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Dear colleagues, Dear members,



Annual Meeting 2017

I would like to thank this year’s congress presidents, Professor Dunst and Professor for their excellent organisation. Once again we had an intensive meeting in Berlin, including scientific topics and outstanding contributions on high precision process, future research in radiooncology, radioimmunotherapy and other innovative issues, accompanied by an extensive industrial exhibition.

Once again the congress organizer MCI has taken care of a smooth and pleasant experience for all participants. Especially young colleagues showed their interest in DEGRO membership and we are happy to announce that membership numbers have increased to the magic limit of 2000. We would like to thank the congress presidents and their teams as well as the congress organiser MCI for an overall very favorable and successful result.



Honorary Membership

This year **Professor Gillies McKenna** and Professor **Hans Peter Rodemann** have received the DEGRO honorary membership for their achievements in radiooncology during the opening ceremony of the congress in Berlin.



General Assembly 2017

The new DEGRO board has been elected during the general assembly in Berlin and includes the following colleagues for the legislation period of 2017–2019:

- Professor Dr. Wilfried Budach, Düsseldorf (president)
- Professor Dr. Rainer Fietkau, Erlangen (president-elect, 1st deputy president)
- Professor Dr. Dr. Jürgen Debus, Heidelberg (past president, 2nd deputy president)
- Professor Dr. Stefan Höcht, Saarlouis (treasurer)
- Professor Dr. Katja Lindel, Karlsruhe (secretary)
- Professor Dr. Kerstin Borgmann, Hamburg (assessor radiation biology)
- Professor Dr. Ulrich Wolf, Leipzig (assessor medial physics)
- Professor Dr. Florian Würschmidt, Hamburg (assessor)

Past-president Professor Dr. Michael Baumann as well as Professor Oliver Kölbl, Professor Wolfgang Hoffmann and Professor Nils Cordes will leave the board. Professor Stefan Höcht resigned from the board but has been elected as treasurer and therefore remains member of the board. The DEGRO president expressed his gratitude to the board, especially to resigned members, for their voluntary service for the DEGRO. The former board has been sent off with cheers.

Professor **Heinz Schmidberger, Mainz** has been elected as new congress president 2020. Enclosed you will find the report of the DEGRO president and the record of the general assembly 2017.



Awards 2018

Following the tradition of the recent years DEGRO awards several research prizes and winners will be announced during the annual meeting in Leipzig 2018. The following prizes will be awarded:

- **Hermann- Holthusen-Preis / Hermann- Holthusen Award**
- **Alfred-Breit-Preis / Alfred-Breit Award**
- **Dissertationspreis(e) /Dissertation Award(s)**
- **Innovationspreis / Innovation Award**
- **Preis zur Hochpräzisionsstrahlentherapie / High-Precision Radiotherapy Award**
- **Günther-von-Pannewitz-Preis / Günther-von-Pannewitz Award**
- **Koester-Preis./ Koester Award**

For detailed information concerning application guidelines and deadlines please consult the DEGRO website using the following link www.degro.org/ueber-uns/forschung.

Young colleagues also have the opportunity to apply for a fellowship of the **Anna-Hamann-Stiftung**. For details please see link above.

NEWS:

Radiation Protection Legislation Updates

Within the context of the new European Directive 2013/59/Euratom, a new radiation protection law has meanwhile been adopted by federal legislature. In cooperation with other medical societies, DEGRO has been actively involved in the discussion process of various development stages of this law.

The new law takes effect on January 1, 2019. The law shall regulate the application of ionising radiation for medical therapy and medical research. Of particular significance for radiooncology is the fact that, with the entry into force of this law, explicit rules on temporal limits for the authorization of radiooncological research projects are set. It has succeeded to significantly improve the legal situation for researchers.

At the end of the legislative procedure explicit rules on temporal limits for the authorization of radiooncological research projects have been set, which lead to sustainable acceleration of authorization policy in Germany and avoids further weakening of the competitiveness of Germany as a research location.

Detailed rules concerning this matter still contain certain ambiguities which have to be clarified within implementation provisions or within potential future developments in the case law.

However, it is foreseeable that intense cooperation with the Federal Office for Radiation Protection (BfS) in several application procedures will be necessary.

QUIRO Update

The Quiro project is still in progress. Since data collection of participating institutions within the framework of the sampling study has been finalized, the data collection of the questionnaire has also been finalized. After entering data into a specially developed database, it has been validated in diverse operations.

