Dear friends and colleagues,

In mid-January, Prague was suddenly covered by half a metre of snow, bringing a very rare opportunity to experience cross-country skiing even inside the city. The little squares, narrow streets and backyards of Prague were turned into a snowy fairy tale, looking calm and sleepy. However, even during this apparently quiet season of the year the preparations for the 49th Annual ESPE meeting in Prague (22–25 September 2010) are persistently proceeding apace.

Meeting programme
All plenary speakers and a vast majority of symposium speakers have already confirmed their participation. To follow the current status of the meeting programme please visit our website at www.espe2010.org. The theme of the 2010 ESPE Annual Meeting will be “Bridging Clinical Care and Basic Research”, allowing translation of recent discoveries into daily paediatric endocrine praxis to benefit our patients. The theme will be reflected in a new format of meeting Symposia based on three case reports, each displaying the role of a single gene mutation in the disease pathogenesis and clinical presentation. These Symposia will include topics linked to β-cells, adrenals, thyroid and the ovaries.

Submission of abstracts
Abstract submission is open at the website (www.espe2010.org). Please note the abstract submission deadline of 10 March 2010. This is also the deadline for applications for ESPE travel grants.

Social Programme
The official social programme of the meeting will include a welcome reception at the congress venue and the annual ESPE Evening in a prominent location at one of the river islands of Prague, just facing the panorama of the Prague castle. Please do not forget to register for the ESPE dinner in advance as the number of seats will be limited. For those who intend to enjoy both science and the abundant cultural offerings of Prague theatres and concert halls, here is just a handful of web links so that you can plan your own programme and purchase tickets in advance:

- www.narodni-divadlo.cz displays programmes of the National Theatre opera house and of the Estates Theatre. You may know of the Estates Theatre as the only still operating theatre building worldwide where Mozart himself conducted his opera performances, including the first performance of Don Giovanni on 29 October 1787
- www.opera.cz offers the programme of the third opera house, the Prague State Opera
- www.ceskafilharmonie.cz is the official website of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and www.strunypodzimu.cz of the annual music festival “Strings of Autumn”

It will be our great pleasure to welcome you in Prague at the 49th ESPE Annual Meeting!

JAN LEBL on behalf of the Local Organising Committee and the Programme Organising Committee
ESPE 2010: Highlights of the scientific programme

Wednesday, 22 September
- The meeting starts off on Wednesday morning with simultaneous reunions of five different ESPE working groups: Bone and Growth Plate, Disorders of Sex Development, ESPE Obesity Club (EOC), Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology, and Turner Syndrome (TS)
- The first Plenary Lecture of ESPE 2010 will follow lunch and the opening ceremony and will focus on ‘Autoimmunity and Diabetes’ with Drs O Cinek (Prague, Czech Republic) and O Kämpe (Uppsala, Sweden) as speakers
- Following coffee and a visit to the posters, there will be three simultaneous Symposia: ‘Ovarian development’, ‘Diabetes immunotherapy’ and ‘IGFs and the nervous system’
- The afternoon will also include four Meet-the-Expert sessions where you will have the opportunity to discuss cases and interact with experts in different fields
- The scientific day finishes with three Satellite Symposia, and then the Welcome Reception.

Thursday, 23 September
- Bright and early we start off with four Meet-the-Expert sessions
- Thursday morning will feature the first three sessions of Free Communications and of the Yearbook of Paediatric Endocrinology
- A new type of session called “New Perspectives” has been introduced this year. These sessions are designed to update the audience on technological and therapeutic advances. The first New Perspectives session, entitled ‘Towards the future cure of diabetes’, will take place on Thursday morning
- The second Plenary Session will be ‘Novel avenues in energy metabolism’ and the speakers will be Drs JC Brüning (Cologne, Germany) and G Karsenty (New York, USA)
- The third Plenary Session will include ESPE Activities and Awards
- Following lunch, there will be three simultaneous Symposia focused on ‘Adrenals’, ‘Endocrine perspectives of environmental endocrine disruption’, and ‘The SWEET Project: current status of diabetes care in Europe and directions towards better control’
- These will be followed by four more Meet-the-Expert sessions
- The ESPE Business Meeting will be held in the afternoon (16:00–17:30)
- The evening will finish with three Satellite Symposia.

