

## ISL NEWS

Allan E. Dumont, MD, Professor Emeritus of Surgery at New York University and 7<sup>th</sup> President of the ISL (1979-1983) passed away on November 18, 2017, after a long illness. We ask that those of you who knew or were

inspired by his pioneering work in lymphology please send us your recollections and comments by April 30, 2018, for possible inclusion in a Tribute to him in the June 2018 issue of *Lymphology*.



### INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF LYMPHOLOGY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES September 29, 2017 • 10:00 AM

1. The meeting was called to order by President Ningfei Liu. Minutes of the General Assembly meeting held on September 11, 2015, at the 25<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Lymphology in San Francisco, CA, USA, September 7-11, 2015, as printed in *Lymphology* 48 (2015), 205-212, were approved.

#### 2. Elections

The Nominating Committee composed of Corrado Campisi, A Pissas, N-F Liu, H Brorson, and G Manokaran proposed the following slate of officers: **President-Elect:** A Szuba (Poland) was the sole nomination and as such, the President asked for voting by acclamation which was approved. **Executive Committee (elected):** R Baumeister (Germany), H Brorson (Sweden), F Boccardo (Italy), E Okada (Japan), and S Thiadens (USA). **Nominating Committee (elected):** M Andrade (Brazil), M Ohkuma (Japan). **Auditors (elected):** ACDG Mayall (Argentina) and M Wald (Czech Republic). The Nominating Committee slate was elected. Additional active ISL members nominated for the Executive Committee were S Hayes (Australia) and T Yamamoto (Japan).

#### 3. Reports

##### a. **President's Report**

Dr. Liu thanked everyone for their support over the last two years and described her many activities, lectures, and travels on behalf of the ISL and lymphology generally.

##### b. **Secretary General's Business Report** (MH Witte)

1. The Society has 241 members from 39 countries (202 active members, 14 honorary members, 8 emeritus members, 12 young lymphologists, and 5 associate members). In the course of this business period, 29 new members have been accepted and 44 memberships were discontinued due to non-payment of dues, retirement, resignation, or death. The nations represented by this membership are as follows:

Argentina	6	Finland	2	Japan	21	South Africa	1
Australia	11	France	5	Korea	3	Spain	2
Austria	3	Germany	10	Netherlands	7	Sweden	7
Belgium	6	Greece	2	New Zealand	1	Switzerland	5
Brazil	4	Hong Kong	1	Philippines	1	Taiwan	1
Canada	5	Hungary	1	Poland	3	Thailand	2
China	5	India	4	Russia	2	Turkey	6
Colombia	1	Iran	3	Saudi Arabia	1	United Kingdom	6
Czech Republic	2	Israel	1	Scotland	2	USA	80
Egypt	1	Italy	16	Singapore	1		

2. The 25<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Lymphology (WCOL) held in San Francisco, CA, from September 9-11, 2015, was a great success with ~850 registrants and ~150 patient registrants. Basic science sessions were complemented by panels, oral presentations, and posters on latest advances in basic and clinical lymphology including management of lymphedema particularly imaging and surgical approaches. The meeting venue and arrangements were congenial and the dining and sightseeing options diverse. The social events kicked off with the opening reception. A special highlight of the Congress was the Gala Dinner aboard the San Francisco Belle while cruising around the San Francisco Bay, an excursion planned by Congress Co- President Saskia Thiadens.

3. Three meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the 25<sup>th</sup> WCOL on 9/6, 9/8, and 9/11/15. In addition to the reports of the President, Secretary-General, Treasurer and Editor, the Executive Committee discussion items included the annual budget and proposed expenditures, status of *Lymphology*, membership, the Consensus Document, Young Lymphologists, collaborative research projects, and future meetings.

4. The Nominating Committee composed of C Campisi, A Pissas, H Brorson, G Manokaran, and R Baumeister proposed the following slate of officers: **President-Elect:** S Michelini (Italy) was the sole nomination and as such, the President asked for voting by acclamation which was approved. **Executive Committee (elected):** M Amore (Argentina), Corrado Campisi (Italy), E Dimakakos (Greece), K Johansson (Sweden), G Manokaran (Italy), O Leduc (Belgium), and A Munnoch (Scotland). **Nominating Committee (elected):** C Campisi (Italy), A Pissas (France). **Auditors (elected):** C Bellini (Italy), T Yamamoto (Japan).

