

Young ESPID – join the educational committee!

Dear Young ESPID members,

In this brief letter I will try to summarize what being part of the educational committee is all about and will try to encourage young ESPID members to apply.

Young ESPID is the next generation of Paediatric Infectious Diseases experts in Europe and beyond. As a group of under-40s we have been actively involved in the ESPID Board and its committees since December 2010.

Duties as a Young ESPID educational committee member.

-We are actively involved with the ESPID educational committee board (with PID senior members).

This means we are part of the discussions that take place. We get to be part of the approval decisions of the different PID courses that take place in Europe and their budget. In my opinion this is also a learning experience as we get to see the work that organizing a course takes and how a good programme should be written and what is important in the approval. This for sure will be helpful in future if I have to organize an important course myself.

We also are involved in other educational decisions such as deciding the ESPID guidelines that will be developed.

-We are involved in the prestigious Walter Marget workshop – held at the ESPD annual meeting.

Young ESPID members are involved in the organization, selection of the delegates, and are **co-chairing sessions!** After the meeting we are in charge of reviewing the feedback forms from the delegates and we report back to the board a document with a summary and suggestions for further workshops.

-We have meetings with the Young ESPID representatives, in person or via Skype, to update on progress, problems, suggestions...

-We have to present a small presentation of our activity at the Young ESPID meeting held annually at the general ESPID meeting.

-We are part of the discussion about elaborating a PID syllabus for Europe but I must say this is being slow and controversial due to the very different PID programs and years of training of all the different countries in Europe.

Overall this has been a very good experience, as I have felt actively involved in ESPID. You may fear being part of a board with other important PID European senior members, but I must say they have been very welcoming and do listen to the ideas and problems that the young ESPID members present with and it is an opportunity to meet and discuss with them. If you want PID to continue to grow and to improve, better get involved. If you are interested, please send your CV and a short description (less than 200 words) of your reasons for wanting to join to Olga Coschina, at ocoschina@kenes.com, before the end of 2014.

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Young ESPID educational committee representative