



SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

August 2006

NEWSLETTER 1/2006

Introduction by the new President – Hannes Wacha, Germany

The aim of my presidential year will be to attract new members, especially young people interested in surgical infections. Our main interest should be clinical aspects and new developments in minimal invasive surgery in the field of infections. Cooperation with pharmaceutical companies should be strengthened. We are presently opening a platform (to be seen at the web-site www.sis-e-frankfurt.de, button MPI II) for the registration of all kinds of intra-abdominal infections. The aim is to build up a European network on intra-abdominal infections, in order to identify study centres of high quality for future studies. This project is supported by the PEG (Paul-Ehrlich Gesellschaft für Chemotherapie), der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Chirurgie and by the SIE-E. The electronic documentation system will be installed and access will be possible with a certain code. More information will be available soon.

Business Meeting, Athens, Greece, May 27 2006

1. President's report – R Függer, Austria

The President thanked Stefanos Geroulanos for organizing the congress, which was very successful, both scientifically and socially.

2. Secretary's report – JE Wang, Norway

1. Membership: There are now 142 members. A list of 24 new members was presented for approval by the membership (see page 7 for list of new members). In addition, corporate membership has been offered to Kimberly-Clark Health Care.

2. Journal: Lilly S.A. is paying for 100 subscriptions of *Surgical Infections* for 2004 through 2006. Regarding 2007, negotiations with Lilly S.A will be continued by Dr. M. Cainzos and the secretary. It was agreed at the Business meeting that from 2007 only those members who had paid their membership fees for 2006 will continue to receive *Surgical Infections*, and other membership benefits.

3. Treasurer's report – U Schoffel, Germany

The Treasurer presented a written Report for 2005 (Table 1). The total expenses were 17,933,98,- euros in 2005. The total income was 7,278,60, giving a negative balance of 10,603,56 euros. This was partly because revenues from bank interest went down from about 5,000 E in 2004 to virtually nothing in 2005. This was due to a change of banking arrangements from the Netherlands to Switzerland. In the same period, revenues from Membership dues went up from 2,108 E in 2004 to 7,149 E in 2005. Assets as at December 31, 2005 were 104,220.01 Euro.

The Treasurer reported that the SIS-E share of the profit from the Miami congress in 2005 was about 10,000,- E, but that this amount had not yet been transferred from Stratagem. In addition, a profit of 60,000,- E had been realised from the internet course. This sum had been transferred to SIS-E in January 2006, with outstanding bills for advertising of about 10,000,- E.

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SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

Table 1: Balance for SIS-E in 2005 (all numbers in Euro). Numbers in brackets are values from the previous year, 2004.

Assets per December 31 2004:	114 823.57 Euro	
Expenses 2005:		
<u>Operating expenditures:</u>		
Bankcharges:	265,59	(282)
Conference Management	0	(1840)
Secreteriat	0.00	(0)
Website	1244,34	(1244)
<u>Travel reimbursements:</u>		
Secretary (SIS NA Council)	1740,98	(2512)
Past President (SIS, ticket)	1211,27	
Recorder (SIS NA)	941.50	
<u>Miami:</u>		
Prizes	500,00	(500)
Semmelweis Lect (F.Gottrup)	2124,21	(1379)
Innovatim, NJ (USD 2.250)	1739,90	
<u>Council Meetings:</u>		
Zurich (01/05)	4348,62	(7013)
Zurich (10/05)	3817,57	(3737)
Total:	17933,98	(28883)
Income 2005:		
Membership Dues (2004/2005):	7149,40	(2108)
Bank interests:	181,02	(5020)
Total:	7278.60	
Balance:	- 10603,56	(21604)
Assets per December 31, 2005:	104220,01	(114823)



SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

4. Recorder's report – M Cakmakci, Turkey

The deadline for submission of abstracts for the 19th European Congress on Surgical Infections had been fixed as December 15 2005. By that date 141 abstracts had been submitted in electronic form through the SIS-E website, from 20 different countries

Abstracts were divided into three categories: (1) experimental, (2) healthcare related infections and (3) specific infections. Twelve reviewers were requested to review at least two of the three categories, ed by awarding points for (a) innovativeness, (b) methodology, and (c) relevance, and to award each aspect from 0 to 3 points.

