

Address of the incoming IFSTP President at the STP Business Meeting 2001

(Hyatt Orlando, Kissimmee FL, June 26, 2001)

Mr. President of the STP, Messrs. Councilors and Officers of the STP and IFSTP, dear colleagues and friends

It is my pleasure to take over as President of the International Federation of Societies of Toxicologic Pathology and to help steer IFSTP through the next three years.

IFSTP has two main tasks, namely

- to support the national and international societies of toxicologic pathology through international coordination and initiatives and
- to advance science and contribute to the resolution of issues in toxicologic pathology on a global level.

Let me thank Dr. Jerry Frantz, the outgoing President, and Dr. Leander Tryphonas, the outgoing Secretary General, for their great contributions during the past 6 years. Dedication to their task and support from the other IFSTP Officers and Councilors were the basis for the success of the Federation. To mention only 5 achievements:

- The Federation now consists of eight national and international societies of toxicologic pathology and is registered as non-profit organization.
- The triennial symposia are well established and the ongoing 4th symposium - the first organized jointly with a member society, the (American) Society of Toxicologic Pathology - can again be considered a great success.
- In 1995 the Federation contributed significantly to the abandonment of the Delaney Clause by the FDA.
- The International Academy of Toxicologic Pathology (IATP) has been founded and has started accreditation in toxicologic pathology on a global level.
- The effort to define international standards for education and training of toxicologic pathologists is ongoing.

I would also like to use this opportunity to welcome two new colleagues in the IFSTP Board, namely Dr. Hugh Black as incoming Secretary General, and Prof. Yoichi Konishi as new Councilor and Organizer of the next symposium in Japan in 2004.

What lies ahead for the IFSTP Board? To build success is tough, to stay successful even tougher. Therefore, the Board must come up with a strategic plan for what IFSTP wants to achieve over the next years. This might include activities such as

- Compile demographic data regarding toxicologic pathologists worldwide, together with the constituent societies. This would allow the Federation and its member societies to better recognize future needs and help toxicologic pathologists in planning their careers.
- Improve global dissemination of information among toxicologic pathologists, e.g. by establishing and maintaining an IFSTP homepage.
- Improve interaction with other international organizations such as IUTOX and intergovernmental agencies such as WHO.
- Actively support the creation of new national societies of toxicologic pathologists.
- Engage in training activities in toxicologic pathology, possibly together with other organizations or societies, particularly in developing countries, where the know-how in toxicologic pathology is still lagging.

Certainly, with a regular income of only 5 US \$ per member of each constituent society, no expensive activities are possible. However, with a well-defined budget, additional private and public funds can be obtained for meaningful programs.

Let me finish by thanking the (American) Society of Toxicologic Pathology for the great cooperation in preparing and running this symposium and by inviting you to our next symposium in Japan, most likely in the Kansai area in the spring of 2004. See you there!

Dr. R.A. Ettlin, Novartis Pharma AG, CH-4002 Basel