

Vienna January 2010

Dear Gastroenterologists
Dear Friends, Dear Reader

I am the new president of the UEGF since the beginning of this year and would like to start my presidency with thanking Juan Malagelada for many years of devoted work for European Gastroenterology. Juan has worked in the UEGF since 1994 and has been instrumental in most of the steppingstones of the Federation.

There were some further changes within the UEGF Council: Michael Farthing, Chairman of the Scientific Committee, Colm O'Morain, Chairman of the Public Affairs Committee, Dirk Gouma Independent Councillor and Christos Dervenis, Surgery Representative came to their end of office and I wish to express my gratitude for their excellent work. Please find information on their successors on the UEGF webpage.

As president I want to emphasize the continuation of UEGF's federative approach. With the commitment of all members, UEGF can and should represent European Gastroenterology. With this ambitious goal in mind I will work as an ambassador and intensify the contact to member societies and European national associations. This is a big commitment considering that there are 16 associations in the Federation and more than 50 national associations in gastroenterology in Europe!

Many new exciting and innovative projects from the UEGF are awaiting you this year. A UEGF Future Trends Committee will be established in order to find developments of importance for gastroenterology in Europe. The UEGF Research Prize and Lifetime Achievement Award will be awarded again and we hope for many high profile nominations. I would further like to welcome a new member society— European Society of Digestive Oncology (ESDO). The joining of forces between ESDO and the member associations of the Federation is an important step to highlight the increasing knowledge in oncology and the fact that more and more gastroenterologists work in this field in their daily practice. Colorectal cancer is a major killer in Europe and screening has clearly been shown to reduce deaths. CRC Screening will be a very prominent topic for the year 2010 and will also be highlighted during the meeting in Barcelona. UEGF has worked with other organizations in Europe to create guidelines for the EU commission in order to move this forward.

I would finally like to draw your attention to the new UEGF Image Brochure which will be used to promote the Federation in our further efforts to strengthen European gastroenterology and which will be circulated in the coming weeks and can be downloaded from our webpage.

UEGF is ready to join forces with the associations which make up the Federation, patient organizations, medical industry and health care politicians. We would like to invite all interested parties to make contact and work with us.

Yours faithfully



Rolf Hultcrantz, UEGF President

Founding Members: ASNEMGE * EAGE * EASL * EPC * EGE * ESPGHAN * EFISDS
Associate Members: EAES * ECO * EDS * EHS * ESCP * ESDO * ESGAR * ESNM * ESPCG



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