

Welcome to issue 13

Dear friends and colleagues.

Welcome to the 13th issue of the ESPE Newsletter. This newsletter is packed with information, as you will see.

This issue highlights the recent LWPES/ESPE 8th Joint Meeting in New York City. I am sure that everyone who attended will agree that the meeting was a great success and New York a fabulous city. Here we have a letter from Paul Saenger, the president of the meeting, who outlines some of the events that took place. We also give special recognition to the ESPE prize winners. Our secretary general, Franco Chiarelli, gives an update on what took place during the past business meeting, with the acceptance of new members and elections to council and new venue sites. You will find information on some of ESPE's new endeavours, such as the ESPE-China relations and the ESPE Science School. Please take notice of an article by Ze'ev Hochberg as he hands over the chair of ESPE's Developing Countries Committee. We all appreciate the hard work that Ze'ev has done and continues to do for ESPE. As usual, there are also announcements of meetings and courses that might be of interest to the paediatric endocrinology community, as well as important deadlines for ESPE activities.

Once again, we invite everyone to contribute to this newsletter.

PROFESSOR JESÚS ARGENTE
Editor, ESPE Newsletter

Editorial Board

Carlo Acerini Feyza Darendeliler
Simonetta Bellone Ken Ong
Julie Chowen

IMPORTANT DATES

The 49th ESPE Annual Meeting
Prague, Czech Republic,
22–25 September 2010

Please visit the website for further information: www.espe2010.org

The 50th ESPE Annual Meeting
Glasgow, Scotland,
25–28 September 2011

<http://www.eurospe.org/meetings/>

Please visit the ESPE website for details about future meetings: www.eurospe.org

**Society for Endocrinology
BES Meeting 2010**

Manchester, 15–18 March 2010
Email: conferences@endocrinology.org
www.endocrinology.org/meetings/

LWPES/ESPE 8th Joint Meeting: Global Care in Paediatric Endocrinology

9–12 September 2009, New York, USA

www.lwpes-espe2009.org



Report from the President of LWPES/ESPE 2009

The 8th Meeting of LWPES/ESPE and Sister Societies was held 9–12 September 2009 at the Hilton Hotel in New York City.

We had 4609 registrants from approximately 90 countries, including delegates from Iran, Cuba, China and Pakistan. The largest groups of delegates came from Germany, Italy, France and the UK.

We hosted three Club sessions (Bone, Turner and Growth Plate were combined) before the meeting opening. We held six Plenary sessions, 20 Symposia and 18 free communication sessions, including a session for late-breaking abstracts. We received a total of 1500 abstracts.

The opening lecture was given by Dr Thomas Farley, Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene of the City of New York, on how New York City is fighting the rise in childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus with innovative programmes directed at the community. Dr Farley also brought cordial greetings from New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

There were seven Satellite Symposia and special sessions for Fellows. The Summer School met after the Congress in Briarcliff Manor, north of New York City, and hosted 40 global participants for three days.

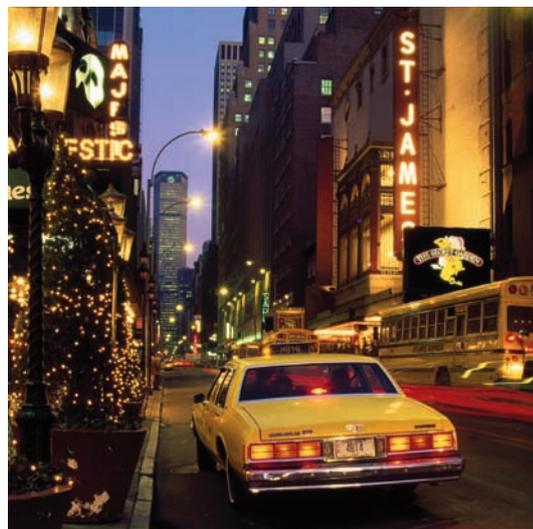
The 9th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attack was observed with a minute of silence on Friday morning.

Delegates liked the central meeting location and the proximity to area hotels was viewed as a big plus. New York City, as "Capital of the World", lived up to its promise.

The scientific programme was very well received. The Symposia sessions proved to be the most popular offerings of the Congress.

The tradition of holding a Joint Meeting every 4 years was again reaffirmed by the successful meeting in New York. The Congress closed on Saturday afternoon with a cordial invitation from Dr Chiarelli to the next Joint Meeting of our societies in Rome, Italy, in 2013.

PAUL SAENGER, *President, Organising Committee*



Registrant details for LWPES/ESPE 2009

Total number of registrants (including exhibitors)	4609
Member registrants	996
Non-member registrants	2088
Trainee / Fellow	496
Nurses	90
Developing country registrants	76
Spouse / Guest registrants	117
Single Day registrants	81
Exhibitors	665
The registrants of the Joint Meeting represented 90 countries.	

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear friends and colleagues,

New ESPE members

I would like to start by giving the record-breaking 74 new ESPE members approved at the Annual Business Meeting in New York a very warm welcome to the Society. The new members are from 34 different countries, and many of them are from outside Europe, which helps ESPE on the way to becoming a truly international society.

Council elections

I would also like to congratulate Professor Gary Butler and Professor Feyza Darendeliler, who were elected as new ESPE Council members in New York. Professor Butler has been a member of ESPE since 1995 and has served on a number of the Society's committees and is currently the Chair of the Website Editorial Board. Professor Darendeliler has been a member of ESPE since 1991 and has participated actively in the Society. She is currently a member of the Newsletter Editorial Board. Thanks also go to Juliane Léger, who has now completed her term of office on the ESPE Council.

ESPE 2014

During the Annual Business Meeting in New York the location and presidency for the ESPE Annual Meeting in 2014 were decided in a secret ballot. Applications had been received from Barcelona, Dublin and Gothenburg, and Dublin was successfully elected as the venue, with Professor Hilary Hoey as President in 2014. Congratulations to Professor Hoey!

Finally, a huge thank you to all ESPE members for your support and enthusiasm. For more information on all of our activities, please visit the ESPE website at www.eurospe.org or contact me via the ESPE Secretariat at espe@eurospe.org.

Best wishes,

FRANCO CHIARELLI
ESPE Secretary General

Awards at LWPE

Andrea Prader Prize

The 2009 Andrea Prader Prize was awarded to Professor Jan Maarten Wit, MD, PhD, Leiden, The Netherlands. This prize is the annual Leadership Award given to a member of ESPE. It is the most prestigious ESPE senior award and was created to honour lifetime achievement in teaching and research, as well as to recognise outstanding leadership and overall contribution to the field of paediatric endocrinology.



Research Award and Lecture

This prestigious award is given to an ESPE member in recognition of research achievements in the fields of basic endocrinology or clinical paediatric endocrinology. The award for 2009 went to Professor Yves Le Bouc MD, PhD, Paris, France

Young Investigator Award

The Young Investigator Award is given to a European paediatrician that is no older than 40 years of age at the end of the year in which the award is given. This award is in recognition of his or her scientific publications. This year, Dr Felix G Riepe MD of Keil, Germany received this honour.



Outstanding Clinician Award

This award recognises outstanding clinical contributions to the practice of clinical paediatric endocrinology and is awarded based on nominations received from ESPE members. The award for 2009 was given to Professor Giuseppe Chiumello, Milan, Italy.



/ ESPE 2009

Research Unit Lecture

The aim of the ESPE Research Unit is to foster, facilitate, identify topics and coordinate high quality research in the field of paediatric endocrinology. This award is open to all active members of ESPE and non-ESPE members as co-investigators. Projects received by the Research Unit Scientific Board undergo a peer review process to determine which projects will be funded. This year the ESPE Research Unit Lecture was given by Professor S Faisal Ahmed, Glasgow, UK.

ESPE Sabbatical Leave Programme

Dr Wieland Kiess, Leipzig, Germany, was selected as the recipient of the ESPE Sabbatical Leave award. This programme permits ESPE members to take a sabbatical in order to carry out research in another institution in order to stimulate scientific renewal, new research development and the establishment of collaborative links.

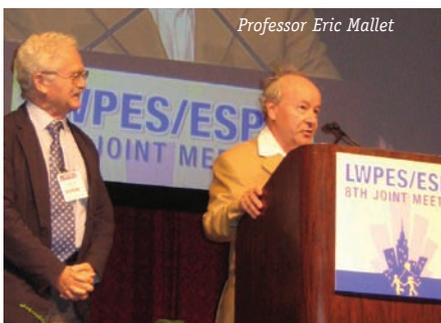
The Henning Anderson Prize

There are two Henning Anderson Prizes awarded each year, one for the most highly rated clinical abstract and one for the most highly rated experimental abstract submitted to the Society's Annual Meeting. This year's Henning Anderson Prize for the Basic Abstract was awarded to Dr Chloe Pass, Midlothian, UK, and the Henning Anderson Prize for the Clinical Abstract was awarded to Dr Maria Lundgren, Uppsala, Sweden.



Hormone Research Prizes

The ESPE *Hormone Research* prizes are awarded to investigators who have published their work in *Hormone Research*. The award is open to all authors, not just those who are also members of ESPE, APPES or SLEP. The winner of this year's prize for best original paper was Professor Eric Mallet, Rouen, France. The award for the best paper published in the "Novel Insights" section was presented to Professor Klaus Mohnike, Magdeburg, Germany.



President Poster Awards

It is with great pleasure that we give recognition to the best posters as selected by the Congress President. The 8th Joint Meeting Programme Organising Committee and the Local Organising Committee gratefully acknowledge the sponsorship of this event from Ipsen.

Peter Kuehnen PO1-054
A DNA-hypermethylation polymorphism in the *POMC* gene is associated with childhood obesity and affects a p300 binding site.

Maya Lodish PO1-091
Succinate dehydrogenase mutations are present in pediatric and adult wild-type gists occurring in patients without associated paraganglioma.

Ralph Decker PO1-131
Different thresholds of metabolic GH effects in prepubertal children.

Susan Becker PO1-270
18F-DOPA PET/CT scan for pre-operative localization of focal lesions in 105 infants with hyperinsulinism.

Louise Metherell PO2-025
Genotype:phenotype relationships in familial glucocorticoid deficiency types 1 and 2.

Luisa DeSanctis PO2-049
Pseudohypoparathyroidism type Ia and *GNAS* epigenetic defects: analysis of 40 patients with Albright's hereditary osteodystrophy and multihormone resistances.

Jose Moreno PO2-319
Large-scale molecular screen of *DUOX2* and *DUOX2* genes in thyroid dysmorphogenesis.

Anna Nordenstrom PO3-002
Gender atypical behavior, sexual orientation, and quality of life in women with congenital adrenal hyperplasia correlate to *CYP21A2* genotype.

Silvia Parajes PO3-067
Functional and structural characterization of seven novel mutations in the *CYP11B1* gene four mutations associated with non-classic and three mutations causing classic 11-hydroxylase deficiency.

German Irriguez PO3-295
Differences in IGF-I/IGF-IR/IRS-1/ERK/AKT protein contents in human term placentas according birth weight.



ESPE Summer School 2009

12–15 September 2009, Briarcliff Manor, New York, USA



The 23rd ESPE Summer School took place in Briarcliff Manor, New York, 12–15 September, just after the LWPE/ESPE 8th Joint Meeting in New York. The ESPE Summer School has been organised every year since 1987 and brings together paediatric endocrinologists in training and academic clinicians and scientists.

This year was special because we had participants representing all continents. The Summer School Organising Committee had developed the course around various themes this year, focussing on disorders of sex development, obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, late effects in childhood cancer and autoimmunity. For each theme, there were state of the art basic and clinical lectures. Exchanges between students and teachers were active after the talks and during the breaks. An important feature of the Summer School is the presentation of cases, one by each student, which are discussed in small groups with a faculty member. Cases are then summarised and presented to the plenum, providing an extensive sample of challenging endocrine cases, ranging from management problems to rare molecular diagnoses or example cases. The Summer School is also aimed at promoting interactions between students of varying geographical origins and this closeness during the three days was truly appreciated. All faculty members are to be thanked for contributing to the Summer School and staying throughout the course. Those who were not previously familiar with the ESPE Summer School concept were favourably impressed by the quality of the teaching and of the exchanges during the course.

Dr Radhika Muzumdar deserves special thanks for doing an outstanding job in the local organization of the course. Since 1987 the ESPE Summer School has been continuously supported by Ferring Pharmaceuticals A/S, which is greatly appreciated. This year, TEVA co-sponsored the Summer School, enabling more participants than usual to be accepted.

In 2010, the Summer School will take place in Sychrov, Czech Republic, 18–21 September, just before the Annual ESPE Meeting in Prague. Application forms and further information can be found on the ESPE website. The application deadline is 1 February 2010. Please encourage your fellows to apply!

LARS SÄVENDAHL

Coordinator, ESPE Summer School Organising Committee

Comments from participants on ESPE Summer School 2009, New York:

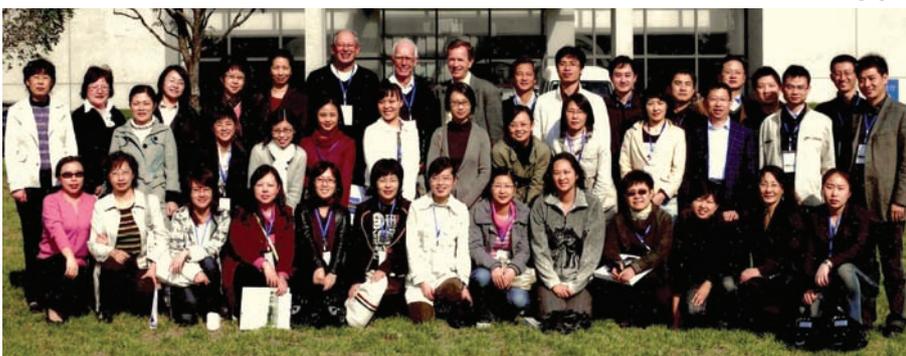
- A wonderful experience – thanks to all for their hard work putting it together.
- Thank you for this great experience!
- Thank you very much for attractive programs. I enjoyed staying.
- Thanks for organising and faculty members. I enjoyed the school a lot!
- I think the level of teaching and the programs were of a very good standard. It has been very beneficial for my career. The networks could not be possible otherwise. Thank you very much.
- It was a great opportunity to interact with colleagues from all over the world. Faculties were kind and friendly. I had a great time. It was an excellent experience.
- Fantastic experience – thank you so very much.
- Excellent teaching sessions. Interactive group sessions were very good in terms of both discussing cases in more depth and refining presentations. Facilities food excellent. Social activities were very nice. Jeopardy was great way to wrap things up.
- Excellent healthy food. Great choice of faculty. Bravo to Radhika and Lars and Jack.
- It was an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues and to establish relationships with them for the future. Thank you very much for all the faculties were so kind and friendly and we did funny activities together.
- All brilliant thank you. Practical management lectures were fantastic.
- This summer school was the best science school I ever been to. Thank you!

ESPE – China relations

As a part of its international networking, ESPE council decided to contact the Chinese Society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Metabolism (CSPeM) to ask how we could support paediatric endocrinology in China. Ze'ev Hochberg and I were invited to lecture at the annual SE meeting in 2007, where various options were discussed. It was decided that the initial step would be to assist our Chinese colleagues in a course for young paediatricians, much in the same way as the ESPE Summer School. Therefore, Professor Xiaoping Lou, chairman of CSPeM, attended the 2008 Summer School in Turkey. It was also decided that ESPE would contribute by sending two of its members to be teachers at the first Chinese Fellows Course, in 2009.

On 3–4 November 2009 the course was realised in Yangzhou, about 300 km north of Shanghai, preceding the main annual meeting of the CSPeM. Twenty-seven young paediatricians

continued on page 5



Deadlines

Please note these fast approaching deadline dates and submit your applications as soon as possible.

Awards, grants and fellowships - deadline dates for application

Deadline date for applications for 2010 membership

15 Jan 2010

Young Investigator Award	15 Jan 2010
Outstanding Clinician (nominations from members)	15 Jan 2010
Research Fellowship	1 Mar 2010
Research Unit (preliminary applications)	19 April 2010
Visiting Scholarship	30 April 2010
Clinical Fellowship	31 May 2010
Research Unit (final applications)	14 June 2010
Sabbatical Leave Programme	No deadline

See the ESPE website www.eurospe.org for further details & application forms

The ESPE Science School (ESS)

The ESS is a new and exciting ESPE initiative offering aspiring young investigators in paediatric endocrinology the unique opportunity for research skills development.

Aimed at final year PhD students, postdoc fellows and research-active young paediatric endocrine investigators (who are within 5 years of their PhD or fellowship), the ESS will be supported by a faculty consisting of some of the world's top scientists and senior ESPE members.

