The New Extra is the annual update of ISCEV news with important information for ISCEV voting members. The main news item is, of course, our XLIV International Symposium, held at the beautiful Abbey of Fontevraud in France last month. There will be a full "recollections" in the 2007 Newsletter, but for now all who attended want to say "thank you" to Florence Rigaudière and all her team for the wonderful Symposium. Now we understand the origin of "joie de vivre"!

**THE FUTURE AND SCOPE OF ISCEV**

We must ‘reach out’ and ‘stand out’ – these mottos from the President’s opening speech at the Symposium resonated throughout the 2006 ISCEV meetings. As a close-knit society with concentrated expertise, ISCEV must monitor its quality and scope to thrive. We need to stand out in the quality of our research, education, support and clinical standards. ISCEV must also reach out to the broader scientific and clinical communities including ophthalmology, neurology and veterinary medicine, and we need to strike a balance to encompass new technology without diluting our expert authority.

This may sound lofty but we are taking concrete steps; this year the Board voted to open our online discussion group, CEV.net, to non-members. ISCEV has a growing presence at courses and scientific conferences throughout the world. Our journal, Documenta Ophthalmologica, has just announced its restored and improved impact factor! an outstanding achievement for all contributors but especially for our dedicated former editor-in-chief, J Vernon Odom (1998–2005). Now with our new editor, Laura Frishman we continue to stand out and to reach out; two new special issues are in preparation, “Electrophysiologic assessment in the mouse visual system” and “Retinal imaging and electrophysiologic assessment in retinal disease”

**2006 ISCEV ELECTIONS**

We will choose two new members for the ISCEV Board of Directors. Both positions are members-at-large with no geographic restrictions. And once again we will decide the venue for an upcoming Symposium between two generous offers to host the 2009 International Symposium in Europe, for eligibility and procedures see <www.ISCEV.org/bye-laws/>. (Numbered ballots have been sent by airmail to be returned by post or fax.)

**VOTE FOR THE 2006 ISCEV EOG AND PERG STANDARDS**

For the first time, ISCEV members are also asked to vote by ballot to adopt new standards. In the past, ISCEV standards have been adopted by voting at the annual general meeting. This year final drafts of the EOG and PERG standards were not available soon enough to allow proper advance consideration; in fact the Board agreed at the 2006 meeting that one month is the minimum time between posting proposed standards and voting to adopt those standards. A membership forum for each proposed standard was held in 2005 at the Glasgow Symposium and the respective committees have revised and circulated further drafts. Final drafts are posted on the ISCEV website <www.ISCEV.org>. Please send your comments to the committee chairs and use your vote.

**Voting Deadline: 15 August 2006.**
Personal Statement:
I straddle the world of vitreoretinal surgery, drug trials, clinical electrophysiology and a nascent interest in animal electrophysiology. I see the following challenges and prospects as a member of the ISCEV board:

1. Centers of excellence in electrophysiology exist in some cities. We now need to spread these to those areas where resources to sustain these are increasingly available and large populations in need of these services exist. This would have multiple beneficial effects including additional scientific and intellectual content, collaborative partnerships, broad base making services cost-effective, and much-needed growth of industry.

2. Human resource development through continuing education including special issues of the journal, seminars, workshops, ISCEV approved courses, and joint meetings with local Ophthalmological associations. This will create an educated community of interested participants and service providers.

3. Ensuring quality control across animal and clinical laboratories to achieve meaningful growth.

In case of my election I will strive tirelessly in facing and overcoming these challenges, taking the entire spectrum of our wonderful membership along.

Current Position:
Associate Ophthalmologist (Retina), L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, India. Daily work includes vitreoretinal surgery especially in children, management of hereditary retinal dystrophies conducting clinical trials, teaching and training. In charge of Clinical Electrophysiology: besides doing clinical electrophysiology we run a one-month hands-on fellowship, first such in India. In charge of the ROP Programme: In addition to treating babies, I was instrumental in setting up the first formal one-month hands-on fellowship in ROP in India.

Training and Experience:

Recipient of the Sight Savers grant, UK (2003-2005) for ROP; Co-investigator, in international multicentric drug trials on retinal diseases; Co-investigator in Genetic study of autosomal Recessive Retinitis pigmentosa (NEI, USA).