Friday, 24 September
- Once again the day starts out bright and early with four Meet-the-Expert sessions
- These will be followed by three Free Communications and one Yearbook of Paediatric Endocrinology session
- The second New Perspectives session will focus on ‘New treatment modalities for the preservation of fertility’
- Following coffee and a visit to the posters, there will be the second Plenary ESPE Activities/Awards session
- Four more Free Communication Sessions will precede lunch
- Following lunch there will be three simultaneous Symposia on ‘The beta cell’, ‘Epigenetics in paediatric endocrinology’, and ‘New developments in the regulation of puberty’
- The afternoon Plenary Lecture is on ‘G-protein coupled receptors/adrenal diseases’ and will feature G Vassart (Bruxelles, Belgium) and K Fujieda (Asahikawa, Japan) as speakers
- Once again the evening will finish with three Satellite Symposia, followed by the ESPE Evening at the Žofín Palace.

Saturday, 25 September
- The final meeting day begins with four Free Communication sessions and one Yearbook of Paediatric Endocrinology session
- Following a break, the final two Symposia on ‘Thyroid’ and ‘Basis of gender identity: implications for DSD management’, will be held
- The last Plenary Lecture of this meeting will be given by Dr JS Parks (Atlanta, GA, USA) on ‘PROP1 and the bridge to Krk’.

More information regarding speakers, times and locations can be found at www.espe2010.org.

ESPE Annual Business Meeting 2010

The ESPE Annual Business Meeting will take place at ESPE 2010 on Thursday 23 September at 16:00–17:30.

Please note that only members who have paid their 2010 membership fee can vote at the ESPE Annual Business Meeting.
Travel grant applications for presenting authors

Travel grants are intended to support the participation of junior delegates such as fellows in training, postdocs and PhD students. A limited number of travel grants of up to €500 per grant will be available. Applications can only be made through the abstract submission on-line form, together with your abstract.

Conditions for application:
- Only the presenting author of an abstract is eligible to apply.
- You can apply if you are 45 years of age or less.
- The deadline is the same as for regular abstract submission: 10 March 2010.
- You must indicate if you are an ESPE member or not (you do not need to be a member in order to apply for a travel grant).
- If you are sponsored by the Industry (registration fee, hotel or travel costs), you are not entitled to apply for a travel grant.

You will be notified of acceptance/rejection in early June 2010. A travel grant does not entitle the applicant to free registration. Read more on the Abstract Submission page. If you have any questions please contact Congrex at espe2010.scientific@congrex.com.

**Important Dates for ESPE 2010**

- **Deadline for abstract submission:** 10 March 2010
- **Deadline for application of ESPE travel grant:** 10 March 2010
- **Notification of abstract acceptance:** Early June 2010
- **Deadline for early registration fee:** 16 June 2010
- **Deadline for cancellation of sightseeing tours:** 25 June 2010
- **Deadline for cancellation of hotel reservation:** 8 August 2010
- **Deadline for cancellation of registration:** 20 August 2010

Online registration, hotel and abstract submission forms are now available at www.espe2010.org.

A new year, a new name

ESPE’s official journal has changed its name to *Hormone Research in Paediatrics* in order to better reflect its paediatric focus. The reasoning behind the change is explained by the journal’s Editor-in-Chief, Professor Paul Czernichow, in an editorial published in the January issue:

“Although the impact factor system has its critics, it is important for the evaluation of any journal. According to this system, paediatric journals, when compared to adult journals, have a lower impact factor. Nevertheless, the Associate Editors and myself feel it important to reinforce the paediatric nature of *Hormone Research* and to change its name – it is a paediatric journal, the readership is made up of paediatric endocrinologists, and it is the official journal of several paediatric endocrinology societies. Furthermore, compared to 20 years ago, topics related to adult endocrinology have practically disappeared from the journal. It is therefore timely to underline the paediatric specificity of the journal and change the title to ‘Hormone Research in Paediatrics’ – a minimal alteration preserving the old title but placing the emphasis on ‘Paediatrics’. ‘Hormone Research’ is dead. Long live ‘Hormone Research in Paediatrics’!”

Professor Czernichow also announces the addition of two new sections to the journal: ‘Clinical Practice Committee (CPC) recommendations’, which will be edited by the Chair of ESPE’s CPC, Dr Stefano Cianfarani, and will outline ESPE’s opinion on various clinical topics, and ‘new techniques’.

EPSE members can read the full editorial at the journal’s website: www.karger.com/hrp.

*Hormone Research in Paediatrics* is the official journal of the European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology.

ESPE Research Unit

**2010 Collaborative Project Grant Support**

ESPE welcomes applications for the 2010 Research Unit Collaborative Project Grants.

Please note that the deadline for submitting a preliminary application is 25 April 2010. These should be submitted online to Prof. Primus E Mullis; Email: primus.mullis@insel.ch (please include “Re: ESPE Research Unit” in the subject line of emails).

The preliminary applications will be reviewed by the ESPE Research Unit Scientific Committee. Those applications that fulfill the aims of this initiative will have until 6 June 2010 to submit the completed grant.

For detailed information regarding the ESPE Research Unit Collaborative Projects, please visit the website http://www.euros.org/research/.

**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 for ESPE 2010 abstract submission:** 10 March 2010
  - **Deadline for application for ESPE travel grant:** 10 March 2010
  - **Research Unit (preliminary applications):** 25 April 2010
  - **Visiting Scholarship:** 30 April 2010
  - **Clinical Fellowship:** 31 May 2010
  - **Research Unit (final applications):** 6 June 2010
  - **Deadline for ESPE 2010 early registration fee:** 16 June 2010
  - **Sabbatical Leave Programme:** No deadline
  - **Deadline date for applications for 2011 membership:** 15 Jan 2011
  - **Young Investigator Award:** 15 Jan 2011
  - **Outstanding Clinician (nominations from members):** 15 Jan 2011
  - **Research Fellowship:** 1 March 2011

See the ESPE website www.euros.org for further details & application forms.
Dear friends and colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to the 50th ESPE Meeting in Glasgow in 2011.

To mark this important stage in the development of our Society, the theme will relate to ‘Evidence-based Paediatric Endocrinology – its strengths and limitations’. This will give the opportunity to look back at what we know scientifically, and how we know it, to showcase current research, and to look to the future as ESPE becomes an increasingly international forum for the exchange of high quality basic scientific and clinical information.

My colleagues and I look forward to welcoming you to Glasgow, a vibrant and stylish former European City of Culture, with some of the best shopping in the UK, and gateway to some of the finest unspoilt countryside in Europe, as well as Edinburgh, Scotland’s capital.

You can be assured of warm Scottish hospitality and an outstanding scientific programme in the UK’s best conference centre. Welcome to Scotland!

PROFESSOR CHRIS KELNAR
President, ESPE 2011

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Dr Faisal Ahmed
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CME Accreditation
ESPE offers Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits for the 2010 Meeting in Prague. All presenters (oral and poster) must declare any potential conflict of interest and all speakers are also required to include the disclosure statement in the beginning of their presentation.

Sponsorship and Exhibition at ESPE 2010
ESPE gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsors: Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Ipsen, Lilly, Merck Serono, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Sandoz.

50th Annual ESPE Meeting
25–28 September 2011, Glasgow, Scotland
www.espe2011.org

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