Welcome Message from the Congress & ISS/SIC President

Dear Members and Colleagues

Fast approaching: The 46th World Congress of Surgery in Bangkok, Thailand is fast approaching. In less than 2 months we will be meeting in Bangkok for this big event. For those who have not yet registered for the Congress please do so. At present, we have more than 1500 registered delegates, around half of them are from overseas and half from Thailand and our neighboring countries.

Bangkok, Thailand Nowadays: Bangkok has been very peaceful for over a year now. The political situation has been quite calm. People are very happy with the new government who are doing their best for the interest of the people and the country. Many new interesting things have happened recently and these include:

Newest Shopping Malls: Bangkok has more than enough shopping malls to suit

Centara Grand Hotel with Convention Centre at Central World, Bangkok (Courtesy Centara Hotel)
all kinds of lifestyles and budgets. Our top and newest shopping malls offer the best shopping experiences, in terms of diversity of products, accessible location in downtown areas and overall shopping satisfaction. Whether you are looking for the most upscale, the trendiest, the funkiest, or the most specialized, you will find them among these new and also old shopping malls in Bangkok.

**New Floating market in Bangkok at the Khlong Phadung Krung Kasem:** The Bangkok Floating Market is showcasing delights of Thai arts and crafts, souvenirs and delicacies from six floating markets and five land-based markets from Bangkok and the neighboring provinces.

**Asiatique The Riverfront:** The Riverfront is the newest Bangkok Night Market, opened in May 2012. Actually it’s more than a typical night market – it could also be called a shopping and lifestyle complex. But the main place is a shopping area located in the old warehouses of the East Asiatic Company. The Riverfront is a homage to Bangkok’s past as a riverside trading post during the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century. Originally this was the pier where a lot of the teak wood trade took place. Located on the grounds which formerly belonged to a Danish trading company, many of the original buildings have been retained.

**Scientific Program:** As usual, with very strong support from our integrated and participating societies, the scientific program has been arranged very intensively and educationally. The program will be running in 12 rooms simultaneously. With the joint collaboration of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand, the program by Thai counterpart is also very intensive and cover those areas not covered by the main program, for example, urology, cardiothoracic surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery and neurosurgery.

**Social Program:** Many social programs at the Congress include

- **Sunday, August 23:** Welcome Reception in the Exhibition Hall after the Opening Ceremony which will be presided over by Professor Dr. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn.
- **Monday, August 24:** RCST Presidential Dinner at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club. Invited guests will be joining the Presidential Dinner hosted by the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club nearby.
- **Tuesday, August 25:** Society Dinner: Our integrated societies and participating societies will be holding their society dinner at various places on Tuesday night, August 25. You and your spouse will be able to meet and have a lovely dinner with your friends and their spouses from different parts of the world.
- **Wednesday, August 26:** Thai Night Dinner at Sampran Riverside: Sampran Riverside (formerly known as Rose
Garden Riverside is a family-run property close to Bangkok, where visitors can experience authentic Thai way of life and learn about our local wisdom. For decades it has been considered one of Bangkok’s favorite attractions because of the obvious dedication to preserving Thailand’s natural and cultural heritage by engaging with the local community. Sampran Riverside provides a perfect city break for a one day trip near Bangkok or an overnight trip all year round.

At this 46th World Congress of Surgery of the ISS/SIC, it will be a great time to meet your old friends and make new ones.

And we are looking forward to meeting you all in August this year in Bangkok.

Nopadol Wora-Urai, MD
ISS/SIC and Congress President
Dear Colleagues and Friends

The time is running fast, only two more months to go for the WCS 2015 in Bangkok (Workshop on 22–23 and main congress on August 24–27, 2015). Our arrangement is in a smooth progress enjoying a very satisfactory amount of all scientific programs from ISS/SIC and its Integrated Societies and Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand with almost full participation of exhibitions, sponsorship and a great numbers of invited speakers, and participants. The registration till mid June is approaching 1,500 persons including Thai counterparts of nearly 700 as expected. However, surgeons coming from big countries in Europe and Asia are still lower than expected especially from China. As we are well aware that a significant participation from China and Europe will indeed provide an even better balance for a successful event of the WCS, so please make a kind consideration!

We will not go into detail of the scientific programs which you can see from the website. However, some highlights will be briefly mentioned.

For the pre-congress workshops that will be hold in two university hospitals, Chulalongkorn and Siriraj, we still have rooms to participate. Soft cadaver hand on is offered in most programs.

“Born to be surgeon” a-3 day program is set up for global medical students to participate on a free of charge basis with the aim to encourage talent students to become surgeons to be. Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand has allocated a big sum of money for the event. Apart from the cultural exchange, medical students will enjoy Thai red-cross snake farm, boat tour to university hospitals (Siriraj and Vajira), surgical quiz, surgical case scenario and VDO contest and so on.

Recreation Parties for each Integrated society and Lady Surgeon Group are already well prepared, please do not hesitate to join. Royal College of Surgeons also organized a presidential dinner on Monday 24 at the Royal Bangkok Sport Club which is one of the highlight parties of the program as well as The Thai night party on Wednesday 26.

Siriraj Open house on Friday 28 is set for but not limit to young fellow award surgeons. Any surgeons who are interested to join seeing the facility of Siriraj Hospital which is the first and biggest hospital in Thailand (established since 1888) are welcome and free of charge.

For your sightseeing, Bangkok just lost its number one rank of the most 20 tourist destinations to London in 2014 due to political situation with more than 18 million visitors from around the world visiting last year. Only in the Central World which is located at the same area of the congress venue, we bet you could not finish your shopping in a week here. Sky walk of the BTS Sky-train can bring you to most of the tourist destinations with convenience. Best food and world best restaurants of all kinds are available in Bangkok ranging from street food shops to Michelin selects. Just want to gossip that, from Bangkok to Brussels; we just have got votes to be the first of “Top Ten Best Street Food Cities” of the world!!! Green Papaya salad, mango sticky rice, pad thai and chicken with green curry are all some of the Thai specialties of your choice.

Don’t miss this opportunity; we are looking forward to seeing you all here in Bangkok!

Sincerely yours
Supakorn Rojananin
President of LOC of the WCS 2015
A new Constitution, to increase ISS/SIC power and efficiency!

The International Society of Surgery was founded in 1902. At the congress of Belgian surgeons, on the initiative of Antoine Depage and his group with guests from France, Germany and Switzerland, it was decided to establish an international surgical society, “La Société Internationale de Chirurgie”. The permanent headquarters of this new society were to be in neutral Belgium at the invitation of the Belgian King. According to Article one of the initial statutes, the aim of the Society was to serve the progress of surgery by research and discussion. A first international congress took place in Brussels three years later.

Until 1979, when the last major constitutional changes were agreed, the official languages of the society were eight, with French as the major tongue. Most documents therefore had to be translated into several different languages. Since then, the society has become the “International Society of Surgery/Société Internationale de Chirurgie” and the only official language has become English.

More than 35 years after this last major change, it was deemed time to adapt ISS/SIC constitution according to new realities and developments, and in order to increase effectiveness and efficiency. A decision was therefore made by the Executive Committee to write a new constitution to strengthen the legal foundation of the society.

Writing a new constitution is also an opportunity to change the society’s name. There are two reasons for doing this. By using the adjective « world » instead of « international » all our three main functions will be designated in the same way:

“World Society of Surgery”, World Congress of Surgery and World Journal of Surgery. The reasoning behind this is that the implication of a « World » society is much wider than an « international » one, which may be interpreted as a society of only a few specific nations.

The new constitution will establish English as the single official language of the society.

In the new constitution only the three categories of members will be defined: individual, collective, and partner. The respective sub-categories of each will be described in the « Internal rules » (see below).

In countries with 10 or more active members, a national chapter may be constituted. As many countries do not reach this number but share similar geo-political aspects, it will be more reasonable to introduce « regional » chapters. Even if a few national chapters are constituted in the larger countries, the development of regional chapters will strengthen the voting weight of smaller ones and improve the development of specifically located activities.

Further, a specific legal structure, which has heretofore not existed, will be introduced to investigate and resolve conflictual issues between members, chapters and individual member societies. For this reason, a « Court of Honor », consisting of three honorable members will be nominated.

The Secretary General is elected for an initial term of four years and may be re-elected twice, up to a total of twelve years. He is responsible for most of the administration and organization of the society. He also communicates with several partners concerning the function and structure of the society and convenes meetings of the main boards. He conducts the correspondence of the society not otherwise provided by the Constitution. The Secretary General also performs the duties of the President in his or her absence or incapacity, or if the President elect is not available. The Secretary General thus, owing to his position, as well as the length of his service, has an unsurpassed breadth of knowledge of the society, important in relation to communication with outside bodies.

The former constitution listed many unnecessary specific constitutional restrictions. Any change or amendment had first to be accepted by the Executive Committee before being submitted to the next biennial General Assembly (GA) for final vote. This process takes too long. In order, therefore, to improve efficiency, the constitution will be divided into two separate segments. The first (Constitution) will mention general rules of function of the society and will still need to be accepted by the GA. The second, the « Internal Rules » will cover specific details and practical aspects and will only need to be accepted by the Executive Committee.

A draft version of the « Internal Rules » will be put to the Executive Committee at its next meeting on 22 August 2015. It will then be available at the ISS/SIC booth at the Bangkok Congress to all interested members prior to the GA.

The New Constitution of the World Society of Surgery is therefore published below. It has already been accepted by the Executive Committee of the ISS/SIC.

We trust that the next GA, which will be held in Bangkok on Thursday, 27 August 2015, will concur with these changes which will serve to move our society forward in this new Millennium!

Jean-Claude Givel
Secretary General ISS/SIC
CONSTITUTION
of the World Society of Surgery – WSS
Advancing the Science and Art of Surgery Worldwide

1. NAME AND SEAT

1.1. A non-profit association is established under the name of “World Society of Surgery – WSS” (the “Society”) in accordance with Article 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code.

1.2. The Society was founded under the name of “International Society of Surgery/Société Internationale de Chirurgie” in Brussels (Belgium) on September 9, 1902. Its seat was transferred to Switzerland on January 1, 1980.

1.3. The official language of the Society is English.

1.4. The Seat of the Society within Switzerland is determined by the Executive Committee. Except as otherwise determined by the Executive Committee, the Seat is with the Administrative Office.

1.5. The transfer of the Seat of the Society outside Switzerland shall be decided by the General Assembly by the affirmative vote of a majority of two-thirds of the members present.

2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

2.1. The purpose of the Society is the advancement of the science and art of surgery, worldwide.

2.2. The objectives of the Society are:

2.2.1. to hold the World Congress of Surgery (the “Congress”), a biennial event where present progress and problems of interest to all surgeons are presented. The Congress also offers venues for simultaneous meetings of various surgical specialties provided during joint presentations, panels and workshops;

2.2.2. to promote and facilitate surgical education worldwide through the activities of the Academy of the Society (the “Academy”), which is responsible for promoting, coordinating and facilitating the teaching activities of the Society, including regional scientific meetings and courses to be held under the auspices of the Society; and

2.2.3. to disseminate knowledge of the science and art of surgery through the regular publication of the World Journal of Surgery (the “Journal”), the official organ of the Society, as well as through the publication of books, manuals and newsletters.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1. All persons and entities who identify themselves with the purpose and the objectives of the Society may apply for membership.

