



International Society of Surgery (ISS)
Soci t  Internationale de Chirurgie (SIC)

NEWSLETTER

June 2006

Welcome Address by the President



Masaki Kitajima
President ISS/SIC

Dear Colleagues,

Time is running! We still have in our mind most memorable events from Durban and South Africa and yet, only a year from now our 42nd World Congress of Surgery, the International Surgical Week ISW2007 will be held in Montr al, Canada.

It is my firm intention to put all my effort in making distinct progress in Montr al 2007 in the 3 following areas:

First I would like to emphasize the prominent importance of a sound and motivating education of young surgeons and this concerns more than just surgical technique! I want to help them in finding a bright future in their beautiful profession. We have a moral commitment towards the young surgeons that must be perpetuated from generation to generation, among the disciplines, subspecialties and indeed different areas of the world. As President of ISS/SIC I have a global vision about training of young surgeons.

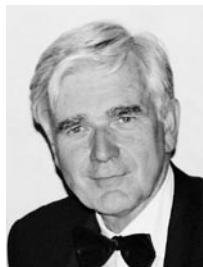
Secondly the same standards have to be aimed at all over the world. This will help building bridges between general surgeons wherever they may be and specialists in the developed countries. As the oldest international surgical society this group has an obligation to disseminate knowledge and to set standards for its application.

Finally we must build up a solid and reliable financial background that will allow us to implement our aims.

Before or after ISW2007 in Montr al you and your family will love to have a holiday in the interesting cities and the beautiful country of Canada. Don't miss this chance of combining your professional goals with those of your family!

Masaki Kitajima
President ISS/SIC

The word of the General Secretary



Felix Harder
Secretary General

Dear member

It is halftime between Durban and Montréal. Durban was a winner in every respect. It now looks that Montréal will certainly measure up to it. And here are some news I would like to share with you.

Good News

Membership is up, 191 new members have joined since the Durban Congress. The World Journal is doing very well and our new contract with Springer Verlag is a success. Our members have instant online access from anywhere to as much as 11 other surgical journals from Springer now (see listing at the end of this article). Young surgeons (below age 35 years) may join ISS/SIC as junior members for only 67.50 per year and take advantage of full membership with all rights and privileges such as WJS subscription (which makes a printed copy cost just 5.60), reduced registration fees to our congresses, on-line access as mentioned above and also to all back-issues of WJS. Quite a deal, no? So please do inform your junior surgeons around and your colleagues, bring them to ISS/SIC! They won't regret it. They will enormously appreciate meeting surgeons of all kind from around the world.

Set the agenda for Montréal



International
Surgical Week
ISW 2007

The Preliminary Program of the Montréal Congress is in its final steps of preparation and soon will be fully available on the congress homepage at www.isw2007.org. In addition all members of ISS/SIC including integrated societies as well as members of the participating societies soon will be provided with a paper copy. Since this will be the only printed publication before the congress, updates will be available perio-

dically on the homepage. Therefore please consult the congress homepage before your travel to Montréal for ISW 2007. If you have not received your paper copy by August this year, please do not hesitate to contact our office in Pratteln at surgery@iss-sic.ch.

Our International Surgical Week in Montréal, ISW 2007, starts on Sunday August 26th with an inspiring opening ceremony, the scientific program will begin on Monday morning and end on Thursday, August 30th, late afternoon. You may at any time follow the scientific and social programs as they evolve over the next months on our homepage for ISW (www.isw2007.org) and find all other related information and deadlines. For registration use the same homepage and be sure to meet the deadlines for early registration and abstract submission, all on-line. The important deadlines are listed below:

- **January 5, 2007**
Deadline for abstract submission (on-line only)
- **January 31, 2007**
Deadline for advance registration fee (ISS/SIC Members only)

The Académie Française will set up special sessions in French. Pay attention to pre- and post-congress workshops and courses like e.g. the ultrasound course or the DSTC course that have been quite successful in the past.



