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Executive Committee Members:

Simone Abib
(Chairman, Programme Committee)
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sajid Qureshi
Mumbai, India

Sabine Sarnacki
Paris, France

Paul Losty
Liverpool, UK

Robert Shamberger
(President-Elect)
Boston, USA

Ex Officio:

Piotr Czauderna
Gdansk, Poland
(SIOP Scientific Committee Representative)

IPSO Newsletter: February 2016

Dear Friends

Welcome to the first IPSO newsletter of the year. I hope that 2016 will be a fruitful year for you.

As we looked back at 2015, we had a pleasant annual congress in Cape Town, we saw changes in our Executive Council, and IPSO's conversion to a society with full legal capacity. We anticipate that Year 2016 will be filled with excitement as the plans for our calendar unfolds.

This newsletter includes:

- Changes to the IPSO Executive Council
- IPSO website
- About 2016 Congress in Dublin
- About 2016 IPSO-APSA Meeting San Diego
- Review of the 2015 Congress held in Cape Town
- Minutes of the 2015 AGM
- Messages from the Secretary & the President

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Apr 5: Abstract Submission Deadline
Oct 18: Education Day
Oct 19: IPSO Day1, AGM
Oct 20: IPSO Day2, IPSO Dinner
Oct 21: SIOP-IPSO-PROS Symposium

Once more IPSO is offering a Scholarship to help a member attend the Annual Congress (details on page 4)

Eligible: (1) surgeon, (2) age ≤40 years, (3) from a low or low-middle income country, (4) an abstract accepted for oral presentation at the Annual Congress.

Proof of eligibility must be sent to the IPSO secretary.

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Changes in the IPSO Executive Council

The Membership has voted online recently. We are happy to announce that:



Robert Shamberger (USA) has been elected President-Elect of IPSO. He will be taking over as President in the Dublin congress this October.



Chan Hon Chui (Singapore) has been elected as Secretary of IPSO. He takes over from Roly Squire (UK) who did a marvellous job in the efficient functioning of IPSO over the past 6 years.



Simone Abib (Brazil) has been appointed Chair of Programme Committee. Her committee will be planning IPSO's programme for the year. She replaces Steven Warmann (Germany) as the Programme Director.



Paul Losty (UK) has been elected as Executive Council Member.



The IPSO Executive Council 2014-2015 (left) worked very hard for the past year. Council members met via online meetings monthly. Special vote of thanks to the council members who concluded their terms of service at the Cape Town Congress; *Giovanni Cecchetto (Past-President)*, *Roly Squire (Secretary)* and *Steven Warmann (Programme Director)*.

Legal Status of IPSO

IPSO has been converted from a limited society to a society with full legal capacity, officially incorporated in the Netherlands on Dec 11, 2015. Thanks to those who voted online for the conversion. Our charity status has also changed so the IPSO EC is considering how to proceed with our fund raising efforts. Please send us any ideas that you have as we move forward. Our appreciation also goes to Stephen Shochat and Joerg Fuchs for their tireless efforts in making this a reality.

Our Refurbished Website



The IPSO Website (www.ipsosurgeons.org) has been refurbished by our Webmaster Sajid Qureshi and his professional team. The website promises to be informative and interactive with chat rooms members. It has just been launched recently. Use it and give our Webmaster your feedback.

2016 IPSO Annual Congress



Remember the dates, mark out your calendars to make sure that you come for our annual IPSO meeting in Dublin. It promises a fruitful time for old friends and new acquaintances. The newly designed banner above is for your easy reference. Members are encouraged to use it to engage colleagues to attend. Find out more from the link at our IPSOsurgeons' website (www.ipsosurgeons.org), or you may also navigate through www.siop2016.kenes.com



Submit your abstracts in the *correct ABSTRACT CATEGORY.*

If you would like your papers to be presented and discussed at the IPSO meeting, make sure you submit your abstracts under "2. Transversal Themes, **Surgery (IPSO)**".

DO NOT submit under "disease orientated topics" that will end up in other non-IPSO sessions.

Programme Highlights

Education Day: Topics include catheters, surgical role in lymphomas, surgical complications, chest wall reconstruction, interventional radiology.

IPSO Annual Congress:

Surgical Skills Seminar: tips & tricks in advanced neuroblastoma surgery, cytoreductive surgery & more.

IPSO Keynote Lecture: Vascular tumors in childhood

IPSO-PROS Symposium: Management of chest wall tumors

SIOP-IPSO-PROS Symposium: Contemporary multidisciplinary management of neuroblastoma.

