

SSIEM

**SSIEM
2004**

FINAL REPORT

**SSIEM 41st Annual Symposium
Amsterdam, the Netherlands
August 31 – September 3, 2004
www.ssiem.org.uk/amsterdam.htm**



Final Report SSIEM 2004

August 31 – September 3, 2004, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Organisation

In December 2000 the council of the SSIEM decided to hold their 41st Annual Symposium in Amsterdam. Cornelis Jakobs was appointed as chairman and in the following year he formed a Local Organising Committee, which consisted of representatives of both the university medical centres in Amsterdam (VU University Medical Center and the Academic Medical Centre) and one representative of the University Medical Center Utrecht. Three subcommittees were formed: Scientific Committee, Sponsor Committee and Social Programme Committee.

Local Organising Committee

Prof. Dr. Cornelis Jakobs (chairman), VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam ¹
Dr. Nanda Verhoeven (secretary), VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam ¹
Dr. Nico Abeling, Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam ³
Dr. Herman ten Brink, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam ³
Dr. Ries Duran, Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam ¹
Prof. Dr. Marjo van der Knaap, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam
Dr. Tom de Koning, University Medical Center, Utrecht ¹
Prof. Dr. Bwee Tien Poll-The, Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam ¹
Dr. Gajja Salomons, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam ^{1,2}
Prof. Dr. Ronald Wanders, Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam ¹
Dr. Hans Waterham, Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam ^{1,2}

1) member of Scientific Committee

2) member of Sponsor Committee

3) member Social Programme Committee

In March 2002, PAOG Course and Congress Organisation of the VU University Medical Center was recruited as PCO (Professional Conference Organiser) for logistical organisation, participant registration and financial administration.

Promotion

Printed announcements

The first announcement was printed in August 2003 as well as promotional posters. They were distributed at ICIEM 2003 (2-6 September) and mailed to all SSIEM members by the end of September 2003. In the following months the announcements were sent to several other conferences with the same target group (mostly table top display), national societies, or distributed at other meetings by members of the LOC.

Furthermore the symposium was announced in the meeting calendars of approximately 15 medical journals and websites.

In February 2004 the 2nd announcement (with registration form, abstract form and hotel booking form) was printed and distributed in the same way as the 1st announcement.

Website

In August 2002 the symposium website was online. At first there were some doubts whether the website could be altered and updated as quickly as considered necessary by the LOC. However, the webmaster (Neil Hamilton), proved to be quick in responding to requests and uploading new information.

Abstracts

Abstract submission was mainly electronic. Kim Bartlett & Neil Hamilton were responsible for the handling, corrections and preparation of the abstract database. In total 550 abstracts were received, but after removal of duplicates 503 remained.

The abstracts were reviewed by Tom de Koning and Ries Duran of the LOC, Guy Besley of SSIEM and Cornelis Jakobs (LOC & SSIEM). 57 abstracts were selected for oral presentation, 385 as poster, 58 as abstract only (which meant they would only be printed in the abstract book) and a few were completely rejected.

Due to a communication error somewhere down the line, PAOG was only notified at the very last minute that they were supposed to send out all acceptance & rejection letters. In the end it worked out very well and all authors were notified within 14 days of the abstract deadline.

Venue

The symposium was held at the Main Building of the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam. Plenary sessions were scheduled in the Aula (capacity 900 seats). The other main lecture rooms were the Auditorium (280 seats) and KC-07 (350 seats). The exhibition and poster areas were located in the immediate vicinity of the lecture rooms.

Registrations

Registrations were accepted electronically or by fax or by post. In total 1052 registrations were received. 394 registrations were submitted online (37,5%). 33 people cancelled their registration at a later stage, so the total number of participants was 1019.

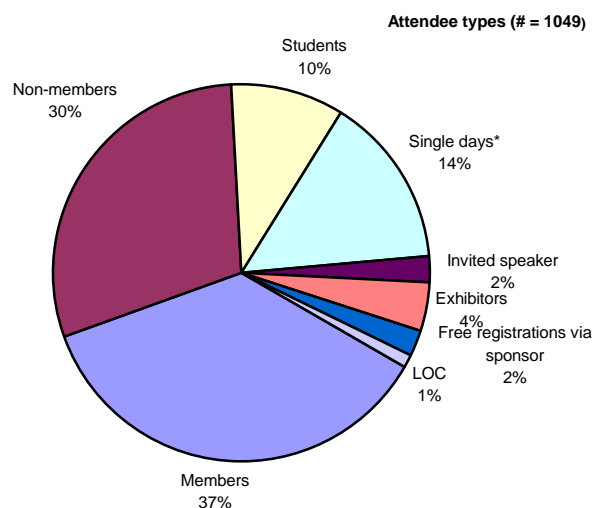
Overall the registration process went very smoothly. On a regular basis we checked with Malcolm Heron, treasurer of the SSIEM, whether people registering for the reduced SSIEM member fee were in fact fully paid up members. If this was not the case, Malcolm would contact the person involved and in general the matter was soon resolved after this.

