Register soon for the 54th SSC Annual Meeting
Reduced “Early Registration” fee until 30 March
See the program at www.ssc2008.org

The International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis, Inc., is a non-profit organization. Membership is open to scientists working in the various fields of research related to vascular biology, blood coagulation and diseases and disorders characterized by vascular abnormalities, thrombosis, and/or hemorrhage. Membership application information and materials may be obtained from the Membership Secretary at membership@isth.org.

E-NEWSLETTER
of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

February 2008

ISTH YEAR IN REVIEW: REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Fellow Members:

2007 was a strong year for our Society and its programs. The XXI Congress in Geneva was tremendously successful, thanks to the leadership of Henri Bounaumeaux, President, and the support of his Local Organizing Committee, Drs. Bachmann, Lammlle, de Moorloose, Clemetson, Kruithof, Marbet and Reber. The Congress offered a strong scientific program, outstanding Plenary and State-of-the-Art lectures, a very productive SSC meeting, a memorable social program, popular corporate symposia, and good weather! With more than 7700 attendees and 69 exhibitors, Geneva demonstrates the continued strong interest in the work that we, as a Society, do. On January 1, 2007, the editorial responsibilities for the Society’s Journal, JTH, transitioned from Dr. PM Mannucci, Editor-in-Chief, with Dr. Harold Roberts, Sr. Associate Editor, to Co-editors, Drs. Michael Greaves and David Lane. The general division between the two Co-Editors is Dr. Lane is taking basic research focused articles and Dr. Greaves is taking clinically focused articles. Ms. Silvia Malosio, who was responsible for many of the innovative advances in the journal during the Mannucci and Roberts editorship, remained as Managing Editor through December 2007 to insure a seamless transition for the new editors. Her service to the Society and that of the journal’s first editor, Pier Mannucci, in the start-up of the new journal are sincerely appreciated. Although the 2007 impact factor for JTH is not yet out, at last analysis, the journal ranked a very respectable 9th among hematology journals and extremely high for a new publication. Overall, interest in the journal remains strong and institutional subscriptions continue to increase, thanks to you, the members. Please keep advocating with your libraries to subscribe to JTH. The Society has renewed its publication contract with Wiley Blackwell for another term, 2008-2012.

Highly successful Educational Meetings were held in Suzhou, China in conjunction with the Asian-Pacific Congress on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (APCTH) and in Tunis, Tunisia in conjunction with the Mediterranean League against Thrombembolic Disorders (MLTD). The ISTH web site, www.isth.org, had 928,808 hits in 2007. Also, in Geneva, Council elected Dr. Sam Schulman as President of the XXV ISTH Congress (2015) to be held in Toronto. Thus, future meetings are now being organized in Vienna (2008 SSC), Boston (2009 congress), Cairo (2010 SSC), Kyoto (2011 congress), Amsterdam (2013 congress), and then Toronto in 2015. (Continued on page 1)
The Scientific and Standardization Committee

Message from the Chairman

The Scientific and Standardization Committee (SSC) is a permanent committee of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. The SSC contributes to the mission of the ISTH in several ways, all of which focus on the practical, day-to-day work of the ISTH. The SSC is an established forum of internationally-recognized experts who consider practical issues related to thrombosis, disorders of haemostasis and their underlying vascular biology. Their deliberations are primarily done by scientific subcommittees of researchers working on these problems and their application to clinical issues. Presentations of the subcommittees’ work—in-progress is presented annually to all interested scientists, and, in non-congress years, SSC meetings support educational presentations in addition to the subcommittees’ work. The SSC promotes education and the exchange of ideas through our annual scientific meeting and the publication of official reports, recommendations and deliberations. We standardize nomenclature and research methods as appropriate and provide expert consultation to standards-setting bodies. We liaise with other research organizations and collaborate on timely and important research issues. All SSC Official Communications of reports and recommendations are “Open Access” publications, as a service to the international research community.

