Dear ESCMID member
Dear member of an affiliated society

Please allow us to draw your attention to an online poll on educational needs of trainees and junior doctors in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, several educational opportunities in these fields and a late breaker session on avian flu at the forthcoming 16th ECCMID 2006 in Nice.

1. **Opinion Poll.** Currently an online consultation about ESCMID’s educational activities and your educational needs is ongoing. The questionnaire has been designed by the ESCMID Educational Committee and can be found on our homepage or by clicking on the above links. Please spend a few minutes and let us know your opinion. As an incentive we raffle 5 laser pointers among the respondents.

2. **ESCMID School.** The 5th ESCMID School 2006 will take place from 10 - 16 June in Santander, Spain. It is dedicated to postgraduate and continuous medical education. The programme covers a broad range of relevant topics in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, thus being of particular interest to young MDs at the end of their specialty training. By providing short reviews and well-selected case studies the ESCMID School helps the students in preparing for their examination.

3. **Postgraduate Courses.** Information on the first 5 PG courses in 2006 is online, the programme of additional courses will follow in due course. Please take advantage of these offers! The first course on Measuring, auditing and improving antimicrobial prescribing will take place just prior to ECCMID in Nice. This will be a full time interactive course with 16 presentations over 7 sessions and 4 case studies. There are still a few places left. Please note that ESCMID will fund a limited number of attendance grants for young European scientists to attend this course. An application form can be downloaded from the above link.

4. **ESCMID Conference on Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamases.** If you are interested in antibiotic resistance due to ESBLs, don’t miss our conference in Venice on 29 - 31 May 2006.

5. **Avian flu at 16th ECCMID 2006 in Nice.** The next ECCMID is ante portas! We are pleased to announce that on Sunday, 2 April a late breaker session on avian flu will take place at 17:45 h with Serhat Ünal, Ankara, speaking about the Turkish experience and Klaus Stöhrl from WHO Geneva about the global threat of this disease. On Tuesday, 4 April a regular symposium will be devoted to an update on influenza by two virologists, an immunologist and a clinician.

Best regards,
ESCMID Executive Committee