



TTS launches leadership program

Country Liaison Representatives met in San Francisco to forge a plan for building TTS membership, promoting education in transplantation on a worldwide scale, and establishing priorities for making ethical and scientific progress.

“TTS wants to respond to regional needs with a formalized program. By identifying specific Country Liaison Representatives, TTS is grouping together spokespeople who can provide insight into issues in each country around the world,” said John Fung, Chair of the TTS Membership Committee and Chairman, Department of Surgery and Director of the Transplant Center, Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

“TTS exists to promulgate the ethics and science of transplantation and is the oldest transplantation society with the largest membership. Once the Society reaches its potential, and through its relationship with the World Health Organization, it can be a critical spokesperson for transplantation activities around the world. One of the most effective ways we see development in the field of transplantation is for longstanding professionals to provide as much support as possible to growing and developing transplant centers,” Fung continued.

Kathryn Wood introduced the Country Liaison Representative initiative at the World Transplant Congress in Boston. This exploratory meeting garnered such a positive response that TTS has fully endorsed the concept and will begin its implementation in the coming months. Activities planned to support the program initially will include a revamped on-line membership directory, which will facilitate the procedure for enrolling new international members.

As the program grows, a democratic gover-

nance structure will be put into place.

Global transplant activity now includes transplant centers on all continents except Antarctica. Problems and progress within the field of transplantation vary from country to country so TTS needs Country Liaison Representatives to advise it on developments on issues of importance.

As an initiative to encourage new members from around the world to join TTS and take advantage of its many benefits, TTS is offering reduced membership fees to transplant professionals practicing in developing countries.

“This unique program will fulfill one of TTS’ principal goals: to promote the exchange of global ideas, while being conscious of cultural differences and learning from positive and negative experiences. The program will give a global voice to countries new to transplantation,” said TTS Country Liaison Representative Mario Abbud-Filho, Director Organ & Tissue Transplantation Center, Director Transplantation Immunology Laboratory at the Instituto de Urologia e Nefrologia Sao Jose do Rio Preto in Brazil.

“The relationships built with the national societies will indeed facilitate the implementation of World Health Assembly Resolution WHA57.18 ... aimed at ensuring the application of very high standards ... across all TTS member practices,” said Italy’s Country Liaison Representative, Emanuele Cozzi. ☺



Libya’s Country Liaison Representative Ehtuish F. Ehtuish with Francis L. Delmonico at a recent meeting.

This unique program will fulfill one of TTS’ principal goals: to promote the exchange of global ideas, while being conscious of cultural differences...

FOUR DECADES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, INNOVATION, GROWTH AND PROGRESS

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet TTS’ Country Liaison Representatives

...5

TTS builds alliances at new KOL meeting in Montreal

...6

TTS process for membership simplified

...8

There has been much activity ongoing in The Transplantation Society during the past few months. With four **new Key Opinion Leader** meetings now completed this year, we continue to get rave reviews not only by those attending, but from our corporate partners as well. The most recent meeting took place in Montreal and is discussed in a separate article on Page 6. It was the first time our Corporate Partner Wyeth and a group of international transplant experts visited the new TTS International Headquarters. Meetings in Geneva in association with GAT and the WHO, as well as Ankara, Sydney, and Cape Town are planned for the remainder of the year.

Filomena Picciano and Frank Lindo-Verissimo represented TTS at the **Ninth Congress of the Catalan Transplantation Society** in March. This was a most successful venture under the leadership of Frederico Oppenheimer. It was well attended and enthusiastically received. Ties between the Catalan Society and TTS were strengthened, and several local members joined TTS as a result.

I was flattered to be the Guest Speaker of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada at the **Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Transplantation (CST)** in March. Not only was this a most instructive and pleasant event, but it was held in beautiful Banff. CST President Lori West and President-elect James Shapiro made my stay a memorable one.

TTS officers held several important meetings in San Francisco in May. The **Executive Committee** spent an evening together, discussing and refining Society business for the next day's Council meeting.

The **Council Meeting** was an all-day affair, well attended by the members of Council. The Society's new regional representatives brought an important dimension to the proceedings, discussing the influence of TTS initiatives and decisions on their geographical areas and

making excellent suggestions for future goals. Council is working hard on improvements to the TTS membership procedure, which, when completed, should ease the process for new members.

