

European Academy of Andrology Newsletter



Issue 5 December 2018

A note from the President



Dear EAA Members,

Let me begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to all of you for giving me the opportunity to undertake my second mandate as the President of EAA. I have served our community in this important position since 2014 with the precious help of an excellent Executive Council composed of Dimitrios Goulis (Secretary), Hermann Behre (Treasurer), Gert Dohle, Andrea Isidori, Osvaldo Rajmil, Wolfgang Weidner, Jorma Toppari (Past President), Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts (2014-16, ex-Editor-

in-Chief, *Andrology*) and Manuela Simoni (since 2017, current Editor-in-Chief of *Andrology*). The new election, which took place in Budapest during the European Congress of Andrology (ECA 2018), led to the renewal of the Executive Council. The two new officers are Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts (Secretary) and Frank Tüttelmann (Treasurer), and the new Council members are Davor Ježek (Croatia), Zsolt Kopa (Hungary) and Eduard Ruiz Castañé (Spain).

Our Congress in Budapest (11-13 October 2018) was a special event, not only because it was the 10th ECA but also because it coincided with the 25th anniversary of the EAA. For this occasion, I edited a commemorative book to offer you insights into the history of the EAA and summarize the achievements of the Academy. The electronic version of the EAA book is now available on the Academy's website. On the occasion of this special anniversary, some of our Academicians have been honoured for their outstanding contributions to the EAA: Eberhard Nieschlag, Ilpo Huhtaniemi, Jorma Toppari, Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts and György Papp.

For the second time, a meeting of the Directors of EAA Training Centres took place just before ECA 2018, allowing an open discussion on EAA educational strategies. The training centres are the backbone of the EAA and indeed, they were promoters of the outstanding EAA activities, such as educational courses and summer schools. I am proud to announce that this year we had the largest ever number of applicants for the EAA Clinical Andrologist examination, clearly reflecting the constantly increasing interest of young MDs in our field and the excellent work carried out in the EAA centres. These activities resulted in a growing number of EAA Members and I warmly welcome all the new Members. To promote education, we have increased the number of scholarships and travel grants available for young EAA Members.

ECA 2018 was a remarkable success with a record number of participants from more than 50 different countries. ECA represents a unique scientific forum in Europe, entirely dedicated to all aspects of andrology, thus providing a platform for interaction between clinical andrologists with different backgrounds (endocrinology, urology, gynaecology and dermatology) and basic/translational scientists. A significant number of non-European delegates attended the Congress. Their presence underlined the fact that the EAA Congress is the leading biennial scientific event not only for European andrologists.

My sincere gratitude goes to the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee, Zsolt Kopa and his team, who have organized this meeting with great dedication, giving all attendees an unforgettable ECA 2018. I would also like to thank the Members of the Programme Organising Committee, chaired by Dimitrios Goulis, with vice-Chairmen Giovanni Corona and Rafael Oliva, for the excellent scientific programme which has been highly appreciated by the attendees. At the ECA 2018 we have further strengthened our collaboration with the ESAU by organizing 3 joint EAA/ESAU courses. In this regard, I would like to thank the Chairman of ESAU, Professor Nikolaos Sofikitis for his support.

Finally, it is my pleasure to inform you that our next ECA will take place in Münster in early December 2020 and will be held together with the 12th International Congress of Andrology (ICA).

We are now approaching the end of 2018, a year full of scientific breakthroughs and outstanding events. I am confident that 2019 will be a busy and productive year and will bring a series of new activities. I would like to involve all of you in this innovating process, hence you are welcome to send your suggestions to the EAA Secretary and Executive Council, before the next meeting of the Executive Council takes place in January 2019.

With my best wishes for a Peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Eszilla Krausz

Summary of the European Congress of Andrology ECA Budapest 2018



The 10th ECA was the main **highlight of the year** and a resounding success. The meeting was organized by the Hungarian Andrology Society, with Prof. Zsolt Kopa leading a very efficient Local Organising Committee, which included representatives from major andrology centres across Hungary (Mátyás Benyó, István Király, Tamás Körösi, István Lantos, György Papp, Gábor K. Rosta, Zita Soós). The location of the congress venue in the centre of Budapest, the beautiful capital of Hungary, has undoubtedly added to the special atmosphere and attracted many participants from all corners of the world. The turn-out broke the ECA records: close to 500 participants from 52 countries attended the congress.



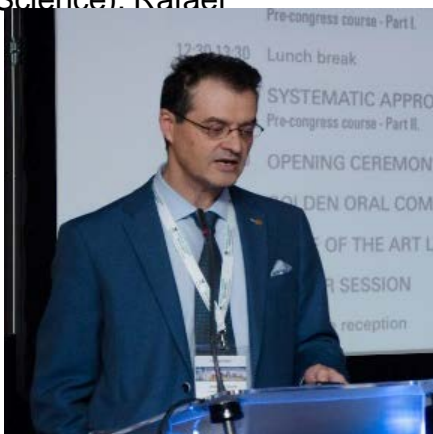
Zsolt Kopa opening the Congress

The opening ceremony was a special celebration of **Hungarian andrology**, embodied by three personalities: the main organizer of the Congress: Prof. Zsolt Kopa, his mentor and ‘the father’ of Hungarian andrology, Prof. György Papp, and the current President of the EAA, Csilla Krausz. Hungary is also among very few countries that acknowledge andrology as a medical specialty.



Distinguished Hungarian andrologists: honoured at the ECA: Professors György Papp (left) and Csilla Krausz, with Zsolt Kopa.

The **excellent scientific program** of the Congress has been put together by the experienced and multidisciplinary Programme Organising Committee (POC): Dimitrios Goulis (Greece, Chairman), Giovanni Corona (Italy, Vice-Chair for Clinical Science), Rafael



Dimitrios Goulis, the POC Chair, introducing the programme

Oliva (Spain, Vice-Chair for Basic Science), Alberto Ferlin (Italy), Aleksander Giwercman (Sweden), Sabine Kliesch (Germany), Maaris Laan (Estonia), Roger Miesusset (France) and Dirk Vanderschueren (Belgium). The programme was considered by many among the best ever, and included a broad selection of topics, such as male infertility (clinical and genetic aspects), spermatology, endocrinology with focus on hypogonadism, fertility preservation, onco-andrology, testis biology, diagnostics and imaging in andrology, erectile dysfunction, and transitional andrology. According to the tradition, the ECA was preceded by a comprehensive educational course for clinicians, with excellent lectures given by the members of the POC.

At the Congress, most of the excellent state-of-the-art lectures were presented as lively *Pro* and *Contra* debates focussing on controversial issues, including endocrine disruptors, late-onset hypogonadism, sperm DNA integrity testing, and early endocrine treatment of Klinefelter syndrome. An important symposium was devoted to new EAA clinical guidelines, with lead authors presenting consensus on the management of bone health in andrological patients, management of oligo-astheno-teratozoospermia, and gynaecomastia in adult men.



Exchange lecturers: Manuela Simoni (ESE lecture) and Don Conrad (ASA lecture)

Interaction with other societies was reinforced by exchange lectures; the **ESE lecture** delivered by Manuela Simoni and the **ASA lecture** presented by Don Conrad (USA), as well as three dedicated ESAU sessions with focus on andrological urology.

More than 180 abstracts have been submitted to ECA, and 20 best abstracts were selected for oral presentations, including one session

organised by the network of **young researchers in andrology (NYRA)** (picture).

160 posters were presented in two well-attended poster sessions. All abstracts were published in a special October 2018 issue of *Andrology* and are also available for all members on the EAA website.



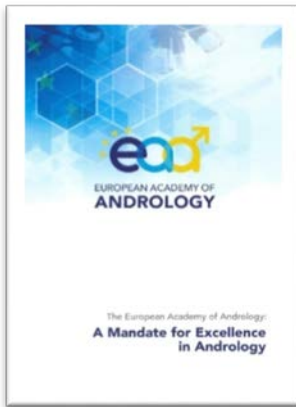
Presenters of talks in the NYRA session received travel grants. From the right: Francesca Cioppi, Ada Soler-Ventura, Antoni Riera-Escamilla, with the NYRA leader Yoni Baert and the EAA President.

The social program treated the delegates with two events: a pleasant welcome reception with a bit of Hungarian folklore presented by a local dance company, and

a wonderful banquet held on a large boat *Spoon*, moored at the shore of Danube, with beautiful night views on the historic buildings flanking the river. The scientific highlights and pleasant social memories of ECA 2018 will for sure stay long with the participants.



A group of delegates enjoying the beautiful views and balmy weather allowing a drink 'al fresco' at the congress banquet



The 25th Anniversary of the EAA

The milestone of 25 years of the EAA was reached in 2017, but the ECA in Budapest was a perfect occasion to properly celebrate this important anniversary. The history and main achievements of the EAA have been nicely summarised in a commemorative book (*pictured*), edited by Csilla Krausz, which was distributed at the Congress and is available on the EAA website.

Several Academicians who served the EAA over the years and who could attend the Congress, have been honoured for their outstanding contribution by the current President, Csilla Krausz.



The Academicians honoured for their service: Ebo Nieschlag, Ilpo Huhtaniemi, Jorma Toppari and Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts

The honours went to: Eberhard (Ebo) Nieschlag (a founding member and the first President of EAA), Jorma Toppari (former President and Chief Editor of *Int. J. Androl.*), Ilpo Huhtaniemi (a founding member and former Chair of the Publication- and the Nominations Committees),

and Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts (former Chief Editor of *Int. J. Androl.* and *Andrology*).

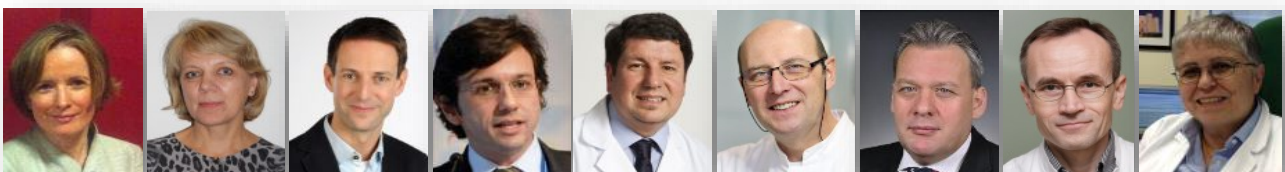
Renewal of the EAA Executive Council

The election of the Executive Council took place at the EAA General Assembly in Budapest. The President, Csilla Krausz was re-elected for the second term. Five members of the Council have completed two terms of service: the EAA Secretary Dimitrios Goulis, the Treasurer Hermann Behre, and the regular members Osvaldo Rajmil, Wolfgang Weidner and Gert Dohle. The outgoing officers were thanked for their contribution (*pictured*).



The outgoing EAA Officers: Dimitrios Goulis (left) and Hermann Behre are honoured for their dedicated service.

The Assembly elected Andrea Isidori for a second term and new Council members: Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts (Secretary), Frank Tüttelmann (Treasurer), Davor Ježek, Zsolt Kopa and Eduard Ruiz Castañé. The two *ex officio* members, Jorma Toppari (Past President) and Manuela Simoni (Editor, *Andrology*) will continue their service for the next term.



The EAA Executive Council 2018-2022. From the left: Csilla Krausz, Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts, Frank Tüttelmann, Andrea Isidori, Eduard Ruiz Castañé, Davor Ježek, Zsolt Kopa, Jorma Toppari and Manuela Simoni.