The official congress headquarters hotel will be the Delta Hotel. However, Integrated Societies may choose their own "headquarter hotels".

The **official Carriers for ISW 2007 is Air Canada with its Star Alliance Partners.** As you very well know Canada and Quebec in particular are most scenic and particularly suited for trips and out-door activities with your family before or after the congress. Here again our homepage will present a rich choice to you.

It is highly satisfactory, stimulating and fun to be part of this very large, diverse and truly international group of surgeons, specialists as well as generalists who have a lot to offer, to give and take. Play an active role, be part of it, come to Montréal and convince a colleague to become a member!

I am looking forward to seeing you again in Montréal!

Felix Harder
Secretary General

Photo credit: Société du Vieux-Port de Montréal



Various events since Durban

2nd International Symposium in Riyadh

On April 1 to 3, 2006 the Saudi Arabian Society of Surgery has held a well attended and attractive congress of an outstanding level in Riyadh with the active participation of ISS/SIC. Albrecht Encke from Frankfurt was accompanied by a number of other ISS-delegates and lecturers from Germany, USA and Australia. The hosts have to be commended for their extremely generous welcome and coaching.

Postgraduate Course & Lectures at RCST Congress

Within the frame of the annual meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand (July 8-10, 2006) Rüdiger Siewert will hold a one day workshop on common techniques in GI-surgery and has also organised a number of lectures there given by members of ISS/SIC. The detailed program can be viewed through the ISS/SIC Homepage www.iss-sic.ch.

In this manner ISS/SIC would also like to express its gratitude and recognition towards our Thai colleagues who have made such an admirable effort - in vain – to host us in 2003. But SARS, the Iraq war and terror warnings have ruined their initiative.



To our National Chapters

I would like to particularly remind our much valued National Delegates and Representatives who have committed themselves to promote the aims and activities as well as membership in this society and who work hard at linking their Chapter to the Society and its Executive Committee of the following: please do pay attention to changes in our newly modified Constitution. There will e.g. no longer be an International Committee Meeting held in Montréal or at any time in the future. So nominations for Honorary Membership or for Prize Winners should be made by way of the National Delegate in the name of the National Chapter in writing before the end of 2006 by using the official

form available on the homepage www.iss-sic.ch. And please also do spread the message of the possibility of junior membership, support young surgeons and promote membership in general.

Where will we be going next, after Montréal?

- **ISW 2009 in Adelaide**, Australia, September 6-10, 2009
- **ISW2011 in Yokohama**, Japan. Dates not yet confirmed
- **ISW 2013 Europe**: not yet decided

According to our "Criteria to host a future ISW" the venue will concern an area of Europe. As of now the following official bids have been made by National Chapters of ISS/SIC: Finland (Helsinki), Greece (Athens), Italy (Venice), Netherlands (Amsterdam) Switzerland (Basel). Additional invitations by other European National Chapters are in progress and are expected to be received before the end of the year.

Access to electronic Journals

The list of surgical Springer Journals freely accessible on-line for ISS/SIC members and junior members includes:

1. Annals of Surgical Oncology
2. Annals of Vascular Surgery
3. Archives of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery
4. Diseases of the Colon & Rectum
5. International Journal of Colorectal Diseases
6. Journal of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery
7. Langenbeck's Archives of Surgery
8. Neurosurgical Review
9. Pediatric Surgery International
10. Surgical Endoscopy
11. Surgery Today

Members in good standing will get their personal password from the ISS/SIC Secretariat in Pratteln by e-mail upon written request (surgery@iss-sic.ch).

ISS/SIC Lecture at the ACS Congress

The already traditional ISS/SIC Lecture will again be a highlight session at the ACS congress in Chicago on Wednesday, October 11, 2006 from 15.00 to 16.00. Professor Henrik Khelet, Professor of Perioperative Therapy at Copenhagen University has been invited to give the lecture. The title for the lecture is „Fast-track Surgery - From here to where?“. We encourage all ISS/SIC members but also non-members to attend this interesting and stimulating lecture.

