



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

NEWSLETTER

November 2007

Make sure to complete the enclosed Personal Data sheet!

Welcome by the President of ISS/SIC



Problems, Challenges, Goals, and Need for Your Input

I think all will recognize the 2007 meeting in Montreal as a fabulous meeting – good, even great talks/symposia, fabulous education, camaraderie, international communication, unparalleled environment, a real scientific and educational success!

BUT, I would be amiss if I didn't acknowledge our challenges and problems. There were problems that need to be and will be addressed for the 2009 meeting in Adelaide. Financially, the Montreal meeting, though elegant, was simply too costly for the ISS to put on and for our members to attend;

While it is a fact that services of Convention Centres and Hotel Accommodations in large Cities are extremely costly, my firm commitment for Adelaide is to decrease the registration fee, to make alternative priced, less exotic hotels available, to readdress the need

for and cost of all the social events. It will be necessary to reorganize some of the social events to make them more attractive and worthwhile or possibly to cancel.

Furthermore, we are working hard to organize sponsored lunch time symposia. Concerning the airfare it will be important to look for cheap flights ahead of time.

Now on to the program in Adelaide. Already the integrated societies as well as our joint society, the ISDS (International Society of Digestive Surgery) and a number of participating societies, are planning their programs for the **ISW 2009**. In addition, we are hoping that several surgical groups in Australia will plan to hold their annual meeting with ISW 2009 in Adelaide – active negotiations are underway. These joint meetings will only increase the educational and communicational opportunities for all.

As the President of the ISS, I have several goals for the meeting in Adelaide.

- 1) Visibility of Women Surgeons Internationally and support for career development
- 2) More recognition of international surgical problems
 - a) Female childbirth (devastating) injuries
 - b) Trauma in developing countries
 - c) HIV, Tbc, typhoid fever
- 3) Volunteerism for work in the developing world
- 4) Many more travel scholarships funded not only by the ISS Foundation but by other organizations, groups, etc.

As the President, I ask for all your help. First, recruit more of your colleagues to our society – joining is easy. Visit the website www.iss-sic.ch for the application form. Also, I would ask anyone with constructive and concrete ideas of how to improve the ISW 2009 to e-mail me (sarr.michael@mayo.edu) with names of organizations that might want to become involved in ISW 2009, groups/foundations/industry connections that could help fund some of the above considerations, or any other helpful input to improve the meeting. I look forward to your constructive thoughts.

One last word – we all mourn the death of one of our great societal fathers – Dr. Martin Allgower. Yet we also celebrate his life, input, vision, and child – the ISS/SIC. Let’s all celebrate his life and contributions – not just mourn his death.

With best regards.

Michael G. Sarr
President ISS/SIC and
Congress President ISW 2009

Report by the Secretary General



Felix Harder

Montréal

Montreal is just some 3 months away and we are already very much involved in setting up the ISW-program for Adelaide. The quality of the program at our convention in the province of Quebec was unanimously rated as excellent as had already been the case in Durban. It is all the more deplorable that the attendance was disappointingly low. 2 main reasons for that: the annual meeting of CAGS, the Canadian Association of General Surgeons next door in Toronto just 2 weeks later and the American College Meeting in October. This was not without effect on the volume of the industrial exhibit as well. This situation naturally sapped the economic success of ISW to a certain degree. The avoidance or integration of competing events into ISW is not always feasible and remains a tough problem. Appropriate efforts are being made for ISW 2009 and 2011.

Abstract Prize Winners & Travel Awards at ISW 2007 in Montréal

During the Montréal Congress a number of Free Paper, Poster and Travel Awards were given. The following recipients are congratulated upon their great achievement.

ISS/SIC Free Paper Prize ISW 2007 for the 6 best presentations (out of the 12 best graded Abstracts) in the two ISS/SIC Lloyd M. Nyhus Prize Sessions

- 1st Prize: B.E. Nilsson, Sweden
- 2nd Prize: S. Di Saverio, Italy
- 3rd Prize (ex aequo): M. Adamina, Switzerland
A. Frilling, Germany
R. Konopke, Germany
K.M. Mori, Japan

ISS/SIC Poster Prize ISW 2007 for the 6 Best Poster Presentations (regardless of category Poster Discussion / Poster Exhibition Only) in the Program of ISS/SIC

- 1st Prize: M. Miyazawa, Japan
- 2nd Prize: M.H. Park, Republic of Korea
- 3rd Prize (ex aequo): M. Echenique-Elizondo, Spain
P. Korita, Japan
F. Marchal, France
H. Nagata, Japan

More Prize Winners are mentioned by the respective Integrated Societies in their part of this Newsletter.

Adelaide



As you can see in the Presidential Welcome of this Newsletter, great importance is attached to lean design and implementation at all levels, accommodation and very much also social events. When Norway organised the Winter Olympic Games in 1994 they stressed simplicity and down to earth events as opposed to Olympic gigantism and they were very successful in it. Adelaide will literally be "lillehammered" and great efforts are being made to keep costs down without sacrificing the scientific quality, fun and conviviality.

