



Newsletter

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

May 2024

ISS/SIC Report by the President



*Cheng-Har Yip,
President ISS/SIC &
Congress President
ISW 2024*

Dear Members of ISS

Time has really passed, and in 4 months' time, we will be getting together at the International Surgical Week (ISW) in Kuala Lumpur which will be held from 25-29th August 2024, which is held in conjunction with the Malaysian College of Surgeons meeting. The programme is available on the website <https://www.isw2024.org>. It is still not too late to sign up for this conference and I hope to meet many of you there. With several postgraduate workshops, and over 100 sessions covering a broad range of surgical topics, I am sure there will be something interesting for everyone.



City Center Kuala Lumpur

May 2024

I will also be passing the Presidency of the ISS/SIC over to Professor Ari Lep-paniemi at the International Surgical Week 2024. I have had an interesting time during my presidency. The publisher of the ISS journal, the World Journal of Surgery, changed from Springer to Wiley. I am sure you have noticed the new cover of the journal. We are currently in the process of appointing a new Editor-in-Chief, as the contract for Professor Julie Ann Sosa comes to an end. I would like to thank Professor Sosa for her 6 years' outstanding work as Editor-in -Chief of the WJS. Because of the Covid Pandemic, her term was extended by one year, as was the term for all the office bearers of ISS after the ISW in Krakow in 2019.

It will be a good time for you to visit Malaysia. It is not so good for Malaysians, as the US dollar is at an all time high,

with an exchange rate of 1 USD to 4.78 Ringgit Malaysia. This means that it will be cheaper in Malaysia for our conference delegates and tourists. Because of the economic climate in Malaysia currently, it has not been easy to get corporate sponsorships for the ISW, but we hope for the best, and with your support, we will have a successful ISW 2024 in Kuala Lumpur.

See you in Malaysia.



Receiving the honorary membership of the SCGP from Dr Jenner Pallardel, SCGP President, 2 Aug 2023



Meeting with the Mexican surgeons in Boston 23 Oct 2023

Report Secretary-General



*Kenneth D. Boffard,
Secretary-General
ISS/SIC*

This is the last Newsletter before our meeting in Kuala Lumpur. For all those who have already registered, we look forward to seeing you there, and if you are still planning your visit, take advantage of the current favourable international exchange rates against the Malaysian Ringgit for hotels and travel. The Integrated and Participating Societies have put together some impressive programmes, both on either side of the ISW, and within it. For those interested in the Writers' Workshop, which takes place on the Tuesday – Thursday, before the start of the daily sessions, there are still a few places left. If you are not used to submitting for publication, this is the opportunity for improving your skills.

Your Society is in a state of expansion and regeneration. On behalf of the Socie-

ty, I would like to welcome the new Editor in Chief of the World Journal of Surgery, Professor Sherry M Wren, from Palo Alto, California. She, and our Treasurer, Professor G M Doherty have been Interim Joint Editors since February, and Professor Wren will fully assume responsibility from 1 June. We wish her a stimulating and productive stay with us.

You will already have seen many changes in our journal, which is the "World" Journal. The new cover reflects this, and other changes are coming.

What is also very clear, and review the Integrated Society President's reports, is the amount of energy being placed into

the field of Surgical Education, from undergraduate to Postgraduate, and from sophisticated to resource challenged environments. Your Society is taking the lead. On a slightly, more pessimistic note, the ASAP membership is falling, as will be seen from Milliard Derbrew's report. Rest assured that ISS/SIC will have the room and the will to incorporate all those who wish to have a role in Global Surgery. All additional thoughts from our membership would be most welcome.

We look forward to seeing you in Kuala Lumpur!

Kenneth D. Boffard
Secretary-General ISS/SIC



World Journal of Surgery: Volume 48, Issue 5

Pages: 995-1271

May 2024



Crystal Mosque in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia

Report ISS Foundation



Michael G. Sarr,
Secretary/Treasurer
ISS Foundation



Quick Update from the ISS foundation
April 19, 2024

As the date for ISW2024 in Kuala Lumpur approaches, the ISS Foundation, in conjunction with the Foundation for Global Surgical Care and Dr Peter Vogelbach, has evaluated the 50+ applicants for the ISS TRAVEL AWARDS. This was a difficult decision because all the applicants are worthy of this award, but we were able to fund a total of 16 applicants and 2 alternates to be funded. in conjunction with IATSIC, ISDS, and

ASAP. Unfortunately because of financial limitations, all of the other applicants are worthy of funding but we were limited in the total available monies from both the ISS AND THE ISS foundation. The awardees come from Nigeria, India, Nepal, Cameroon, Congo, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Laos, and Papua New Guinea.

