

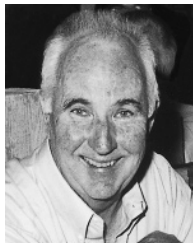


International Society of Surgery (ISS) *Soci t  Internationale de Chirurgie (SIC)*

NEWSLETTER

October 2003

President's Message



Peter J. Morris

We are all extremely upset at the cancellation of the World Congress of Surgery, which should have been held in Bangkok this past August. I can assure you that no-one was more disappointed than I was, as I would have presided over this Congress as ISS President and, of course, I am fully aware of the enormous amount of work which the LOC had put into the Congress planning and their disappointment at the cancellation. However, as your Secretary-General, Felix Harder, has outlined in detail in his report, we were left with no alternative. We considered an interim meeting early next year, but there was no support for this and financially it was probably not viable. Thus I can only express my sincere sympathy to our colleagues in Bangkok who have worked so hard and perhaps one day the ISS/SIC will have the opportunity of holding the World Congress in Bangkok.

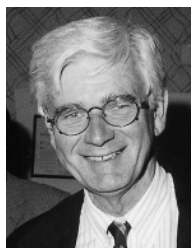
Thus we have decided to concentrate our activities on ensuring that the Durban Congress in 2005 is an outstanding success. The Congress Centre in Durban is excellent, as is the climate which provides a superb opportunity for tours to game parks in Natal before or after the Congress. Concerns have been expressed

about safety in South Africa, but I can assure you that you will be safer there than in many cities in the Western World. Indeed, South Africa is now one of the major tourist destinations for the UK, and the most common complaint by tourists is the difficulty in getting a flight to South Africa!

Thus make sure you get the dates for 2005 in your diary, as, for those of you who haven't been to South Africa, you have a treat in store, both scientifically and socially.

Peter J. Morris, FRS
President ISS/SIC

Report of General Secretary



Felix Harder

Imagine the feeling of a kid learning the evening before its birthday that it would not be allowed to unwrap the presents already displayed and that the birthday party would be cancelled too. The kid is desperate and extremely disappointed. Most of us surgeons felt like this about the cancellation of ISW03 in Bangkok. Our hosts in Thailand in the first



Local Organizing Committee ISSW03 meets with Administrative Office ISS/SIC

place. What had happened? Following a clear vote by the General Assembly of ISS/SIC to hold the International Surgical Week of 2003 in Bangkok with Rüdiger Siewert as Congress President and conjointly with the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand under the presidency of Chomchark Chuntrasakul, Arun Pausawasdi had gathered and chaired a superb Local Organizing Committee which I had the pleasure to meet in Bangkok and where Anek Kasatri did a great job as Secretary-General. And last but not least Sumate Sudasna was greatly appreciated as Professional Congress Organizer. It was truly a pleasure for us in the Administrative Office in Pratteln to co-operate with such an imaginative, efficient and professional group and to harmonise the ideas and decisions of the Executive Committee of the ISS/SIC with those of the Thai Representatives. With the BITEC Convention Center and splendid hotels we were looking forward to an exciting event in South-East Asia.

The Scientific Program with four Integrated and ten Participating Societies was generally considered to hold great promises. Of the 963 abstracts submitted 694 were accepted for presentation as free papers, videos or posters.

When it turned out end of February 2003 that the number of registrations was higher than that for Brussels at the same time of year we were enthusiastic about the coming event. Unfortunately, this changed abruptly with the beginning of the Iraq war and became quite dramatic as a consequence of the SARS epidemic: new registrations came practically to a full stop within a very short time, invited lecturers cancelled their participation in increasing numbers.

Despite the decision by the Executive Committee to postpone the deadline for pre-registration to May 31, 2003 due to an unpredictable international situation the number of registrations did not take off again as was hoped. The fact that the US issued a travel warning for several South-East Asian countries including Thailand only boosted the already marked hesitation to participate at ISSW03 in Bangkok.

No matter what the actual situation in South-East Asia and specifically in Thailand would be end of August 2003 it was the way potential participants generally perceived the whole situation earlier this year that would finally determine whether ISSW03 had any chance to become a real success. The Executive Committee considered all the facts available, tried to buy as much time as reasonably possible but on June 6, 2003 came to the unanimous conclusion that ISSW03 in Bangkok had to be cancelled. The question whether an interim congress in 2004, a year before Durban should be held or not generated some debate within the Executive Committee of ISS/SIC. After considering all the pros and cons it decided by a large majority that one should now go directly and full power ahead aiming at ISSW in Durban in 2005.

