

## First ISPAD 2007 Newsletter

Dear ISPAD members

On behalf of the ISPAD Steering Committee, I wish to update you on the recent developments.

Thank You

As this is the first Newsletter after our highly successful 32nd Annual Meeting in Cambridge, we wish to thank the Convener, Peter Swift, and his team for organizing a meeting of high scientific standard and memorable social events, with excellent opportunities for meeting people and networking. Although it was originally planned for 500 participants, eventually an astonishing number of 889 people were registered. It included 43 exhibitors, so proper registrants were 846. In the name of the whole ISPAD membership, we wish to thank Peter and his team for all of their efforts.

Registration for ISPAD 2007 in Berlin is Now Open

As of 15 February, the registration for the upcoming 33rd ISPAD Annual Meeting is open. It will be held from 26 to 29 September in Berlin, Germany. The website is located at [www.ispad2007.com](http://www.ispad2007.com). The start of Abstract Submission is on 1 March 2007, and the Abstract Submission Deadline is 2 May 2007. Deadline for Early Registration is 1 June 2007.

Zvi Laron, 80 Yr Old

Zvi Laron was born on 6 February 1927, in Cernăuți, Romania. He began his medical education at the medical school in Timișoara. In 1948, he moved to Israel and graduated from the Hadassah Hebrew University Medical School, Jerusalem, in 1952. From 1956 to 1957, he was a research and clinical fellow in pediatrics at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston. From 1958 to 1992, Laron was the Director, Institute of Pediatric and Adolescent Endocrinology, Beilinson Medical Center, Petah Tikva, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University. He was appointed as a Professor in 1971. From 1983 to 1997, Laron was incumbent of the Irene and Nicholas Marsh Chair in Endocrinology and Juvenile Diabetes, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University. Since 1998, Laron has been Professor Emeritus of Pediatric Endocrinology, Tel Aviv University, and Director of the Endocrinology & Diabetes Research Unit, Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel. This center was previously known as the Beilinson Medical Center, Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv.



Zvi Laron's activities are closely tied to the roots and philosophy of ISPAD. In the spring of 1970, the first Beilinson symposium was held on the occasion of the inauguration of the Israel Counselling Centre for Juvenile Diabetics. In his opening remarks, Zvi Laron mentioned that the purpose of this center is 'to provide medical, dietary, psychological, psychiatric, genetic and vocational counselling to juvenile diabetics and their families, as well as to school authorities and family physicians, as part of the rehabilitation programme for those afflicted with this chronic ailment.' This reads today very much like a mission statement that every ISPAD member would be willing to sign. Consequently, as in 1973, his attempt together with Henri Lestrade failed to create a youth section within the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), so they chose the occasion of the 21st Anniversary of L'Aide Aux Jeunes Diabétiques to invite a number of pediatric diabetologists to constitute an international study group. On 12 June 1974, the International Study Group of Diabetes in Children and Adolescents (ISGD), which later became ISPAD, was founded at Henri Lestrade's house in Paris. Zvi Laron organized the first ISGD Annual Meeting during the Beilinson Symposium in Tel Aviv, where he was elected to be the first secretary-general. So Zvi Laron is a true 'founding father' of our Society.

Zvi Laron has received many honors, among them he received ISPAD's Prize of Achievement, which

is our highest honor, in 2003. The long list includes the 1999 Andrea Prader Award, being elected as an Honorary Member of The Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society and being accorded the title Doctor Honoris Causa by the Senate of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timișoara, Rumania, at a ceremony held on 15 May 2000.

In the name of the entire ISPAD membership, we acknowledge the tremendous contributions that Zvi has made for our Society over the years and wish him a happy birthday with health and contentment!

#### Call for Nominations for Office

During the Annual General Business Meeting, we will elect new officers for the Advisory Council and Steering Committee. This is the first call for nominations. All nominees must have agreed to be nominated. Nominations must be received 60 d prior to election during the Business Meeting on 28 September 2007 (in Berlin), i.e., by *31 July 2007*.

#### Prize of Achievement 2007

The ISPAD Prize is the Society's highest honor. It is awarded to any individual who has made outstanding contributions in the areas of Science, Education, or Advocacy which have had a major impact on childhood and adolescent diabetes.

The ISPAD Prize may be awarded to members or non-members of ISPAD. The Prize has been made possible by a generous grant from Eli Lilly and consists of a glass-sculptured trophy, a monetary prize of US\$ 4000, and a travel allowance of US\$ 1000. Nominations are invited for the 2007 Prize. The recipient will be expected to travel to Berlin to formally receive the Prize at the 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting of ISPAD. Nominations should be addressed to the Secretary-General by 1 June 2007 detailing the nominee's achievements. The past prize winners are as follows:

- 2001, Johnny Ludvigsson, Sweden.
- 2002, Hans Åkerblom, Finland.
- 2003, Zvi Laron, Israel.
- 2004, Arlan Rosenbloom, USA.
- 2005, Bruno Weber, Germany.
- 2006, Allan Drash, USA.

#### ISPAD Young Investigator Award (Deadline: 1 June)

The deadline for application is 1 June for any ISPAD member aged 40 yr or younger. Apply with curriculum vitae (CV) and a paper published in a peer-reviewed journal (or accepted) within 2 yr prior to application to the Secretary-General. The winner will receive US\$ 3000 including travel to the next Annual

ISPAD Meeting where he or she will give a 15-min presentation, 'Young Investigator Lecture, supported by Medtronic'.

#### ISPAD Award for Education and Advocacy (Deadline: 1 June)

ISPAD's honor for Education and Advocacy, nominations (any ISPAD member) from the membership must be received by 1 June. The prizewinner receives US\$ 3000, including travel to the next Annual ISPAD Meeting where he or she will give a 30-min talk, 'Lestradet Lecture, supported by Lifescan'.

#### Allan Drash Clinical Fellowship (1 June)

This award will be given from the 32nd ISPAD Annual Meeting in Cambridge onward (US\$ 5000). ISPAD's 6-wk Clinical Fellowship applicants must be younger than 45 yr, applications (any ISPAD member) from membership must be received by 1 June. (CV, current place of employment, cover letter with current place of employment, reason and goals, and acceptance letter from the institution they want to visit). Report will be published on the website within 1 yr after the fellowship has been completed.

#### Visiting Research Fellowships 2007

Applications are invited from ISPAD members or other young researchers who wish to study or carry out diabetes-related research at a recognized center of excellence.

There are three fellowships available per year, each valued at US\$ 8000. This year, we have awarded one fellowship so far.

#### January 2007 Visiting Fellowship

The fellowship was awarded to Katrin Tefs, PhD, Lloseta, Spain, to study 'Regulation of puberty onset in type 1 and type 2 diabetes' at the Medical School, Hannover, Germany.

A report on the Fellowship will be published on the website within 1 yr after it has been completed. The recipients will give credit to ISPAD on any publication arising from any work done during the Fellowship. The deadlines for the application for the next Visiting Fellowships are 1 June 2007, 1 October 2007 and 1 January 2008.

#### Seventh ISPAD Science School for Physicians 2007 – Application Deadline: 1 June 2007

This year's School will take place from Tuesday, 16 October – with departure on Saturday, 20 October

## Announcements

2007. The venue is Hvidoere Conference Center, Emiliekildevej 1, Klampenborg, Denmark, 30 min from the airport ([www.hvidoere.dk](http://www.hvidoere.dk)).

The aim of the ISPAD Science School is to provide junior physician-scientists (fellows and junior faculty) from around the world, who are in the early stages of their research careers, an opportunity to develop their skills in diabetes research in children and adolescents.

The resident faculty will comprise senior physician-scientists with considerable clinical and research experience in diabetes and research methodology. The program will consist of lectures by the resident faculty and invited experts, presentations by the students of their research proposals and projects, clinical case discussions, and both formal and informal interactive discussions among students and faculty. An essential feature of the Science School is to improve networking and the networking skills of the participants. There will be ample time for participants to discuss their research projects and research plans informally with members of the faculty.

The ISPAD Science School 2007 is made possible by an unrestricted educational grant from Novo Nordisk A/S. The School will cover the costs of lodging, meals, tuition, and the social program.

