

Society News from the ERS President

The Federation of European Respiratory Societies (FERS) meeting

During the FERS meeting, European and International activities relating to the Year of the Lung campaign were discussed. The meeting was attended by representatives of more than 25 National European Respiratory Societies. The main focus of the meeting was World Spirometry Day (see page 3). Several National Societies have already registered their interest in taking part in this global event, with several Societies already in the advanced stage of preparation.

During this event members of FERS joined the ERS in the European parliament during the research priorities session. The presence of the FERS representatives made it clear to the policy makers that pulmonologists and scientists across Europe are united to fight respiratory disease.

2010 ERS Annual Congress

The record number of abstract submissions received for the ERS 2010 Annual Congress is a good

indication that the Congress will be a huge success (see page 3). During the Congress there will be the simultaneous translation of some sessions into Spanish, live online broadcasting of key sessions and free WiFi internet for all delegates. In addition, the Opening Ceremony will encompass celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the ERS, including a special party. I look forward to seeing you all in Barcelona!

Thoracic oncology

Thoracic Oncology has been identified as an area of pulmonology that needs urgent attention. Therefore, it is the main topic of the 2010 ERS action plan. A meeting, organised by Prof. Sculier, took place in April to address this topic. Among the topics discussed during the meeting were the implementation of a European Diploma in thoracic oncology and the organisation of specific sessions during the Annual Congress focusing on this field of respiratory medicine.

Year of the Lung update

In accordance with our European plan for the Year of the Lung



campaign, an important meeting was held in the European Parliament with MEP's, cabinet members and other EU officers to discuss the research priorities in respiratory medicine. We believe that this successful meeting could be the first positive step for the inclusion of respiratory issues in the FP8 Programme (see page 4).

I would like to thank everyone who worked very hard in organising this session and, in particular, the ERS staff in the Brussels office, the Scientific Committee for preparing the documents and the ERS Research Director Prof. Dahlén.

*Nikos Siafakas,
ERS President*

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Impressum

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