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## IPSO Newsletter January 2006

### IPSO/SIOP Meeting 2005 in Vancouver, Canada

The past IPSO meeting in Vancouver, Canada has again been a great success, with our various sessions attracting around 350 (surgical) oncologists from many countries of the five continents. More and more IPSO and SIOP progressively integrate, through which surgical speakers and surgical oncology topics become part of the SIOP meeting in the form of keynote lectures.

A well balanced program, containing key note lectures by experts in the field, symposia addressing specific tumors, and free paper sessions could be offered. Many papers of interest were presented. Again, our Program Director, Larry Hadley, comprised an attractive program with the abstracts submitted by the Membership.

The Wright Medical sponsorship was used for the WMT-Best Paper Award (this year a first and a second prize were available!), and the WMT-Best Poster Award. Again, according to many of the IPSO Membership, the competition for the prizes was felt as one of highlights of the meeting. This years winners were:

- **First prize of the WMT-Best Paper Award:** *A. Puri, Mumbai, India.* 'Rotationplasty – is there still a role?'
- **Second prize of the WMT-Best Paper Award:** *Florian Bergmann, München, Germany.* '5-ALA induced Laparoscopic Fluorescence Diagnosis of human Neuroblastoma in nude rats: a novel technique for Pediatric Oncology?'
- **WMT-Best Poster Award:** *Dariusz Polnik, Warsaw, Poland.* 'Broviac Catheter Insertion – Own Modification'

We have to thank Ken Brown, the local organizing IPSO Surgeon, who organized a cozy social event that took place in the Al Porto Restaurant



Al Porto: Helene Martelli, President (3<sup>rd</sup> right), Richard Spicer, President Elect (middle left)

## Minutes of the IPSO Business Meeting – Vancouver, Canada, September 22, 2005

32 IPSO members were present; Apologies: Pjotr Czauderna

### Agenda

1. Opening at 4:40 pm
2. The minutes 2004 of the IPSO BM in Oslo, Norway, were accepted by the Membership, and signed off by the President.
3. Report from the President. No issues.
4. Report from the Treasurer. IPSO now is financially healthy. There are 14 members with outstanding dues (> 1 year). The membership was asked to help to maintain the current Membership Directory: You have to send your correct address to the Secretariat. Not receiving the bill of dues means most likely that your address is either wrong or unknown. The membership number on your bill of dues refers to your SIOP membership number; there is no IPSO membership number. The IPSO money is stored on an interest bearing account. Some of this money will be dedicated to the creation of an IPSO website. The Membership approved to spend up to E 5000 to this goal.
5. Election of EC members. Jenny Walker was elected for her second term as Treasurer (3 years), and Dietrich von Schweinitz was elected for his second term as SIOP Scientific Committee Representative (3 years).
6. Nominees Executive Council member. Roley Squir and Simon Huddart agreed to stand. Roley Squire was elected as EC member for his first term (2 years).
7. Election of new IPSO members. All applicants were accepted and congratulated by the President. The new members are:

Antonio Gonçalves de Oliveira Filho, Brazil	(sponsors: Rao/Aronson)
Antônio Aldo Melo Filho, Brazil	(sponsors: Rao/Aronson)
Mark Powis, Leeds, UK	(sponsors: Squire/Walker)
Steven W. Warmann, Tuebingen, Germany	(sponsors: Aronson/vSchweinitz)
Marc-David LeClair, Nantes, France	(sponsors: Martelli/Aronson)
Moritz M. Ziegler, USA	(sponsors: Karrer/Haase)
Mrs. Sonia M. Salas Valverde, Costa Rica	(sponsors: Rao/Aronson)
Christophe Chardot, Switzerland	(sponsors: Martelli/Aronson)
Galo Veintemilla Granados, Colombia	(sponsors: Rao/Ruano)
Ralf-Bodo Tröbs, Leipzig, Germany	(sponsors: Zachariou/vSchweinitz)
Florin Filip, Rumania (St. Judes, USA)	(sponsors: Rao/Aronson)
Himesh Gupta, India	(sponsors: Rao/Shochat)
Frederic Lavrand, France	(sponsors: Martelli/Gauthier)
Pablo Lobos, Argentina	(sponsors: Rao/Aronson)
Dennis Cozzi, Italy	(sponsors: Ceccheto/Aronson)
Rebecka Meyers, USA	(sponsors: Plaschkes/Shochat)
Susmita Bhatnagar, India	(sponsors: Spicer/Hadley)
Derek Roebuck, UK (Associate Member)	(sponsors: Spicer/Aronson)
8. President Elect. Richard Spicer was nominated as President Elect and elected by the Membership. He was congratulated by the President and he thanked the membership for their trust in his future Presidency.
9. Recruitment of new IPSO members. In 2005, IPSO had many applicants for membership. Please ask all your colleagues and fellows to join, it is of great importance to become a strong Society.
10. Future Oncology meetings. The IPSO Oncology course at EUPSA will again run in 2006 (Maastricht) and will be organized by IPSO. No financial support of the Faculty will be given by IPSO, all financial aspects of the course are taken care of by EUPSA.