Twenty participants will be selected from all around the world. The application deadline is 1 June 2007. The applicants will be notified of the selection decisions early in August to allow adequate time to make travel and other arrangements.

The target audience is academic physician-scientists in the early stages of their careers in clinical, epidemiologic, or translational (bench to bedside) research, interested in expanding their knowledge and improving their skills in planning, conducting, and evaluating all forms of clinical diabetes research in children and adolescents. Such individuals are encouraged to apply.

Each participant is expected to present in detail to faculty and students his/her own research project and/or research plan for interactive discussion at the School. In addition, students will have the opportunity to present an instructive clinical case (a diagnostic or management problem) for informal discussion in a small group setting with students and faculty.

Please submit an application via e-mail to the Director, ISPAD Science School 2007 (address below) by 1 June 2007. 'ISPAD Science School 2007' should appear in the subject header.

Please be sure to include the following information:

1. Name and date of birth (no gender or age restrictions)
2. Contact information including address, e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers; please include international dialing codes
3. A CV describing previous professional and scientific training and experience

4. A brief (half page) description of previous and current research activities; if none, please state future intentions.
5. Personal long-term professional and scientific plans.
6. A brief (not more than half page) statement addressing the question 'Why are you applying to the Science School?'
7. Ask your Research or Clinical Supervisor, Division or Department Head, or both to send separately a brief letter of recommendation to Professor Henrik B Mortensen via e-mail (address below). This should include his or her thoughts about your research potential, clinical and scholarly abilities, and potential to benefit from attendance and participation in the ISPAD Science School.

For additional information, please contact Professor Henrik B Mortensen at the e-mail address shown below. We look forward to receiving your application.

Henrik B Mortensen Dr. Med Sci.  
Director, ISPAD Science School 2007  
Professor of Pediatrics  
Copenhagen University Hospital at Glostrup  
E-mail: [hbmo@glo.regionh.dk](mailto:hbmo@glo.regionh.dk)

Fourth ISPAD Science School for Health Professionals – Application Deadline:  
10 April 2007

The Fourth ISPAD Science School for Health Professionals will be held in Berlin immediately prior to the 34th Annual Scientific Meeting of ISPAD. The 3-d meeting is designed for nurses, dietitians, psychologists, social workers, and podiatrists (not MDs) who have or wish to develop a research interest and expertise in diabetes in young people. The School will give participants an understanding of research methodologies and qualitative and quantitative statistics and will provide constructive discussion about research projects currently being undertaken or considered.

Student places will be limited to 15. Applications will be assessed by the Science School Steering Committee. As Roche is no longer supporting this initiative, the cost of the meeting will be covered by ISPAD. Participants will usually need to pay for their economy travel to Berlin, but this will be fully reimbursed.

Senior Convener – Professor Alan Delamater, Psychologist

Department of Pediatrics  
University of Miami School of Medicine  
PO Box 016820 (D-820)  
Miami, Florida 33101, USA  
Applicants must send the following by e-mail:

- Letter of application
- CV (Word document, maximum two pages)

- Description of current work and experience (clinical and research)
- Reason for wishing to attend the Science School
- Letter of endorsement (Word document sufficient) e-mailed separately from Head of Department

Please send application to Alan Delamater at the following e-mail address: [adelamater@med.miami.edu](mailto:adelamater@med.miami.edu). Closing date: 10 April 2007. Applicants will be notified about acceptance by early May to enable study leave and travel arrangements to be made.

### Bids for the ISPAD Annual Meeting in 2011

During the meeting of the Executive Committee just prior to the Annual Meeting in Berlin, we wish to select the convener and venue for the next ISPAD Annual Meeting in 2011. As the ISPAD Executive Board will meet during the American Diabetes Association Meeting in June, it would be helpful if those interested in hosting this Meeting would send a preliminary notice to the Secretary-General ([danne@hka.de](mailto:danne@hka.de)) by the end of May. We will then make sure that we receive all the necessary information so that a decision can be made in September. Guidelines for preparing a bid for an ISPAD Annual Meeting and an application form are available from our Association Management, KIT, at [secretariat@ispad.org](mailto:secretariat@ispad.org).

