# **Newsletter N° 16**

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#### **Letter from Seoul**

# Coming up: Notifications of acceptance for free papers

The deadline for submission of abstracts was October 31st. We appreciate your effort and interest and will be confirming the acceptance of your proposals as soon as possible.

Abstract submission closed on October 31st, 2010. We are excited to announce that we have received in total 3,212 submissions covering the entire range of topics and categories from authors around the world. 2,065 of these were submitted for E-poster presentations and 1,147 for oral presentation. The organizing committee greatly appreciates the strong interest in the WCD2011 and effort displayed through these abstracts. After each submission is reviewed by the scientific committee, notification of free paper acceptance will be sent out by December 2010. Selected papers will be published in the official Abstracts CD-ROM which will be given to all delegates at the Congress.

# Planning your trip to Korea: Booking flights and accommodation

The organizing committee has made arrangements with hotels and travel agencies to provide full booking and accommodation services for WCD2011 participants. The full list of 55 hotels with space reserved for Congress participants can be found in the 'Accommodation' section of the WCD2011 website. We would also like to offer the following additional information to help make your trip to Seoul as smooth and convenient as possible.

Seoul's modern and highly developed technology and infrastructure makes it extremely easy to travel throughout the city and to the COEX venue. From the Incheon International Airport, participants may take a 'limousine' bus, the A'REX express railway, or taxi to reach their hotels or COEX. Express limousine buses make fewer stops than their regular bus counterparts, though both can travel to hotels in every part of Seoul. The A'REX railway

connects to the extensive Seoul Subway network via a hub at Gimpo International Airport. Visitors may also choose from regular, international or van taxis





The night view of the Incheon Int. Airport

Seoul also happens to be one of the easiest locations to be reached by air, thanks to the award-winning Incheon International Airport which serves over 70 airlines and 150 worldwide destinations. Incheon International Airport was named World's Best Airport for 2009 by Skytrax, and by Globel Traveler (GT) in 2007 and 2008. The official Congress airline is Korean Air, one of the world's top international airlines which flies to 117 destinations in 39 countries. Participants can book a flight with Korean Air by visiting their website at www.koreanair.com. Participants from China and Japan may also choose Gimpo International Airport as their destination.

Please keep in mind that May is one of the busiest times in Seoul, so we strongly recommend that you book your flight and hotel well in advance. The deadline for hotel reservations through the WCD reservation system is December 31st, 2010. Though the Congress does not officially commence until the evening of May 24th, many Ancillary Meetings will take place at COEX on May 23rd and during the day on May 24th

For more information about transportation in Seoul, visit the official Korea Tourism site at: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr

For WCD2011 accommodation assistance please visit: http://www.wcd2011.org

# WCD2011 Attendees' Commentary

Several prominent physicians, scholarship recipients (residents and fellows) and industry representatives, including veterans of many previous WCDs and first timers, were asked to reflect on certain aspects of the 22nd WCD and share their thoughts with us.

# What are your thoughts and expectations for the upcoming 22nd WCD in Seoul?

'I expect an intense and extensive academic program and look forward to meeting and listening to some of the world's most renowned dermatologists, who are experts in their respective fields of interest.'

Mohamed F. Sacoor, MD

Specialist Dermatologist, University of Kwazulu, South Africa

'As only the second WCD which will be held in Asia, we expect it to be a rare and prized opportunity for European and Asian Dermatological schools to meet each other and exchange.'

Pierre Guillodo
Manager, International Sales Team
Development & Training
Laboratories Pierre Fabre

## What are currently the most important issues in dermatology?

'Although we have come a long way in clinical and investigative dermatology, we are still facing many challenges for the future. In my view, these include: 1) clinical and investigative dermatology is moving into very different orbits (medical dermatology vs. cosmetic and procedural dermatology); 2) in the U.S., we are relinquishing integral components of dermatology to other specialties and interest groups, i.e., STDs, connective tissue diseases, psoriasis, melanoma, wound healing, etc.; 3) pharmaceutical and biotech companies rather than our skin-based researchers are driving the research enterprise; 4) recruiting and training dermatologist/scientists, as well as Ph.D. scientists into careers in skin biology and skin diseases research is becoming more difficult; 5) maintaining a critical mass of scientists in clinical dermatology programs is also becoming more difficult; 6) developing research programs in procedurally based aspects of dermatology has not yet happened; and 7) convincing funding agencies and the public worldwide that research in skin biology and skin diseases is an important priority.'

