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New Delhi, India

Giovanni Cecchetto
(President Elect)
Padua, Italy

IPSO Newsletter: March 2012

Dear Friends

I hope that 2012 has begun well for everyone. As the weather in Europe starts to become milder our thoughts turn to the meetings and congresses. Later in this newsletter you will find more details, but as a quick reminder these are the dates and deadlines:

- IPSO-APSA meeting, San Antonio, Texas, 19-20 May 2012
 - ⇒ **Deadline for problem case submission 30 March**
 - ⇒ **Early registration ends 4 April**
- IPSO-EUPSA oncology course, Rome, 13 June 2012
 - ⇒ **Early registration ends 15 April**
- IPSO-SIOP annual congress, London, 5-9 October 2012
 - ⇒ **Abstract deadline extended to 2 April**

Also in this newsletter:

- Reports from the 2011 Auckland Congress
- Minutes from the AGM
- Plans for London 2012 (not just the Olympics)
- IPSO Masterclasses
- News from the secretariat
- Financial update
- Report from the webmaster
- President's corner

Also in this newsletter is a request to take part in an IPSO audit of **unexpected death following surgery for neuroblastoma**. If you have had this experience please contact **Hugo Heij using the e-mail link on page 6**. This is a new use of the newsletter, and we would welcome feedback from members regarding similar audits in the future.

I am sorry that this newsletter is a bit later than intended. There will be a further newsletter before the annual meeting in October. Please contact me before then if you have any news which you would like me to include.

Roly Squire

2011 IPSO/SIOP Congress: Auckland, New Zealand

26-30 October 2011

Those IPSO members who made the journey to New Zealand were far from disappointed by the welcome they received. Auckland is one of the most delightful cities in the world, and Phil Morreau was an excellent host and local organiser. Despite New Zealand's relative isolation there was a good turnout and an excellent programme. Many took the opportunity travel around the country either before or after the meeting, and it was fun to share in the excitement (and relief) at our hosts' becoming rugby world champions the weekend before the congress.



Education Day

Wednesday 26 October

Auckland Hospital

As is now traditional the local organiser arranged an educational day to precede the IPSO congress. Phil took full advantage of local skills and expertise, and the day was of the highest quality. Topics included MRI, differentiated thyroid cancer, liver tumours, ovarian tumours, genito-urinary rhabdomyosarcoma, radiotherapy, anterior mediastinal mass and bony tumours of the pelvis and extremities. The presentations were all excellent, and many thanks go to Phil and his colleagues. For those of you who couldn't attend, or who wish to re-live memories of the day, we are very grateful to the faculty for allowing the majority of the powerpoint presentations from the educational day to be uploaded onto the IPSO website (www.ipsosurgeons.org). They can be found on the members password-restricted pages.



The only flaw was that the registration system resulted in lower attendance than the programme deserved. We believe that a number of potential delegates were not allowed to register because the places were all taken, yet many registrants didn't turn up. We think that we have resolved this problem with the registration process for future meetings, and there should be ample space for everyone at the London congress.

Congress highlights

27-28 October

Aotea Centre, Auckland

The IPSO congress was held at the Aotea Centre in the heart of Auckland. Two days of presentations included three stand-out sessions, all on the Friday: the PBC session in which the 4 best abstracts had been selected with the opportunity for fast-track publication in our Journal; the IPSO symposium on the surgical management of complications in paediatric oncology; an anniversary session entitled "20th birthday of IPSO memories". It was fascinating for those of us who were not present at IPSO's conception to hear about the early days, and recall the former leaders in our specialty who were present at the birth.



Many of the presentations can be viewed on the website (see above).



As in recent years, and largely thanks to Bhaskar Rao, Wright Medical Technologies kindly sponsored the IPSO WMT prizes for best presentation and poster at this year's congress. The prize for best presentation went to Guido Seitz from Tübingen, for his paper *Differential expression of invasion promoting genes in childhood neuroblastoma*.

The best poster award was shared between two of our Indian colleagues; Sushmita Bhatnagar from Mumbai for her poster entitled *Functional adrenocortical tumors*; and Yogesh Sarin from New Delhi for his poster *Hard palate perforation due to invasive fungal infection in a patient with embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma of the bladder and prostate*. Congratulations to all three.

The IPSO Keynote speaker for 2011 was Keith Holmes, who gave a state-of-the-moment talk on the surgical management of stage 4 neuroblastoma, including the very latest results from the High Risk study. Keith was pleased to tell us, in an extremely entertaining presentation, that complete resection improves outcome, emphasising the important role of the surgeon.

The IPSO dinner was held at an excellent harbourside restaurant, and was a wonderful opportunity to make and renew friendships. Our heartfelt thanks to Phil for being such an excellent host.