Report by the General Treasurer



Ken Boffard
General Treasurer

Situation of the finances 2005

After having been elected General Treasurer at the Durban Congress in August last year, I have taken the opportunity for a personal visit in Europe to visit and inspect the ISS/SIC Headquarters offices in Pratteln by the end of April. Victor Bertschi and Chris Storz have shown me all concerned documents and we have discussed any further steps. My major interest was concentrated to the books of ISS/SIC and all money and banking related documents of the year 2005. I was pleased to find as expected all documents in good order. All my questions were answered to my entire satisfaction. I was also pleased to learn that the balance of the year 2005 ends with quite positive figures above the budget, despite the fact that the Durban Congress profit is only partly included. We expect that the VAT situation in South Africa will be clarified and settled soon and therefore the final statement of the Durban Congress can be integrated in the books of this year. The results of the years 2005 and 2006 will be presented to the membership for approval by the General Assembly at the Montréal Congress in 2007.

Dues payments & reminders

It appears that some members still have not reacted to the invoice for the dues 2006. In case you will find a reminder attached to this Newsletter, it is obvious that the Secretariat in Pratteln has not yet received your transfer. Therefore please react immediately and honour our invoice by returning the Credit Card Mail order form duly completed or arrange transfer of the owed dues by bank or cheque.

IATSIC Business & Finances

At the occasion of my visit in Pratteln, also progress of the newly to Pratteln transferred IATSIC Secretariat and DSTC course organization was reviewed and updated accordingly. All IATSIC related concerns should be addressed to iatsic@iss-sic.ch

Ken Boffard
General Treasurer

Report Secretary Treasurer ISS-Foundation



*Jay L. Grosfeld
Honorary Secretary-
Treasurer*

Dear ISS/SIC members,

In the current era, the goals of ISS/SIC are to promote high standards in the practice and art of surgery, to support the advancement of science within and among specialties through clinical investigation and laboratory research, to guarantee general surgery as an important training base, to establish collegiality and to facilitate the exchange of ideas on a formal as well as on an informal basis.

The ISS Foundation was established as a separate organization to allow ISS members and friends to endow a fellowship fund through voluntary contributions. The purpose of the fund is to support individuals and projects that enrich and extend the horizons of surgery and surgical science with special emphasis on scientific research, educational projects, exchange of scientific education and knowledge, and special travel scholar grants to achieve these objectives. The Foundation is a nonprofit, tax exempt 501C3 corporation legally registered in the State of Illinois, USA. Therefore, all contributions to the Foundation are fully deductible as charitable donations to the extent permitted by the law.

At present the Foundation continues to support the ISSF Travel Scholars Fund. These competitive grants permit talented young surgeons from developing countries to attend International Surgical Week and meet surgical colleagues from just about everywhere in the world. This unique opportunity to share knowledge, exchange ideas and subsequently influence the improvement of surgical care in their native countries is an extremely valuable and worthwhile experience. Travel scholars are exposed to new information emanating from innovative progress in surgical practice, research and education in general surgery and many specialized fields that participate in the International Surgical Week activities.

There were five outstanding individuals chosen among 32 applicants to attend the International Surgical Week in Durban, South Africa from August 21-25,

2005. These individuals included: Yevgina Kryuchyna, MD, PhD from the Kyiv Liver and Pancreas Center in Kyiv, Ukraine, Gajanan Dwarkanath Waghlikar, MBBS a Consultant Gastrointestinal surgeon from Pune, India, Narimantes Evaldas Samalavicius MD, PhD, National Oncology Institute, Vilnius, Lithuania, Mehmet Hacıyanli MD an endocrine surgeon from the Training and Research Hospital, Izmir, Turkey, and Arcot Rekha, MBBS, a Trauma and Breast surgeon from Chennai, India. Three of the five scholars had presentations or posters at the ISW-Durban meeting. In addition, as a one time effort, the Foundation provided separate funding in the amount of \$20,000 to award twenty \$1,000 travel stipends to worthy surgical applicants from the African continent to attend the Durban meeting. This was very well received by the surgeons in the African countries and permitted access to a very successful and enlightening ISW in Durban for these individuals who might not have otherwise been able to experience this unusual opportunity.