In South Africa with Victor Bertschi I had an opportunity to visit the very attractive Convention Center and that particular area around Durban: personally I am convinced that all the elements for a most successful congress are there and I can only press you to block the one or two weeks around the 21 to the 25 August 2005 for ISSW in Durban. And have your abstract ready for electronic-only (online) submission by December 15, 2004 (please visit our congress web page for

details: www.isw2005.org.za). In fact our first run of electronic abstract submission and evaluation in view of the Bangkok Congress worked out quite well. Thanks to Chris Storz's expertise in the Pratteln office and to the professional guidance and support by Rudi Bumm from the Technische Universität in Munich.

While it is sad enough not to have been able to meet in Bangkok, I would like to add here most welcome news and disclose the distinctions and honours that would have been awarded to outstanding personalities, to surgeons of international reputation but also to a promising group of young surgeons. The latter have already demonstrated their willingness and capacity to actively promote progress in various surgical fields and under quite different conditions throughout the world.

These distinctions are: Honorary Membership of ISS/SIC, the ISS/SIC Prize, the Robert Danis Prize, the René Leriche Prize and the Travelling Fellowship of the ISS-Foundation.

The Executive Committee has elected three Honorary Members who have throughout their long career as great leaders in surgery not only engaged themselves relentlessly in the advancement of science related to surgery but who also have intensely promoted international exchange of young talents. I am very pleased to reveal here their names and to congratulate them whole heartedly:



*Christian Herfarth,
Germany*

Christian Herfarth, Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Chairman and Head Department of Surgery, University Heidelberg, Germany, Grey Turner Lecturer 1995.



Yasuo Idezuki, Japan

Yasuo Idezuki, Professor of Surgery, Professor Emeritus University of Tokyo, Vice Director Saitama Medical Center, Tokyo, Japan, ISS/SIC President 1995-1997.



Frank G. Moody, USA

Frank G. Moody, Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Chairman Department of Surgery, University of Texas Medical School, Houston, USA, President, Vice President and Secretary of the ISS/SIC US Chapter (1987-1994)

Among the nominations presented to the Executive Committee in view of awarding the prizes of our society 3 distinguished surgeons from the US, the Netherlands and Japan have been elected:



John F. Burke, USA

John F. Burke, Helen Andrus Benedict Professor of Surgery, Emeritus, Harvard Medical School, and Chief of Trauma Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA for the ISS/SIC Prize in recognition of work which has made the most notable and useful

contribution to Surgical Science and in great appreciation of his life long endeavour in successfully developing and perfecting surgical sciences and techniques as well as in admiration of his unrelenting effort in educating young surgeons in clinical surgery and in research.



*René J.A. Goris,
Netherlands*

René J.A. Goris, Professor of Surgery, Chairman Department of Surgery, University Hospital Nijmegen, The Netherlands, for the Robert Danis Prize in recognition of his important experimental and clinical work on the pathophysiology of trauma and of surgical fracture treatment.



Norman M. Rich, USA

Norman M. Rich, Leonard Heaton and David Packard Professor, Chairman, Department of Surgery and Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery, Emeritus, University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, USA for the René Leriche Prize in recognition of his numerous original contributions on surgery of arteries, veins and the heart.

These six outstanding surgeons of true international stature - this might be recalled here with gratitude - have also had an impact on the surgical career of a considerable number of ISS/SIC-members over many years.



José F. Patiño, Colombia

The Society is honoured and very pleased about the decision of the American College of Surgeons to invite Professor Dr. José F. Patiño, MD, FACS (hon.) to deliver the distinguished 2003 lecture of the International Society of Surgery (ISS/SIC) at the American College of Surgeons meeting in Chicago. The title of his lecture is „Chaos theory, uncertainty and surgery“. The lecture will be delivered on Wednesday, October 22, 2003 at 3.00 p.m. in room 354 (level 3, East Bldg.) at McCormick Place Convention Centre. Professor Patiño had very successfully organized ISW 1989 in Toronto and was President of our Society 1989-1991.

From the 32 applications for a travelling scholarship offered by the ISS-Foundation six travelling fellows have been selected.

1. Mehmet **Hacıyanlı**, Turkey
2. Yevgeniya **Kryuchvna**, Ukraine
3. Arcot **Rehka**, India
4. Narimantas Evaldas **Samalavicius**, Lithuania
5. Gajanan **Waghlikar**, India

All these distinguished surgeons will be presented with their Honorary Membership, their medals, distinctions and prizes or travelling fellowships and honoured accordingly at the occasion of ISW in Durban in 2005. But in the name of the Executive Committee I would like to congratulate wholeheartedly all the awardees for the honours they have so much deserved.

Having not been able to hold the General Assembly new office bearers superseding those reaching their terms will be elected by the Executive Committee according to article V, section 1 of the constitution at the Executive Committee Meeting to be held in Chicago during the American College of Surgeons Convention in October 2003. The decisions of the Executive Committee will be published on our web page at www.iss-sic.ch beginning of November 2003. These decisions then will need the approval of the next General Assembly in Durban. As for the financial consequences in relation to the cancellation of ISW in Bangkok we have to await the results of ongoing

negotiations with our insurance covering losses in relation with the cancellation.

Having been to Thailand and to Bangkok before and having noticed the enthusiasm and the willingness of our hosts to really spoil the participants with all possible attractions and with the beauty of their country but also considering all the time and work that has been put into the marvellous project I must say that I have been very much disappointed indeed and sad following the inevitable cancellation decision. But let us now look ahead all together and set our minds to our convention in Durban in 2005.

Felix Harder
Secretary General ISS/SIC

Report from the Treasury

Our Treasurer General is pleased to learn that most of our members have honoured their invoice for the annual dues of the year 2003. Unfortunately, some few members are still in arrears with their dues for 2003. If you are wondering what the asterisk on your mailing label means and in case you are missing some issues of World Journal of Surgery, you are most likely one of the few who have not as yet reacted to our invoice. We assume that this is an oversight and would kindly ask you to take the necessary steps and contact our office. An early reaction will not only reduce unnecessary and high mailing costs but will also minimize the extra administrative workload.

The report by the Treasury was supposed to be another agenda item for the General Assembly in Bangkok. Since this was not possible, we should like to provide a short overview on the situation of the finances of ISS/SIC by the end of December 2001 and 2002. Please contact our office in Pratteln by e-mail (surgery@iss-sic.ch) in case you wish to receive the detailed and audited financial documents.

Situation of accounts 2001 and 2002

Whereas the year 2001 ended with a marginal profit of USD 5'582.30, the year 2002 was affected fully by the VAT charges for the Congress in Brussels. This finally ended in a loss of USD 39'295.90 for last year. Indeed we were planning to show a nice surplus resulting from ISW 2001. Unfortunately, the Belgian VAT regulations were implemented according to the European Community standard just during the period of our congress. This new situation was not foreseeable and beyond the control of the congress organization. By the end of the year 2001 we were still optimistic that we would receive the previously assured reim-

bursement of VAT from the Belgian Authorities but had to accept during 2002 that this definitely will not happen. Consequently the remaining loan to the Brussels congress of USD 56'587.75 had to be written off. Despite this loss, but thanks to the exchange rate of the US Dollar, the Retained Earnings of ISS/SIC have increased from USD 221'132.70 in 2001 to USD 254'971.20 by the end of 2002.

Budget for the year 2003 and 2004

The budget planning for the year 2003 and 2004 was forecast to end with a positive balance of USD 7'800.- in 2003 and USD 12'700.- in 2004 respectively. This positive result was only possible with the income of USD 40'000.- for each year as an income from the Bangkok Congress. After the cancellation of ISW03, which again was beyond the control of the Society or the Local Organizing Committee in Bangkok, the situation has become uncertain. The Society had already paid various congress related expenses which exceeded USD 250'000 until May this year. Our secretariat has arranged that the congress finances are insured in case of an eventual cancellation. At the present time, negotiations with the insurance company are still in progress but we very much hope that a solution with them soon will come to a positive end. Further details will be given as soon as possible in one of our next newsletters.

Invoices for the annual dues 2004

In view of the lack of the General Assembly 2003, the dues for the year 2004 will remain the same as in 2003. Invoices for the dues 2004 are enclosed and we look forward to an early reaction of all members. We very much hope you will appreciate not only receiving the World Journal of Surgery but also being part of this international brotherhood of surgeons. An early response would be highly appreciated.

Victor Bertschi
In the name of Emanuele Lezoche, Treasurer General ISS/SIC

News from IAES

The IAES office deeply deplores the cancellation of the Bangkok World Congress. We want to express our deepest sympathy and express our sincere gratefulness to the local organizers, who made such great efforts, and offered so much help to all of us, when we were planning to participate in the Congress.

