

## HARMONY IN DERMATOLOGY AND VENEREOLOGY HAS BEEN ACHIEVED!

### 7<sup>TH</sup> EADV SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Cavtat, Croatia, May 13-16, 2010

The 7<sup>th</sup> EADV Spring Symposium, with the motto «Harmony in Dermatology and Venereology», was held in Cavtat, Croatia, on 13-16 May 2010, under the presidency of Prof Jasna Lipozenčić and auspices of the President of the Republic of Croatia Professor Ivo Josipović.

The 7<sup>th</sup> EADV Spring Symposium brought together nearly 2,000 dermatologists-venereologists from 78 countries, from all over the world. The rich and varied scientific program was not only interesting in clinical but also in the academic-research point of view. The main topics included melanoma; psoriasis; syphilis; dermatological surgery; novel drugs in dermatovenereology; food allergies, dermatoscopy; cutaneous lymphomas; hair and nail diseases; skin diseases in the Mediterranean; bullous diseases; acne and rosacea; wound healing and leg veins; chronic urticaria; vitiligo and pigmented disorders; skin clues of systemic and connective tissue diseases; photodermatology; atopic dermatitis; laser therapy; sexually transmitted infections; paediatric dermatology; non-melanoma skin cancer; dermatomycoses; aesthetic dermatology (Botulinum toxin, facial rejuvenation); skin conditions and endocrinology; and the skin and internal malignancy.

The Symposia comprised four Case Report Sessions, Poster Forum, six Focus Sessions, four Forum Sessions, twelve Workshops, twelve Symposia, What's New Session, two Free Communications Sessions, and eight Satellite Symposia. Over 480 posters were presented and exhibited.

An excellent beginning of scientific program was achieved by two outstanding opening lectures. Prof Amir Muzur overviewed the milestones in the history of Croatian dermatology and venereology; and Prof Stefan Beissert presented the highlights of present and future of dermatovenereological research.

On Plenary Sessions, leading experts shared their experiences of particular topics. Prof Jo-

hannes Ring gave the excellent lecture on allergy, environment and the skin; Prof Christopher Griffiths facilitated our understanding of brain-skin axis; Prof Georg Stingl gave an overview on immunotherapy for skin diseases in the molecular era; Prof Gregor Jemec emphasized novel imaging techniques for the diagnosis of skin disorders; Prof Jean-Hilaire Saurat overviewed exogenous acne; Prof Keith Radcliffe summarized progress, challenges and opportunities of STIs in Europe.

All Focus Sessions were brilliantly accepted, bringing insightful presentations on Botulinum toxin (directed by Prof Ronni Wolf); dermatoscopy (Prof Harald Kittler); the skin and internal malignancy (Prof Bruce Thiers); STIs and adolescence (Assist Prof Suzana Ljubojević); acne and rosacea (Prof Gerd Plewig); and cutaneous lupus erythematosus (Prof Percy Lehmann).

Prof Andreas Katsambas, EADV President, led the excellent President's Symposium, which provided up-to-date data on different topics: metabolic co-morbidities and psoriasis (Prof Paolo Gisondi); genetic mechanisms in atopic eczema (Prof Sara Brown); and melanocytes and melanogenesis (Prof Marcus Böhm). Prof Irene Stefanki shared her extensive experiences from the STD Clinics.

On What's New Session, Prof Rudolf Happle stressed on new diagnoses in Session what's new in clinical dermatology; Prof Erwin Tschachler presented what's new in venereology; and Prof Peter Steijlen overviewed the novelties in pediatric dermatology.