The ESS scientific programme will include:

- i) core topics, such as scientific writing, presentation skills, epidemiology, applying for grants and career development strategies;
- ii) research concepts, including clinical trials, gene polymorphism, drug discovery, and mouse models;
- iii) new technologies, such as mutation analysis, imaging in cell biology, siRNA-mediated knockdown and transcriptomics.

The ESS will run in parallel with the NICHe (New Inroads to Child Health) conference so that students can benefit from this other top science ESPE event.

The first joint ESS / NICHe event will take place 20–24 May 2010 and will be hosted by Kerstin Albertsson Wikland at Varberg, on Sweden's west coast archipelago.

Applications to attend the ESS should include a full CV, a one-page summary of previous and present research activity, and a written recommendation by an ESPE member, who is your supervisor or mentor.

Applications should be emailed to sten.renstad@semser.se by 15 December 2009.

The ESS will cover the cost of travel, scientific sessions, registration, accommodation and provision.

The 2011 joint ESS/NICHe event will take place in Berlin, hosted by Heiko Krude (Charité University).

ZE'EV HOCHBERG
ESS and NICHe coordinator

Global paediatric endocrinology initiative: Them and Us

As I hand over the chair of ESPE's Developing Countries Committee (DCC) to Faisal Ahmed, I briefly summarise the thoughts behind initiating the DCC and its vision. I humbly cite a lecture given by the Dalai Lama on a very different topic – world economy; yet his words are equally true in the medical profession, for us, in prosperous countries, and for them, in less privileged parts of the world.

The Dalai Lama stressed the importance of individual responsibility in an interconnected world and his belief that many of today's problems are man-made: "Our minds still think in terms of 'we' and 'they', but in reality, there is no such thing. The world is one body. We must recognise that the 'others' are also part of humanity, and that my future depends on your future. We may find some comfort in the notion of independence, but in reality we are interdependent."

Coming from where I do in the Middle East, I know firsthand of interdependence and how our future depends on their future. It is even more so in a world terrorised by the underprivileged, the same underdogs we so much like to sympathise with. It is now evident that one's prosperity depends on that of others.

How should this interpretation affect the way we should act towards each other? With compassion, says the Dalai Lama: "Love and compassion should extend beyond a person's small circle of friends and relatives, to include others who may think, look or act differently to us."

The first article in ESPE's Byelaws declares that "The Society's objects are... to promote for the public benefit research, education and clinical practice in paediatric endocrinology...". In creating the DCC, ESPE redefined 'the public' to include the children of the world. We cannot accept that children of this 'public' die or become retarded or debilitated because their endocrine diseases are poorly understood for want of research, remain undiagnosed for lack of medical personnel education, or are left untreated in a family that cannot afford endocrine therapy.

Admittedly, in 4 years of activity, we have done little. We focused on a single aspect of support – education at the paediatrician level. The fortunate among us, who took part in teaching African paediatricians, know better than anyone else that we have barely scratched the surface of the problem.

Yet, there is light coming, and new hopes arise as our colleagues in the other regional societies offered to join ESPE in its activity for developing countries. Global Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (GPED), of which I am currently chair, now organises representatives of APPES (Asian-Pacific), ASPE (the newly formed African society), ESPE, JSPE (Japan), ISPAD (Diabetes), LWPES (North America) and SLEP (South America) to make joint efforts for children with endocrine diseases in developing countries. We shall do our best to support 'them' – or rather, us.

ZE'EV HOCHBERG

ESPE members who wish to teach in Africa may contact Faisal Ahmed (s.f.ahmed@clinmed.gla.ac.uk).

Those who wish to be active in GPED should contact Ze'ev Hochberg (z_hochberg@rambam.health.gov.il).

ESPE – China relations *continued from page 4*

participated, all with their own case presentations. Although the participants in the Fellows Course were selected for their knowledge of English, many of them were hampered in the discussions by the language barrier. The atmosphere was very open and friendly, with good discussions and much laughter. The topics covered were CAH, growth, hypoglycaemia, acute metabolic disorders and DSD. This was the first course of this kind to be held only in English. Included in the faculty were Lars Sävendahl and myself from ESPE, two teachers from Hong Kong and three from other parts of China. In addition, the Acta Paediatrica Foundation sent one of its associate editors, Joseph Milerad, to lecture on how to write a scientific paper – and get it accepted by western journals! All three lectured at both the Fellows Course and the succeeding main meeting of SECPs. The hospitality to the invited foreign teachers was outstanding!