The results were collected and pooled at the end of December. The highest and lowest scores for each abstract were ignored and abstracts were then ranked accordingly to their mean score. The mean scores ranged from 7.1 to 0.9.

The Council decided to limit the number of oral presentation to forty and, in addition, to accept all relevant studies for poster presentation. Two studies were rejected, one due to language problems and the other for total discordance with the congress theme. 139 abstracts were accepted.

Eight of the authors in the top 40 group expressed a wish to have a poster presentation. Oral presentations were, therefore, chosen from the 48 top ranked submissions. Abstracts of all the orals and these eight posters were sent to Surgical Infections for publication in the April edition

After discussion between the SISE council and the local organising committee, 31 late abstracts were also accepted as poster presentations This made a total of 172 presentations; 40 oral and 132 posters.

There were 3 oral and 3 poster prizes. The top 10 oral presentations and the poster presentations that received highest score in the original review process were reviewed again to decide on the prizes.

The Recorder raised the question of how long after the deadline (if any) should abstracts be accepted. This year, abstracts were submitted until a few weeks before the congress making organisation very difficult. He proposed that we clearly indicate before the submission dead-line that only abstracts submitted before the dead-line of Dec 15th (for next year) will be eligible for oral presentations and prizes. Abstracts submitted after the deadline may be accepted for poster presentation at the discretion of the Recorder, but will not be published in Surgical Infections.

The Recorder also mentioned the problem that the abstracts are forwarded automatically to the Secretary and Recorder, without being saved at the central server of the on-line submission system. Abstracts may be lost if there is a problem with the Secretary's or Recorder's server. He proposed that for future congresses, abstracts are also saved by the webmaster's server.

5. 19th European Congress on Surgical Infections, Athens 2006 – S Geroulanos, Greece

The 19th European Congress on Surgical Infections took place in Athens, Greece May 25-27 2006. A great effort was put in by all involved and the congress was organized with high quality and with good attendance.

First Announcement leaflets (12,000) were distributed to surgeons, anaesthesiologists, intensivists, infections control specialists, microbiologists as well as to nursing personnel. The leaflets of the Second Announcement including the Preliminary Program and Call for Abstracts (2,000 pcs) were

www.sis-e.org



SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

distributed to all members of SIS-E and SIS NA, Greek physicians, but possibly too late for other interested groups in Europe. The deadline for Abstract submissions was prolonged.

Thanks to the efforts of the Council and immediate scoring, 40 oral presentations along with 132 poster presentations were selected among approx. 300 submissions. 29 posters were accepted from the Hellenic Society of Surgical Infections.

The program proved to be more international than European, as was originally expected, with a good penetration into the local medical community reflected in the large Greek participation (> 50%).

The Congress was officially declared open by H.E. the Greek Minister of Health, represented by the Government's spokesman Mr. E. Antonaros, and Social Solidarity spokesman Mr. D. Avramopoulos. The Presidents of the Hellenic Surgical Society, Prof. Th. Polymeropoulos, and of the Hellenic Society of Surgical Infections, Prof. T. Gerassimidis, as well as the President of SIS-E, Prof. R. Fuegger, also spoke to welcome the audience. There followed a lecture on *Asklepios & Asklepieia* and a Defillee with Greek folk-dances.

The Presidential Lecture by Prof R. Fuegger examined the issue: *Why do patients die postoperatively?*. The Semmelweis Lecture was held by Prof J. Meakins was entitled: *The Surgeon: an immunomodulator*. The Young Investigator's Lecture was given by Dr V. Kahlke. There were 8 Dinosaur Lectures, 3 Expert's Lectures, 5 Symposia (one especially for nursing personnel), 2 Debates, 8 Free Papers Sessions and 12 poster Sessions.