ISDS and the World Journal

ISDS, the International Society for Digestive Surgery has largely contributed to the excellent acceptance of the GI-program in the two most recent ISW's. In fact this society has now decided to get closer to ISS/SIC as far as our journal is concerned. World Journal of Surgery has now become the official journal not only of ISS/SIC with its four integrated societies but also of ISDS. This is going to further enhance the journal which has been doing increasingly well. The Editor in Chief, John Hunter, has worked out an incentive system for the integrated societies and for ISDS with paybacks to the societies based on their degree of collaboration with and contributions to the journal. Furthermore, the Editorial Board has been expanded.

Token Authentication Method through Springerlink.com

In 2008, online access to WJS will be offered through a token authentication method. As a member in good standing, you will receive a unique token either by email or letter with instructions detailing how to register on springerlink.com. After you have registered on springerlink.com you will be prompted to enter a unique token. After you have entered a valid token, you will automatically be associated to ISS. This way

you can gain access, to 11 surgical journals of Springer associated with the ISS. To do so, you will simply log in to springerlink.com with the unique username and password you created for yourself.

ISS/SIC membership and very low rates for young surgeons

The membership of ISS/SIC is stable with 2164 paid active members in 2006 (2099 in 2005, 2147 in 2004). I would like to stress once more that surgeons up to their 35th birthday pay only half the membership rate, i.e. only USD/Euros 67.50 and they get all the advantages like 12 issues of the journal, electronic access to WJS, to stream videos, back issues and to 11 other surgical SPRINGER journals. In addition they have reduced registration fees at ISW's. May I ask you to thoroughly inform young surgeons around you about this really interesting bargain which is difficult to beat in price and quality!

Your e-mail address and electronic data

In the near future we want to correspond with our members electronically only in a further effort to reduce expenses and to speed up communication with and among members. I therefore urge each one of you to take a few minutes to complete the brief questionnaire attached to this Newsletter and to send it back to us with no delay. The time will come quite soon when we will no longer communicate in print. We do need the full membership list with actual e-mail addresses.

Invoices for the annual dues 2008

Invoices for the dues 2008 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 the ISS/SIC. Should you have omitted to transfer the dues for former years we will be happy to reactivate your membership and subscription to WJS upon receipt of your payment.

Felix Harder
Secretary General

Join ISS/SIC as a junior surgeon for half the rate and get 12 issues of the World Journal of Surgery among other important advantages!

Surgeons below age 36 may become members of the International Society of Surgery/Société Internationale de Chirurgie (ISS/SIC) for only USD/Euro 67.50 a year with the following advantages:

- Subscription to World Journal of Surgery (12 issues p.a.)
- Access to stream videos, back issues
- Access to 11 additional surgical Springer Journals
- Reduced congress fees for International Surgical Week ISW
- Be part of a great International Surgical Society covering the many fields of general surgery

Do not hesitate!
Be sure to inform junior surgeons around you.
Application Forms at www.iss-sic.ch

Minutes of the ISS/SIC General Assembly

Wednesday, August 29, 2007 at Palais des congrès de Montréal

Number of members present 103 including Executive Committee Members

16:50

1) Call to order and address by the President of ISS/SIC

Society President M. Kitajima calls the meeting to order and welcomes all participants. Secretary General F. Harder states that the invitations and documentation for the various agenda items were sent in good time to all members by Newsletter. No requests for further items in the agenda have been received until the beginning of the congress. The request by the Secretary General for a change in the agenda, to have items 12 and 13 advanced after 5 to give more time for the counting of the votes for ISW 2013 priorities, is approved.

2) Report by the Secretary General

Secretary General Harder provides his report about

- a) Situation of membership
- b) New Members
- c) Presentation of Prize Winners and Honorary Member

This report is well received by all members present and F. Harder is thanked.

3) Changes of the constitution – votes for acceptance

F. Harder informs that some changes in the constitution have become unavoidable in order to assure an efficient and quick reaction for the Editor in Chief (EiC) of World Journal of Surgery. The Journal has become a very important and useful tool of ISS/SIC. The changes and reasons for these are:

- a) Article IV: The Editor in Chief
The change of this article newly assures quick reaction in any matters by the Editor in Chief related to the WJS
- b) Article V: Editorial Board
The current policy for the nomination and election of new Editorial Board Members proved to be no longer accurate for a professional handling in the future. The prerequisite that new Editorial Board Members can only become active after election by the General Assembly can no longer be maintained.
- c) Article VI: General Assembly
As a consequence of the above said, this article has to be amended accordingly.

After no requests for discussion are received, the members present confirm by an unanimous vote to accept the suggested changes.

4) World Journal of Surgery (WJS)

J. Hunter informs about the activities and results of WJS during the past 2 ½ years by showing some statistics including acceptance rate. The ranking of submissions by country is headed by Japan, followed by USA, Turkey, China, Italy and UK. G. Fried is thanked for his special edition related to the congress. After having given his report, J. Hunter provides

- a) The report by Springer Verlag New York in this report, it becomes very obvious that the electronic access of the journal is gaining importance.
- b) new Editorial Board member list after acceptance of the changes of the constitution, J. Hunter is pleased to present the list of new Editorial Board members. All board members are listed on the front page of WJS.

5) Report by the General Treasurer

General Treasurer K. Boffard refers to the statement of accounts which is included in the documents for the General Assembly and provides further details to the related figures.

- a) Audited Statements of Accounts 2005 and 2006

The year 2005 ends with a net profit of USD 68'083.87 by showing an income of USD 637'146.50 and expenses of USD 569'062.63. The year 2006 ends with a profit of USD 126'535.88 by an income of USD 840'131.58 and expenses

of USD 713'595.70. The increase of income and expenses in 2006 are mainly due to the activities related to the Durban Congress but also because of the new contract for World Journal of Surgery with Springer Verlag.

The net assets of the Society have increased by the end of 2005 to USD 443'687.62 and USD 587'440.96 in 2006. The Report of the Auditors by Weidinger & Partner Company is also enclosed in the booklet handed out.

- b) Budgets for 2008 and 2009
The Budgets for 2008 and 2009, based on the assumption that the annual dues will remain at USD/€ 135.00 and figures of 2006 are ending with a projected profit of USD 97'000.00 in 2008 respectively USD 99'800.00 in 2009.

- c) Vote for Membership Fees 2008 and 2009
K. Boffard and the Executive Committee propose to keep the dues structure constant at USD/€ 135.00 as in the past 8 years.

If the difference between Euro and USD remains as important as it is now we will have to propose a readaptation. It is difficult to argue that the Euro region pays 50% more than the USD region for the same service!

The General Assembly confirms by unanimous votes:

- a) to accept the statement of accounts 2005 and 2006 as well as the report by the auditors. Weidinger and Partner is reconfirmed for 2 more years
- b) the acceptance of the proposed budgets 2008 and 2009
- c) to keep the ISS/SIC annual dues for 2008 and 2009 at USD/€ 135.00

12) ISW 2013 presentations of invitations

The National Delegates of the 4 remaining candidate countries that comply with the requirements to host ISW 2013 are presenting their congress places by providing information about the suggested congress venues and infrastructure of the host cities. These are:

- Helsinki, Finland by A. Leppäniemi
- Athens, Greece by D. Voros
- Amsterdam, the Netherlands, by H. Obertop
- Basel, Switzerland by Th. Kocher

13) Vote for priorities congress venue ISW 2013

After the presentations of the 4 congress places, the Secretary General invites all to indicate their priorities by giving a total of 10 points to all four places together, 4 to the most preferred and 1 to the least. Collected voting forms that do not comply will not be considered.

6) Report by the Secretary – Treasurer of ISS-Foundation

J. Grosfeld presents his report by highlighting the merits and activities of the foundation during the last two years. The financial situation of ISSF has improved thanks to the various donations by all members and an increased income from interests.

A special thanks goes to President M. Kitajima who has donated USD 20'000.– and has become Theodor Kocher Benefactor of ISSF in 2007. All contributors will be listed in World Journal.

Nine of the 10 travel scholars attending ISW 2007 are presented to the GA:

- Vivek Aggarwal, Lucknow, India
- Raphael Ayorinde, Sagamu, Nigeria
- Nehara Begum, Luebeck, Germany (Bangladesh)
- Nicolae-Gabriel Ianos, Craiova, Dolj, Romania
- Nino Kartvelishvili, Tbilisi, Georgia
- Varut Lohsiriwat, Bangkok, Thailand
- Gopalsamy S. Prabudoss, Chennai, India
- Sami Salah, Gadarif, Sudan
- Andrew Tambyraja, Edinburgh, UK (Sri Lanka)

Dr. Eshonkhodjaev Otabek, Tashkent, Uzbekistan unfortunately could not make it as he could not obtain a visa for Canada. He will be offered participation at the Davos course in compensation.

7) New election and re-election of Officers

F. Harder informs that the nominations for new committee members were published in good time before the congress and that no other nominations have been received before the congress. After no comments are made and no discussions are requested the following elections are being made.

- a) **Ken Boffard, Johannesburg, South Africa** is elected unanimously with applause President elect 2007 to 2009
- b) **Abdel-Hadi S.T. Al-Briezat, Amman, Jordan** and **Tatsuo Yamakawa, Tokyo, Japan** are unanimously elected with applause Councilors for the period 2007 to 2011.

The outgoing Committee Members Attila Csendes, Santiago, Chile and J. Rüdiger Siewert, Munich, Germany are thanked for their ongoing support to the Society.

The election of new representatives by the 4 integrated Societies in the ISS/SIC Executive Committee is confirmed by the GA in globo as follows:

IAES	Göran Akeström, Stockholm, Sweden
IATSIC	Ian D. Civil, Auckland, New Zealand
IASMEN	Dan L. Waitzberg, Sao Paulo, Brazil
BSI	Kerstin Sandelin, Stockholm, Sweden

8) Confirmation of ISS/SIC President

The Members present at the General Assembly unanimously confirm **Michael G. Sarr, Rochester, USA** as **ISS/SIC President** for the period 2007 to 2009 and also as **Congress President ISW 2009** in Adelaide.