All awardees will present their work in a special session that I encourage everyone to attend and to interact with them. Obviously the goal of this travel award

program is not only to provide an educational experience for surgeons in the developing world but also to increase collaboration and networking across many countries. Please everyone interact with these Interesting surgeons.

Michael G. Sarr
Secretary/Treasurer of the ISSF

The Foundation for Global Surgical Care (FGSC)



Peter Vogelbach,
President FGSC



For the FGSC we want to inform all members of the ISS/SIC, that we plan a one day course in open, conventional and in basic laparoscopic techniques including laparoscopic cholecystectomy on Sunday, 25 August, before the ISW starts..; this hands-on course is supported by the davoscourse Organisation (<https://davoscourse.ch/>).

See course details at: <https://www.isw2024.org/program>

Further training courses are planned in the future in Nepal and in Africa.

If you see the possibility to have such a course in your area, country or in your hospital, please contact our ISS/SIC Secretariat.

With best regards.

Peter Vogelbach
President FGSC

Report Administrative Office



ISS/SIC Administrative Office team: Mike, Laurie, Chris, Anna, Denise

Dear ISS/SIC Member and Reader

We are eagerly looking forward to the International Surgical Week ISW 2024 in Kuala Lumpur – find all updated information at www.isw2024.org. The preparatory works are going on high speed, and we have indication that this will be a very remarkable event you should not miss! The scientific and social programs do look very promising and next to the

invited program with high class speakers and postgraduate courses, a large number of abstract presentations will be given.

Join your Integrated Society at the Dinner on Tuesday of the congress and make sure you will attend the Kuala Lumpur Night on Monday which will introduce you to the Malaysian culture and cuisine while networking.

The ISW 2024 headquarters hotel is the Traders, which is conveniently connected with the congress center KLCC. Some of the Integrated Societies have selected their own headquarters – find the information at <https://www.isw2024.org/hotelandtravel>

Always be aware that scams are ongoing. The ISW has NOT contracted any agency to approach delegates to provide hotel accommodation or else. Make sure that you book your accommodation through your trusted agent and always be prudent with suspicious mails - never click any link (phishing) if you are not sure of the origin.

We are looking very much forward to welcoming you at ISW 2024!

With our best wishes.
Administrative Office team

Visit us on: [Facebook](#) | [X](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#)



Nature in Malaysia – orang utan

Message from LOC ISW 2024



Hisham Abdullah,
President LOC ISW
2024



Hanafiah Harunashid,
Honorary
Secretary LOC ISW
2024



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
25-29 August 2024



50th World Congress of the International Society of Surgery ISS/SIC

International Surgical Week

The World's Congress of Surgery

isw2024.org

Jointly organized with the 51st Annual Scientific Congress of the College of Surgeons
Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (CSAMM)

Report from the Local Organising-Committee ISW 2024

Kuala Lumpur is privileged and well poised to host the largest gathering of surgeons ever in Malaysia at the International Surgical Week 2024 is scheduled from 25th to 29th August 2024 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

Preparations are well underway to ensure a smooth and enjoyable conference especially for our overseas participants who hail from 44 countries at the last count.

Scientific Programme

The Sections and the ISW Secretariat have worked hard to ensure that the sci-

entific content is attractive and will appeal to the specialties across board.

The Congress had received over 1,000 abstracts and 904 from the various categories have been accepted for presentation.



1. *KL Night* (26th August) – *Venue:* Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC)

Social Programme

The social events have been planned with much relish and excitement. The details are available on the congress website.

The summary of the venues is as given below. Please book your seats early.

Hotel Accommodation

Traders Hotel Kuala Lumpur is the nearest hotel to the Convention Centre. There are a lot of hotels within the vicinity of the Convention Centre. Please check the website for details.

BMI Support

The support by the biomedical industry is coming in and so far seven partners have been confirmed joining us for the event.