IPSO Annual General Meeting

Thursday 27 October 2011

Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand

1. The President welcomed members to the Annual IPSO Business Meeting
2. Minutes from the last meeting: The minutes from the IPSO Business Meeting in Boston, 20 Oct 2010, were agreed as a true record by those members present, and acceptance was proposed by Larry Hadley, seconded by Bhaskar Rao. The minutes were signed off by the President.
3. Report from the President: Dan Aronson updated members on the problems we have encountered while changing our secretariat in order to remain aligned with SIOP. The Executive Committee now believes that we are coming through this process, and are optimistic that IPSO will be stronger as a result of the change.
4. Financial overview: In the absence of the Treasurer, Roly Squire reported on the current position. IPSO's financial affairs are in limbo at present, because the change of secretariat has necessitated a change of bank account. This is in progress, but means that a financial balance cannot be reported at this time. A report will be sent to the membership as soon as it is prepared, probably with the January Newsletter. One of the gains from our new secretarial arrangements is that we will move to on-line payment of subscriptions. Until the financial situation is sorted the development of IPSO scholarships is on hold.
5. New secretariat: The Secretary informed the membership of our collaboration with Kenes Association Worldwide. Kenes are an experienced organisation who manage the affairs of a number of societies with similarities to IPSO. We have negotiated a contract which the Executive Committee think is very favourable, and although it will be more expensive than Rosalinde Kennis we will have important additional advantages, including the on-line management of the membership as mentioned already.
6. WMT prizes: Wright Medical Technology continue to sponsor prizes for the best presentation and best poster at the Annual Congress. The Executive have recommended dividing the money in the same manner as in previous years, awarding \$300 for the best presentation and \$200 for the best poster.
7. Arrangements for London 2012: Keith Holmes (local organiser) outlined the plans for next years Congress. The SIOP/PROS/IPSO Symposium will be on neuroblastoma. Jörg Fuchs will be IPSO keynote speaker. The IPSO Symposium will be decided by the new Programme Director. There will be a Germ Cell Symposium in the main SIOP programme. There will be a number of measures to encourage an increase in abstract submission, and it is expected that 2012 will be easier for people than 2011, because New Zealand is hard for many members to get to. Members were reassured that the abstract scoring process is anonymous and objective.
8. IPSO-APSA meeting, San Antonio Texas, 2012: The Secretary apologised for the short notice of the abstract deadline.
9. Election to Executive Council 2011:
 - Giovanni Cecchetto was elected unopposed as President-Elect
 - Sandeep Agarwala was re-elected for a 2nd term on the Executive Committee
 - Steve Warman was elected in a secret ballot for a first term on the Executive Committee, and will replace Jan Godzinski as Programme Director
 - Larry Hadley (Past-President) and Jan Godzinski (Executive Committee member and Programme Director) were thanked by the President for their services to IPSO.

10. Report from the Webmaster: Attention was drawn to the password-protected pages, which include uploads of a number of the 2010 Congress presentations, with the plan that a greater percentage of the presentations from this meeting will be available.
11. The following were approved as new IPSO Members:
- Zakaria Habib (sponsors: Aronson/Squire)
 - Andrea Hayes-Jordan (sponsors: Aronson/Squire)
 - Clare Jackson (sponsors: Squire/Wheeler)
 - Jonathan Karpelowsky (sponsors: Hadley/Squire)
 - SVS Soundappan (sponsors: Nightingale/Squire)
 - Franceco Perrotta (sponsors: Rao/Squire)
 - Dae Yon Kim (sponsors: Squire/Aronson)
 - Antti Koivusalo (sponsors: Losty/Holmes)
 - Ashish Jiwane (sponsors: Lobos/Qureshi)
 - Slim Bensalah (sponsors: Martelli/Gauthier)
 - Andrew Ryabov (sponsors: Squire/Aronson)
 - Joyce Chua (sponsors: LaQuaglia/Chan Hon)
12. Any other business
- i. Sympathy and concern were expressed by the President to
 - Our Japanese colleagues following the Tsunami
 - Colleagues in Oslo & Christchurch who have been hit by earthquakes
 - Sonia Salas Valverde, IPSO member from Costa Rica, who is recovering from a major road accident
 - ii. The President encouraged members present to try to help increase the membership of IPSO
 - iii. Discussion about what action should be taken regarding speakers who fail to turn up to give their presentations. It was agreed that this was unacceptable, and should not happen again. The Secretary will try to find out if there have been extenuating circumstances, and will write to the speaker as well as the senior author. It was proposed that there should be a statement in the abstract acceptance letter clarifying what the author(s) should do if they are unable to attend, and what sanctions will apply if they do not inform the programme committee. This will be discussed with Kenes, who will be managing the abstract selection process in 2012 .
13. Adjournment 18.20 hrs

2012 IPSO Congress: London

5-8 October 2012

The 2012 SIOP/IPSO congress will be held at the Barbican Centre, in the heart of the City of London. The Barbican is one of the largest conference venues in Europe, and is close to some of London's most historic sites. It has its own underground station, which is important because there is limited accommodation adjacent to the conference centre. Further information and registration is accessible through the following website www.siop2012.org . IPSO members have the advantage of a reduced registration fee. The website asks for a membership number, but IPSO members do not have a number: simply put down that you are an IPSO member in this field and your name will be checked against the membership directory.