A meeting of the **Global Alliance in Transplantation (GAT)** was held the next day, chaired by Jeremy Chapman and Yves Vanrenterghem. The room was filled with representatives of the various professional societies and Corporate Partners involved in the GAT effort. The Chairmen outlined an important initiative, which will be carried out in collaboration with WHO. The GAT will collect data on transplantation from around the world, particularly those areas that have not had formal registries or means to collect clinical results. Although this is a huge task, the effort is generating considerable interest and support.

Nearly 50 people attended a luncheon that John Fung, Chair of the Membership Committee, Francis L. Delmonico, Director of Medical Affairs, and I hosted to discuss **Country Liaison Representation**. Individuals from many regions and countries throughout the world have expressed interest in closer relations with TTS through their local societies. The mutual benefits for both local and regional societies and TTS seemed clear and important to all of us. These relationships would spread the goals of our organizations, disseminate knowledge about TTS and its global mission, and recruit new members. The conversation focused on global issues in transplantation, and TTS' roles in these issues. The meeting was an excellent opportunity to rekindle and create friendships and working relationships.

As many of you have now heard, there has been a tragic airplane crash on June 3, 2007, in which two transplant surgeons, two donor specialists, and two pilots were killed. They were from the University of Michigan and had flown to Milwaukee to collect lungs for transplantation. On behalf of TTS, I would like to express my personal condolences to family and friends of the dead, as well as their colleagues at the University of Michigan.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who voted on the site for the **2012 Transplantation Society Congress**. From a remarkably strong group of applicants, Berlin and Gothenburg made the finals. Representatives of TTS visited both sites, deeming them excellent. Many congratulations to Peter Neuhaus and his colleagues on the local organizing committee. As the vote was close, we would encourage Michael Olausson and his group to try again. ☺



Nicholas L. Tilney

Tribune is published three times per year by The Transplantation Society (TTS). Views expressed in news and feature articles are those of the individual quoted.

TTS gratefully acknowledges the Corporate Partners whose generous support makes the work of the Society possible:

Astellas Pharma Inc.
Bristol-Myers Squibb
F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd.
Genzyme Corporation
Novartis Pharma AG
Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

Editor in Chief

Henrik Ekberg

Contributors

Mario Abbud-Filho
Jeremy Chapman
Francis L. Delmonico
John Fung
Margaret Somerville
Manikkan Suthanthiram
Nicholas L. Tilney

International Headquarters

Filomena Picciano, Director of Society Operations
Frank Lindo-Verissimo, Membership Services Manager
Catherin Parker, Project Manager
Mariko Nakanishi, Receptionist

Editorial, production, publication management

Southlea Communications Inc. in partnership with Robin Palin Public Relations Inc.

For more information:

The Transplantation Society
International Headquarters
1255 University Street, Suite 325
Montreal, QC H3B 3B4
info@transplantation-soc.org
Telephone: +1-514-874-1717
Fax: +1-514-874-1716
www.transplantation-soc.org



Filomena Picciano and Frederico Oppenheimer in Barcelona at the Catalan Transplantation Society meeting.

DMA meets with influential leaders in Middle East

My recent experiences in Egypt, Libya and Israel are revealing of the complexities and challenges that we face as an international community of transplantation. If the commercialism and organ trafficking are not to be the legacy of transplantation, alternatives will be necessary by developing programs of deceased donation and by programs that support living donors, while respecting their human dignity.

Virtually all kidney transplantation in Egypt is done from live donors and all of these donors are vendors. The impact of this event on the vendor's life is largely unknown. But, Executive Director of Coalition for Organ-Failure Solutions (COFS), Dr. Debra Budiani's studies have revealed that the quality of life for many vendors has been significantly worsened following their donation.

In Egypt and Libya, Dr. Budiani who has reported COFS fieldwork at the World Health Organization accompanied me. The Coalitions' data has been collected by interviewing live donors who have sold their kidneys. We met with the Minister of Health of Egypt, Hatem El-Gabaly, who expressed his determination to change practices that are enabling widespread trafficking and exploitation of the poor by transplant professionals. Refaat Kamel, Professor of Surgery Ain Shams University, Cairo, and Country Liaison Representative in Egypt for TTS, participated in the meeting with the Minister of Health.

