Second ISPAD 2005 Newsletter

Dear ISPAD members

On behalf of the International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) Steering Committee, I wish to update you on recent developments.

Thank you

As this is the first Newsletter after our highly successful 31st Annual Meeting in Krakow, we wish to thank the Convenor, Przemyslawa Jarosz-Chobot, and her 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 close to 800 diabetes professionals attended the meeting. In the name of the whole ISPAD membership, we thank Przemka, her family, and her team for all of their efforts.

New ISPAD Officers

During the 2005 ISPAD Annual General Assembly the following new officers were elected:

(i) President-Elect for the Term 2005–2006 and to serve as President 2006–2008. Stuart Brink, Boston, USA.
(ii) Secretary-General Elect 2006–2008. Thomas Danne, Germany, was re-elected for a second term.
(iv) Advisory Council 2005–2007. (replacing: David Dunger, Cambridge, England, Olga Kordonouri, Berlin, Germany, Jadranka Popovic, Croatia and Kansas City, USA and Tuula Simell, Turku, Finland; a big Thank You to them). Three physicians and one allied health professional were elected: Carlo Acerini, Cambridge, UK (physician), Gun Forsander, Gothenburg, Sweden (physician), Areti Philatheou, Capetown, South Africa (physician), Marcia Frank, Toronto, Canada (clinical nurse specialist).

We congratulate those elected and thank all of the candidates for their support of ISPAD.

ISPAD Prize of Achievement 2005

The ISPAD Prize is the Society’s highest honour. It was awarded to Professor Bruno Weber, Germany, this year. He is one of the founding members of the International Study Group of Diabetes in Children and Adolescents (ISGD) in 1972 which, later, in 1993 evolved into ISPAD. During all these years, he has been a role model for other pediatric diabetologists who followed the spirit of scientific exchange, high moral standards, tolerance for other opinions, and international friendship. Bruno Weber served on the Council, as a Secretary-General and as a President of the ISGD. During his presidency, the ISGD transformed into ISPAD on 4 September 1993 and proclaimed in the Declaration of Kos the treatment goals for children with diabetes. Throughout the annual meetings of ISGD/ISPAD, the Beilinson Symposia organized by former ISPAD Prize recipient Zvi Laron and the workshops on ‘Diabetic angiopathy in children’ organized by himself and his co-workers, the current standards for achieving long-lasting somato-psychosocial well-being by means of a multidisciplinary approach were developed. The focus of Bruno Weber’s own scientific work was inaugurating the prospective Berlin Retinopathy Study that contributed to the understanding of the early development of neurovascular changes in childhood onset diabetes. It was his idea to organize the East-European Postgraduate Courses in Hungary, Slovakia, Russia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Poland, and Romania. In the letters recommending him for this prize, it was recognized that Bruno Weber was not only an excellent academic teacher and scientist but also showed a deep understanding of ‘east colleagues’ and was reaching out to them with a friendly hand. His work was acknowledged by honorary memberships in various pediatric societies (Sweden, Hungary and Poland) and finally by the highest honour of the German Diabetes Association, the ‘Paul Langerhans Medal.’ During the Gala Dinner at the Krakow Meeting Bruno Weber received the prize and thanked the membership for this honour. Thank you to Eli Lilly & Co. for supporting the prize.

Visiting Research Fellowships 2005

Applications were 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 yr, each valued at US $8000. This year, we have awarded the following fellowships:
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January 2005 Visiting Fellowship. Dorothee Deiss, Berlin, Germany, to study ‘Control of Hyperglycemia in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit’ at the Lucile S. Packard Children’s Hospital, Stanford University School, Palo Alto, CA, USA.

June 2005 Visiting Fellowship. Chunhua Zeng, Guangzhou, China, to study ‘Prevention and Treatment of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus in NOD Mice’ at the Department of Human Genetics, University of Michigan, MI, USA.

October 2005 Visiting Fellowship. Yelena Vainilovitch, Minsk, Belarus, to study ‘Beta-cell Functioning in the Early Phases of Human Prediabetes. An IVGTT-based Study’ at the University of Turku, Finland.

A report on the fellowship will be published on the website within 1 yr after its completion. 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 January, 1 June, and 1 October 2006.

New ISPAD Awards

During the General Assembly we announced the following new awards:

ISPAD Young Investigator Award. Will be given at the 32nd ISPAD Annual Meeting in Cambridge. The deadline for application is 1 June for any ISPAD member aged 40 yr or less. Apply by submitting CV and a paper published (or accepted) in a peer-reviewed journal 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. ISPAD’s honour for Education and Advocacy. Nominations of any ISPAD member can be suggested from the membership by 1 June. The award will be presented at the 32nd ISPAD Annual Meeting in Cambridge. The prize winner will receive US $3000, including travel to the next Annual ISPAD Meeting, where he or she will present a 30-min talk, ‘Lestradet Lecture,’ supported by Lifescan.

Allan Drash Clinical Fellowship

Will be given at the 32nd ISPAD Annual Meeting in Cambridge (US $5000). ISPAD’s 6-wk clinical fellowship applicants below 45 yr, applications (any ISPAD member) from membership by 1 June (submission of CV; current place of employment; cover letter listing current employment; reason and goals; acceptance letter from the organization they want to visit). Report will be published on the website within 1 yr after completion of the fellowship.