Additionally, 6 Satellite Symposia were organized which were sponsored by Merck Sharp & Dohme, Kimberley-Clark Health Care, Bayer HealthCare, Pfizer Hellas, Johnson & Johnson Hellas and Wyeth. These symposia discussed topical issues on surgical infections.

The Congress closed on Saturday, 27th of May with the lecture of Prof M. West on *Knowledge and Truth, Answers and Questions*.

There were about 500 registered participants to the Congress representing 30 different countries, even from the most distant destinations, like Australia, Japan, South Africa and USA.

There was a sightseeing program for the accompanying persons.

The Welcome reception, Gala dinner and the opportunity to take an excursion to Sounion gave us the opportunity to strengthen our friendship and good relations.

6. 20th European Congress on Surgical Infections, Frankfurt 2007 – H Wacha, Germany

The Congress in 2007 will take place in the centre of Frankfurt in the Arabella Grand Hotel Sheraton on May 17. – 20. The overnight stay will be not more than Euro 200,-. Hotels with lower prices are near by.

First announcements of the Congress in 2007 have been distributed at several national and international congresses. The local committee has been constituted and includes:

- Prof. Schmitz-Rixen, Chairman of the Department of Vascular Surgery, University of Frankfurt

www.sis-e.org



SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

- Prof. Zegelmann, Chairman of the Department of Vascular and Thoracic Surgery, Northwest-Krankenhaus, Frankfurt
- Prof. Bechstein, Chairman of the Department of General Surgery, University of Frankfurt.

The committee is already working, discussing topics and potential speakers for different contributions.

Several pharmaceutical industries have agreed to sponsor our meeting in Frankfurt..

The dead-line for abstract submission is December 15, 2006. All abstracts are submitted on-line at our home page: www.sis-e.org.

7. The 21st European Congress on Surgical Infections is to be held in Istanbul, Turkey in 2008. It will be organized by M Cakmakci.

No dates have yet been announced.

Awards and Honors in Athens

- Semmelweiss Lecture:** Jonathan Meakins, Oxford, UK
Title: *The Surgeon: an immunomodulator.*
- Young Investigator Lecture:** Volker Kahlke, Germany
Title: *Gender in Surgery & Sepsis: Does gender really matter?*

1. Oral Presentation Prizes (250,- euros each):

1st Prize: Shane D. Killeen, Cork, Ireland

Bacterial endotoxin enhances colorectal cancer cell adhesion and invasion through TLR-4 and NF- κ B dependent activation of the urokinase plasminogen activator system

2nd Prize: Luca Gianotti, Milano, Italy

Effect of interleukin 2 (IL-2) administration on intestinal dendritic cells and lymphocytes in patients with colon carcinoma

3rd Prize: O. Van Ruler, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Available scoring systems to predict ongoing local intra-abdominal infection in patients with secondary peritonitis and the need for relaparotomy

2. Poster Presentation Prizes (250,- euros each):

1st Prize: Yngar Gundersen, Oslo, Norway

Prolonged physical exertion, energy depletion, and sleep deprivation prime circulating leukocytes

2nd Prize: TE Ruud, Oslo, Norway

Activation of cytokine synthesis by lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and peptidoglycan (PepG) in an in vivo and in vitro porcine model

3rd Prize: Jesus Culebras, Leon, Spain

Effect of N-acetyl cysteine administration on survival in an animal model of fulminant hepatic failure

www.sis-e.org



SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

Internet course Surgical Infections – Miguel Cainzos, Spain

A total of 753 people did the course in 2005; 54 members of SIS-E or SIS, 99 non-members and 600 Spanish surgeons paid by Muta Madrileña Foundation. The participants come from 20 different countries and 18 different specialties.

In 2006, two new chapters have been added to the course, which now contains 35 chapters.

The course has been widely advertised in Spain in 2005, and at international congresses. Dr. Cainzos has entered into a contract with World Journal of Surgery for 3 full-page exposures in 2006 (2,883,- Euros) and for similar exposure in Journal American College of Surgeons (10,887,- Euros).

In addition to advertisement in journals, there is a need to promote the course in different countries world-wide. In particular, each council member has agreed to seek industry sponsorship and national accreditation for the course in their respective countries

Dr. Cainzos is in the process of applying for accreditation from the office for medical education in EU.

The President thanked Dr. Cainzos for his great achievement and success with the Internet course.

New Members

Since the congress in Miami in 2005, there were 24 new members that were officially approved by the general assembly of SIS-E in Athens, many of whom joined the SIS-E due to their interest to participate at the internet course. The new members are:

Fabio Berizzi	Italy
Richard Bracy	Scotland
Sema Cavus	Turkey
Jan De Waele	Belgium
Christian Eckmann	Germany
Firmin Fivez	Turkey
Uwe Fröschl	Austria
Francisca Garcia-Morena	Spain
Ari Leppäniemi	Finland
Dale Maharaj	Trinidad/West Indies
Konstantinos Mammias	Greece
Petros Michos	Greece
Mirko Omejc	Slovenia
Pietro Padalino	Italy
Stefanos Papadopolous	Greece
Parevski Papaioanni	Greece
Andre Perejaslov	Ukraine

www.sis-e.org



SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

Pieter Pletinckx	Belgium
Iyer Ranganatha	India
Alexey Severtsev	Russia
Rishabha Sharma	UK
Jasenska Skrlin	HRV
Michael Wüning	Germany
Yuichi Yoshida	Japan

The new SIS-E council

This year the membership was invited to propose candidates for the new President Elect, Treasurer and Councillor-at-large. The following were nominated and approved:

President Elect:	Ulrich Schoeffel, Germany
Treasurer:	Michael Heinzelmann, Switzerland

There was no nomination for Councillor-at-large, and this position will remain vacant until next year.

The new SIS-E council is:

President:	Hannes Wacha, Frankfurt, Germany
President Elect:	Ulrich Schöffel, Lindenberg, Germany
Past President:	Reinhold Függer, Linz, Austria
Secretary:	Jacob E. Wang, Oslo, Norway
Recorder:	Metin Cakmakci, Istanbul, Turkey
Treasurer:	Michael Heinzelmann, Zürich, Switzerland
Councilor-at-large:	J. Calvin Coffey, Cork, Ireland
Councilor-at-large:	Jesus Culebras, Leon, Spain

SIS-NA – Lena Napolitano, Mich. USA

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Surgical Infection Society that was held April 27-29th, 2006 in La Jolla, California was another superb meeting. We had more than 200 attendees and those present heard a superb group of papers and posters. The setting in La Jolla was wonderful.

Alfred Ayala and the Program Committee assembled another excellent program. The Presidential Address entitled “Making Progress in an Enlightened Era: Opportunities and Obstacles” delivered by Timothy R. Billiar, M.D. was inspiring. This year’s Altemeier Lecture was delivered by Polly C. E. Matzinger, Ph.D. from the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland and was entitled “Danger, Damage, and Ancient Alarm Signals for the Immune System”. Her lecture was met with enthusiasm from all. Also, this year’s Annual Meeting featured three Sunrise Symposia and two Luncheon Symposia that were made possible by Unrestricted Educational Grants from Kimberly-Clark, Merck, Pfizer, Schering Plough and Wyeth.

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SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

If you have not already done so, please submit your manuscripts from your meeting presentations to our journal, *Surgical Infections*. Please note that these can now be submitted electronically at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/surgicalinfections>.

