The current Executive Council 2016-2019: (l–r back row) Kari J. Syrjänen (Finland), Luiz M. Colliço (Brazil), John H. F. Smith (England), Andrew Field (Australia), Philippe Vielh (France), Fernando Schmitt (Portugal), Robert Osamura (Japan), Volker Schneider (Chair, Cytopathology Board). (l–r seated) Shirley Greening (USA), Ritu Nayar (USA), Annabelle Farnsworth (Australia), Lan Chen (China)

2017 is a celebratory year for the International Academy of Cytology

Sixty years ago, in 1957, the Academy was established at the UICC Congress in Belgium and the first committee of 27 international members was established. This global approach has always remained an important aspect of the Academy that today has members all over the world and is very proud of the continued support and interest.

The society journal Acta Cytologica also celebrates it’s 60th year in 2017 and will mark the occasion with reprints of pioneering contributions from six decades.

A significant feature of the Academy are the voluntary examinations. The cytotechnologist examination of the Academy was introduced 1968 as a criteria to enable cytotechnologists to become members together with the otherwise, then, only medical membership of the Academy.

In 1978 the International Board of Cytopathology examination was introduced and still continues to be a popular instrument to measure individual experience and knowledge. To date the exams have been held all over the world. Over 12.000 cytotechnology examinations have been passed and over 700 doctors have passed the International Cytopathology Board examination.
IAC Tutorials

Under the leadership of Dr. Syed Ali, Chair of the IAC Continuing Education Committee the IAC Cytology Tutorials will be held in Kazakhstan, Hong Kong, Colombia and China during 2017 and 2018.

The tutorials are a chance to experience expert faculty presenting lectures, video microscopy and unknown case discussions on a wide range of relevant topics such as gynaecological cytology, breast, thyroid gland, urinary tract, molecular tests and HPV testing

Information for each tutorial is available at the IAC website when provided by the local organizing societies.

The 2016 Tutorial in Abu Dhabi was a great success attracting registrants from many surrounding countries. For the faculty it was a once again a wonderful experience in an exceptional location to present their material and have an interested audience respond with a wide range of relevant questions and queries. Thank you to everyone involved.

The IAC examinations were held the day after the meeting. Volker Schneider, Chairman of the Cytopathology examination committee and Shirley Greening, Registrar of the IAC and responsible for the cytotechnology examination were both present.

In April this year the IAC tutorial in Malaysia was held in Kuala Lumpur, and once again it was a high quality three day tutorial. For the faculty it is always wonderful to encounter registrants who are so enthusiastic and attentive.

The facilities were excellent and everyone participated in the exchange of information and knowledge, which is the essence of a thoughtfully developed and well executed meeting. Many thanks to the faculty and the Malaysian Society of Cytology.

The next tutorial will be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, 15-17 September 2017. Information and registration available at the IAC website.
The Czech Society for Clinical Cytology

History
The Czech Society for Clinical Cytology was founded 1989 as one of 116 professional societies within the Czech Medical Association of J.E. Purkyně. More than 34,000 doctors and medical specialists are members of the Czech Medical Association. The Czech Society for Clinical Cytology is interdisciplinary: open to pathologists, clinical specialists, cytotechnologists and other medical professionals. Its early history consisted of activities of the Cytological section of the Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics founded in 1959. Czech cytopathologists are proud of having an outstanding predecessor - Vílem Dusan Lambl (1824-1895) the inventor of exfoliative cytology whose pioneering work on urinary cancer cytodiagnostics was published as early as 1846.

Current activities and membership.
The Czech Society for Clinical Cytology (http://www.cyt.cz/) currently has 320 members. Annual one-day congresses and continual education seminars are organized.

Screening activities
The most widespread activity is cervical cancer screening. A nationwide organized call-recall screening program was launched in 2009 with one year Pap test intervals in women 25-60 years old. The program is intended as a response to the persistent high incidence of cervical cancer in the population despite decades of previous opportune screening. During the last two years this organized program running in 37 laboratories has begun to bear fruit in terms of a decline of cervical cancer incidence (http://www.cervix.cz/index-en.php).

Quality assurance activities
Both gynaecological and non-gynaecological cytology were sustained for years solely through the efforts of clinical specialists but recently, in our country, cytopathology as a whole has become an activity performed by fully trained board examined pathologists. Our national trend is fully in accordance with developments internationally.

Due to a relative shortage of trained pathologists and increasing work especially in pulmonary and cerebrospinal fluid cytology, pathologists continue to share these tasks partly with the devoted and specially trained clinical doctors. Thus the National cervical cancer screening programme is supported by the activities of board examined pathologists and some certified clinical gynaecologists as well as certified screeners.

ROSE examination of EBUS materials and other pneumocytology materials is partly performed on the spot by clinical pneumologists. Nevertheless, the requirements of molecular diagnostics demand close co-operation with pathology and molecular biology specialists. The nationwide compulsory health insurance system has been developing standard requirements for both instrumental equipment and staffing of medical care in cooperation with the professional medical societies. For professionals dealing with cytology in different positions, qualification criteria and continuing education requirements are determined by and controlled by both the Ministry of Health and the payers - health insurance companies.

The accredited laboratories are subject to both internal and external quality control. At this time, a national external quality control system has not yet been implemented. In the meantime, we substitute bilateral inter-laboratory contacts and an exchange of diagnostic cases to assure quality control.
The Czech Society for Clinical Cytology - continued

International contacts and activities
The history of Czech cytology developed as a result of international contacts. Dr. Lambl was not only an outstanding Austro-Hungarian monarchy Czech pathologist but was well known for his professional activities in Ukraine, Russia, and Poland.

The European Federation of Cytology Societies was founded 1970 in Prague. Since then successful meetings of EFCS have been organized in Prague - the most recent being 29th ECC held in 2003.

During the 90s of the last century Professor G. L. Wied, born in Carlsbad (now Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic) generously supported the development of Czech cytology with encouragement, tutorial invitations, and teaching materials. We were trusted to host the 22nd International Tutorial of Cytology in 2000 in Prague. We feel thankful and obliged to continue to raise the level of cytodiagnostic.

The most important recent international activity of the Czech Society for Clinical Cytology is our contribution to the EUROCITOLOGY program http://www.eurocytology.eu where we are partners in the recent Leonardo da Vinci project.

Hong Kong Society of Cytology

Founded in 2001 the Hong Kong Society of Cytology is a non-profit making organization in Hong Kong. Our mission is to advance knowledge, standards, and to foster interest in the field of Cytopathology.

The Objects of the Society
a) to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on the scientific concepts of cytology, on the interpretation and reporting of cytological findings and on the technical aspects of the speciality;
b) to foster an interest in the training, status and conditions of employment of cytologists within Hong Kong SAR, China.
c) to endeavor to achieve uniformity in the interpretation and reporting of cytological findings;
d) to advance the knowledge and standards of cytology in the SAR by means of seminars, lectures, case conferences and other appropriate means including the publication of relevant material in existing medical or technical journals or by the publication of broadsheets or on the world wide web;
e) to encourage research in cytology;
f) to establish liaisons with similar bodies having similar aims in China and other countries;
g) to represent the special interests of cytological services before the various levels of government and its instrumentalities, the Academy of Medicine, the HK College of Pathologists, the HK Society of Medical Technology Association, HK Associations of Medical Societies and other organizations representing the interests of the professions and health services.

Prof. Jaroslava Dušková, MD, PhD, F.I.A.C.
Scientific secretary of the Czech Society for Clinical Cytology
Czech Medical Association J. E. Purkyne
jaroslava.duskova@if1.cuni.cz

Professor G. L. Wied –
honorary doctor of
Charles University
Prague 1995

Prof. Jaroslava Dušková,
MD, PhD, F.I.A.C.
Hong Kong Society of Cytology – continued

Current Activities

Education
Every year, we organize several educational events in May, June and November/December. They include lectures and multi-headed microscopic session and symposium on gynecologic cytology and non gynaecological cytology, as well as molecular pathology. Our speakers are local and international.

We include a presentation session in the AGM program, to set up a platform for trainee pathologists to gain experience in presenting at a professional meeting.

We also have our programs co-organized with Hong Kong College of Pathologists; Department of Pathology Queen Mary Hospital; Department of Pathology, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Division of International Academy of Pathology. The Cytopathology Training Scheme for Chinese Pathologist was set up to provide training opportunities for our Chinese pathologists.

The academic meetings are approved by the Hong Kong College of Pathologists for Continuous Medical Education. Our society is also approved by the Hong Kong Medical Laboratory Technologists Board as a provider of CPD for Medical Technologists.

Screening Activity
A working group was set up to develop Cervical Cytology Practice Guidelines for use in Hong Kong by cytologists (pathologists and cytotechnologists) who conduct cervical cytology analyses and issue reports for use by clinicians. Our website also includes information on Cervical Screening Programme.

Quality Assurance Activity
External Quality Assurance Program in Cytopathology, jointly organized with Hong Kong College of Pathologists is run every year.

