



# ***E-NEWSLETTER***

*of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis*

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September 2001

Issue 2

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## **COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**

Dear Colleagues,

Last month many of us attended the XVIIIth Congress of our Society in Paris. There was an unanimous feeling that the Congress was outstanding by all standards, and we all congratulate Professor Dominique Meyer and her devoted team for the great accomplishment.

During the Congress your representatives at on Council discussed many issues facing our Society, and it is the purpose of this message to brief you on what has been decided.

### **Change of Publisher of Thrombosis and Hemostasis.**

After lengthy deliberations and many meetings of the Council's Journal Negotiating Team and the Publication Committee, Council decided not to renew the Society's publication contract with F.K. Schattauer Verlag after December 31, 2002. From three attractive bids by prominent publishing houses, Council selected Blackwell as the new publisher of the Society's official journal. The Editors and Editorial Board will be the same, but a new name of the Journal will be announced. Members of Council feel that this decision heralds a new era for our Society's prestigious Journal. Within the next few months you will receive more information about the new Journal and the transition phase.

### **Global Educational Activities**

One of the goals of our Society is dissemination of knowledge and expertise worldwide. The Society and Congress Presidents have therefore allocated funds to support participation at ISTH Congresses of young colleagues who have made important observations. In the last two years Council decided to endorse the recommendation of the Education committee to organize

educational programs, particularly in developing countries. One ISTH-sponsored workshop was held in Trinidad in 1999 and another educational symposium took place in Alexandria, Egypt, in 2000. In October 2001 an ISTH-sponsored Symposium will take place in Mexico City during the CLAHT Congress, and more activities are planned in India, the Far East and the Middle East.

### **Membership**

The number of our members is growing steadily and is now 2642. The Council and its Membership Committee feel that many more colleagues, particularly of the younger generation should be encouraged to join us and take advantage of the benefits involved. New means of recruitment have been devised and will be implemented.

### **Elections**

SSC Class of 2007: Drs. Nuala Booth (Scotland), P.G. DeGroot (The Netherlands), Bernhard Lammle (Switzerland), and Robert Montgomery (United States) were elected to membership in the SSC as the class of 2007.

#### 50th SSC Annual Meeting, 2004

Council decided that the 2004 SSC meeting (a year after the Birmingham Congress) will take place in Venice, Italy, June 17-19, 2004 with Prof. Francesco Rodeghiero as Meeting President. Please mark your calendar..

#### XXIIth ISTH Congress, 2009

Council decided that the Congress of 2009 will be in Boston (USA) with Drs. Bruce and Barbara Furie as Co-Presidents.

In the coming year the Council committees will address new issues and items that need continuous attention. A major goal will be to guarantee smooth transition of our Journal to the new Publisher.

Uri Seligsohn  
ISTH Council

### ***Thrombosis and Haemostasis: Official Journal of the ISTH.***

Society members are often surprised to learn that the ISTH does not own its official journal, *Thrombosis and Haemostasis*.

There has been a long and mutually beneficial association between the ISTH and F.K. Schattauer Verlag of Stuttgart, Germany. Before the ISTH was founded, *Thrombosis et Diathesis Haemorrhagica* (the early name of *Thrombosis and Haemostasis*) published the proceedings of the Scientific and Standardization Committee--in those days known as "The International Committee on Blood Clotting Factors." In 1991, Schattauer and the Society entered into a publications agreement that brought complimentary subscriptions of T&H to all Society members as a benefit of membership.

The Journal, the Committee and the Society have "grown up" together.

Following the model of other successful Societies, in 1999 the Council of the ISTH voted to acquire ownership of its journal at the conclusion of the current publications agreement with Schattauer (2002).

Negotiations to purchase the journal from Schattauer followed, but a mutually agreeable sales contract could not be reached. Other publishers were invited to make proposals to publish the Society's journal and Blackwell Science, Inc., was selected as the new publisher.

Details of the Society's new publication will follow over the next year. Stay tuned for updates!