Stephen I. Katz, MD, PhD
Director, National Institute of Arthritis and
Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
National Institutes of Health
Former President, International League of
Dermatological Societies

# Which particular issues do you hope to see addressed at the 22nd WCD?

It is embarrassing to admit that we are mostly unaware of the causes of some common dermatoses, such as psoriasis, vitiligo, androgenetic alopecia and atopic dermatitis, with no truly effective treatments known. These problems can have a severe physical and psychological impact on patients, therefore emphasis should be placed on revealing and elucidating the etiopathogenesis of skin diseases. Furthermore, the purpose of research is to understand diseases, provide definitive treatments to alleviate the suffering of patients and, most importantly, to find effective means of prevention. Therefore the issues

which I hope to see addressed at the WCD2011 are research on the pathogenesis of skin disease and translational medicine.'

Xue-Jun Zhang, MD, PhD
President, Anhui Medical University
President, Chinese Society of Dermatology

I hope to gain a broad perspective on the strength of the Asian dermatological community and to see a focus on not only treating patients with skin diseases but also improving the quality of life of the public through skin care education and anti-aging methods.

Yoshiki Miyachi, MD, PhD
Chairman, Kyoto University Graduate
School of Medicine

#### What are your impressions of Korea?

'We expect a unique and unforgettable Korean/ Asian experience for delegates both educationally and culturally. With Korea's technologically advanced infrastructure, we also have great expectations that the scientific organization and quality of interaction will be lifted to new heights. At first glance, the city appears to be a sprawling concrete mass of high-rise modern buildings. But on a closer look, it is interspersed with rich tradition and culture. The city is uniquely shaped by a clean and beautiful landscape of mountains, rivers and greenery. Korean people strike me as very health-conscious and have developed their very own food culture with medicinal herbal ingredients and healthy cooking. Seoul is truly living up to its name as a clean and healthy global city, boasting a harmonious coexistence of modern development and traditional cultures.'

Sarah Wong

Asia Pacific Regional Dermatology Head, Stiefel

'I look forward to visiting Korea again where the weather will be perfect, the people will be friendly and the camaraderie of dermatologists will be at its best.'

Stephen I. Katz. MD. PhD

CUTICONS, the State conferences of IADVL Manipur, Karnataka, Punjab-Himachal Pradesh & Chandigarh and Tamilnadu branches were held in the month of September and October.

DERMACON 2011, 39th National Conference of IADVL will be held on Feb 3–6th, 2011 at Gurgaon, Haryana near New Delhi. (www.dermacon2011.org).



IADVL L'Oreal Pigmentation Research Grant Jury meeting at Mumbai on 28th Aug. 2010: Dr. Ameet Valia (Co-ordinator), Dr. Ramesh Bhat (Hon Gen Sec), Dr. A. Coondoo (Chairperson, IADVL Academy of Dermatology), Dr. Hemangi Jerajani (President, IADVL), Dr. Michelle Verschoore (Jury, L'Oreal), Dr. Ortonne (Jury, Loreal), Dr. D.M. Thappa (Editor, IJDVL), Dr. Commo (Jury, L'Oreal)



IADVL launches the website www.wcd2015.in during CC meeting at Mumbai on 28th of Aug. 2010.



#### **Letter from Bangalore**

#### Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists & Leprologists (IADVL)

IADVL organised its Central Council meet on 28–29th of Aug 2010 at Mumbai to assess the progress of various activities initiated by the President Dr. H.R. Jerajani and to put forward road map for the future activities. Many administrative and constitutional matters were also discussed.

On this occasion, the president also inaugurated the website www.wcd2015.in to high light India's participation in bidding for WCD 2015. IADVL Loreal pigmentation research grant jury meet was held on 28th of August 2010. Six projects were sanctioned from various centres of India.

DERMAZONE South, the South zonal conference of IADVL was held on Aug 13–15th at Mysore, Karnataka. Nearly 1,000 delegates attended this meeting



#### **Letter from Vancouver**

Vancouver 2015 World Congress of Dermatology Bid www.derm2015.org

#### See You in Seoul and Beyond - Vancouver 2015

There are now fewer than 6 months left before the next World Congress of Dermatology officially opens in Seoul, Korea. After 29 years, the WCD will be rotating back to Asia in 2011; Tokyo was the host in 1982. A large contingent of Canadian dermatologists is looking forward to travelling to Seoul next

year not only to support this quadrennial gathering but also to explore a different place that many have not yet have visited. The last time North America hosted the WCD was in New York in 1992. Since then the WCD has reached four separate continents – Europe (Paris), Australia, South America (Buenos Aires), and Asia (Seoul) – to fulfill the global mandate of the International League of Dermatologic Societies. In November 2010, Vancouver was voted by the readers of the Condé Nast Traveler magazine as being the best destination city in the Americas, making it the ideal gathering place after Seoul for the WCD's next stop.



