## ESCCA 2017 Conference - Call for abstracts & registrations



Dear ESCCA members and friends,

The past few months the Scientific Committee has worked hard to develop an interesting scientific programme for our Conference in Thessaloniki. We are pleased to announce that the full programme is now ready and can be downloaded from the Conference website. We would like to invite you to submit an abstract for presentation at the Conference; your active contribution will be highly appreciated! Your abstract also has a chance to be selected as one of the best poster or best oral abstracts, giving you the opportunity to present your work in a plenary session.

Besides a varied Conference programme we also scheduled a Pre-conference training session on Cytometry Analysis Tools on Saturday 23/9. Perhaps you are also interested in taking the ESCCA European Cytometry Certification Examination that day.

We also hope that you will join us at the Greek Sunset Dinner Party on Monday 25/9. It will be an excellent occasion to renew old friendships and build new ones!

You will find more details in this Newsletter, and on the Conference website.

Finally, you may wish to watch the <u>video</u> on what Thessaloniki has to offer, in the light of the Conference's subtitle: *Cytometry at the Crossroads of Cultures*.

Warm regards, Katherina Psarra, ESCCA President

## Scientific programme

An ambitious programme has been developed. Renowned speakers and experts will present up to date knowledge and information on cytometry and will offer you invaluable tools to perform your everyday clinical and research work.

Accreditation by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) has been applied for.

Some programme highlights:

• The highly popular Education programmes: Advanced Hematology-Oncology, Clinical Diagnostic Cytometry (limited places!) and Advanced Immunology. *Register soon to secure your place, for these two programmes the number of places is limited!* 

- Keynote lectures on 2016 WHO updates on acute leukemias and mature lymphoid malignancies, by Mike Borowitz (Baltimore, USA) and Andy Rawstron (Leeds, UK).
- Plenary sessions on PNH guidelines, DNA analysis by FC, translational Research including FC, leukemic stem cells, quality control, normal and malignant mast cells, eosinophilias, standardization and harmonization.
- Interactive session during which interesting cases will be reviewed through interactive voting via your mobile phone: initial differential diagnosis based on CBC and morphology; presentation of flow cytometry data; possible diagnosis or possible cytogenetics suspected; presentation of the diagnostic data and re-voting on the diagnostic options, plus review of the answers.
- Session jointly organised with the Hellenic Cytometry Society and the Hellenic Society of Haematology focused on immunotherapy of haematological malignancies.

In addition, posters will be on display on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The 6 best poster abstracts will be selected for a short oral presentation as well, see below. Finally, the Exhibition will provide an important feature on the latest products and instruments and contacts with industrials in the field.

# Submit your abstract in time!

For information and to submit: <u>https://escca.eu/abstracts-2017</u> Submission deadline: 30 June 2017 (23:59:59 CEST)

The **3 best oral abstracts** will be selected for presentation in the plenary Best Oral Abstract Presentations session on Wednesday morning 27/9. One of the presenters will be selected for the **ESCCA Best Oral Award**.

The **6 best poster abstracts** will be selected for a short oral presentation of 7 minutes in Plenary Session 6 on Tuesday 26 September, besides having a poster on display.

From the posters on-site the Scientific Committee will select the best poster for the **Best Poster** Award.

The winners will be announced in the ESCCA Award Session and will be awarded with a free registration for the 2018 Conference. To qualify, abstracts should be submitted before the abstract submission deadline of 30 June, so make sure to submit your abstract in time!

## Pre-conference programme on Saturday 23 September

### • Training course on Cytometry Analysis Tools (14.00-18.30 hrs.)

Led by lannis Drakos and Nicolas Derian (Paris, FR), this training course will give you the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with the latest open-source, freely available, solutions for standardized cytometry data management, integration and analysis. The programme can be found on the Conference website. The first delegates have already registered; there are only 30 delegates places, so register soon!

### • ESCCA European Cytometry Certification Examination (restricted to ESCCA members)

ESCCA is aware of the technical complexity and constant evolution of cytometry instrumentation and its applications, requiring continuous training and education. We also aim to help ESCCA members, and especially the young ones, to attain excellence in their work in cytometry, be it in the clinical or in the basic fields. In order to attest the level of excellence of cytometrists the ESCCA Education and Accreditation Committee has created the European Cytometry Certificate, which is now in course of implementation. This European Cytometry Certificate will have two levels of certification: a) The European Certificate for Cytometry Operators and b) The European Certificate for Cytometry Specialists.

The official examination for the European Certificate for Cytometry Operators will take place on Saturday 23 September in the Conference venue. Candidates will be presented with some 100

multiple choice questions on a wide range of topics. At least 60% of the questions have to be answered correctly in order to pass the exam and receive the ESCCA Certificate. For the application guidelines and to register, please see the ESCCA Examination webpage in the Membership section.

### Greek Sunset Dinner Party on Monday 25/9

Join us on Monday at the Greek Sunset Dinner Party at Shark Bar Restaurant, a lounge bar restaurant located directly at the sea-side that is considered to be one of the best of its kind in Thessaloniki. Delicious cuisine inspired by the Mediterranean, a sophisticated yet relaxed ambiance, great lounge music and breath-taking views on the sea and Thessaloniki is what you can expect there. See the website for details. On that page you'll also find more information on travel and the venue.

#### **Hotel accommodation**

Rooms are available in the Conference venue, the Porto Palace Hotel, at a discounted rate of  $\notin$  115 including breakfast. If you wish to stay here, you are advised to **book your room as soon as possible**! The hotel has a high occupancy that week and the ESCCA room block is limited. Other hotels are <u>not</u> at walking distance to the Porto Palace hotel. To book a hotel, please visit the <u>Housing page</u>.

### **Registration and fees**

<u>Click here</u> for an overview and the link to the registration system. Benefit from the early registration fee by submitting your registration and payment before 31 July.

ESCCA is grateful for all the financial contributors for their support. This year's main sponsors are:

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Beside an Industrial Symposium and exciting innovations at their booth Beckman Coulter is presenting another highlight. Beckman Coulter will organize opportunities to meet Key experts individually and discuss with you your flow cytometry data. You will have the unique chance to learn more about analyzing rare events or defining intelligent strategies to identify your population of interest. Watch out for further announcements.

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