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To: The IUIS Council

Vienna, October 10, 2015

Dear colleagues,

As discussed during the ECI congress Sept. 6-9, 2015 in Vienna, I will step down as chairperson of the IUIS Quality assessment and standardization committee after a very long time of service. As promised I have put together for you an overview about the 7 Subcommittees which I have been overseeing and supporting on behalf of IUIS (attached). By now it has almost become a tradition to implement symposia in ICI or ECI congresses which allow a get together of the Subcommittee chairpersons. The last very successful symposium on "The importance of standardization for immunology" was actually held at the ECI in Vienna on September 9, 2015. As documented in the individual subcommittee reports, each of the subcommittees is very active and I therefore can hand over the subcommittees in good shape to "mother IUIS" at this point. I have attached also an Excel sheet containing the compositions of the subcommittees and the contacts to the individual subcommittee chairpersons. As discussed during the meeting with the IUIS Board in Vienna during the ECI, I recommend bringing the subcommittees closer to IUIS because each of them has grown to an already complex little organization. In the case that the IUIS Board decides to find a new chairperson to oversee the subcommittees it will be important that this person takes care equally well for each of the subcommittees and thus feeds the children equally well because they are in my opinion big assets for IUIS.

As every year, I enclose also a detailed financial report which now lists the account balance for 2014 and 2015 and provides details about expenses and incomes. I plan to close the account once I have reimbursed the subcommittee chairs regarding their

expenses for coming to the symposium at the ECI and will transfer any money which is left back to IUIS together with a final balance. I suggest that the new support for the subcommittees is already given by IUIS and/or by the new committee chair.

Let me tell you that it has been a big pleasure and tremendous experience to serve for IUIS. It has opened my eyes not only for the field of immunology outside my special area but also for the world, in particular for those parts of the world where it is difficult for immunologists to perform research, to teach and help patients. It is my firm plan to continue collaborations with scientists from such countries in the future because I find it very rewarding not only personally but also professionally to work with them together to combat with medical problems in the developing world.

Sincerely yours,

Rudolf Valenta