The members of the new Council are looking forward to serving the European community of andrologists. They will kick-off the new term with a meeting in January 2019.

New members of the EAA

The EAA warmly welcomes new members, who joined the Academy or were promoted to the status of academician within the second half of 2018:

Academicians: Oleg Apolikhin (Russia), Marco Bonomi (Italy), Vincenzo Rochira (Italy), Jan Bernd Stukenborg (Sweden)

Affiliated Members: Evangelia Billa (Greece), Csaba Csiki (Hungary), Mirna Guadalupe Echavarria Sanchez (Mexico), Alessandro Franceschelli (Italy), Jingjing Gao (China), Kati Härkönen (Finland), Mariusz Kazmirowicz (Poland), Piotr Kocełak (Poland), Marlies Maatje (The Netherlands), Artur Pietrusa (Poland), Paweł Pilch (Poland), Armin Soave (Germany), Tamás Takács (Hungary) and Xiansheng Zhang (China).

Attention EAA members!

Membership fee 2019: 90 €

The fee reduction from 120 € to 90 € was proposed by the long-serving EAA Treasurer, Hermann M. Behre and approved by the General Assembly at the ECA Budapest.

Clinical Andrologist Examination

The largest ever number of applicants took the 21st edition of the exam on 10-11 October 2018, during the ECA in Budapest.



The newly minted EAA clinical andrologists and the examiners pictured on 11th of October 2018 in Budapest.

We congratulate the 19 new EAA clinical andrologists: Leen Antonio (Belgium), Evangelia Billa (Greece), Mátyás Benyó (Hungary), Csaba Csiki (Hungary), Jann-Frederik Cremers (Germany), Mariusz Kazmirowicz (Poland), Piotr Kocelak (Poland), Paul Korrovits (Estonia), Marlies Maatje (The Netherlands), Elisa Maseroli (Italy), Artur Pietrusa (Poland), Paweł Pilch (Poland), Alexander Sahi (Germany), Maria Schubert (Germany), Armin Soave (Germany), Maria Grazia Tarsitano (Italy), Marta Tenuta (Italy), Juan Fernando Villegas Osorio (Spain), Mohamed Wael Ragab (Egypt).

We thank also the examiners for their time and dedication: C. Krausz (chair), S. Arver, G. Corona, S. Francavilla, A. Giwercman, D. Goulis, G. Haidl, A. Isidori, O. Kamal Shaeer, Z. Kopa, O. Rajmil, E. Ruiz-Castañé, and J. Slowikowska-Hilczer.

EAA Scholarships

Two scholarship grants (1500 € each, one generously supported by Bayer), were awarded to two EAA members to perform a research project or specialised clinical training in an EAA training centre abroad. The scholarship recipients in 2018 are:



Dr Leen Antonio, EAA affiliated member from Leuven University (B), directed by Prof. Dirk Vanderschueren. She wished to travel to the EAA Centre at Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen (DK) to perform a combination of research and training under the supervision of Dr Niels Jørgensen. She will investigate a possible association between bone mineral density and semen quality, and train in standardization and development of specific patient trajectories for infertility, gynaecomastia and Klinefelter syndrome.



Dr Andrea Sansone, EAA affiliated member from Sapienza University of Rome (Italy) who will conduct several research studies at the Centre for Reproductive Medicine and Andrology in Münster (Germany), directed by Prof. Stefan Schlatt. Dr Sansone will be given access to substantial databases and biobanks in Münster and will performed some analytical measurements. The focus of his research will be on hormonal changes in andrological patients, including patients with germ cell neoplasms.

Attention EAA members!

Scholarships (up to 1500 €) will be available in 2019, with deadlines in June and October 2019 (*more information on the EAA website*).

Travel Grants

According to the now established tradition, the EAA awarded numerous travel grants (up to 500 €) to EAA members in order to facilitate their travel to educational courses and ECA. The recipients of travel grants in 2018 were: Leen Antonio, Sara De Vincentis, Yong-Gang Duan, Georgios Kanakis, Stefania Lymperi, Sava Petrov, Giulia Rastrelli, Violeta Rilcheva, Andrea Sansone, Daniele Santi, Maria Schubert, Giorgia Spaggiari, Maria Grazia Tarsitano, Marta Tenuta, Jose Ignazio Vinay.



The recipients of travel grants awarded at the ECA 2018, with the EAA President (left)

Attention EAA members!

Travel grants to attend EAA-endorsed events will be available in 2019, with two deadlines in June and October (*more information on the EAA website*).

New EAA President's Secretary

We are pleased to announce that the busy EAA office in Florence will be handled by a new secretary, **Martina Gargiani** (*pictured*). Martina took over from the previous secretary Raffaella Gori, who moved to other challenges in October 2018. We thank Raffaella for her long service and cordially welcome Martina!

Martina will be happy to receive and respond on behalf of the EAA President and Officers to all correspondence, applications and enquires from the EAA members and other andrology enthusiasts.

Martina's address is: martina.gargiani@unifi.it



News from the journal



Our official journal, *Andrology*, edited jointly by Manuela Simoni and Douglas Carrell, is close to complete its 6th year of existence. A positive development was an increase in the Impact Factor to 2.74, but more work has to be done to reach the top position in the field. Among the strategies discussed at the meeting of the Editorial Board held in Budapest, is an increased effort to publish thematic issues. The journal is currently considering papers for two such issues: on epididymis and testicular cancer (basic and clinical aspects).

The Editors are adamant to accept only papers of high quality. One of such articles was given an annual *Andrology* award for the best paper published in 2017: Jenkins TG, James ER, Alonso DF, Hoidal JR, Murphy PJ, Hotaling JM, Cairns BR, Carrell DT, Aston KI. *Cigarette smoking significantly alters sperm DNA methylation patterns*, *Andrology* 2017;5(6):1089-1099.

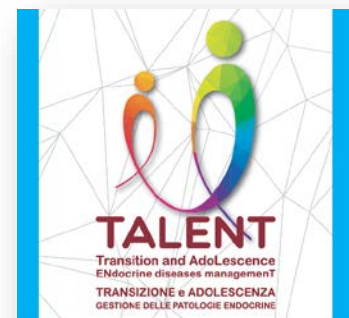
Manuela Simoni presented the award to the lead author, **Dr. Timothy Jenkins** (pictured) who summarised the findings at the ECA 2018 in Budapest.



Upcoming events (save the dates!)

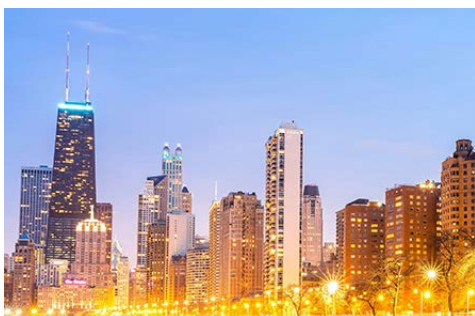
13-15 December 2018

TALENT: International Conference on the transition from adolescent to adult care in endocrinology and andrology, Rome, Italy.



3-6 April 2019 and 6-9 April 2019

The 25th North American Testis Workshop and the 44th Annual Conference of the American Society of Andrology Chicago, IL, USA.



3-6 December 2019

EAA Winter School: Testis Histology and Pathology for Clinical Andrologists and Embryologists, Zagreb, Croatia



9-12 December 2020

The 11th European Congress of Andrology (ECA 2020) and the 12th International Congress of Andrology (ICA), Münster, Germany



Happy Holidays!

Editors of the Newsletter: *Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts and Csilla Krausz*

Photographs from the ECA in Budapest kindly provided by the Organizers.

EAA thanks the following organisations and companies for their generous financial sponsorship:

