



Belgian Society of Human Genetics

asbl-vzw

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[www.beshg.be](http://www.beshg.be)

NOVEMBER 2005

**BeSHG NEWSLETTER**

Board

M. Vikkula, president  
 F. Speleman, secretary  
 S. Seneca, treasurer  
 L Van Maldergem  
 G. Pierquin  
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***Dear colleagues, dear friends,***

***The 6th BeSHG meeting is approaching:***

The 6th BeSHG meeting will be held in Antwerp on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2006. The main theme is ***New Developments in Genetics***. Several international speakers have confirmed their attendance and we look forward to an interesting program (*see next page*). In addition, the session for selected oral communications from young scientists (< 35 years) has been extended to two 1-hour sessions. Thus, 10 short oral presentations will be selected on the basis of submitted abstracts (10 minutes for presentation & 2 minutes for discussion). **Dead-line for abstract submission (for oral and poster) is Friday 25/11/2005** (*via the BeSHG web-site: <http://www.beshg.be>*). First authors will be notified early January. **Registration** should also be done **via the BeSHG web-site** only. As we try to make a well-updated list of the BeSHG membership, please fill-in carefully all fields.

Like last year, a reception will be organized at the end of the scientific meeting. **The best poster award** will be handed to the first author of the best poster during this reception.

Several companies working in the field of molecular genetics will also be present in Antwerp. Use the opportunity to improve your knowledge on their products.

***Mark 17/2/2006 in your agenda for BeSHG Antwerp & register via the web!***

***Extraordinary General assembly (7/10/2005)***


An Extraordinary General Assembly was held in VUB on 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2005. Many members were present in person (28) or by a procuration (36), and the new statutes were approved unanimously by the votes that were present and given (n=64), representing 80% of the membership (> 2/3 needed by the BeSHG statutes). In addition to the changes required by the new laws on non-profit organizations, we also changed the duration of board memberships from 2 to 4 years. Thus, we can avoid yearly elections, and hold them only on even years.

***Next General Assembly***

will take place in **Antwerp, on Friday 17th of February 2006 at 12.30**. A proposal concerning the lengths of board memberships during the transition phase (old towards new statutes) and BeSHG internal rules will be discussed. Election of 4 board members (for a 4-year mandat) will also take place. Candidatures can be e-mailed to the President until 31/12/2005.

BeSHG c/o Prof. Miikka Vikkula, Laboratory of Human Molecular Genetics (GEHU),  
 Christian de Duve Institute of Cellular Pathology & UCL, Avenue Hippocrate 74, 5th floor

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**Sixth Annual Meeting**  
**Friday, 17 February 2006, Antwerp**

# New Developments in Genetics

08.30 - 09.15	<i>Registration (coffee and croissants)</i>
09.15 - 09.30	<b>Introduction</b> Miikka Vikkula, president BeSHG
09.30 - 10.00	<b>Genomic Variability within an Organism Exposes its Cell Lineage Tree</b> Ehud Shapiro (Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel)
10.00 - 10.30	<b>Whole Genome Association Studies Using the Quebec Founder Population</b> John Raelson (Genizon Biosciences, Quebec, Canada)
10.30 - 11.00	<b>Genetics of Deficits in the Sense of Taste</b> Dennis Drayna (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA)
11.00 - 11.30	<i>Coffee</i>
11.30 - 12.30	<b>Selected Oral Presentations by Young Investigators</b>
12.30 - 13.15	<b>General Assembly</b>
13.15 - 15.00	<i>Lunch and Posters</i>
15.00 - 16.00	<b>Selected Oral Presentations by Young Investigators</b>
16.00 - 16.30	<b>Noninvasive Prenatal Diagnosis</b> Maj Hulten (University of Warwick, UK)
16.30 - 17.00	<b>Clinical Applications of Stem Cell Therapy</b> Catherine Verfaillie (University of Leuven, Belgium)
17.00 - 17.15	<b>Conclusion</b>
17.15 - 18.00	<b>Reception</b>

University of Antwerp - Campus Drie Eiken  
Information: [www.beshg.be](http://www.beshg.be)  
Tel: 03/820 26 82 (Lizzy De Smet)

**Abstract submission dead-line: 25/11/2005**



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## **Working groups**

The annual [progress reports](#) of all the BeSHG working groups will be presented by the corresponding Presidents at the next BeSHG general assembly.

## **Our web-site: <http://www.beshg.be>. Suggestions to the board:**

Remember, as member of the BeSHG you are cordially invited to make suggestions to the board for improvement of our society's activities. One of the important activities is our web-site (<http://www.beshg.be>). The [lay-out has recently been revised](#), and we have constant efforts to make it more useful. Links to web-sites of upcoming genetic events will be put to the Links page, and all future BeSHG annual meeting abstract submissions, and registrations will be done via the web-site only. We are also creating a web-based, password-protected BeSHG membership database, allowing members to check and directly correct their address and other relevant contact information. We welcome all suggestions and comments for the further improvement of the web-site. Let us know at the Antwerp meeting or directly by e-mail.

## **Future BeSHG meetings:**

**The 2007 meeting will be held in Loverval** and Leuven has offered to host the **2008 meeting**. Other applications are welcome and can be submitted to the president of the society **until 31/12/2005**. **Decision on 2008 host will be made during the general assembly in Antwerp.**

Yours faithfully,

Frank SPELEMAN  
Secretary  
[franki.speleman@UGent.be](mailto:franki.speleman@UGent.be)

Miikka VIKKULA  
President  
[vikkula@bchm.ucl.ac.be](mailto:vikkula@bchm.ucl.ac.be)

**Don't forget [www.beshg.be](http://www.beshg.be) !**

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