We received some complaints that the secure online payment system we offered (PayPal) was too complex.

Registrations per attendee type

Attendee type	number
Members	379
Non-members	311
Students	104
Single days*	152
Invited speakers	25
Exhibitors	42
Free registrations via sponsor	24
LOC	12
Total	1049

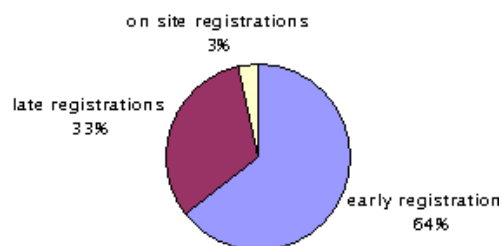
*Some participants booked more than one single day ticket, therefore the total score of 1049 is higher than total number of attendees (1019).



Registrations and time

Fees	deadline	number
early registrations	before June 16	674
Late registrations	from June 16 to August 27	341
On site registrations	from August 28	34
Total		1049

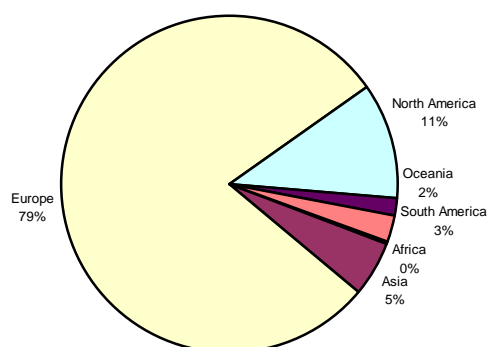
Registrations in time (# = 1049)



Registrations per continent

Continent	number
Africa	4
Asia	52
Europe	808
North America	112
Oceania	17
South America	26
Total	1019

participants per continent # = 1019



For an overview of the number of attendees per country see Appendix 1.

Programme

On Tuesday morning, August 31, the symposium started with ERNDIM meetings and the Dieticians Meeting. In the afternoon there was a mini-symposium related to 'Molecular mechanisms of dominant expression in IEM'. From Wednesday, September 1 to Friday, September 3, plenary lectures related to the main theme 'Metabolic Encephalopathies' were organised, alternated with parallel session on various topics within the field of IEM. Prof. Mike Gibson gave the Komrower lecture. Posters were on display for the full duration of the symposium.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday commercial Satellite Symposia were organised during lunchtime. On the plus side, these satellites generated a lot of sponsor revenues. On the down side, they also made the programme very full.

Upon arrival at the registration desk all participants received a programme book and a handy pocket programme.

Please find an overview of the full symposium programme in Appendix 2.

Social Programme

On Tuesday, August 31, the welcome reception took place at the Vrije Universiteit and was partly sponsored by the city of Amsterdam (550 attendees).

On Wednesday evening, September 1, canal boats took the delegates to the Angel Studios for the theme party 'Amsterdam Experience' in which the multicultural character of Amsterdam was reflected in the various choices of food, music and entertainment. (625 attendees) After dinner, approximately half of the attendees left to get a shuttle bus back to their hotels. The other half that stayed enjoyed a sparkling disco and which got everybody dancing and was highly appreciated.

On Thursday afternoon, September 2, nine excursions were organised of cultural, touristic or sporty nature. In the evening a stylish banquet was organised at the Beurs van Berlage (700 attendees). Entertainment was provided by the AMC Big Band, which consists of medical staff of the Academic Medical Centre.

For accompanying persons two additional excursions were organised: a tour to Delft & The Hague and a trip to Volendam & Marken.

Further details on the social programme and bookings are available in Appendix 3.

Facilities & Logistics

Speakers room

In the oral acceptance letter, all speakers were notified that we would like to receive their PowerPoint presentations ultimately one day before their talk was scheduled. All speakers listed on Tuesday, August 31 (first day of the symposium) were asked to send their presentations by e-mail in advance. We were happy that approximately 60% of all speakers followed these instructions, thus allowing us more time to handle the presentations of the remaining 40% that did not.

In the speakers room three computers were available for speakers so they could check their presentations or make last minute changes. A team of three assistants were in charge of Speakers room and they made sure all presentations were put on the laptops in the lecture halls.

Internet room

An internet room equipped with ten computers and one printer was available to participants. Sometimes during symposium breaks all computers were occupied, but the waiting time was usually not more than five to ten minutes.

Catering & Diets

In order to prevent long queues during breaks a total of ten catering points had been arranged from where coffee, tea and lunch bags were served. Two of these points were staffed continuously. Unless people had given us dietary requirements, no lunch tickets were given. The delegate badges served as catering/lunch voucher. Occasionally people went to get a second lunch bag e.g. because they especially liked one single item that was included in the bag.



Delegates who had informed us about dietary requirements, received a special lunch ticket indicating their wishes. One catering point was specially designated for vegetarian meals and diets.

Not until after the symposium we heard that some participants were not too impressed about the quality of the lunch bags.

Public transport tickets

Amsterdam has a very dense public transport system and tram, metro or bus stops are usually around the corner. To benefit from this, a public transport ticket, valid on symposium days, was included in the registration fees for full delegates and accompanying persons.

Assistants

Every day we had a group of approximately 20 students helping us with the organisation. They all wore bright orange polo shirts with the symposium logo to make them instantly recognisable in crowds. Working schedules for all students were prepared three weeks in advance of the meeting. The final briefing was done in a plenary meeting a few days before the start of the symposium.

Task of the assistants:

- packing the symposium satchels
- assistance at the registration desk
- assistance in speaker room and internet room
- tending the cloak room
- directing people in the right way at the VU and social events ('human signposting')
- checking tickets at social events
- assistance in the poster area (especially at times when people were mounting their posters e.g. supplying extra velcro if needed, directing people to the right poster area etc.)
- act as service host in meeting rooms
- assistance with plenary discussions (handing wireless microphones and so on)
- general assistance to exhibitors and invited speakers

The assistants were much appreciated by the participants. After the meeting we received a lot of compliments about the friendly and efficient 'orange brigade'.

Accreditation

The symposium was accredited by:

- Paediatric Association of the Netherlands (Nederlandse Vereniging voor Kindergeneeskunde, NVK) for 19 points.
- The Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (Nederlandse Vereniging voor Klinische Chemie en Laboratoriumgeneeskunde, NVKC) for 24 points.
- The Netherlands Society for Neurology (Nederlandse Vereniging voor Neurologie, NVN) for 20 hours.
- The Netherlands Society for Clinical Genetics (Vereniging Klinische Genetica Nederland, VKGN) for 21,5 hours.

Sponsors & Exhibition

The sponsor committee and Cornelis Jakobs approached many potential sponsors at the SSIEM 2002 meeting in Dublin to ascertain what arrangements they would find important if they were to sponsor SSIEM 2004 in Amsterdam.

Based on this, we developed packages for gold sponsors, silver sponsors, exhibitors and educational exhibitors. Furthermore we made a list of additional sponsor items. See Appendix 4 for an overview.

In October 2003 Genzyme informed us that they would like to be 'platinum sponsor', which made them our main sponsor. As 'platinum sponsorship' was not included in our first list of sponsor options, we informed all other gold sponsors about this and received neither complaints nor requests to be also upgraded to platinum sponsor.



List of sponsors:

Platinum sponsor:	Genzyme (€ 20.000)
Gold sponsors:	Actelion (€ 11.570) Milupa (€ 8.500) Orphan Europe (€ 7.000) Perkin Elmer (€ 10.500) PreKULab (€ 10.500) SHS (€ 15.000) Sigma-Tau (€ 10.500) TKT-5S (€ 10.500) Vitaflor International (€ 8.500)
Silver sponsors:	Applied Biosystems (€ 5.000) Biochrom Limited (€ 4.000) BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc. (€ 4.020) JEOL Europe BV (€ 6.000) Swedish Orphan International (€ 4.000) Waters (€ 4.000)
Exhibitors:	Climb (free) Gluten Free (€ 2.500) Institute Kangaroo (free) Laboratoires DHN (€ 2.500) MetaX Institut für Diätik GmbH (€ 2.500) VU Bookstore (€ 237,79)
Other:	City of Amsterdam (€ 1.890,76)

Total support by sponsors = € 151.218,55

Finances

The aim was to organise a budget neutral symposium for a reasonable registration fee. Initially we made a budget, which was break-even at approximately 700 paying participants. As hotels in Amsterdam are rather expensive, we tried to keep the registration fees as low as possible. We were able to offer registration fees that were lower than the fees of SSIEM 2002 and ICIEM 2003 yet included all social programme activities.

Included in the registration fee of full delegates were the following items:

- admission to all meeting sessions, satellite symposia, poster sessions and exhibition
- a programme booklet
- a pocket programme
- a copy of the Journal of Inherited Metabolic Disease with the abstracts
- coffee, tea and lunch during the symposium breaks
- public transport ticket for Amsterdam, valid for 4 days
- welcome reception at the Vrije Universiteit, August 31
- canal cruise & theme party, September 1
- 1 excursion, afternoon September 2
- symposium banquet, evening September 2

We were lucky that both registrations and sponsoring exceeded our expectations. This meant that we were able to reinvest some extra money into the symposium e.g. by improving the quality of the catering at the Vrije Universiteit and the social programme.

One week before the start of the symposium we expected to finish with a positive result of approximately €20.000 with €10.500 still budgeted for contingencies. In the end the profit was over three times larger. Based on the figures of June 2005 given by the Administration of the VU University Medical Center, we now expect a positive result of €68.442,93.

Overview finances SSIEM 2004

Registrations

Registrations

paid registrations	946
Free registrations	103
total number of registrations	1049

Accompanying persons

paid accompanying persons	62
total number of accompanying persons	62

Balance of Revenue & Expenditure

Revenue

Registration fees	€ 461.425,42
Additional social programme tickets / hotels	€ 9.282,00
Sponsoring	€ 151.218,55
Miscellaneous	€ 3.574,97
total revenue	€ 625.500,94

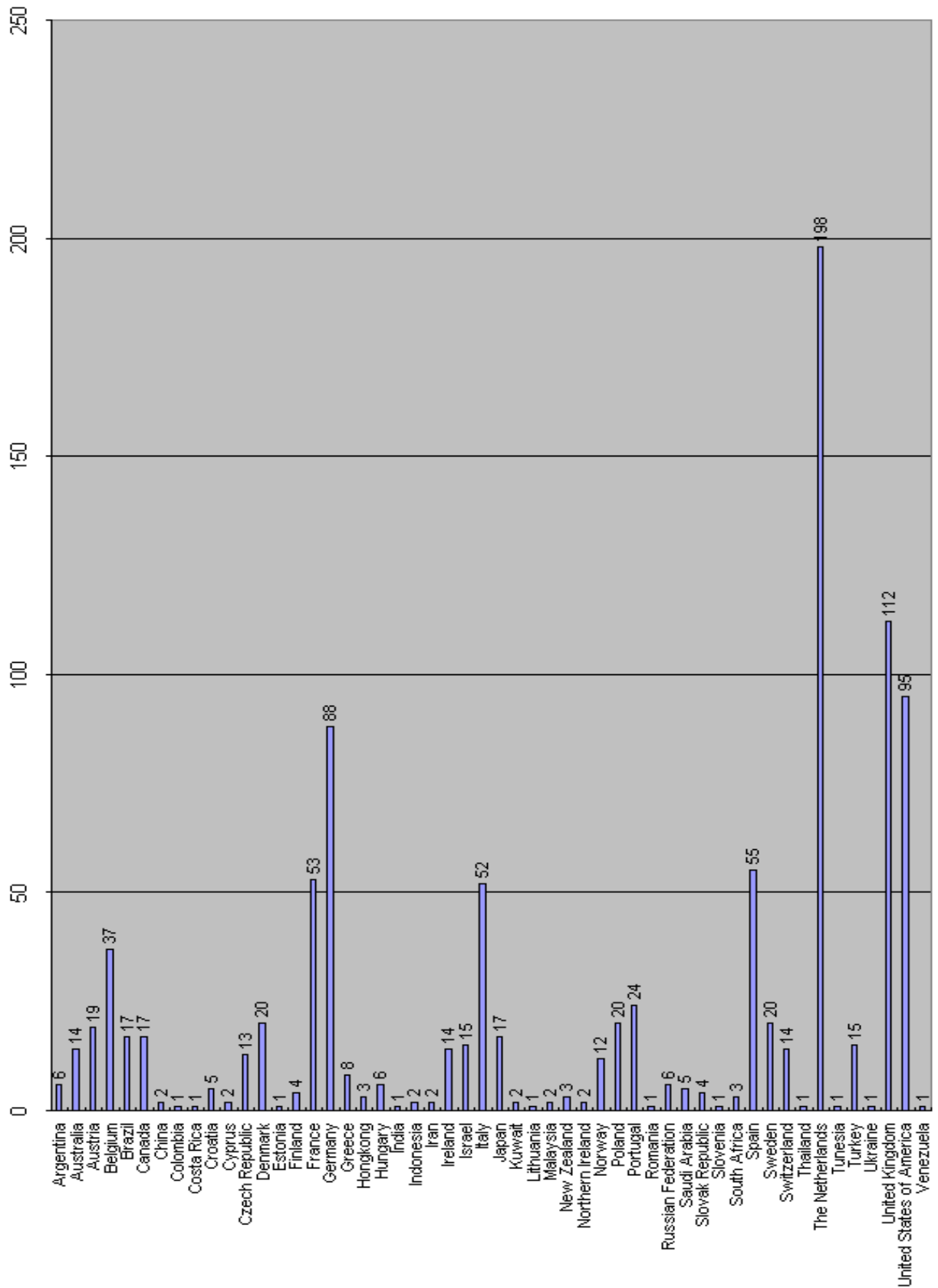
Expenditure

Venue	€ 11.516,70
Audio visual equipment, facilities, personnel venue	€ 31.168,30
Printed matter, promotion & conference materials	€ 39.374,63
Invited speakers	€ 23.982,35
Organisation	€ 12.237,82
Catering, social programme & transportation	€ 314.841,49
PCO, administration, accreditation & assistants	€ 104.062,62
Miscellaneous	€ 19.874,10
total expenditure	€ 557.058,01

Balance	€ 68.442,93
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PAOG Course and Congress Organisation, June 27, 2005

Appendix 1 Attendees per country



Appendix 2 Programme Overview

Tuesday, August 31

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
08:30-20:00	Reg. Desk	Registration
09:30-10:30	Aula	Dieticians meeting
09:30-10:30		ERNDIM parallel DPTC meetings
	Agora 1	- Northern Europe – Sheffield Centre
	Agora 2	- Southern Europe - Lyon Centre
	Agora 3	- Central Europe – Nijmegen Centre
	1D-13	- Eastern Europe – Prague Centre
10:30-10:50		coffee & tea Dieticians meeting
10:30-11:00		coffee & tea ERNDIM meetings
10:50-13:15	Aula	Dieticians meeting continued
		- Galactokinase deficiency: treatment and outcome
		- Endogenous galactose release in galactosaemia: latest research
		- Galactosaemia: The soya debate
		- Discussion
		- Interactive Session: Dietary treatment in GSD-I patients. From diagnoses till pregnancy: Practical dilemmas, compliance, physical exercise, quality of life
		- Award winning DVD presentation on ‘Contemporary issues for individuals with PKU’
11:00-13:00	Auditorium	ERNDIM joint DPTC meeting
		- Update on ERNDIM activities
		- Discussion of the result of the common sample from the 4 DPT schemes
		- Acylcarnitine measurement: clinical relevance / diagnostic power and limitations
		- Acylcarnitine measurement in bloodspots: methodological aspects, problems and pitfalls with reference to the ERNDIM QA scheme
		- Discussion
13:00-14:30		lunch & poster fixing
13:15-14:15	KC-07	Satellite meeting Orphan Europe ‘Clinical experience with diagnosis and management of primary and secondary NAGS-deficiency’
14:30-16:00	Aula	Mini-symposium ‘Molecular mechanisms of dominant expression in inborn errors of metabolism’
		<i>Chairs: Prof. D. Valle (Baltimore, USA) and Prof. J.M. Saudubray (Paris, France)</i>
14:30-15:05		- Factors influencing a metabolic pathway
15:05-15:30		- X-linked metabolic disorders
15:30-15:55		- Hyperinsulinism
16:00-16:30		coffee & tea
16:30-18:00	Aula	Mini-symposium continued
16:30-16:55		- Porphyrrias
16:55-17:20		- Respiratory chain disorders
17:20-17:45		- 3-Methylcrotonyl-CoA carboxylase deficiency and homocystinuria
17:45-18:00		- Lessons to learn
18:00-20:00	Exhibition Area	Welcome reception sponsored by the City of Amsterdam

Wednesday, September 1

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
08:00-08:30		coffee & tea
08:30-10:15	Aula	Plenary session 'Leukoencephalopathies' <i>Chairs: Prof. P. Barth (Amsterdam, the Netherlands) and Dr. G. Uziel (Milan, Italy)</i>
08:30-09:05		- The basis of myelin and myelination: the contribution of magnetic resonance techniques
09:05-09:40		- Inherited disorders of myelin metabolism: hypomyelination and demyelination
09:40-10:15		- Disorders of intermediary metabolism: toxic leukoencephalopathies
10:15-10:45		coffee & tea
10:45-12:00	Aula	Plenary session 'Leukoencephalopathies' continued
10:45-11:20		- Unclassified leukoencephalopathies: a perspective
11:20-11:55		- Oligodendrocytes and stem cell transplantation: its potential in the treatment of leukoencephalopathies
12:00-13:30		lunch & attended poster sessions (odd poster numbers)
12:15-13:15	Auditorium	Satellite meeting Genzyme 'Therapy update in lysosomal storage disorders'
13.30-15:00	Aula Auditorium KC-07	Parallel sessions I, II & III (free communications) I Fatty acid oxidation disorders II Lysosomal storage diseases III Neurotransmitters/PKU
15:00-15:30		coffee & tea
15:30-17:30	Aula	Plenary session 'Congenital malformations of brain' <i>Chairs: Prof. B.T. Poll-The (Amsterdam, the Netherlands) and Prof. Dr. M. Topcu (Ankara, Turkey)</i>
15:30-16:00		- Peroxisomal biogenesis defects
16:00-16:30		- Cholesterol biosynthesis defects
16:30-17:00		- Congenital disorders of glycosylation
17:00-17:30		- Mitochondrial defects
19:00-19:30	Holland Int.	<i>Departure canal boats from jetty Holland International</i>
19:15-20:00	Angel Studios	<i>Arrival canal boats and welcome drinks</i>
20:00-24:00		<i>Theme party 'Amsterdam Experience'</i>