The work of the SSC is organized by grouping activities according to subject areas, currently represented in 18 scientific subcommittees and two working parties. These groups and their work are reviewed annually, and subcommittee leadership changes every 3-4 years, drawing on the expertise of the co-chairs of these subcommittees and working groups. Changes over the last few years include the formation of subcommittees on Vascular Biology and Women’s Issues in Haemostasis, the formation of a working group of Gene Nomenclature, and fusion of the subcommittees on Factor XIII and Fibrinogen. These forums have been active in publishing several reports and recommendations in the Society journal, Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis, numbering six in 2007. A particularly important aspect of SSC is the recommendation of standards to the Expert Committee on Biological Standards for adoption by WHO, facilitated by our joint WHO-ISTH Standards Liaison Group. In 2007 standards were adopted for plasma tPA, protein C concentrate and antithrombin concentrate. The SSC Secondary Plasma Standard (currently lot #3) is a uniform plasma standard for use by diagnostic manufacturers in labeling their coagulation calibrators. This material underpins many collaborative and standardization projects and is of ongoing value to the SSC/ISTH, while other SSC reference materials are widely used among the entire research community studying different aspects of thrombosis and haemostasis.

The range of SSC activities involves large numbers of the membership of the ISTH, who generously contribute their time and expertise. The extent of our members’ support for the work of the SSC is demonstrated in the table of standards on the ISTH webpage, http://www.med.unc.edu/isth/standards/ISTH_SSC-WHO_Standards.html. We hope you will take a look.

The involvement of so many individuals is a reflection of the vibrancy of the ISTH, and it is particularly gratifying that young researchers are often first recognized and developed through their active participation within SSC meetings. Inevitably there are some members of ISTH who have not engaged in SSC activities, and some may feel that the label of standardization does not apply to them or to their field of interest. This is indeed true for some areas, but there can be few areas of endeavor within ISTH that do not need consideration of the methods used, the validity of the measurements, the use of reference reagents to provide a basis of comparison, and so on. All members of ISTH are therefore strongly encouraged to influence the work of the SSC to reflect their particular needs and to help us to continue our mission of serving as a vigorous working arm of the ISTH.

Nuala Booth, SSC Chairman
February 2008

Institutional Subscription Initiative

ISTH Headquarters has been cooperating with our publisher, Blackwell Publishing, to contact ISTH members at educational institutions whose libraries are not currently subscribing to jth. Blackwell provided a list of these libraries and Headquarters continues to send letters to our members asking their support by recommending jth to their Periodicals Acquisitions department.

With tight budgets, libraries must limit their subscriptions to the major publications in each specialty area. If you agree that jth is one of these essential publications, let your library know.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

JTH – Bayer Endowment Announcement: The Pier M Mannucci Awards

Bayer HealthCare has provided a generous contribution to ISTH for the purpose of establishing a named endowment, The Pier M. Mannucci Awards. The endowment honors Pier M Mannucci, who was the first Editor-in-Chief of JTH, by funding in perpetuity annual awards and plaques recognizing young investigators who publish stellar research in the Society’s journal.

Recipients will be selected by a process determined by the ISTH and the JTH Editors. The awards will be presented during a public ceremony in conjunction with a Society meeting.

By funding The Pier M. Mannucci Awards, Bayer joins the Society’s efforts to bring the best of research to colleagues’ attention, furthering its educational mission. Bayer partners, too, in honoring Pier Mannucci’s accomplishments. He is esteemed internationally both for his work and for his dedication to advance science related to thrombosis and hemostasis through his editorship of JTH.

Margo Price, Director of Corporate Relations
Gilbert C. White, ISTH Executive Director

2007 Award Recipients for articles in JTH Volume 5 (2007).

S. Calaminus (UK) for “MyosinIIa contractility is required for maintenance of platelet structure during spreading on collagen and contributes to thrombus stability.” pp 2136-2145.

E. Ceresa (Belgium) for “Comparative evaluation of stable TAFIa variants: importance of a-helix 9 and b-sheet 11for TAFIa (in) stability.” pp 2105-2112.

S. Gouw (The Netherlands) for “Treatment characteristics and the risk of inhibitor development: a multicenter cohort study among previously untreated patients with severe hemophilia A.” pp 1383-1390

Y. Kozuma (Japan) for “continuous expression of Bcl-xL protein during megakaryopoiesis is post-translationally regulated by thrombopoietin-mediated Akt activation, which prevents the cleavage of Bcl-xL.” Pp 1274-1282.


X. Zheng (USA) for “non-hematopoietic EPCR regulates the coagulation and inflammatory responses during endotoxemia.” Pp 1394-1400.

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS CLOSED: Next, the Membership Votes

Message from the Executive Secretary

Dear Society Members:

Your Society is governed by a 15-member board of directors, “the Council,” who are elected by the general membership from among the active members of ISTH. As defined by the Society’s Bylaws, five new members (a “Council Class”) are elected every other year and each class serves a six-year term. From the 15 elected members, Council elects its officers, the Council Chairman and Secretary/Chairman-elect. For more information, kindly refer to the ISTH Bylaws which are posted on the Society’s webpage www.isth.org and printed in your Membership Directory, Article IV: Board of Directors.

In response to the call for nominations for the next Council Class, (Class of 2014), 19 nomination were received. From these nominations, the current members of Council will pre-select a final ballot of 10 candidates, and this ballot will be returned to you for final election of 5 new Council members.

The voting process will be electronic for the 97% of members who use email and by mail for those members who do not. The ballot will have links to supporting information about candidates, including brief biographical sketches, abbreviated CVs and letters of nomination.

The previous Council election in 2006 was our first attempt at online voting, and it yielded approximately the same number of participating voters as did the old, mail process, i.e., only 17% of eligible voters.

You will receive the final ballot in mid-March, and we hope that this year’s election process will be more user-friendly and will have a greatly increased voter “turn out.”

Your vote and your feedback on the process will be greatly appreciated.

Cathy Cole
February 15, 2008
### Educational activities Sponsored by ISTH 1999 – 2008
**Compiled by Uri Seligsohn, Chairman ISTH Education Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Trinidad</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Alexandria, Egypt</td>
<td>EDU Symposium</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>EDU Symposium at CLAHT Congress</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Vellore, India</td>
<td>EDU Symposium and workshop</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>EDU Symposium and interactive sessions at CLAHT Congress</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Tel Aviv, Israel</td>
<td>EDU Symposium</td>
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<td></td>
<td>St. Petersburg</td>
<td>EDU Symposium</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Casablanca, Morocco</td>
<td>EDU Symposium jointly sponsored with Mediterranean League</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Cairo, Egypt</td>
<td>EDU Symposium and interactive sessions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vina del Mar, Chile</td>
<td>EDU Symposium at CLAHT Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Phnom Pen, Cambodia</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Suzhou, China</td>
<td>EDU Symposium, meet the expert, interactive sessions at APSTH Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Tunis, Tunisia</td>
<td>EDU Symposium jointly sponsored with Mediterranean League</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Vienna</td>
<td>EDU intensive day at SSC meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>EDU symposium, workshop and interactive sessions at CLAHT Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Santo Domingo</td>
<td>Symposium on Thrombosis and Haemostasis &amp; wet workshop for medical technologists</td>
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Application information for ISTH sponsorship is available on the ISTH webpage, www.isth.org, at “Education, Training and Research Opportunities” or by this link: http://www.med.unc.edu/isth/training/training_opp.html

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**Message**

(Continued from page 1)

The site of 1012 SSC Annual Meeting will be decided at this year’s Council meeting and proposals to host the next available congress (1017) will be accepted next year. All members are welcome to make proposals.

In 2008, we look forward to the 54th meeting of the SSC in Vienna, Austria. Professors Paul Kyrle, President of the meeting, with Drs. Sabine Eichinger and Bernd Binder as Organizing Committee have put together an outstanding scientific program. In accordance with Council’s support for an expanded educational format of SSC meetings, and building on the model of the 2006 SSC Meeting in Oslo, the Vienna meeting will expand in 2008, the Society is sponsoring educational meetings through its Reach the World initiatives in Buenos Aires (April 23-26) and Santo Domingo (March 26-28).

It is hard to believe that this membership organization, conceived by a small group of founders in 1969 has matured into what it is today. With over 3100 members representing research in 83 countries; and with meetings of over 7000 attendees, our Society is healthy and growing, and our science is better than ever. Our challenge as we move further into the 21st century is to maintain the scientific strength that we have. We are a scientific society and our mission is to promote our science, a science that has been instrumental in the development of recombinant drugs for the treatment of bleeding disorders, the development of antiplatelet drugs for the treatment of heart attacks, and the development of thrombolytic drugs used in the treatment of stroke, coronary disease, and...

