Dear Colleagues

It is my special pleasure to invite you to participate in the VIIIth World Congress of the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus, to be held in São Paulo, Brazil, 5–8 September 2001.

The continuous progress of knowledge of the physiopathology of esophageal diseases, as well as the diagnostic and treatment procedures in benign and malignant diseases, require constant attention from physicians. This important world meeting of ISDE will certainly be an excellent opportunity for all those interested in esophageal diseases.

The Congress will consist of free papers and video presentations, symposia, round tables and posters. For young physicians interested in the specialty there will be didactic sessions in small theaters, so-called training and teaching rooms.

Renowned international specialists will deliver conferences and participate in symposia and round tables. Besides the scientific sessions there will be social programs, such as visits to historical places and museums of art.

It is warm in September in Brazil and an excellent time to take tourist programs, before or after the Congress. Brazil’s natural beauties are world famous and places like Iguassu Falls, Pantanal (Swamps) and the Amazonic Rain Forest are a must in a tour throughout this country.

Seize this wonderful opportunity and come to Brazil.

Henrique W. Pinotti, M.D.
President of the ISDE VIIIth World Congress
ESOPHAGUS 2001

President
Prof. Henrique Walter Pinotti

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National Advisory Committee
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Oswaldo Malafaia
Marcos Moraes
Giovanni G. Cerri
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Registration Fees

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<th>Before Jan 31, 2001</th>
<th>After Jan 31, 2001</th>
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<tr>
<td>ISDE Members</td>
<td>US$225</td>
<td>US$275</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-members</td>
<td>US$250</td>
<td>US$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-member trainees</td>
<td>US$125</td>
<td>US$175</td>
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<td>(&lt; 35 years old)</td>
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<td>Accompanying persons</td>
<td>US$80</td>
<td>US$100</td>
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To register for the conference or obtain an abstract submission form, please contact the Scientific and General Secretariat. Submission of abstracts may also be done via the Internet. For instructions, please see our website:

www.esophagus2001.com.br

Scientific and General Secretariat
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Scholarship Report
Jun-Ying Liu, M.D.
Department of Thoracic Surgery
Fourth Hospital, Hebei Medical University, China

Host Institute: Royal Adelaide Hospital,
The University of Adelaide, Australia
Host Scientist: Prof. Glyn G. Jamieson

Thanks to the support of a 1998 ISDE Research Scholarship, I had the opportunity to study in the Department of Surgery, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Australia, from February 1999 to February 2000. Here, I would like to specifically express my sincere thanks to my supervisor, Professor Glyn G. Jamieson. He made excellent arrangements for my stay in Australia, not only in scientific research but also in daily life. What impressed me most is his profound knowledge and excellent character. I also would like to say thanks to my dear colleagues Dr David Watson, Dr Drew Paul, Dr Peter Devitt, Mr Eric Smith and Mrs Chris Batesbrownward. Without their help, I could not have completed my research and study successfully in Adelaide.

My main interest was in laparoscopic surgery because this technique had not been used in my hospital. I was enrolled in a training course in laparoscopic surgery while I was in Adelaide, in which I not only studied the basic theories of laparoscopic surgery but also practised the technique on animals. After observing many operations performed laparoscopically such as Nissen’s fundoplication, anterior fundoplication and anatomical repair for hiatal hernia, esophagectomy and choleystectomy I understood the detailed processes of each operation. After I returned to China, several laparoscopic fundoplications were successfully performed in my hospital, and good results were obtained. I have to attribute this to my study in Adelaide.

I was also involved in several research projects. One was a risk analysis for esophagectomy, in which smoking and pre-existing cardiovascular diseases were found to be associated with postoperative mortality and morbidity. A scoring system was set up to assess the risk of esophagectomy. Another study was on long-term outcomes of laparoscopic anterior fundoplication; it was concluded that an anterior antireflux procedure could be performed laparoscopically with fewer postoperative complications than, and similar long-term antireflux efficacy, to Nissen’s fundoplication. The third study was about micrometastases of esophageal cancer in bone marrow. Through the research I learned some laboratory techniques, such as separating monocular cells from bone marrow, culturing cells and performing flow cytometry. Before I left Australia, it was agreed that a cooperative research project between China and Australia would be undertaken regarding the anticancer mechanisms of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in esophageal cancer. The incidence of esophageal cancer is more than 100/100,000 people in my area, the southern part of Hebei Province, China. This research is being carried out simultaneously in China and Australia.

Again, I would like to thank the Scholarship Committee of ISDE for awarding me the 1998 ISDE scholarship, and all staff in the Department of Surgery, Royal Adelaide Hospital, for the help they gave me during my stay in Adelaide.
Call for Scholarships

2001 ISDE Scholarship


Purpose: To encourage the transfer 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 (1999 and 2000) 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 at the proposed host institution.

4. Applicants must attach a letter of recommendation from the chief 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 air fares and accommodation in the host country. No allowance will be given for dependents. In the case of visiting scholarships (item 7 above), only the cost of the air fare and 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 $5,000
Total amount of support per annum: approximately US $10,000
Number of awards: Two per annum

Applications: For 2001 applications, one original and 10 copies, each with a photograph of the applicant (not copies) should be received by the ISDE by December 31, 2000, including proof of acceptance from the intended host institution(s). Notification of awards will be made by March 31, 2001 and the grantee should then finish his or her research by the end of March 31, 2002.

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

Other: 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 approximately 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.