*Dr. Jerry Shapiro* and *Dr. Harvey Lui* welcome dermatologists to our bid exhibit.

Our Vancouver 2015 Bid Committee has had the enviable pleasure of engaging dermatologists on all five continents over the last two years. Our travels have included hosting exhibits, booths, and lectures at the AAD, EADV, CILAD, Regional Asian Conference, Sharm Derma, and RADLA. Please plan to visit our exhibits and receptions at the New Orleans AAD in February 2011 and the WCD in Seoul. We continue to be impressed by the similarity of the challenges faced by dermatologists around the world and the remarkable range of creative solutions being offered. There is so much to be gained by sharing these experiences.

Here's a preview of a typical WCD delegate experience. Vancouver is a highly accessible city whether you are arriving from around the corner or around the globe. Over 90% of our delegates will arrive either on a direct flight or a one-stop connection. Upon arrival at Vancouver International Airport, which is now rated as the top North American airport, visitors can reach the convention center and the downtown hotels in only 20 minutes using our new airport subway – for \$8.00.

Vancouver citizens live and work in the downtown core, so no matter what the time of day, the city is alive with people, energy, and excitement. The distance from one end of the downtown core to the other end is only 1.5 kilometers (1 mile); less than half an hour anywhere by foot! The new Vancouver Convention Center is surrounded by 13,000 hotel guest rooms representing the full range of price and luxury, all within walking distance. Downtown Vancouver features all the cosmopolitan activities you'd expect from a world-class city, including fantastic shopping and true world-class dining.

Don't be surprised if you hear a wide range of languages on our streets. Over 140 languages are spoken here. You will definitely feel safe and welcome in a city that boasts so many immigrants.

As you plan your Vancouver WCD experience, don't forget to book pre- or post- congress tours and activities. You may be surprised to learn that the Vancouver Convention Centre also serves as the official ship terminal for spectacular 7-day Alaskan cruises. So you can literally begin or end your WCD trip by stepping right out of the convention hall and straight onto your awaiting luxury liner. You can even combine a cruise with a rail tour to North America's Rocky Mountains. Or begin or end your North American vacation from here. There is no end to the possibilities.



Vancouver's cruise ship terminal is integrated into the new convention center. Step out of the convention hall and onto your Alaska cruise.

We welcome your comments and questions on Vancouver, Canada, and our bid to host the world in 2015. You will certainly want to bring your family with you. Please feel free to email us with your ideas at info@derm2015.org.

Warm regards, Jerry Shapiro, President Harvey Lui, Secretary-General Vancouver 2015 World Congress of Dermatology Bid Committee



#### **Letter from Vienna**

### 23rd World Congress of Dermatology Vienna Bid

www.wcd2015.com

#### Vienna – the Prestigious Research Centre Supporting Professional Dermatological

Education in Developing Countries On 8th of October the Austrian Bidding Committee for the World Congress 2015 gave reception during the EADV in Gothenburg, Sweden. It was a pleasure for us to welcome more than 120 special guests from over 35 countries all around the globe. This cocktail reception did not only offer our guests traditional Viennese and Central European Cuisine such as Wiener Schnitzel, Gulasch and Sacher Torte. It also gave us the opportunity to introduce some programmatic ideas for the World Congress 2015.

One such topic is the care for our patients suffering from rare dermatological diseases, like the ge-

netic blistering skin disease epidermolysis bullosa. These patients often have problems to receive adequate standard of care, because their diseases have an incidence of only 2 in 10.000 and below. Therefore, dermatologists may see only one patient in one or more years, or maybe only once during their dermatological lifetime.

One focus of the Austrian Bid for the World Congress 2015 is to raise awareness for such underrecognised diseases within the dermatological community. Therefore, we invited the Swedish representatives of DEBRA, the patient organisation for epidermolysis bullosa patients, to the cocktail reception at the EADV in Gothenburg to present their case. In addition, we were able to donate € 2.500 from the bidding budget to 'DEBRA Spirit' to support research into this rare and debilitating disease.