It is important to mention a very active participation of Croatian dermatovenereologists who gave 15 excellent lectures concerning different fields: atopic dermatitis (Prof Jasna Lipozenčić); bullous diseases (Assist Prof Branka Marinović); acne and rosacea (Prof Aleksandra Basta-Juzbašić and Assist Prof Zrinka Bukvić Mokos); pigmented disorders (Prof Mirna Šitum); chronic urticaria (Prof Višnja Milavec-Puretić), psoriasis (Prof Mari-

ja Kaštelan, Assist Prof Romana Čeović), syphilis (Prof Franjo Gruber); HPV in dermatovenereology (Prof Mihael Skerlev); STIs in adolescence (Assist Prof Suzana Ljubojević); paediatric dermatology (Head Doctor Slobodna Murat-Sušić); dermatological surgery (dr Daška Štulhofer Buzina); venous ulcers (dr Sandra Marinović Kulišić); and laser therapy (Assist Prof Zrinka Bukvić Mokos). In addition, domestic dermatovenerologists presented several free communications and case reports, as well as interesting posters.

The Symposia was brilliantly organized. The elected scientific program was accompanied by the excellent technical support and impressive exhibition area. Furthermore, social program was unforgettable. During Opening Ceremony, Croatian ensembles presented a part of Croatian rich cultural heritage. It was followed by memorable Welcome Reception, which took place by hotel Croatia's swimming pool; so the participants could enjoy in the breathtaking view to nearby islands and crystalline blue sea in the sunset, pleasant live music, and Croatian gastronomic specialties. Equally unforgettable was President's Dinner which took place in Dubrovnik Art Gallery, with unique elegant atmosphere which was additionally accentuated by enjoyable view to the Old Town of Dubrovnik, considered as one of the most attractive on the planet. The charming beauty of Dubrovnik and its fascinat-

ing history attracted the most of the participants to visit this «paradise on Earth».

The remarkable success of this 7<sup>th</sup> EADV Spring Symposium in all its aspects could not be achieved without enormous effort of its chairperson Prof Jasna Lipozenčić. Prof Lipozenčić devoted her years of determined work to organize the EADV Spring Symposium of the highest scientific level, and to present Croatian dermatovenereology and our country in the best light. She unquestionably succeeded in all her aims and gave to this Symposium her personal touch. The long applause aimed to Prof Lipozenčić by more than three hundred participants at the Closing Ceremony said more than a hundred words. Therefore Prof Lipozenčić earns our cordial congratulations, admiration and respect.

Our congratulations should be also addressed to Assist Prof Branka Marinović, Symposium Secretary General, who gave a huge contribution to the success of this meeting by her discrete, but hard and pedantic work.

In conclusion, 7<sup>th</sup> EADV Spring Symposium was successful in its scientific contents and its organization, fully achieving its motto «Harmony in Dermatology and Venereology»! Congratulations!

Assist. Prof. Zrinka Bukvić Mokos, MD, PhD

## NORTH AMERICAN CLINICAL DERMATOLOGIC SOCIETY VISITING ZAGREB UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY AND VENEREOLOGY

On June 4, 2010, the University Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Zagreb University Hospital Center hosted North American Clinical Dermatologic Society (NACDS) with six symposia lectures and refreshment. It was an honor for our Department to host 26 renowned NACDS experts at our facilities. The following lectures were held: Eighty-Two Years of the University Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Zagreb University Hospital Center and School of Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia (Lipozenčić); Laboratory Achievements in Mycology, Dermatohistopathology, Immunofluorescence, Immunology and Allergology (Marinović); Our Experience in Dermatotomy (Štulhofer-Buzina); Thirty Years of Experience in Corrective Dermatology (Basta-Juzbašić); Lasers

in Dermatology (Bukvić-Mokos); and HPV Vaccination in Children in Croatia (Skerlev). Each lecture was followed by fruitful discussion.

At the end, Professors Richard L. Spielvogel, James Stewart and Anthony Benedetto awarded Professor Jasna Lipozenčić with a medal and diploma as Honorary Member of NACDS. It was a high recognition to me for the "organization of postgraduate study and advancement of the scientific, clinical and cultural aspects of the profession". This award is most precious to me and I am deeply grateful.

Professor Jasna Lipozenčić, MD, PhD