Thursday, September 2

<i>TIME</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
08:00-08:30		<i>coffee & tea</i>
08:30-10:30	Aula	Plenary session 'Acute cerebral manifestations of inborn errors of metabolism' <i>Chairs: Dr. J. Walters (Manchester, United Kingdom) and Dr. A. Burlina (Padova, Italy)</i>
08:30-08:55		- Acute encephalopathies: an overview
08:55-09:20		- Stroke in childhood
09:20-09:45		- Mechanisms of damage at the cellular level
09:45-10:10		- Urea cycle defects: management and outcome
10:10-10:35		- Organic acidurias: management and outcome
10:30-11:00		<i>coffee & tea</i>
11:00-12:30		Parallel sessions IV, V & VI (free communications)
	KC-07	IV Mitochondrial defects
	Auditorium	V Congenital disorders of glycosylation / Cerebral abnormalities
	Aula	VI Organic acidurias
12:30-14:30		<i>lunch & attended poster sessions (even poster numbers)</i>
12:30-13:30	Aula	SSIEM Annual General Meeting (members only)
13:30-14:30	Auditorium	Satellite meeting TKT 5S 'The changing clinical panorama of Fabry disease'
14:30-14:35	<i>Hall Ground Floor</i>	<i>Gathering for departure excursions</i>
14:30-23:30		Excursions Welcome drinks Symposium banquet

Friday, September 3

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
08:00-08:30		coffee & tea
08:30-10:15	Aula	Plenary session 'Movement disorders' Chairs: Dr. T. de Koning (Utrecht, the Netherlands) and Prof E. Fernandez Alvarez (Barcelona, Spain) - Classifications (including video presentation) - Movement disorders from a metabolic viewpoint - Treatment strategies
08:30-09:10		
09:10-09:40		
09:40-10:10		
10:15-10:45		coffee & tea
10:45-12:00	Aula Auditorium KC-07	Parallel sessions VII, VIII & IX (free communications) VII Creatine deficiency disorders / X-linked mental retardation VIII Peroxisomal disorders / Cholesterol biosynthesis disorders IX Disorders of Homocysteine / Pyrimidine metabolism
12:00-13:00		lunch & poster viewing
12:15-12:45	Auditorium	ETAC meeting
13:00-14:00	Aula	Komrower lecture - Gamma-Hydroxybutyric Aciduria: A Biochemist's Education from a Heritable Disorder of GABA Metabolism K.M. Gibson (Portland, OR, USA)
14:00-14:30		coffee & tea
14:30-16:00	Aula	Plenary session 'Late breaking news' (free communications) - Isolated deficiency of 3-ketothiolase: first case report - Ethylmalonic encephalopathy is due to mutations in ETHE 1 - The molecular genetics of pyridoxine-resistant pyridoxal phosphate sensitive seizures - AICA-ribosiduria: a novel inborn error of purine biosynthesis caused by mutation of ATIC - New inherited defects in the pentose phosphate pathway - Mutations in the VPS33B gene, encoding a regulator of snare-dependant membrane fusion, cause ARC syndrome
14:30-14:45		
14:45-15:00		
15:00-15:15		
15:15-15:30		
15:30-15:45		
15:45-16:00		
16:00-16:30	Aula	Poster Award, Presentations SSIEM 2005 & ICIEM 2006
16:30-16:40	Aula	Closure

Appendix 3 Social Programme

Tuesday, August 31

18:00–20:00 hrs: Welcome reception sponsored by the City of Amsterdam (550 attendees)

Immediately after the Mini-symposium an informal welcome reception (only snacks and drinks) will be held at the exhibition area. We would like to thank the City of Amsterdam for sponsoring this function. Afterwards there is free time to explore the dizzying array of restaurants and pubs in Amsterdam.

Wednesday, September 1

18:30/19:30 – 24:00 hrs: Canal cruise & Theme party 'Amsterdam Experience' at Angel Studios Amsterdam (625 attendees)

Between 18:30 and 19:30 hrs, every 5 to 10 minutes, canal boats will leave from the pier of shipping company Holland International, Prins Hendrikkade 33a, Amsterdam for 45-minute cruise through Amsterdam's fascinating waterways. You are free to choose a departure time that is the most convenient for you within this given time limit. Holland International is located opposite Central Station and the Victoria Hotel. Please use your public transport tickets to travel to the Central Station and do not forget to bring your entrance ticket for the theme party.

The canal boats will bring you to Angel Studios Amsterdam (Westpoort 3099, Minervahavenweg 7, Amsterdam) which will host our theme party 'Amsterdam Experience'. It promises to be a highly enjoyable and surprising event with plenty for you to do, see, eat and drink to get a fine taste of Amsterdam.