TTS will work with Drs. El-Gabaly, Kamel



(left to right) Debra Budiani, Hatem El-Gabaly, Francis L. Delmonico, Refaat Kamel, and Nabila Metwali (WHO).

and Ahmed Hassan to develop a national legal framework for organ transplantation in Egypt. Dr. Budiani and I also visited a transplant center in Mansoura, Egypt. The center, led by Adel Bakr, is a model practice. Few organ donations outside families are done in Mansoura.

The visit to Tripoli, Libya, was to assist Professor E. Ehtuish in his plan to embark upon deceased donor transplantation. Ehtuish is the country's Secretary of the People's Committee on the Environment but he effectively is responsible for the health care of Libya. Each year, there are 2000 fatal road accidents in Libya. However, the country does not have legislation on brain death and, as a result, thousands of deceased organs are not recovered. Libya is prepared to endorse deceased donation, which they believe to be consistent with its Islamic culture.

National legislation on organ trafficking in Israel has been stalled in the Knesset and Israelis continue to undergo transplantation in Columbia, the Philippines and the Balkans. There is no penalty being imposed upon the insurance companies that are systematically enabling these transplants to occur. Transplant professionals in the country are bearing the brunt of the problem, and not getting the necessary experience to sustain a transplantation practice within Israel for the future.

The Israeli Medical Association is supportive of curtailing the commercialism propelled by Israeli patients. TTS representatives discussed the issue with members of the Knesset including current President Shimon Peres, and former Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, whose support will be needed to change the current dire situation. ☺



(left to right) Francis, L. Delmonico, Jonathan Cohen, Gabriel Danovitch, and Eytan Mor.

IN BRIEF



Australia 2008 program nears completion

The program is characterized by asking the hard questions in the science of transplantation and addressing the main clinical problems that practitioners face in Organ Donation, Kidney, Liver, Heart, Lung, Pancreas, Islet, Intestine, Bone Marrow, Cornea and Stem Cell transplantation.

Six plenary programs will be supplemented by 40 state-of-the-art sessions. The organizing committee has taken note of feedback from WTC in Boston — avoid clashing sessions and focus on quality not quantity.

The number of concurrent sessions has been reduced to 10. Morning workshop sessions have been added for areas of special interest. Minimal sessions will supplement the posters, which will be able to be presented either on poster boards or electronically. Wireless connections and a "very big screen TV" to watch the Olympics will ensure that you can stay connected during the meeting.

"The Opera House and the dance company are booked, we have laid down the wine and are looking forward to showing you Sydney and Australia. All you have to do is decide to tell your partner and family that you are heading to Australia or invite them to join you 'down under'. We think the latter is a better option," said Jeremy Chapman.



GANG FENG

Generation of Treg Cells *ex vivo*

Gang Feng received an award for a paper entitled, *Ex Vivo Generation of Regulatory T Cells That Prevent Skin and Islet Allograft Rejection: A Novel Role for IFN- γ* .

Regulatory T cells have a role in autoimmunity, GVHD and transplantation. They could be used as cell therapy if sufficient numbers were available. IFN- γ conditioned CD4⁺ T cells were harvested from CBA mice after two cycles of stimulation with cells from B10 mice. They were transferred into CBA mice with CD25⁻ CD4⁺ as effector cells 1 day prior to skin grafts from B10 mice. The con-

ditioned cells prevented acute graft rejection seen with effector cells alone. Regulation by conditioned cells required CTLA-4 as with *in vivo* generated T cell regulation. Co-transfer of conditioned cells prevented rejection of islet cells in a diabetes model. He concluded that IFN- γ allows the generation of Treg cells *ex vivo*, indicating the possibility of using them therapeutically.

Dr. Feng obtained his M.D. from Sichuan University, China and his D.Phil. from Oxford University. He is a Postdoctoral Scientist, Nuffield Department of Surgery, Oxford University. ☺



Gang Feng

KEREM BORTECEN

Efficacy of *ex vivo* Generated Treg Cells

Kerem Bortecen investigated *in vivo* generated Treg cells efficacy in preventing rejection of islet allografts.

His results are described in a paper entitled, *Local Administration of In Vivo Generated Treg Prevent the Rejection of Islet Allografts*.