Another focus is the support of dermatologists in developing countries. The Austrian Society of Dermatology and Venerology financially supports the residency in dermatology of one candidate from Malawi in the Regional Dermatological Training Center in Moshi, Tanzania. On the occasion of our bidding cocktail we issued a travel grant for this candidate to visit the 22nd World Congress 2011 in Seoul.

Take your chance to learn more about us and our topics: Visit our booth at the 69th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) in New Orleans from 4–8 February 2011. Invitations to our Welcome Reception will be sent out early in 2011!

# International Diploma Course in Dermatology

# Education of dermatologists and sexually transmitted disease specialists in the Asia-Pacific region

OGAWA Hideoki, M.D., Ph.D. CEO, Juntendo University, Tokyo. Organizer in Chief, Japan for DCD Program Jirot Sindhvananda, M.D. Director, Institute of Dermatology, Bangkok. Organizer in Chief, Thailand for DCD Program

In the Asia Pacific region, climate, culture and people's lifestyles have contributed to a high incidence of dermatological diseases such as fungal infection, leprosy, tuberculosis, syphilis, and other infectious diseases including STIs. These diseases have been a big burden in public health in this region for a long time. More recently, the numbers of allergic dermatoses, autoimmune dermatoses, genodermatoses, seen by dermatologists are increasing. Skin disease patients comprise 15–20% of all patients attending medical facilities in this region and skin disease ranks as second or third commonest presentation in patients seen in hospital outpatients. However, the number of dermatology specialists is very low.

For over 30 years, since 1976, the governments of Japan and Thailand have worked together to pro-

duce dermatology consultants and specialists in the Asia-Pacific regional countries. During this time a total of 30 countries have participated in this project

The main focus of this international medical cooperative project is the National Institute of Dermatology (IOD) in Bangkok. At this institute, the government of Thailand, in cooperation with Japan, organized a 1 month dermatology training course in 1976, but because of need, a 3 month course was offered between 1978 and 1983. A total of 117 physicians were trained on these courses. Given this experience, the governments of Thailand and Japan agreed to offer a 10 month Diploma program in 1984. The chief organizers in Thailand were the Directors of the Institute of Dermatology - Dr. Renoo Kotrajaras (1976–1987), Dr. Preya Kullavanijaya (1987-2002), Dr. Pimonpun Gritiyarangsan (2002-2005) and Dr. Jirot Sindhvananda (2005 until present). The chief organizer, from Japan, with responsibility for the scientific programme, has been Prof. Dr. Hideoki Ogawa since 1976. A close, efficient and friendly cooperation between academics and clinicians in Thailand and Japan has resulted in the successful delivery of these programs. The project has been critically evaluated and extended every 5 years by the Governments of Thailand and Japan.

Each year, around 30 doctors selected by their governments enrol in Bangkok. For a period of 10 months, while receiving full support including living expenses, they undergo intensive clinical training and instruction on advanced techniques in dermatology along with the teaching of basic dermatological knowledge. This post-graduate (diploma course) program is a very extensive course composed of 4 main modules, namely 1) lecture classes, 2) OPD and IPD attendance, 3) laboratory and subspecialty clinics, and 4) field trips to some specialist hospitals and other training centers in Bangkok and other provinces such as leprosy hospitals, STD hospitals, infectious disease hospitals and the Tropical Skin Center in the southern Thailand. The course is challenging, requiring participants to pass several stages and examinations. In Japan, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are both promoting this project. Around 10 Japanese professors of international standing each spend 2 weeks in Bangkok providing approximately 30 hours of intensive lectures and clinical teaching in English.

For the remaining time students are taught by Thai dermatology specialists who provide clinical training, as well as pre-clinical scientists who teach related academic topics. The number of applicants is increasing every year. Those who are not selected sometimes participate at their own expense. They can receive scholarships from organizations other than JICA and the Thai International Cooperation Agency TICA (the comparable organisation in Thailand). Other organisations and NGOs such as the World Health Organization (WHO), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Juntendo University International Center (JUIC) have assisted and the Japanese Dermatology Association (JDA) recently joined as a key supporting organization. Thus, a total of 679 individuals have participated in this 10 months educational program (diploma course) between 1984 and 2009. In 2009 the course organizers added an additional 1 month (making an 11 months course) to cover additional subjects such as antiaging treatments, dermatosurgery and laser surgery to bring the course completely up-to-date .

