

ESSFN NEWSLETTER

Number 2

December 2004

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## European Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

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### President's Message

The XVIth Congress held in June in Vienna was a great success. The scientific level was high, and discussions were open and fruitful thanks to the perfect organization by the local host Professor Francois Alesch and his co-workers! To have the venue of the meeting in the Museumsquartier, the city of Vienna's cultural target-area, was a masterly stroke, as in the midsummer season all participants had the opportunity to stroll around and to discuss also outside with colleagues.

The very special feature of this congress is the "on demand" video-availability of key-note lectures at [www.essfn.org](http://www.essfn.org) ! This brings the newest insights in neurotransplantation and neuroprotection, deep brain stimulation for movement disorders, and psychiatric diseases within reach of all interested neurosurgeons and scientists. A unique and new way of continuous education! The officers at the Congress decided to award 3 poster prizes and 2 young neurosurgeon awards for the best oral presentation by a colleague under the age of 35 years.

The officers announced at the Congress a Research Grant of EUR 15.000 - to be presented for the best original research project in the field of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. Deadline for submission is January 31, 2005 ! The promotion of research is one of the goals of the Society and it is therefore important that the officers now may offer such research grants on a regular basis (every second year).

Further educational activities comprise the so-called Hands-on Courses, which the Society organizes every second year: the first was in 2003, November, in Tolochenaz in Switzerland and had 20 young colleagues as trainees with the topic of movement disorders and deep brain stimulation.

The second course will be held in 2005 in Toulouse with the topic "Pain and its treatment modalities". For this 2nd ESSFN Hands-on Course about 30 young neurosurgeons are invited, with a selection procedure by ESSFN officers on the basis of CV and motivation plus geographic aspects and local possibilities. For more information and details: see further in this newsletter.

We welcome all activities and wish you a very good stereotactic season!

D. Andries Bosch, M.D.

Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
President, ESSFN

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### Secretary's Message

This second newsletter of our Society conveys important news to our members which we hope you find useful. Please note the announcements for the Hands-On Course in Toulouse, September 2005, and for the 17th ESSFN congress in Switzerland, October 2006.

In the past two years, membership has increased steadily, and we thank you all for your efforts to achieve this goal. In particular, the establishment of resident membership was a successful step. Since the introduction of this new category, we could welcome 17 resident members. At this time we count a total of 179 members of the society. For your information on the distribution of membership you will find a copy of the poster which was displayed at the congress in Vienna, reflecting ESSFN membership in summer 2004.

While the journal Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery is not the official journal of the ESSFN, the publishing company Karger from Basel, Switzerland, has kindly given us the possibility to publish an ESSFN Mission Statement in every issue of the journal. Peter Roth from Karger has informed us that Karger offers a special subscription rate for ESSFN members. The price for both print and online journal will be EUR 262,20 plus EUR 23,70 for mailing, instead of EUR 450,00). If you want to subscribe to the journal, refer to this offer (for contact see [www.karger.com](http://www.karger.com)).

There is progress on the Website of the ESSFN. We expect to see its final relaunch in a completely new design based on flash program in spring 2005 to provide easily accessible information and regular updates. We always appreciate your input.

The last General Assembly was held during the Vienna congress in the elegant Museumsquartier in Vienna in June 2004. The Minutes of this business meeting are being sent to you along with this newsletter.

Please, support us also in the future to further promote membership. Remember, that the fee for resident membership is only EUR 30 per year. In this newsletter you will again find an application form for membership. Please distribute this form to an interested colleague and send it to the secretary or one of the other officers of the society. Application for membership shall be sponsored by another member or by one of the officers.

Wishing you a pleasant and recreative holiday season.

Joachim K. Krauss, M.D.  
Mannheim, Germany  
First Secretary, ESSFN

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### Treasurer's Message

In accordance with our decision (ESSFN meeting in London, October 2000) to move the legal seat of the Society from Germany to France, the amended constitution and by-laws were finally published in the Official Journal of the French Republic on the 1st of February, 2003. A copy of the constitution and by-laws was given to the Society members at the last ESSFN General Assembly on 25 June, 2004.

Financially, the Society remains healthy. The books have been reviewed by a chartered accountant and by the ESSFN auditing committee (Drs E.R. Heikinnen and C.H. Meyer). The financial balance is satisfactory.

We still encounter problems with regard to membership dues, however. Whereas the membership is flourishing (179 members as of December 2004) up to date dues payment is lagging. We are unfortunately obliged to send further reminders for dues in order to keep the books balanced. A receipt for paid dues will be necessary to confirm membership status.

The so-far positive financial balance of the society has allowed the officers to:

- " Award 5 prizes during the 2004 Congress in Vienna (2 young neurosurgeon awards and 3 poster awards).
- " Finance a new professionally designed website.
- " Organize the second ESSFN training course in September 2005 in Toulouse.
- " Promote original research projects in the field of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery with the availability of a € 15.000 research grant every 2 years.

Application (CV, research project + budget) to be send to J. K. Krauss.

Applicants (no age limit) must be ESSFN members in good standing.

Selection will be finalized by the officers in February 2005.

Conclusions of the selected project must be reported in April 2006 and presented during the 2006 ESSFN Congress in Switzerland.

Financing of the project will be divided into 3 equal parts, the first distributed in February 2005, the second in late 2005 after a written progress report, and the third at the conclusion of the report.

Thank you for your support.

Yves Lazorthes, M.D.  
Toulouse, France

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ESSFN Congress 2006 in Lausanne/ Montreux - Switzerland

The XVIIth ESSFN Congress, October 4-7, 2006

The XVIIth congress of our Society will take place in Switzerland, in autumn 2006.

The meeting venue will be in the region of Montreux at the beautiful lake de Geneve. The exact location of the venue will soon be announced.

To find more information about the meeting please go to [www.essfn2006.org](http://www.essfn2006.org) on the Internet.

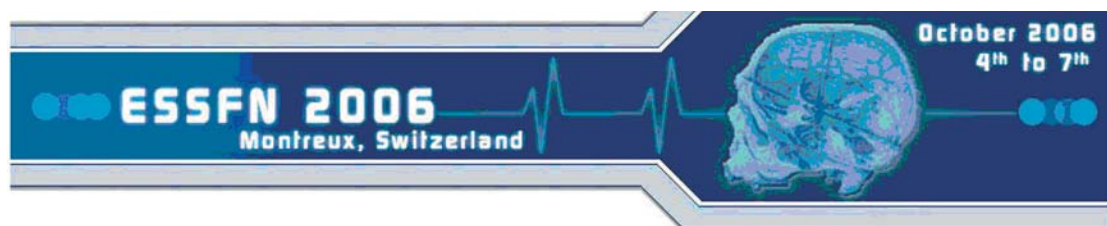
The Department of Neurosurgery of the Lausanne University Hospital, CHUV, will provide the local organization of the congress.

We hope to see you all there in 2006.

Jean-Guy Villemure, M.D.

Lausanne, Switzerland  
Second Secretary, ESSFN

Chairman of the XVIIth ESSFN Congress



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