## **XVIII ISTH CONGRESS**

### **XVIIIth ISTH Congress Highlights Paris, July 6-12, 2001**

More than 7,200 registered participants, isn't it the absolute demonstration of the robustness of our field? The "classical" specialities including hemophilia, genetic risk factors of thrombosis, new diagnostic and therapeutic strategies of thrombotic disorders, and fibrinolysis were strongly represented, as usual. A few months after the release of the first draft of the whole human genome, three aspects look amazingly reinforced, probably because this milestone has been anticipated by a number of our colleagues.

Vascular biology was intentionally given more emphasis, and it is indeed being realized we can no longer live without considering the vessel in our various approaches. Cell proliferation or death (apoptosis) are closely linked to angiogenesis or atherothrombosis, processes of apparent opposite significance in vascular generation or degeneration. Not only growth factors, but also coagulation or fibrinolysis proteins or fragments behave as basic actors in addition to their primary role.

Structural biology has been unraveling new structure-function relationships at the atomic scale, allowing a better understanding of new functions, and paving the way to more specific drugs.

The exponential progress of genomics has a considerable impact in all of our specialities where it remains possible to take advantage of inherited mutations or polymorphisms to decipher the corresponding normal mechanisms.

Another preserved feature of our field is its repercussion in other fundamental (patho)physiologic processes, including development, but doesn't this seem *physiologically correct* since blood is in contact with most of the tissues!

These short considerations should be viewed as actual encouragements for our students or younger collaborators to get involved in a field deserving deeper and deeper investigation.

Jean-Marie Freyssinet, Member, Program Committee  
XVIIIth ISTH Congress

Dominique Meyer, President  
XVIIIth ISTH Congress

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Book Review: *A History of Blood Coagulation* by Charles A. Owen, Jr., MD, PhD. William L. Nichols, MD, and E.J. Walter Bowie, D.M., Editors.**

Published by the Mayo Foundation of Medical Education and Research, Rochester, MN (USA).  
ISBN 1-893005-90-9

Charles A. Owen was a man of many interests. He was an avid collector of stamps and coins. In addition, he collected and cataloged articles and books dealing with thrombosis and hemostasis. Dr. Owen spent ten years writing the book. It was his goal to have the book available at the ISTH meeting/July 2001. Unfortunately, Dr. Owen died earlier this year (March 3, 2001). Drs. E. J. Walter Bowie and William L. Nichols assisted Dr. Owen in finalization of the manuscript. The book is a wonderful summary of the chronology/history of blood coagulation. There are many vignettes detailing initial observations. The book is richly illustrated with diagrams as well as photographs of coagulationists who made seminal contributions to the field of hemostasis and thrombosis. The chronologic history of the discovery of each of the individual coagulation factors is very well documented. Biographical vignettes of individuals responsible for identifying new factors are included. Thrombosis/thrombophilia is also thoroughly reviewed. The various tests which have been utilized to diagnose patients with bleeding and thrombotic disorders are succinctly summarized. Also, various therapeutic methods are included (oral anticoagulation, heparin, replacement therapy for factor deficiencies, etc.).

Any individual with an interest in thrombosis and hemostasis will enjoy the "journey" of reading *A History of Blood Coagulation*.

Douglas A. Triplett  
June 22, 2001

*Individual copies of this book are available from <www.amazon.com> or in bulk from J.A. Major Company <www.majors.com> Tel: 1-800-633-1851/Fax: 972 353 1300.*

***Paul A. Owren and the Golden Era of Haemostasis*** by Helge Stormorken.

*Contrary to the flyer in our Paris Congress bags, this publication is not yet available. We are looking forward to debut of this book and will let the ISTH membership know when it becomes available.*

## **SOCIETY MEETINGS:**

**2002 48th SSC Annual Meeting: Boston, MA (USA) July 18-20.**

The next meeting of the Society's Scientific and Standardization Committee will take place under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kenneth A. Bauer at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. In addition to public presentations of work-in-progress by the SSC's 18 Scientific Subcommittees, the Boston

Organizing Committee is planning major symposia and satellites as well as visits to the facilities of leading investigators in the Boston area.

