The City
Regensburg is one of the most beautiful and most exceptional cities of Europe. Many illustrious emperors like Marc Aurel and Hadrian from Rome, Charles-magne the Frank, Otto the Great, Barbarossa and Napoleon stayed in Regensburg for some time. Outstanding scientists of all ages performed their studies in Regensburg - Tycho de Brahe, Albertus Magnus, Ventinus, Kepler and Guericke. Also artists such als Orlando de Lasso, Albrecht Altdorfer, Hans Sachs, Goethe and Haydn lived in the town. The area of Regensburg has been settled since 6000 years. Trading became the main vigour of Regensburg in the 13th century when it was placed at the crossing of the main roads of long distance commerce from Italy to the North, from France and the Netherlands to the Orient. The Romanesque and Gothic architecture of the Middle Ages is still prominent today in the appearance of the old part of the city. The historical structure of Regensburg kept the grown features alive over a period of 2000 years with only minor adoptions to the changing fashions. Regensburg is an open minded town which lately has developed a flourishing economical potential with industrial settings and commercial enterprises.

The University
Since 1962 Regensburg hosts the 4th Bavarian University as a centre of science. In 1983, the Dental Department was finished, and in 1992 the Klinikum of the University was started to serve the high quality medical needs of more than 3.000.000 people in Northeast Bavaria. In 1998, the 3rd part of the Klinikum was completed together with research and maintenance facilities thus providing excellent conditions to gain a place at the top of national and international science and research. The 4th part hosting the theoretical Institutes of Human Genetics, Epidemiology and Immunology is now under construction.

The Society
In the 1960s the term "paediatric ophthalmology" was virtually unknown. It was at the end of the 1960s when Brian Harcourt and Albert Franceschetti were lounging around a pool in Acapulco. It was there that they discovered their mutual interest in paediatric problems and decided that it would be useful for some of the younger ophthalmologists in Europe to get together and discuss the growing points in the sub-specialty. It was only through the work of Barrie Jay that a meeting first took place in 1972 in Oxford. Since then the Group has prospered and, for many years the tradition was to meet alternately in the United Kingdom and in a European city. The group expanded, become more formal and was set to become the leading, and the biggest, group of those interested in Paediatric Ophthalmology and Genetics in Europe. In 2001 the group moved to an official society. One of the basic principles has been that discussion of squints should be excluded and left to the strabismological societies and this will be maintained. The 2003 meeting will be the 3rd meeting in Regensburg after 1994 and 2001.

Invitation
29th Annual Meeting of EPOS
European Paediatric Ophthalmological Society
www.epos-focus.org

Regensburg
Thursday, October 2nd, 2003
to
Saturday, October 4th, 2003

Hosted by Prof. Dr. Birgit Lorenz
Klinikum, University of Regensburg
Location
Klinikum, University of Regensburg
Franz-Josef-Strauß-Allee 11
93053 Regensburg
Germany

Date
October 2nd, 2003 to October 4th, 2003

Congress-Secretary
Dr. Markus Preising
Department of Paediatric Ophthalmology,
Strabismology and Ophthalmogenetics
Klinikum, University of Regensburg
93042 Regensburg
Germany
Phone: +49-9 41-9 44 92 76
Fax: +49-9 41-9 44 92 16
Email: info@epos-focus.org

For further information please visit the homepage of EPOS
www.epos-focus.org

Registration
Registration for the meeting is possible via the homepage. Only if access to the internet is not available, please contact the congress-secretary for further information.

Hotel Reservations
Please use the following service of the city of Regensburg:
Fremdenverkehrsamt Regensburg
EPOS - Mrs. S. Teisinger
Phone: +49-9 41-5 07 34 11
Fax: +49-9 41-5 07 44 19

Organizers
B. Lorenz, M. Preising, H. Klarl

Main topic
Gene Therapy and Other Modern Therapeutic Approaches in Paediatric Retinal Degenerations.

Invited Speakers

Robin R. Ali, Ph.D., London, GB
Gene therapy for childhood eye disease: how and when.

Prof. Dr. Ludger Honnefelder, Bonn, Germany
Ethical aspects of gene therapy in orphan blinding diseases.

Kristina Narfström, Ph.D., Missouri, USA
Expected and unexpected findings after gene transfer in the RPE65 null mutation dog, a model for human Leber's congenital amaurosis.

PD Dr. Felicia Rosenthal, Freiburg, Germany
Regulatory aspects of gene therapy in orphan blinding diseases.

Michael J. Young, Ph.D., Boston, USA
Stem cell transplantation in animal models of retinal degeneration.

Abstract-Submission
Abstract submissions on the main topic and free papers on other aspects of paediatric ophthalmology and genetics are requested via the homepage only. Deadline for abstract-submission is July 4th, 2003.

Meeting fees
Members: 180 EUR
Non-Members: 250 EUR
Accompanying persons: 100 EUR

Social Program

Thursday, 2nd October:
Little Oktoberfest

Friday, 3rd October:
Accompanying persons are invited to visit local attractions. Dinner for all participants of the meeting.

Saturday, 4th October:
Informal dinner

Sunday, 5th October:
Optional: Guided tour to the old town or cathedral of Regensburg. Registration at the meeting venue is necessary. The costs will depend on the amount of participants.

General Information
EPOS accepts Visa/MasterCard only. Registration fees are not included in your membership dues. All meeting participants are required to register. Having an abstract accepted for presentation does not mean you are registered to attend.

Registration refund policy
A written request must reach the congress-secretary by September 26th, 2003, in order to receive 75% refund of the registration fee. No refunds will be given after September 26th, 2003.