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**Executive Committee Members:**

Steven Warmann  
(Chairman, Programme Committee)  
Tuebingen, Germany

Chan Hon Chui  
Singapore

Sandeep Agarwala, MD  
New Delhi, India

Simone Abib  
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Dan Aronson MD PhD  
(Past-President)  
Amsterdam,  
The Netherlands

**Ex Officio:**

Steve Shochat, MD  
(SIOP Scientific Committee Representative)  
Memphis Tennessee, USA

## IPSO Newsletter: January 2013

Dear Friends

I hope you have had a happy and successful start to 2013.

In this newsletter you can read about:

- The 2012 Annual Congress held in London in October
- Minutes from the 2012 AGM
- The 2013 Congress, in Hong Kong in September
- Activities of the IPSO Executive
- IPSO masterclasses
- Subscription update
- Members news
- Reporting infant neuroblastoma deaths
- Report from the website
- President's corner

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**Please note:** you will very shortly be receiving the first call for payment of the 2013 subscriptions to IPSO. Please respond quickly. It is necessary to have paid your subscription to be able to take advantage of the reduced registration fees for IPSO/SIOP conferences. Payment has been made much easier than it used to be; please manage your membership online using the link on the IPSO website [www.ipsosurgeons.org](http://www.ipsosurgeons.org)

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The abstract deadline for the IPSO/SIOP Congress in September is fast approaching:

**Monday 18 February**

Abstract submission and registration for the meeting is through the congress website: <http://www2.kenes.com/siop>

*More information on page 3 of this newsletter*

## 2012 Annual IPSO/SIOP Congress

The Barbican  
London  
5-6 October 2012



The London 2012 IPSO Congress proved to be another highly successful meeting, and demonstrated the strength and depth of our society. Keith Holmes did an excellent job as local organiser, a commitment that dragged Keith out of retirement. IPSO is very grateful to Keith for his efforts on our behalf over many years, including being the IPSO Keynote speaker in Auckland in 2011.



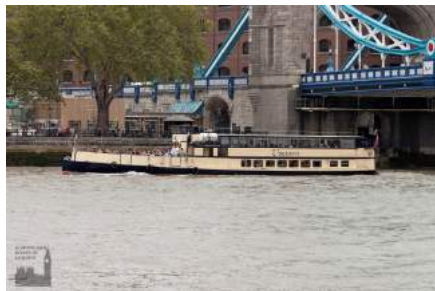
This year **Jorg Fuchs** gave an excellent keynote presentation on **‘The importance of radical surgery as a treatment element in advanced paediatric solid tumors’**, and there were high quality presentations on all of the main children’s cancer, as well as some rare tumours. The Best of IPSO session was a highlight, with presentations on nephron-sparing surgery, long-term renal function after Wilms nephrectomy, the need for hemiscrotectomy in paratesticular rhabdomyosarcoma, and the impact of surgical complications on survival in hepatoblastoma.

As in previous years Wright Medical Technology sponsored the IPSO prizes. The 2012 prize winners were:

**Renal function outcome of surgery for unilateral renal tumor in childhood: a cross-sectional and longitudinal study up to the age of 50 years.** Silvia Ceccanti, Vanessa Dionne, Deborah Morgante, Simone Frediani, Francesco Cozzi, Denis Cozzi, Rome, Italy (*best oral presentation*)

**Problems among childhood cancer survivors in a pediatric surgical clinic.** Takaharu Oue, Shuichiro Uehara, Motonari Nomura, Masahiro Fukuzawa, Yoko Miyoshi, Yoshiko Hashii, Osaka, Japan (*best poster*).

The IPSO dinner was a truly memorable event, and not because of the weather conditions (what do you expect in Britain?). The SS Viscount is a hundred year-old Thames Steamship, and on board we were able to enjoy refreshing old acquaintances,



and making new friendships, while enjoying dinner and the best views of London. The steamship went back and forth along the most interesting bit of the Thames, and so everyone had the opportunity to find a dry spell to get a photo of their favourite view.

Thank you, Keith. I hope that the stress was worthwhile.



We had a problem holding the AGM, since the room was locked down by the Barbican staff just as we were about to start, but everyone agreed to meet at lunchtime on the following day, and there was an excellent turnout - well done IPSO members. The minutes are to be found later in this newsletter. There were two important events held at the end of the AGM. Firstly IPSO awarded Honorary membership to Tom Monclair. All IPSO members will be familiar with Tom, and with his accomplishments in paediatric surgical oncology both inside and outside IPSO. Dan Aronson gave a fine presentation outlining Tom’s career, Dan’s last presidential duty. This was followed by Dan passing the chains of office to Giovanni Cecchetto, our new President.