5. One interim meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Mulhouse, France, on May 13, 2016, in conjunction with the 41<sup>st</sup> European Congress of Lymphology. Discussion items included annual reports of the President, Secretary-General, Editor, and Treasurer, the 26<sup>th</sup> ICL program and organization, with moving of the site to Barcelona at the invitation of Dr. Jaume Masia, Proceedings publication, ISL scientific directions, ISL Presidential Prizes, and bids for upcoming Congresses.

6. A revised up-to-date ISL Membership List containing names, addresses, telephone and FAX numbers, and E-mail addresses in alphabetical order (with key research/clinical interests) along with a listing of ISL members by country is available in pdf format at the ISL Membership table. The ISL Membership Directory is provided to ISL members only, and the listing should not be used for commercial purposes. The list should not be reproduced by members and/or sold or distributed to non-ISL members or other groups or associations. Please update personal information at the Central Office desk or send e-mail to [grace@surgery.arizona.edu](mailto:grace@surgery.arizona.edu).

c. **Treasurer's Report** (A Pissas)

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURES (Swiss Francs)

	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
2015	11,211	34,908	23,524	Office/Journal)
			11,383	(Other): 1,470 (2015 ISL Presid. Prizes); 1,078 (E/H members allowance); 8,835 (2014 Balance due Central Office)
2016	27,883	36,986	22,988	(Office/Journal)
			13,998	(Other): 1,580 (E/H Members); 12,417 (2015 Balance due Central Office)

**UBS Balance**

	<b>UBS Bond</b>	<b>UBS Cash</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>
2015	28,869	862	29,731	29,731
2016	14,863	618	15,481	15,481

d. **Editor's Report** (M Bernas)

Since our last meeting in 2015 at the 25<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Lymphology in San Francisco, California, USA, the journal *Lymphology* has continued to prosper with the printing and editorial offices housed in Tucson, Arizona, USA. The journal layout has been successful and most articles require considerable editing for clarity as well as most requiring work on the figures and references. Between 2015-2017, 97 new articles were received, 48 articles were published (including previously received articles), 31 articles were rejected and 2 articles withdrawn by the authors after receiving the first review. Fifty-five (55) additional manuscripts are either in press, accepted, or in various stages of review. Almost all of these have required or continue to require further revision or review. Turnaround from receipt and acceptance to appearance in print has averaged 4-6 months with some publications expedited due to high interest as judged by outside reviewers and the Editors and also requiring substantially fewer editorial changes. E-mail submission has continued and is efficient. We tend to have longer review times than other journals since we prefer to use senior reviewers who frequently have more crowded schedules and take longer to return their reviews, and often the authors are asked for further revision(s) before acceptance instead of outright rejection. In addition, we also sometimes send back articles to reviewers for a second look after the first author revision. These practices serve a particularly valuable function for ISL member authors and are appreciated. The average number of pages per issue continues at 50, which at the current level of operation and finances is the optimal size that can be processed every 3 months.

The Journal continues to represent the principal tangible benefit of ISL membership and the vehicle for dissemination of ISL and regional chapter news and information. Because *Lymphology* publishes the ISL News, the substantial cost of a separate ISL Newsletter previously published by the Central Office has been eliminated while retaining this important Society news feature within the Journal. It should also be reemphasized that funds contributed from ISL membership dues pay only a portion of the costs of producing and maintaining the Journal. Costly editorial and computerized typesetting tasks such as revision, proofreading of manuscripts, layout of the Journal, and handling

are absorbed by the Tucson office as are equipment updates and repair as well as other technical aspects of editorial production. There is no salary or other remuneration for the Editorial Board, Editor, or Executive Editor.

Among sad notes to report is the death of lymphological greats who passed away since our last meeting and contributed to the Journal and biennial Proceedings. These luminaries include Karel Benda (Czech Republic), Allan Dumont (USA), Arnfinn Engeset (Norway), and Genevieve Hidden (France). They all lived long, productive, and exemplary lives.

The Journal's impact factor continues to be respectable (a high in 2016 of 1.92) for a small specialty society, non-commercial publication especially considering that methods to artificially inflate ("game") the score are not used by us, such as frequent review articles or excessive self-citations in articles or editorials. Not practicing these "gaming" techniques may tend to restrict the impact factor but do provide a valuable service and publication outlet for our members and, therefore, are vital to our Society. Possibly the most impressive information about our impact factor is its cited half-life which has climbed to greater than 10 years (the maximum score) meaning that our articles remain relevant for a long period of time. Addition of online access to current and back issues of *Lymphology* (discussed below) should have a positive effect on our Journal impact. Renewed efforts by the federal repository to correct delayed uploading of journal articles is anticipated.