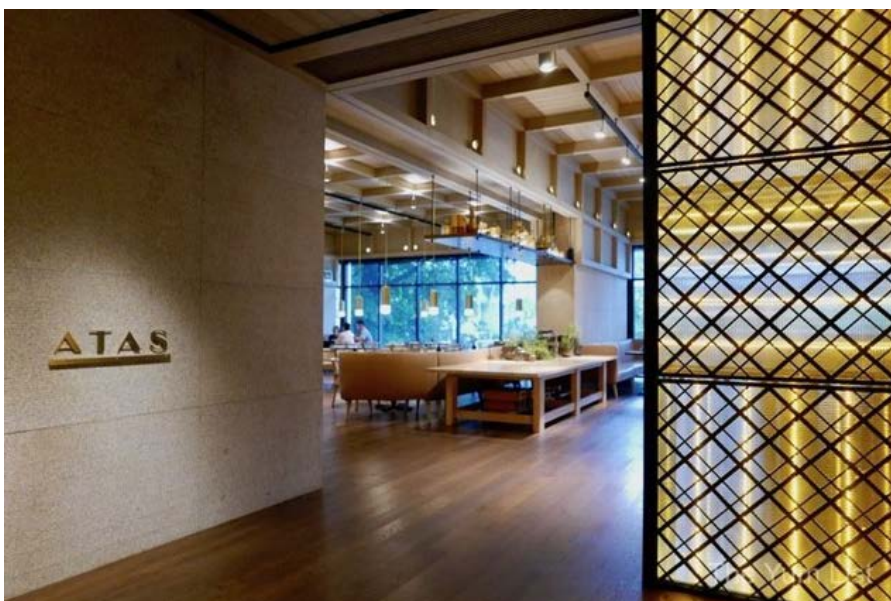
Invitation

We would like to request members of the ISS to help to promote and encourage your fellow colleagues to come and join us for a successful and fruitful ISW in Kuala Lumpur come August.

Hanafiah Harunarashid
Honorary Secretary LOC ISW 2024



2. *IAES Dinner* (27th August) – *Venue:* ARAS KL Tower



3. *BSI Dinner* (27th August) – *Venue:* ATAS Ruma Hotel KL



4. **ISDS/IASMEN Dinner** – **Venue:** *Bijan Bar and Restaurant*



5. **Presidents Dinner* (28th August)* – **Venue:** *Fuego KL*

Report IAES



Jan Zedenius,
President IAES



Stan Sidhu,
Secretary-Treasurer
IAES

Janice Pasioka and Haggi Mazeh have developed an IAES education programme to be delivered as part of the Global Surgical Oncology Summit in Jerusalem Israel Jan 30 - Feb 2, 2024. Unfortunately this was cancelled due to the outbreak of events in Israel and Palestine. The meeting has been rescheduled for June 2024 however many IAES members cannot attend due to travel warnings issued by their home countries and our role in the meeting has ended. Our heartfelt wishes are extended to all those affected by this devastating conflict.



Notably we have mourned the passing over one of our Founding fathers in Professor Tom Reeve from Australia and tributes from around the world have flowed from all of us to his family.

We look forward to Malaysia August 2024.

President Jan Zedenius
Secretary Stan Sidhu

IAES Update Feb 2024

The IAES group have been active in the last 6 months. Preparations have been made for the IAES portion of the International Surgical Week in meeting in Malaysia in 2024 with a solid programme in place. We have confirmed the IAES Hotel as the RUMA Hotel in KL and the KL Towers as the venue for the IAES dinner.

We have posted a further educational series lecture online delivered by Professor Herb Chen on the current management of Primary Hyperparathyroidism and this was exceptionally well received.



Saloma Link Bridge, Kuala Lumpur

Report IATSIIC



Scott D'Amours,
President IATSIIC



iatsic

International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care

Dr David Zonies at the International Surgical Week ISW 2024 in a couple of months.

I'd like to thank the members of IATSIIC for their trusted support but especially the IATSIIC Executive Committee for their unfailing support, guidance and expertise over these past two years. As we've emerged from the constraints of the pandemic we have tried to keep some of the things that we know worked well and helped better disseminate trauma education and discussion globally. One example of this is the **IATSIIC webinar series**

in which we have partnered globally with different trauma societies to bring you those presentations and discussions. We plan to continue these important events and partnerships with like-minded Societies from around the planet.

We have also continued to build on our strengths and re-establish courses like **DSTC**, again in some difficult circumstances as we discover the post-pandemic 'new normal'. Watch out for release of the new (Sixth Edition) DSTC Manual edited by J O White and K Bof-

President's Report on the activities of IATSIIC: November 2023 – April 2024

This is likely to be my last note to you as I finish up as President of IATSIIC and hand over to my successor and President-elect,

fard. Many IATSIC and DSTC members, faculty and others have contributed to this important course manual. It will be released at the time of ISW 2024 and available for shipping afterwards.

We also continue to work on updating the materials for the **NTMC** which should be available later this year. Both slide materials and text are currently being revised by a team led by Profs Ranjith Ellawala and Tim Hardcastle. Once these are nearing completion, selected countries will be invited to pilot the updated materials on provider courses.

IATSIC has also taken on new and bigger projects including the **new trauma operative course** building on our relationship with the WHO. So much work has been done on this under the leadership of Prof's Tina Gaarder and Tim Hardcastle, not to mention the hard work of many, many contributing experts and authors. I look forward to seeing this course launched hopefully later this year and to see it grow and be used in the environments that it is intended for.

The next big project launched a year ago is the **ERATIC project** which, in combination with the ERAS Society, will help to deliver best practice standards with best available evidence answering questions that we all face when managing injured patients. These standards should be able to be utilised regardless of the resources available. There will be variations - but these standards should help to optimise the care delivered.