To the IAES members we have the following message:

The World Congress of Surgery in Bangkok 2003 was cancelled, as you have been informed. The ISS/SIC Executive Committee has decided there will be no replacement World Congress before the Durban Congress in 2005.

The International Association of Endocrine Surgeons (IAES) needs to have its own meeting before Durban, to run IAES Executive Committee and Business Meetings, and to allow replacement of IAES officers who have fulfilled their terms. There has also been a sincere wish to present the already scheduled IAES program.

An IAES meeting therefore has been decided to take place in Uppsala, Sweden, June 13-17, 2004 (with June 13th planned for registration and Welcome Ceremony). This will by no means imply any separation from the parent ISS/SIC organization, and we will continue to plan future Congresses together, beginning with Durban 2005.

The Uppsala Conference has now been arranged in details, and it has been possible to retain virtually the same program as was scheduled for Bangkok. Some additional program points have been included to try to increase the value of the Conference, and because there are no other section meetings that can be visited. The added program points include a video-based session on laparoscopic adrenal surgery early Monday, and the optional possibility to participate in teaching symposia on neck surgery and endocrine pancreatic tumors early Wednesday. We have also included the option to participate in a practical course about ultrasound investigations for endocrine surgeons, and possibilities to discuss multicentre studies of rare endocrine tumors Wednesday afternoon. Wednesday has previously been a free day at IAES meetings, and this option will still remain, with specially planned arrangements for half-day sightseeing around Uppsala.

With enthusiasm and pride we invite you to participate in the Uppsala Conference.

The program is carefully planned with lectures, symposia, and luncheon panels to present significant recent

development in endocrine surgery. Video displays will teach important surgical techniques, both older conventional operations, and newer, minimally invasive procedures. The IAES members have contributed very significantly by previously submitting for the Bangkok program a large number of high quality abstracts, which will be presented at free paper sessions and poster exhibitions.

The social program of the meeting in Uppsala will give us the opportunity to meet friends within the family of endocrine surgeons from all over the world. Uppsala is a small beautiful town with old history, especially nice to visit in the early summer season of June.

We hope to see you at the Conference.

You will soon receive information in a member mail how to register for the Conference, which will be possible at a special web site.

Shiro Noguchi, President IAES
Göran Åkerström, Secretary Treasurer IAES

Zulu show-fight at Shakaland



News from IATSIC

It is my privilege to bring you greetings as I approach the end of my two-year term as President of IATSIC. It has been disappointing that the complex international circumstances necessitated the cancellation of International Surgical Week (ISW) 2003 in Bangkok. I am sure that we would all want to convey our heart felt thanks to our Thai colleagues and friends who were to be our hosts. We recognise the tremendous efforts that they had made on our behalf and, to a degree, we can identify with their disappointment. However, the depth of that disappointment is probably out of reach of most of our understandings, recognising the uniqueness of the decision, the necessary lateness of the decision in their planning processes, and the huge amount of effort to which they went to secure the Congress in the first place. We will look forward to a future opportunity to enjoy their very warm friendship and hospitality in their beautiful country.

Your Executive has met recently and determined that the presidency should still pass from me to Dr Ron Maier, the current President Elect. Ron is from Seattle and is currently the President of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma. He will lead IATSIC over the next two years leading up to ISW 2005 in Durban. Some of the other integrated societies involved with ISS/SIC have made similar decisions.

Under the unusual present circumstances, and in the absence of an annual general meeting of members of IATSIC, your Executive anticipates your understanding as we make changes to the office bearers. Of course, I will remain on the Executive as immediate past president. A formal nomination for President Elect will be received shortly. Dr Ari Leppäniemi is still our Secretary/Treasurer. It is anticipated that Dr Ken Boffard, who would normally leave the Executive Committee will be co-opted back onto the Executive Committee to assist in the continuity of our activities with the Definitive Surgery Trauma Care (DSTC) course programme and the programme of National Trauma Management Course (NTMC), particularly in India.

I am sure that all of us would particularly want to thank those from within and from outside of our membership who had agreed to participate as speakers, moderators and poster presenters as part of ISW03. We were excited with the programme. We believe that the energy behind ISW03 will continue into a superb programme in ISW 2005.