3.2. Subject to the terms of this Constitution, applicable criteria for membership shall be determined as set forth in the Internal Rules (as defined below). Subject to the terms of this Constitution, the Internal Rules shall define the membership categories and identify the rights and duties of the members and the procedures for the acquisition and loss of membership.

3.3. Individual Members: Medical doctors or non-medical scientists who have received academic training in a field of surgery or life science and who are or have been engaged as their main professional endeavor in a career involving a recognized field of surgery or life science, including the care of the critically ill and/or who have been recognized for their expertise in surgical research.

3.4. Collective Members: Members of independent legal entities bound to the Society by individual contract approved by the Executive Committee, who all are and qualify as Individual Members that enjoy full membership privileges and are subject to all membership duties. Each Collective Member will be entitled to delegate one representative with voting rights to the Executive Committee and to the Program Committee of the Society, and to be represented on the Editorial Board of the Journal, as further specified in the Internal Rules.

3.5. Partner Members: Independent legal entities, as may be further specified in the Internal Rules, bound to the Society by individual contract approved by the Executive Committee, whose members do not all qualify as Individual Members as per Article 3.2. Partner Members shall be considered as one member of the Society, enjoying the membership privileges and subject to the membership duties as per the individual contract and as further specified in the Internal Rules.

4. ORGANIZATION

4.1. The organs of the Society are:

4.1.1. the General Assembly;

4.1.2. the Executive Committee;

4.1.3. the Permanent and ad-hoc Boards and Committees;

4.1.4. the Chapters;

4.1.5. the Court of Honor; and

4.1.6. the Auditors.

4.2. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY is the supreme organ of the Society and consists of all Individual Members and Partner Members of the Society. The General Assembly shall meet biennially in ordinary session during the Congress. Extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly shall be held when convened by the Executive Committee or at the request of at least one fifth of all the Individual Members of the Society.

4.2.1. The formal invitation to attend the ordinary General Assembly shall be published in a Newsletter and on the Society's website.
4.2.2. The ordinary General Assembly shall hear the report of the President and approve the accounts for the preceding financial period. The General Assembly shall elect the Officers of the Society as set forth in the Internal Rules. Furthermore, the General Assembly shall decide on the membership fees and on all items appearing on the agenda.

4.2.3. A minimum of ten members of the Society shall be entitled to request the President to include specific items in the agenda by providing written notice to the President at least two months in advance of the date of the meeting of the General Assembly; provided that items regarding an amendment to the Constitution must be proposed in accordance with Section 11.

4.2.4. The debates in the General Assembly shall be validly held, irrespective of the number of members present. Each member has one vote. Decisions and elections shall be made by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the members present. When amendments to the Constitution or the dissolution of the Society are under consideration, decision shall be made by the affirmative vote of the majority of two-thirds of the members present.

4.2.5. The Secretary General is responsible for the minutes of the meetings and shall sign them jointly with the President.

4.3. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

is the executive organ of the Society. It conducts the affairs of the Society and decides on all matters not expressly assigned to the General Assembly or to another specific organ of the Society.

4.3.1. The Executive Committee consists of the President, the President-elect, the Immediate Past-President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, four Councilors-at-large and, one representative of each Collective Member. The foregoing members of the Executive Committee have full voting rights. The Administrative Director is a permanent guest of the Executive Committee meetings, without voting right.

4.3.2. Apart from the tasks assigned by the General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to call and convene its own meetings, delegate charges, responsibilities and duties among its members and determine who is authorized to assign or otherwise act on behalf of the Society. The President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer form the Board of Directors and are responsible for urgent matters and have authority to address such matters between meetings of the Executive Committee.

4.3.3. The Executive Committee shall meet whenever it is convened by the President or the Secretary General or at the request of two of its members. The President together with the Secretary General and the Administrative Director may decide by simple majority among themselves whether a meeting shall be held in person or whether the agenda shall be submitted to the members of the Executive Committee in writing. As a rule, the Executive Committee convenes once per year in person. All other deliberations may be held and decisions validly taken by telephone-, video-conference or electronic means.

4.3.4. The deliberations of the Executive Committee are valid if more than half of its members are present at a meeting held in person or are participating by written resolution. Decisions shall be made by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the members present at a meeting held in person or participating by written resolution; if the votes are equal, the President casts the deciding vote.

4.4. THE BOARDS and COMMITTEES.

In order to fulfill specific tasks, the General Assembly or the Executive Committee may establish permanent as well as ad hoc Boards and Committees.

4.4.1. Each Board resp. Committee shall be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee.

4.4.2. At present, the following permanent Boards and Committees exist:

(a) the Program Committee;
(b) the Nominating Committee;
(c) the Academy; and
(d) the Editorial Board.

4.4.3. The Internal Rules define the Boards and Committees and their organization.

4.5. THE CHAPTERS.

The members of the Society are encouraged to form national and/or regional chapters to coordinate the activities of the Society in their area (the “Chapters”).

4.5.1. These Chapters have no independent legal identity, but are sub-organs of the Society and act as its ambassadors.

4.5.2. The Internal Rules determine their structure and organization.

4.6. THE COURT OF HONOR.

The Court of Honor is the tribunal that decides on all issues between a member of the Society and any of its organs, as well as on issues between the Society’s organs by conclusive decision.

4.6.1. The Court of Honor is composed of three honorable members appointed and re-elected biennially by the General Assembly. The Court of Honor has the authority to call its own meetings.

4.6.2. The Court of Honor has the right to call on a legal expert to ask for a legal opinion.

4.6.3. The proceedings before the Court of Honor shall be in writing, with communication by electronic means being acceptable.

4.7. THE AUDITORS.

The General Assembly shall appoint an approved trust company as statutory auditors (the “Statutory Auditors”). The Statutory Auditors shall be biennially elected/re-elected. The Statutory Auditors audit the annual accounts, and the Society’s methods of investing the assets and the portfolio of assets of the Society. The Statutory Auditors

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June 2015
shall report their audit results and methods in writing to the Executive Committee. This report, together with the annual accounts, shall be submitted to the next ordinary General Assembly for approval.

