



Report on Thierry Brue's term as President of the ENEA 2018-2020

I cannot start this short report on my 2-year term (with a one-month extension due to the Covid situation) as President of the European Neuroendocrine Association without thanking a number of people who have been pivotal in the good functioning of our Society during this period. I took over from Alberto Pereira after the Wroclaw meeting in October 2018. Alberto had done a tremendous job as President over his two-year term and had paved the way for many of the accomplishments that occurred in the following years. I have tried to prolong his efforts and those of the previous team including Marily Theodoropoulou, as will be briefly detailed below. In this task, I have been helped with an extremely reliable efficacy and outstanding availability by Maria Chiara Zatelli as Secretary General of the Society; I wish to extend to her my warmest thanks for her support and exceptional resourcefulness. A special thank also to our Treasurer Patrick Petrossians who has been instrumental in maintaining transparency and reliability in all ENEA budgets and was also extremely helpful in solving several other challenges such as those regarding social networks, or more generally Internet- or computer-based issues. It was also comfortable to have the discrete but indefectible support and valuable input of Ilan Shimon, our President elect to whom I am proud to hand over the task as President at the end of the Porto meeting. Talking about the future, it is very reassuring to see that our young members' group, the EYRC -very efficiently represented in our Executive Committee (ExCo) by Luis Perez Rivas and supported by the EYRC coordinator Manuel Gahete - has been so active over these years and still has a number of projects, which allows to be optimistic for the perspectives of our Society in the years to come. Finally I would like to thank all the members of the ExCo for their excellent input and always constructive contribution. Last but not least I would like to extend my thanks to Martin Then and Endoscience for making the logistics of the Society work as smoothly as possible and to our new communication partner, AOS, especially Christelle Usseglio and Marie Tessanne, for helping us to better showcase the image of the ENEA.

Over these past two years we addressed a number of issues during the monthly online meetings of the restricted ExCo that proved a very effective means of making decisions quickly and allowed to speed up ENEA activities. I will just briefly cite some of the main ones.

- **Previous Workshop, ENEA 2019 Athens Workshop:**

What we did not know at the time of the Athens Workshop on parasellar tumors in December 2019 was that this Workshop would be until now and probably until the end of 2021 the last opportunity for our members to meet face-to-face at an ENEA event. This was indeed an extraordinarily successful meeting due its original topic, magnificent setting, and welcoming atmosphere thanks to Gregory Kaltsas and Kristi Alexandraki. Much to our satisfaction it was equally highly successful in terms of scientific level and financial balance.

- **Present meeting, ENEA 2020 Porto meeting:**

Because of the Covid crisis, in April 2020, we made the decision of postponing the 2020 ENEA meeting to November 29th - December 2nd and after summer, we decided not without disappointment to change it into from a face-to-face into a remote - rather than virtual - meeting. Indeed, this proves to be a true meeting with both good science and interactivity, although not in the way we would have dreamt of. This required a lot of adjustments both scientifically thanks to the excellent work of Niki Karavitaki and the POC, logistically with Davide Carvalho, the LOC and the local CRO Norahs events, with Ana Costa, and financially. Sponsoring was indeed secured with the help of our pharmaceutical partners that must be thanked for their support despite the change in conditions of the congress.

- **Next meetings and workshops**

For our next workshop in December 2021, the choice of Dubrovnik in Croatia as setting, of Darko Kastelan as organizer, and Cushing's syndrome as topic warrants a success to come.

The choice of Lyon to host the 2022 biannual meeting led by Gerald Raverot and designation of the POC chairs, Marily Theodoropoulou and Andrea Isidori, who came up with a very balanced and rich composition of the POC and LOC also promises us to have a brilliant edition for our next meeting.

One of the first tasks of the next team will be to confirm the venue and topic of the next Workshop to be held in 2023, for which several promising bids were proposed.

After presentation of several excellent bids, Sevilla was chosen as the site of the 2024 ENEA meeting under the lead of Alfonso Soto, Raul Luque and Justo Castaño.

- **ENEA Post-graduate course in Uzbekistan**

I have tried to implement a new type of activity in ENEA, with an attempt at organizing a joint graduate course with colleagues from Uzbekistan. We had the determinant help of Misa Pfeifer in this endeavour, which proved to be a true challenge especially in terms of communication. We had to postpone the event to April 2022 mainly due to the epidemiological situation, and there is still work ahead to make this event happen. The next team will have to decide whether despite many difficulties - sanitary conditions being only a part of these - it can be pursued, which I very much hope.

- **Rolf Gaillard Prize**

The Prize was awarded to 2 outstanding female scientists in 2019 and 2020, Susan Webb and Anna Spada, one from a more clinical, the other one from a more experimental background, and could be maintained despite the sanitary crisis. Each time, more and more excellent candidates are proposed and the democratic choice by the vote of the ExCo allowed to select the best ones. We need to extend our thanks to the Rolf Gaillard foundation for their continued support of neuroendocrinology through our society.

- **ENEA elections**

Although we recently had to resume voting due to technical issues we are now fully operational in terms of democracy within the Society and in full transparency. Attention will have to be paid in the years to come to keep the ExCo as inclusive and balanced as possible for all aspects of the Society, including representation of ages & genders, countries & continents, fields of research and diverse professional profiles as we always strived to.

- **EYRC**

It is extremely important for any Society like ours to facilitate career development and to meet aspirations of our younger colleagues who represent our future. To this aim, the young member branch of our Society, EYRC, needs both autonomy and support from our Society. This is what we have always tried to offer in close collaboration with Manuel Gahete and the other representative members of the EYRC. The accomplishments of this very active group are entirely their own. For instance, tribute should be paid to them for the first EYRC book, which is almost complete and for a second one in preparation. They are actively participating in many ways to the organization of all our ENEA meetings and workshops and activities in general, and certainly will continue to do so.

- **ENEA studies**

The 2017 workshop implemented a study on prolactinomas and all previous workshops also launched studies that are now at various stages of their development. This is a type of activity that is potentially intended to include all centers who are willing to participate, based on an online platform, although more targeted projects could also be considered in the future, based on the evaluation of previously launched studies.

- **Consensus meetings**

The ENEA was associated, together with other societies, to the "PANOMEN" workshop organized by the Pituitary Society to discuss pituitary adenoma nomenclature. Everything takes time and it was unfortunately not possible to launch a similar project within this too short past term, but ENEA should in the future aim at fostering consensus meetings that may come up with new guidelines in specific fields of Neuroendocrinology. We may also give an opportunity to our members to discuss professional issues such as the European viewpoint on so-called "Pituitary centers of Excellence".

- **Issue of the Society's Journal**

ENEA had previously partnered with Neuroendocrinology for several projects such as special issues following workshops. For instance, a special issue was published with the help of Ashley Grossmann, Ilan Shimon, and Elena Grineva based on the Prolactin workshop of Saint Petersburg in 2017. However, following the collective resignation in 2020 of the editor in chief (Bob Millar) and of most of the members of the Editorial Board of this Journal, ENEA decided to support the initiative of the Journal of Neuroendocrinology, which opened a clinical strand with a dedicated board including ENEA members and representatives.

- **New communication partner for the Society**

An international blueprint was launched to make communication of the society more modern, professional and efficient. This allowed to choose from 3 candidates a company - AOS - that had been the CRO of the 2015 ENEA Workshop, as the new partner of the ENEA for this task. We now have a brand new website, which is more attractive; a new logo that was chosen by a vote of all our members and we are currently launching ENEA accounts on social networks, especially on Twitter, together with the existing Facebook account of the EYRC. This will make it possible for our society to better advertise its activities in our community and to help fostering new projects.

- **Links with other societies**

We organized both at ENEA and EYRC levels joint sessions at different meetings of sister societies, including ESE, Spanish Society of Endocrinology, GRS, WCNH2019 (World congress on Neurohypophysis, Israel, 2019). ENEA will partner with forthcoming WorldMEN meetings to be held remotely in 2021 and in Marseille in 2023.

This is a summary of only some of the activities of the ExCo I had the honor to chair over these past 2 years. I would like to again thank all of its members for their confidence and support and to repeat a very special and cheerful thank you to Maria. I also would like to wish great success to the new ExCo, which will be partly renewed, with a new President, Ilan Shimon, a new President-elect, Albert Beckers, 3 incoming members that were just elected, Niki Karavitaki (UK), Andrea Isidori (Italy) and Gerald Raverot (France). Congratulations to each of them for their election! Finally, I extend all my very best wishes to ENEA for exciting future developments and for always better serving the needs and aspirations of both basic and clinical neuroendocrinologists across Europe and beyond. Thank you.

Thierry Brue

Marseille, November 26th 2020.