Current Members
There are 250 members. They include:
Medical members: These shall be registered medical practitioners who engage in the practice of clinical, diagnostic and general cytology.
Non-medical members: These shall be graduates in medical laboratory science (or its equivalent) of a University or other Institute of Tertiary Education or persons who hold the Certificate of Competence in Cytotechnology of any Society of cytology or an equivalent qualification, who are not registered medical practitioners but who are engaged in the practice of clinical, diagnostic and general cytology.
Associate members: These shall be persons interested in cytology not eligible to be Medical or Non-medical members.
Honorary Life members: Distinguished workers in clinical, diagnostic and general cytology who have played a prominent part in the development of the specialty.
Society of Clinical Cytology Romania

History
The society was founded in 1990 as a section of the Physicians and Naturalists Society, under the name Romanian Society of Cytology. The Founding Committee was Acad. Prof. Dr. Ion Hâlugă, Acad. Prof. Dr. Gioconda Dobrescu, Assoc. Prof. Maria-Sultana Mihailovici, Assoc. Prof. Cristina Anton, Biologist Rodica Dulceanu, Dr. Maria Bendescu, Dr. Sergiu Teleman. In 2005 it was reestablished as an independent organisation under the name "Society of Clinical Cytology." Currently, Clinical Cytology Society has approximately 120 members.

Founding members: Prof. Dr. Maria-Sultana Mihailovici, Prof. Dr. Cristina Anton, Assoc. Prof. Sergiu Teleman.

The founding of the Society was realized with the support of the German Society of Cytology and International Academy of Cytology. In this regard, special support was offered by Prof. Manuel Hilgarth, who was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by „Gr T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy. Dr. Volker Schneider was also a big supporter of the society's activities, participating in lectures and workshops in 9 of the 10 organized tutorials. Dr Jerzy Klijanienko (Institut Curie, Paris), Prof. Dr. Alain Verhest (Brussels), Dr. Christine Bergeron (Laboratory Pasteur-Cerba, Paris), and other personalities also participated as lecturers in our tutorials.

Aims
Organization of fundamental and clinical research
Organization of national and international scientific meetings
Carrying on educational programs
Increasing the quality of pathologic diagnosis at European level
Organizing the screening of neoplastic lesions of the cervix, etc.

Activities
Organization of 10 tutorials with international participation and 6 national conferences
Introduction of Pap smear and Bethesda Reporting System in Romania
Participation in national and international scientific meetings
Establishing relationships with international scientific organization

Every two years, meetings of members society are organized, a tutorial being conducted throughout 5 or 6 days. The first topics of the tutorials were related to gynecological cytology, subsequently being directed to gynecological and also non-gynecological cytology.

Until the 2015 edition, the Directory Board of Society of Clinical Cytology was formed by:
President : Associate Professor Dr. Sergiu Teleman
Vice President : Professor Dr. Cristina Anton
Secretary and Treasurer: Lecturer Dr. Carmen Ungureanu

In 2015, following the elections carried out during the last meeting of the Society of Clinical Cytology members, was elected a new Directory Board:
President : Associate Professor Dr. Sergiu Teleman
Vice President : Professor Univ. Dr. Cristina Anton
Vice President : Lecturer Dr. Carmen Ungureanu
Secretary and Treasurer: Assistant Professor Dr. Elena Cojocaru
Society of Clinical Cytology Romania - continued

**Affiliations**
European Federation of National Societies of Cytology (EFCS)
Members of society → Members of the International Academy of Cytology (MIAC)

**Reconnaissance**
IAC Award - Dr. Luminiţa Taşcă for articles published in Acta Cytologica and Cytopathology referring to Aurel Babeş

Members of society → Invited speakers and members of the scientific committees of european or international scientific events
- Consensus Conference on Cervical Cancer, Chicago, 2000
- Congress of the lower genital tract pathology, for Eastern Europe countries, Krakow, 2003 and 2006

**PROF. DR. MIHAIOVICI MARIA-SULTANA**

Born on July 9, 1942, in Bârlad, Romania, she graduated in 1966 from the Institute of Medicine and Pharmacy Iaşi. In October 1974 she became a specialist pathologist and in 1980 senior pathologist. A year later obtained the PhD in medicine.

She went through all academic hierarchical steps, becoming by competition Assistant Professor in 1971, Lecturer in 1983, Associate Professor in 1990, and since 1994 Professor at the Department of Pathology, University of Medicine and Pharmacy „ Gr. T. Popa”, Iaşi.

