

Greeting from
The President of SASP
Torsten Gordh
Uppsala, Sweden

Dear SASP members,

I would like to thank you all around 200 people who participated in our conference SASP2011 in Uppsala last May, and also to send a greeting to all SASP members.

Perhaps you can share my view that we heard about some really new things in pain research. Among many fascinating subjects, we discussed how we can use biomarkers to get a better understanding of pain pathophysiology, and to guide our treatment. I think this was the first meeting really addressing this question.

Can we get an image of a painful stimuli, or at least to the corresponding site, where the individual experiences the pain? Yes, it seems so. If we can get a deeper understanding of what is going on in the binding sites demonstrated, it may provide deeper knowledge of the actual pain generating processes. "Sub-liminal" electrical stimulation of the cerebral cortex was another new treatment presented, adding to our tool box for pain treatment. Important news from the frontlines of research from the Caring sciences was presented.

We saw many research- and social interactions between young scientists and the "pain veterans". Clinicians from many specialties and professions were there, net-working with researchers from basic science. To create an arena facilitating such fruitful meetings is one of the main goals of SASP, and I believe that it happened.

The poster presentations kept a high level, and gave a good idea about the ongoing pain research in Scandinavia. The four poster prize winners (Congratulations!) are presented at our web site.

All the participants in the Uppsala meeting had a SASP membership for 2011, and a subscription of our journal, the Scandinavian Journal of Pain, included in their conference fee. The four issues of 2011 will soon arrive in your mailbox.

Thank you for being member of SASP! Together we make a difference in pain research! If you think that SASP is a good society, worthwhile to be a member of, please ask if some of your "pain colleagues" would like to join too!

Now we are looking forward to SASP 2012 in Aarhus, Denmark, April 19-22. I am sure that this meeting will represent a great next step forward for Scandinavian pain research.

See you there!

Torsten