Recipient diabetic CBA mice were depleted of T cells. They were reconstituted with CD25⁺ CD4⁺ effector cells from naïve mice one day prior to receiving B6 mouse islet transplants. Groups of recipients had received either none or increasing amounts, from 1-4 x 10⁵, of *in vivo* generated Treg cells delivered into the peri-islet area. Reconstitution with

only effector cells resulted in acute rejection of the islets. While 4 x 10⁵ Treg were required to prevent rejection after intravenous administration, local delivery required only 1 x 10⁵ Treg cells. He concluded that Treg cells co-administered with islets may have clinical relevance in islet transplantation, especially as procedures exist to generate Treg *ex vivo*.

Dr. Bortecen received his M.D. from Istanbul University, his D.Phil. from Oxford University and he is now at PENN Transplant Center, University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia. ☺



Kerem Bortecen

AMY DOWDEN

Differentiation of Embryonic Stem Cells

Amy Dowden received the award for a paper entitled, *Bone Morphogenetic Protein (BMP-4) Promotes In Vivo Differentiation of Embryonic Stem Cells (ESC) into Lymphoid and Myeloid Hematopoietic Cells*.

Her research tested the hypothesis that BMP-4 signaling alone directs mouse ESC to differentiate into hematopoietic precursor cells. BMP-4 treated ESC from 129svJRI mice were infused *i.v.* into MRL mice and mixed chimerism was monitored by flow cytometry. Treated animals developed mixed chimerism by day 7 with both lymphoid and myeloid

lineages; non treated ESC developed modest mixed chimerism of lymphoid cells only. Proliferation of chimeric T cells was reduced compared to controls in mixed lymphocyte cultures against donor and third party stimulator cells. Skin allografts from third party controls were rejected but donor allografts showed prolonged survival.

Dr. Dowden obtained her M.D. from the University of Missouri, she was a resident at the Orlando Regional Medical Center and is now an Associate in the Department of Internal Medicine, University of Iowa. ☺



Amy Dowden

TTS Country Liaisons

Members of the global transplant community, invited by TTS to be liaisons with their regions and countries, will work with TTS to develop programs of education and guidelines of clinical practice particularly relevant to their geographical areas.

ARGENTINA	Domingo Casadei	ITALY	Emanuele Cozzi Francesco P. Schena	PERU	Abdias Hurtado
AUSTRALIA	Patrick Coates	JAPAN	Kazunari Tanabe Naoshi Shinozaki	PHILIPPINES	Enrique Ona Leonardo De Castro
AUSTRIA	Ferdinand Muehlbacher	JORDAN	Riad Al Said	POLAND	Wojciech Rowinski
BELGIUM	Daniel Abramowicz Jacques Pirenne	KOREA	Yu Seun Kim Jong Won Ha	SAUDI ARABIA	Faissal A. Shaheen Khalid Al-Meshari
BOLIVIA	Ricardo S. Arze	KUWAIT	Torke Al Otaibi Mustafa Al Mousawi	SINGAPORE	Anantharaman Vathsala
BOSNIA	Enisa Mesic	LATVIA	Inese Folkmane Rafail Rozental	SOUTH AFRICA	Delawir Kahn Mignon McCulloch
BRAZIL	Mario Abbud-Filho Valter Duro Garcia	LEBANON	Marwan Masri	SPAIN	Josep M. Grinyo Jose Morales Rafael Matesanz
BRUNEI	Hock Beng Chua	LIBYA	Ehtuish Ehtuish	SWEDEN	Jonas Wadstrom Michael Olausson Annika Tibell
CAMBODIA	Sok Hean Thong	MACEDONIA	Ninoslav Ivanoski	SWITZERLAND	Pierre Clavien
CANADA	Marcelo Cantarovich John Gill Lori West	MALAYSIA	Harjit Singh	SYRIA	Rania Derani
CHILE	Jorge Morales	MALDOVA	Igor Codreanu	TAIWAN	Che-Chuan Loong
COLOMBIA	Alonso Vera	MEXICO	Josefina Alberu	THAILAND	Vasant Sumethkul
COSTA RICA	Maria Matamoros	MONGOLIA	Lundeg Ganbold	TUNISIA	Mohamed Ben Ammar Aziz El Matri
CROATIA	Ines Humar	MOROCCO	Mohamed Gharbi Said Motaouakkil Lahoucine Barrou	TURKEY	Mehmet Haberal
CZECH REPUBLIC	Vladimir Holan	NETHERLANDS	Rutger Ploeg Willem Weimar	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Ali Al-Obaidli
EGYPT	Refaat Kamel Essam Elsayy	NEW ZEALAND	Ian David Dittmer Stephen Munn	UNITED KINGDOM	Rafael Chavez John L. R. Forsythe Chris Rudge
ESTONIA	Aleksander Lohmus	NIGERIA	Ademola Aderbidge	USA	Anil Chandraker Robert S. Gaston Olivia Martinez Timothy L. Pruett
FINLAND	Kaija Salmela	NORWAY	Ole Oyen	UZBEKISTAN	Ulugbek Yuldashev
FRANCE	Ignacio Anegon Christophe Legendre	OMAN	Nabil Mohsin	VIETNAM	Nguyen Thanh Liem
GERMANY	Uwe Heemann Johann Pratschke Guenter Kirste	PAKISTAN	S. A.Hassan Rizvi Anwar Naqvi		
GUADELOUPE	Christian Hiesse	PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA	Zhonghua Chen Shoubin Chen Jiefu Huang		
GUATEMALA	Rudolph Garcia-Gallont				
HONG KONG	Chung-Mau Lo Matthew Tong Ka-Foon Chau				
INDIA	Sanjay Kumar Agarwal				
INDONESIA	Wiguno Prodjosudjadi				
IRAN	Ahad J. Ghods Alizera Heidary Rouchi				
ISRAEL	Alexander Yussim				