The ISS-Foundation Board has recommended awarding ten \$2,000 stipends for individuals to attend the next ISW meeting in Montréal, August 26-30, 2007. An announcement outlining the competitive application process will be posted in the World Journal of Surgery shortly. The ISS/SIC plans to waive the meeting registration fee at ISW for successful grant recipients.

The ISS-Foundation is mainly supported by donations from ISS/SIC members. We are hopeful that a culture of philanthropy can be established and members will develop a sense of responsibility to nurture the future of their profession by contributing at a higher level than they have in the past. Contributions to the ISSF in any amount are greatly appreciated. These gifts can be directed individually to our office or through the donor's participating and or integrated society to the ISSF. Growth in the Corpus of the Foundation will allow us to eventually expand our abilities to support other worthy projects to achieve the objectives of both the ISS/SIC and the Foundation. We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Jay L. Grosfeld, MD
Secretary-Treasurer, ISS-Foundation

ISSF
c/o Jay L. Grosfeld, MD
Riley Children's Hospital
702 Barnhill Drive-Suite 2500
Indianapolis, IN 46202, USA
Tel +1 317 274-5716
Fax +1 317 274-5777
Email: jgrosfel@iupui.edu

Congresses supported by ISS/SIC

20th World Congress of Digestive Surgery in Rome

The International Society for Digestive Surgery ISDS will hold its biennial congress from November 29 until December 2, 2006 in Rome, Italy. This congress is supported by ISS/SIC with the ISS-Lecture which will be given by our president M. Kitajima. Further details about the registration and scientific program are available on the congress homepage at www.20ids.com or www.isds-cicd.org



7th World Congress on Trauma, Shock, Inflammation and Sepsis – TSIS2007

will be held from March 13 to 17, 2007 at Klinikum Grosshadern in Munich, Germany. ISS/SIC is supporting this Congress as a co-sponsor. Information can be obtained at www.TSIS2007.org or by direct contacting Eugen Faist at eugen.faist@med.uni-muenchen.de .

The 7th International Gastric Cancer Congress

will take place at the Gran Meliá WTC São Paulo Hotel, São Paulo, Brazil, from May 7 to 12, 2007. This is the first time in the history of this meeting that a Latin American city has the honour of hosting this event. Detailed information is available at: www.7igcc.com

IAES News



Henning Dralle
President IAES



Gerard M. Doherty
Secretary-Treasurer
IAES

I am very honoured by the privilege of serving you as IAES President. I would like to thank Malcolm Wheeler for all his hard work and extreme dedication as our past president. Malcolm has been a great part of this society for many years. We are blessed and fortunate to have him continue as part of our council. Congratulations to all who were able to attend the IAES meeting in South Africa. It was a great success. We had several highlight speakers, including Rob Udelsman, Jon van Heerden, Jacques Marescaux and Oliver Gimm. We thank them all for all of their wonderful contributions. We have had only one change on the council. Peter Goretzki's term is completed and we thank him for all his support during the past six years. Our new council member is C.Y.Lo from Hong Kong. We look forward to working with him. We also look forward to working with Bob Parkyn from Australia. He will be an ad hoc member of the council and will be assisting us with the 2009 meeting in Australia.

We are making preparations for our next IAES Meeting in Montréal, August 26-30, 2007. Janice Pasioka has agreed to be our local organizer. We will have all the details of the IAES hotel and meeting info in our June IAES newsletter. The abstract deadline for the Montréal Meeting will be January 5, 2007. We hope our members will make serious efforts to prepare high quality presentations.

The membership of the IAES has continued to increase. We have already welcomed a dozen new members to IAES since the 2005 meeting in Durban, South Africa. I would like to ask all of you to continue with an active recruiting campaign. We still have many incorrect addresses. If you have an address change, please send to marykiel@umich.edu.

The World Journal of Surgery (WJS) is respected as the appropriate journal for papers accepted to the IAES

for presentation at a congress. The WJS has agreed to publish practice guidelines, presidential addresses, historical pieces, IAES meeting announcements, and an annual symposium on a topic chosen by the IAES. We congratulate Gerard Doherty, IAES secretary, who has been made an Associate Editor for endocrine papers in the WJS. Six other IAES members have been added to the editorial board in the past year, and we congratulate them also.

Upcoming Meetings

- British American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, September 14 - 15, 2006
- 8th Postgraduate Course in Endocrine Surgery, Crete, September 20 - 23, 2006
- Endocrine Surgery Video-Course, Rome, September 27 - 30, 2006

IAES Executive Council

- President - Henning Dralle (Germany)
- President Elect - Goran Akerstrom (Sweden)
- Secretary-Treasurer - Gerard Doherty (USA)
- Council Co-Coordinator- Goran Akerstrom (Sweden)

IAES Council

- Quan-Yang Duh (USA)
- Jean-Francois Henry (France)
- Chen-hsen Lee (Taiwan)
- Chung Yau Lo, M.D. (Hong Kong)
- Jacques Marescaux (France)
- Janice Pasieka (Canada)
- Hiroshi Takami (Japan)
- Bo Wangberg (Sweden)
- President Ex-Officio: Malcolm Wheeler (UK)
- Ad hoc Member: Bob Parkyn (Australia)

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Professor Richard Welbourne. He will be a great loss to our endocrine Society. Dr. Norman Thompson, Professor Emeritus at the University of Michigan and one of our former Presidents of the IAES, was kind enough to write a tribute to our late friend.

Henning Dralle
President IAES

In memoria

Richard Welbourne, a founding member of the IAES and pioneering endocrine surgeon died on August 3, 2005, in Reading at age 86 years. He was Professor of Surgical Sciences at Queen's University in Belfast from 1958-63 before leaving to become Professor of Surgery at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London University and Director, Department of Surgery, Hammersmith Hospital (1963-79). In 1979, he was made Professor of Surgical Endocrinology and held this position until his retirement in 1983 with emeritus status. This was the first such professorship in the United Kingdom and was attributed to his major contributions to this field. Upon retirement, he became Visiting Scholar, Department of Surgery at UCLA where he spent the next seven years in scholarly pursuit and writing *The History of Endocrine Surgery* which was published in 1990.

While at Hammersmith Hospital, Dick led one of the largest departments of surgery in the UK and established a reputation internationally for endocrine surgery. The postgraduate courses in surgical endocrinology that he introduced in the 1970s at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School of London University were the first in the world and were eagerly attended by an international audience and stimulated many to specialize in this evolving area. During his time at the Hammersmith, Dick led a team of outstanding endocrinologists, pathologists, radiotherapists, and basic scientists in elucidating many endocrine diseases and their optimal treatment.

One of Dick's special interests was adrenal surgical diseases including Cushing's and pheochromocytoma. He became the UK's expert in these diseases and made many important clinical contributions to their management. He first developed his interest in surgical endocrinology while at the Mayo Clinic in 1951 and 1952 where cortisone was being used successfully for the first time in the perioperative management of adrenalectomized patients. Another area of his special interest was endocrine disease of the pancreas and gastrointestinal tract. One of his colleagues, Anthony Pearse, first proposed the APUD concept of neuroendocrine tumors while at the Hammersmith in 1965. Also discovered there, was that calcitonin was secreted by the thyroid parafollicular cells. Pearse then renamed them C-cells and found them to be members of the APUD series, originating from the neural crest. Another colleague and outstanding pathologist, Dillwyn Williams (1966), was the first to recognize that medullary carcinoma arose from C-cells, secreted calcitonin in large quantities, and could be detected by bioassay in the blood. He also was the first to describe what we now know as the MEN type 2 syndromes. The

Hammersmith, under Dick's leadership, became the world's leading center for new discoveries, concepts, and management of endocrine surgical diseases. In addition to endocrine surgery, Dick was deeply interested in medical ethics and was a founder of the London Institute of Medical Ethics and first chairman of its Council. He and several colleagues wrote the *Dictionary of Medical Ethics* in 1977.

Many of us will remember Dick's eloquent lectures which were always anticipated and greeted with enthusiasm. His leadership ability was well recognized and he held office in many professional associations including being President of the Surgical Research Society and was a founder and first President of the British Association of Endocrine Surgeons. Dick received many honors during his lifetime to commensurate with his professional achievements. Among these were honorary M.D. from the Karolinska, an honorary Doctorate of Science (Queen's University Belfast), an honorary MRCS from Denmark, and honorary Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons, as well as other prestigious societies.

Dick Welbourne truly had a distinguished professional career dedicated to the advancement of endocrine surgery. He was indeed a pioneer when this field was evolving as a specialty and was an inspiration for many of us who were to follow his lead. He will long be remembered by those of us who were privileged to be his associates in the IAES. We will miss you Dick for your warm friendship and wise council.

IATSIC News



Ari Leppäniemi
President IATSIC



Erwin R. Thal
**Secretary-Treasurer
IATSIC**

The past several months have seen a flurry of activity on the part of many committees and sub-committees of IATSIC.

The program for the Montréal meeting in 2007 has now largely been set. It promises to be an exciting mix of symposia addressing issues of interest to trauma surgeons, combined sessions with groups such as ISBI, IASMEN, AAST and TAC, and interactive case presentations. There will be the usual opportunities for free papers and posters. A highlight of the meeting will be the inaugural Donald D. Trunkey Lecture presented on this occasion by Don himself.

Examples of topics to be addressed will include:

- Acute care surgery around the world
- Damage control surgery
- Challenges in pelvic surgery
- Necrotizing soft tissue infections
- Surgical techniques in trauma

Some of the numerous internationally renowned trauma specialists include:

- Don Trunkey
- Ari Leppäniemi
- Ken Boffard
- Gene Moore
- Basil Pruitt
- Ian Civil

and many more.

It is not too early to submit abstracts for the IATSIC/AAST scientific session. We welcome papers on any subject related to the care of the injured. Please submit your trauma abstract by the regular submission procedure via internet as described on the congress homepage (www.isw2007.org). The IATSIC scientific committee will then select abstracts for this special session.

The Membership Committee has evaluated several applications and recommended to the Executive Committee that the following surgeons be accepted as new members.

- Dietrich Doll (Germany)
- Andrew Peitzman (USA)
- Timothy Hardcastle (South Africa)
- Andronikos Karasakalides (Greece)
- Eloy Rendon Castillo (Mexico)
- Aviel Roy-Shapira (Israel)

New certificates reflecting our name change (International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care) are now being sent out to the membership. If you have not received a new certificate you may do so by sending the following information by e-mail (iatsic@iss-sic.ch) to our central office in Switzerland.

- Name
- Institution and country
- Current mailing address
- Date (year) of joining IATSIC
- Current e-mail address

All those who are current in their dues payments to both the ISS/SIC and IATSIC will be eligible to receive the new certificate.

IATSIC is actively soliciting new members. The application process has been simplified so that all a candidate has to do is check the IATSIC box on the ISS/SIC application form. Once ISS/SIC approves the application the information will automatically be forwarded to IATSIC for consideration by our membership committee. The decision of the committee will be sent back to the central office and new members will receive their certificate in the ISS/SIC notification package.