Problem Cases Session: Bring your problem cases for discussion

2016 IPSO Scholarship

Eligibility & benefits

In 2014 the IPSO Executive Committee launched the first IPSO scholarship, and the scholarship will be awarded again in 2016. It is intended that the scholarship assists a young surgeon in attending the 2016 Congress. The precise details regarding how to apply, eligibility, and the terms and conditions, are available on the IPSO website www.ipsosurgeons.org

The scholarship will include:

- Free registration for the Annual Congress in Dublin
- Up to €1500 towards travel and accommodation
- A ticket for the annual IPSO Dinner in Dublin

To be eligible a surgeon must be aged 40 years or younger, must come from a low or low-middle income country, and must have an abstract accepted for oral presentation at the Annual Congress in Dublin. The scholarship will be awarded to the eligible applicant who has the highest abstract score. Abstract scoring is entirely blind with regard to the author, so we believe that this will ensure fairness & transparency.

How to apply

We expect that surgeons who are submitting an abstract for the meeting will have the opportunity to register to be considered for the scholarship at the time of abstract submission, and it will be important to send proof of eligibility to the IPSO secretary at the same time to ensure that your application is valid.

APSA-IPSO Symposium 2016



Every 4 years, IPSO joins the American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA) to run a joint paediatric oncology symposium alongside the APSA Congress. This year's APSA-IPSO symposium will be held May 14-15, 2015 in San Diego. (For more details, please visit website: www.eapsa.org)

SIOP-Asia Congress 2016



For the first time, there will be parallel sessions on Surgery in the SIOP Asia Congress. This will be held in Moscow, Russia from 25-28 May 2016.

(For more details, please visit website: www.siopasia2016.org)

IPSO Congress in Cape Town 2015





The 2015 IPSO Annual Congress was held in Cape Town in October. The meeting was very successful, special thanks to the attention of Sharon Cox (left), our local organizer. The occasion started with an Education Day held on 7 Oct 2015 in Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital followed by the 2 days of the annual congress held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

Thank you Sharon!

IPSO Education Day in Cape Town

Reflections from Dr Elmarie van der Merwe

Two months ago I was completely ignorant of the existence of IPSO, it was just another nonsensical acronym that could have a vast number of meanings, depending on the situation. Fortunately this gap in my education has been addressed and I feel a bit like a bibliophile who stumbled into a dusty old secondhand bookshop and discovered a whole shelf of first edition Hemmingway, signed by the author.



I discovered a wealth of information available on the SIOPEL website. It was extremely well structured and addressed the needs of everyone that may use it, from the very rookie like me, who needed a structured but simplified approach to the various childhood cancers, to expert consultations, panel discussions and forums for those experienced practitioners who were faced with extremely difficult and unique cases.

I realised that there will always be those that have more than we do in terms of resources but that there are also countries that have far less at their disposal to fight the brave fight with.

It was inspiring to meet people from so many different parts of the world, and hearing how everybody unassumingly got on with the job of saving the lives of children who were affected by childhood cancer with whatever means they had at their disposal. It was fascinating to hear about groundbreaking genetic work and surgical techniques that were pushing the boundaries, but what struck me most about the IPSO training day was that no matter how vastly different the backgrounds, the resources and sometimes even the opinions were, everyone shared the same unfailing passion of making a difference in the lives of their patients.

IPSO Annual Congress in Cape Town

A trainee's report written by Dr York Tien Lee

Annual Congress of IPSO 2015 was held on October 8 – 11, 2015 at Cape Town International Convention Centre in South Africa, and this was the 3rd IPSO annual congress I attended. As always, it was a good learning experience and great opportunity for me to meet surgeons and oncologists from all over the world.

The first day of congress began with a session on sarcomas, followed by surgical skills, renal tumours and ended with discussion on problem cases. The interesting topics from the morning included a review of urological outcome after high-dose brachytherapy for bladder-prostate rhabdomyosarcoma in children by Dr Jakob Stenman from Sweden; the reports from the cooperative soft tissue sarcoma trials by Drs Guido Seitz and Joerg Fuchs from Germany.

The surgical skills session was the most exciting session for a junior surgeon like me. The session included minimally-invasive surgery in paediatric solid tumours by Dr Joerg Fuchs, nephron-sparing surgery for uni- and bilateral renal tumours by Dr Denis Cozzi, and ovary-sparing surgery and preservation of fertility by Dr Sabine Sarnacki.

