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Hélène Martelli, MD
President Elect
Paris, France

IPSO newsletter July 2005

The IPSO oncology course at the EUPSA meeting in Gdansk, Poland – May 2005

A successful IPSO/APSA meeting took place in warm, sunny Florida. The first day, organized by IPSO, had as theme 'The unresectable Tumor'. Invited speakers, both of European and American origin, discussed aspects of liver tumors and soft tissue sarcoma (unresectability due to tumor or due to metastases), alternated with free papers sessions and posters sessions. Approximately 130 participants, of whom 25 IPSO members, were actively present and half of them filled out their questionnaire at the end of the day. From this questionnaire could be concluded, that this joint meeting has been viewed by the IPSO and APSA members who attended to have been of great value. Most seemed in favor of the current format, i.e. combining focused topics with free abstracts and posters; several suggested a difficult or problem case session with interactive audience participation. Ninety eight percent was in favor of further joint meetings, and several topics for these meetings were suggested. We will work together with APSA's Board of Governors to continue our mutual efforts and organize a third joint meeting in 2008, that offers a good forum to cross the inter-Atlantic barriers in our field.



Bruce Broecker video-phone conferencing with Brad Rodgers, President of APSA



IPSO Executives at the IPSO/APSA meeting in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

Welcome to IPSO and SIOP in Norway in September

Dear friends,

I sincerely hope that most of you will come to the IPSO and SIOP meeting in Oslo, from September 16. to 19. By now both the scientific and social program look great.

The venue is the Concert Hall in the center of Oslo; within walking distance of both the seaside and the congress hotels. All social events will also take place within walking distance. The average temperature in Oslo in September is 12°C (54°F) and the average monthly rainfall is only 80 mm.

This year the meeting is one day later than usual; the scientific program will start on Thursday instead of on Wednesday. The specific IPSO sessions will take place on Thursday and Friday. The SIOP Scientific Committee has tried to concentrate the sessions of special interest for surgeons to Thursday, Friday and Saturday (some colleagues might want to leave on Sunday). Additions to the program, you will find on www.siop.nl. Arrangements have been made so that the surgeons will have the opportunity to assemble for dinner on Friday evening.

Since presentations of problems have become more and more popular, this year we will have two Problem Case Sessions. You may bring both solved and unsolved problems. However, be aware that well prepared presentations will be given priority, and that problems presented in an interactive way will be appreciated. It is much preferred that problem cases are delivered as Power Point Presentations, although overhead projection will be available. Please note that there will be no slide projectors, and that MacIntosh presentations are not compatible and cannot be used. For further details see www.siop.nl "Guidelines for oral presentations". When in Oslo, colleagues who bring along problem cases should contact Daniel Aronson as early as possible so that he is given time to put the sessions together.

Looking forward to seeing you in Oslo.

Tom Monclair – Local IPSO organiser

News from the Program Committee

The Local Organizing Committee of IPSO, Tom Monclair, has organized a wonderful social program including an optional IPSO dinner which provides an excellent opportunity for surgeons to relax amongst company that understands their language, and to enjoy the conviviality of our Society. First however the academic program!!! Anonymous scoring of abstracts has relieved the Scientific Committee of any burden of bias, and Members are reminded that it is important to include results in their abstracts or they will not attract high scores. This year, however, Members have submitted excellent material on a wide range of topics of surgical interest, and have made it easy to construct a program of high quality. Additionally, we have arranged two sessions for problem cases. These may be solved or unsolved but should be prepared as formal slide or overhead presentations and submitted to Dan Aronson preferably on the first day of the meeting. We have arranged Plenary Sessions with the Paediatric Oncologists on Neuroblastoma and Rhabdomyosarcoma to review the place of modern therapeutic advances and the results of Intergroup Studies. There will be a poster display which, as always, will contain controversial material as well as some interesting case reports. Above all, the Scientific Committee charges you to enjoy yourself both academically and socially and to respond to the Evaluation Process so that we can improve your enjoyment next year.