After this election, the outgoing president M. Kitajima hands over the golden president's chain to the new president as his last official task.

9) Address by the new Society President

Before giving his short presidential address, Michael Sarr hands over the past presidents plaque to M. Kitajima and thanks for his tremendous efforts and support to the Society.

10) Election of Congress Vice Presidents ISW 2009

The 2 suggested nominations for ISS/SIC Congress Vice Presidents

Tonia Young-Fadok, Scottsdale, USA
Guy Maddern, Adelaide, Australia

as well as the Congress Vice Presidents of the 4 integrated societies –

IAES **Henning Dralle, Halle, Germany**
IATSIC **Ari K. Leppäniemi, Helsinki, Finland**
IASMEN **Peter B. Soeters, Maastricht,
the Netherlands**

BSI **Raimund Jakesz, Vienna, Austria**
are all confirmed by acclamation.

11) ISW 2009 in Adelaide, Australia information

LOC President P. Malycha from Adelaide provides his report by encouraging all members to plan their participation in Adelaide. The Australian and New Zealand Chapters have worked hard to bring this congress to a great success. P. Malycha also informs that **Ian Civil from New Zealand will be the LOC Vice President ISW 2009.**

14) Varia

The Organization of ISW 2011 in Yokohama is pleased to inform the following LOC officers:

President **Masahiko Watanabe, Kanagawa**
Vice-President **Seigo Kitano, Oita**
Secretary General **Yuko Kitagawa, Tokyo**
Honorary President **Masaki Kitajima, Tokyo**

M. Mulla from South Africa requests that the dates for ISW 2009 and 2011 are being reconsidered and hopefully postponed by one or two weeks in view of muslim ramadan. F. Harder agrees to look into this matter but also indicates that there is little

hope since both convention centers have already been booked 3 respectively 1 year ahead. He will inform accordingly.

At the end of the General Assembly, F. Harder informs about the result of the votes for priorities of ISW 2013 as of the advanced agenda items 12 and 13.

**first ranked: 203 points for Helsinki,
Finland**

second ex aequo: 197 points for Amsterdam,
the Netherlands
197 points for Basel,
Switzerland

fourth: 163 points for Athens, Greece

Note: the votes as originally informed during the GA have been re-counted and an error of 5 points incorrectly favouring Basel was detected. This is corrected in the above list.

The Executive Committee will now in a further step verify the obtained offers and will make its final decision based on the above priorities by the GA. It can be expected that the result will be available by mid 2008.

After no further pleas are received, President Michael Sarr closes the meeting at 18:10

For the minutes
Victor Bertschi



ISS-F Travel Scholars ISW 2007

Martin Allgöwer: a tribute

(1917–2007)



Martin Allgöwer

In 1979 Martin was elected President of the ailing Société Internationale de Chirurgie / International Society of Surgery. He has moved the central office of ISS/SIC from Brussels to Basel and restructured and reorganised this multidisciplinary and international society. Thanks to his enormous personal engagement first as president, then as secretary general, one of the oldest surgical societies underwent a literal renaissance and may be considered today as the umbrella of world surgery in general.

Martin Allgöwer was born in 1917 and had a happy youth with his two older brothers in St. Gallen, Switzerland – at that time the centre of the Swiss textile industry. The economic depression in the 1930s hit the family hard; nevertheless Martin was able to attend medical school at Basel University. With the beginning of World War II his studies were frequently interrupted by military services, where he served as captain of the Swiss army medical corps. Finding clinical employment after graduation was difficult in those years, so he started to work in the tissue culture research laboratory of CIBA, one of the big pharmaceutical industries in Basel. Later he continued his studies on human monocytes in the burn unit of Truman Blocker at the Texas Medical Center in Galveston. This research resulted in the inaugural dissertation (PD) on “The cellular basis of wound repair”, which could be considered as a precursor of today’s stem cells studies. Back in Basel, Martin spent 8 years in the Surgical Department of the University Hospital under Professors Carl Henschen and Rudolf Nissen. One of his teachers in those years was Hans Willenegger who later turned out to become very instrumental in the development of operative fracture treatment within the AO-group and became a great friend.

In 1956, Martin Allgöwer was promoted to surgeon-in-chief of the Kantonsspital in Chur, which is situated in the center of one of the best Swiss skiing and mountaineering areas. As his original training was mostly focused on visceral surgery, he was now confronted with many sports injuries, especially fractures. Having suffered from a tibia fracture himself in 1952 that was treated by a cerclage wiring and resulted in considerable shortening and external mal rotation, Martin was most enthusiastic to join the group of young Swiss surgeons that gathered in 1958 around Maurice E Müller to form the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Osteosynthesefragen – “AO” – to improve operative fracture treatment. Realizing the great need for basic research in the field of bone healing, Martin immediately founded the Laboratory for Experimental Surgery in the building of a former laboratory for tuberculosis in Davos. Only two years later, in 1960 the first AO Course was organized in the Davos research lab with 46 active Swiss surgeons and many others who were interested in the new, revolutionary techniques of internal fixation. That was the start of Davos becoming the AO “Mecca”.