The Definitive Surgical Trauma Care (DSTC) subcommittee has been extremely busy. Ken Boffard and Michael Sugrue have been engaged in numerous conversations and teleconference calls as they work to improve, define and implement a cohesive course that will be acceptable to all countries throughout the world. Specifically course content and timetables are being codified allowing flexibility for additional modules at the discretion of the sponsoring organization. A decision was made that beginning in January 2006 all courses would be coordinated by the central office in Switzerland. Applications to conduct a course should be made by contacting the ISS office at iatsic@iss-sic.ch. Those groups desiring manuals for the course should likewise contact the central office in good time (at least 3 months before the planned date).

Inaugural DSTC courses were held in Hong Kong and Thailand this past January and were very successful. Other courses to be held this year include:

- Singapore - March 30-31
- Portugal (Oporto) - April 20-21
- Spain (Madrid) - April 24-25
- Sweden (Ostersund) - May 3-5
- Canada (Vancouver) - May 8-9
- South Africa (Johannesburg) - June and October – Dates to be confirmed
- Israel (Haifa) - July 19-21
- Australia (Sydney) - July 26-27
- New Zealand (Auckland) - July 31-Aug 2
- Sweden (Malmo) - September 3-5
- Austria (Graz) - September – Dates to be confirmed
- Australia (Melbourne) - November 14-15 (Military segment – November 13)
- Netherlands (Nijmegen) - December – Dates to be confirmed

The National Trauma Management Course (NTMC) was designed for developing countries spearheaded by India. Two courses were held in February with additional courses scheduled for April, September and December. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the central office in Switzerland.

The Essential Trauma Care Project represents an effort to promulgate affordable, sustainable minimum standards for care of the injured, which can realistically be achieved in all countries. These standards are outlined in the Guidelines for Essential Trauma Care, which is a joint publication of IATSIC and the World Health Organization. Additional ways in which to promote the course are being undertaken. The organization is soliciting the endorsement of surgical colleges and societies around the world for the Guidelines. Attempts are being made to promote the introduction and passage of a World Health Assembly (WHA) resolution on trauma and emergency care services based on the Guidelines and a related document, Prehospital Trauma Care Systems. The WHA is the governing board of the WHO and consists of every minister of health, or their designate, from all UN member states. WHA resolutions are often very influential in terms of changing national health policy, increasing the interest of donors, and setting the direction for WHO priorities. IATSIC members are working with colleagues in several countries and with representatives of several ministries of health to promote the introduction and passage of such a resolution.

The World Journal of Surgery is the official publication of the ISS/SIC and continues to flourish. IATSIC is well represented as our President Dr. Ari Leppäniemi

has been appointed as an Associate Editor. Dr. Ernest Moore continues as an International Associate Editor, and Drs. Ronald Maier and Donald Trunkey continue to serve as Editorial Board members. The Journal will publish special symposium issues starting in 2007, and one of them will be organized by IATSIC on practical trauma surgery.

Finally, a gentle reminder to make sure your dues are paid on time and your membership stays current. We welcome correspondence and suggestions and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Erwin R. Thal, MD
Secretary/Treasurer IATSIC

BSI News

News from the BSI



Raimund Jakesz
President BSI



Gaurav Agarwal
Secretary BSI

The Breast Surgery International is witnessing an increased interest in its membership from breast surgeons around the world, and more significantly from surgeons in many developing nations. Many from the underdeveloped countries have expressed the desire to join the society, but as constrained by the current membership fee structure. We hereby request the membership of ISS/SIC to encourage and propose breast surgeons in your region for membership of the BSI. Our society, meanwhile, is continuing with its efforts to assist "Developing quality breast cancer care in the Developing countries". The BSI international guest faculty have participated, and have committed to support future continuing medical education programs and workshops in various corners of the developing world. BSI is committed to support the XIV SIS world congress of breast diseases held in Croatia, May 2006; a joint postgraduate course of the Breast Association of Nigeria and BSI to be held later this year; joint meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand and ISS at Pattaya, Thailand in July 2006; and 2nd SGPGI Breast Course at Lucknow, India on 25-27 November 2006, amongst others. The BSI would welcome any further proposals for supporting future workshops and postgraduate courses, especially in the developing countries. Members from developing countries are requested to chalk out appropriate academia program for a course, keeping the academic interest of local participants in mind, and the society would try and arrange for a few international guest speakers' participation, besides extending all possible assistance.

