Dear IPVS Member,

I have just returned from Eurogin 2016 meeting held in Salzburg, Austria where many of our members presented amazing new data regarding developments in the area of head and neck cancers and the effectiveness of HPV vaccines. In addition, several members participated in various educational sessions. The Salzburg meeting also served as an opportunity to follow up on existing projects, organise and plan new projects, and to confer with colleagues regarding further networking during the upcoming IPVS conference in Cape Town.

**Maurice Hilleman Award**

For his outstanding contributions to the development and implementation of HPV vaccines, the IPVS and Eurogin 2016 have jointly awarded Prof. Lutz Gissmann with the 2016 Maurice Hilleman Award. The award was presented during the Eurogin 2016 Opening Ceremony. At the awards ceremony, Prof. Lutz Gissmann provided an overview on the state-of-the-art of HPV vaccines developments in 2016.
The Strategic Planning for IPVS 2017-2020 has started. During the Board of Directors meeting in Salzburg, an outline of action items was proposed. A summary of the Plan and outline will be presented during the Cape Town conference. To facilitate the process, several working groups have been organized to examine and increase membership, improve our website and online presence, as well as develop an effective strategy to promote IPVS activities and its members’ research.

Update on IPVS 2017

I eagerly anticipate and have high expectations for the Cape Town IPVS conference. First, in terms of HPV prevention, a great deal of effort has been made to review how well we are doing in low and middle income countries. Specifically, we are calling on researchers from the subsaharin region working in areas of screening and vaccination to present their data. We will also learn from researchers from other regions about their experiences in this regard. In addition, discussions surrounding major issues such as vaccine hesitancy and vaccine effectiveness are expected. Basic scientists will also be presenting new information regarding the evolution and natural history of infections as we do not yet fully understand beta papillomaviruses and their involvement in human disease. Finally, the concomitance of HIV and HPV in the region brings a new set of challenges that need to be addressed in order to assess and understand the overall impact of our interventions to prevent HPV-associated death and suffering.

Abstract submission is now open!
For more information regarding the submission procedure, click here.

Preliminary Programme
Public Health and Clinical workshops are now in the final stages of development and planning PLUS this year, we are also offering a new workshop focusing on Basic Science. For more programme details, please visit our preliminary programme here.

Online registration is now open!
Remember, ‘early bird’ registration fees will be offered at a discounted rate. So, register early and be guaranteed a better rate! To register online, please visit our registration page here. IPVS members receive a discount on their registration fee as part of their membership benefits.

Join us in Cape Town!

There is about a great deal of buzz surrounding the Cape Town conference and we are thoroughly convinced that the region will benefit from our scientific research and public health endeavours.

I invite you to join me in making Cape Town the nerve centre of our collective knowledge and IPVS 2017 a big success!

Silvia de Sanjosé
Africa, on February 28th - March 4th, 2017!

In line with the IPVS mission of addressing the most recent advances across the spectrum of PV research, conference themes will include the epidemiology and molecular biology of PVs; animal models for the study of papillomaviral disease; impact of the microbiome on HPV; basic immunology and pathogenesis of PVs; therapeutic and prophylactic vaccines; prevention of cervical cancer and other PV-associated diseases, and promotion of the spread of the scientific knowledge to benefit the whole community. This last aspect is particularly appropriate for this conference, as it is the first time it is being held on the African continent - where cervical cancer is increasingly a major public health problem, especially where it is further exacerbated by HIV co-infection.

The early bird registrations are now open until Tuesday, November 15, 2016.

Register now!

The abstract submission deadline is set to Monday, September 5, 2016.

Submit your abstract!

www.hpv2017.org
The Maurice Hilleman award honors the memory of Dr. Maurice Hilleman one of the most productive vaccinologists in history. The awardee was selected through voting of IPVS members and a commission of Eurogin 2016. The award is sponsored by Merck and Co. who did not play any role in the candidate selection.

Delivered during the EUROGIN 2016 congress, the 2016 Maurice Hilleman Award acknowledged **Prof. Lutz Gissmann** for his outstanding contribution to research on Human Papillomaviruses.

Prof Lutz Gissmann is a German virologist who was head of the Division “Genome Modifications and Carcinogenesis” at the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg, Germany, until his retirement in 2015. With over 200 publications, his career was devoted to immunity and HPV vaccines. He has been in the field since 1977 with his publication "Human papillomaviruses (HPV): characterization of four different isolates". *Virology,* 1977 Feb;76(2):569-80, together with Pfister H, and Zur Hausen H. He described the sequence of HPV 6 in 1980. After some years working on sequencing other HPV types he described HPV type complexity. He further worked investigating the pathway of HPV induced carcinogenesis and more recently focused his energies on vaccine development. He has been exploring new vaccine alternatives including therapeutic ones. Lutz Gissmann has been lecturing about virology, immunology and the human response to vaccines, always in a brilliant and elegant manner converting the difficulties into something comprehensive. His quiet personality and deep scientific mind are characteristics that one cannot forget when working with him. After having retired, he received the recognition he deserves with the Maurice Hilleman Award 2016.
AOGIN 2016

The AOGIN 2016 congress will take place in Singapore, on 12-14 August, 2016, under the theme: New Frontiers of Cervical Cancer Prevention.

AOGIN's Scientific programme is catered towards the following Healthcare Professionals:

- Gynaecologists and Gynaecological Oncologists
- Fellows and residents in Gynaecology and Gynaecological Oncology training programmes
- Physicians, Nurses, Physician Assistants and other Allied Health Professionals involved in the care of genital infection or neoplasia patients
- Medical students with an interest in genital infection and/or neoplasia
- Scientists, Thought Leaders, Health Administrators, Technologists and Industry Partners concerning Gynaecology and Oncology

Saving the World's Women from Cervical Cancer

Dr. José Jerónimo gave an interview recently on approaches to reducing rates of cervical cancer in low- and middle-income countries to the New England Journal of Medicine.

Read the article here.

Listen to the interview here.

Top 5 most cited Papillomavirus Research articles
**Special offer:**
Become a member of IPVS for 2017 during the AOGIN 2016 congress, and benefit from free membership fees for the rest of 2016!

Since its foundation, the mission of IPVS has been to facilitate research on human and animal papillomaviruses and their associated diseases, and to promote the translation of research results into new clinical applications and public health policies. Your membership - time, energy, creativity and financial support - is critical to help your colleagues in IPVS to achieve this mission.

*learn more*

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**Papillomavirus Research Journal**

- European guidelines for quality assurance in cervical cancer screening. Summary of the supplements on HPV screening and vaccination von Karas et al.

- Effectiveness of less than three doses of quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccine against cervical intraepithelial neoplasia when administered using a standard dose spacing schedule: Observational cohort of young women in Australia by Brotherton et al.

- Seroconversion following anal and genital HPV infection in men: The HIM study by Giuliano et al.

- Estimation of the epidemiological burden of HPV-related anogenital cancers, precancerous lesions, and genital warts in women and men in Europe: Potential additional benefit of a nine-valent second generation HPV vaccine compared to first generation HPV vaccines by Hartwig et al.

- Performance of the Xpert HPV assay in women attending for cervical screening by Cuzick et al.