A message from the Secretary General

August 2018

With less than a month to go until the 57th Annual ESPE Meeting in Athens, we’re excited to see how the programme and arrangements have come together. It’s not too late to book a place if you haven’t already. As well as attending a packed programme of informative sessions, ESPE members will be busy conducting committee meetings, working group meetings and of course attending the ESPE Annual Business Meeting (ABM) at 18:30 on the Friday. We look forward to seeing many of you there. Please don’t forget to renew your 2018 ESPE membership before the ABM if you haven’t done so, either via the Rapid Renewal link emailed to you, in your Members’ Area, or at the ESPE Connect Stand (Stand 33) in Athens.

I have mentioned before about our ‘ESPE Live’ project. Our aim with this project is to provide ESPE’s valuable content to our members in a way that is accessible 24/7 and from anywhere in the world, so that we’re able to enhance your professional development and enrich your practice and learning year round. This is a big undertaking and one that we want to get right. Which is why we’re asking for your help to inform the decisions we make. You may have seen an email from me earlier this month, asking you to complete our short digital survey for this purpose. Thank you to all of you who have already responded to that survey. We would really value your opinions, so, if you haven’t already done so, please follow this survey link to tell us what you would like from ESPE’s digital resources. Please also look out for opportunities to take part in our focus groups in Athens. We’ll be in touch with delegates about those shortly.

I’m pleased to announce that arrangements are in place for ESPE’s Winter School 2019 and we are now welcoming applications from paediatricians in Eastern Europe. The School will be held at Qalaalti Hotel & Spa, in the Greater Caucasus Mountains in Azerbaijan. For those of you who don’t know, our Winter School is a 5-day training opportunity for paediatricians who have entirely or partially completed their basic paediatric training and who are either established in, or intending to develop a deep and continuing interest in paediatric endocrinology and diabetes. The school, accommodation and meals are all fully-funded, thanks to support from Ferring Pharmaceuticals with travel grants also available. Participants will benefit from interactive lectures and small-group learning as well as presentations from students. If you would like to deepen your knowledge and understanding of paediatric endocrinology, while making new connections and learning from experienced faculty members from around the world, please do apply before the deadline of 26 October.

As well as the students, faculty members also tell us how much they gain from being involved in our schools, both personally and professionally. We currently have an opportunity to become part of the Summer School Steering Committee, which organises and teaches at our longest-running school, immediately prior to the Annual Meeting. If you would like to be part of this team, please apply by 13 September.

Improving the clinical care of children and adolescents with endocrine conditions, including diabetes, through research and education

Registered Office: 65 Carter Lane, London EC4V 3HF, United Kingdom.
Meanwhile, this is your last chance to apply for the Postgraduate Education Course on Type 1 Diabetes in Children Adolescents and Young Adults. This course, developed jointly between ESPE, EASD and ISPAD, will take place in Prague, Czech Republic from 22-24 November 2018. Find details and apply here.

Finally, did you know that it is International Growth Awareness Day on Wednesday 20 September? Each year on this day members of ICOSEP (International Coalition of Organizations Supporting Endocrine Patients) unite to send emails and post messages to social groups across the world. This effort is called the Children’s Growth Awareness campaign. All emails and posts contain the exact same educational message:

*Is your child growing normally? Find out! Because a child’s growth pattern is a major sign of his or her overall health!*

I would encourage you to visit the website to find out more.

Best wishes,
Peter
ESPE Secretary General