Dates for the diary:

Abstract deadline:	2 April 2012
Standard registration:	30 May 2012
IPSO Education Day:	4 October 2012
IPSO Annual Congress:	5/6 October 2012
IPSO AGM:	5 October 2012
SIOP Gala dinner:	6 October 2012
IPSO dinner:	to be confirmed
IPSO/SIOP/PROS symp*:	7 October 2012

* “nephroblastoma progress and controversies from COG & SIOP”

Education Day

Venue: Institute of Child Health
Thursday, 4 October 2012

Keith Holmes is arranging an educational symposium on the day preceding the main IPSO congress, which will be held at the Institute for Child Health which is adjacent to Great Ormond Street Hospital. The venue has plenty of capacity so no-one should be turned away provided they have registered properly. Registration is free for delegates attending the main congress, and registration is carried out through the congress website (link above). The programme of the day will be in the next newsletter, and will be on the website when it is finalised. This day is aimed at trainees in paediatric surgical oncology, and also experienced surgeons who want an update on advances in the field.

IPSO Masterclasses

Sticking to the training theme, there have been two IPSO masterclasses over the last few months, in Mumbai in December and Kiev in February. Both have been extremely successful, and further courses are in the planning stage. IPSO will also be running a one-day course at the EUPSA/BAPS meeting in Rome. The oncology course will be on Wednesday 13 June, and will be year 2 of the three-year programme, so will include hepatoblastoma, thoracic tumours & germ cell tumours. In recent years this course has been oversubscribed, so it is wise to apply early. Remember that attendance at all three of the years of the IPSO/EUPSA course entitles the delegate to a diploma of completion. Apply through the EUPSA congress registration process (online @ www.EUPSA.org).



The masterclass in Mumbai featured a faculty combining international experts from IPSO, national experts from throughout India, and local experts from Mumbai. The feedback forms suggest that the educational aims were achieved, and that the delegates were very satisfied. Excerpts from the official report are attached. A similar report is being prepared for the Kiev masterclass.

Masterclass in Paediatric Oncology
16th – 18th December 2011

S.L. Raheja Hospital, Mumbai, India

In collaboration with IPSO, EUPSA, UEMS, AIOfCO, WOFAPS & Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow

Accredited by Maharashtra Medical Council

REVIEW

International Faculty

Professor Robert Carachi, Head of Department of Surgical Oncology, ICH, University of Liverpool, UK
 Professor Susan Aronson, Professor (HCL), Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, Canada
 Dr. Rajeshwari, Head of Department, Paediatric Surgery, Bangalore, India
 Dr. Jayaraman, Head of Department, Paediatric Surgery, Bangalore, India
 Professor Vignesh, Head of Department, Paediatric Surgery, Sri Sree Lalitha Deemed Medical College of Health Sciences, Sri Sree Lalitha Medical Institute, Bangalore, India
 Dr. Anant Kumar, Consultant Paediatric Surgeon, Sri Sree Lalitha Medical Institute, Bangalore, India

Local Organizing/Scientific Committee

Dr. G.K. Mishra
 Dr. Prasad Deshpande
 Dr. Dhanraj Desai
 Dr. Vikram Agrawal
 Dr. Anand Desai
 Dr. Anand Desai

National Faculty

Dr. Venkatesh Agrawal
 Prof. S. Kulkarni
 Prof. Dhanraj Desai
 Dr. Vikram Agrawal
 Dr. Anand Desai
 Dr. Anand Desai
 Dr. Vikram Agrawal
 Dr. Anand Desai
 Dr. Anand Desai
 Dr. Anand Desai
 Dr. Anand Desai

WOFAPS

Course Delivery

The course was presented as a very useful, well-organized and interactive learning experience. It was a pleasure to be able to attend in person and to meet the delegates face-to-face. The course was very well organized and the delegates were very satisfied with the quality of the course.

Masterclass Evaluation

Using a questionnaire, 34 out of 50 participants responded.

