ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ROYAL BELGIAN SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGY (RBRS), Brussels, 19.11.2011

Presidential address

As Chairman of the Royal Belgian Radiological Society, I have the great pleasure to welcome you at its annual symposium, dedicated this year to the spine and spinal cord.

Today, we will have the opportunity to listen to various speakers whose expertness is nationally as well as internationally widely acknowledged. I cannot thank them enough for having agreed to share their competence with us.

Here is a rundown of our programme: the clinical introduction, delivered by Professor C. Raftopoulos will be followed by presentations by various renowned radiologists who will provide a comprehensive overview of the topic. I have no doubt that their contribution will make of this symposium an outstanding clinical and radiological experience. We are indeed most fortunate to have among our speakers not only Belgian experts, but also foreign ones from France and Italy.

Furthermore, this symposium also intends to reflect upon the necessity for a new approach to the spine and spinal cord imaging, considering the dazzling technological strides forward and their incidences upon fundamental medicine. Such a revisited approach should aim to the faster and less invasive diagnosis, while being compatible with the unavoidable financial constraints of public health.

I also have the great honour to announce that our Society Board has awarded the title of honorary member to three remarkable practitioners: Professor D. Balériaux, for her worldwide recognized achievements in neuroradiology – and since collaboration, not only on a national basis but also on an international one, is indeed a ingredient essential to taking up the challenges of modern imaging – to Professor J.P. Pruvo and Dr A. Rossi, for their admirable commitment to adult and paediatric radiology respectively.

The main purpose of the session on the “General States of Radiology” is to gather all actors of our profession so that all present and future challenges can be addressed and discussed. We want that professional and health representatives meet and explain in front of all our colleagues what the problems are and what could be the solutions. We want everybody to participate and to build the radiology of tomorrow.

Finally, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Dr Stéphane Allard and his secretary, Mrs Geneviève Maon. Without their help, this symposium could not have been properly organized.

Brigitte Desprechins
President RBRS 2011

Honorary Membership Nominee of the RBRS in 2011

Andrea ROSSI

We are proud to honor Dr A. Rossi for his great contribution, as a thought leader, to the international promotion of pediatric neuroradiology. On this occasion, we are also delighted to have the opportunity to tighten the links with the Italian Society of Radiology of which he is prestigious representative.

Dr Andrea Rossi is nationally and internationally acknowledged for his expertise, scientific skills, fantastic teaching talents and the effective advances he contributes to generate in imaging the central nervous system of children.

Dr Andrea Rossi, was born in Genoa, Italy on January 8, 1967, graduated cum laude in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Genoa in 1991 and specialized cum laude in Radiology at the University of Florence in 1998.

Dr Rossi has worked in the Department of Pediatric Neuroradiology of the G. Gaslini Children’s Hospital in Genoa, the largest pediatric institution in Italy, since 1999.

In March, 2007 he was appointed as the Head of the Department of Pediatric Neuroradiology.

Dr Rossi is currently serving in the Executive Committees of the Italian Association of Neuroradiology (AinR), the European Society of Neuroradiology (ESNR), the European Society of Magnetic Resonance in Neuroradiology (ESMRN), and the American Society...
Danielle BALERIAUX

We are proud and delighted to honour the outstanding achievements and lifetime work of Professor Danielle Balériaux.

She was born on 29 January 1945. She obtained a Medical Degree in 1969 and a Degree in Radiology in 1973 at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium. Professor Balériaux is a national and international renowned expert and teacher in the field of neuroradiology, recognized for her pioneering work in the field of MRI of the central nervous system.

She can pride herself on an exceptional curriculum (cfr below).

Her carrier is marked by a great number of professional responsibilities, awards, publications, organizations of national and international meetings.

Her great, worldwide recognized, innovative skills are also apparent in Belgium where she led the Department of Neuroradiology ULB Erasme for 15 years focusing on the development of the new technologies (essentially MRI) and their implantation in the clinical practice.

This enthusiastic voluntary woman has put considerable energy to the development of a world class Academic Department of Neuroradiology at the ULB Erasmus Hospital Brussels. She supported many young radiologists and contributed to create new vocations.

We applaud her for her example and inspiration to us all as a most deserving recipient of an honorary membership.

Appointments
Assistant at the Radiological Department of the Jules Bordet Cancer Hospital Dir. Professor I. Jeannmart, from 1969 to end 1981. – From 1976 to end 1981, Head of the Neuro-CT Unit of the Jules Bordet Cancer Hospital, Institute of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (U.L.B.).
– November 1981, Assistant of the Clinique de Neuroradiologie, Radiological Department of Radiology – Hôpital Erasme (Dir. Professor J. Struyven – Prof. E.F. Avni)
– May 1991, Associated Head Radiological Department of Hôpital Erasme.
– February 2010 : senior consultant at the Department of Neuroradiology (Head Pr. R. Lubicz)

Honors
– Assubel prize winner in 1985 (Prize delivered by the Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine)
– Torgny Greitz lecturer in 1995 (Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden)

Member of the

Corresponding Member of the Radiological Society of North America.


