ISA Executive Council Meeting #37, March 2009, Barcelona

Officers Report 2005-2009

Current Member Societies (March 2009)
There are 6 regional Member Societies, specifically:
- American Society of Andrology
- Asian Society of Andrology
- Baltic Society of Andrology
- European Academy of Andrology
- Nordic Association for Andrology
- Pan Arab Society of Andrological Sciences

In addition, ISA has 32 country Member Societies:
- Argentine Society of Andrology
- Fertility Society of Australia
- Brazilian Society of Andrology
- Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society
- Colombia Sociedad de Andrologia
- Cuban Society for Reproductive Medicine and Andrology
- Andrological Section of the Czech Urological Society
- Danish Scanic Society of Male Reproduction
- Egyptian Society of Andrology
- Finnish Society of Andrology
- SALF - Société d'Andrologie de Langue Française
- German Society for Andrology
- Hellenic Society of Andrology
- Hungarian Society of Andrology
- Indian Society for the Study of Reproduction and Fertility
- Indonesian Society of Andrology
- Israeli Fertility Association - Male Reproduction and Andrology
- Italian Society of Andrology
- Italian Society of Medical Andrology
- Japanese Society of Andrology
- Korean Andrological Society
- Mexican Society of Andrology
- Polish Society of Andrology
- Portuguese Society of Andrology
- Professional Association of Andrologists of Russia (PAAR)
- Singapore Society for the Study of Andrology and Sexology
- Southern African Society for Reproductive Science and Surgery
- Spanish Association of Andrology ASESAd
- Taiwanese Association of Andrology
- Turkish Association of Andrology
- Ukrainian Association of Andrology
- Venezuelan Association of Andrology
The British Andrology Society was in "stand-by position" for many years. Our attempts to reactivate ISA membership, unfortunately, have failed. We have established contact with the new Vietnamese Society of Andrology, which is now in the early phase of its organization and expressed a strong interest to become an ISA Member Society.

Executive communications

The ISA Officers have communicated very intensively through email, to discuss issues relating to governance of the ISA, membership, workshops, and other matters. A meeting in person was held in Tampa, USA, April 2007. A scheduled meeting of the Executive Council, also planned for Tampa, April 2007, was cancelled, due to a very limited number of participating members.

In addition, the ISA Officers have communicated intensively with the Immediate Past President (Chair of the Nominations Committee), the ISA Editor (regarding the ISA website) and the ISA Chair POC (regarding ICA 2009).

Communication with the ISA Member Societies

We have put a great deal of effort into continuously updating an Excel file containing information about the Officers and contact details of our Member Societies. Throughout our 'Executive period' we have found this to be very challenging, as some Societies have not informed the ISA of frequent changes in their Officers and contact details. Several Member Societies do not have their own website, and a few cannot be reached even by email. This is most unfortunate as email is now the preferred means of our communication with the Member Societies, and all are encouraged to actively embrace this approach.

The update and further development of the ISA website has been viewed as a priority. We have considered the option to offer Member Societies the possibility to post information (such as documents of general interest, information about meetings, etc.) on a 'bookshelf' on the ISA website. This could open up a way of communication between Member Societies who do not (yet) have their own website.

Relationship with the American Society of Andrology (ASA) and the European Society of Andrology (EAA)

We are pleased to report that excellent relationships with ASA and EAA have been continued, and are developing in new directions.

- ASA agreed to support ICA2009 with US$ 15000, that was used for the Plenary on prostate cancer (2 speakers) and the Symposium on new strategies to male fertility control (3 speakers).

- ISA gave the ISA International Travel Awards, granted for participation in the ASA Annual Meeting, for 3 years, period 2008-2010 (see below: ISA Supported Activities)

- EAA support for ICA2009 concerns the Plenary on human genome instability (1 speaker). Furthermore, EAA provided 5 grants of Euro 500 each, for the EAA-ISA Young Investigator Travel Awards for participation in ICA2009 (see below: ISA Supported Activities).

- ISA also provided 5 grants of Euro 500 each, for the EAA-ISA Young Investigator Travel Awards for participation in ICA2009 (4 were actually granted; see below: ISA Supported Activities)

ISA has contacted ASA and EAA, regarding the wish of the ISA and its Member Societies to promote the participation of andrologists from developing regions. This led to the following proposal, which is presented to the Executive Council at its meeting in Barcelona, March 2009:

Background

From time to time, ISA receives requests from andrologists, asking about individual ISA membership. This is possible - the individual membership fee is US$ 20 per year- but we have little to offer to
individual members. We advise these individuals to become a member of an ISA Member Society. However, in many countries, in particular in developing and economically weaker regions, there is no direct and easy access to an ISA Member Society. Andrologists from developing regions would have relatively easy access to one of the larger societies of andrology, such as the European Academy of Andrology (EAA) and the American Society of Andrology (ASA), through their websites and journals, and they would gain much profit from being a member of one of the larger Member Societies. We have discussed with ASA and EAA, if we can arrive at an agreement to offer individual andrologists from developing regions the possibility to become ASA or EAA member, based on a special fee, sponsored by both these Member Societies and ISA. Such a sponsored membership would require fulfillment of conditions of entry, and should be for a fixed time period (but at least two years).