However for now- the rapidly approaching ISW 2024 planned for August is generating a lot of excitement. Keep an eye on the ISS Social Media sites (Facebook, Instagram and "X" (prev known as Twitter) for updates and special recorded messages from many of our confirmed presenters.

50th International Surgical week (ISW) 2024 – Kuala Lumpur

The countdown is on for IATSIC members planning to attend **ISW 2024 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia!** Register now as the early bird registration expires soon and you want to get the best deal possible. Of course, IATSIC members get an even better deal- so make sure your

membership is up to date.

The dates for the Congress are August 25th – August 29th. Our IATSIC Program Chair, Professor Tina Gaarder and the IATSIC Executive Committee have put together a wonderful engaging program that will keep you busy throughout the entire conference. We are grateful to our many speakers and presenters that have agreed to participate in this exciting event.

For those involved in running DSTC/DATC and creating the new IATSIC/WHO operative course, there will be pre-congress workshops August 22nd – 24th to undertake further work on these projects.

Ensure that you also register for the IATSIC dinner which will be held on Tuesday August 27th. We will be sharing our evening with members of ASAP and the student surgical society IASSS. It promises to be a wonderful evening and I encourage you attend, enjoy good food and even better company!

Also for those who have not yet booked a hotel room- I encourage you to book and stay where many IATSIC members will stay- The RuMa (<https://theruma.com/>). I understand that one or two other ISS integrated societies have also made this their recommended hotel – so please make your booking as early as you can if you are planning to stay there.\

Thank you

I look forward to seeing you in August and thank you again for your support of IATSIC and all of the various important projects and work that you are involved

with in supporting Trauma Surgical care internationally. Thank you also to the IATSIC Executive Committee for all of their hard work behind the scenes in both leading and contributing to the many ongoing projects of our society. This work would not happen without the tireless and unfailing support of each of you.

Most importantly I need to express the thanks of the entire IATSIC team to the ISS office- but especially to Mr Chris Storz who has so much experience and corporate memory-that we could not do what we do, without his detailed and unfailing support. Thank you Chris!

The months ahead:

We look forward to writing to you again after the 2024 International Surgical Week Congress concludes- and to highlight the congress itself as well as all of the pre-congress workshops and activities. Hopefully we'll have a few good photos to share with you as well.

In the meantime- please confirm your personal registration, travel and hotel bookings for ISW 2024 in Malaysia. **The countdown is on!!**

Best wishes from the IATSIC executive committee.

Scott D'Amours, President
David Zonies, President Elect
Elmin Steyn, Past President
Tim Hardcastle, Secretary/Treasurer
Tina Gaarder, Congress Program Chair
Shadé Breedt, IASSS Representative



Dance performance by an indigenous tribe in Malaysia

Report BSI



Owen A. Ung,
President BSI



Sharon W.W. Chan,
Honorary Secretary
BSI

inviting them to participate in a brief on-line questionnaire aimed at assessing the variability in the management of locally advanced breast cancer across the world. As a representative organization on the Global Breast Hub, BSI is actively working towards uniting breast cancer groups worldwide to gather and report on treatment trends. It is crucial to identify knowledge gaps in breast cancer diagnosis and management globally, taking into account factors such as resource availability, treatment costs, training opportunities, required skills, and cultural variations. By doing so, we can develop personalized policies and solutions to provide high-quality standardized care for breast cancer patients worldwide.



The webinar commenced with enlightening lectures by Jacqueline Jeruss (USA) and Irma Fredriksson (Sweden) on the management of breast cancer in pregnant patients. The discussions shed light on the lack of awareness regarding fertility preservation, cost concerns, advanced stages of breast cancer, and other crucial factors prevalent in various healthcare practices worldwide - both in public and private settings.

We are thrilled to extend a warm welcome to all participants who will be joining us for the International Surgical Week ISW 2024 in just two months' time! Get ready for an incredible event filled with knowledge sharing, networking, and exciting opportunities.

Survey on Locally Advanced Breast Cancer

The Breast Surgery International (BSI) organization is proud to collaborate closely with the Global Breast Hub. In January 2024, we reached out to our members,

BSI Webinar Feb 2024

On February 3rd, 2024, we organized a BSI Webinar on the "Management of Pregnancy Associated Breast Cancer (BC) and Fertility Issues in Patients on Hormonal Therapy." We were delighted to witness the participation of over a hundred attendees. Council Member Pooja Ramakant from India played a pivotal role in organizing the program, which featured engaging discussions, case-based scenario presentations, and contributions from a panel of experts.