As a true general surgeon, Martin also had great interests in other surgical fields, especially visceral and endocrine surgery as well as in intensive care. For instance he was heavily involved in pioneering the proximal selective vagotomy for the treatment of duodenal ulcer, which replaced the more radical Billroth gastric resection in those years. Another pet subject was parathyroid surgery. He also headed the Swiss Cancer League from 1962-1966. With the increasing incidents of road traffic accidents, treatment of open fractures and the management of polytrauma patients became a big issue. Martin Allgöwer was probably one of the first to systematically apply stable internal fixation to open fractures as an emergency procedure and to introduce “early total care” in the management of the multiple-injured patients, who were consequently ventilated for at least 24 hours in one of the first intensive care units in Switzerland.

In 1967 Martin Allgöwer was elected as chairman of the Department of Surgery at the Basel University Hospital, a position he held until 1983. His many innovative ideas and achievements and the reputation of his systematic and broad educational effort in surgery at all levels soon spread around the world and made Martin an internationally highly regarded surgical leader. Innumerable honorary memberships including that of the American College of Surgeons, the American Surgical Association and the Royal College of Surgeons of England may be proof of that.

Besides his many international activities Martin was above all a clinical surgeon, a critical researcher and great teacher. In spite of doing surgery himself almost

every day and fixing acute fractures also at night, he found the time to assist young residents with great patience during their first hernia repair or with a malleolar fracture, always giving meticulous attention to an uttermost gentle handling of tissues (including bony structures!) and careful suturing techniques, especially the “Allgöwer stitch”. He personally knew every patient in his department, and was the first to arrive at the hospital and the last to leave. While in Chur his research at the research institute in Davos (headed by Stephan Perren) he concentrated on fracture healing, then later in Basel he was also very much interested in burns a subject dear to him also many years after retirement. He authored many key articles in books and journals, and was also a much favoured visiting professor. While extremely demanding he knew how to motivate and was very supportive in the career of young surgeons. From his surgical department in Basel, more than 20 academic surgeons emerged, all of them receiving attractive hospital and university appointments.

Right away from the early days of AO, Martin Allgöwer was besides Maurice E Müller and Hans Willenegger, one of the three key figures. Müller was the surgical genius and magician, Allgöwer gave the group the scientific background and credibility, while Hans was spreading the AO gospel and philosophy around the world. Recognizing that the three of them would not last forever, Martin had in 1984 the great idea of creating the AO Foundation, which was to guarantee continuity.

Based on the experience gained in the AO fracture courses over about 25 years, Martin – together with a few German and Swiss surgeons – initiated in 1983 again in Davos the first one-week course in open and soon also in laparoscopic gastroenterologic surgery with hands-on-exercises on specially prepared gut specimen, which were equally successful and are still offered today.

Although his professional interests and activities filled most of his days and many nights Martin had other interests such as flying his own two engine airplane, powder snow skiing in Davos or Heliskiing in the Canadian Rocky Mountains as well as listening to classical music. Even after retiring from active surgery and teaching Martin never lost his interest in the AO and its ever increasing activities. He has probably never missed the opening of an AO Course in Davos, sitting in the front row and listening critically to new developments of fracture treatment, some of which have revolutionized one or the other of the original AO principles established by the pioneers. As he has always shown interest in innovations – often applying new techniques with enthusiasm himself, he has

also been able to accept new cognitions and radical changes in scientific developments and in clinical applications within AO.

Like many others, I have worked closely with Martin and learned a lot from him. I now feel privileged to be able to thank and pay tribute to this outstanding personality and great friend. Martin has passed away on October 27th in his senior residence in Chur.

Thomas P. Ruedi,
Honorary Member ISS/SIC

News from IAES



*Göran Akerström,
President IAES*



*Gerard M. Doherty,
Secretary IAES*

It was really nice to see so many of you at the IAES/ISS Congress in Montreal a few months ago. The IAES part of this meeting was a great success, with a substantial number of participating members, and exceptionally high attendance during our sessions. We owe great thanks to our past President, Henning Dralle and to our Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Doherty for arranging the excellent program. The attendance was so high for the symposium on Thyroid Carcinoma that the session room could not seat everyone. There were several other highlights in the program, including the wonderful time we had with all of our friends in endocrine surgery. As a new program point on the Sunday of arrival we had an Interesting Case Conference, and an IAES Educational Session on Intraoperative Nerve Monitoring. We want to thank all who contributed by visiting Montreal, and all who actively participated with presentations at the conference. The free papers were excellent. It is really evident that we at the biennial IAES meetings get rapidly and efficiently informed about what is new in Endocrine surgery.

We owe a very special thanks to Janice Pasioka who had made such excellent local arrangements. Hotel Place d'Armes was a outstanding hotel for the en-

doctrine surgeons, with possibilities to meet after each conference day at "happy hour" with wine and cheese. The IAES Banquet was very elegant and pleasant, being organized in combination with visit to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, where we could see the fascinating works of the famous Canadian painter Emily Carr.

The success of this meeting is a very important step in the right direction for the IAES. Another important step is a substantial increase in the membership number we have encountered. The IAES membership now exceeds 400 members. It is still crucial that we all continue to contribute to increase the membership by suggesting colleague surgeons to become new members.