**EAA – ISA**

In April 2008, we were informed by Dr Frederick Wu, EAA President, that the Executive Council of EAA approved in principle to offer affiliate EAA membership to bona fide andrologists (supported by CV and formal application procedures) from developing regions outside Europe, including:

1) a reduced EAA membership fee
2) a reduced or free subscription to the International Journal of Andrology
3) the opportunity to take part in the EAA Clinical Andrology examination (reduced examination fee, say 50%, provided sufficient training has been achieved, vetted by the Executive Council)
4) a restricted number of such affiliate memberships: a maximum of 6 at any one time
5) shared costs ISA/EAA on a 50/50 basis

The exact amount of reduced membership and subscription fees, the duration of these ‘grants’ for the maximum of 6 affiliate members, will be decided by the EAA Treasurer.

**ASA – ISA**

In October 2008, we were informed by Dr Terry Brown, ASA President, that the Council of ASA approved a 3 year trial period for waiver of membership fees for individual andrologists from countries designated as low income economies but with some specific exceptions from the World Bank list. The details of how membership applications will be processed and approved for on-line access needs to be worked out with the Membership Committee and the *Journal of Andrology*. The ASA International Liaison Committee can play a coordinating role.

**Relationship with the World Health Organization**

The Officers submitted a report of the collaboration between ISA and WHO, which was reviewed by the WHO Executive Board in January 2008. The Director of the Program on Partnerships and UN Reform informed us, February 1, 2008, that the Board decided to maintain the official relationship between ISA and the WHO. In making its decision, the Board commended the efforts of our organization in supporting the work of the WHO. We were encouraged to pursue implementation of our new ideas for collaboration, which would be focused on participation of andrologists from developing regions. Meanwhile, this was also discussed with ASA and EAA, as described above. Further development and expansion of such a plan could involve collaboration with WHO.

We gratefully acknowledge financial support by the WHO for ICA2009, for the Plenary on global andrology (3 speakers), the Workshop on the WHO laboratory manual (2 speakers), and the Symposium on male contraception (3 speakers). The WHO granted us permission to name the Plenary on global andrology the *Geoffrey M.H. Waites Memorial Plenary Lecture*. The first of these memorial lectures was held at ICA2005 in Seoul.

Regarding new revisions or translations of the *WHO Laboratory Manual for the Examination and Processing of Human Semen*, no actions involving ISA were taken in the period 2005-2009.
Relationship with the Contraceptive Research & Development Program CONRAD

We are thankful to CONRAD (www.conrad.org) for providing funds for 4-6 travel grants, for presenting authors of abstracts concerning male contraception, at ICA2009. These grants will amount to Euro 400-800, to be decided by the POC, based on training and regional aspects. With this support, the relevance and impact of such research can be highlighted. The POC selected three abstracts for support. The remaining funds will be available for future meetings.

Letters of intent and bids for ICA 2013

Three letters of intent were received to host ICA2013, but only the Fertility Society of Australia finally decided to submit a full bid document, which was received on January 8, 2009, well before the closure date. The bid from Australia, to organize ICA2013 in Melbourne, is presented to the Executive Council at its meeting in Barcelona, March 2009. If found satisfactory, it will be presented to the General Assembly in Barcelona.

Meetings and workshops supported by ISA, 2005-2009

As described in the ISA Guidelines for Support of Meetings and Workshops, ISA aims to support travel grants, to be awarded preferably to clinical trainees or basic-clinical investigators and/or participants from economically weaker countries. The awardees need to submit an abstract to be presented (poster or otherwise) at the meeting. This is in line with our overall mission to promote participation of (younger) andrologists from developing countries. When information is available, the names and countries of awardees are listed:

14th European Testis Workshop  April 2006  München, Germany
10th International Symposium on Spermatology  September 2006  Madrid, Spain
2nd Asian-Pacific Forum on Andrology  October 2006  Shanghai, China
4th International Epididymis Workshop  December 2006  Clermont-Ferrand, France
3rd Ibero-American Forum on Andrology (ANDRO 2006)  December 2006  Havana, Cuba
[endorsement] [XXth Reunion Asociacion Latinoamericana de Investigadores en Reproduccion Humana]  April 2007  Buenos Aires, Argentina
Vth Argentine Congress of Andrology (with regional participation)  October 2007  Buenos Aires, Argentina
15th European Testis Workshop  May 2008  Turku, Finland
R. Hartley, Chile
K. Ewen, Australia
S. Amaral, Portugal
M.J. Guerquin, France
I. Kopera, Poland
E. Zawadzka, Poland
SALF pre-congres Workshops on Andrology
October 2008   Tunis, Tunisia