The meeting is free and open to all interested scientists. Registration is required, but there is no registration fee.

The 2002 free-standing meeting of the SSC marks the beginning of expanded SSC Annual Meetings which will include educational presentations on thrombosis, hemostasis and vascular biology.

For more information about the 2002 Meeting and for registration forms, please go to <[www.isth.org](http://www.isth.org)> and see the Section on "Future Meetings."

**2003 XIXth ISTH Congress and 49th SSC Annual Meeting: Birmingham, England (UK) July 12-18.**

Mark your calendars now for the next ISTH Congress and SSC Annual Meeting! Prof. Ian Peake and his Organizing Committee (Vice-President Gordon Lowe, Scientific Program Chairman David Lane, Treasurer Sam Machin, et al) are well advanced in their planning for another valuable meeting.

For more information on the 2003 Congress, please see the website, <[www.isth2003.com](http://www.isth2003.com)> or use the link to the site via the ISTH Webpage under "Future Meetings."

*The Calendar of all Future ISTH Meetings may be seen at <[www.isth.org](http://www.isth.org)>. Links are also provided to all up-coming meetings with active websites.*

**STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL** Please communicate concerns and ideas with your elected representatives:

Awards and Lectureships	Dr. Ulla Hedner < <a href="mailto:uhe@novonordisk.com">uhe@novonordisk.com</a> >
Congress Presidents	Dr. Yale Nemerson < <a href="mailto:yale.nemerson@mssm.edu">yale.nemerson@mssm.edu</a> >
Constitution	Dr. Ed Plow < <a href="mailto:plowe@ccf.org">plowe@ccf.org</a> >
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Executive/Nominating	Dr. Bonno Bouma < <a href="mailto:b.bouma@lab.azu.nl">b.bouma@lab.azu.nl</a> >

## **ISTH E-INFORMATION**

If you have not recently checked the ISTH Webpage, please take a moment to do so. For your convenience, the page is simply formatted for quick and easy reference.

For example,

2001 Minutes of the SSC's Scientific Subcommittee Sessions in Paris are available for viewing or downloading under the section, "Scientific and Standardization Committee--Minutes and Annual Subcommittee Reports."

Hot links to Up-coming Society meetings are found under "Future Meetings."

New Member applications forms may be downloaded under "About the ISTH--Membership."

and more...

Also, a Listserve for all members with email addresses is now in place. The service allows rapid communication with the memberships about important and time-sensitive information.

## **SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

In conjunction with last year's Membership Renewal drive, the Society sent a questionnaire to gather demographic information about our membership. You may be interested to know that 1,442 questionnaires were returned with the following information.

ISTH Members do not like to reveal their age! Of those who responded, the range was 28 to 84 years, with most respondents being in their 50's.

Regarding academic training, many respondents held both MD and PhD degrees. 1,339 MD degrees and 954 PhD were reported. Respondents frequently reported multiple specialties. The following specialties were most frequently reported: hematology, medicine, pathology, pediatrics, cardiology, surgery, ob/gyn, cardiology, surgery, biochemistry, vascular biology, molecular biology, pharmacology, pathology, transfusion and laboratory medicine and genetics.

The majority of Survey responders were also participants at ISTH Congresses and SSC Meeting, 1057 indicating that they planned to attend the Paris Congress and 480 the SSC Annual Meeting. 583 sent submission to *Thrombosis and Haemostasis* and another 389 have served as reviewers for *Thrombosis and Haemostasis*. Use of Society information services (the Journal, Webpage, Membership Directory) was reported by 566 of the respondents.

Membership in the Society continues to increase with a total active membership (as of May 31, 2001) of 2,642. 2,390 members are "in good standing" and another 252 are "in arrears." Currently 71 countries are represented in the Society's membership.

The 2002 Membership renewal drive is scheduled to begin in mid-September.