It cannot be overlooked by anyone that China is a country undergoing rapid development. I have personally experienced China from the inside during the last 25 years – and the changes are astounding! The meeting was held at an up-to-date conference centre, with audiovisual facilities. Transportation from Manhattan-like Shanghai to Yangzhou was swift on newly built six-lane highways. There was much interest in growth hormone treatment and obesity, reflecting the increasing number of middle-class families investing in their one and only child.

Our hosts expressed interests in sending fellows abroad for both clinical and research training in paediatric endocrinology. Fellowships are available from the Chinese government if suitable European hosts and fellows can be identified. Furthermore, our Chinese colleagues have access to many patients with rare diseases and they expressed interests in research collaborations. Further discussions on how such activities could be facilitated will follow.

MARTIN RITZÉN



49th Annual ESPE Meeting
22–25 September 2010
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC



50th Annual ESPE Meeting
25–28 September 2011
GLASGOW, SCOTLAND



Paediatric Endocrinology: Growth and Puberty

IPOKRATES Clinical Seminar, 13–15 May 2010, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Typical for IPOKRATES courses, this seminar is designed to deliver high quality lectures on important endocrine conditions.

Aimed at endocrinologists, paediatricians with an interest in endocrinology, endocrine trainees and researchers in the field of growth and pubertal disorders, this seminar will focus on new developments in growth and puberty, encouraging interactive dialogue and discussions between experienced clinicians and researchers.

The seminar is open to 70 participants. Please note that there will be no on-site registration, so register in advance to ensure a place.

Registration fees

Before 28 February 2010: €300
After 28 February 2010: €350

Information/registration

IPOKRATES Head Office, c/o m:con – mannheim:congress GmbH, Rosengartenplatz 2, 68161 Mannheim / Germany.
Tel: +49 (0)621 4106-134; Fax: +49 (0)621 4106-80134;
Email: ipokrates@mcon-mannheim.de;
Web: <http://www.mkt.de/ipokrates/html/seminar.htm>.

Local organiser

Programme designer: PD Dr Wolfgang Högler
Congress secretary: Daniel Settatee, Department of Endocrinology, The Birmingham Children's Hospital Email: Daniel.Settatee@bch.nhs.uk;
Tel +44 121 333 8197; Fax +44 121 333 8191

Lecturers

Crowley W *Reproductive Endocrine Unit, Department of Medicine & Harvard Reproduction Endocrine Service Centers, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA*
Hindmarsh P *Developmental Endocrinology Research Group, Institute of Child Health, University College London, UK*
Dunkel L *Department of Paediatrics, Kuopio University Hospital, Kuopio, Finland*
Brämswig J *University Children's Hospital, Department of Paediatrics, Münster, Germany*
Cole T *Clinical Genetics Unit, Birmingham Women's Hospital, Birmingham, UK*
Savage M *Department of Endocrinology, William Harvey Research Institute, Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, London, UK*
Högler W *Department of Endocrinology & Diabetes, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham, UK*

Venue

Maple House, 150 Corporation Street, Birmingham, B4 6TB, United Kingdom,
<http://www.etcvenues.co.uk/venues/maple-house>.

Sponsors

Major sponsors: Dräger, Elsevier, Heinen-Löwenstein, Nestlé Nutrition Institute
Local sponsors: Pfizer, Ipsen, Novo Nordisk

51st Annual ESPE Meeting
20–23 September 2012
LEIPZIG, GERMANY



ESPE Secretariat

The ESPE Secretariat is managed by BioScientifica Limited. BioScientifica is headed by Managing Director Sue Thorn and Commercial and Operations Director Nigel Garland.

Joanne Fox-Evans, BioScientifica's Secretariats Manager, oversees the day-to-day relationship with ESPE, liaising with the ESPE council and committee members as well as being the main point of contact for ESPE enquiries. She undertakes projects requested by the Secretary General, providing him with assistance and attending ESPE council and committee meetings. Kerry Lear handles membership renewals, payments and banking and deals with subscriptions to *Hormone Research*.

Tom Parkhill manages the Corporate Liaison Board and deals with industry sponsors. Sarah Esberger sub-edits and co-ordinates publication of the ESPE Newsletter.

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ESPE Newsletter

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