



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

WORKING GROUP ON MYOCARDIAL FUNCTION

Chairman: P.N. Marino - Verona (FAX 39-045-8074470) Co-Chairman: O.A. Smiseth - Oslo (47-23073530)

Past-Chairman: G. Heusch - Essen (49-201-7234481) Treasurer: O.M. Hess - Bern (41-31-6324771)

Nucleus Members: I. Amende - Hannover; E. Bassenge - Freiburg; S. Betocchi - Napoli; B. Crozatier - Créteil; G. Ertl - Würzburg; T. Gillebert - Edegem; W.J. Paulus - Aalst; A. M. Shah - London

Verona, July 2, 2002

Newsletter WG on Myocardial Function

Dear Members of the WG,

Some time has elapsed since my last correspondence, and several things have happened since then. The winter meeting in Isola (France) has been, again, a great success. We have been able to expand the program in terms of the number of participants (48+2) and oral presentations (25), besides fitting in also a small poster session (7 abstracts). Atmosphere was again unique and the resort itself beautiful. We have already booked the same hotel for 2003. **Servier** is again sponsoring the meeting, whose date is January 24-25, 2003. Please make a note in your calendar. Format and title will not be changed. Number of potential participants may probably be increased.

Last May another meeting, organized by **Burket M. Pieske**, Goettingen (Germany) and sponsored by our WG, entitled "Sodium and the Heart" took place in Goettingen. A brief summary of that meeting and of the one in Isola (France) will follow shortly.

Our WG has been receiving important acknowledgments from ESC: **Gerd Heusch**, Essen (Germany) has been invited to give the *Basic Science Lecture* in Berlin (Germany) and **Otto A. Smiseth**, Oslo (Norway) our incoming Chairman, has been appointed as *Councillor of the Board of the Society*. Let us all congratulate with these members who maintain the visibility of the group within the European scientific community very high.

I have been recently asked from **Udo Sechtem**, Councillor in Charge of the WGs of the ESC, Stuttgart (Germany) and the **Science Council** to express the feeling of the WG with our present cluster allocation. Although we must recognize that Cluster 3, the one we presently belong to, "sacrifices", to a certain extent, the clinical "attitude" that many members within the WG do have, in agreement with the Nucleus I think that Cluster 3 is the one we should be allocated to.

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Obviously this does not exclude potential combined activities with WGs outside that Cluster. We are feeding connections that already exist contributing to initiatives from other WGs, like recently the Heart failure meeting in Oslo (Norway) and the next Euroecho meeting in Munich (Germany) this coming December.

As you may have noticed looking at the paper heading, two members resigned from the WG Nucleus: **Otto M. Hess**, our Treasurer, Bern (Switzerland) and **Ivo Amende**, our senior member, Hannover (Germany). We want to thank these distinguished fellows and very good friends for their longstanding support and generous contribution to the life of the WG. I am sure you all share the same feeling with me. We also appreciate the fact that their resignation has matured in the light of creating new space for younger colleagues. You should be informed that in Berlin (Germany) **Gerd Heusch**, Essen (Germany) will also resign according to the Chairman's rule. To cover his position the candidature of **Gerd Hasenfuss**, Goettingen (Germany) has been proposed during our Nucleus meeting in Isola (France) and it will be formalized during the business meeting in Berlin next September. Two more positions, however, will be available and need to be voted upon in Berlin. Names of candidates, besides those already proposed (**Jean-Luc Balligand**, Brussels (Belgium), **Rainer Schulz**, Essen (Germany), **Markus Fleisch**, Cologne (Germany), **Adelino F. Leite-Moreira**, Porto (Portugal)) have to be forwarded to my below address within the month of July 2002.

• Six new members have been accepted in the WG: **Dr Serge Masson** from Milan (Italy), **Dr Pier Sergio Saba** from Sassari (Italy), **Dr Carlo G. Tocchetti** from Naples (Italy), **Dr Philippe H. Kolh** from Liege (Belgium), **Dr Andreas W. Bonz** from Wurzburg (Germany) and **Dr Denise Hilfiker-Kleiner** from Hannover (Germany).

Our present financial statement, as received from the Heart House, is 5.774 Euros.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Berlin (Germany), I remind you that our **Business Meeting** will be held in room Warsaw (Red Zone) on Monday September 2nd, 2002 from 12.45 to 13.45.

With my best regards,

Prof. Paolo N. Marino, F.E.S.C., Chairman

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