



To the Presidents of Immunological Societies, Presidents of Federations of Immunological Societies, Board Members, Officers.

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

as I did at the end of 2016, I would like to provide our Constituency with an executive report on IUIS activities in 2017, in a continuing effort to strengthen communication and transparency in the Union. On December 3rd the IUIS Council met in Hammamet, Tunisia, on the occasion of the congress of the Federation of the African Immunological Societies. The Council was preceded for the first time by a meeting of Committee Chairs, which was characterized by a productive discussion. Committees are the backbone of IUIS and provide an invaluable service to our Community and to Biomedicine at large. As such, they are a priority for IUIS.

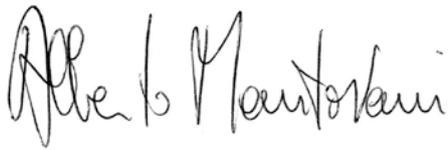
Highlights of the 2017 activities are presented in the enclosed PDF and can be summarized as follows:

- 1) Council meeting. Here enclosed you will find a PDF which summarizes the main points presented and discussed at the Council Meeting.
- 2) Communication. An effort has been made to improve communication, accountability and transparency. This executive report and the Newsletter sent regularly are testimony to this effort.
- 3) Committees. See the Committees' reports. A rotation policy was established and will be implemented.
- 4) Contacts have been established with societies with a focus on specific areas of Immunology (e.g. SITC for cancer immunotherapy) or with overlapping interests (e.g. IUPHAR for immunopharmacology).
- 5) Frontiers in Immunology (FI). The contract has been renewed.
- 6) WHO. The key relationship with WHO has been clarified and renewed.
- 7) Beijing 2019. The date of the Beijing International Congress of Immunology has been moved to 18-23 October 2019. We thank the Chinese Society of Immunology (CSI) for an outstanding effort. The Scientific Program Committee will be chaired by Xuetao Cao and Vijay Kuchroo will serve as vice-Chair. We are confident that the IUIS-ICI meeting will be unforgettable in terms of science and ambiance.

Finally, I would like to express my personal gratitude to the ExCo members (Faith Osier, Vice-President; Jorge Kalil, Past President; Michael Ratcliffe, Treasurer; Roslyn Kemp, Secretary General) for their dedication to the Union and to the KIT crew (Sumiko Tanaka and Angelica Gutierrez) for invaluable support.

This executive report summarizes efforts and progress; we are aware of challenges ahead and we are confident that the IUIS community will continue to serve “Immunology without borders”

Yours friendly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alberto Mantovani". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Alberto Mantovani
IUIS President

Ps I would be grateful if you could share this letter and report with Board members and Officers as appropriate.