

Annual Meeting of the Finnish Dermatological Society (SILY)

SIRKKU PELTONEN AND OUTI KORTEKANGAS-SAVOLAINEN
 Department of Dermatology, University of Turku, Finland

The authors give a short report on the Annual meeting of the Finnish Dermatological Society in Helsinki on 13–14 March 2009. A meeting with many interesting lectures given by national and international speakers.

The Finnish Dermatological Society gathered for their Annual Symposium in the traditional venue, Hotel Kalastajatorppa (Fiskartorpet) in Helsinki on 13–14 March 2009. The symposia on Friday and Saturday attracted a record attendance of approximately 160 dermatologists. The conference was again very professionally organized by *Dr Marja Soini*, whose efforts in enabling these meetings over several years are greatly appreciated (Fig. 1).

The speakers at the Friday afternoon session included *Professor Veli-Matti Kähäri* (Fig. 2), the new Chairman of the Society, who gave a lecture on skin cancer and proteases. The international guest speaker, *Professor Andrew Finlay* (Fig. 3), from Cardiff, UK, emphasized the value of evaluating the effects of the skin disease on the patient's quality of life. The title for the Saturday symposium was "Bugs". The topics included "Cutaneous infestations and infections in travellers" by *Dr Pascal del Giudice* from Fréjus, France (Fig. 3); papular urticaria and other insect bite reactions by *Professor Timo Reunala*; and "Histopathology of insect bites" by *Dr Martine Vornanen*, both speakers from



Fig. 2. Newly elected Chairman of the Society, Professor Veli-Matti Kähäri, toasting with the traditional mug, which has the names of the former chairmen, including Maija Horsmanheimo (right). Photo: Professor Timo Reunala, University of Tampere.



Fig. 1. Dr Marja Soini received the Finnish Dermatological Society (SILY) medal for her enduring and successful work in organizing the SILY meetings. Photo: Professor Timo Reunala, University of Tampere.

Tampere. "Pogosta disease and tularaemia" were introduced by *Professor Olli Vapalahti* from Helsinki and *Dr Maria Laine* from Jyväskylä. "Skin borreliosis" was the topic presented by *Dr Jarmo Oksi* from Turku, and "Head lice and pinworms" by *Docent Eeva Salo* from Helsinki. Ten-minute patient cases were then presented by speakers from different hospitals. Altogether, the "Bug" symposium proved very interesting and received most positive feedback in the evaluation.



Fig. 3. Former Chairman of the Society, Päivikki Susitaival (left) and Pascal del Giudice (right) toasting with Professor Andrew Finlay, who was nominated as an Honorary Member of the Finnish Dermatological Society. Photo: Professor Timo Reunala, University of Tampere.