Changes in SIS Leadership: During the Business Meeting, Dr. Edwin Deitch thanked the Society for the opportunity to serve as President and welcomed Dr. Timothy Billiar as the incoming President of the Surgical Infection Society for 2006-2007. The new President-Elect is Dr. John Marshall. Dr. Henri Ford was elected Treasurer replacing Dr. Stephen Lowry. Other newly elected committee members: Dr. Avery Nathens replaces Dr. William Cheadle as a Councilor-at-Large; Dr. Ping Wang will serve as Chair of the Education and Fellowship Committee; Dr. Daniel Meldrum has accepted appointment as the Chair of the Membership Committee replacing Dr. Walter Biffel; and Dr. David Hackam was added as a member of the Editorial Board of the journal, *Surgical Infections*.

Membership: During the past year, the following new members were welcomed at our Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting: *Louis H. Alarcon, M.D.; Daniel A. Anaya, M.D.; Kelly Bochicchio, R.N., B.S.N.; Changhua Chen, M.D.; Jeffrey Claridge, M.D.; Stephen DiRusso, M.D.; David T. Efron, M.D.; Jie Fan, M.D.; Mitchell S. Farber, M.D.; Vincente H. Gracias, M.D.; Jeremy Goverman, M.D.; Cynthia L. Leaphart, M.D.; Manuel Lorenzo, M.D.; Sherry M. Melton, M.D.; Chet A. Morrison, M.D.; Douglas Paull, M.D.; Donald A. Reiff, M.D.; Christopher M. Scott, Ph.D.; Rodolfo Soto, M.D.; Tracey Toliver-Kinskey, Ph.D.; Shirin Towfigh, M.D.; Jay A. Yelon, D.O.; Qun S. Zang, Ph.D.; Brian S. Zuckerbraun, M.D.* Our membership stands at a total of 501 members: 426 active members; 74 senior members; and 1 honorary member. We encourage you to seek new members to apply to our organization.

SIS Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, April 18-20, 2007: Information regarding registration and reservations for this meeting will be coming soon to the SIS web site. All SIS members should mark their calendar and plan to attend this important Society meeting. Please note that the meeting days have changed. Historically our meetings have been held from Thursday to Saturday at noon. This year the meeting will start at noon on Wednesday, April 18, 2007 and continue through Friday, April 20, 2007.

Abstract Deadline: The 2006 Call for Abstracts for the SIS Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting will open October 1, 2006. The Abstract deadline is December 1, 2006. All completed submissions will be forwarded to the Abstract Review Committee. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Alfred Ayala, Ph.D., Recorder of the Surgical Infection Society at ayala@lifespan.org. An abstract application form and instructions can be found on the SIS web site <http://www.sisna.org>.

Journal *Surgical Infections* – Philip Barie, New York, USA

Members of the Surgical Infection Society-Europe are invited to send original manuscripts representing their best work to, the official journal of the society. Manuscripts of presentations at the Nineteenth Annual Congress on Surgical Infections, held in Athens, Greece in May, 2006, are especially welcomed, as are original manuscripts, review articles, and noteworthy case reports.

Surgical Infections now uses online submission and manuscript review, which has increased the number of submissions, improved processing times, and facilitated bimonthly publication, which began in January, 2006. Listed in Index Medicus and now in Volume 7 of publication, *Surgical Infections* should be your first choice for publication of relevant work. Instructions for authors may be found at

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SURGICAL INFECTION SOCIETY
-EUROPE-

http://www.liebertpub.com/manuscript.aspx?pub_id=53. Submit all manuscripts at
<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/surgicalinfection>.

On behalf of the Associate Editor, Lena M. Napolitano MD, Secretary, Surgical Infection Society, we look forward to your submissions.

We wish SIS-E members a successful year in 2006, and look forward to seeing you in Frankfurt next year.

Sincerely,

Jacob E. Wang
Secretary, SIS-E

Reinhold Függer
President, SIS-E 2005/2006

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