BSI Program International Surgical Week ISW 2024 (photo 2-3)

The BSI program is meticulously crafted by our Program Co-Chair Nur Aishah Mohd Taib and Farid Meybodi, to ensure a rich and fruitful experience for all participants. We are delighted to have Prof. Christobel Saunders as this year's esteemed Umberto Veronesi Lecturer. Prof. Saunders is currently the James Stewart Chair of Surgery in Royal Melbourne Hospital. She is



BSI Webinar, February 3, 2024

an accomplished and respected figure in the field of breast surgery, renowned for her expertise, research contributions, and dedication to improving patient care.

With over 50 esteemed speakers from around the globe, the BSI main sessions promise to deliver crucial insights into a



Prof Christobel Saunders

wide range of important topics in the field of breast surgery. Don't miss out on the opportunity to immerse yourself in the latest advancements and best practices in axilla management, neoadjuvant therapy, breast conservation and radiotherapy, lo-

cally advanced breast cancer and metastatic disease, innovative breast surgery procedures, and breast surgery fellowships. A joint session organized by the Association of Women Surgeons (AWS) and Breast Surgery International (BSI) will address global health issues related to breast cancer care.

Both the "BSI Debate" and "Stump the Expert" sessions provide an engaging and interactive platform for dynamic discussions on key topics in breast surgery. In addition to these thought-provoking sessions, we are thrilled to announce that we have received an overwhelming response of nearly 150 abstract presentations. These presentations include the new video format, allowing presenters to bring their work to life visually. Each presentation has undergone rigorous independent review, and the best oral, poster, and video abstracts have been selected for presentations and will compete for the prestigious BSI prizes.

Our highly popular pre-congress workshops will be held on 24-25 Aug: Advanced Oncoplastic and Reconstructive Breast Surgery, Basic and Advanced Breast Ultrasound and Intraoperative Radiotherapy IORT in Breast Surgery. These pre-congress workshops have consistently received high praise from partici-

pants in previous years, in addition to the new and innovative IORT workshop with live surgery demonstration, we anticipate that they will fill up quickly. Early registration is strongly encouraged to secure your spot and ensure you don't miss out on these sought-after educational opportunities.

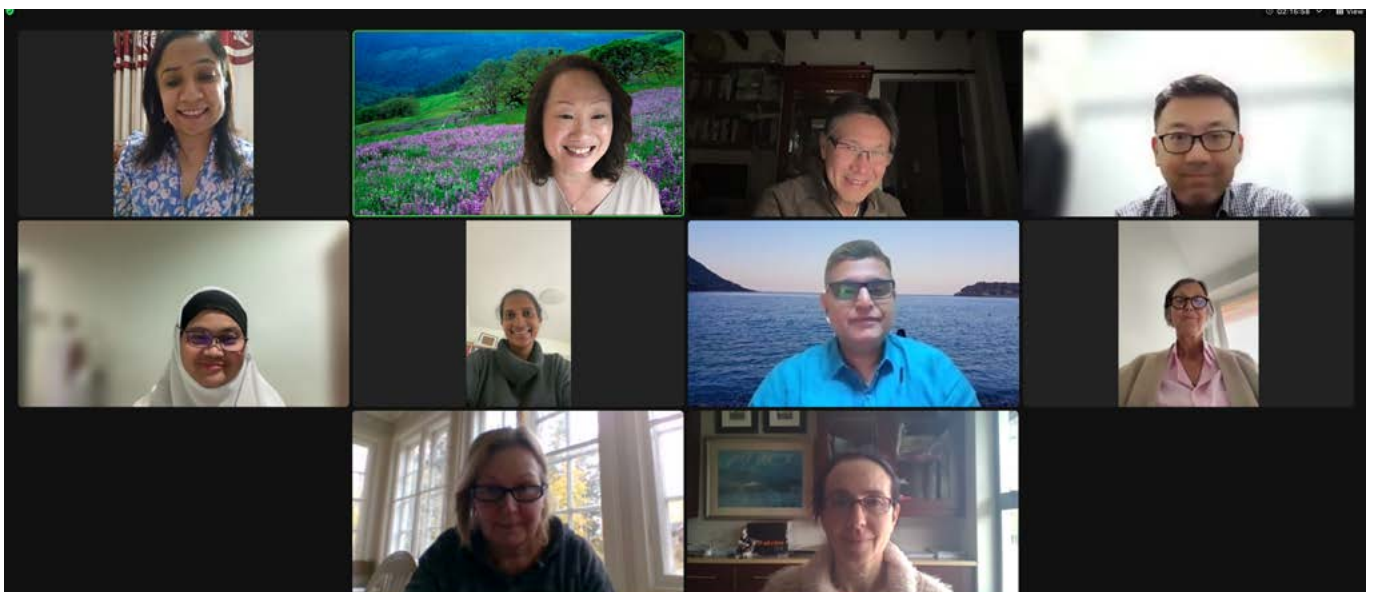
Last but not the least, Don't miss out on the BSI social event! Join us at the selected headquarters Hotel RuMa for an unforgettable evening of fusion French Malaysian cuisine at ATAS. It's the perfect opportunity to relax, connect with fellow attendees, and enjoy a delightful dining experience.