The subsequent session on renal tumour covered various topics in renal tumour, including a review on



nutritional status of children with Wilms' tumour on admission to a South African Hospitals and its influence on outcome by Dr Lauren Frances Lifson; and outcome of children with stage IV Wilms' tumour treated on AIIMS-WT-99 protocol by Dr Sandeep Agarwala from India. These 2 were very different topics but they both gave an insight on the management of paediatric renal tumours in resource-challenged countries.

The last session of day 1 was the Problem Cases Discussion which saw various interesting and challenging cases being shared and discussed. I presented a challenging Stage IV Wilms' tumour case from my hospital and obtained very helpful opinions and suggestions from the experts.

Day 2 began with the "Best of IPSO", with an interesting presentation on a subset of image-defined risk factors which significantly influenced the probability of a complete resection in children with high-risk neuroblastoma by Dr Jed Nuchtern; death receptor expression and sensitivity targeted in desmoplastic small round cell tumour by Dr Andrea Hayes-Jordan; and a report on the higher incidence of surgery-related complications in Wilms' Tumour nephrectomy from clinical records analysis compared to central database registration, and proposed that treatment policies should therefore be based on clinical records rather than on the central database. The following "Miscellaneous" session covered a wide variety of topics including topics on ovarian tumours, malignant melanoma and pulmonary pleuroblastoma. The afternoon session was focused on mediastinal masses and included a good overview on biopsy techniques and surgical approaches by Dr Joerg Fuchs, and anaesthetic management in mediastinal masses by Dr Rebecca Grey. The last session was on liver tumours and neuroblastoma included presentations from India, China, Japan, France and USA.

The IPSO keynote lecture was given by Dr Sandeep Agarwala from India. He gave a good overview on the challenges faced in developing surgical care for the children with solid tumours in resource-challenged nations.

Overall, attending annual IPSO congress 2015 in Cape Town was a great and enriching experience for me, and I look forward to participating in the annual IPSO congress 2016 in Dublin.

2015 IPSO Prizes

As at previous meetings, prizes were awarded for the best oral presentation and best poster. Congratulations go to:



Dr York Tien Lee, Singapore (left): *"Preoperative evaluation of paediatric adnexal masses with paediatric risk of malignancy index improves ovarian conservation and surgical morbidity"*. (Best oral presentation)

Dr Shalini Misra, India (right): *"Ewing sarcoma of the chest wall in children-a surgeon's perspective"* (Best poster).



IPSO Business Meeting 2015: Minutes

Thursday 8 October 2015: 17.00-18.00

Venue: Meeting Room 1.41
Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC)
Cape Town, South Africa

Chair: Stephen Shochat, IPSO President
In attendance: 43 IPSO members

1. The President welcomed members to the meeting.
2. The minutes from the IPSO Business Meeting held in Hong Kong 25 September 2013 were agreed and were signed off.
3. Presidential address: Steve Shochat highlighted the accomplishments and the future plans of the IPSO Executive Committee over the past year. These included:

- . Significant progress in IPSO achieving charitable status: the on-line vote of the membership had been 98% in favour of this. It is hoped that the process will be complete in the next couple of months.

- . Development of IPSO's relationship with the board of SIOP. A number of positive measures have resulted; in particular IPSO members will receive SIOP mailings in future to keep surgeons informed about forthcoming events. We must recognise that IPSO gets considerable support from SIOP. We would like the relationship to become closer. We will keep the membership informed.

- . There has been a marketing initiative, leading to the publication of the IPSO brochure. The brochure was shown to the members present. The pdf will be circulated with these minutes, so that members can print off copies to circulate at their local, national and regional meetings. We are working on increasing the benefits available to surgeons who are IPSO members.

- . Availability of Sosido to all IPSO members on-line. Sosido is a web-based application which filters out and circulates details of recent publications relevant to subscribers: IPSO members should all now be receiving monthly Sosido updates. Current feedback suggests that IPSO members are already making more use of Sosido than our SIOP counterparts.

- . The IPSO facebook site is now up and running. Useful information for IPSO members is regularly uploaded, as well as photos from meetings.

- . A new website is being developed. Sajid Qureshi will be the new webmaster, supported by a website committee, currently comprised of Roly Squire & Michele Ilari. The new website will shortly 'go live'. Members will be alerted.

- . The President has initiated a New Members Committee, under the chair of Andrea Hayes-Jordan, charged with collating the opinions of the newer and younger members of IPSO, to improve the relevance and visibility of our organisation. There was a notable advance this year in that the IPSO President had a welcoming page in the programme book for the congress.

