



ISN sub-Committee on Neuropathology Training & Development

Report on Neuropathology Training & Development Activities 2015-2016 ISN Executive Committee meeting on 7th July at ECNP 2016, Bordeaux, France

On behalf of the sub-Committee (SC) of the ISN, I am pleased to report to the ISN Executive Committee our activities during the past year. The SC has been searching for potential hosts, sponsoring and planning outreach activities for the next 4 years. I was appointed chair of the SC at the ISN 2015 International conference in Rio de Janeiro. Members of the current SC are Prof Hitoshi Takahashi (ex officio, Japan), Prof Herbert Budka (ex officio), Dr David Hilton (Secretary of the ISN) and Prof Raj Kalaria (UK). The ISN SC operates in accord with the original terms of reference established by the previous SC chair Prof Francesco Scaravilli in 2009. For the outreach teaching activities / workshops, the SC has essentially followed previous guidelines. In brief, the lecture/instructor team is appointed on an *ad hoc* basis depending on requested expertise, availability and suggestions made by the hosts on topics to be featured in the teaching programmes. The hosts would be primarily responsible for supporting and organizing the venue, local delegate attendance, accommodation, meals and ground transport. The ISN support would be limited to air or ground travel to the venue of the workshop or meeting.

Plans for 2015-2019 Tentative plans were proposed in 2015 by the SC chair to hold yearly educational or teaching workshops in four different locations in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMIC) during tenure of the current SC in the next four years (2015-2019). Possible sites were proposed in Asia, Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe, particularly in locations where a need is perceived. As previously, potential hosts are to be identified through networking and suggestions made by ISN members. In addition, the SC will provide relevant information and updates on the ISN website.

Training & Development Activity 2015 In 2015, the SC sponsored and contributed to the inaugural meeting of the Neuropathology Society of India (NPSI). The ISN derived profound pleasure in supporting this first NPSICON 2015, held 18-20 December in Hyderabad. This first conference, organised by Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, was an enormous milestone in the history of neuropathology in India and a proud moment for neuropathologists and all professionals interested in disorders of the brain and nervous system in the Indian sub-continent. The NPSI Secretariat and local organisers worked tirelessly to craft an intense but rewarding programme over two days to include didactic lectures, specific seminars and case report sessions on various topics in neuropathology, with a particular emphasis on tumours. The occasion also provided opportunities for networking and establishing collaborations. The inaugural conference was heralded as a resounding success by all who attended and was immensely gratifying for those who organised it. The conference was attended by about 200 delegates from all over the country including postgraduates of pathology as well as faculty and researchers in pathology/neuropathology. Several



ISN sub-Committee on Neuropathology Training & Development

National neuropathologists/pathologists contributed to the academic programme (see photographs). The ISN representatives included President Prof Hitoshi Takahashi (Japan), Prof Herbert Budka (Switzerland), Prof David Ellison (USA) and Prof Raj Kalaria (UK). The intensive programme specifically incorporated topics within neurooncology, neuroinfections, cerebrovascular disorders and neuromuscular disorders. Brain banking in context of neuropathology research in India was also highlighted. Interactive case discussions in neoplastic and non-neoplastic conditions with diagnostic dilemmas were discussed with active participation from the audience and ISN speakers. Young postgraduates also presented some 50 posters on ongoing research work in fields of neurooncology, infections, epilepsy and neuromuscular disorders. One highlight of the meeting was the presentation on the evolution of Neuropathology with an account of research activities at various Institutes in India by the Secretary of NPSI, Prof Chitra Sarkar. Prof Budka discussed the roles of neuropathology in the 21st century and the ISN. A professionally printed abstract book was also available to the delegates. On Monday 21st December, some of the faculty visited the Department of Pathology at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital, where the local organisers (Dr Megha Uppin and Prof C Sundaram) are based. Similar to previous meetings, the SC emphasized the essential goal of training local neuropathologists or general pathologists in CNS pathology and encourage the development of related activities including clinico-pathological demonstrations. In addition to the generous support provided by NPSI, this inaugural event in India was financially sponsored by the ISN and British Neuropathological Society. NPSI is now busy planning the second conference to be held in February 2017 at NIMHANS, Bangalore.

Training & Development Activity 2016 At the time of writing, I am pleased to report that the SC has already established the final draft programme for a three-day teaching workshop in Lima, Peru. This training event will be held 21-24 August, 2016. The workshop will be held with the co-operation of the Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Neurologicas, Lima, Perú, and Centro de Salud Global, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Perú. The programme will feature tumours, neurodegeneration, Prion disease, epilepsy and viral and parasitic infections. On 25th August, the ISN faculty will also contribute to the XXII Annual Neurosciences Conference of Peru. The tentative ISN faculty will include Profs Arie Perry (USA), Herbert Budka (Switzerland), Sebastian Brandner (UK) and Raj Kalaria (UK). The teaching programme will also have contributions from the local faculty as well as colleagues from Brazil. The hosts in Lima, Dr Hector Garcia and Dr Diana Rivas (Peru) are anticipating 100-150 participants and a most successful workshop.

The SC chair has also begun to search for potential hosts for outreach activity to be held in 2017.

12th June 2016

Professor Dr Raj Kalaria *on behalf of the T&D sub-Committee*
Chair of the ISN sub-Committee on Neuropathology Training & Development
Institute of Neuroscience, Newcastle University & RVI, Newcastle NHS Hospitals Trust



ISN sub-Committee on Neuropathology Training & Development



1) NPSICON 2105 Faculty, Prof VV Radhakrishnan (far right, opening chair) and Profs Ellison (keynote address) and Kalaria in Hyderabad



2) ISN Faculty with the members of NPSICON 2015 organising committee



3) NPSICON 2105 Hyderabad Organisers, National NPSI Faculty, ISN Faculty and Pathology Trainees and Residents