



January 2010

Dear ESFH Member,

this is warm welcome from the ESFH president at the beginning of the new year 2010.

First I would like to give you some information about the ESFH activities in the last year. The outstanding event was the joint meeting of the ESFH and the French Apheresis Society in Paris in November 2009. The meeting was well attended and we had a fruitful discussion with European colleagues. The annual postgraduate course was held on one day and covered therapeutic apheresis and peripheral stem cells as topics. The second day of the meeting was reserved for apheresis registries and free communications.

The ESFH board met once in Bern, Switzerland and focused on future activities of the ESFH. Paul Höcker has now the position of a coordinator of foreign affairs. The district directors are as follows: Milan Blaha (Eastern Europe), Georges Andreu (Western Europe), Behrouz Mansouri-Taleghani (Central Europe) and Volker Witt (Non European Countries).

The next ESFH congress will take place in Interlaken, Switzerland from September 2nd – 4th 2010. It will be a joint meeting with the World Apheresis Association together with the Blood Transfusion Service of the Swiss Red Cross and the Swiss Association of Transfusion Medicine. Behrouz Mansouri-Taleghani from Switzerland will be the ESFH congress president. We found a nice location at the Casino Kursaal Interlaken and are now busily working on the program. It will be announced and updated on our website. I'm sure that the interesting scientific program with dedicated speakers will make your attendance worthwhile. You are cordially encouraged to come up with your thoughts and scientific input for this congress to form a strong apheresis platform.

Best regards

Rainer Moog, MD, PhD
ESFH President