- . IPSO is developing an educational initiative with WOFAPS. More information about this is on the WOFAPS website. There have been 2 on-line symposia so far; on neuroblastoma and Wilms. Discussion is being held about having 3 sessions in 2016.

- . The IPSO by-laws are being updated to get them in line with changes in the way the organisation is managed. This is being led by a sub-committee under the chair of Chan Hon Chui, who is presenting later in the AGM.

- . We are establishing a new Programme Committee, with Simone Abib as chair. There will be monthly on-line meetings, and we would like to get some younger members on to this committee. We want more members to get involved.

- . We are planning a new Education Committee under the chair of Jan Godzinski, to take a lead in our global educational initiative i.e. driving educational programmes at the SIOP continental meetings.

- . When IPSO has a sound legal basis and charitable status a serious fundraising programme is proposed.

4. Report from the New Members Committee: Andrea Hayes-Jordan gave a report on the work of this new committee: it has been in place for 1 year, and has had 3 meetings. The future plan is to meet on-line quarterly. The main aim of the committee is to recruit and retain IPSO members. To do this the committee recommends that:

- . IPSO should be promoted at other surgical meetings

- . Surgeons should be invited to join IPSO

- . We should try to set up a website facility to discuss difficult cases

- . We need to improve IPSO's visibility in SIOP

- . We have more frequent (monthly) on-line newsletters

- . There should be more clarity on the website about IPSO's mission.

Further recommendations from members will be welcomed, and the President encouraged all IPSO members to consider volunteering to serve on IPSO committees.

5. Report from the By-laws Committee: Chan Hon Chui gave a brief report pointing out that since the original IPSO Statutes & By-laws, drawn up in 1994, there had been various necessary amendments and revisions, and the documents now need tidying up to improve their clarity and relevance:

- . The mission statement should replace the 'aims'

- . There needs to be clarification of the membership process, and membership groups

- . The election process needs formalising

- . On-line processes need incorporating

Chan Hon pointed out the importance of this work because the Statutes & By-laws have legal status.

6. Financial report: Jörg Fuchs presented the annual financial statement, noting that IPSO's expenditure in 2104/5 exceeded income because of a number of 'one-off' expenses such as taking legal advice to consolidate our legal (& charitable) status, and website development. The overall income for the year was €5872, with expenditure of €16,564,

leaving a current balance of approximately €29,000. In discussion it was noted that there may be more legal costs, and that initially up to €12,000 had been budgetted to complete this work. The financial report was accepted.

7. Report from the Secretary: Roly Squire gave a presentation including the following:

The IPSO scholarship could not be awarded this year because there was no applicant who met the necessary criteria. The IPSO members present were asked to encourage their trainees and younger surgical colleagues to submit good quality abstracts for next year's congress, and to make sure that eligible surgeons should tick the box at the time of submission to apply for the scholarship. The Executive Committee will consider other ways to improve the profile of the scholarship.

The annual membership report from Kenes was presented; IPSO now has 150 paid-up members.

The IPSO local organisers for next year's annual congress in Dublin were unable to come to Cape Town. On their behalf members were invited to come to Dublin, and the dates were highlighted to be put into diaries: October 19-22, 2016, with the expectation that there will be an Education Day on October 18.

The Secretary thanked IPSO members for the support they have given over his 6 years as IPSO secretary, and in particular thanked members of the Executive Committee for their efforts. He commended the progress IPSO has made during his tenure thanks to the leadership of recent Presidents.

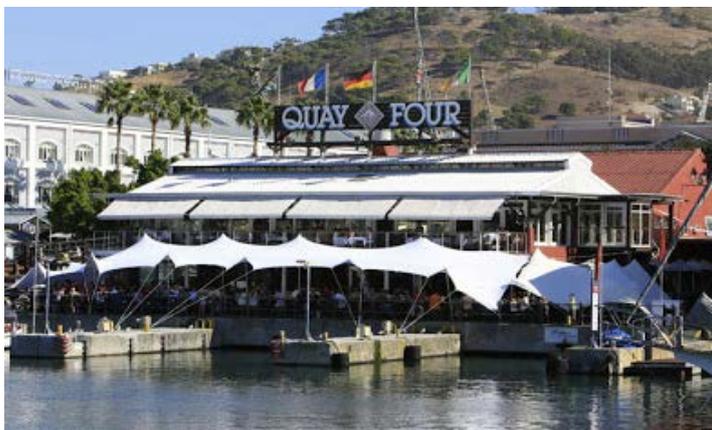
8. Nominations for changes to the Executive Committee were announced, in preparation for an on-line election to be held shortly after the Congress. Giovanni Cecchetto, Past-President; Roly Squire, Secretary; and Stephen Warmann, Programme Director; are all leaving the Executive Committee. The President thanked them for their service to IPSO. The Executive Committee has recommended that Simone Abib takes over as Programme Director. There has been one nomination for President-Elect, Bob Shamberger; one nomination for Secretary, Chan Hon Chui; two nominations for election to a single post of 'member at large' to the EC, Paul Losty & Gehad Ahmed. Sajid Quereshi is standing for election to a second term on the EC