The *Lymphology* Journal website (<https://journals.uair.arizona.edu/index.php/lymph/index>) is now fully functional and currently includes *Lymphology* articles (in pdf format) dating back to 1968. All issues are fully uploaded and publicly accessible. Because the uploading process undertaken by the Journal is comprehensive, all titles, subjects, and authors are fully searchable. Access to articles within the past 18 months (currently published and 5 past issues) is restricted to fully paid ISL members (including Emeritus and Honorary Members), and membership accounts have been processed. Articles older than 18 months and selected new ones (e.g., the Consensus Document) are freely available in pdf form. Abstracts of all published articles will continue to be freely available. Information about the Society including a short history, the aims, membership information and applications, subscription information, current administration, etc. will continue to be found on the original website pages through a link. A dedicated page for the Consensus Document is still included on the Society's website, although it is also now searchable on the new website.

The Editor and Executive Editor once again thank their Co-Editors, members of the expanded Editorial Board and their colleagues, and particularly the contributing external reviewers for assistance in reviewing manuscripts as this function is indispensable for assuring quality articles as well as service to ISL members. Continued submission of high quality articles remains the chief priority as it can only strengthen the reputation and impact of the Journal and the Society while promoting greater worldwide interest in the discipline of lymphology. We hope to see our members submitting their best work to *Lymphology* for future issues. The Editors and Editorial Office continue to serve the Society and our members by striving to produce articles of the highest quality and of the most relevance to our Society in the international *Lymphology*.

4. **Young Lymphologists** – The Young Lymphologists report a successful meeting during the 26<sup>th</sup> Congress, and they are working together to prepare for the next two years.
5. **Advisory Committee** – The Advisory Committee had nothing further to report.
6. **Chapters/Regional Societies**

The following Lymphology Societies presented brief updates to the General Assembly:  
**Chinese Society of Lymphology** (N-F Liu); **European Society of Lymphology (ESL)** (F Boccardo);

**Society of German Speaking Lymphologists (GDL)** (R Baumeister); **Greek Society of Lymphology** (E Dimakakos). In addition, C Campisi presented the update for the **Italian and Latin-Mediterranean Chapters** which organizes a yearly meeting with good connections; M Ohkuma reported that the **Japanese Society** has ~400 members with yearly meeting and journal; W Ekataksin reported that the **Thailand Society** so far is primarily a patient society but efforts are being made to include physicians.

7. **ISL Presidential Awards** – The following awards were presented to outstanding young lymphologists for their contributions to the 26<sup>th</sup> WCOL: ISL Presidential Prizes [S Behan (USA), S Dessalvi (Italy), M Van Zanten (Australia), and T Yamamoto (Japan)].

#### 8. Future Congresses

27<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Lymphology (2019) – Buenos Aires/Iguazü Falls). M Amore and C Papendieck presented the program for the 27<sup>th</sup> ICL (location change from Antalya, Turkey approved at the interim Executive Committee meeting in Mulhouse, France in 2016) and is scheduled for September 23-26, 2019. When available, further information will be published in the ISL News. The webpage will be available soon.

28<sup>th</sup> ICL (2021) – Athens, Greece (E Dimakakos) and 29<sup>th</sup> ICL (2023) – Turin, Italy (CC Campisi). Both locations and proposing organizers were approved.

A suggestion was made for the 30<sup>th</sup> ICL (2025) – Kochi (Cochin), India (G Manokaran); more information has been requested.

#### Old Business

#### New Business

Newly elected ISL Executive Committee members were introduced. In addition, 19 new members who joined at the Barcelona meeting were welcomed to the ISL.

The General Assembly came to a close with many thanks to the 26<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Lymphology Organizing Committee for a successful Congress. Newly elected President-Elect Dr. Andrzej Szuba also thanked everyone for the vote of confidence in him. The meeting was closed by the new ISL President Dr. Sandro Michelini.



#### NEW MEMBERS

Vishnu M. Karnasula, MD  
Department of Plastic Surgery  
GSL Medical College & Hospital  
Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA

Luca Roncati, MD, PhD  
Department of Diagnostic and Clinical  
Medicine and of Public Health  
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia,  
Policlinco Hospital  
Modena, Italy

Chantal D. Schmid, PT  
Lymphological Physiotherapist  
Zürich, Switzerland

**Art. 6-ISL Constitution:** *Membership in the Society can be obtained on the basis of a written application. Names of new applicants will be published in the Society's Bulletin [ISL News]. Any member who objects to the admittance of a candidate must state the objections in writing to the Secretary-General no later than one (1) month after publication of the Bulletin [ISL News]. The reasons for the objection must be stated...*