Prof. Dr. Maria-Sultana Mihailovici was president of the Pathology Section of Physicians and Naturalists Society (2003), national editor of Romanian Society of Cytology for Acta Cytologica journal (2004) and member of six national and international societies (1971 - Member of Physicians and Naturalists Society of Iasi, 1977 - Full Member of the Balkan Medical Union, 1984 - Member of the National Society of Cell Biology, Bucharest, 1990 - Member of the European Cell Biology Organization, 1991-2005 - President of the Romanian Society of Cytology, affiliated to European Federation of National Societies of Cytology and to International Academy of Cytology, 1993 - Member of the European Society of Pathology, 1997 - Member of the International Academy of Cytology).


She has written more than 200 scientific papers and more than 13 books.
Society of Clinical Cytology Romania - continued

Cervical Screening in Babeş Country

In Romania, Pap’s Test is known as the “Méthode” Babeş-Papanicolaou. Ironically and sadly the country has the greatest morbidity and mortality rates of cervical cancer in Europe.

The organized National Cervical Screening Programme started in 2012 summer. All women aged from 25 to 64 without a confirmed cervical cancer diagnosis or any other priors that would suggest a cervical pathology are granted to undergo a conventional cervical cytology test pro bono. The Romanian Ministry of Health has taken into consideration for 5 years the testing of roughly 6 million women with a yearly quota of 700,000 women.

According to official intermediate reports, released by the Technical Assistance and Management Unit of the National Public Health Institute, as coordinator of the national programme, during the first 2 years 468,000 tests were performed, 44,000 results being positive. Out of the positive results, 1,970 proved to be malignant. The actual coverage of the target population is 8.3%.

Several factors have impact upon the quality of cervical screening, including legislative discontinuities that lead to major temporary gaps in the budget (no money no screening), absence of a quality assurance structure, lack of funding for HPV testing for any indications (ASC-US included), referral to gynaecology clinics for treatment, complicated and unclear protocols for call/recall system and the lack of sustained informative campaigns.

Naturally and inevitably, parallel to the organized National Cervical Screening Programme, an opportunistic screening system developed by women’s and doctors’ initiatives runs independently in private laboratories for cervical pathology attached to gynaecology-colposcopy clinics.

In this private system, both liquid-based cytology and computer image analysis systems are used, as well as validated HPV testing methods. Here, European guidelines and CLIA regulations serve as a baseline for maintaining and assessing the quality of laboratory work. Biopsy confirmation uses the HE standard coloration and p16 and Ki-67 immunostaining for improved diagnostic accuracy. The new dual stain immunocytochemistry test (CINtec® PLUS) has been available since 2014.

Despite the major difficulties of the national programme, with this evident mixture of opportunistic and organized screening, Romanian pathologists and cytologists estimate and hope that through the two parallel systems the incidence and mortality rate of cervical cancer can be lessened.
IAC Examinations \(\text{(link to schedule)}\)

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<tr>
<th>Location / Site</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Almaty, Kazakhstan IAC Tutorial</td>
<td>IAC Int. Board of Cytopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taipei, Taiwan</td>
<td>CT(IAC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hong Kong IAC Tutorial</td>
<td>CT(IAC) and IAC Int. Board of Cytopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manama, Bahrain</td>
<td>CT(IAC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Munich, Germany</td>
<td>CT(IAC) and IAC Int. Board of Cytopathology</td>
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<td>(German language meeting)</td>
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Meetings

IAC Tutorial, Almaty, Kazakhstan 2017
Friday, 15th - Sunday, 17th September 2017 The Kazakh Institute of Oncology and Radiology and the International Academy of Cytology present a 3 day Tutorial in Almaty

47th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ASC The meeting will be held in Canberra on Friday, 13 October to Monday, 16 October 2017
QT Hotel, 1 London Circuit
2017 ASC Tutorial, 16-19 OCTOBER 2017, at QT Hotel in Canberra

Annual Meeting Swiss Society of Cytology
Assemblée annuelle de la SSC 2017, Locarno Friday, 13. October 2017 to Saturday, 14. October 2017

IAC Tutorial, Hong Kong 2017
October 27-29, 2017 Post-grad education center, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong

65th Annual Scientific Meeting

24. Fortbildungstagung für Klinische Zytologie München
November 30. - 03 December, 2017, Hilton München Park, Munich, Germany (Proceedings in German)

XIII INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LOWER GENITAL TRACT PATHOLOGY
Rome, Italy. April 12-13 2018. HPV diseases and cervical cancer.

41st European Cytology Congress
Madrid, Spain 10-14. June 2018