Latin American Program of Semen Analysis Standardization
January 2009   Sao Paulo, Brazil
Edgar Peña, Leon, Nicaragua
Carla Gonzales, Lima, Peru
Mabel Schulz, Temuco, Chile
Maria Jose Mucucce, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Luis Sarabia, Santiago, Chile

ISA International Travel Award, awarded for participation in the ASA Annual Meeting
2008: Duangporn Jamsai, Thailand/Australia
2009: Xuejiang Guo, China
2009: Julieta A. Maldera, Argentina
2010: one award of US$ 1200 made available

EAA-ISA Young Investigator Awards for participation in ICA2009
Giorgio Bozzini, Italy
Claudia Giachini, Italy
Maren Godmann, Canada
Francesca Nuti, Italy
Aurelia Ouvrier, France
Nadine Santos, USA
Peng Shang, Netherlands
Chih-Wei Tsao, Taiwan
Abdelouahid Tajar, UK

PUBLICATIONS
Individual Members of ISA have contributed greatly to the updating of the ISA, ISSAM, EAU, EAA and ASA recommendations (in 2005, the previous version was published as the ISA, ISSAM, EAU recommendations). This is now published as follows:
This is also published in 4 other journals: Int J Androl, Int J Impotence Research, European Urology, and Journal of Andrology, and these Guidelines are available through the Virtual Library on the ISA website.

ISA Website, Logo, and Letterhead
We gratefully acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Monica Vazquez-Levin (Argentina), who has served with distinction as the Editor of the ISA website. Together with the Immediate Past President Hector Chemes she has taken further steps to develop the Virtual Library.
The maintenance of the website was transferred from Janos Dohanics at 3dresearch.com to Benno Arentsen at the office of the ISA President in Rotterdam. This was a smooth transition, and we are thankful to Janos Dohanics for all the work he has done on the ISA website. Similarly, we are very thankful to Benno Arentsen for his continued excellent work on the website. The website was redesigned and rebuilt with CMSimple, a simple and open source content management system. This should allow a relatively easy transfer to another office.
We also redesigned the ISA Logo, which is incorporated in the website, and the ISA Letterhead was changed in concordance with the website.

ICA 2009 Chairs POC and LOC
The 9th International Congress of Andrology, ICA2009 in Barcelona, is obviously the highlight of our ‘Executive period’. We are extremely thankful for the impressive input of time and energy made by the Chairs of the Program and Local Organizing Committees, Christina Wang and Jose Lluis Ballesca, as
well as the very hard work and dedication of all other Committee Members and Congress Organizers, to make ICA2009 an unforgettable highlight not only for us, but also for all delegates and Member Societies.

Nominations Committee

Our Immediate Past President Hector Chemes has chaired the Nominations Committee. The ByLaws relating to the NC were passed in Seoul in 2005. Hector Chemes has ensured that the General Assembly will be presented with an outstanding slate of candidates for the ISA Officers.

We are very thankful to the Nominations Committee for composing an impressive list of names, which guarantees that we will have a smooth transition to dedicated and knowledgeable new ISA Officers in March 2009, for the period leading us towards the 10th ICA in 2013.

Two elected members, Patricia Cuasnicu (Argentina) and Gordon Baker (Australia) served on the NC 2005-2009. Two new elected members for the NC 2009-2013 will be elected at the General Assembly in Barcelona.

CANDIDATES FOR ISA OFFICE 2009 - 2013
FOR EACH POST, THE CANDIDATES ARE LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

PRESIDENCY:
John Aitken (Australia)
Andrea Lenzi (Italy)
Christina Wang (USA)
Geographical distribution: Australia, Europe, America

SECRETARIAT:
Peter Liu (Australia)
Stephan Schlatt (Germany)
Shmuel Segal (Israel)
Geographical distribution: Australia, Europe, Asia

TREASURY:
Daniel Franken (South Africa)
Barry Hinton (USA)
Csilla Krausz (Italy)
Geographical distribution: Africa, America, Europe

Specific Report ISA Treasurer
Attached

Submitted to the ISA Executive Council
at its Meeting #37, Sunday 8 March 2009
by:
J. Anton Grootegoed, ISA President 2005 – 2009
Robert I. McLachlan, ISA Secretary 2005 – 2009
Hermann M. Behre, ISA Treasurer 2005 – 2009

www.andrology.org