BSI Membership

We encourage you to become a BSI member and join the International Surgical Week ISW 2024 by paying the annual subscription fee. By doing so, you gain access to a wide range of membership benefits that will enhance your professional journey and keep you updated with the latest advancements in breast surgery and beyond. Be part of this vibrant and intellectually stimulating journey!

Owen A. Ung
President BSI

Sharon W.W. Chan
Honorary Secretary BSI



BSI Council Meeting

Report ISDS



Jamie Murphy,
President ISDS



Dear Colleagues

It gives me great pleasure to provide an update to our ISS/SIC friends and colleagues regarding the work of the International Society of Digestive Surgery (ISDS) in 2024 so far. As one might imagine over recent months the ISDS Executive Committee has been focused on finalising our scientific programme at the 50th World Congress of the International Society of Surgery, the International Surgical Week ISW 2024, which will take place in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the College of Surgeons Academy of Medicine Malaysia. I am delighted to say that the programme is now complete. For those of you who have yet to see the programme it can be found at the following link - <https://www.isw2024.org>. If you have not registered for the meeting already – book your annual leave for the 25th to 29th August 2024, start looking for flights to, and hotels in, Kuala Lumpur! From all I have seen I am already certain this will be a fantastic meeting.

ISDS members will see that the format of our scientific sessions for International Surgical Week 2024 has changed from previous meetings. In response to feedback from our members we are organising themed 'pan-gastrointestinal' sessions rather than our traditional benign or malignant sub speciality gastrointestinal sessions. We hope that the change in format will foster even more cross speciality discussion and debate. Our plans include exciting sessions covering - gastrointestinal surgical oncology, complex postoperative complication management, 'quick fire' updates in pan gastrointestinal hot topics, bariatrics and hernia management, 'top papers' of 2023/2024, video sessions where experts demonstrate their surgical techniques, in addition to a new technolo-

gy session, and a debate session. We are also thrilled to confirm we will have other 'cross over' joint sessions with the other ISS integrated societies (IASMEN, IATSIC, IAES) and the Federation Latinoamericana de Cirugia (FELAC), which I know will be fantastic symposia in their own right.

I would like to highlight to ISDS members that the annual ISDS / SSAT joint meeting will take place in Washington D.C. as part of the Digestive Diseases Week meeting. That symposium is scheduled for 14:00 -15:30 on Sunday 19th May 2024. The symposium will cover the multidisciplinary management of upper and lower gastrointestinal functional conditions with presentations from a truly outstanding expert panel. I hope all ISDS members who are at Digestive Diseases Week will consider attending this symposium as I'm sure it

will be an exceptional session.

I am also delighted to announce ISDS is looking for volunteers ! We are looking for members who wish to be more involved with the society to apply to join one of the ISDS subcommittees covering – membership, social media, education, or international relations. Further information will be coming soon from the ISS/SIC office so please look out for emails with more details.

Finally, I am sad to say that this will be my last contribution to this newsletter. I will step down as the ISDS president during the International Surgical Week in Kuala Lumpur having completed my two year tenure. During that meeting I will hand over to the President Elect, Professor Lorenzo Ferri, and I know ISDS will thrive under his leadership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my ISDS committee friends and colleagues for all their guidance and support over the past two years. It has been my honour to serve as the ISDS president.

Jamie Murphy
President ISDS



Multicultural Malaysia –
traditional wear

Report ASAP



*Miliard Derbew,
President ASAP*

ASAP joined ISS in 2013 with great promise. The events of 2015 - the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery, the Disease Control Priorities in Developing Countries Essential Surgery Volume, and the World Health Assembly Support for Emergency and Essential Surgery resulted in an expansion of interest and opportunity for surgeons and anesthesiologists in LMICs, and those interested to study and support LMIC Surgical and Anesthesia growth and improvement. Despite the new global agenda, ASAP did not thrive.

Currently ASAP has 36 members, and growth has been stagnant despite ISS support and a reduction in dues for LMICs. The contributors to this reality are many.

Most importantly a failure of presence and leadership within ASAP, and a diminishing presence of LMIC authors in WJS. As well, there are many new CME opportunities for physicians - online and otherwise. Many societies have had to pivot due to the changes in commitment to and attendance at national and international meetings.

