

# E-NEWSLETTER

of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

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Frits R. Rosendaal, Council Sec./Chairman-elect

Bruce Furie & Barbara Furie, Co-Presidents  
Kenneth Bauer, Vice-president

Gilbert C. White, II, Executive Director

February 2008

[www.isth.org](http://www.isth.org)

International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis  
Register soon for the 54th SSC Annual Meeting  
Reduced "Early Registration" fee until 30 March  
See the program at [www.ssc2008.org](http://www.ssc2008.org)

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## ISTH MISSION

To foster and advance science relating to the important medical problems of thrombosis, abnormalities of hemostasis and their underlying vascular biology; to create a forum for discussion of these problems; to encourage research on these problems by scientists of all relevant disciplines; to foster diffusion and exchange of ideas through scientific meetings and publications; to standardize nomenclature and methods as appropriate and timely...

These are the goals of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis and the principles which drive the Society's international mission.

# 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 Bounameaux, President, and the support of his Local Organizing Committee, Drs. Bachmann, Lammle, de Moorloose, Clemetson, Kruthof, 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 pub-

lication 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 Thromboembolic Disorders (MLTD). The ISTH web site, [www.isth.org](http://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 4) See Message



## 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 organised 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 Biologic 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](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.

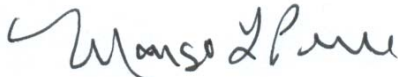
[http://www.med.unc.edu/isth/JTHLibrary\\_form.pdf](http://www.med.unc.edu/isth/JTHLibrary_form.pdf)

**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.

H. Lemmerhirt (USA) for "Genetic regulation of plasma von Willebrand factor levels:

quantitative trait loci analysis in a mouse model." Pp 329-335.

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](http://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

### 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 54<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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

*(Continued on page 6) See Message*

| Year | Location            | Type   |
|------|---------------------|--|
| 1999 | Trinidad            | Workshop   |
| 2000 | Alexandria, Egypt   | EDU Symposium  |
| 2001 | Mexico City         | EDU Symposium at CLAHT Congress  |
| 2002 | Vellore, India      | EDU Symposium and workshop   |
| 2003 | Rio de Janeiro      | EDU Symposium and interactive sessions at CLAHT Congress                         |
| 2004 | Tel Aviv, Israel    | EDU Symposium  |
|      | St. Petersburg      | EDU Symposium  |
|      | Casablanca, Morocco | EDU Symposium jointly sponsored with Mediterranean League                        |
| 2005 | Cairo, Egypt        | EDU Symposium and interactive sessions   |
|      | Vina del Mar, Chile | EDU Symposium at CLAHT Congress  |
| 2006 | Phnom Pen, Cambodia | Workshop   |
|      | Suzhou, China       | EDU Symposium, meet the expert, interactive sessions at the APSTH Congress       |
| 2007 | Tunis, Tunisia      | EDU Symposium jointly sponsored with Mediterranean League                        |
| 2008 | Vienna              | EDU intensive day at SSC meeting   |
|      | Buenos Aires        | EDU symposium, workshop and interactive sessions at CLAHT Congress               |
|      | Santo Domingo       | Symposium on Thrombosis and Haemostasis & wet workshop for medical technologists |

Application information for ISTH sponsorship is available on the ISTH webpage, [www.isth.org](http://www.isth.org), at "Education, Training and Research Opportunities" or by this link: [http://www.med.unc.edu/isth/training/training\\_opp.html](http://www.med.unc.edu/isth/training/training_opp.html)

## 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

Biorheology

Control of Anticoagulation

DIC

Registry of Exogenous Hemostatic Factors

Factor VIII & Factor IX

Factor XIII & Fibrinogen

Fibrinolysis

Hemostasis & Malignancy

Lupus Anticoagulant/Phospholipid-dependent Antibodies

Perinatal/Pediatric Thrombosis and Haemostasis

Plasma Coagulation Inhibitors

Plasma Kallikrein-kinin System

Platelet Immunology

Platelet Physiology

Predictive Hemostatic Variables and Cardiovascular Disease

Vascular Biology

Von Willebrand Factor

Women's Health Issues in Thrombosis and Haemostasis

Hartmut Weiler

J.W.M. Heemskerk

Sam Schulman

Cheng-Hock Toh

Mary Ann McLane

Alok Srivastava

Moniek de Maat &  
Rainer Seitz

Colin Longstaff

Martin Prins

Vittorio Pengo

Gili Kenet

Elaine Gray

David Gailani

Andreas Greinacher

Marco Cattaneo

Gordon Lowe

Jean-Marie Freyssinet

David Lillicrap

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.

## ISTH

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**Message** (Continued from page 4)

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

**ISTH Calendar**

The ISTH convenes an international Congress biennially, while the Scientific and Standardization Committee and its scientific subcommittees meet annually. In Congress years, Society and SSC meetings are held in conjunction. Future Congresses will be in these locations:

**54th Annual SSC Meeting**  
Paul Kyrle, Organizing Committee  
Chairman  
Vienna, Austria  
July 2-5, 2008  
<http://www.ssc2008.org>

**XXII ISTH Congress**  
Bruce and Barbara Furie, Presidents  
Boston, MA, USA  
with  
**55th Annual SSC Meeting**  
July 11-17, 2009  
<http://www.isth2009.com>

**56th Annual SSC Meeting**  
Nevine Kassim, Organizing Committee  
Chair  
Cairo, Egypt  
2010  
<http://www.ssc2010.org>

**XXIII ISTH Congress**  
Yasuo Ikeda, President  
Kyoto, Japan  
with  
**57th Annual SSC Meeting**  
July 23-29, 2011  
<http://www.isth2011.com>

**XXIV ISTH Congress**  
Frits R. Rosendaal, President  
Amsterdam, Netherlands  
with  
**59th Annual SSC Meeting**  
2013

**XXV ISTH Congress**  
Sam Schulman, President  
Toronto, Canada  
with  
**61st Annual SSC Meeting**  
2015

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