Our hearty congratulations go to Tom and to Giovanni, and our heartfelt thanks to Dan for all that he has done as Secretary and President of IPSO. Of course Dan remains on the Executive Committee for another year as immediate past president.

### IPSO Education Day

The Institute of Child Health  
London  
4 October 2012

The pre-meeting day is always lovely, since we have the chance to meet new friends and see other good and dear ones, some of which we haven’t seen for a long time. Elegant presentations were made by all speakers, who were all very experienced.

Keith Holmes and Bruce Okoye, who had assisted Keith in arranging the day, opened proceedings, which started with a session on neuroblastoma. First Peppy Brock gave an overview on neuroblastoma, followed by Roly Squire, who discussed the issues on infant neuroblastoma; then Edward Kiely described details of surgery in these tumors and Keith Holmes analyzed the role of surgery on stages 3 and 4. It is always good to listen to Dr Kiely’s detailed descriptions of neuroblastoma surgery.





Next Olga Slater presented an overview on bladder rhabdomyosarcoma; the role of radical surgery was discussed by Imran Mushtaq; and conservative surgery with brachytherapy was Helene Martelli's talk. Henry Mandeville showed the radiotherapists view with modern tools, and the discussion had participation of Dr Frank Saran and Mr Patrick Duffy. This was an opportunity to compare different approaches to rhabdomyosarcoma, including the experiences from different countries, as occurred in the rhabdomyosarcoma session, in the discussions of brachytherapy and radical surgery.

Norbert Graf did an overview about Wilms tumor, and then Georges Audrey and Jan Godzinsky discussed the issues of stage V disease. Dan Aronson and Jan Godzinsky talked about nephron sparing surgery, Bruce Okoye talked about minimally invasive surgery and

Joerg Fuchs discussed vascular extension of Wilms tumors. The discussion had participation of Prof Kathy Pritchard-Jones.

The presentations were brilliant, and the sessions on neuroblastoma, prostate rhabdomyosarcoma and Wilms tumor resulted in lively discussions. The day demonstrated that the multidisciplinary team is of essence, and the presence of radiotherapists, pediatric oncologists and pediatric urologists enlightened the discussions.

Simone Abib

## **2012 IPSO Business Meeting:**

### **Minutes**

Saturday 6 October 2012  
13.00-14.00hrs  
The Barbican, London

Chair: Dan Aronson (president)  
49 members in attendance

1. The President welcomed members to the Annual IPSO Business Meeting
2. The minutes from the 2011 IPSO Business Meeting, held in Auckland on 25 October, were agreed as a true record by those members present; acceptance was proposed by Giovanni Cecchetto, seconded by Bhaskar Rao. The minutes were signed off by the President.
3. Report from the President: Dan Aronson reviewed the last IPSO year.  
The APSA-IPSO meeting in May 2011 in San Antonio was a great success, and was attended by a number of IPSO members. It was agreed that this collaboration should continue, and a future APSA-IPSO Symposium is proposed for 2016. The IPSO Executive has recognised that this is an expensive meeting to attend for members from outside the USA, and will discuss this with the APSA board.  
An IPSO masterclass was held in Kiev in spring, and was very well received. Future masterclasses are planned for Jordan & Jeddah. The current joint congress with SIOP is progressing well, and the President thanked Keith Holmes for doing such an excellent job as local organiser.  
The President gave an early warning of the education day which IPSO will be providing at next year's WOFAPS meeting in Germany, planned for October 2013. Further details will be in the newsletter in due course.  
Finally the president restated the intention of the IPSO Executive to set up an Education Fund, which could be used to help young paediatric surgeons attend the annual congress.
4. Financial overview: Jorg Fuchs (treasurer) presented a statement of accounts, which showed that IPSO has a positive balance of approximately 26,000 Euro. In discussion the President reiterated the intention to set up an Education Fund. Bhaskar Rao suggested that we could ask for voluntary contributions to build up the fund, and use the interest to fund scholarships. It was acknowledged that selection criteria would need to be carefully drawn up, and so the meeting charged the Executive Committee with taking this forward, to present a plan at the next AGM, co-opting members to advise as necessary.
5. Report from the secretariat: The Secretary briefly presented an annual report compiled by Kenes Association Worldwide, who are managing our membership. There have been some teething issues, and we are still not getting all of the subscriptions paid online, but the situation is much improved from previously. It was agreed that to be an IPSO member and take advantage of the reduced registration fees at meetings, members must have paid the current year's subscription. Members would like to continue to have the option of paying the annual subscription at the meeting, and we have agreed with Kenes that in future this will be possible, but the payment will need to be for the following year. In 2013 it will be possible to pay for 2013, provided that the dues for 2014 are paid at the same time.
6. Statute changes: On the recommendation of the Executive the statute changes are undergoing further revision which will be presented to the membership in 2013, with a view to being formally accepted by the membership at the 2013 AGM. Further discussion was postponed.
7. Website: Due to time constraints there was no website presentation. Members were encouraged to use the website, and let Roly Squire know if it needs modifying.
8. Hong Kong 2013: Paul Tam gave a brief presentation about the next IPSO congress, and welcomed members to attend.
9. Election to Executive Council 2012:
  - Roly Squire was re-elected for a 2nd term as secretary
  - Chan Hon Chui was re-elected for his 2nd term on the Executive Committee
  - Following a secret ballot of members in attendance Simone Abib was elected to the Executive Committee in place of Steve Shochat. The president thanked Steve for his efforts on behalf of IPSO, and informed the membership that Steve was still to complete his term as IPSO representative on the SIOP Scientific Committee
10. IPSO Honorary membership: Honorary membership was awarded to Tom Monclair. The president gave a presentation to highlight Tom's impact on paediatric surgical oncology, particularly with regard to his work with INRG.
11. The following were approved as new IPSO Members:
 