I particularly invite you to take note of the insert on the ISS/SIC home-page concerning the ETC (Essential Trauma Care) Guidelines which have been developed between IATSIC and WHO under the leadership of

Dr Charles Mock. You will recall that Charlie was asked to convene and chair a working party which was established at ISW 2001 in Brussels. He has chaired this working party with great vision, energy and distinction and I invite you to review their work on the ISS/SIC website before it goes to pre-publication editing in mid September.

The Executive is in the process of addressing the pending membership issues and are committed to streamlining the membership application procedure. Further details regarding membership applications or course details should also be directed through the IATSIC Secretariat. The development of the IATSIC website is progressing well and we look forward to the site launch later this year.

It has been a tremendous privilege to serve as President of IATSIC over the last two years. Your Executive has worked very hard in preparing an excellent programme for ISW03. Our administrator, Cara Macnab, has worked closely with us and we have appreciated her great contributions. My special thanks go to Ari Leppäniemi, Ken Boffard and Ron Maier for their staunch support and friendship. I have particular pleasure in seeing the impact which IATSIC is being able to have on the care of trauma patients worldwide through the DSTC course programme, the NTMC programme in India and elsewhere, and the ETC Guidelines which have also advanced the profile of IATSIC and put us into partnership with a number of other organisations who share some of our goals.

I offer my congratulations to Ron Maier as he takes up the presidency of IATSIC from the time our annual business meeting was scheduled on Tuesday, 26 August 2003 and I wish all members of IATSIC the very best of success as we work for the welfare of trauma patients in our home institutions and abroad.

Stephen Deane
President IATSIC

News from IASMEN

I hope this correspondence finds all IASMEN members having enjoyed summer holiday season. As all of you know, ISW03 in Bangkok was cancelled due to reasons mainly related to the outbreak of SARS. Although we feel sorry for Thai representatives who really did a wonderful job for preparing everything, but we should follow the final judgment of ISS/SIC Executive Committee who considered various situations and reached such painful decision in the middle of June 2003. Accordingly, further discussions occurred as to how to hold the alternative meeting. And, after repeated correspondence and finally votes among Executive Committee members, it was decided not to hold a replacement congress in the year 2004 but to continue with the regularly scheduled ISW 2005 in Durban, South Africa, August 21-25, 2005. Soon after this, correspondence among main officers of IASMEN was held and it was decided that every officer of IASMEN, i.e. President, Vice President, immediate past President, Treasurer etc. should stay in the same position as was in ISW03 Bangkok. That means I should still serve presidency for another 2 years, and Dr. Jaime Escallon will be a President-elect. Dr. Kenneth Fearon will serve as a Treasurer as well.

As all of you will be aware, surgeons made a significant contribution in the area of clinical nutrition since the development of central venous alimentation in late 1960's. This undoubtedly induced a decreased morbidity and mortality of various hardly-curable surgical diseases. During these 30 years, there has been great improvement in parenteral and enteral nutritional support of critically ill patients based on well-developed nutritional/metabolic measures. It is meaningful for surgeons from different expertise to get together, to discuss about matters of mutual interest and to share their knowledge and skills of nutrition support. The plenary session, symposia and main sessions are provided to discuss current topics of surgical metabolism and nutrition. The highlight of the program is the José F. Patiño lecture delivered by Dr. Peter B. Soeters of University Hospital Maastricht, The Netherlands. A number of sessions is held as „Joint Sessions“ with other ISS/SIC organizations such as FELAC, ISBI, IATSIC and WOFAPS to cover a wide range of surgical topics. I trust that the meeting will be of the highest quality and that it will be attended by many internationally acclaimed surgeons and particularly young investigators in Durban, August 21-25, 2005.

Akira Okada
President IASMEN

Wildlife Game Park in South Africa



News from BSI

ISW03 Bangkok cancellation and ISW 2005 Durban

It is with mixed emotions that we have experienced the cancellation of BSI and ISW03 in Bangkok. Our Thai hosts had a well-prepared meeting and collaborative efforts were planned for within the BSI program and the pre-congress meeting. BSI council supports the decision of the Executive Committee but have great sympathy for the local organizers, our colleagues and participants.

In view of the situation, plans for the Durban meeting are progressing. Within BSI it has been decided that as much as possible of the 2003 program will take place in Durban. Speakers at the planned symposia and luncheon panels have been approached for their participation. The majority have responded positively to participate again. The pre-congress arrangements will take place in collaboration with the local organizing committee and our local BSI representative Professor Justus Apffelstaedt.