5. ADMINISTRATION

5.1. The Executive Committee shall entrust a professional administrative office with the completion of the day-to-day administration of the Society, under the supervision of the Secretary General.

5.2. This Administrative Office is bound to the Society by a contract, which shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

5.3. The head of the Administrative Office is the Administrative Director of the Society. He or she shall attend the meetings of the Executive Committee and, if appropriate, of the Boards and Committees with advisory voting power.

5.4. The Administrative Office houses the Seat of the Society and shall be its official address. All communications received by the Administrative Office on behalf of the Society shall be forwarded to the appropriate officers.

5.5. The Administrative Office shall provide the staff necessary to efficiently carry out the tasks entrusted.

6. TERMS OF OFFICE

6.1. The officers of the Society shall be as set forth in this Constitution, the Internal Rules, or as otherwise determined by the Executive Committee from time to time. A term of office begins at the end of one ordinary General Assembly and lasts until the end of the next ordinary General Assembly, which usually corresponds to a two year period.

6.2. The member elected to the office of President shall serve as President-elect for one term, followed by another term as President, followed again by an additional term as Immediate Past President. A member who serves in these offices is not eligible for re-election to these offices.

6.3. The following offices last for two terms and the office holder is eligible for re-election for the same position for a total of four terms:

6.3.1. the Secretary General
6.3.2. the Treasurer

6.4. The following office lasts for two terms and the office holder is re-eligible for the same office without limitation:

6.4.1. the Editor-in-Chief

6.5. The terms of office of the Representatives of the Collective Members are determined by the Collective Member who appoints such Representative. The same applies to the Delegates of the Chapters.

7. OFFICERS

7.1. All officers are nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the General Assembly as specified in the Internal Rules. As a rule, they serve in an honorary position and shall not have the authority to bind the Society and shall not be compensated by the Society except as set forth in these Internal Rules.

7.2. To the extent not set forth in this Constitution, the election procedure as well as the rights and duties of the officers shall be defined by the Internal Rules.

7.3. In case of absence or incapacity of the President, the President-elect shall perform his duties.

7.4. Other vacancies occurring in office shall be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors (4.3.2.) until the next ordinary General Assembly.

8. FINANCES

8.1. The Society shall raise its funds through membership fees, the Congress, and other scientific or educational events and publications, in particular, the Journal. It may also receive sponsorships, donations and be appointed as heir or legatee.

8.2. Membership fees are payable yearly in advance.

8.3. The Executive Committee may create special vessels for raising funds for specific objectives of the Society.

8.4. The members of the Society shall be exonerated from personal liability with respect to the financial commitments of the Society, which shall be guaranteed solely by the Society’s assets.

8.5. The business year of the Society shall correspond to the calendar year. The Society’s accounting books shall be closed annually and submitted to the Statutory Auditors.

8.6. The financial period for which consolidated accounts must be presented for definite approval to the ordinary General Assembly shall start on January 1st preceding the last ordinary General Assembly and end on December 31st preceding the approving ordinary General Assembly.

9. INTERNAL RULES

9.1. The Executive Committee shall establish “Internal Rules” supplementing the present Constitution.

9.2. The Internal Rules become effective with their adoption by the Executive Committee. They will then be published to the members for information purposes.

10. COMMUNICATION

10.1. The World Journal of Surgery is the official Journal of the Society. Subscription to the Journal is included in the membership fee.

10.2. The Newsletters to all members shall be the main means of communication from the Society to the members.

10.3. All communications in writing between the Society and its members, as well as among the members of its organs and the organs among themselves, are equally valid whether notified or exchanged on paper or electronically.
11. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

11.1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to the General Assembly by the Executive Committee, or by at least twenty members, subject to the terms and procedures in this Section.

11.2. Such proposals by the members must be addressed to the President in writing at least three months in advance of the General Assembly and shall include a copy of the proposed amendment and a brief explanatory statement of grounds for amendment.

11.3. Except to the extent otherwise provided in this Constitution, amendments to the Constitution require the affirmative vote of a majority of two thirds of the members present at the General Assembly.

12. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

12.1. A decision to dissolve the Society shall be taken by an extraordinary General Assembly specially convened for the purpose and by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members present at such General Assembly.

12.2. In case of dissolution of the Society, all its remaining assets shall be transferred to an organization aspiring to the same or to a similar purpose. Devolution of assets to the members of the Society is excluded.

Adopted at Bangkok, Thailand on the .......... day of August of 2015.

News from the Administrative Office

While many contributions in the Newsletter are informing about specific activities and events that will take place at the Bangkok Congress in August this year, we should like to draw your attention to some practical hints for your participation in the Congress:

The entire scientific Program, including the sessions of Integrated and Participating Societies as well at the sessions of RCST are given on-line and can be viewed under www.wcs2015.org or www.iss-sic.com.

Upon your arrival at Bangkok Airport, we strongly recommend to get some money exchanged into Thai Baht before getting a taxi which will bring you to your hotel. In view of the quite hot and also humid weather conditions, a point to point transport in an air-conditioned taxi will be a relaxing one hour trip. Costs will be in the vicinity of some BHT 600 (about $ 20.– ).

The Congress will start on Sunday, August 23, 2015 with the Congress Opening by Professor Dr. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn. All participants must be registered and seated by 16.00.

At the Executive Committee meeting of March 13 and 14, 2015 the committee members have at the recommendation of the Nominating Committee elected 2 new Honorary Members and 3 Prize Winners from among the submitted applications. All five very distinguished and highly respected surgeons will be awarded during the Opening Ceremony.