Country Liaison Representatives at the meeting in San Francisco.

Successful new KOL meeting in Canada

The scientific program at Montreal's new Key Opinion Leader meeting was complemented by several initiatives used to promote TTS' ethical platform among Canadians.

Co-organizer Marcelo Cantarovich arranged for his father and world-renowned transplant professional, Félix Cantarovich, to speak at Medical Grand Rounds (on April 10, 2007) at the McGill University Health Centre. His discussion focussed on the role of education to increase organ donation.

Félix Cantarovich sees the role of transplant professionals not only to be educated on the benefits of transplantation for saving lives, but also to transmit that information to families and society at large.

In the same vein, TTS carried out a media relations operation at the meeting, calling for a national organ-sharing network in Canada.

With the collaboration of the Canadian Society of Transplantation Past President Lori West, TTS generated media coverage in major newspapers and television reaching an audience of over 2.5 million Canadians.

"Canadians should not have to travel abroad to buy their organs in the Philippines or China. TTS is hopeful that Canada will address its organ donation system and enhance its efficiency," Francis L. Delmonico, TTS' Director of Medical Affairs told media.

A new relationship for TTS has been forged with Margaret Somerville, founding director of the Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law at McGill University, who was a special guest at the opening reception of the meeting.

"I was particularly pleased to meet Drs. Tilney and Delmonico and have since been in contact with both of them to exchange ideas on ethics in general and transplantation ethics in particular," she said. "I will be speaking with Dr.

Delmonico in the future about how we might investigate establishing, what I call, a 'shared ethics' in relation to all aspects of organ transplantation. The global reality of organ transplantation is very challenging. The invitation to the Montreal meeting opened up the possibility of looking at this area with colleagues who have immense in-the-field experience, which is a wonderful serendipitous outcome for me."

TTS presented an impressive medical program, including sessions entitled Improving Results of Transplantation from Expanded Criteria Donors, Host Responsiveness, Malignancy and Transplantation, Immunological Graft Damage, Transplantation and Education in Developing Countries, and Chronic Allograft Dysfunction.

The meeting was sponsored by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals through an unrestricted educational grant and was hosted at the Marriott Chateau Champlain in March by Nicholas L. Tilney, Marcelo Cantarovich, and Kenneth A. West. ☺



Margaret Somerville



Participants visited Old Montreal and took in a sound and light show at the historic Notre-Dame Basilica.

OBITUARY Dr. Myron Kauffman (1933-2007)

TTS is saddened by the sudden passing of Dr. Myron Kauffman at home in June. He was a stalwart figure in transplantation throughout his long and distinguished career. He trained with David Hume at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond and was a member of the staff at Froedtert Hospital, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Having made many contributions to clinical transplantation, particularly during its earlier days when success was hardly assured, he dedicated the remainder of his career to UNOS, bringing that remarkable organization into the public eye nationally, and earning the respect of his international colleagues. The entire Society is in his debt; his colleagues and friends are deeply saddened. He will truly be missed.



