

IX World Congress of the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus in Madrid, Spain



Congress date:
27-29 MAY, 2004

Important dates:

- **Deadline for reduced rate registration:**
30 APRIL, 2004
- **Welcome reception:**
26 MAY, 2004 at 18:00 h.
- **Closing ceremony:**
29 MAY, 2004 at 18:00 h.

Congress venue:

Doce de Octubre University Hospital
Avda, de Cordoba, s/n
28041 Madrid, SPAIN

Scientific secretariat:

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isde NEWS

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The International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus

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EASY & FAST CONNECTION

We now have a homepage.
Send your email address to:

isde@home.email.ne.jp
<http://www.isde.net/>

to get all the latest ISDE news

Letter from the President



Dear Colleagues,

As the IXth ISDE World Congress is now rapidly approaching, one realises how fast time is running as it seems that the previous World Congress in Sao Paolo was only yesterday. 'Truditur dies die ...' Horatius.

When I took up the ISDE Presidency, an ad hoc committee had been created to prepare a proposal to adapt our constitution to the needs of our time.

This ad hoc committee has worked very hard, and after extensive discussions and careful preparations the new constitution was approved by the Executive Committee and finally submitted to the vote of the membership. The membership, i.e. you, approved this new constitution with an overwhelming majority.

Key features of this new constitution are:

Representation on both the Board of Governors and Executive Committee is balanced between surgeons and non-surgeons.

There will be standing committees for a variety of clinical specialties including gastroenterology, pathology, pediatric esophageal diseases, radiology and surgery, which will provide representation to the Executive Committee and Board of Governors.

An Executive Director will conduct the day-to-day business of ISDE under the direction of the Executive Committee.

A World Congress will be held every two years and the content of the scientific programme will be determined by a Programme Committee appointed by ISDE.

These features are the keys to guaranteeing a professional approach to modern esophagology, i.e. integration of different specialties in order to improve cross fertilisation and the quality of our science according to the ISDE mission statement.

This new constitution undoubtedly is a turning point in the history of ISDE and I am convinced that the future of our society is looking brighter than even before. I therefore invite all of you, in particular our non-surgical colleagues to join forces in promoting the new constitution and to stimulating colleagues, especially young esophagologists from your centre, from your country to becoming members of ISDE.

I want to thank heartily everybody that has been involved in the preparation of the new constitution and in particular Professor Mark Ferguson for his relentless efforts to bring this important project to a favourable conclusion.

As a consequence of the New Constitution the ISDE World Congress will now be held every two years. This means that the Xth World Congress will be held in 2006 and the Executive Committee has approved the bid from Adelaide under the leadership of Professor Glyn Jamieson. I have no doubt that under his leadership the challenge of setting up a true multidisciplinary meeting will be met. So I can only advise you to begin preparing the best of your work !!

A second major task for the Executive Committee was to prepare for the change of Editors-in-Chief of the journal. After well thought-out discussions, and again following the philosophy of integration of different specialties, it was decided to appoint two Editors-in-Chief, a surgeon and a non-surgeon, gastroenterologist. After further deliberation, I am particularly proud to welcome Professor Claude Deschamps, surgeon and Professor Kenneth Wang, gastroenterologist, both from the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA. They are both internationally acknowledged authorities in the field of esophagology and both have expressed their firm

continued opposite

intention to further enhance and promote the quality of our journal.

On behalf of the entire ISDE community, I want to express my respect and gratitude towards our outgoing Editor-in-Chief Professor Rudiger Siewert and the outgoing Managing Editor, Professor Hubert Stein for the phenomenal amount of energy they have been spending in their relentless efforts to improve the quality of the journal over the recent years. This was a challenging task often under difficult material conditions but they can be credited for the recent granting of the journal with an impact factor that already moved up to 0.600 in 2004 and is most likely to increase again in the near future. Undoubtedly *Diseases of the Esophagus* is now a well-respected journal attracting a steadily increasing number of high quality papers, to the extent that it now has a backlog.

Clearly *Diseases of the Esophagus* has become the most important asset of ISDE!

I also want to thank Dr Amanda Davis from Blackwell Publishing who has worked very hard to improve the material conditions of the Editor's office and to promote the journal. It has been a real pleasure for all of us to work with her. I congratulate her on her recent promotion to the position of Divisional Head, Publishing for Blackwell Publishing Asia and I welcome Mrs Woolnough as the new representative of Blackwell Publishing who is responsible for our journal.