The situation of the IPSO/APSA meeting was first explained by the President, then by Broecker. IPSO's goal of the combined meeting was two-fold. (1) increase the IPSO membership with USA members, and (2) increase interaction between American and European Pediatric Surgical Oncologists. Goal #1 has more or less failed. Goal #2 seems only attainable if a true combined meeting will emerge. Plaschkes explained the historical background of the combined meeting: The COG-surgeons have asked IPSO for the combined meeting, in order to improve the oncology education at APSA, after the APSA Membership expressed their wish for better oncology education through the APSA questionnaire. It should thus be regarded a COG-IPSO endeavor to have a 4 yearly oncology education session for APSA. But its costs should be budget neutral for IPSO.

IPSO will propose to the APSA Board of Governors to decide to spend every 4 years one full day of the APSA

meeting solely to Oncology. The program can be organized by the two Societies, partly by invited speakers, partly by free paper sessions. If the Board of Governors is not interested in a true mutual endeavor, IPSO will stop its offers to APSA, and will consider dedicating part of the annual IPSO program to combined IPSO-American symposia. Bob Shamberger, Rebecka Meyers, Steven Shochat, and Jerry Haase were asked to be the invited 'IPSO ambassadors' at the upcoming APSA BoG-meeting in October. They will inform APSA with a summary of IPSO's viewpoints.

11. The IPSO 2006 meeting will be held on Mon - Tues Sept 18 & 19. On Sunday Sept 17, a (multidisciplinary) Pathology meeting will be held on sarcoma, liver tumors and rare tumors, including subjects of surgical interest. Also on Sunday, a Radiological meeting will be organized, comprising interventional Radiology and minimal access Surgery, thus of great interest to Surgeons. SIOP starts on Monday afternoon. On Monday afternoon an IPSO/SIOP keynote lecture will be given. It will be named the 'Tsuchida Memorial Lecture', subjected to the 'Surgical Aspects of Neuroblastoma'. Our local Surgical Organizer 2006 (Geneva) will be Christophe Chardot.
12. PBC. No issues.
13. Any other Business. Haase summarized the discussion that took place at the EC-meeting regarding modernizing the IPSO by-laws. It was decided to start the process of changing and modernizing the IPSO by-laws, in order to have the Membership be more involved in the choice of nominees, to achieve more representation, and to create more competition at the elections. This may lead to more names of nominees from the floor, and more enthusiasm in the Membership. Hadley and Haase were appointed to make the first concept of new by-laws.
14. Adjournment at 6:30 pm

### **From the Treasurer**

As you've noticed, by the end of January, the letters of dues have been sent to the Membership. There is always some confusion about the membership number asked on the form. This form is also used by the SIOP and refers to the SIOP number, BUT NOT to the IPSO number. Thus, with the payment of IPSO dues, no membership number has to be added!

### **Fund raising for the IPSO/SIOP meeting**

The executive Board would like to ask all members to try and contribute to Fund raising for our annual meeting. You can contribute by contacting any (medical) Firm you regard as a potential donor that would be receptive to sponsorship. In case of a fruitful contact, please pass this information to either our Program Director ([hadley@nu.ac.za](mailto:hadley@nu.ac.za)), President ([helene.martelli@bct.ap-hop-paris.fr](mailto:helene.martelli@bct.ap-hop-paris.fr)), or to the Secretary ([d.c.aronson@amc.uva.nl](mailto:d.c.aronson@amc.uva.nl)).

### **From the Secretary**

Larry Hadley and Jerry Haase have started the process of modernizing the IPSO by-laws (see minutes IPSO Business Meeting 2005, point 13). In the July newsletter you will be informed of the new text, which will be discussed at the 2006 Business Meeting in Geneva. Please read it carefully and attend the meeting, so that the amendments will be in your favor.