### First European Society for Pediatric Endocrinology Advanced Seminar in Developmental Endocrinology (10–11 May 2007)

Paul Czernichow informed us about this program, which is likely to interest a fair number of ISPAD members. It is a 2-d seminar (10–11 May 2007), which will take place at Necker Hospital in Paris. Accommodation and meeting costs are met by European Society for Pediatric Endocrinology. Travel expenses are not covered, though.

The sessions include the following: Overview of pancreatic development [Scharfmann (Paris)], Overview of neonatal diabetes [Shield (Bristol)], Transcription factors in pancreatic development (animal models) [Gradwohl (Strasbourg)], Transcription factors in pancreatic development (human disease) [Ferrer (Barcelona)], *In vivo* and *in vitro* techniques to study pancreas development and islet cell function [Duville (Paris)], and Imaging the pancreas [de Lonlay (Paris)]. Pump therapy in neonatal diabetes [Tubiana (Paris)], Beta cell function, recognition of glucose and release of insulin [Rutter (London)], Channelopathies in neonatal diabetes [Polak (Paris)], Genomic imprinting in developmental biology [Kelsey (Cambridge)], Imprinting in human disease with special reference to neonatal diabetes and Beckwith Wiedemann Syndrome

[Temple (Southampton)], The physiology and clinical management of glucose metabolism in neonates [Beardsall (Cambridge)], and student presentations.

Deadline for application is 23 March. Please note that all applications and inquiries should be sent to A-M Poupon, Secretary to Professor Czernichow at [ampdoc@tele2.fr](mailto:ampdoc@tele2.fr).

### ISPAD Activities with the European Parliament

For the first time, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) discussed the subject 'Children with diabetes' during a luncheon at the European Parliament on 30 January in the Members' Salon at the European Union (EU) Parliament, in Brussels. The EU hosts this event following the United Nations' resolution on diabetes approved on 20 December 2006 (with support from ISPAD) urging for action. The EU meeting was called together by Dr Thomas Ulmer, a German MEP, with the participation of key international experts, including ISPAD officers (Allgrove, UK; Danne, Germany; de Beaufort, Luxembourg, Robert, France; and Veeze, the Netherlands), representatives from the IDF, Europe, and EU commission representatives. The aim was to identify urgent EU and national measures to tackle diabetes in children. During the discussions, the following objectives were put forward:

- Type 2 diabetes in children is on the rise. However, this type of diabetes is in many cases preventable. Ways to prevent type 2 diabetes include lifestyle changes, such as a healthy diet, and regular physical activity.
- Type 1 diabetes, the most common form of diabetes in children, can unfortunately not be prevented. A timely and accurate diagnosis and effective control is therefore essential to ensure the best possible physical and emotional health of the child and to prevent or delay complications. Raising awareness may help prevent life-threatening ketoacidosis at the onset of the disease.
- To help children and their caregivers cope with diabetes, care should be delivered by a multidisciplinary team with good pediatric knowledge. Unfortunately, specialized (multidisciplinary) care is not always available. Diabetes education programs aimed at healthcare professionals should therefore be developed.
- In order to reduce health inequalities and differences in outcomes, children across Europe should have equal access to the best possible care and treatment.
- In order to improve self-management and to support the important role of caregivers, age-appropriate targeted information, education programs, and tools should be developed and made easily accessible for children and their caregivers.

## Announcements

- A child diagnosed today can look forward to a cure for diabetes in his/her lifetime, provided that high level European research is strongly supported.

Therefore, it was suggested to the EU to create a European network of centers of excellence for pediatric diabetes in order to achieve the following:

- Exchange information and promote best practice with respect to the following:
  - the latest and most effective methods of treatment and care
  - affordable and accessible primary and secondary prevention models
  - education programs targeted at children with diabetes and their families

- education for healthcare professionals
- development and implementation of national diabetes plans, including a specific focus on diabetes in children and adolescents
- creation of multidisciplinary teams with good knowledge of pediatric issues

- Develop (minimum) standards of care
- Facilitate collection, registration, monitoring, and reporting of epidemiological and economic data. Currently, discussions are going on to determine how these objectives can be met at an EU level.

With very best wishes and looking forward to seeing you in Berlin

*Thomas Danne*  
Secretary-General, ISPAD