



SOMED NEWSLETTER

Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease

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2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members, colleagues and friends,

I'm very pleased to announce that, as a result of a collaborative work between Eugenia Bezirtzoglou and myself, the SOMED webpage (www.somed.nu) has been completely rebuilt and now it contains a plenty of informations covering past, present and future of the Society.

Specific pages are dedicated to the SOMED mission and Statutes and the history of the Society, including the list of Board Members for the years 1987-2007 and details on all previously organized SOMED Congresses.

Emphasis is also given to the SOMED official Journal, *Microbial Ecology in Health and Diseases*, published by Taylor & Francis and edited by our Past-President Tore Midtvedt.

A Membership Directory is also under construction and it will be established in the appropriate section as soon as you will authorize the inclusion of your data by renewing/applying for 2007 membership, as indicated in the new SOMED application form.

In relaunching our Society, one of my goals is to make use of this new electronic version of SOMED Newsletter as a six-monthly bulletin open to collect, from both Officers and Members, contributions on SOMED-related matters.

Information on future meetings, courses, books and other publications as well as short commentaries of max 1 page on hot topics in the field of microbial ecology will be welcomed to my e-mail address (gianfranco.donelli@iss.it) or to that of the newly appointed SOMED Secretary, Professor Shigeru Kamiya (skamiya@kyorin-u.ac.jp).

As the upcoming XXX International Congress on Microbial Ecology and Diseases is concerned, I would like to remind you that it will be held in Rome, September 16-18, 2007, jointly with the IV Probiotics, Prebiotics and New Foods. The provisional Program of both events can be reached at www.probiotics-prebiotics-newfood.org.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in Rome and I would like to encourage you to join the Society also in order to get all benefits of being a SOMED Member, including the huge reduction in the registration fee for our XXX SOMED Congress. In fact, SOMED Members regularly paying their membership fee within June 15, 2007, are entitled to a 40% reduction in the Congress registration fee.

Gianfranco Donelli
SOMED President