After a long wait, the updated and renewed BSI home page is now available. It can be accessed either through the link for integrated societies on the ISS/SIC web-site www.iss-sic.ch or through the URL www.breast-surg-intl.org. Besides the updated information about the current activities, future meetings and plans of the society, many more new features are planned for the web-site. Suggestions and feed back on the

best possible use of the BSI web-pages are welcome from the BSI members as well as the wider membership of the ISS/SIC, and may be submitted to the web-master through the BSI web-site or directly. As in the past, the link to a panel of "International Guest Faculty" is provided. These eminent breast surgeons who have volunteered to receive visitors and to travel to overseas institutions to share knowledge in the field of breast surgery can be contacted through the web-site. Any BSI members willing to act as an international guest faculty are requested to write to the secretary with their information.

BSI stands committed to improving the number and quality of breast surgery related articles published in World Journal of Surgery, the official journal of ISS/SIC and BSI. Members are requested to consider submitting their quality original work relating to breast surgery for publication to the World Journal of Surgery. BSI plans to invite full length manuscripts of the papers selected for presentation in the BSI best paper award session at the International Surgical Week, as well as symposia convenors and speakers to submit full length manuscripts on contentious issues based on the proceedings of the BSI symposia.

BSI Scientific Program at ISW 2007, Montreal Canada

The program committee and convenors & moderators of various symposia and sessions are working hard to chalk out an interesting 2007 BSI sectional program. Besides the usual features, new interesting sessions are planned, which include morning educational sessions and debates, and a lunch time video session. Symposia on contentious breast surgical issues such as hereditary breast cancers, emerging technologies in breast surgery, debate on SLN micrometastases, debates on adjuvant treatment, oncoplastic breast cancer surgery, and breast cancer issues in developing countries are planned. The pre-congress postgraduate course is expected to attract large interest as it did in the Durban ISW a year ago. All the sessions would be deliberated by distinguished faculty of surgeons and invited experts. The free paper sessions of the BSI have attracted high numbers of quality research abstracts in the past and have been well attended. We would urge you to send your best breast surgery related clinical and research work for presentation in the free paper session. All abstracts must be submitted on-line through the congress homepage at www.isw2007.org. Six abstracts will be selected to be presented in the BSI best paper award session, and to submit full length manuscripts before the meeting which would enjoy a fast-track publication in the World Journal of Surgery. Of course, other presenters too are welcome to submit manuscripts of their presentations for publication in the World Journal of Surgery.

With the very best wishes, on behalf of the BSI council

Gaurav Agarwal
Secretary, BSI

gaurav@saggi.ac.in



International
Surgical Week
ISW 2007

42nd World Congress of the International Society of Surgery ISS/SIC

ISW 2007

International Surgical Week

Montréal, Canada, August 26-30, 2007

www.isw2007.org

Deadline for the submission of Abstracts (on-line only): **January 5, 2007**

Scientific Secretariat ISW 2007
c/o ISS/SIC
Netzibodenstrasse 34
PO Box 1527
CH-4133 Pratteln
Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 815 9667
Fax: +41 61 811 4775
e-mail: surgery@iss-sic.ch

Congress Secretariat ISW 2007
c/o Opus 3 inc.
417 Saint-Pierre Street,
Suite 203
Montréal, QC H2Y 2M4
Canada

Congress President
Masaki Kitajima, Japan

ISW2007 Official Carriers



Tel: +1 514 906 1979
Fax: +1 514 395 1801
e-mail: isw2007@opus3.com