ISCEV-related Participation
Regular participant, presenter and Member since 1999. Received travel grant in 1999. Mr. LS Mohan Ram, ophthalmic technician, in our centre received the prestigious Dodt award (2000). Lectured in few CME on electrophysiology held in India. Organized the first ISCEV-approved course in India (2005) that has brought ISCEV to India and Indians to ISCEV! Organizing secretary for the annual ISCEV conference to be held at Hyderabad in August 2007.

Selected Publications: (from over 150 presentations and 60 publications.)
Mineo Kondo  Candidate for Member-at-Large

Personal Statement:
I am pleased and honored to be considered as a candidate for an at-large member of the ISCEV Board. Since the Banff meeting in 1994, I have made oral presentations nearly every year at the ISCEV and ISCEV@ARVO meetings. My special interest is on the use of photopic ERGs and focal ERGs in diagnosing clinical diseases, but I have also spent a considerable amount of time in the laboratory performing functional analysis of the ERGs in mice and monkeys. One example of these investigations was a study in monkeys on the origin of different components of the ERG using glutamate analogs (Ref. 5,10). I have also contributed to establishing the ISCEV standard for multifocal ERGs, and have worked as an associate editor for DOOP.

I am very proud to be a member of ISCEV, a leading society in the ophthalmological field for more than 40 years. Members of this society have been leaders in using electrophysiological techniques to learn more about the fundamental properties of the visual system, and the members have transferred these techniques to diagnose clinical diseases.

There has recently been a dramatic increase in the interest of clinical electrophysiological techniques and use in Asian countries. This interest arises directly from the outreach of ISCEV and DOOP. If elected as an at-large member of the ISCEV Board, I plan to continue not only to expand the membership of ISCEV, but also to stimulate the new members to use electrophysiological techniques to study the visual system in humans and animals.

Current Position
Assistant Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology, Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya, Japan.

Training and Experience
- MD, Kanazawa University School of Medicine (1991)
- Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University (1994-1997), PhD (Medical Science)
- Lecturer, Ophthalmology, Nagoya University Hospital (1998-2001)
- Research Fellow, Ophthalmology, University of Michigan. (Prof. Sieving, 1999-2001)
- Assistant Professor, Ophthalmology, Nagoya University School of Medicine (2002- )

Committees and Society Membership
- ARVO (since 1993), ISCEV (since 1994)
- Associate Editor of Documenta Ophthalmologica
- Board Member of Japanese Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision
- Council Member of Japanese Ophthalmological Society

Selected Publications:
Dorothy Thompson  Candidate for Member-at-Large

Personal Statement
If elected member at large I would do my best to actively promote the aims of ISCEV and encourage younger members to join. From my first talk in Palermo ISCEV 1987 I have valued the encouragement & multi-disciplinary advice that ISCEV offers to junior members. As a more ‘mature’ ISCEV member I increasingly appreciate the rich cultural diversity and welcome of ISCEV symposia. This is the ISCEV I have grown up with, but other elements, e.g. genetics, cortical and retinal imaging technologies, are becoming integrated into clinical visual electrophysiology practice and ISCEV will develop and embrace these aspects, and become a wider society.

In the last few years I have been able to promote clinical visual electrophysiology during lectures at scientific and ophthalmological meetings across Europe, as a faculty member of the UK ISCEV course at Moorfields (2000-2006), with a British Council Partnership in Science award with Prof. dr. Jelka Brecelj in Slovenia and by co-organising and chairing meetings at the Institute of Child Health, UCL, UK. I am on the BriSCEV board and have been involved with training junior scientists and promotion of Clinical Visual Electrophysiology as a specialty of the Clinical Scientist Profession in the UK.

I welcome ISCEV’s plans to become larger, but as they do the role of the member at large will enlarge. I see that role as bridging the gap between the membership and the Board. I promise to listen to the membership and to voice their needs and desires to the Board.

Current position
Consultant Clinical Scientist, Head of the Tony Kriss Visual Electrophysiology Unit, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, & Honorary Senior Lecturer, Visual Sciences, Institute of Child Health, University College London, UK.

Training and Experience
• BSc (hons) Optometry and Visual Science, followed by 7 years basic science visual electrophysiology under the mentorship of Prof Neville Drasdo in the Clinical Neurophysiology Unit Aston University UK, headed by Prof Graham Harding.
• PhD 1987 Spatial Tuning of the pattern ERG examined by Prof Arden
• Leverhulme Trust Post-doc Fellowship
• Wellcome Trust Vision Fellowship: brain mapping multiple specialised cortical areas
• Clinical paediatric visual electrophysiology 1992 with Dr Tony Kriss & Prof David Taylor, & an adult ERG service at the National Hospital for Nervous diseases in Queen’s Square, London with Dr Steve Jones.