Myron gave a wonderful talk at the April 2007 TTS New Key Opinion Leaders meeting in Montreal. (From left to right: John Neylan, Dr. Myron Kauffman, Mario Orlando and Sheila Talafofus of Wyeth Pharmaceuticals)



New KOLs Vicente Sánchez Polo of the Hospital General Guatemala and Randall Lou-Meda of the Guatemalan Foundation for Children with Kidney Diseases visited the TTS headquarters.

Halifax hosts Basic Science meeting

The 10th Basic Science Symposium of The Transplantation Society will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel and Conference Centre from **September 5-8, 2007**. The international program will focus on critical areas in transplantation including Innate Immunity, Tolerance, Stem Cells, Tolerance and Transplantation and Imaging of the Immune System. Visit www.bss2007.ca for further details.

Global leaders discuss intestinal transplantation in Los Angeles

Under the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) patronage and Douglas Farmer, the Xth International Small Bowel Transplant Symposium will take place in Los Angeles, California from **September 5-8, 2007**.

This is the twentieth year, as well as the tenth official symposium, for the Intestinal Transplantation Association. The meeting will be an interactive environment for the exchange of knowledge, both in the sciences as well as in clinical practice.

A preliminary program is available online at <http://transplant.mednet.ucla.edu/isbts2007/index.htm>. All scientists involved in the field of intestinal transplantation are invited to register for what will surely be an exciting scientific event.

CTS, IPITA and IXA Joint Meeting next month



The invited speaker program is in its final stages for the first Joint Meeting of the Cell Transplant Society (CTS), International Pancreas and Islet

Transplant Society (IPITA) and International Xenotransplantation Association (IXA). The meeting will be held in Minneapolis, MN at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Hotel from **September 15-20, 2007**.

Plenary sessions, the simultaneous symposia, workshops and posters will focus on Preservation, Pretreatment and Product Testing, Trends in Immunosuppression, Overcoming the Organ Shortage, Liver Replacement, Neural Tissue Replacement, Animal Engineering and Tissue Engineering and much more.

Abstract submission is now closed, but 472 abstracts were received from 26 countries,

promising an array of exciting topics. Travel awards, including 10 sponsored by TTS, will be available for high scoring abstracts by young investigators. All accepted abstracts will be published in the September issue of *Xenotransplantation*.

The program, which includes over 100 invited speakers, can be accessed at www.cts.ipita-ixa-2007.org.

TTS members invited to 3rd International Transplant Infectious Disease Conference

The Transplant Infectious Diseases Society has undergone some recent changes and has some exciting new initiatives underway. While Robert Rubin continues to provide strong leadership, Atul Humar (Canada) and Ben de Pauw (Netherlands) are actively moving the Section's goals forward.

To celebrate these recent changes, the Section would like to invite all TTS members to the 3rd International Transplant Infectious Disease Conference, to be held in conjunction with the 13th Congress of the European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT).

The meeting will be held in Prague, Czech Republic from **September 29-30, 2007** and the program will include presentations on Donor-derived Infections, Progress in Transplant Infectious Disease, and Herpesvirus Infections. Visit www.intmedpress.com/tid for more information and registration details.

Philadelphia hosts 2007 Organ Donation Congress



The 2007 Organ Donation Congress will be held at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel in Philadelphia, USA from **November 11-14, 2007**. This occasion marks the ninth meeting of the International Society for Organ Donation and Procurement (ISODP) and the sixth meeting of the International Transplant Coordinators Society (ITCS). The Congress program has been finalized and ISODP is proud to announce that manuscripts will be published in a special edition of *Transplantation Proceedings*. Abstract submission is now closed. For more information, visit www.isodp2007.org.

Mark your calendars: the 2009 Organ Donation Congress will be hosted in Berlin, Germany. ☺



Transplantation committed to educating transplant community worldwide

TTS is working hand-in-hand with the editors of *Transplantation* to shorten the time of article submission to first decision and publication. Together they have shortened the timeframe to 21 days for first decision, which demonstrates improvement on past practices.

"We have tight links with TTS and look forward to building a stronger relationship," said Manikkan Suthanthiram, editor of *Transplantation* at a recent meeting with TTS in San Francisco.

"Our relationship with *Transplantation* is fundamental for the society in sharing best practices and scientific discoveries in the field of transplantation," said President-elect Jeremy Chapman at the same meeting.