Regarding the handling of abstract BSI has followed the recommendations from the ISS/SIC headquarters and authors have been contacted to submit their manuscripts for publication in WJS.

BSI and election of council and officers

As no general membership assembly can take place before 2005, it was decided within BSI council that

officers and council members remain on their posts until 2005. However, President-elect Raimund Jakesz has accepted to become acting President from 2003. It was concluded that BSI would benefit most from this solution. This unusual situation will be raised during the membership assembly in 2005 with regards to the present constitution.

BSI and international contacts

In June 2003 BSI council members participated in the Second Croatian Senology Congress that had gathered some 250 participants mainly from Southeast Europe. At the Asian Breast Cancer Conference in Taiwan 2004 BSI will also be actively represented. Professor Roger Blamey, BSI President and also chair of the EUSOMA working group for education has had requests from non European breast surgeons how they could affiliate and participate in the educational and training activities from EUSOMA. Although no official affiliation between other societies and BSI exist, there are certainly many opportunities for international contacts. During the year new BSI members have joined and requests from colleagues are frequently forwarded to the international faculty that can be found at <http://www.iss-sic.ch/integrated.htm>.

On behalf of BSI council

Kerstin Sandelin, Secretary BSI

Zulu show-dance, Shakaland



Report Back on the 20th International Gastrointestinal Surgery Workshop In Davos, Switzerland

By Dr. N. Nair and Dr. B. Zulu



Department of Surgery, University of Natal, Durban, South Africa

The 20th International Gastrointestinal Surgery Workshop was held in Davos, Switzerland from 22nd to 28th February 2003, under the auspices of the International Surgical Society. Dr. BMW Zulu and Dr. N. Nair from the Department of Surgery, Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine, University of Natal, Durban, were fortunate to have attended this prestigious workshop. Below is a report back of their experience.

The workshop

The course was well structured, encompassing both lectures and practical exercises. This was divided into basic and advanced sessions. The practical sessions ranged from suture techniques and various gastrointestinal anastomoses, to laparoscopic work (including cholecystectomy, knot tying and laparoscopic cholangiography). These sessions were most rewarding and the bench co-ordinators very helpful. The course ran daily from 08.00h to 19.00h, with a break from 12.00h to 16.00h. It was attended predominantly by participants from Germany and Scandinavian countries. Although the lecture sessions allowed for discussion from the floor, we were disappointed that we were not given an opportunity to voice our comments on topics we had more exposure to e.g. the South African perspective on trauma management.

Davos, Switzerland

This is a beautiful, but extremely cold ski resort, about 4 hours by train from Zurich. Being a tourist destination, things were understandably expensive. Temperatures fell to as low as "-18°C" during our stay. The locals appeared surprised to see people of colour there, and were initially a little distant. We did not display our skiing talents (or lack thereof), which was disappointing, as one doesn't have much else to do there if one doesn't ski.

Our accommodation was about 1 km away from the last bus stop, which initially was very disconcerting to us, as we had to walk this distance in temperatures lower than -15°C at 20h00. We thankfully acclimatised after 2-3 days.

The overall experience

This was indeed most rewarding. It exposed us not only to a different country and culture, but also enhanced our basic and laparoscopic surgical skills.

Acknowledgements

Our hosts

We wish to acknowledge the assistance of the Administrative Office of the International Society of Surgery, for initiating the programme for us through Professor Madiba of the Department of Surgery, University of Natal. We also wish to express our appreciation to ISS/SIC staff, who went out of their way to look after us, in addition to them having to co-ordinate this huge event. We also thank the Foundation for Gastrointestinal Surgery Davos, under whose banner the above workshop was held.

Department Support

We wish to record our heartfelt thanks to Professor Madiba, Professor of Surgery, University of Natal, Durban, for making it possible for us to participate in this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Registration and administration

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SEASON'S GREETINGS
FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE



Chris Storz, Marianne Bertschi, Stefanie Kluser, Anuschka Gassler, Caroline Imeri, Victor Bertschi

Time is passing quickly and soon we will reach the end of 2003. We hope that in spite of the worldwide situation of economical and political challenges you may look back at a successful year.

Already now we would like to convey to you our wholehearted Season's Greetings from Switzerland.



International Surgical Week ISW 2005

41st World Congress of Surgery of ISS/SIC

21-25 AUGUST 2005
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA



www.isw2005.org.za