During the last couple of years ISDE has fostered further cooperation with OESO. As a result ISDE was invited to participate in the recent OESO meeting in Paris. Besides the official welcoming of the ISDE delegation at the inaugural session, ISDE had the opportunity to organise a very successful high quality symposium on Barrett's esophagus. ISDE was also invited by the American Gastroenterological Association, Esophagogastrointestinal Section to participate together with OESO in a joint symposium at the next Digestive Week in New Orleans on

Wednesday the 19th of May 2004. Reciprocally OESO has been officially invited by ISDE to actively participate in our World Congress in Madrid.

I want to thank in particular the immediate past President of OESO, Professor J. Richter for his very constructive approach in trying to enhance cooperation between our two societies. It is my profound hope that in the not too distant future the two societies eventually will come together under one roof, thereby becoming the single voice of esophagology in the world.

As the Madrid meeting is nearing, we have been noticing intense activity on the part of the congress organisation under the leadership of Professor Moreno-Gonzales and by now every member should have received the 2nd announcement brochure. At this congress a special symposium will be organised during the opening ceremony commemorating Professor David Skinner, our past President, one of the true leaders in esophagology who unfortunately passed away last year.

The organizing committee has listed an impressive faculty of international speakers who will guarantee the highest quality of discussion on the various topics on the agenda. In the plenary sessions a selection of the authors with the best abstracts will be invited to make oral presentations in an effort to offer a number of colleagues the opportunity to discuss their recent work with the invited faculty. I am therefore convinced that such an initiative will promote the image of ISDE and I have no doubt that this will prove to be another highly successful meeting.

At the end of my presidential term, I am confident that ISDE is thriving more than ever and I invite every ISDE member to join us in Madrid for another feast in Esophagology.

Toni Lerut
President ISDE

Online settlement

**We now encourage members to pay ISDE annual dues by online credit card settlement via our website: www.isde.net.
Online applications are now also possible.**

CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Call for Scholarship Applications

2005 ISDE Scholarship

Source of Funds

The International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus (ISDE)

Purpose

To encourage the sharing of information concerning the diagnosis and treatment of esophageal diseases among specialists in various countries.

Eligibility

- 1) Applicants must be ISDE members who have fully paid their dues for at least the two years prior to the calendar year in which the scholarship is to be received.
- 2) Applicants must submit an outline of the research they wish to undertake, and give their reasons for choosing the proposed host institution. The host institution should preferably be one with experienced and qualified staff members who have contributed to the ISDE.
- 3) Applicants must provide evidence of acceptance of the project by the proposed host institution.
- 4) Applicants must attach a letter of recommendation from the head of his or her department
- 5) Applicants must be on the staff of a university teaching hospital, research laboratory or similar institution.
- 6) In principle, applicants for Research Scholarships must be under the age of 45, and must be able to work for a minimum of 3 months at the intended host institution.
- 7) Professors or chiefs of departments are eligible only for short-term grants (Visiting Scholarships).

Financial Support

Stipends for Research Scholarships will be granted towards the cost of tourist/economy class fares and accommodations in the host country. No allowance will be given for dependents. In the case of Visiting Scholarships (item 7) above, only the cost of fares but not of accommodation will be granted. This grant does not necessarily exclude the receipt by the grantee of other stipends to enable him or her to conduct the intended research.

Maximum Support per award: US \$5000

Maximum amount of Support: Approximately US \$5000 per annum per recipient

Number of Awards: 2 per annum

Applications

For the 2005 scholarships, applications (one original and 10 copies each with attached original photographs) should be received by the ISDE by 31 December 2004, including proof of acceptance from the intended host institution(s). Notification of awards will be made by 31 March 2005 and the grantee should then finish his or her research by the end of 31 March 2006.

Limitations

This scholarship will not be awarded for the sole purpose of attending conferences or visiting institutions.

Others

Applicants for Visiting Scholarships are required to submit the documents outlined in items 2, 3 and 4 above.

Additional Information and Application forms

Additional information and application forms may be obtained from the Secretariat of the ISDE at the following address:

The International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus
 The Institute of Gastroenterology
 Tokyo Women's Medical University
 8-1 Kawada-cho, Shinjuku-ku
 Tokyo 162-8666, JAPAN
 Tel: +81-3-3358-1435
 Fax +81-3-3358-1424
 Email: isde@home.email.ne.jp

Obligations

The grantee must submit a report of about 800 words within 3 months after completion of the scholarship which will be published in the ISDE Newsletter.

Addendum

Of the total funds available for any given year, the ISDE reserves the right to provide additional special supplementary grants to recipients with special extenuating circumstances, such as those from economically troubled countries. However, the maximum total amount of such grants is not to exceed \$10,000 per annum.