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(UK)

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Thomas Eschenhagen
(Germany)

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(France)

Dear colleague,

I am sending the current issue of Heart News and Views, which has the banner headline 'Countdown for World Congress XX has started' and it will all happen in Kyoto on 13th – 16th May. There is also a brochure enclosed of the 3rd announcement, which gives full details of the schedule and symposium list. The date for payment of the lower registration fee for ISHR members has just passed, but please take note of other important deadlines, particularly for online hotel booking (15th April), tour reservation (30th April) and late registration (3rd May) at www.ishr2010.com.

The next important meeting of the cardiovascular research community is 'Frontiers in Cardiovascular Biology', which will take place in Berlin on 16th – 19th July. The comprehensive scientific programme has been prepared by collaboration of the Council on Basic Cardiovascular Science of the European Society of Cardiology with Working Groups within the ESC and Sister Societies, including the ISHR European Section. Payment of reduced registration fee is available until 28th April at www.escardio.org/congresses/cardiovascular-biology/Pages/welcome.aspx.

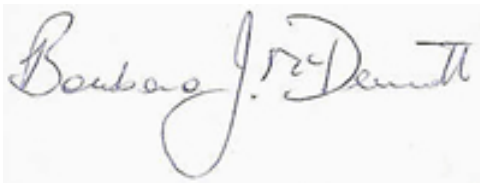
A stand-alone European Section Meeting will be held in Haifa on 26th – 29th June 2011 under the direction of Michael Arad, Moshe Flugelman and Amir Landesberg from the Israeli sub-section. The meeting venue is in an attractive location by the sea, with a choice of Mount Carmel or downtown for hotel/hostel accommodation. The social programme includes a Get-Together on the 26th evening, guided tour to Tzipori and meeting dinner on the 28th afternoon and evening, and an optional tour to Jerusalem on the 30th. The symposia list has been drawn up and is scheduled in two parallel sessions, with ample time for poster presentations and a session for oral communications. Further details will be posted on the website www.ishr-europe.org/ as soon as possible.

This is a time for change in Council membership, as it comes around to completion of terms of office and election of new officers and members. Firstly, after a distinguished and dedicated leadership over eight years as President-Elect, President and Past-President, Fabio di Lisa will retire from Council in May. At the same time, Sian Harding will take over as Past-President and Thomas Eschenhagen will become President. In planning for the election of a new President-Elect, nominations from Council members were sought and Peter Ferdinandy was elected by a clear majority. We look forward to working with Peter in what will be a time of further development for the Society, with opportunities to expand our individual activities and explore new collaborations.

Two other members of Council, David Garcia-Dorado and Terje Larson, will also retire soon and so replacements are required. After receiving nominations in January, a shortlist of four has been compiled, taking scientific standing and also geographical and gender balance on Council into account. A summary c.v. and statement of interest of the candidates are enclosed with this letter. Please use your vote on the accompanying ballot paper and in this way make an important contribution to shaping of Council for the next few years. The result of the election will be announced at the General Assembly to be held on 18 July at the Berlin meeting.

I hope many members will be able to get to Kyoto and I look forward to meeting you there, but if not, maybe in Berlin.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara J. Dennis". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.