Over the 34 years, 24 Japanese specialists have unselfishly sacrificed their free time to teach in Thailand and have strongly supported this project 2. On the Thai side, more than 100 dermatology specialists, other clinicians and technicians from various faculties contribute to this course 1.

This project, which commenced in 1976 with a motto 'a grain of wheat, let it survive' has produced 796 specialists from 30 countries. After gaining the Diploma, participants return to their workplace in their respective countries. Some of them work in remote areas as dermatologic practitioners to serve their countries by improving skin disease and related public health problems, while others continue studying in the field of dermatology finally working in universities and research institutions as instructors, clinicians, or dermatologists.

In its long history this International Diploma Course in Dermatology (DCD), shows that it is possible not only to benefit the organizing countries or Institutions but also to make a significant impact in the Asia-Pacific region in the field of dermatology. It also creates a network for academic cooperation and a strong, close friendship thrives among participants. It is the way of 'Asian Harmonization' and through it we hope to improve health in the field of dermatology, as well as better understanding and borderless cooperation for the benefit of Asia-Pacific region and the world.

- Participating institutions: Institute of Dermatology, Mahidol University (Siriraj Medical School, Ramathibodi Medical School, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Pharmacology, Faculty of Public Health, Faculty of Tropical Medicine), Department of Communicable Diseases Control (Leprosy Institute, Institute of Health Research, Bangrak (STD) hospital, Faculty of Medicine Chulalongkorn University, Faculty of Medicine Chiangmai University, Pramongkul Klao Army Hospital, Bhumibol, Adunyadej Air Force Hospital, Rajavithi General Hospital, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, and WHO Thailand Office
- Visits by Japanese professors (in chronological order): OGAWA Hideoki (2x26=52), SUZUKI Hiroyuki (26), TAGAMI Hachiro (14), IMAMURA Sadao (19), NISHIOKA Kiyoshi (9), ICHIHASHI Masamitsu (13), KANZAKI Tamotsu (20), MUNAKATA Atsushi (10), JIMBOW Kouichi (1), MIKI Yoshiharu (2), NISHIKAWA Takeji (2), MISHIMA Yutaka (3), NIIZUMA Hiroshi (2), OHKAWARA Akira (3), MIZUNO Nobuyuki (4), ONO Tomomichi (14), MIYACHI Yoshiki (13), HORIO Takeshi (1), YOSHIIKE Takashi (3), SHIMADA Shinji (14), KITAJIMA Yasuo (13), WATANABE Shinichi (6), HASHIMOTO Koji (6), SHIRASAWA Takuji (1)

### Member's Corner Members' News



14th Congress of the European Society for Dermatology & Psychiatry (ESDaP)

The next ESDaP congress will take place in Zaragoza, Spain, from 17th to 19th March 2011. The congress will run under the logo of 'Skin Disease Over...Time' and will host International Experts on Psychodermatology. Dermatologists, Psychologists and Psychiatrists, as well as Physicians and Nursing Staff who work in the field of Psychodermatology and Psychosomatic Dermatology are invited to present papers and share their experience. A varied and intense scientific program will be accompanied by social and cultural activities.

See congress website for more information: www. bocentium.com/esdap2011

As a satellite event to the 14th ESDaP Congress, and immediately after the congress, a **Narrative Medicine Workshop** will take place in the nearby Balneario Sicilia in Jaraba (Zaragoza, Spain) from 20th to 23rd March 2011. The College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York run this Workshop. Check congress website for more information: www.bocentium.com/esdap2011.



### Society for Cutaneous Ultrastructure Research

The 38th Annual SCUR Meeting will be held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia from Monday 30th May to Wednesday 1st June, 2011 following the 22nd WCD in Seoul, Korea.

This Society for Cutaneous Ultrastructure Research maintains a primary interest to promote research in Electron Microscopy and other combined visualization techniques applied to cutaneous biology and pathology in order to advance the understanding of human skin ultrastructure in health and disease.

The SCUR 2011 Meeting theme will be 'Skin lesions and their treatment' aimed at combining new Research frontiers. A warm welcome is extended to all WLDS Members by our President Prof James Mc-Millan, to join us in Brisbane for an exciting Meeting and Australian experience.

Prof. Dr. James R. McMillan, Brisbane, Australia: Local Organiser Dr. Christine Betts, Bologna, Italy, Secretary Prof. Dr. Stefan W. Schneider, Mannheim, Germany Treasurer e-mail: christine.betts@unibo.it Internet: http://www.scur.org