

competence, sharing expertise, and encouraging one another in ethical conduct. One example of the Society's activity in this field is the establishment of quality guidelines and standards for genetic services. Recently, the Eucromic concerted action produced very interesting guidelines for genetic laboratories and clinics on prenatal diagnosis from fetal biopsies obtained by invasive procedures. These guidelines are open for discussion within the society on our web site. Please comment on them. Another

example is the organisation of forums like the one we will have late tomorrow afternoon on the peer review system in Europe, a very hot, very rarely addressed topic. Finally, the ESHG aims at promoting research.

We expect three full days of exciting scientific sessions. They are dedicated to our youngest colleagues in this audience who are attending an international meeting for the first time. Enjoy your meeting, enjoy your colleagues, enjoy your life.

Announcement

The proceedings of the European Society of Human Genetics (ESHG) congress held in Genoa, Italy, on May 17–20, 1997 have now appeared in volume 2 of *Medizinische Genetik*, volume '97. The selected abstracts can now be referenced as published in *Medizinische Genetik*.

The ESHG thanks the editor-in-chief, Christine Scholtz, and the head of the editorial board, Prof. Murken, for having accepted to offer a full issue of their journal for the publication of the proceedings.