ASAP needs to pivot as well. There is abundant interest in global surgery within ISS. Perhaps a global track will attract physicians to ISS more generally. We need to understand what the current ASAP members want and so we are proposing a communication from ISS/ASAP to assess their interest. However, regardless of the wishes of the ASAP members, our leadership is dwindling. After the Kuala Lumpur meeting we will have no new president, and no secretary-treasurer. The immediate past president has been mostly absent since Vienna.

The decline of ASAP is disappointing and disheartening for me and others who have committed their careers to serving patients



in LMICs. I sincerely hope that ASAP will not be forgotten, and that the commitment to LMICs will live on within ISS and WJS. A change is necessary, and I, along with Kelly McQueen, ASAP Founder, will support the decisions of the ASAP members and the ISS Executive committee. We will have a robust, collaborative program in Kuala Lumpur. If this is the last International Surgery Week where ASAP is individually represented, I hope we will celebrate the ASAP effort and plan for a future of continued LMIC engagement and representation. I am committed to this future.

I welcome your comments and recommendations.

Miliard Derbew
President ASAP

Report IASSS



*Tatenda Mbanje,
President IASSS*

We are 10 years old!

In July 2024 we will celebrate our 10th birthday! The inaugural IASSS meeting that took place in Cape Town in 2014 has seen the society grow in membership and services over the years. 122 Active Countries / 4500 Active Members

We are also connecting with various surgery-oriented organizations across the world to co-create opportunities for all within our IASSS Community. Bringing 30 young surgeons to International Surgical Week in KL to meet their mentors!

The FSP was launched in Basel in 2017 and has biannually supported students and trainees to attend the WCS and ISW. These exceptional delegates have been selected amongst tough competition for their outstanding contribution to surgery in their region. This year FSPs are included in an online 6 month pre-congress preparation program where we will be capacitating our delegates in areas such as communication, leadership, productivity and personal branding. Once in KL, these delegates are invited to attend pre-congress workshops, invitational meet-and-greets with the Travel Scholars and ISS leadership team as well as close contact with their mentors in the academic session venues. We look forward to the social events including KL night, the society dinner with IATSIC and the student and trainee evening. This year will be the best program yet, thanks to the incredible support from Prof Cheng-Har Yip and the LOC in Malaysia. We would also like to



thank the ISS Foundation for their support of our delegates.

IASSS will be hosting

- a pre-conference NOTSS work shop
- a lunchtime session with the GECKO group
- academic sessions x3
- The Golden Scalpel Competition
- Social dinner in collaboration with IATSIC

Many students and trainees have had accepted abstracts and oral papers. Come and see what your peers are working on and meet them in person at our social events!

The Golden Scalpel Competition

The Golden Scalpel Competition is open to surgical trainees and medical students. Between the 26th-29th August, the IASSS Stand (that can be found on the Trade Floor of the conference) will feature 4 different tasks with open and laparoscopic techniques. Both the surgical trainee and the medical student who completes each daily task with the best technique and in the overall fastest time will receive a prize on the 29th of August!



News from Chile

The joint FELAC / ISS/SIC symposium was held during the last National Congress in Chile, Viña del Mar, November 22, 2023.

Title: **“PROBLEMS DURING FRIDAY NIGHT SHIFT”**

Directors: Dr. Alexandre Sauré, Dr. Italo Braghetto M.

This symposium was focused to discuss some frequent clinical problems and the management of different cases. The program developed was:

First session

Jaundice and fever... Cholangitis or Pancreatitis? Dr. Felipe Castillo.

The bleeding did not stop with the endoscopy!!! Dr. Maher Musleh

Bile down the drain!!! after digestive surgery. Dr. Carlos Cárcamo

Abdominal pain and shock... with liver mass....Dr. Omar Orellana

Discussion.

Second session

Complicated hernia and abdominal contamination, mesh? Dr. Jaime Carrasco

Acute appendicitis and underlying necro-

sis. Dr. Katya Carrillo G.

The patient with the vomiting has subcutaneous emphysema!!! Dr. Juan Carlos Molina

Is that urine through the drain? Dr. Fernando Marchant

Can you come to Gine's operating room; we have a problem? Help us!!!! Dr. Antonella Sanguinetti

Discussion

We received an optimal evaluation after the session, expressed by more 50 attendees, mostly young surgeons, or residents coming in from different regional hospitals of Chile.

Most speakers participating are FELAC/ISS members.

As directors of this symposium, we will continue organizing annually this symposium to accomplish FELAC/ISS teaching mission.

Alex Saure, National Delegate Chile
Italo Braghetto Coordinator



part of the audience.