Afterwards shuttle buses will bring you to / near your hotel in Amsterdam.

Thursday, September 2

14:30 – ± 17:30 hrs: Excursions/tours

Delegates who have booked an excursion should gather in the main hall on the ground floor (close to the registration desk) at 14:30 hrs. Conference assistants and tour guides will escort excursion groups to the right buses from there. Tickets will be checked when entering the buses. Please be advised that departure time is ultimately 14:35 hrs. All tours will end in the city centre and everyone can use their free public transport ticket for further traveling if necessary (e.g. to the Beurs van Berlage for Symposium Banquet, see next page).

1. City tour Amsterdam with visit to the Van Gogh museum (190 attendees)

We start this tour with an extensive panoramic city tour by coach through the centre of Amsterdam and suburbs (approximately 1-1,5 hrs). Upon arrival at the Van Gogh museum an entrance ticket and a set of headphones will be handed to all participants. From there everyone is free to explore the museum at their own pace (closing time is 18:00 hrs). The Van Gogh museum contains the archives and collections of the Vincent van Gogh Foundation, which includes nearly 200 paintings and 500 drawings by Vincent van Gogh.

2. City tour Amsterdam with visit to the Heineken brewery (40 attendees)

This tour will also start with an extensive panoramic city tour by coach through the centre of Amsterdam and suburbs. After that, we will visit the former Heineken Brewery in Amsterdam (Stadhouderskade 78), which was in operation from 1932 to 1988. The tour documents the history of Heineken in detail and gives a fascinating insight of how the beer is brewed. It ends in the Brewhouse Bar where a very convivial atmosphere soon develops as each visitor is treated to several glasses of beer for 'tasting'.

3. Architecture Tour Amsterdam (70 attendees)

We will depart from the Vrije Universiteit for a short city tour passing by examples of the Amsterdam School and many historical buildings. By canal boat we will cruise to one of the newest exciting areas of Amsterdam, "KNSM- and Java Island" and you will be amazed by the architectural developments. The boat trip will take approximately 2 hrs and ends at Central Station.

4. Pedal Boat Puzzle Tour (40 attendees)

By coach we will travel to the jetty of the Canal Company at the Prinsengracht. In teams of four you will criss-cross by pedal boat the 17th century ring of canals answering all kinds of serious and funny questions. During this tour of 2,5 hrs a pub stop is included. The puzzle tour ends near the Leidseplein.

5. Amsterdam by foot: Rembrandt including a visit to the Rembrandt House (50 attendees)

A bus transfer will bring you to Amsterdam's city centre. From there we will explore the city in the footsteps of Rembrandt. We will pass 'de Waag' at the Nieuwmarkt where Rembrandt painted The Anatomical Lesson and 'de Doelen' where he painted the Nightwatch. We will also see his statue at the Rembrandt Square and visit The Rembrandt House museum. Rembrandt lived and worked in this house from 1639 until 1658. The tour ends at approximately 17:30 hrs near Dam square.

6. Amsterdam by foot: Medieval Amsterdam incl. Red light district & 'Our Lord in the Attic' (30 attendees)
After a bus transfer to the city center we will explore the oldest part of Amsterdam in which also the famous red light district is located. During this tour we will visit the Museum 'Our Lord in the Attic', a secret chapel fitted out in the attics of three 17th century dwellings. The tour ends at approximately 17:30 hrs near Dam square.

7. Amsterdam by foot: Golden Age including a visit to the Royal Palace (35 attendees)
Amsterdam had its greatest days of glory during the 17th century. In order to cater to a wealthier and expanding population the canal network was created with a number of fine warehouses. Also a new Town Hall for Amsterdam was built in these days (now known as The Royal Palace), the major project of the architect Jacob van Kampen. This imposing building was built on a massive scale and is one of the few classicist buildings in the Netherlands. This is where the tour starts. It ends at approximately 17:30 hrs near Leidseplein.

8. Amsterdam by foot: Jewish Amsterdam (30 attendees)
By coach you will travel to Waterloo square. From there this walking tour takes you through the former Jewish quarter with its large synagogues and characteristic street markets. We will visit the Hollandsche Schouwburg, the main memorial in Amsterdam to all Jewish victims of the Second World War and the Portuguese Synagogue built in 1675.
The tour ends at approximately 17:30 hrs near Rembrandt square.

9. Zaanse Schans: Windmills (50 attendees)
By coach you will travel to Zaandam, The Zaanse Schans with windmills, clogs and cheese.
The Zaanse Schans is a quaint 40-house community on the banks of the river Zaan. From the 700 windmills, which dotted the area in the 18th century, only 5 are still in operation. The surrounding houses are constructed of green timber with traditional steep roofs and white windows. This tour includes a visit to a restored windmill and a clog factory. We expect to return by coach at Amsterdam Central Station at approximately 17:45 hrs.