• Jennifer Aldrink	(LaQuaglia, Haase)
• Stephen Farrell	(Powis, Squire)
• Gahad Taha Ahmed	(Squire, Aronson)
• Rodolfo Majhuf	(Squire, Aronson)
• Sunita Ojha	(Agarwala, Aronson)
• Brian Davies	(Squire, Powis)
• Hani Gabra	(Squire, Powis)
• Paulo Gutierrez	(Shalkow, Nunes)
• Philip Hammond	(Carachi, Squire)
• Debasish Mitra	(Agarwala, Squire)

- . Ivan Denardi (Hadley, Aronson)
- . Mario Carbonera (Aronson, Hadley)
- . Paul Tam (Chui, Squire)

12. Any other business:

- i. Sajid Qureshi observed the lack of a journal dedicated to paediatric surgical oncology, and suggested that IPSO could take a lead on developing a journal. This will be discussed further by the Executive Committee, but it was noted that PBC is the official IPSO journal, and so there was no immediate evidence of enthusiasm amongst the membership regarding this initiative.
- ii. Bruce Okoye observed that the problem case session had not been entirely satisfactory, and suggested that measures should be taken to get wider specialty attendance at future meetings. This was strongly supported by the Steven Warmann (programme director). It was agreed that cases need to be submitted in advance, similar to at the APSA meeting, so that the session chairs can ensure that the session is well-structured.

13. Transfer of presidential chains of office: Dan Aronson passed over the chains of office to our new president, Giovanni Cecchetto.

14. Meeting Adjourned: 2pm

## 2013 IPSO Annual Congress

Hong Kong  
September 2013



2013 IPSO Congress will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, on Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 September 2013. On the day before the congress there will be an Educational pre-meeting, as usual. The SIOP congress continues until Saturday 28 September, and when booking flights IPSO members may wish to note that there will be a mini-symposium on infant solid tumours on the Saturday.

Paul Tam will be our local surgical organiser, and it promises to be an excellent event, both from an academic and a social point of view. Paul is organising the IPSO dinner for the evening of Wednesday 25th. Details can be found through the congress website <http://www2.kenes.com/siop>. Please make a note of the following dates and deadlines:

Deadline for abstract submission:	Monday 18 February 2013
Early registration (cheaper rates) before:	Sunday 19 May 2013
Standard online registration deadline:	Friday 23 August 2013
Educational pre-meeting :	Tuesday 24 Sept 2013
IPSO Congress day 1:	Wednesday 25 Sept 2013
IPSO AGM	“ “
IPSO dinner (to be confirmed)	“ “
IPSO day 2 (SIOP day 1):	Thursday 26 Sept 2013
SIOP annual gala dinner	“ “

Symposium: infant solid tumours: Saturday 28 Sept 2013

IPSO is delighted that Jan Godzinski will be the IPSO keynote speaker, and Professor Huanmin Wang has agreed to speak about surgical aspects of infant tumours at the symposium on the Saturday. We are hoping that the venue in Hong Kong will encourage IPSO members from around the world to discuss topics of general interest with our colleagues from mainland China. *(Please note that in the version of this newsletter e-mailed to members Huanmin Wang was named as the keynote speaker in error)*

**Please remember that in order to take advantage of the reduced registration fee you will need to have already paid your 2013 IPSO membership .**

## IPSO Executive



From the minutes above you will see that Simone Abib was elected onto the IPSO Executive Council. Simone is well known to many following the wonderful job she did as local IPSO organiser in Sao Paulo in 2009. She replaces Steve Shochat, on the Executive, but Steve will complete his 3 year term as IPSO representative on the SIOP Scientific Committee.