Membership Drive

ISPAD is a thriving society, and we wish to draw the attention of all those involved in pediatric diabetes care around the world to become ISPAD members. If you have meetings or mailings where you wish to advertise on behalf of ISPAD, we are happy to supply you with our flyer (for inquiries: secretariat@ispad.org). It is our goal to increase membership considerably over the next several years. In this manner, we will be able to do even more in the areas of Science, Education, and Advocacy for children with diabetes.

Office for Management of the Society

The ISPAD Executive Committee has decided to continue the successful collaboration for the handling of membership business with the K.I.T. Association & Conference Management Group in Berlin, Germany. All inquiries regarding the membership handling such as address changes, billing, etc. can be done directly with this office by e-mail: (secretariat@ispad.org), Tel: +49-30-246 03-210 or Fax: 49-30-246 03-200. In due course, during the process of redesigning our website, we will extend the capabilities for performing these functions online.

Pediatric Diabetes

All members should receive copies of our official journal, PEDIATRIC DIABETES. We are very pleased by the feedback of members regarding this collaboration. Please support our journal by submitting your manuscripts. The official website is: http://www.blackwell-synergy.com. To access the journal’s home page, go to ‘Medicine,’ then ‘Endocrinology,’ and click on ‘Pediatric Diabetes.’ Please do not hesitate to contact Sandra K. Arjona, Managing Editor, arjosk@chp.edu, for any questions you may have. The journal is now publishing bimonthly issues and will implement Manuscript Central in the near future.

Upcoming Annual Meetings 2007–2009

The following venues and organizers for the future ISPAD Annual Meetings were announced at the General Assembly:
During the meeting of the Executive Committee just prior to the Annual Meeting in Cambridge, we wish to select the conveners and venues for the next ISPAD Annual Meetings in 2010, 2011, and possibly, 2012. Guidelines for preparing a bid for an ISPAD Annual Meeting and an Application Form are available from the Secretary-General.

ISPAD Postgraduate Course 2005

A highly successful ISPAD Postgraduate Course for physicians was held this year in Krakow, Poland, immediately prior to the annual ISPAD Congress. The 2-day meeting was designed for medical doctors and diabetic teams who have or who wish to develop an interest in diabetes in childhood and adolescence, especially for residents in pediatrics, diabetology, and endocrinology. We thank Moshe Phillip, Wojciech Mlynarski, and Przemysława Jarosz-Chobot for their efforts in organizing this event, and Medtronic for their support. ISPAD members wishing to organize future Postgraduate Courses should contact the Secretary-General.

ISPAD Science School 2005

The 6th Annual ISPAD Science School for Physicians, organized by Joe Wolfsdorf, Boston Children’s Hospital was held from 23–27 October in Boston and hosted 20 ‘students’ from around the world. Once again, this was a highly successful experience for all involved. The 7th Annual Science School for Physicians is planned for 2006 in France and will be organized by Claire Levy-Marchal and Paul Czernichow. Watch the ISPAD website for further details.

Third Science School for Health Professionals


These 3-day meetings are designed for nurses, dietitians, psychologists, and podiatrists who have or wish to develop a research interest in diabetes in young people. The School is designed to give participants some understanding of research methodologies, qualitative and quantitative statistics and to provide constructive discussion about research projects currently being undertaken or considered. We thank Marg McGill for organizing the second Science School for Health Care Professionals just prior to the Krakow meeting. Of 30 applicants from around the world, 15 were selected to participate and gave the School excellent reviews.

The third ISPAD Science School 2006 for Health Professionals will be held in Cambridge, UK, immediately prior to the ISPAD Annual Meeting. Student places are limited to 15. Applications will be adjudicated by the Science School Steering Committee. The cost of attendance at the Science School will be covered by ISPAD. To apply please send the following: Curriculum Vitae (A4 page, max 2); description of current work; experience (clinical and research); reason for wishing to attend the Science School; Letter of Endorsement from Head of Department. Please send applications via email, fax or regular mail to the coconvenors:

Dr Sheridan Waldron
Nutrition & Dietetic Department
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Fax: +44 116 258 58 41
email: sheridan.waldron@btinternet.com

Dr Alexandra Greene
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For more information, please go to www.ispad.org or www.accu-chek.com. The Science Schools for Health Professionals are sponsored by an unrestricted educational grant from Roche Diagnostics GmbH.

Travel Grants to the 32nd Annual Meeting in Cambridge

Travel grants will also be awarded for the 32nd Annual Meeting in Cambridge. A total of $600 is being awarded to those members who travel within the same continental region and $1000 for those outside the continent. The grants are awarded to younger researchers who have applied for grants and who have the highest ranking abstracts being presented at the meeting.

Don’t Miss the 32nd ISPAD Annual Meeting in Cambridge

We invite you to meet with your friends and colleagues in Europe at the 32nd Annual Scientific Meeting of ISPAD which will be held in Cambridge, UK, from 6–9 September 2006 (www.ispad2006-cambridge.com).
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The convenor of the meeting, Peter Swift, together with his co-convenors David Dunger (Cambridge), Carlo Acerini (Cambridge), and Julie Edge (Oxford) have made excellent preparations. The theme for the meeting will be ‘Diabetes Research and Care – Science and Art in Harmony.’ The key dates and deadlines are: Call for Abstracts opens 9 January to 18 April 2006; Early Registration opens 9 January to 16 June 2006.

With very best wishes for the winter and looking forward to seeing you in Cambridge.

Thomas Danne
Secretary-General ISPAD