

# ESTP Newsletter 2022 (4)



*Editor Amy Narewski (contact:  
<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/contact.php>)  
Administrative Assistant to the ESTPEC*

Coming up in 2023	
<b><u>January 25-26:</u></b>	JSTP: 39 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Tower Hall Funabori, (Japan) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>February 3-4:</u></b>	TiHo Hannover (sponsored by ESTP): Residency Program, Toxicologic Pathology Training Program, Module „Female reproductive tract” (online) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>March 14-23:</u></b>	BSTP Continuous Education Symposium CES7: Infectious diseases of laboratory animals (online) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>March 15-17:</u></b>	RITA Panel Meeting (Hannover, Germany) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>March 17-18:</u></b>	Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology XXX (Hannover, Germany) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>April 4-6:</u></b>	SFPT MOLECULAR AND DIGITAL PATHOLOGY (MADPATH), Nantes(France) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>July 4-13:</u></b>	BSTP Continuous Education Symposium CES8: Nervous System (online) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>July 17-28:</u></b>	ECVP/ESVP Summer School in Veterinary Pathology (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>August 31- September 2:</u></b>	Joint European Congress of Veterinary Pathology and Clinical Pathology (ESVP/ECVP/ESVCP/ECVCP; Lisbon, Portugal) <a href="#">LINK</a>
<b><u>September 26-29:</u></b>	20 <sup>th</sup> European Congress of Toxicologic Pathology (Basel, Switzerland) <a href="#">LINK</a>

## President's Column

Dear ESTP members,

The year of 2022 is coming to an end, which is a good time to pause and reflect. In 2022, we have finally put the pandemic behind us, and are now again powering ahead in both virtual and non-virtual activities!

In early November, the webinar team organised another one of their well-attended webinars, offering an insider view of becoming a

toxicological pathologist. Special thanks to Rita Duchande and Matthias Rinke for moderating! At the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the British Society of Toxicological Pathology, also in November, Vanessa Schumacher received the 2022 ESTP Science Award, which was presented to her by the former BSTP president, Liz McInnes (photo). Starting from this year, the Science award replaces the former ESTP travel award, reflecting our society's focus on outstanding contributions to the science of toxicological pathology.

In mid-December, Simone Tangermann and a dynamic group of young talents held the first of a series of informal telecons, a new activity for “early career pathologists” which will focus on career topics and discussions with “senior” pathologists. This is another chance to get involved and grow your network; please contact Simone if you are interested in participating.

In early 2023, we are looking forward to another module of the ESTP -sponsored Toxicologic Pathology Training Program in Hannover (February) and the 30<sup>th</sup> edition of the Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology (March).

Finally, I would like to inform you of the change of managing editor at the official journal of the ESTP, *Toxicological Pathology*. This role will transition from Stephanie Dickinson, who held the post for more than a decade, to a new company in the US, J&J Editorial Services, and we will have to carefully evaluate the impact of this change over the next year.

*Toxicological Pathology* is the platform where ESTP- endorsed papers are published that outline best practices, articulate opinions concerning scientific and regulatory questions, and reflect the changing remit of toxicological pathologists. Therefore, participating in the work of our journal and contributing to its strategic direction important for our society and our profession as a whole, but it can also be a valuable development opportunity. Please have a look at the article by Beatrice Gauthier, the Senior Editor representing ESTP, who is looking

for interested persons willing to give some time and join the editorial board.

With all these exciting things going on in our society and the world at large, I must admit that I am ready for a pause and a breather! I wish all of you happy, peaceful, and relaxing holidays with plenty of opportunity to recharge your batteries. All the best for the new year 2023 from

Silvia Guionaud  
ESTP Chairwoman



## New Councilor for Nomenclature: Ute Bach



Dear ESTP members,

I'm honored to have been elected in September 2022 and serve our Society as new Councilor for Nomenclature.

In this position as 'link' between the GESC (Global Editorial and Steering Committee) and the ESTP, I'm following Susanne Rittinghausen, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her so much for the enormous impact she has achieved in this role. Even more, I thank her for all the years she contributed essentially to the RITA data base. We are very pleased, that she will continue with INHAND and as member of the GESC so that I can count on her support and experience.