We are now looking forward to the new conference for the IAES that is planned together with the ISS in Adelaide, Australia, during the International Surgical Week, 6-10 September 2009.

If any of our members has any comments about the program that was presented in Montreal or suggestions of new program points for the coming congress in Adelaide, or other matters of the IAES that concerns you, please mail the IAES Office and our secretary Jerry Doherty, or feel free to call me at the address below.

At the meeting Leigh Delbridge was appointed President Elect, and Rob Parkyn was included as a member of the Executive Council, implying that the IAES will be well prepared for the Adelaide Conference, and for the future.

We are sorry to hear of the passing of two of our members, Lars O. Thoren of Uppsala and of course of Martin Allgöwer, who has done so much for the Society (see special article). We send our deepest condolences to their families.

With best wishes to you and thanks for your contributions to the IAES.

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Upcoming Meetings in 2008:

March 20-22, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

Asian Association of Endocrine Surgeons
www.asianaes.org

April 6-8, Monterey, California
American Association of Endocrine Surgeons
www.endocrinesurgery.org

April 24-26, Barcelona, Spain
3rd Biennial Congress of European Society of Endocrine Surgeons
www.eses.cc/

April 30-May 4, New York
American Society of Breast Surgeons
www.breastsurgeons.org

May 3-7, Berlin, Germany
10th European Congress of Endocrinology
www.ece2008.com

May 12-16, Hong Kong
2008 Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
www.surgeons.org

IAES Executive Council:

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Quan-Yang Duh, USA
Jean-Francois Henry, France
Chen-Hsen Lee, Taiwan
Chung Yau Lo, Hong Kong
Robert Parkyn, Australia
Janice Pasioka, Canada
Hiroshi Takami, Japan
Bo Wangberg, Sweden

News from IATSIC



*Ian D. Civil,
President IATSIC*

I am pleased to be able to write to you as I begin my two year term as President of IATSIC. Much has been accomplished during the term of my predecessor, Ari Leppäniemi, and I will be very happy if we can accomplish a similar amount during my term of office.

We have just had a very successful conference in Montreal during International Surgical Week from August 26th – 30th. There were good attendance numbers for many of the sessions and the popularity of the various sections will be used as a guide to future conferences. The highlight of the conference was the presentation of the inaugural Donald D Trunkey lecture, presented by Don himself. This stimulating and provocative lecture entitled “Improving Trauma Care in Developing Countries” was encouragement for a wide range of options to be considered in reducing the burden of injury in the developing world. The IATSIC dinner at Restaurant La Modavie was very popular, not only amongst IATSIC members and their families, but also amongst general registrants for ISW as well. Planning is already underway for the next biennial conference in Adelaide, Australia in September 2009. Members of the programme committee will endeavour to bring forward a programme which integrates well with other societies such as the International Society for Burn Injuries and the Ambroise Paré International Military Surgery Forum, and also serves the local needs of the Asia-Pacific region. Amongst local societies that will be involved, the Australasian Trauma Society will collaborate to produce one day of the conference where the multidisciplinary interests of colleagues in anaesthesia, emergency medicine and intensive care will be addressed. The program will include symposia, free papers, case presentations and of course the Donald D Trunkey lecture. Adelaide, September 6th-10th 2009 – please mark your diaries now!

The educational activities of IATSIC continue strongly with delivery of the Definitive Surgical Trauma Care course increasing both in numbers of courses and in geographic regions of the world covered. A very successful course was conducted in Montreal in the

week prior to ISW. The National Trauma Management Course is also developing well and serving a different section of trauma care providers. The Essential Trauma Care project continues under Charlie Mock’s guidance with refinement of quality indicators and quality improvement programs planned for the near future.

Membership accrual is slow but slightly outpaces membership loss. As of last month there were 201 members in good standing (compared with 197 in 2005) and 42 who had not yet paid their 2007 dues (compared with 60 in 2005). Contact details for IATSIC remain:

IATSIC
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P.O. Box 1527
CH-1433 Pratteln
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Governance of IATSIC has stabilised under Ari Leppäniemi and Ron Maier. The Association now has clear direction and purpose. The new office holders and members of the Executive Committee elected or ratified in Montreal are listed at the end of the article.

Gene Moore remains as IATSIC representative to the World Journal of Surgery

The chairs of the other IATSIC committees are

Ari K. Leppäniemi, Membership/Nomination Committee
C. William Schwab, Publications/Programme Committee
Ken D. Boffard, Education Committee

Members would be pleased to note that one of our Past Presidents (and current Chair of our Education Committee) Ken Boffard has been voted in as President-elect of the International Society of Surgery. Ken will take over the reins of the Society following Michael Sarr at the conclusion of the Adelaide meeting.

During the past year, the society has been particularly well served by its Secretary-Treasurer, Erwin Thal. With his guidance processing of membership applications has been streamlined and advice on matters financial freely available. We are very lucky that Erwin has agreed to continue in this position for another two-year term.

I look forward to serving as your President for the next two years and regard myself and your Association very

well served by the Officers and members of the IATSIC Council.