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**SSC MISSION**

from "Statement of Purpose" SSC Rules and Operating Procedures:

The Scientific and Standardization Committee is a permanent committee of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis that accomplishes the day-to-day, practical work of the Society and supports the mission of the ISTH by

- providing a forum for consideration by internationally recognized experts of practical issues related to thrombosis, disorders of hemostasis and their underlying vascular biology;
- supporting scientific subcommittees of international expert researchers working on these problems and their application to clinical issues;
- promoting education and the exchange of ideas through scientific meetings and publication of official reports, recommendations and deliberations;
- standardizing nomenclature and research methods as appropriate and timely;
- providing expert consultation to standards-setting bodies;
- liaising with other research organizations and collaborating on timely and important research matters.

**GETTING INVOLVED**

Have you ever wondered how to become involved in the work of the SSC?

Express your interest to the chairman of the appropriate subcommittee. Below are the chairmen of the scientific subcommittee for this year. Their complete contact information along with minutes and reports of scientific subcommittee work is found on the ISTH webpage at the SSC section, [www.isth.org](http://www.isth.org)

- Animal, Cellular & Molecular Models of Thrombosis  Hartmut Weiler
- Biorheology  J.W.M. Heemskerk
- Control of Anticoagulation  Sam Schulman
- DIC  Cheng-Hock Toh
- Registry of Exogenous Hemostatic Factors  Mary Ann McLane
- Factor VIII & Factor IX  Alok Srivastava
- Factor XIII & Fibrinogen  Moniek de Maat & Rainer Seitz
- Fibrinolysis  Colin Longstaff
- Hemostasis & Malignancy  Martin Prins
- Lupus Anticoagulant/Phospholipid-dependent Antibodies  Vittorio Pengo
- Perinatal/Pediatric Thrombosis and Haemostasis  Gili Kenet
- Plasma Coagulation Inhibitors  Elaine Gray
- Plasma Kallikrein-kinin System  David Gailani
- Platelet Immunology  Andreas Greinacher
- Platelet Physiology  Marco Cattaneo
- Predictive Hemostatic Variables and Cardiovascular Disease  Gordon Lowe
- Vascular Biology  Jean-Marie Freyssinet
- Von Willebrand Factor  David Lillicrap
- Women's Health Issues in Thrombosis and Haemostasis  Andra James

**Members Only section**

ISTH has recently initiated a "Members Only" section on the Society's website. Active members can login with their email address and member number to view past newsletters and an online version of the Membership Directory. This protected website will be used to convey private information and services to members only.

More information will be posted to the site in the coming months.

**Upcoming Meeting of Interest**

ISTH is pleased to endorse the International Vascular Biology Meeting to be held June 1-5 in Sydney. With some of the same team that organized the 2005 ISTH Congress in Sydney, this promises to be an outstanding scientific meeting in an outstanding venue. We encourage you to visit [www.ivbm2008.com](http://www.ivbm2008.com) and Register.
other arterial diseases. These are tremendous advances for human-kind. But these advances have depended on incremental advances by scientists that have been stimulated by our meetings and our journal. As a colleague of mine, Prof. Holden Thorpe has noted, scientific discoveries are rarely made by isolated individuals. Rather, they are the result of collective efforts: “the way people work together often has more to do with scientific progress than the science, itself.” Accordingly, we need to keep our congresses and our journal strong and relevant. We need to use these aspects of our society to promote the training of young scientists and physicians and to attract new scientists and physicians to our field. We need to find ways to bring young trainees to our meetings so they can see the excitement of our science. As money for research gets tighter, we need to develop new partnerships with industry to promote our discipline. These are our challenges for 2008 and for the future.

In closing, I take this opportunity to thank all the members of this great Society for your help in making our journal start-up successful, for participating in our congresses and making them strong, and for your support for the programs of the Society.

Respectfully,
Gilbert C. White, II, MD
Executive Director, ISTH

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