We have recently been addressing two appointments which are the responsibility of the IPSO executive Committee; the Programme Director and the IPSO representative on the SIOP Scientific Committee. Steven Warmann is well embedded as the current Programme Director, but the Executive is concerned about how we should respond if there is no-one

on the elected Executive who wants to be PD. The same issue could arise with the SC representative, as well as the possibility that there is no-one suitable because of the problems that can arise from the need to attend meetings. Furthermore, the SC representative has a 3 year term, longer than the 2 year term of the IPSO Executive.

We are recommending a change to the IPSO Statutes to address these issues, as well as the new online membership process, but we did not have time to sort all of this out in London. We will bring the statute amendments to the membership at the 2013 AGM, with prior notification in the Summer newsletter. In the meantime the Executive has approved interim measures to ensure that these appointments will continue without interruption.

Do you want to be on the IPSO Executive Committee? There will be a formal request for nominations in the Summer newsletter, so this is a preliminary announcement; at the Hong Kong AGM in September we will need to vote in one new member to the Executive to replace Sandeep Agarwala, Steven Warmann will be standing for re-election for a second term, and we will need to select a President-Elect.



The IPSO Executive in London

### IPSO Masterclasses

In 2012 masterclasses were held in Kiev and Jordan, as well as the oncology course at the Rome BAPS/EUPSA meeting

In 2013 there will be a course in Paediatric oncology surgery at the annual meeting of EUPSA as usual. This year the meeting is in Leipzig, Germany. Details and registration can be found on the meeting website [www.eupsa2013.org](http://www.eupsa2013.org). The oncology course is planned for Wednesday 5 June 2013. Please encourage your trainees and younger colleagues to attend. Recently the course at EUPSA has been fully booked, so early application is advised. This year will be the third in the 3 year cycle, which covers all areas of children's cancer surgery.

IPSO has also been asked to provide an oncology course at the World Federation of Associations of Pediatric Surgeons (WOFAPS) meeting to be held in Berlin in October. Further details, including registration, can be found on the meeting website [www.wofaps2013.com](http://www.wofaps2013.com).

The IPSO faculty would be pleased to provide masterclasses at other centres throughout the year. If you would like to organise an IPSO masterclass at your centre please contact the organiser, Professor Robert Carachi, at [r.carachi@clinmed.gla.ac.uk](mailto:r.carachi@clinmed.gla.ac.uk).

### Subscription Update

IPSO membership management is now provided exclusively by Kenes Associations Worldwide, based in Geneva. Membership management, including payment of annual subscriptions, is best carried out online. You should have recently received a request to pay your 2013 subscription, and at the same time it is helpful if you can review the information we have about you. It is particularly important we keep your current e-mail address.

The membership web pages are very easy to use, and they give alternative methods of paying. If you have a problem please feel free to get in touch with the membership team at Kenes, either by email [ipsomembership@kenes.com](mailto:ipsomembership@kenes.com) or telephone (+41 22 906 91 69). If you have any problems please contact the IPSO secretary, Roly Squire, at [roly.squire@leedsth.nhs.uk](mailto:roly.squire@leedsth.nhs.uk).

Some members find it easiest to pay the annual subscription at the annual meeting. This facility will continue, but the payment will need to be for the following year if the member wishes to take advantage of concessions, such as the reduced registration fee for the meeting. For 2013 we have asked that Kenes allow a member to remain active throughout this year if they wish to pay at the meeting, provided that they agree to pay for 2013 & 2014 at the same time.

When you sign in to the membership web pages you can see the directory of IPSO members. You are given the option of having your name in the directory for others to see. We encourage you to be disclosed in the directory so that other IPSO members can easily get in touch with you. One of IPSO's strengths is the camaraderie which allows surgeons from all over the world to become friends.

### Members news

Many of you will not have heard of the sad death of **Wojciech Wozniak**: here are some words from his great friend, Jan Godzinski.

Dear Friends, Dear IPSO Members

I am sorry to say, that Professor Wojciech Wozniak passed away on 24th of December 2012...