9. The following new members were introduced:

Member	City, Country	Sponsors
Emmanuel AMEH	Abuja, Nigeria	Shochat/Squire
Marion ARNOLD	Cape Town, South Africa	Cox/Moore
Dai CHUNG	Nashville, USA	Shochat/Davidoff
Alessandro CROCOLI	Rome, Italy	Inserra/Cecchetto
Kate CROSS	London, UK	Squire/Karpelowski
Ignacio DIAZ SAUBIDET	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Abib/Squire
Alistair DICK	Belfast, UK	Squire/Powis
Jan GOEDEKE	Mainz, Germany	Davidoff/Shochat
Daphne HOMPES	Leuven, Belgium	Squire/Aronson
Masih KADER	Michigan, USA	Squire/Shochat
Muhammad Arif Mateen KHAN	Karachi, Pakistan	Qazi/Squire
Alpin MALKAN	Memphis, USA	Shochat/Davidoff
Shalini MISRA	New Delhi, India	Agarwala/Squire
Yatin PATEL	Aberdeen, UK	Squire/Rogers
Maria Lucia PINHO APEZZATO	Sao Paulo, Brasil	Abib/Squire
Luca PIO	Genoa, Italy	Cecchetto/Inserra
Nikolay ROSTOVTSSEV	Chelyabinsk, Russia	Squire/Aronson
John SANDOVAL	Memphis, USA	Shochat/Davidoff
Tamara WESTMORELAND	Orlando, USA	Shochat/Rao
Sander ZWAVELING	Utrecht, Netherlands	Wijnen/van Scheltinga

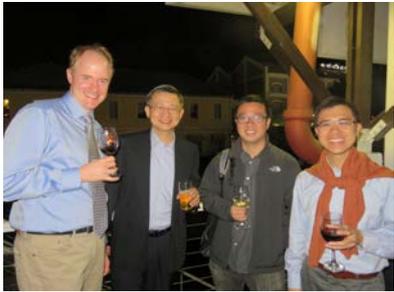
10. The meeting was adjourned at 18.10hrs.

IPSO Dinner in Cape Town 2015



The IPSO Dinner was held on 9 Oct 2015 at Quay Four Restaurant. The venue was excellent just at the waterfront. There was abundance of room for us to mingle and catch up with our friends. The food was delicious making the evening a memorable one for all of us.

Review the snapshots of the event





Secretary's Corner

It's with great honor that I have been elected Secretary of IPSO. Since I took over from Roly Squire, our immediate Past Secretary, I realized the tremendous amount of work he has done in the past 6 years. Besides the annual meetings, monthly committee meetings and newsletters that we encountered as members, the amount of background work he did was nothing less than substantial. Let us thank Roly for the great work and dedication he put in for IPSO.

As we continue our efforts in raising awareness of IPSO, I hope that everyone of us will encourage our colleagues to join in our activities. We have made it easier with our refurbished IPSO website (www.ipsosurgeons.org) which will have interactive features, the IPSO brochure and the IPSO Congress in Dublin banner. Please use any of these tools to reach out to your colleagues at your local and regional meetings.

As the new year commences, I would like to remind all members to pay your dues. This can be done easily online via the IPSO website. Only members who have paid up will enjoy discounts at the annual congress.

I look forward to your comments and feedback. Please feel free to contact me at secretary@ipsosurgeons.org.

Chan Hon Chui
Secretary, International Society of Pediatric Surgical Oncology

President's Corner

I would like to thank Chan Hon for his wonderful job in constructing this newsletter. As you can see, last year was another exciting and productive period in the maturation of our organisation. I will continue to send the membership periodic updates over the next year. These will be brief and in addition to our newsletters. Your suggestions and comments are welcome and encouraged. Please send your ideas to me at ipso.shochat@aol.com

Stephen Shochat
President, International Society of Pediatric Surgical Oncology