Larry Hadley, Chairman

From the Secretary/Treasurer

Recently, some of you have received a letter of remittance of your 2004 dues, and of probable unpaid dues from (the) previous year(s). Swift payment is encouraged preferably by credit card. The treasurer will issue a receipt to all who pay the membership fee. Please realize that IPSO is a small society that needs to keep up its financial strength. We can not survive without our dues!

Note that this year the Executive Board may decide to display a list of members who did not pay at the time of the meeting at the registration desk. For those on that list, payment of dues can also be done directly to Rosalinde Kennis at the meeting in Oslo.

Mails to the members below were returned to the secretary. Who knows their address?

Ellen E. Hrabovsky, USA; Luigi Madonna, Italy; Javant Radhakrishnan, USA; Milan Stelnicky, Slovak Republic; Elio Tanaka, Brazil; Victor Valda, USA

Call for Candidates of New Members of IPSO

Throughout the years, Executive Board has recognized the importance to expand the number of IPSO members. This can not be stressed enough! Please consider to propose your colleague, fellow, (chief) resident, or assistant with an interest in Pediatric Surgical Oncology to become a new member of IPSO. Please fill out the enclosed application form for IPSO membership and return it with a CV to the Secretary of IPSO.

Rare Tumor Registry

Please send any cases of rare tumors (as defined as tumors that do not fit into an established treatment protocol) to the Rare Tumor Registry in Amsterdam. Ask for a registration form at d.c.aronson@amc.uva.nl. As usual, authors of abstracts regarding rare tumors will be asked to send in their presented case. The Registry can also be contacted to inquire for information regarding rare tumors, or to exchange rare tumor tissues for research purposes. Only names of Surgeons whose patients are registered in the database will be given upon request, since patient data are not provided for privacy reasons.

Presidents corner

Members of IPSO have been busy this Spring. The second joint meeting of IPSO and APSA (American Pediatric Surgical Association) took place during their annual meeting at Ponte Vedra Beach Florida. Sessions on non-rhabdo soft tissue sarcoma and hepatoblastoma - focusing on advanced lesions - were presented by IPSO and APSA speakers. Abstracts and posters completed an excellent day of pediatric surgical oncology which was well attended and well received. Barring financial constraints this joint meeting will probably be continued on a four year schedule.

It will soon however be time for the annual IPSO meeting in Oslo. After the exotic and beautiful North African desert in 2003 the cool, forested fjords of Norway in 2004 will provide a spectacular contrast. Tom Monclair, our local arrangements chairman, Larry Hadley, our program director, along with the scientific committee and local organizing committee of SIOP, have all been busy arranging an outstanding scientific and social program.

The Oslo meeting will mark the end of my two year term as your president. It has been a great privilege and honor to serve in this role. I hope all of you are planning to attend the annual meeting this year. I look forward to seeing you in Oslo.

Bruce Broecker, President

APPLICATION for IPSO membership

(please print)

NAME OF APPLICANT

TITLE

AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

NATIONALITY

PHONE NUMBER

FAX NUMBER

E-MAIL ADDRESS

NAME OF SPONSOR 1

NAME OF SPONSOR 2

PLEASE RETURN WITH YOUR C.V. TO THE IPSO SECRETARIAT

Daniel C. Aronson, Emma Children's Hospital, PO BOX 22700, 1100 DE Amsterdam, The Netherlands

IPSO - Rare Tumor Registry

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Patient initials:

Date of birth:

Date of Diagnosis:

Pathology:

Stage (if possible):

Organ:

Surgery(S): Yes No

if Yes: primary delayed biopsy only

Chemo (C): Yes No

Radioth (R): Yes No

Order of (S), (C), (R):

Tumor tissue stored: Yes No

if Yes, how: paraffin frozen culture other:

Date of last follow up:

Condition at last follow up: CR PR SD PD expired

Name of Surgeon:

Name of Institution Address:

Telephone: