapy of chronic granulomatous disease: What's next? Lessons from mouse models and the clinic.
  Mary C. Dinauer (Indianapolis, IN, USA)
- title to be announced
  Steve R. Goldring (New York, NY, USA)
- Diabetes – when insulin is trapped in the secretory granule
  Patrik Rorsman (Oxford, UK)
- Electrophysiological consequences of replacement fibrosis as a modifier of the vulnerable substrate for atrial fibrillation
  José Jalife (Syracuse, NY, USA)
- Nuclear hormone receptors: transcription factors linking lipid metabolism and immunity
  László Nagy (Debrecen, Hungary) Winner ESCI Award 2008
- Neurovascular link in health and disease
  Peter Carmeliet (Leuven, Belgium)

II Workshops

1. **Atherosclerosis**
   - endothelial dysfunction/hypertension
   - leukocyte transmigration
   - inflammation and plaque instability
   - smooth muscle cells, extracellular matrix and stenosis

   Organizers: M.L. Bochaton-Piallat, B.R. Kwak (both Geneva, Switzerland)

2. **Biology of the cardiomyocytes**
   - cardiovascular risk (combined with ws 4)
   - myocardial hyperthophy, failure and cardioprotection
   - conduction and arrhythmias: from bench to bedside (educational session)

   Organizers: C. Montessuit (Geneva, Switzerland), E. Raddatz (Lausanne, Switzerland)

3. **Oncology, hemostasis and thrombosis**
   - oncology
   - platelets and thrombosis (educational session)
   - pathophysiology of thrombosis (educational session)
   - coagulation and its relationship with inflammation

   Organizers: A. Angelillo-Scherrer (Lausanne, Switzerland), D. Borgel (Chatenay Malabry, France)

4. **Metabolic disorders**
   - cardiovascular risk (combined with ws 2)
   - lipotoxicity and tissue dysfunctions

   Organizers: P. Maechler (Geneva, Switzerland), Z. Yang (Fribourg, Switzerland), F. Negro (Geneva, Switzerland), E. Bugianesi (Torino, Italy), C. Montessuit (Geneva, Switzerland)

5. **Clinical research in Switzerland**
   Organizer: F. Mach (Geneva, Switzerland)

6. **Update on endothelin-related diseases**
   Organizers: W. Kirch, D. Pittrow (both Dresden, Germany)

7. **Phagocyte biology**
   - inflammation
   - signalling
   - cell dynamics and imaging
   - phagocytosis
   - mechanisms of bacterial killing

   Organizers: N. Demaurex (Geneva, Switzerland), M. Wymann (Basel, Switzerland)

III Subspecialty Poster Sessions

Cardiovascular Medicine
Endocrinology, Diabetology and Metabolism
Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Haematology and Oncology
Immunology and Rheumatology
Lipids
Nephrology and Hypertension
Neurology and Neurobiology
Osteoporosis and Bone Metabolism
Respiratory Medicine
Thrombosis and Haemostasis

Poster viewing will be possible during coffee breaks, during lunchtime from Thursday 27 April to Saturday 29 March (13.00 – 14.00 hrs) and on Friday afternoon from 15.15 – 17.15 hrs.

The chaired oral presentation of selected subspecialty posters is scheduled for Friday 28 March, from 15.15 – 16.15 hrs.

Poster Awards: the four best posters (including workshop abstracts/posters) will be awarded the Poster Award 2008 to the amount of EURO 250 per poster. The presentation of the poster

awards is scheduled Friday 28 March 2008, immediately following the ESCI Award winning lecture.

Congress venue: Geneva Unimail
For further information please contact:

Congress secretariat ESCI 2008:
Kuoni Destination Management
Geneva Business Centre
Avenue des Morgines 12
CH-1213 Petit Lancy
Switzerland
phone +41 22 908 1855
fax +41 22 908 1835
e-mail esci2008@kuoni.ch

Local organizer:
Prof. François Mach
University Hospitals Geneva
Rue de Micheli-du-Crest 24
CH-1211 Geneva 14
Switzerland
e-mail francois.mach@medecine.unige.ch

An update of the **programme schedule** of the 42nd Annual Scientific Meeting of ESCI can be found on the ESCI website: http://www.esci.eu.com/.

FUTURE SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

43rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation Frankfurt, Germany 1 - 4 April 2009

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the European Society for Clinical Investigation and the local organizing Committee I would like to invite you to the 43rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation. The meeting will take place in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, from 1 – 4 April, 2009, at the Campus Westend of the Johann Wolfgang Goethe – University.

Frankfurt – located at the Main River – is an important financial and economic center in Europe but at the same time a place of history and tradition in Germany. The first proclamation of the german constitution took place in the Paulskirche, Goethe was born here and the cultural life is famous including the renowned museums at the Main banks. The architecture of the city includes both classicism and impressive high-rise buildings, which is why some call Frankfurt Mainhattan. Frankfurt brings together extremes and is characterized by a multicultural and tolerant life style, making this wcity very attractive.

Situated in the heart of Europe and Germany, Frankfurt is an important traffic hub and can be reached by visitors easily. Europe's second largest airport, with more than 50 million passengers a year, and Germany's largest railway station, with approximately 350,000 passengers per day, not to mention the motorway connection via the Frankfurt interchange, allow an comfortable way of getting here.

We welcome you to the 2009 ESCI meeting in Frankfurt, which will be a meeting of highest standards in clinical research. Main topics will include mechanisms of cellular, endocrine and metabolic regulation and its consequences for growth, inflammation and atherosclerosis. As a truly interdisciplinary Society it is our aim to bring together scientists from both the clinical and the laboratory side in order to integrate the different aspects of biomedical research.

Further details about the scientific program and the location will be accessible on the ESCI website www.esci.eu.com.

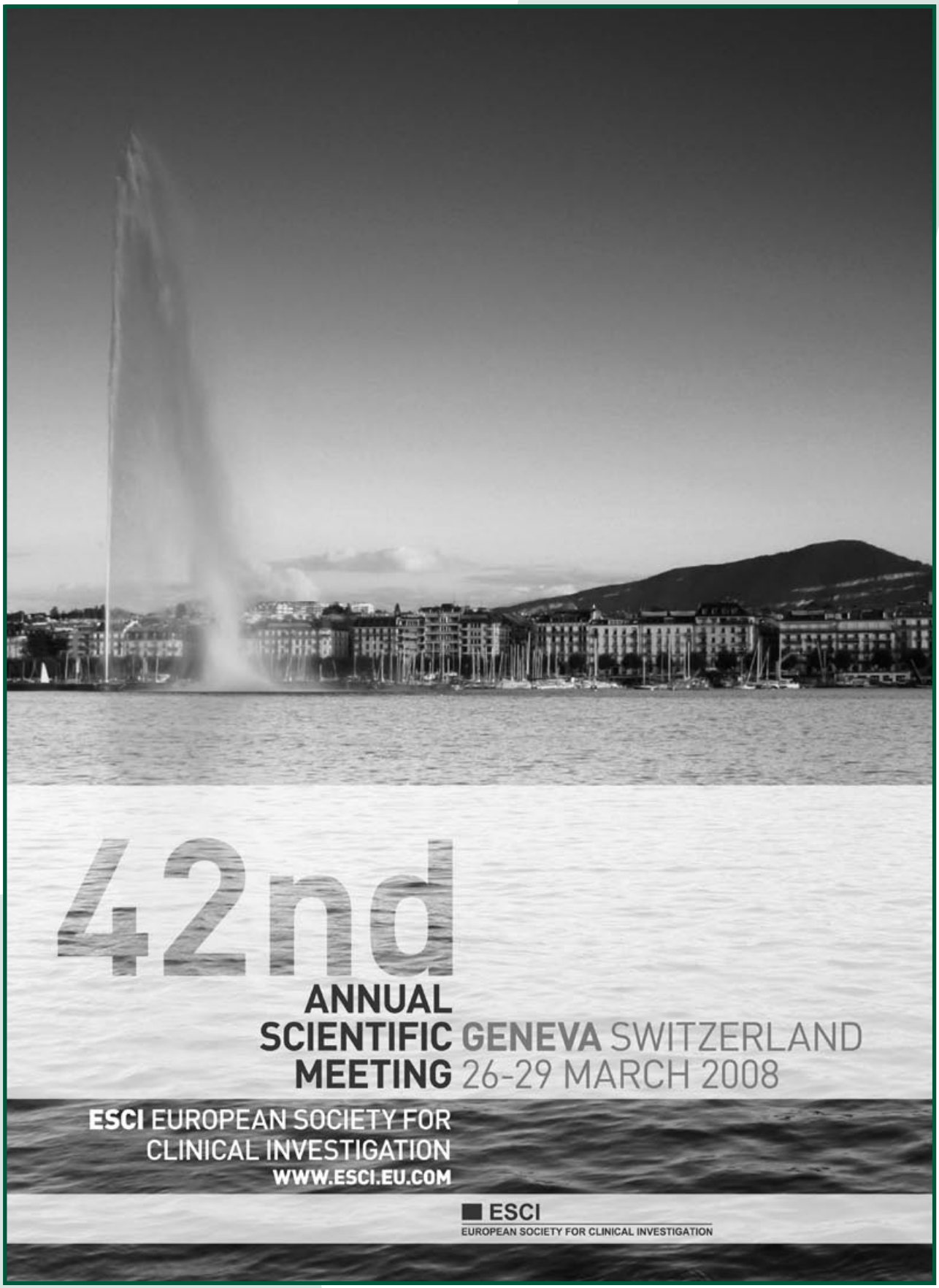
We are looking forward to seeing you all in Frankfurt!

PD Dr. W.A. Mann
President of the local organizing committee

ADDRESS CENTRAL OFFICE ESCI

Central Office
European Society for Clinical Investigation (ESCI)
Bolognalaan 34
3584 CJ Utrecht
The Netherlands
Ms. Jos Sperna Weiland
Ms. Mieke van Leeuwen
phone +31 88 755 8787
fax +31 30 251 5724
e-mail esci@umcutrecht.nl

Visit our website: http://www.esci.eu.com/


42nd
ANNUAL
SCIENTIFIC GENEVA SWITZERLAND
MEETING 26-29 MARCH 2008
ESCI EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR
CLINICAL INVESTIGATION
WWW.ESCI.EU.COM
ESCI
EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL INVESTIGATION