Vice-President of the European Society of Neuroradiology (1993-19960), President of the ESNR ANNUAL Congress (XIX) held in Bruges in 1993.

Corresponding member of the French National Academy of Medicine.

Member of the Royal Belgium Academy of Medicine.

Honorary member of the European Society of Neuroradiology, French Society of Radiology, Japanese Society of Neuroradiology.

Consulting Professorship of the Shanghai Second medical University - China.

Publications
Contributed to:
– 36 chapters of books
– 187 papers published in radiological or neurosurgical journals

More than 500 lectures given at scientific societies and more than 60 invited lectures at conferences or international postgraduate courses.

Education
Co-founder of the European Course of Neuroradiology (sponsored by the European Society of Neuroradiology) in 1984 with P. Lasjaunias, Cl Marnelle and U. Salvolini.

Participated since the beginning to the Erasmus Course in Magnetic resonance imagine (EMRI) founded by Prof. M. Osteaux in 1991 and moduleOrganiser of “Central Nervous system II” European Program “Leonardo”: development of new teaching tools: videoconferences, website and series of educational CD ROMS on neuroradiology.
Jean Pierre PRUVO

We are proud to honor professor Jean Pierre Pruvo for his recognized tremendous dedication to excellence within his chosen field of academic neuroradiology pursuing this task with a lot of energy and enthusiasm.

As an expert in this field he is a popular and regularly invited speaker at national and international meetings, an outstanding organiser of national and international meetings and courses and greatly contributes to the development of an international reputation of the Department of Neuroradiology of the University Hospital Center of Lille.

Last but not least he actively promotes the collaboration between the Belgian and the French Society of Radiology.

So we are proud and happy to have him as an Honorary Member.

Professor Jean Pierre Pruvo was born on August 03, 1956.

He is professor and Head of Department of Radiology, University Hospital Center of Lille.

He studied medicine at the Lille School of Medicine.


After a residency in Radiology and Neuroradiology (CHU Lille), followed by two years fellowship he became Professor of Radiology (1992 – present) at the CHU Lille.

Since 1995, he has been coordinator of two MRI’s Hospital Roger Salengro.

Since 1997, he has been working as Chief of Department of Neuroradiology of the CHU Lille and coordinator of the hospital radiology department.

Between 2000 and 2003, he was coordinator of the Federation of Cancer.

Other roles Professor Pruvo is assuming include research in various fields of interest namely:

- Supra-aortic vessels, intracranial vasculature
- Gadolinium-enhanced MR angiography
- Helical CT angiography
- Technical developments
- Post processing techniques
- Interventional vascular procedures

He is the author of 143 Peer-reviewed publications and 7 book chapters.

Professor Pruvo is member of various societies:

- French Society of Radiology, General Secretary since October 2007
- French Society of Neuroradiology: Board Member
- French Neurovascular Society
- European Society of Radiology

President-elect address

Right now I want to thank the founders of the Belgian society of radiologists for the work they accomplished.

While we are working on reorganizing this society, we are discovering new challenges: we have to transmit scientific knowledge, but shouldn’t we also defend the professional issues of the radiologists?

We have to take the example of other medical associations, because they focus on defending professional interests. Why should we be afraid of that?

This fear has led to the constitution of other professional organisations, as the “national union of radiologists”: They have accomplished a great deal until now, but their questioning is the same: shouldn’t we join all energies and good wills together, in order to be stronger as a professional representation?

The same question occurs with “Concilium Radiologicum” and other radiologists unions.

It is a fact: the same persons appear in the different organisations, but this way of representing weakens us more than it makes us stronger.

It seems to me that it is also weakness to elect a president just for one year, rather than for three. How could some good work be done in just one year?

So, it is very important to me, that we start this afternoon a questioning about merging the different organisations and end it with a vote of the general assembly.

Our issue is that the new “Belgian society of radiologists” will be the only Belgian partner to defend radiological interests. Together with the Flemish, Walloon, Brussels and German-speaking community radiologists.

Long live the new “Belgian society of radiologists”.

J.-F. De Wispelaere
President RBRS 2012
Members of the Symposium Faculty and Board of RBRS in 2011

First row in the center (from left to right): F. Avni, D. Balériaux, B. Desprechins.