The masterclass ended with a Faculty Banquet in the Amrany Pavilion at Rajaji Park

The faculty banquet was held in the Amrany Pavilion at Rajaji Park. The event was a great success and the delegates were very satisfied with the quality of the course.

If you want to organise an IPSO Masterclass in Paediatric Surgical Oncology in your centre please contact Prof Robert Carachi at exam@paediatricsurgeryexam.org or have a look at the EBPS website www.paediatricsurgeryexam.org.

Audit of Deaths following Neuroblastoma surgery

In Auckland Hugo Heij gave a presentation about unexpected deaths in young children in the early post-operative period following resection of neuroblastoma, and in the discussion it was agreed that IPSO would try to audit this problem. This is a new venture for IPSO, harnessing the wide experience and comprehensive practice of IPSO members. We anticipate that this event is too rare for any individual surgeon or centre to be able to learn any useful lessons, and even a national database may be inadequate. The international cohort of resections carried out by IPSO members, representing oncology surgery in 50 countries, may be the only way to collect enough cases to draw any meaningful conclusions. This audit may be a pilot for future reviews of rare tumours or vents.

If you know of a case of unexpected post-operative death following surgery for neuroblastoma in an infant or young child please let Hugo know by simply e-mailing him on the following link h.a.heij@amc.uva.nl Hugo will then get back in touch with you asking for further details.

Report from the Secreteriat

Great news from the IPSO office, managed by Kenes Associations Worldwide in Geneva. On-line membership management is now in place, and very shortly you will be contacted by e-mail asking you to confirm your contact details and to pay your subscriptions on-line. We have been looking forward to this for some while. The fact that you have received this newsletter means that Kenes have your active e-mail address. We suspect that some of the e-mail addresses given to us by members are now inactive, and so over the next couple of months we will bring the membership database up-to-date. It will then be possible to upload a copy onto the members area of the website, and each member will be sent an electronic copy. Hard copies will also be available on request.

In the meantime if you have any membership enquiries please feel free to contact the secreteriat at membership@kenes.com and there are easy links on the IPSO website

Report from the Webmaster

The IPSO website www.ipsosurgeons.org continues to develop. The on-line membership features provided by Kenes (see above) can be accessed directly through the website, using the 'how to pay' tab. There is also a new fast-track process for new members to join. We are always keen to welcome surgeons who carry out children's cancer surgery into the IPSO fold. If you know of anyone who is considering joining please direct them to the website, and they will find it very easy to apply. The fast-track process means that an applicant now can take advantage of some of the perks of being an IPSO member even before the AGM in London in October.

Also please have a look at the members area of the website, where you can find nearly all the powerpoint presentations from the Auckland IPSO congress. The members area of the website is accessed using the username: **IPSO** and the password: **member**.

Let me know if there are any additional features you would like to see on the IPSO website.

Roly Squire

Financial report

At the AGM the Executive explained that in the process of moving the IPSO office we have had problems transferring our bank account. As a result we were unable to receive an annual financial report at the AGM. The bank account issues are very nearly sorted, but not in time for a financial report to be included in this newsletter. The report will be sent to members as soon as it has been prepared.

Presidents Corner

It appears that 2012 will be a good year for IPSO and its membership, fulfilling a great part of its educational goals. Last December contained the kick off of the first Pediatric Surgical Oncology masterclass in Mumbai given by a mixed IPSO and local Faculty, followed in February by a second one in Kiev. Both were received enthusiastically by the participants, being 50 in Mumbai and 70 in Kiev.

In May, the APSA-IPSO symposium prior to the APSA meeting in San Antonio runs all day on the 19th and the morning of May 20. The enticing program has been the effort of the APSA-IPSO program committee, and the invited speakers are all international experts in the various the fields. The event will begin with the Neuroblastoma Session followed by the Oncology Research Session. The afternoon will focus on Liver Tumors and close with a session on Spectacular and Challenging Cases. The session on May 20 will focus on Management of Metastatic Disease.



The IPSO-supported educational course at the EUPSA-BAPS meeting in Rome will be the second part of the three year cycle. Make sure that your trainees, and (junior) colleagues will manage to get onto the course that has been oversubscribed last year, a sure recognition of the need and approval of our educational strategies.

We all hope for an even larger amount of good quality abstracts than last year submitted for the upcoming IPSO meeting in London. Our Program Director Steve Warmann will be working hard, together with our SIOP Scientific Committee representative Steve Shochat and local Surgical organiser Keith Holmes to come up with an ever exciting program with presentations, posters, and great social opportunities for us all to meet old and new friends.

The Newsletter is an opportunity to urge you all to make an effort to join these various activities and be involved with your Society. We are all counting on your input.

Finally I wish all IPSO members a great and healthy upcoming year, with fulfillment of your professional and personal goals.

Dan Aronson, President