



# ***E-NEWSLETTER***

***of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis***

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M.-C. Guillin, Vice President  
A. Nurden, Vice President

U. Seligsohn, Council Chair  
B. Bouma, Council Secretary/Chair Elect  
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Issue 1

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*This first e-issue is being posted on the ISTH Homepage for general viewing. Subsequent issues will be available only to Members of the ISTH. Members will be asked to use their Membership Number which appears above their names on Thrombosis and Haemostasis mailing labels as a password.*

*The next issue is planned for June 2001.*

## ***FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF ISTH COUNCIL***

Dear Colleagues:

During recent years exciting developments have occurred in our discipline of thrombosis and hemostasis. These are well represented by the enormous success and high scientific quality of our Congresses and the Annual Meetings of the Scientific and Standardization Committee. Concomitantly, our Society has matured and is now a solid organization which is constantly thriving through the dedicated work of our permanent staff at the Chapel Hill Headquarters, the members of the Scientific and Standardization Committee, and the members of the ISTH Council, your elected representatives.

This Newsletter is intended to convey to you twice a year the latest information on Society issues and to provide you with brief reviews of matters handled by the Council. The Council's Standing Committees have quite a busy agenda with several goals to meet before Council's next annual meeting at the Paris Congress in July 2001. Here are a few examples. The Publications Committee is negotiating on our behalf to either acquire the journal, *Thrombosis and Haemostasis*, or failing that, to launch a new journal for the Society. The Education Committee is planning global educational activities. The Constitution Committee is reviewing our Bylaws and governing documents with special attention to legal and ethical issues relating to interaction with industry. The Finance Committee is supervising income, expenses and investments of the ISTH. The Membership Committee is exploring means of increasing the size of our Society. The Congress Presidents' Committee is evaluating previous congresses, providing guidance to up-coming

meetings and developing guidelines to improve future Congresses. The Awards and Lectureship Committee is reviewing the current procedures for establishment and awarding of prizes; and the Advisory Committee is evaluating the current operations of Headquarters and long-range planning. Member in-put is always welcome in all Society matters.

Another way for you to keep abreast of ISTH activities is to check the website <[www.isth.org](http://www.isth.org)> This site is constantly being improved and updated and contains very useful information on Society matters, SSC reports, future meetings, links to excellent databases, training opportunities and latest news.

In the coming year most of us will meet in Paris at the XVIII<sup>th</sup> ISTH Congress. Professor Dominique Meyer and her colleagues have been working extremely hard in preparation for the Congress and deserve great credit from all of us. It is already apparent that our French colleagues designed an excellent backbone of the scientific program (plenary lectures, symposia, and state of the art lectures); the organization seems superb and a delightful atmosphere is anticipated.

Finally we encourage you to express any ideas, questions, comments or suggestions by communicating with the Officers, Council Members and Committee Chairmen in care of ISTH Headquarters.

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#### STANDING COMMITTEES OF ISTH COUNCIL

Advisory	Jos Vermylen, Chairman
Awards and Lectureships	Ulla Hedner, Chairman
Congress Presidents	Yale Nemerson, Chairman
Constitution	Ed Plow, Chairman
Education	Uri Seligsohn, Chairman
Executive/Nominating	Bonno Bouma, Chairman
Finance	Ken Bauer, Chairman
Membership	David Lane, Chairman
Publications	J. Evan Sadler, Chairman

#### ***FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE XVIIIITH CONGRESS***

Dear ISTH Members:

I am pleased to report that organization of the XVIII<sup>th</sup> ISTH Congress is progressing successfully. There has been a very enthusiastic response to our invitation to the scientific community to join us on July 6-12, 2001, at the Palais des Congres in Paris!

The Congress Abstract Submission deadline was extended to 29 December and a large number of abstracts have been received. Thank you for your contributions.

The Paris Congress has a fine website at <[www.isth2001.com](http://www.isth2001.com)> which is also linked in the ISTH Homepage under the section "Future Meetings." Please check the Congress website often for the latest Congress news, and we encourage you to register for the congress and your hotel on the website.

For your convenience, a new "Support" section has been added to the website to help you find the information you require. Included in this section is a list of "Frequently Asked Questions", and instructions on how to communicate by email for Congress Questions, Scientific Questions and Web Site Questions.

In addition to the Presidential Symposium, "Thrombosis and Haemostasis: the Future has begun," an exciting collection of Plenary lectures, State-of-the-Art sessions and Symposia will be offered. The program of Invited Speakers sessions is on our website at <[www.isth2001.com](http://www.isth2001.com)>.

On behalf of the Paris Organizing Committee, please accept my assurance that the XVIII<sup>th</sup> ISTH Congress will be a scientific meeting not-to-be-missed.

We look forward to greeting you in Paris,

Dominique Meyer, MD  
President

***FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND STANDARDIZATION  
COMMITTEE-***

As the new Chairman of the SSC I see an organization that is vibrant and growing thanks to its members and officers who have contributed their time and energy. I would especially like to thank the past Chairman, Dr. Ian Peake, who has done an outstanding job over the past two years.

As the working arm of the ISTH, the SSC is involved in improving nomenclature and standardization and facilitating scientific interchange through work organized within its eighteen subcommittee and registries. Our annual meeting is open to all interested participants and we hope that you will join us for an exciting meeting in Paris on July 6 & 7, 2001 when all of the subcommittees will hold open meetings to discuss their work.

An important part of the SSC work is accomplished in cooperation with the World Health Organization with whom we have official relations. We provide the WHO with expertise and advice in the area of hemostasis, and we are involved regularly in establishing international standards used for hemostasis. This is accomplished through the Expert Committee on Biologic Standards of the WHO that reviews and approves biologic standards. We are very fortunate that Dr. Duncan Thomas and Dr. Ian Peake have been our representatives this fall at the ECBS meeting in Geneva. International collaborative studies led to the approval last year in Maastricht of standards for t-PA, fibrinogen concentrate and factor VIII. The recommendations were sent to the WHO and approved by the ECBS resulting in further improvements in measurement and standardization. We continue to work on heparin standards with the goal of establishing a new standard that will be acceptable both to the WHO and to the USP, resulting in harmonization of international standards.

Please join us in Paris for discussion of these issues and for an update on new concepts in hemostasis.

Charles W. Francis, MD  
SSC Chairman

## ***FROM THE SSC SECRETARY/CHAIRMAN ELECT--***

### **SSC: THE CONNECTIVE TISSUE OF ISTH**

Dear Fellow Members of the ISTH:

I have been involved in the activities of several scientific subcommittees of the SSC for many years. More recently I have served as co-chairman and then as chairman of the subcommittee on VWF. My experience was exciting and enriching, for I have shared with many colleagues, scientists and clinicians a climate of exchange of knowledge and cooperation. At the basis of the success of all of us was the goodness of our ideas and our willingness and determination in pursuing a valuable task.

I would like to encourage everybody, especially young people, to be active within the SSC's Scientific Subcommittees: your work will be highly appreciated by the officers of the Society and you will be offered a plenty of opportunities for sharing your projects with enthusiastic colleagues.

I am sure that under the chairmanship of Dr. Charles W. Francis the SSC will continue to be what it really is in my mind: the connective tissue of ISTH.

Francesco Rodeghiero, M.D.  
SSC Secretary/Chairman-elect

\*NOTE: Updated Rosters of the SSC Scientific Subcommittee and their Chairmen may be found on the ISTH Homepage under the section: Scientific and Standardization Committee (SSC)

## ***MEMBER NEWS***

### **Kenneth M. Brinkhous 1908-2000**

We regret to inform Society Members that Prof. Kenneth M. Brinkhous has passed away. He died quietly at his home in Chapel Hill, NC, on 11 December 2000 at the age of 92. Prof. Brinkhous is survived by his wife, Francis, a son, John, three grand-daughters and one great-granddaughter.

Prof. Brinkhous' professional achievements will be detailed in an Obituary to appear shortly in *Thrombosis and Haemostasis*. His importance to the ISTH and its predecessor, the International Committee for the Standardization of the Nomenclature of the Blood Clotting Factors (now the Scientific and Standardization Committee of the ISTH) deserve special note here.

In 1954 Dr. Brinkhous was one of the international experts in the field of blood coagulation who were called upon to sort out and harmonize, by means of an internationally accepted nomenclature, new research information which had accumulated during the isolation of the war years. This group, the International Committee on the Standardization of the Nomenclature of the Blood Clotting Factors, succeeded in developing the present Roman numeral nomenclature of the blood clotting factors. With Dr. Brinkhous as its Secretary General, this group of experts turned its attention to many other important issues of nomenclature, methods and standardization and became the International Committee on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. In 1969, the Committee laid the foundation for a wider participation of researchers working on the problems of thrombosis and hemorrhage and the ISTH was organized as a potent international and interdisciplinary research network focusing on these disorders and their underlying biology. Dr. Brinkhous continued as Secretary General of the International Committee until 1977.

In addition to his administrative leadership, Prof. Brinkhous also served as President of the III<sup>rd</sup> ISTH Congress in Washington, DC, in 1972 and as an active member of the Animal Models Subcommittee of the SSC for many years.

It is not only Prof. Brinkhous' personal achievements that now should be recounted; it is also his energy, enthusiasm, organization and commitment to the work of the ISTH and the SSC that deserves recognition. This is the unselfish spirit that embodies the Society and its mission to foster and support research progress on these serious afflictions of human health.

Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Brinkhous in care of her son John Brinkhous at 201 Oak Park Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

The ISTH will accept memorials in Dr. Brinkhous' honor as part of an international tribute.

***FROM ISTH HEADQUARTERS--***

**AT YOUR SERVICE: ISTH HEADQUARTERS STAFF**

ISTH Headquarters is organized to support the program activities of the Society and its Committees, to assist Society members and to administer the Society's affairs on a day-to-day basis.

The Headquarters' staff is growing and changing. Ms. Beth Flora, Membership Secretary, whose kind and efficient services over the past 6 years are well-known to many of you left the ISTH in September to pursue new challenges. Mrs. Sharon Overcash, <membership@mail.isth.org> is the new Membership Secretary, Ms. Pam Ashley <pashley@mail.isth.org> is Bookkeeper and Ms. Lynn Howie <headquarters@mail.isth.org> is Webmaster and Program Assistant.

Please let us know if we can assist you.

Happy Holidays and Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year,  
Cathy Cole <ccole@med.unc.edu>  
Executive Secretary