Chapters:


Sample Papers:


Personal Statement:
I am committed to ISCEV. For over 10 years I have been a member and have attended annual meetings since 1994. With members of my lab I have given 23 ISCEV presentations. Pediatric electrophysiology is my specialty and good science and mentorship goals I strive for.

These commitments are evidenced by 57 peer reviewed publications, invited lectures, peer reviewed grant funding, Documenta Ophth. editorial board member and successful graduate thesis defenses. My student Sharon Morong won the Eberhard Dodt award in 2002. I compiled pediatric normal ERG data which will provide support for upcoming pediatric guidelines. I am a supervisor of trainees and recipient of the University of Toronto Institute of Medical Sciences mentorship award. Interacting with members of ISCEV provides exciting opportunities of sharing of ideas ranging from how to isolate a true waveform to the continuing evolution of visual electrophysiology and its place as the genotyping of eye disease progresses and treatments become a reality. As member at large I would help foster growth of a society enthusiastic for ideas, teaching and mentoring where members can believe that their opinions count. I welcome, support and will work to increase further diversity in ISCEV which welcomes membership from the electrophysiology, scientific, ophthalmology and optometry communities from around the world.

Current Position
Professor of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences and member Institute of medical Sciences, University of Toronto. Associate Senior Scientist The Research Institute Brain and Behaviour Program and Director of Visual Electrophysiology, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto.

Training and Experience:
1978 BSc (hons) Optometry; 1981 MSc Physiological Optics, Indiana University, USA; 1984 PhD University of California, Berkeley, USA; Post doctoral research Fellow, University of Wales, Cardiff.

Committees and Society Memberships (partial list):
ARVO, diversity issues committee.
Vice Chair Diplomat Committee, American Academy Optometry.
Fellow American Academy Optometry since 1993.

Selected Publications:
Proposed dates: Sunday 5th to Thursday 9th July 2009

Padova is a beautiful town in the North East of Italy. It has a long history stretching back long before the Romans came. Padova flourished as a centre of trade, learning and, after 1230, of pilgrimage. In the Middle Ages it was ruled by powerful local Lords, but in the early 15th century it came under Venetian domination, a part of the Serenissima republic.

The University of Padova was founded in 1222: Galileo Galilei taught here and many great scientists and doctors came from all over Europe to study.

Padova is famous for the Basilica of St Anthony, the frescoes by Giotto, Altichiero, Menabuoi, Mantegna, Donatello, Titian... And Padova is only 12 km from where I will be honoured to host our Symposium: Abano Terme.

This small town lies at the foot of the Euganean hills, it was already a famous spa town in Roman times and, today, is the largest spa town in the world.

The ISCEV 2009 Symposium will be held at Abano’s International Congress Centre situated downtown.

Accommodation: There are many different classes of hotels within 2-10 mins walk of the Congress Centre. For people who choose to rent a car there are many beautiful B&B farmhouses in the area and well equipped campsites too.

Access: Venice, Marco Polo, is the closest airport. There is a direct bus connection from the airport to Abano Terme, but collective taxi transport or shuttles will be easy to organise.

Hospitality and Social program: there are almost too many activities available!

- A visit to Padova: we could have the opening ceremony at the Palazzo della Ragione (built 1218) and enjoy its ancient medieval atmosphere.
- A river cruise from Padova to Venice visiting some of the fascinating Villas that line the river: the summer homes of the Venetian aristocracy.
- Discovery the art of restoring ancient manuscripts and of the traditional monastic herbalists at the Benedictine Abbey of Praglia.
- One morning could be dedicated to a “remise en forme” and beauty treatments with mud and inhalation therapy, balneotherapy, hydrokinesotherapy...
- A visit to the villas or castles scattered throughout the province of Padova, many by Palladio who was born in Padova.
- A morning of light sporting activity, seeing the countryside on bikes.
- An “after Symposium” golf tournament could be organised in one of the four fine golf courses on the Euganean hills.

The period chosen is propitious (and hotel prices particularly good for a one week reservation) for those of you who want to prolong your stay in Italy. This would mean you could maybe attend an opera performance in the Roman Arena of Verona, visit nearby Venice, the Dolomites, or enjoy the magical atmosphere of the Delta del Po, a national nature reserve...