Ian Civil, MBChB, FRACS, FACS
IATSIC President

IATSIC Officers & Committee Chairs:

President:

Ian D. Civil, Auckland, New Zealand;
icivil@extra.co.nz

Past President & Membership/ Nominating Committee:

Ari K. Leppäniemi, Helsinki, Finland;
ari.leppaniemi@hus.fi

President-elect & Publications/ Program Committee:

C. William Schwab, Philadelphia, PA, USA;
Charles.Schwab@uphs.upenn.edu

Secretary-Treasurer:

Erwin R. Thal, Dallas, TX, USA;
erwin.thal@utsouthwestern.edu

Representative to WJS:

Ernest E. Moore, Denver, CO, USA
ernest.moore@dhha.org

Education Committee:

Kenneth D. Boffard, Johannesburg, South Africa;
KDBoffard@pixie.co.za

News from IASMEN



*Dan L. Waitzberg,
President IASMEN*

Montreal Congress ISS/SIC 2007

The IASMEN scientific programme at the 42nd Congress of the ISS/SIC in Montreal was held under the leadership of the outgoing president, Professor Kenneth Fearon (Edinburgh, UK), and was very well received.

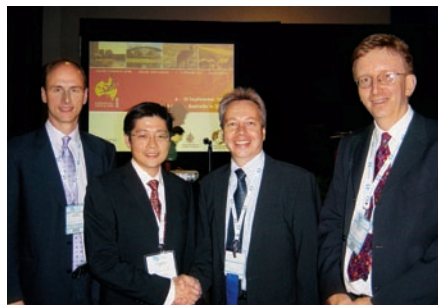
Professor Franco Carli (Montreal, Canada) delivered the José F. Patiño lecture with aplomb elegantly showing how recent developments in multimodal perioperative care have made it possible to achieve stress free surgery and anaesthesia. For this purpose he outlined a series of well designed evidence based measures before, during and after operation. This theme was further developed at the IASMEN main session presented by Fearon (UK), Carli (Canada), Ljunqvist (Sweden) and Wilmore (USA).

The subsequent IASMEN session discussed the evidence base of cost efficient practice, with interesting and novel insights which were presented by Wilmore (USA), Senagore (USA) and Fried (Canada).

Much interest was raised by the symposium held together with ISDS addressing "Tips from the experts" in salvage surgery. Another exciting symposium was held together with IATSIC with the theme "Trauma and Critical Care". In a joint symposium with IASMEN/FELAC "Hot topics in nutritional and metabolic care in bariatric surgery" were covered, becoming more and more an important and growing part of surgery. Last but not least in a IASMEN/WOFAPS main session "Essential nutritional support growth factors in pediatric practice" were discussed in depth.

Future officers

At the business meeting new officers were appointed. Dan L. Waitzberg from São Paulo University Medical School was appointed as president 2007-2009, seconded by Gordon L. Carlson, Intestinal Failure Unit, University of Manchester, UK, as secretary and by Harumasa Ohyanagi, Department of Surgery, Kinki University School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan as vice-president. Peter B. Soeters, Department of Surgery,



*Scott D'Amours,
W.-C. Chua, Australia (IATSIC Poster Prize),
Ari Leppäniemi, Michael Sugrue*

Maastricht University, the Netherlands was proposed and accepted as Adelaide Congress vice-president.

Future activities.

Although it is two years away, the IASMEN council are already planning a stimulating and exciting scientific programme for the 43rd world congress of ISS/SIC together with the sister societies and with the help of leading surgeons in the Far East and Australasia. Main themes will be "Compromised gut, diagnosis, surgical and metabolic management", "Long-term nutritional and metabolic effects in bariatric surgery" and "Hospital nutrition: consequences for outcome and costs". Allied health professions including dietitians, nurses and pharmacists will be heartedly welcome to participate at these IASMEN sessions. We look forward to receive comments or suggestions from members, please contact IASMEN directly (Professor Dan L. Waitzberg) by email at IASMEN@ganep.com.br

Dan L. Waitzberg
President IASMEN

IASMEN Officers:

President:

Dan L. Waitzberg, São Paulo, Brazil;
IASMEN@ganep.com.br

Secretary:

Gordon L. Carlson, Salford, UK;
gordon.carlson@manchester.ac.uk

Past President:

Kenneth C.H. Fearon, Edinburgh, UK;
k.fearon@ed.ac.uk

News from BSI



*Kerstin Sandelin,
President BSI*

Dear BSI members

It's a pleasure to serve you as BSI president. During the Montreal meeting in the proud history of ISS, BSI held its forth meeting as an integrated society. The meeting is unique in that the BSI members and invited speakers come contribute and share perspectives from five continents where they are leaders in their field. For the second time the BSI-postgraduate course preceded the scientific program and assembled some 50 participants world wide. This course that offers an update in Breast Cancer care and management with a global perspective will be continued. The scientific program gave a panorama of epidemiology to treatment in the five symposia. It became evident that breast cancer treatment varies from national treatment plans for prophylaxis and ample resources to extremely meager conditions with very limited governmental support. To facilitate communication and participation in the International Surgical Week for young surgeons with special interest in breast surgery BSI was proud to announce travel awardees and the three recipients were Dr. **Nur Aishah**, Malaysia, Dr. **Navneet Kaur**, India and Dr. **Mukta Baxi**, Nepal.