At last year's Surgical Social Event, some misunderstandings occurred regarding reservation and payment of the dinner. Our current local Surgical Representative, Professor Christophe Chardot, has therefore suggested to plan, reserve and pay the Surgical Dinner well in advance. Chardot: 'Our idea would be to send an announcement and a pre-registration form to each member of IPSO personally (by e-mail), and ask for a response before July 15th. Then we would send a mail of confirmation asking for the credit card number of the registered participants, so that we can anticipate the number of people who will attend the dinner (and make subsequent arrangements with the restaurant). This does not preclude from inserting another announcement and pre-registration form in the IPSO newsletter. People could also register during the congress, with immediate cash payment, but as you know, it is easier for us if people pre-register.'

The membership will thus receive this pre-registration opportunity.

Please check your name, (e-mail) address, phone/fax numbers, and/or affiliation in the Membership Directory 2005, and please forward any changes to the Secretariat!

### **News from the Program Committee**

Although the meeting in Geneva may seem to be light years away, the programme development is well advanced. Tom Monclair has been honoured by an invitation to present a Keynote Lecture to a plenary session on the new staging system for neuroblastoma, and this will certainly be a highlight of our meeting. Especially, since this Keynote Lecture has been dedicated as the Tsuchida Memorial Lecture.

There are important symposia on liver transplantation for childhood tumours led by Prof Otte and a full day multidisciplinary radiology meeting that will precede IPSO on Sunday 17th September. Dr Roebuck has organised an exciting programme and it will be well worth making that extra day available.

As always, however, the quality of the meeting depends almost entirely on the Membership. It is your meeting. The number and quality of the submitted abstracts determines the quality of each session, and if last year in Vancouver is anything to go by, we're in for a thoroughly enjoyable few days.

Members should be aware that Case Reports, which are an important resource, will be accepted as posters rather than as oral presentations. There will be a Poster Prize although the Executive reserves the right to not award the prize if the number of posters submitted is too low.

There will, of course, be a session for "Problem Cases" and members are reminded to bring with them a brief (5 min) presentation on Powerpoint for inclusion. The indomitable team of Drs Broecker and Aronson will oversee this session and members should contact them at the meeting to secure a slot on the programme.

Socially, our Surgical representative Christophe Chardot has organised a gourmet experience at a convivial venue in Geneva. IPSO dinners are always worth attending!!

The Annual General Meeting of the Society scheduled for Tuesday 19th September is important to all of us as amendments to the Constitution will be discussed in an attempt to make the Society more representative and transparent. It's not only your meeting, it's your Society too!

Cave laborem

Larry Hadley  
Program Director

### **Presidents Corner**

Our last meeting in Vancouver was a great success in a splendid venue with a wonderful weather (Imagine our dynamic President elect Richard Spicer bathing into the pacific ocean, near by the Convention center, in Stanley park the lung of Vancouver, this really happened!).

Once again, our program Director Larry Hadley organized a fascinating meeting, with lot of exchanges and discussions.

If you start planning for Geneva, please note that IPSO will start on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September, but a Radiology workshop is scheduled on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> and will also be very interesting for surgeons. The IPSO keynote lecture (Tsuchida memorial lecture) by Tom Monclair and the IPSO-SIOP Symposium on hepatic tumours and transplantation promise a great Monday afternoon.

Our past President Bruce Broecker is still discussing with the Board of APSA to organize a third IPSO-APSA meeting in 2008 in Phoenix (Arizona). Thank you again Bruce for your work.

Once again IPSO will organize an educational session within the EUPSA meeting in Maastricht in May. We

hope that it will have the same success as in Gdansk, allowing IPSO to increase its membership in the future. Finally I hope that IPSO will get its website in the next month.

Some words about our Journal, Pediatric Blood and Cancer. The Editor-in-Chief Dr Arceci presented the annual update and report in Vancouver. The number of submissions is increasing (562 in 2004, 620 annualized in 2005). Research articles represent 48% of all submissions with an acceptance ratio of 28 %. Brief reports represent 36% of all submissions with an acceptance ratio of 25%. The total number of reviewers is 500. The average time from acceptance to online publication in early view is 54 days. The average time from submission to decision is 26 days. The calculation of the Impact Factor will start in 2006, and 2007 will be the first year in which PBC eventually will have an impact factor.

Furthermore, PBC will organize a workshop in Geneva: "How to write an article".

Finally I wish all IPSO members a very peaceful, healthy and happy 2006.

Helene Martelli  
President of IPSO

**APPLICATION for IPSO membership**  
(please print)

**NAME OF APPLICANT**

**TITLE**

**AFFILIATION**

**ADDRESS**

**NATIONALITY**

**PHONE NUMBER**

**FAX NUMBER**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS**

**NAME OF SPONSOR 1**

**NAME OF SPONSOR 2**

**PLEASE RETURN WITH YOUR C.V. TO THE IPSO SECRETARIAT**

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