Various evaluation designs of the complete study have been created. Additionally a draft of an institutional sample report of one institution as well as a detailed evaluation of proton and heavy ion therapy has been created. The collected data seems to be suitable for a comprehensive quantitative description of processes within an institution. In particular treatment preparation and planning processes are included.

The next steps include the provision of basic evaluation of various topics of the study for publications presenting the study and the results. At the same time benchmarking results of the involved institutions will be generated. The completion of the study is scheduled for summer 2018, potential delays have been taken into account.

Once again I would like to thank all institutions and persons involved for their support and cooperation and also the authorized company PNW for their commitment.



DEGRO Working Groups Meeting

Chairs of DEGRO working groups, president, secretary general and DEGRO staff met on 8 September, 2017 in Berlin to discuss the new rules of procedures. Crucial points to discuss were the rules and regulations concerning founding, operation, structure and publications of working groups which had been included in a “Rules of procedures for committees, working groups and teams” document published by the board in 2015.

Within a very constructive atmosphere several important mutual clarifications towards the structure of working groups, the organization of events, the online presentation of working groups and copyright matters as well as cooperation with DEGRO office, were agreed.

The lively discussions show the importance of the work of each working group, e.g. the formulation of interdisciplinary guidelines for the German Cancer Society and AWMF as well as the creation of guidelines for current questions in the field of radiooncology.

DEGRO office provides comprehensive support for all working groups, contact person is Astrid Schörnig.

The updated version of the rules of procedure for working groups has been adopted by the board in October 2017 and is available for download on the DEGRO website by consulting the following link: <https://www.degro.org/ueber-uns/degro/arbeitsgruppen-und-ausschuesse-der-degro/>. The same applies for the rules of travel expenses and the corresponding form.

An annual meeting of all working groups will be established to encourage the exchange and to strengthen the cooperation between the groups. An appointment during the upcoming congress in Leipzig 23 June, 2018 has been proposed and will be checked with the local organizing committee. Further information will be given in due time.



New Medical Guidelines Supervisor

With the expiry of his term of office, Professor Kölbl resigned as DEGRO medical guidelines supervisor. Professor Kölbl served as treasurer and also held a second post as medical guidelines supervisor for several years. He was actively involved in mandating and has accompanied his post with wise advice and committed support.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank Professor Kölbl for his commitment, dedicated work and excellent support over the past years.

The DEGRO board has appointed Professor Stefan Höcht as new medical guidelines supervisor. I would like to thank Professor Höcht for his commitment and wish all the best and success for the upcoming activities.



DEGRO Office

DEGRO Office has finally moved to new premises in Reinhardtstr. 47, 10117 Berlin. The premises are in good condition and are well-suited. Even though the relocation is involved with a high amount of additional work and furnishing is still in progress, DEGRO staff enjoys the pleasant working atmosphere. The new premises also offer the possibility to host meetings up to 25 participants and have already proved successful for the meeting of DEGRO working groups as well as for the board meeting in October 2017.

The legal dispute with **Kaiserin-Friedrich Foundation**, former landlord of premises DEGRO office has moved out in the beginning of 2016, has finally been ended with a settlement.

Another legal dispute concerning a **violation of copyright** using an image on a DEGRO related website has also been ended with settlement.



German Cancer Congress 2018

The upcoming German Cancer Congress will take place in Berlin, 21–24 February 2018 with Professor Wiegel, Ulm as congress president. Please support Professor Wiegel, save the date in your calendars to actively participate in this event.

It is a great success for our discipline that Professor Wiegel, a radiooncologist has been appointed to organize one of the greatest and oldest specialist conferences in the field of cancer diagnosis and therapy in Germany.



Normenausschuss Radiologie (NAR)/Standards Committee Radiooncology

On 12 December, 2017 the 90th Anniversary of the **Standards Committee Radiooncology/NAR** will be celebrated in Berlin with a ceremony. Since the NAR is an important authority for radiooncology, many radiooncologists are members of this committee for several years and actively participate in shaping the conditions of radiooncology in Germany.

The official invitation can be downloaded here:

www.vde.com/resource/blob/1672804/e0d010658ce9e07d46cebec55349e672/download---ankuendigung-nar-data.pdf

Kindest Regards

Professor Dr. Wilfried Budach
President

Attachments

Awards 2018

Report General Assembly 2017

Events DEGRO Academy

Call for Abstracts DEGRO 2018 Leipzig

BVDST Fall Symposium