After my studies of veterinary medicine and a residency in the Pathology department at the Justus-Liebig University in Gießen, I started my career as toxicologic pathologist in 1998 at

Bayer AG in Wuppertal, and although the name of the division changed over the years, I stayed for now almost 25 years with the same company. Between 2009 and 2016, I moved into Bayer's Toxicology Project Management, being responsible for projects of various indication areas. In 2016, I came back to the department and took over the position as Head of Pathology and Clinical Pathology.

As the current chair of the RITA group and a member of different INHAND Organ working groups (Female reproductive, Special senses and Nonrodent Ocular), and one of the ESTP representatives within the GESC, I have gained some experience concerning the difficulties but also opportunities in nomenclature topics which surely will help me to successfully fulfill the councillors' duties.

Currently, some harmonization processes on general pathology terms are under discussion within the GESC which will be submitted to the OWG (Organ System Working Group) chairs as soon as they are finalized. In addition, it is planned to initiate a publication review by the OWGs. A notification including a time schedule of planned activities will be sent by Charlotte Keenan (GESC Chair) to the respective chairs. Finally, you have recently received an email on the first version of the SEND (Standardization for Exchange of Nonclinical Data) Tumor Combination prepared by the CDISC (Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium) group and being available for public review until

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. I would like to encourage you to use the opportunity of this public review. So, there are some topics going on and I will keep you updated. However, if you have any questions or issues concerning nomenclature, that you would like to be discussed in our Society, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards

Ute Bach

### **New Representative of University**

#### **Professors:**



**Ingo Gerhauser**

Dear ESTP members,

I am honored to represent the university teachers in the new ESTP council following my positive election in September 2022. As Councillor, I would like to contribute to the mutual understanding between academia and industry in their respective needs. I am taking over from Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Baumgärtner whom I would like to thank very much for his many years of support of the ESTP Executive Board and the

organization of the Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology.

I studied veterinary medicine in Gießen (Germany) from 1996-2002 including a stay in Nantes (France) via ERASMUS for eight months. Then, I joined the PhD program of the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover (TiHo) and investigated different neuroinflammatory diseases focusing on Theiler's murine encephalomyelitis, which represents a virus-induced animal model of multiple sclerosis and ictogenesis. After the completion of my doctoral theses and the achievement of the ECVF diplomate status in 2010, I worked as a visiting research fellow at the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School in Singapore supported by a Research Grant of the German Research Foundation (DFG). Since 2012, I conduct research on pathomechanisms of the innate immune response at the Department of Pathology of the TiHo. In addition, I had the opportunity to take part in several COVID-19 studies in hamsters and ferrets.

I participated in the Toxicologic Pathology Training Program, which is offered within the residency program of the TiHo, from the beginning and acted as local organizer of the Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology 2008, 2009 and 2011 (X, XI and XIII). Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions to further intensify the interactions of ECVF residents and the ESTP, representing

scientists working in all fields of toxicologic pathology.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023!

Kind regards,  
Ingo Gerhauser

### **ToxPath Journal: Editorial Board Campaign**

Dear ESTP members,

As you know, Toxicologic Pathology is the official journal of the Society of Toxicologic Pathology, the British Society of Toxicological Pathology and the European Society of Toxicologic Pathology. In other words, Toxpath is **OUR** journal.

Would you like to become a member of our editorial board?

We are searching for motivated pathologists who are willing to assist the editor-in-chief, Kevin Keane, in promoting and running the journal. The qualification for membership on the editorial board are individuals with a record of authorship and peer reviewer of manuscripts in our scientific discipline and are willing to be on first list of people associate editors go to for selecting reviewers of submitted manuscripts. Generally, you will have to review about 2 manuscripts per year. It is a 3-year appointment with possible renewing, and you will receive training for the use of manuscript

central application, support and recommendations for reviewing.

You will not be alone, but your role will be impactful to indicate the strengths and weakness of the manuscripts in sufficient detail to help the author make appropriate revisions and to ensure that Toxicologic Pathology will publish relevant information of the highest quality.

The other part of the editorial board's job is to contribute to the content of the journal; this can be either directly by submitting manuscripts or encouraging/recruiting colleagues to do this.

This is a superb development opportunity! Strengthen your understanding of the publishing process and grow your professional network!

If you are interested or have questions, please send me an email with your cv (or linked in profile), I will be happy to give you more information.

Béatrice Gauthier, associate editor and ESTP liaison (contact: <https://www.eurotoxpath.org/contact.php>)

PS: You could find more information on our journal on the website: [Toxicologic Pathology: SAGE Journals \(sagepub.com\)](https://www.sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav) and the composition of the current editorial board: [Editorial Board: Toxicologic Pathology: SAGE Journals \(sagepub.com\)](https://www.sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav)



**Digital Pathology Committee – Would you like to shape the future of Digital Pathology?**

Dear Colleagues,

You are certainly aware of the growing importance of Digital Pathology in our daily work in the Toxicologic Pathology field. Cutting edge techniques, optimized information technology infrastructure, adapted workflows, evolution of regulatory requirements... the list is endless!

As a result, the ESTP Board members believe it is high time a dedicated committee was created. Whether you are a pathologist, computer scientist, have a special interest in regulatory aspects (or know someone outside of the ESTP membership who might fall into these professional categories) and want to contribute: we are looking for participants who are actively involved in this field.

You are welcome to bring forward any topics related to Digital Pathology which will make for the advancement of knowledge and practices.

Should you want to join the committee, or ask any questions before applying, please feel free to contact the ESTP via the contact form

***<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/contact.php>***

We are looking forward to your participation!

Best regards,

Lise Bertrand (on behalf of the ESTP EC)

**2023 ESTP Publication Award – Call for Papers or Theses**

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to ask you to submit papers and/or thesis on toxicologic pathology for this year's ESTP publication award.

The European Society of Toxicologic Pathology was founded in 2002 to promote the importance of toxicologic pathology as an independent, specialized area in Europe. To honor advancements in this field, impactful publications (either theses or papers) are annually awarded by the ESTP. We ask for nominations of impactful Theses or Publications in the field of toxicological pathology that were published throughout 2022 - 2023. Applications for the award will be evaluated by the ESTP award committee, and the best thesis/paper will be honoured with 1.500 Euros. The award for this year will be presented at the 2023 ESTP annual meeting in Basel, Switzerland, September 26-29, 2023. It is mandatory that the recipient attends the awards ceremony. The admission fee for this meeting will be waived. The recipient will be notified in July.

The dead line for submission will be June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Please send your proposals to the head of the ESTP awards committee: Prof Dr. Johannes (Hans) Harleman (contact: <https://www.eurotoxpath.org/contact.php>)

Kind regards,  
Hans Harleman

For the award committee

Heike Marxfeld  
Lars Mecklenburg  
Matthias Rinke  
Thomas Nolte  
Régis Masson

### **BSTP ASM Report by Jacqui Poldy**

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the British Society of Toxicological Pathology took place on 10-11 November at the Cedar Court Hotel in Harrogate. I am a resident in veterinary anatomic pathology at the University of Edinburgh and, having recently clocked over the 18-month mark in my residency, I am starting to explore where this field could take me. The programme and scheduling of this meeting was optimal for my stage of training, as I am curious about opportunities in toxicological pathology, but have not had much exposure to this field in an academic environment. I was privileged to attend the ASM as the recipient of one of ten bursaries supporting early career individuals.

The two-pronged focus of the conference programme particularly appealed to me. This programme meant the chance to review some

‘basics’ during the Mouse Pathology Workshop on Thursday afternoon, against the backdrop of cutting-edge innovations in digital pathology during the Thursday morning and Friday sessions. I am working towards board certification with the European College of Veterinary Pathologists (ECVP), where I intend to focus on laboratory animals in addition to domestic animal veterinary pathology, so the Mouse Pathology Workshop sounded like an ideal refresher (or perhaps a timely nudge) to review some laboratory animal pathology. I found that the lectures during the workshop were very well pitched for someone at my stage of training, as well as being peppered with useful practical insights—I particularly liked hearing about the inner working of histology basics from Anna Macdonald (Labcorp). The workshop ran in parallel to sessions 3 and 4, continuing the digital pathology theme, so it was a shame to miss these sessions. This is always a dilemma when parallel sessions are offered, but I felt attending the workshop was a good choice in my case.

