



European Society for Artificial Organs

ESAO Newsletter - 2008

The International Journal of Artificial Organs

During the last ESAO Board Meeting - held at the Venice Airport on 6 March - amongst other topics discussed, the main issue was the agreement and signing of the new contract with Wichtig Editore. This was confirmed when all those who were present agreed on the future of the journal which has now become the official journal of our Society. Other innovations including the future electronic submission of papers to the journal is under consideration. This will speed up the peer-review process of manuscripts and decrease the average number of days from manuscript receipt to publication.

ESAO Winter School

The 3rd ESAO Winter School was held in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, from 6-8 March and organised by Dieter Falkenhagen, Joerg Vienken and Beat Walpoth, together with Professor Giuseppe Faggian from the Verona University. The title of this year's meeting was "Inflammation and Artificial Organs". During this one and a half-day Winter School there were 16 talks given



Fig. 1 - From left: Prof. J. Vienken, Prof. G. Faggian, Prof. D. Falkenhagen and Prof. B.H. Walpoth.

by European and International speakers relating to the main title and covering topics such as *Inflammatory Cascade, Pathophysiology of Inflammation, Clinical Aspects of Inflammation, SIRS-Sepsis and Therapies for inflammation*. A short oral presentation from a selected abstract was given at the end of each of the above topics. The meeting was very much appreciated by all those attending and a special issue of our journal will be devoted to the publications of the talks.

ESAO Annual Congress

The 35th Annual Congress of our Society will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from Wednesday, 3 to Saturday, 6 September and will be entitled "*Towards future biomedical technologies*". Over 330 abstracts have been received from more than 35 countries and the program of the meeting will be published in the International Journal of Artificial Organs. It will be available also on our congress website at the beginning of June: <http://www.esao2008.medecine.unige.ch/> Plenary sessions will address organ support, transplantation and the new technologies related to heart, liver and kidney. Besides this, there will be a very attractive social program. As President of the Society and organiser of this year's congress, I look forward to a highly interesting and provocative program and to seeing you in Geneva.

International Federation of Artificial Organs (IFAO)

Text sent by S. Ash from the American Society for Artificial Internal Organs (ASAIO)

IFAO elects new Officers, welcomes new Board Members

The International Federation for Artificial Organs (IFAO) is pleased to announce the election of a new President, Professor Peer M. Portner. Dr. Portner is Consulting Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery, at the Stanford University School of Medicine's Falk



Fig. 2 - ESAO Winter School.

Cardiovascular Center and Past President of ASAIO; his role was instrumental in the formation of the IFAO. He can be contacted at pmpartner@aol.com or through the society's website.

Many thanks go to Professor Yoshiyuki Taenaka, Professor of CV Surgery at the National Cardiovascular Center of Osaka, Japan, for his tireless and creative service as President of IFAO in 2006 and 2007, and for his leadership in the outstanding Joint Congress with the Japanese Society for Artificial Organs in Osaka that took place in 2007.

The ASAIO has elected Dr. Wayne Richenbacher as a new Board Member of IFAO. Dr. Richenbacher is Professor of CV Surgery at the University of Iowa and President-Elect of the ASAIO. Other current Board members are listed on the society's website at www.ifao-society.org. Note that this is a new address for the society's homepage.

After four years of dedicated service, Professor Günter

von Sengbusch of GKSS University has now "passed the baton" as Secretary-Treasurer of the IFAO. The IFAO and the continental artificial organ societies recognize the substantial and creative contributions of Dr. von Sengbusch during the period of the foundation of the IFAO and its predecessor, the International Society for Artificial Organs (ISAO).

Dr. Stephen Ash of HemoCleanse and Clarian Arnett Health in Lafayette, Indiana - Past President of the ASAIO - has been elected as Secretary-Treasurer of the IFAO for the next four years. He can be contacted at sash@hemocleanse.com or through the society's website.

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