BSI Travel Awardees



*Mukta Baxi
with Gaurav Agarwal, Secretary BSI*



Navneet Kaur



Nur Aishah

The prize winning section of free papers had this year the compulsory "a manuscript is the ticket to the podium". The winning candidate was Dr. **Ava Kwong** Hong Kong with the paper "Breast cancer in Chinese women younger than 40: are they different from their older counterparts?" The paper is submitted for publication in World Journal of Surgery. Dr. Kwong has recently joined the breast team of BSI council member Dr Polly Cheung in Hong Kong. BSI is also much indebted to Dr. **Sarkis Meterissian** McGill University of Montreal who arranged the venue for BSI dinner. It was a memorable event where we enjoyed good company and exquisite food.

During the business meeting BSI thanked **Raimund Jakesz** for serving as BSI president for two periods and being BSI ambassador during many trips where he has been giving talks. Professor Jay Harness US was elected president-elect. In order to encourage younger breast surgeons with academic interest Dr. **Ines Buccimazza** from Cape Town, South Africa and Dr. **Omar Youssef** from Cairo, Egypt were elected as affiliated council members. BSI welcomes their active participation.

Preliminary plans for Adelaide 2009 are underway. BSI council coordinator **Peter Malycha** is president of the local organizing committee and will ensure that the venue and its facilities will be appropriately used for the meeting. The program will join forces with the breast section of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons which will ensure a large body of participants. The meeting will also ensure multiprofessional attendance.

In order to grow healthy BSI needs new members and all of you who contribute and enjoy the meetings, do spread the news and recruit new members! **Jay Harness** has an exceptional position in being president-elect of BSI and also president of The American Society of Breast Surgeons. Thus we hope find forms for both our societies and pathways whereby we can liaise and create fruitful network in the future.

Remember to use the web page <http://www.breast-surg-intl.org/> to communicate.

On behalf of the BSI council I convey my warmest greetings,

Kerstin Sandelin
President BSI

BSI Officers:

President:
Kerstin Sandelin, Stockholm, Sweden;
kerstin.sandelin@ki.se

Past President:
Raimund Jakesz, Vienna, Austria;
raimund.jakesz@meduniwien.ac.at

President elect:
Jay K. Harness, Orange, CA, USA;
JKHarness@aol.com

Secretary:
Gaurav Agarwal, Lucknow, India;
GauravBSI@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Marko M. Margaritoni, Dubrovnik, Croatia;
marko.margaritoni@du.htnet.hr



BSI Dinner at Montreal



Breast CA east-west panelists

Season's Greetings by the ISS/SIC Staff

An interesting and challenging but also in great parts successful year soon comes to its end.

From the ISS/SIC Administrative Office in Switzerland we like to convey to you wholehearted Season's Greetings as well as our best wishes for a promising 2008.



Victor Bertschi, Administrative Director
Fuat Dogan, Trainee

Marianne Bertschi, Davos Course Organization
Verena Spies, Swiss Surgical Society
Caroline Imeri, Executive Secretary
Chris Storz, Asst. Administrative Director

Make sure to complete the enclosed Personal Data sheet!



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Deadlines

*Abstract submission
closes 4 January 2009*

43rd World Congress of Surgery
of the International Society of Surgery

Come to Adelaide, Australia in 2009

International Surgical Week 2009 – Adelaide Australia September 6–10, 2009

This is the most important biennial surgical meeting in the World, and is well attended by members of ISS/SIC who include representatives of the integrated and participating societies – IATSIC, IASMEN, BSI, IAES and ISDS.

ISW 2009 will provide a high quality, state-of-the-art meeting on all aspects of general surgery. Scientific topics will cover all aspects of clinical surgery, experimental surgery and related sciences, surgical education and the socioeconomic aspects of surgical care.

With the collaboration of many integrated and participating societies, ISW 2009 will offer, in addition to selected topics of general interest to all general surgeons, a program of meetings devoted to the various specialties and subspecialties.

ISW2009 in Adelaide will provide you with an opportunity to enjoy a 'snapshot' of Australian culture – a stones throw from the outback and within minutes of beautiful beaches.

On behalf of the organising committee we extend our warmest invitation to attend – and are sure that you will have an enjoyable time both professionally and socially.

We look forward to seeing you in Adelaide 2009.

Congress President

Michael G. Sarr, Rochester USA

Congress Vice Presidents

Guy Maddern, Adelaide Australia
Tonia Young-Fadok, Scottsdale USA
Henning Dralle, Halle Germany
Ari K. Leppäniemi, Helsinki Finland
Peter B. Soeters, Maastricht Netherlands
Raimund Jakesz, Vienna Austria

Local Organising Committee

President

Peter Malycha, Adelaide Australia

Vice President

Ian D. Civil, Auckland New Zealand

**To register your interest please visit
the website:**

www.isw2009.org