In contrast to the Mouse Pathology Workshop, the digital pathology seminars were far from a review (at least for me)! I was very impressed by the quality and delivery of all the presentations. I enjoyed Prof. Jeroen van der Laak’s opening seminar ‘Artificial Intelligence (AI) in pathology: hope or hype?’, which, although favouring hope, raised issues and challenges and set the scene for many of the ensuing talks that

addressed the application of machine learning and deep learning to digital histopathology. Other highlights for me were Dr Richard Haworth's 'Going digital: transforming the experimental pathology workflow in pharma', and both of Dr Dan Rudman's lectures on the digital pathology transformation taking place at Charles River Laboratories: 'Enabling digital primary and peer review for the toxicologic pathologist' and 'Driving innovation in toxicologic pathology with machine learning and data analytics', which highlighted some of the practical considerations and innovations in the digital workflow. There are some truly tantalising prospects that were suggested in these presentations, which I am excited to hear more about as the technology and uptake continues to develop. Two opportunities presented that particularly piqued my interest were the ability of AI to detect prognostic/diagnostic features that would not be apparent to the pathologist's eye (e.g. to predict molecular fingerprints), and, similarly, the emergence of AI-based virtual staining. Wow! Routine use of these applications is probably still some distance in the future, but I am intrigued to see how these fields progress—I do hope there will be more to hear about this in future meetings!

In conjunction with my residency at the University of Edinburgh, I am fulfilling postgraduate studies (DVetMED), for part of which I have customised a bespoke training

syllabus to gain exposure to digital pathology and image analysis workflows. Until attending the ASM, I have been undertaking this programme largely through self-directed study. The conference has been an incredibly valuable supplement to my learning and the case studies making use of machine learning—presented throughout many of the sessions—highlighted new angles that broadened my understanding of the scope of digital pathology. Moreover, attending the meeting was my first exposure to the community of toxicological pathologists. The chance to interact and start to develop a professional network in this field is a dimension that cannot be adequately replicated virtually, and certainly not on one's own. It was apparent from the fertile conversations emanating from questions after each seminar that this is a community who knows each other well and is open to professional dialogue. Many of the question sessions overflowed into refreshment or lunch breaks and into the Thursday evening reception event. I am certain some of these interactions will turn into or help to progress opportunities for individuals and organisations. On a personal note, returning from this experience with some newly kindled contacts, I am motivated to pursue further opportunities in this field.

The very generous support of the BSTP and the *Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland* gave me the opportunity to experience a



*quality event with incredibly engaging speakers and has opened the door to new possibilities. I am very grateful to have been supported to attend this meeting, which was enjoyable, educational, and incredibly eye-opening.*

### **MADPATH announcement**

SFPT is happy to officially announce a brand-new training course on Molecular And Digital PATHology (MADPATH)!

MADPATH is a 3-day training course initially designed for veterinary pathology residents as well as pathologists and researchers who wish to discover, increase their skills and improve their knowledge in molecular and digital pathology techniques. This course has been prepared by the French Society of Toxicologic Pathology and the Vet School of Nantes (Oniris) in order to meet the educational needs of the future generation of pathologists and scientists who are more and more involved in these techniques. The courses are given by experts in the field who will present the state of the art in both complementary fields.

The course will be conducted exclusively in English and in person due to its interactive nature.

**Dates:** 4, 5 and 6 APRIL 2023

**Location:** Nantes Veterinary School (Oniris, Campus Vétérinaire, site de la Chantrerie), France

**MADPATH Scientific and organizing committee:** Florence Bernex, Elie Dagher, Béatrice Gauthier, Sébastien Laurent, Stéphane Lezmi with the collaboration of Jérôme Abadie

### **Registration:**

<https://connectpro.oniris-nantes.fr/mod/page/view.php?id=7680-Veterinary field section short courses>