New ISS/SIC Honorary Members 2015

• Kerstin Sandelin, Stockholm, Sweden
• Abe Fingerhut, Poissy, France

Prize Winners 2015

• ISS/SIC Prize Winner: Jacques Marescaux, Strasbourg, France
• Robert Danis Prize Winner: Dr. Witaya Chadbunchachai, Khon Kaen; Thailand and
• René Leriche Prize Winner: James T. Yao, Chicago, USA

During the opening of Trade Exhibition after the Opening Ceremony, all participants are invited for a reception in the Exhibition Area.

The first session on Monday morning at 08.00 is devoted to the presentation of all Travel Scholars, precedent to the ISS/SIC President’s address and Martin Allgöwer Lecture which will start sharply at 08.30. With your participation in this early morning session, you will be demonstrating your support to these young Awardees.

On Tuesday at 12.00 there will be a Luncheon Session for ISS/SIC National Delegates/Representatives with members of the Executive Committee. All 10 ISS-Foundation Travel Scholars are also invited as guests. On Tuesday evening, all Integrated Societies will hold their society dinner for which participants must register and pay in advance.

On Wednesday afternoon, all scientific sessions will be stopped at 15.00 as buses for the Thai Night at Sampran Riverside will depart at 15.30 from Central World Convention Center. Admission to this event is only possible after having purchased a ticket at the registration counter before Tuesday.

The highlight on Thursday morning will be the Grey Turner Lecture followed by the General Assembly. The Agenda and other details will be available from Sunday afternoon at the ISS/SIC booth in the registration area. One of the key items of the General Assembly will be the newly proposed Constitution for acceptance.
Also with the General Assembly 2015 the term in office of the following ISS/SIC Executive Committee Members will come to an end:

Göran Akerström, Uppsala, Sweden, Past President and President 2011 to 2013

Adam Dziki, Councilor from Lodz, Poland

Yuko Kitagawa, Councilor from Tokyo, Japan

On behalf of the entire Executive Committee we should like to convey our sincerest thanks to them in recognition of their support rendered to ISS/SIC.

At its meeting on March 13, 2015 the Nominating Committee has decided to propose for election the following candidates for:

President 2015–2017: Marco G. Patti, Chicago, USA

President-elect 2015–2017: Alberto Ferreres, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Councilors at large 2015–2019: Seigo Kitano, Tokyo, Japan
Rowan Parks, Edinburg, United Kingdom

Furthermore, in view of the retirement of Victor Bertschi, the Executive Committee has followed the recommendation by the Secretary General to transfer the Administrative Office to Twister company headed by Mr. Mike Iliopoulos with the strong support of Chris Storz. The general Assembly therefore will be invited to confirm this change by vote. Preparation work for the change of the Administrative Office has already been started with the visit of our Society Historian and ISS/SIC Honorary Member Doris Liebermann-Meffert and her husband Eduard in Lupsingen.

The Office Team in Lupsingen

ISS/SIC-Historian Doris Liebermann-Meffert with Husband Eduard in Lupsingen
Dear Friends:

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the IAES meeting during the World Congress of Surgery 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. Plans for the meeting are moving forward rapidly, and it looks to be one of the best Congresses to date. We will not rehash all of the information from the 2013 newsletter, and I refer you to that document on the ISS web site for your review.

There will be a Pre-Congress Workshop on Endoscopic Thyroidectomy in Soft Cadaver on Saturday, August 22, 2015, at Chulalongkorn University Hospital in Bangkok. Additional information can be found on the WCS 2015 web site.

In addition to the many fine oral and poster presentations, there will be a number of very special lectures during the IAES meeting, including two State-of-the-Art lectures; one given by Professor Ian Hay on Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma Managed at Mayo Clinic During 7 Decades (1940–2009): Lessons Learned from the Continuing Analysis of Temporal Trends and Long-Term Outcomes. The second State-of-the-Art lecture will be given by Professor Akira Miyauchi from Kobe, Japan regarding Clinical Trials of Active Surveillance of Papillary Microcarcinoma of the Thyroid: Is it Good? We are very excited to have Professor Virginia LiVol-

Two sad notes to report, we all mourn the recent loss of our colleague and friend, Michael Brauckhoff, who died suddenly last September. One of the awards and one of the travel scholarships will be given out in his memory. For those who wish to make monetary donations to the IAES in his memory, please contact me directly. We are also saddened to report that President-Elect Professor Jean Francois Henry has announced that he will be unable to fulfill his duties as the incoming President of the IAES. This decision was made for very personal reasons, and we must all respect his wishes. Undoubtedly, he would have been a wonderful President, given his devotion to the IAES since its inception. We all wish him well.

In his place will be Dr. Dimitrios Linos who has the overwhelming support of our organization. We all look forward to working with Professor Linos during the years 2015–2017. A call for nominations has gone out to the membership. We will need nominations for seven Council Members, Council-Coordinator, Secretary-Treasurer, and President-elect. Please participate in this important process.

From Professor Chen-Hsen Lee and myself, as well as the IAES Council, look forward to seeing you this summer in Bangkok.
Our program promises to be one of the best we have ever had. We have 12 panels, utilizing every available time slot in the schedule. We have several collaborative panels, including panels with ISBI (International Society for Burn Injuries), IASMEN (International Association for Surgical Metabolism and Nutrition), and APIMSF (Ambrose Pare International Military Surgery Forum). This year we will be having a new collaborative panel on surgery for abdominal emergencies, in collaboration with ISDS (International Society for Digestive Surgery).

In addition to the panels where experts share their experiences and techniques, we will also have 3 sessions for oral abstract presentations and 1 session for poster presentations, all of which usually highlight our younger members and trainees. IATSIC depends on such young surgeons for its future. So I hope all of you will attend these abstract sessions and provide encouragement to our presenters.

As last year, we have planned a sunrise video session on Wednesday, August 26. Despite the early timing, this was heavily attended in Helsinki, likely due to the very interesting surgical techniques demonstrated in the videos. This year’s promises to be even better and is being conducted collaboratively with the SLS (Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons).

One of the highlights of each congress’s program is the Donald Trunkey Lecture. This year’s lecturer will be Prof. Basil Pruitt. He will be speaking on a topic on which he is the world’s leading expert: Military-Civilian Surgical Symbiosis: Agent of Change in Trauma Care. This promises to be a fascinating session, whether you are interested in military trauma, civilian trauma, or both. I encourage all IATSIC members and any other congress participants interested in military trauma to attend on Wednesday, August 26.

Lastly, I humbly invite you to my Presidential Address on Tuesday, August 25. In this, I will ask how IATSIC is doing in reaching and helping that vast majority of injured people who are poor people living in low- and middle-income countries. In this talk, I will review our educational activities, our advocacy and trauma system activities, our scientific program, and, especially our membership, to see what have been our accomplishments, what are our strengths, and where we could focus more attention in the future.

I would be happy to communicate with anyone personally regarding our conferences, courses, or advocacy work, or anything else related to IATSIC. Please feel free to get in touch with me at cmock@uw.edu for any questions on these activities.

With best regards,

Charles Mock
President IATSIC
Breast Surgery International Honors Three World-renowned Surgeons in Bangkok

Breast Surgery International will be honoring 3 great surgeons in Bangkok during the WCS. Dr. Kerstin Sandelin will receive Honorary Membership in our Society. This well-deserved recognition goes to a surgeon with an international reputation. Kerstin received her medical training and postgraduate education at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. She is presently a professor of surgery at the Karolinska and was President of BSI in 2009. Kerstin, apart from being a great surgeon, is a terrific role model and mentor. She knows how to nurture the curiosity of young surgeons and has been the biggest booster of BSI in the last five years. In my opinion, Kerstin is the heart and soul of Breast Surgery International and this honor is highly fitting.

Finally I will be passing the Presidency of BSI to another great surgeon, Dr. Cheng Har Yip. Cheng Har is a terrific person and a highly honored surgeon. She is the first person in her family to graduate from college. She completed medical school at the University of Malaya in 1981 and then became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Glasgow in 1985. Cheng Har is a role model for woman surgeons worldwide. She created one of the first breast clinics in Malaysia, was President of the Association of University Surgeons of Asia and the Asia Pacific Organization for Cancer Prevention. In 2009 she received the Malaysian Greatest Woman of our Times award and in 2013 she was conferred a Honorary Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons. I am truly honored to be succeeded by such a great surgeon and look forward to Cheng Har’s ideas and plans for the future of our organization.

Lastly I would like to thank Shawna Wiley, our Program Chair, who hails from Georgetown University. Shawna did a terrific job putting together an excellent program. Unfortunately she will not be able to join us in Bangkok as something even more important will be happening in her life at the end of August. She will be welcoming a grand-child, congratulations Shawna, we will miss you indeed.

As you can see BSI is blessed with three internationally recognized women surgeons on the Program and we look forward to seeing them in Bangkok.

Sarkis Meterissian
President of BSI
Greetings from ISDS

Dear ISDS Members, Friends and Colleagues

In a short while I look forward to welcoming you to the World Congress of Surgery in Bangkok, Thailand, where ISDS will participate alongside our sister societies. Much work and thought has gone into developing a program that holds something of interest to everyone, ranging from the trainee and novice to the experienced surgeon. In addition to the learning environment, this meeting is above all, a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends and make new acquaintances. To facilitate these friendships, ISDS will as usual be holding a dinner on Tuesday August 25th. Do please join us! It is simple to register for this on the registration page for the World Congress.

Do please come and introduce yourself at the meeting. We would very much like to involve our members in participating in the meeting as faculty, so please let us know your interests. And non-members who would like to become involved in the society, please introduce yourselves too!

Safe travels to all.

Tonia M. Young-Fadok,
President ISDS

News from IASMEN

Dear IASMEN Members and Surgical Colleagues

It was an honor for me to take over as President of IASMEN two years ago in Helsinki, Finland. During this two year period I have had pleasure to work with our President Elect Andrew Hill from Auckland, New Zealand and all of the other IASMEN officers (Takashi Higashigushi from Japan, Steven E. Wolf from USA, Dileep Lobo from UK, Joji Kotani from Japan, Olle Ljungqvist from Sweden and Harumasa Ohyanagi from Japan). As a member of the Executive Committee of ISS, Andrew has traveled a lot and has contributed enormously to the IASMEN Scientific Program and we all thank him a lot. Our next Congress in Bangkok from 23 to 27 August is now only a few weeks from now.

An entire session on Wednesday 26 August will address the particularities of the elderly surgical patient. For the second time a team of the IASMEN board will be choosing the best paper presented at WCS 2015. The presenter of this paper will be awarded the Graham Hill Prize. The traditional Patiño Lecture will be delivered by a former IASMEN President, Dr Dan Waitzberg from São Paulo, Brazil. His lecture (Malnutrition in the surgical ward: is the skeleton still in the closet?) will attract many delegates as malnutrition is still highly prevalent in surgical patients but on the other hand still unrecognized or even disregarded as an independent factor associated with postoperative complications.

Aside from the scientific program, Bangkok and the other attractions of Thailand are waiting for us. It could be a pleasant gap in your busy surgical schedule to enjoy a good time with colleagues from around the world and finish with a well deserved vacation in this country. Save the dates and join us by participating in the WCG 2015 and particularly with us in the IASMEN sessions. It will be an honor to have you on board. In addition, please consider applying to become a member of IASMEN. The occasion is absolutely ideal because many senior members will be present and will be able to introduce you to our Society.

We look forward to seeing you in Bangkok.

José Eduardo de Aguilar-Nascimento, IASMEN President
News from ASAP

It is with great pleasure that we report that 2015 has been a monumental year for Global Surgery. In March, The World Bank launched “Essential Surgery”, the first volume of the third edition of Disease Control Priorities [1]. In late April, The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery [2] released their findings at the Royal Society of Medicine in London, and in May, the World Health Assembly passed a historic resolution on the need for surgery and safe anesthesia in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) [3].

These collaborative efforts and publications have further demonstrated the cost effectiveness of essential surgery and anesthesia care, the larger than expected burden of surgical disease, and the importance of surgical care in facilitating economic development. Perhaps most important is that World Health Assembly resolution (WHO 68/31) mandates that the World Health Organization develop and implement as strategy that encourages every Ministry of Health to improve their health care system by providing the necessary infrastructure for 44 essential procedures and related anesthesia. By 2030 it is expected that surgical care will be significantly improved in LMICs through the expansion of the workforce, availability of essential medicines and equipment, and the use of safety procedures and monitors.

Consistent with the mission of ASAP, we will be very pleased to participate in these processes in collaboration with the WHO and National Ministries of Health. As such, we expect that many anesthesia, obstetric and surgical providers from LMICs will seek academic mentorship and support from the wealth of experience at the ISS/ASAP/IATSIC and others. We look forward to welcoming many physicians from LMICs as members of ASAP and ISS, and we expect that their leadership will transform the future of these societies and related peer-reviewed literature.

Kelly McQueen
President ASAP
Steve Bickler
President Elect ASAP

ISS/SIC Foundation Report

ISSF Travel Scholar Awards-2015

At the ISS Foundation Board meeting in Bangkok in March 2015, 10 travel scholars were selected to attend WCS 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand and all have subsequently registered for the meeting. The recipients and their country of origin are listed next:

- Anish J. Cherian-India
- Ashish Jakhetiya-India
- Sergy Kharchenko-Ukraine
- Zaheer Moolla-South Africa
- Omobolaji O. Ayandipo-Nigeria
- Chi Nguyen Tran Bao-Vietnam
- Mayilvaganan Sabaretnam-India
- Dhalapathy Sadacharan-India
- Kosala Somaratne-Sri Lanka
- Firdaavs Ulmasov-Uzbekistan

They will each receive a stipend of $2,500.00 USD and their registration fee and Thai night event costs were waived. The Local arrangements group has arranged their housing. A welcoming reception is planned before the opening ceremony on Sunday, August 23, 2015 to introduce the travel scholars to the ISS and Foundation Leadership. The Travel scholars will be introduced to the meeting participants at the opening session prior to the President’s Lecture on Monday, August 24, 2015. Professor Nopadol Wora-Urai has arranged for the Award recipients to visit surgical services at local Thai Hospitals. Additional Travel Scholars from all Integrated Societies as well as from the Japan, US, Thai and Australian chapters and a number of Scholars funded by BSI are invited to participate in the Sunday reception and will also be formally recognized on Monday morning August 24, 2013 prior to the President’s lecture.

Kelly McQueen
President ASAP
Steve Bickler
President Elect ASAP

Jay Grosfeld,
Secretary-Treasurer
ISS-Foundation

ISSF Travel Scholar Awards-2015

Jay Grosfeld,
Secretary-Treasurer
ISS-Foundation
**Did you know...?**

**Gallet Arthur (1855–1903)**

*By Robrecht van Hee, Belgium*

Together with Antoine Depage¹ and Charles Willems², Arthur Gallet was one of the founding fathers of the International Society of Surgery.

He was born on 30 August 1855 in Mersin-l’Ev’que, actually a sub-municipality of Ath, located in the Belgian province Hainaut.

He was interested in literature and history, but ended up by studying medicine at the Free University of Brussels (ULB). He successfully passed his years of internship, during which he enjoyed an apprenticeship in 1883 in the hospital department of Dr. Henriette in Berlin.

At the Brussels St.Pierre hospital he studied with professor Rommelaere.

He finally graduated cum laude in 1884.

He began in 1885 as ‘doctor for the poor’, a town function which existed in many cities and was organized by the Brussels ‘Conseil général des Hospices et Secours’, a position he held for four years³. Moreover he worked as doctor for the ‘Oeuvre de l’Hospitalité’ and for the ‘Hospice Ste. Gertrude’.

In 1889 Gallet became ‘Agrégé’ at the Brussels University with a thesis, devoted to ‘La pleurotomie antiseptique et l’opération d’Estlander’⁴.

In 1890 he started his surgical career as resident in the Department of Dr. Dubois in the St. Pierre Hospital in the capital. Gallet was very interested in international developments in surgery and travelled several times abroad. During his foreign contacts, he soon became a fervent supporter of aseptic and antiseptic techniques, whose good results he published already in 1890⁵.

He married Jeanne Herbos who gave him one daughter Claire, born in Uccle in 1893.

In the same year 1893 Gallet became one of the founding fathers of the Belgian Society for Surgery. He was elected its first treasurer, function he occupied from 1893 till 1898⁶, after which he became 2nd and 1st vice-president in 1899 and 1900, and finally President of the Society in 1901⁷.

Gallet was equally active as a writer and editor of medical and surgical journals. From 1892 onwards he was the main ed-

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**Fig. 1. Arthur Gallet (sitting second to the right) and his collaborators in the Hôpital St. Jean around 1900.**
itor of ‘La Clinique’ for several years\(^8\) and regularly published articles and reports in the ‘\textit{Annales de la Société Belge de Chirurgie}’.

After the death of Dr. Léon Warnots (1856-1894), Gallet on November 4th 1894 became head of the Surgical Departments at the Brussels hospitals of St. Pierre and St. Jean\(^9\), and was appointed as professor of ‘\textit{Clinique Chirurgicale}’ at the University.

He was an active surgeon, who as usual in those times, operated in all fields of surgery: digestive, pulmonary, orthopaedic, urological and gynaecological (Fig.1).

Gallet was very interested in the setting up of new operation rooms, and visited several hospitals, e.g. in Utrecht in the Netherlands on October 21st and 22nd 1898\(^10\), and in Bern and Lausanne in Switzerland on August 12th to 14th 1899.

He met his international colleagues at congresses, in particular in Paris, where he yearly assisted the meetings of the \textit{Association française de Chirurgie}.

Arthur Gallet was a virtuoso surgeon, being moderate in his judgments and prudent in his operations.

He produced an impressive number of publications that encompassed all surgical specialties\(^11\) (Fig. 2 & 3). His most important concerned appendicitis (1892), coeliacctasy (1894), fistulas consecutive to vaginal hysterectomy (1894), ureterorraphy (1900), iliac colostomy (1900), heart massage (1902) and gastro-enterostomy (1902).

He ran a private praxis in Brussels but equally operated in a clinic at the seaside, in the ‘Hôpital Maritime’\(^12\) of Middelkerke near Ostend (Fig. 4).

Gallet was an innovator in gastric surgery, introducing in Belgium the various techniques pioneered by Billroth, Péan and Arbuthnot-Lane, such as pyloroplasty and gastroenterostomy with either a Murphy button or an additional jejunojejunostomy\(^13\).

Not the least will Arthur Gallet be remembered as one of the founders of the \textit{Société internationale de Chirurgie - International Society of Surgery}. It was in the year 1901, when Arthur Gallet was president of the Belgian Society of Surgery, that to-

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1. For biographical details on Depage, see Van Hee 2002, Van Hee 2007 and Van Hee 2012.
2. For biographical data concerning Charles Willems, see De Broe et al. 2013.
3. The duration of this mandate had been determined officially by the Brussels ‘Conseil Communal’ on January 17th 1882. The function included visits to the poor people in their homes in a particular circumscription of the town, and could sometimes disclose terrible disease (not the least tuberculosis, as Gallet experienced in 1887).
4. Jacob A. Estlander (1831–1881) was a Finnish surgeon, who developed several new operations. One is an original form of cheiloplasty, a reconstructing flap technique to cover defects after excision of malignant lip growths. This operation is commonly called the Estlander-Abbé operation, also honouring the American surgeon Robert Abbé (1851–1928). The one Gallet was writing on in his thesis consisted of extensive rib resections to excise the affected and thickened pleura in case of chronic empyema. This thoracoplasty is called the Estlander-Schede operation to equally honour the German surgeon Max Schede (1844–1902) who adapted the original technique.
5. See Gallet 1890.
8. See Dor p. 61.
9. Gallet was appointed together with Dr. Remy Lavisé (1848-1899).
10. Where he met Prof. Jan E. van Iterson (1842–1901).
11. See his list of publications in 1894, when he solicited for his professorship (Fig. 2 & 3).
Together with Charles Willems and Antoine Depage, Gallet prepared the formation of the International Society SIC-ISS. Already in 1895 did Gallet as treasurer of the Belgian Surgical Society propose the creation of such international association of surgeons14. In 1899 several Belgian surgeons discussed the topic and evaluated the practical aspects of such enterprise. The basic requirements for its realisation were laid down in a proposal15, accepted by the members of the Belgian Surgical Society in 190216. The structure of this international association was then worked out by an international committee, whose statutes were accepted during the first Congress of the SIC-ISS in 1905 in Brussels17. The preparatory activities of this committee were reviewed by its first President Charles Willems in a separate publication18.

From the foregoing it is clear that the role of Arthur Gallet in the creation of the SIC-ISS has been preponderant19.

All colleagues of Gallet depicted him as a gentle and intelligent man, who was not only a humanistic and compassionate doctor but also a skilful and prudent surgeon20 (Fig.5). His eloquence was proverbial, his love for literature and art well recognized. His home on the Boulevard de Hainaut in Brussels contained lots of paintings and art objects.

In the summer of 1901 Gallet presented first signs of an illness21. He suffered from gastric problems and had to take a leave from hospital for a while. Two years later new symptoms appeared: his disease was then diagnosed as gastric cancer. Gallet was operated upon on four successive occasions in the summer months of 1903 in his own St. Jean Hospital22. The disease however evolved further, so that Gallet was unable to resume his duties. According to Dr. Gratia23, his last weeks were a real agony.

Gallet finally passed away at the age of 48 on October 2nd 1903 at 7.45 a.m. at his home in Brussels. His death led to ‘In memoriam’ publications in several medical journals25.

His university and hospital activities were taken over by his intimate friend Antoine Depage24.

Fig. 3. List of publications of Gallet, made up by him in 1894 (part 2).

References.


Thanks

The author thanks Mr. David Guilardian, director of the Archives of the Commission d’Assistance Publique of Brussels, for his valuable assistance.

Fig. 4. Post card of the ‘Hôpital maritime Roger de Grimberghe’ in Middelkerke near Ostend.

Fig. 5. Drawing of Arthur Gallet at work.
46th World Congress of Surgery

International Society of Surgery (ISS)
Société Internationale de Chirurgie (SIC)

23-27 August 2015
Bangkok Convention Center, Centara Grand at Central World
Bangkok, Thailand

Jointly organised with
Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand
and the ISS/SIC Integrated Societies

WCS 2015
46th WORLD CONGRESS OF SURGERY
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SURGERY
(formerly International Surgical Week)
23-27 AUGUST 2015, BANGKOK, THAILAND

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SURGERY
(IS/SIC)
Administrative Office
Seltisbergerstrasse 16
CH-4419 Lupsingen, Switzerland
www.iss-sic.com
Phone: +41 61 815 96 66
Fax: +41 61 811 47 75
E-Mail: surgery@iss-sic.ch