Other information:

- http://www.turismopadova.it/
- http://www.abanomontegrotto.it/
- http://www.unipd.it/
- http://www.ortobotanico.unipd.it/
- http://www.dolomiti.org/
- http://www.basilicadelsanto.org/
- http://www.cappelladegliscrovegni.it/
- http://www.arena.it/

Invitation: Alma Patrizia Tormene

We are pleased to invite you to the 47th annual ISCEV symposium in Slovenia. The symposium would take place in our capital town Ljubljana at the end of June. Scientific programme will cover many interesting themes, as also ‘Functional imaging in clinical use’ and ‘Pediatric Electrophysiology’.

Location: Ljubljana is a city of 300,000 citizens and located by the river Ljubljanica where the mythological Argonauts carried the Golden Fleece. It is a city by a moor where the crannog dwellers once lived. It has a history from Roman time, when it was called Emona, to the Napoléon, when it was the capital of Illyrian Provinces. A city of Renaissance, Baroque, and especially Art Nouveau facades, it is a city that boasts the greatest exhibition of the architecture of the master Jože Plečnik.

The venue of the congress will be Grand Hotel Union, which is a fine Art Nouveau building that has a long tradition of hosting successful congress events and prominent guests. It is located at the centre of Ljubljana within walking distance from the old city centre, Ljubljana castle and park Tivoli.

Accommodation:
Hotels, which are categorized according to international standards, and several youth hostels are available at the prices ranging from 20 –120€.

Access:
BY AIR: The airport Brnik is located 15 km from the city centre of Ljubljana and less than 30 minutes from the congress venue. There are regular flights to major European cities as to Frankfurt, Munich, Vienna, Zurich, Brussels, Paris, Barcelona, London, Dublin, Manchester, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Moscow, Tirana, Tel Aviv, Istanbul, Prague and others. Many airlines and also low cost Easy yet and Whizz come to the airport Brnik.

BY TRAIN: There are direct lines from Italy, Austria, Hungary, Croatia and others.

BY CAR: You can reach Slovenia via one of the border crossings with Italy, Austria, Hungary or Croatia, or you can rent a car in one of our car rental agencies.

Hospitality and Social programme
Ljubljana has a lively cultural life created by numerous theatres, museums, and galleries, one of the oldest Philharmonics in the world, cinemas, and more than ten thousand cultural events and international festivals each year. Less than an hour of drive from Ljubljana there are diverse geographical areas, such as, mountains region with many attractive alpine valleys, lakes and high mountains, and seaside region with a patch of the Adriatic coast and Karst region with beautiful caves, wine yard regions and forests which cover more than a half of Slovenia. We would like to share some of our beautiful and well preserved nature with ‘ISCEV people’ and because the weather is in June nicely warm we hope to explore our high mountains Alps and to swim in our lakes Bled or Bohinj.

Invitation: Jelka Brecelj and Marko Hawlina
THE 2006 ISCEV AWARDS

The 2006 Eberhard Dodt Memorial Award for an outstanding presentation at the ISCEV Symposium by a young scientist was awarded to Dr Daniel Barthelmes for his presentation, “Detecting visual field constriction in patients with retinitis pigmentosa using quantitative OCT analysis”. The adjudicators awards panel and also recognised Drs Guylene Le Muer and Naouki Tanimoto for their highly commended presentations.

The first Emiko Adach Award Lecture was an auspicious finale to the Symposium in Fontevraud. The 2005 Awardee, Prof Colin Barber, informed and entertained us with his lecture entitled, “The far side of the globe”, stressing that vision extends far beyond the eyes and clinical electrophysiology extends around the world.

Congratulations, Prof Eberhart Zrenner winner of the 2006 Emiko Adachi Award and thank you for your years of dedicated service to ISCEV.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2007 ELECTIONS AND AWARDS

Two positions are open for election or re-election in 2007:
- President: Michael Bach has served one term
- Vice President for the Americas: Donald C Hood will resign (31 Dec 2007)

Nominations are open for:
- The 2007 Emiko Adachi Award for outstanding long service to ISCEV

Regular or honorary members may nominate or be nominated. Nominees for VP of the Americas must reside within that region. (Please send your nominations and pertinent communication to the Secretary-General.)

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