19:30 – 23:30 hrs: Symposium banquet at the Beurs van Berlage (700 attendees)
Hendrik Petrus Berlage (1856-1934), one of the most famous Dutch architects, built the Amsterdam Stock Exchange (nowadays called Beurs van Berlage) over a 5-year period (1898-1903). He is considered a forerunner of the Dutch architectural style, The Amsterdam School. The UIA (Union Internationale des Architectes) has listed the Beurs van Berlage in the top 1000 of the world's most important architectural creations. The building isn't used as a Stock Exchange anymore; instead, all kinds of different events and exhibitions take place here, e.g. the wedding of Crown Prince Willem-Alexander and Princess Máxima (02-02-2002) and now the SSIEM symposium banquet!

Delegates can use their public transport tickets to come to Beurs van Berlage (Damrak 277). The doors will open at 19:00 hrs (please bring your tickets) and welcome drinks will be served. The banquet will start at 20:00 hrs and musical entertainment will be provided by a band of the Academic Medical Centre (University of Amsterdam).

Tours for accompanying persons

Wednesday, September 1

09:30 – 17:30 Delft and The Hague (24 attendees)
Delft, once home town of the famous painter Johannes Vermeer, has one of the most perfectly preserved city centres of the Netherlands. You will relive the past while walking through the centre and enjoy the stately merchant houses, the canals, the quiet courtyards and the visit to the market square with the City hall and the impressive new Church. Since the 17th century Delft has acquired a worldwide reputation for its hand-painted Delftware. The production process will be explained during the visit to one of the surviving factories. We continue to The Hague, the political heart of the Netherlands for many centuries and the royal residence. The tour will take you through the stately historic city centres with the parliament buildings of Binnenhof, we go along the Peace Palace and through the embassy quarter. Included is a visit to the Panorama Mesdag where you can see the largest circular panoramic painting in Europe. The spectator appears to be standing on top of a dune, enjoying a spectacularly realistic view of the sea, the beach and the old fishing port of Scheveningen.

Thursday, September 2

09:00 – 13:00 Volendam and Marken (15 attendees)
The old fishing village Volendam is one of the best known ports of the old Zuiderzee. We will have a stroll, not only at the main street with its many shops, but also at the 'Doolhof' (Labyrinth), the picturesque narrow alleyways winding between small brick houses with wooden gables behind and below the main dike.
We continue by boat to Marken. Once an isolated and somewhat eccentric fishing community, linked by a dam to the mainland since 1957. It has kept its atmosphere of past days with its traditional black and green wooden houses on stilts.

Appendix 4 Sponsor categories and items

Exhibition space/sponsor items will be allocated on a first come first serve basis depending on the category of the sponsor and on space requirements.

Sponsor categories

1. Gold Sponsor

- Exhibition space – preferential reserved siting
- 2 free registrations to the conference for company members
- name & company logo + link on the Gold Sponsor section of the website
- name & company logo in the Gold Sponsor section of the announcement
- name & company logo in the Gold Sponsor section of the final program
- ½ A5 page advertisement in the final program
- free leaflet in the conference satchel
- free access to the Welcome Reception for 2 exhibitors
- free coffee/tea and lunch during conference breaks for 2 exhibitors

max 18 m²
€10.500

max 27 m²
€15.000

2. Silver Sponsor

- Exhibition space
- 1 free registration to the conference for a company member
- name on the Silver Sponsor section of the website
- name in the Silver Sponsor section of the final program
- free access to the Welcome Reception for 1 exhibitor
- free coffee/tea and lunch during conference breaks for 1 exhibitor

max 9m²
€4.000

max 18 m²
€8.500

3. Exhibitor

- Exhibition space
- name in the Exhibitors section of the final program
- free coffee/tea and lunch during conference breaks for 1 exhibitor

max 6m²
€2.500

4. Educational Exhibitor

- Exhibition space
- name in the Exhibitors section of the final program
- free coffee/tea and lunch during conference breaks for 1 exhibitor

max 6 m²
€1.500

Additional sponsor items

Item

- Satellite symposium (should be in accordance with guidelines set by the LOC)
- Advertisement in the conference announcement (A5 full page)
- Advertisement in the conference announcement (A5 ½ page)
- Advertisement in the final programme (A5 full page)
- Advertisement in the final programme (A5 ½ page)
- Leaflet inserted in conference satchel
- Link on the conference website
- Notepad + pens (in kind + fee)
- Sponsoring internet room
- Sponsoring 'canal cruise and theme evening', Wednesday 1 September*
- Sponsoring 'conference dinner', Thursday 2 September*

fee

TBD
€2.500
€1.750
€2.000
€1.250
€1.000
€500
€500
€1.000
€2.500
€2.500

* further details to be discussed with the sponsor committee