Speakers participating in the symposium

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SURGERY (ISS/SIC)

Administrative Office

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Obituary:

Jörg Rüdiger Siewert

8 February 1940 – 9 January 2024, ISS/SIC Honorary Fellow 2009



It is with great sadness that we inform you that Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. Dr. H.c. Jörg Rüdiger Siewert died on January 9, 2024 at the age of 83 after a short, serious illness. With Professor Siewert, we are losing a world-famous pioneer of surgery and one of the most prominent representatives of German academic surgery of the past decades. Professor Siewert was a leading light in the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SURGERY for many years not only before but after his

presidency. The 2005 meeting of the ISS/SIC in Durban, South Africa during which Prof Siewert was one of the most successful meetings of the ISS/SIC. Under his leadership, the ISS helped to organize the travel of many African surgeons from all over the continent to this meeting resulting in many collaborative interactions thereafter. This meeting also served to re-focus the mission of the ISS/SIC to focus on education of the developing world.

Professor Siewert was bigger than life and led the house of surgery in Germany for many years. For anyone who knew and interacted with him, Professor Siewert was an exceptional personality in all aspects. He was one of the world's leading specialists in the field of oncological surgery with a special focus on esophageal and gastric surgery, and especially at the gastroesophageal junction. His

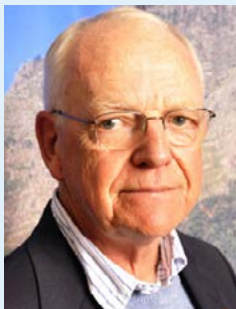
scientific and medical achievements were reflected in a huge number of publications and textbooks and were recognized with numerous national and international awards, honorary memberships globally. Professor Siewert was particularly committed to university politics and represented the interests of university surgery for years as first chairman of the Association of University Hospitals in Germany (VUD). Even after his retirement as a surgeon, Professor Siewert was full of energy and served as Chief Medical Director and Chairman of the Board from 2007 to the University Hospital of Heidelberg and from 2010 to 2018 the University Hospital of Freiburg. His insight and acumen has affected not only German surgery but SURGERY worldwide.

Michael G. Sarr, MD

Obituary:

John Terblanche

10 September 1935 – 6 March 2023, ISS/SIC Honorary Fellow 2005



Professor John Terblanche, internationally recognized as one of the world's leading researchers in the treatment of liver diseases, died in Cape Town on 6 March 2023, aged 87 years.

Terblanche, a previous Head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital from 1981 to 2000, graduated from the University of Cape Town in 1958 and qualified as a surgeon in 1964 when he was awarded the Douglas gold medal as the best graduate of the year. He started his surgical career by doing pioneering research with Professor Christiaan Barnard using the heart-lung machine and bubble oxygenator to cool patients during cardiac surgery for which he was awarded a ChM with distinction in 1964.

Professor Terblanche was appointed head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Cape Town at the age

of 45 years. Larger than life and a force of nature, he was highly regarded as a clinician, researcher, and educator but his biggest international contribution was the visionary and pioneering leadership he brought to the endoscopic treatment of bleeding oesophageal varices.

Leading by example, he transformed an excellent department inherited from his predecessor, the formidable and legendary Professor Jannie Louw, into an outstanding one, equal to the finest into the world. His abiding interest in liver disease led to the establishment of a research programme which became a mecca for liver surgery training and attracted international visitors to Cape Town who later returned home, spreading the gospel according to Terblanche, entrenching his global reputation and legacy.

John Terblanche was the editor of four books, 109 invited textbook chapters and over 260 highly cited peer-reviewed publications. He was an ardent ambassador for South Africa and a popular speaker at international meetings for over two decades. A staunch and eloquent advocate for the continued support of surgical research, many benefited from his wise counsel, and he took great pride in the successes of his proteges. His personal qualities included principled and de-

cisive leadership, inexhaustible energy and enthusiasm and a taxing work ethic in which he led from the front when others flagged or wilted.

He had a global influence and the national and international esteem in which he was held is reflected by the award of honorary Fellowship from the International Society of Surgery, and nine other Surgical Colleges and Associations in the world.

His continued love for his family was a cornerstone in his life. Anne, John's loving wife for more than 60 years, was a constant supporter of his career and a gracious hostess to the innumerable visitors, ranging from distinguished international visitors to junior trainees, invited to dine at the Terblanche home. Our thoughts and sympathies go to Anne, his children James, Michelle, Michael and Christopher, their spouses and grandchildren.

Jake Krige
Emeritus Professor: University of Cape Town

Ken Boffard
Emeritus Professor: University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
25-29 August 2024



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and its Integrated Societies

IAES - International Association of Endocrine Surgeons
IATSIC - International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care
IASMEN - International Association for Surgical Metabolism and Nutrition
BSI - Breast Surgery International
ISDS - International Society for Digestive Surgery
ASAP - Alliance for Surgery and Anesthesia Presence

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Deadline for Abstract submission:
January 17, 2024

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