Wojtek, as we called him in Poland, lead for many years Department of Paediatric Surgical Oncology in Mother and Child Institute in Warsaw. Wojtek, deeply interested in all the fields of paediatric oncology, had greatest achievements in conservative treatment of bone tumours. Many patients with bone tumours were operated on by him if the conservative resection and implantation of an endoprosthesis were feasible. Wojtek bravely introduced newer and newer techniques, including magnetic-controlled growing systems in the last years. In the best meaning of this statement, there were no lost cases for him and there were no end of fight for cure.

Wojtek chairing at IPSO with Bhaskar Rao

We can also say, that Wojtek took care not only of patients. - many many of us in Poland experienced his help on the way of our professional careers and friendly hand in case of personal problems. And always a good advice we will miss now... We all remember his vitality at our meetings and congresses, perfect reports and great knowledge. Always ready to discuss and share his experience, Wojtek was open for new ideas. He believed that this is the way to not giving up in our fight against children cancer. In Poland, Wojtek created magic tradition of the late fall meetings (the last before Christmas), where Polish paediatric oncologists (surgeons and paediatricians) met to share their experience, make the plans for the next year, spend some time friendly together and ... personally express Christmas and New Year wishes.

Wojtek, always smiled and friendly, loved medicine and oncology, but also meeting friends, site-seeing foreign countries and listening stories, but maybe even more - good cuisine. I was happy to taste with him several fantastic dishes in many many different places and countries I will never forget.



Wojtek had fantastic family which was always very important for him - beloved wife Marysia (they were together since early years of their medical studies), already married daughter and son, and their babies. I can only imagine how good a grandfather Wojtek was.

The ceremony of his funeral took place in Warsaw on 9<sup>th</sup> of January and gathered over 1500 people; friends, colleges, patients and their families. - The touching young patients' questions: - *How we will make it without our professor??* I heard there repeated several times...

But also for us, nothing will be the same after Wojtek passed away, we will miss him for a long long time.

Wojtek was my Mentor and Great Friend ,  
Jan

### **Audit of Deaths following Neuroblastoma surgery**

The last two newsletters asked members to contact Hugo Heij if they knew of any unexpected deaths in young children in the early post-operative period following resection of neuroblastoma. Hugo gave a presentation on this topic in Auckland and in the discussion it was agreed that IPSO would try to audit this problem.

This is a very important issue, which we are unlikely to be able to address without multinational collaboration. Hugo is trying to find common themes in these unusual cases with a bad outcome, hoping to advise on how they can be avoided in future. Please reflect on the operations you have carried out on younger children with neuroblastoma over the last 5 years or so, and if you can recall any unexpected deaths or near-misses please let Hugo know by simply e-mailing him on the following link [h.a.heij@amc.uva.nl](mailto:h.a.heij@amc.uva.nl) . Hugo will then get back in touch with you asking for further details.

### IPSO website

I continue to remind members to have a look at the IPSO website [www.ipsosurgeons.org](http://www.ipsosurgeons.org) , hoping to have some feedback as to how it can be improved. There are no innovations this year, and I have not managed to put as many of the congress presentations online compared to the Auckland meeting in 2011. I would be pleased to hear if anyone finds these useful: they are in the members-only pages, and the access remains the same as previously.

Please have a think about what new features might be of interest, and let me know at: [roly.squire@leedsth.nhs.uk](mailto:roly.squire@leedsth.nhs.uk)

Roly Squire

## President's corner

It is with great honour and pleasure that I write to you for the first time as president of IPSO. Thank you all for electing me and many thanks to our past President Dan Aronson for his work.

The year 2012 was very busy, with 2 meetings, the fourth IPSO-APSA meeting, which took place in San Antonio in May, and the annual IPSO-SIOP meeting in London in October. Both of them were a great success, due to the perfect organization and a very large participation. Moreover I cannot forget to mention the Educational Course at the European Pediatric Surgeons Association (EUPSA) meeting, in Rome, last year in June, in which IPSO Members are always involved.

The 2013 IPSO meeting in Hong Kong promises to be very special. We hope that many Chinese colleagues will attend the meeting and the Educational Day, and that we could discuss our experiences with them. Our Program Director Steven Warmann and our SIOP Scientific Committee Representative Steven Shochat are working along with Paul Tam to put together an attractive scientific and social program. Each of you, as a member, can contribute to the success of the meeting, sending abstracts for oral presentation and posters. I also would like to invite you to present at our "difficult cases session" your experience with problematic cases encountered in your center. The usual vivacious discussion will enrich our knowledge and stimulate especially younger surgeons.

Finally I encourage you to propose candidates or to make yourself available for the election to positions that will be announced in the newsletter.

Please, contact me and other EC members for requests, ideas and new educational initiatives. Although our group is now 21 year old, your help is always required for growing and improving.



Giovanni Cecchetto