Transplantation (<http://www.transplantation-soc.org/journals.php>) is the most cited and influential journal in the field (with over 20,000 citations a year). Published twice monthly, *Transplantation* provides extensive coverage of the most important advances in the field. Expert researchers and clinicians from around the world contribute original articles, overviews and brief reports in every pertinent specialty.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Visit our website at www.transplantation-soc.org

Simplified online membership application

Previously, new members could only complete their application by securing two sponsors' letters from current TTS members. Now, this process will be done through email with the following sponsorship selections available on the application website:

SPONSOR 1 Applicants must choose from a list of TTS Officers as a first sponsor. New applicants can also enter the name of any TTS member, but the applicant must provide the member's full name, country and email address.

SPONSOR 2 Applicants can select a TTS Country Liaison Representative or propose another TTS member as a sponsor as described for Sponsor 1.

Once the application is submitted an automatic email will be sent to the Sponsors stating the new applicant's name along with a short summary of the applicant. Sponsors will reply by email to the Membership Services Manager, Frank Lindo-Verissimo, indicating if they do or do not accept the proposed candidate for membership. Sponsor 1 and 2 must concur for the applicant to be awarded membership.

Pay dues online

TTS and Section membership dues must now be paid online. If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so immediately as you may lose access to all your benefits, including free online access to *Transplantation*. To pay, visit www.transplantation-soc.org. Once logged in, you can pay your dues and purchase your journals. *Transplantation* and all Section journals are available through this service.

UPCOMING TTS MEETINGS

For a comprehensive list of all meetings occurring in the transplant field, please check out www.transplantation-soc.org click on Meetings & Events on the homepage.

Basic Science Symposium 2007 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada September 5 to 8, 2007

Westin Nova Scotian Hotel and
Conference Center

www.bss2007.ca

Xth International Small Bowel Transplantation Symposium Santa Monica, CA, USA

September 5 to 8, 2007

Fairmont-Miramar Hotel

www.transplant.mednet.ucla.edu/isbts2007

Joint Meeting of CTS, IXA, and IPITA

Minneapolis, MN, USA

September 15 to 20, 2007

HYATT REGENCY MINNEAPOLIS HOTEL

www.cts-ipita-ixa-2007.org

3rd Infectious Disease Society Meeting

Prague, Czech Republic

September 29-30, 2007

Prague Congress Centre

www.intmedpress.com/tid

2007 Organ Donation Congress (9th ISODP and 6th ITCS)

Philadelphia, PA, USA

November 11 to 14, 2007

Loews Philadelphia Hotel

www.isodp2007.org



XXII International Congress of The Transplantation Society

Sydney, Australia

August 10 to 14, 2008

Sydney Convention Centre

www.transplantation2008.org

KEY DATES:

APRIL 1, 2007 Abstract submissions open

MARCH 10, 2008 Deadline for submissions

MAY 6, 2008 Abstract acceptance advised

MAY 26, 2008 Early registration incentive closes

AUGUST 10 - 14, 2008 Congress

COME SEE BERLIN IN 2012!



Berlin's Brandenburg Reichstag

Germany's capital and biggest city, Berlin, has been selected as the site for the XXIV International Congress of The Transplantation Society. With over 600 ballots cast, the members' vote was a very tight race with Berlin edging out Gothenburg.

THE TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY OFFICERS

To consolidate its position as the leading global organization, the Council now has representation from all six regions of the world: North America; Latin America; Europe; Africa-Middle East; Oceania; and Asia.

OFFICERS

Nicholas L. Tilney
President

Kathryn Wood
Immediate Past-President

Jeremy Chapman
President-Elect

Megan Sykes
Vice-President

Richard D.M. Allen
Senior Treasurer

Ron Shapiro
Junior Treasurer

Hans Sollinger
Secretary

Francis L. Delmonico
Director of Medical Affairs

COUNCILLORS
Maggie Dallman (Europe)

Henrik Ekberg (Europe)

John Fung (North America)

Mehmet A. Haberal
(Middle East & Africa)

Barry D. Kahan
(North America)

Stephen Lynch (Oceania)

Camillo Ricordi
(North America)

Oscar Salvatierra, Jr.
(North America)

Manikkam Suthanthiran
(North America)

Koichi Tanaka (Asia)

Yves Vanrenterghem
(Europe)

Federico Villamil
(Latin America)

International Headquarters
Filomena Picciano, Director
of Society Operations