This ISCEV News Extra follows our 51st Symposium, held in the sumptuous surroundings of the Sheraton hotel, Chongqing. Our hosts, Prof. Zheng Qin Yin and her team, organised a Symposium which was remarkable for the quality of the science and the efficient and friendly management of the event. Amongst many other opportunities, we visited the remarkable Dazu Rock Carvings, a World Heritage site.

May I take this opportunity to thank Zheng Qin Yin, Shiyong Li, Bo Lei and all their colleagues and helpers for their hard work in making ISCEV’s second visit to China an unforgettable one. We will all be able to enjoy a fuller report in the 2014 newsletter.

The e-ballot will run throughout December, again run by Mi-Voice. Eligible members (paid for 2013) will shortly receive an e-mail with a unique voting code. We have four elections this year:

- Editor-in-Chief of Documenta Ophthalmologica
- Member-at-large (no geographical restriction)
- Member-at-large (Europe & Africa)
- Host location for the 2016 Symposium

Candidate and host statements are overleaf. Please read these carefully and vote before the deadline of 30 Dec 2013: the turnout last year was an admirable 59%; it would be pleasing to exceed that figure in 2013.

Adachi, Dawson, Dodt – the ISCEV Awards 2013

The third William Dawson Memorial Lecture was given by Prof. Xiong Li Yang on the modulatory role of melatonin on signal transmission in the retina. Prof. Yang was introduced by Prof. Ido Perlman (below right) who spoke on behalf of Judy Dawson.

Congratulations to Dr Suna Jung (above, right), recipient of the 18th Eberhard Dodt Memorial Award, for her paper on retinal involvement in a rat model of neonatal hypoxia-ischemia.

Prof. Zrenner (above, left) made the award on behalf of Frau Dodt who was unable to be in Chongqing.
Candidate statement (Editor-in-chief)

Pierre Lachapelle

Personal Statement

Since I joined ISCEV in 1985, I have attended 26 annual symposia and was very actively involved with the organization of 4 of them (Banff 1994, Montreal-Mont-Orford 2001, Fontevraud 2006 and Lac Beauport 2011). Similarly, I published my first Documenta Ophthalmologica paper in 1986 and have since contributed another 35. The above undoubtedly proves that I wholeheartedly believe in our Society, I enjoy exchanging ideas with its members and I am a fervent supporter of our journal. Needless to say, I would be extremely honoured if the ISCEV membership community granted me the privilege of serving them as the Editor of our journal, Documenta Ophthalmologica. Our journal aims at facilitating the exchange of ideas between ISCEV members, which include basic and clinical vision scientists covering a wide range of expertise and interests. In doing so, our journal offers a unique terrain to stimulate the cross-fertilization of ideas that is essential to the growth of knowledge in all the spheres of our field.

On a related note, given the international stature of our Society, the Editor of its journal must also expect that a substantial number of manuscripts will be submitted from authors whose first language is not English. Being one of them myself (as French is my mother tongue), I know quite well how the lack of English proficiency can become a significant obstacle to some. However, this should in no way prevent good science from being communicated. In fact, as an international society we should reach out and help our colleagues, and can do so by offering pre-submission services to improve manuscript readability, for example. Should I become Editor of Documenta Ophthalmologica, I will strive to ensure that our journal does reflect the complementarity of the ISCEV community so that each and every member will be eager to receive and read each issue, and proudly choose Documenta Ophthalmologica as their top-of-the-list journal in which to publish their work.

Training, current position and ISCEV experiences:

PhD (Biology) University de Montréal (1981)

Professor of Ophthalmology at McGill University since 1981

Director, Visual Electrophysiology Laboratory and Clinic of the Montreal Children’s Hospital, since 1977

Member of the editorial board of Documenta Ophthalmologica since 1992

Member of the Board of ISCEV (2001-2009)

Involved in the organization of the 1994, 2001, 2006 and 2011 ISCEV Symposia

Co-founder (with Vaegan, Carol Westall and Patrizia Tormene) of the ISCEV Cycling Club (ISCYCLISTS) in 2005

Proud thesis director of two Eberhard Dodt Awardees (Julie Racine in 2003 and Suna Jung in 2013)

Selected Publications:


Candidate statement (Editor-in-chief)

Carol Westall BSc(Optom) MSc PhD FAAO FARVO

Personal Statement

The purpose of ISCEV’s affiliate journal, Documenta Ophthalmologica (DOOP), is “to promote the understanding and application of clinical electrophysiology of vision.” DOOP adjusts with the times, has produced excellent special topical issues appropriately reflecting changes in knowledge and technology and competes with increasing numbers of on-line journals. After Vernon Odom led the change in publisher to Springer, and saved the listing of DOOP’s Impact Factor in Journal Citation Report®, Laura Frishman led the journal to its peak impact factor (>2.0 in 2010 and 2011), with a 5 Year Impact Factor of 2.159 in 2012. I have been a long-standing member of DOOP’s editorial board and have seen first-hand the improvements introduced by these pioneering editor-in-chiefs.

My aim is to lead the team of Associate Editors and Editorial Board members to improved rigorous reviews which are completed in a timely manner, and to increased numbers of excellent submissions. We will seek experts to be Editors for future special topical issues; we will guide fledgling authors to improve research design, technological and statistical analyses so that each paper has the best ability to show excellence. As so well stated by David Beebe, IOVS Inaugural Editorial, IOVS, 2013, 54, 1 “Ultimately, it is the reviewers who maintain the quality of the journal and assist authors in improving their work.”

My goals would also include encouraging timely updates of Standards and Guidelines, in addition to encouraging continuing submissions of the other article types currently published by the journal: Original Research, Reviews, Clinical Case Reports, and Technical Notes.

As Editor-in-Chief of DOOP I will provide the intellectual flexibility, listening skills and the ability to make quick decisions. My professional life as scientist and clinician, as mentor and as adjudicator for applications for fellowship programs and graduate school entry has helped me to hone these essential skills.

Current Position
Professor of Ophthalmology, Director of Visual Electrophysiology, Senior Associate Scientist; The Hospital for Sick Children and University of Toronto, Canada.

Training and Experience

MSc, Physiological Optics, Indiana University, USA (1982): PhD, Physiological Optics, University of California, Berkeley, California, (1984).

2010  Fellow ARVO (FARVO) (Outstanding Service to the Eye and Vision Community)
2007  ISCEV Member of the Board: Member-at-Large (2 terms)
2004  Mentorship Award, (Outstanding service as a mentor & role model to graduate Students)
2002  Member of Editorial Board Documenta Ophthalmologica
2009  Member of the ISCEV standards committee for clinical electro-oculography (2010 update)

Selected Publications:
Mary Johnson

Personal Statement

ISCEV is an organization unlike any other. Research is a very competitive endeavor, but we have a Society based on collaboration and respect for the differences among us. Our annual meetings are crafted to accomplish this - with organized “time-off” where we spend time together experiencing new parts of the world, and work together in teams to be the best (or worst!) in the ISCEV Olympics. The personal relationships that we develop advance our research because of the new collaborations that we form and because of the trust that results from making new friendships. If only world leaders could figure this out!

So, how might I help advance the goals of this very special organization? Elected positions are positions of service, so my job would be to help you shape your Society. I enjoy thinking creatively so would welcome suggestions that you have for improving any aspect of the Society. Secondly, I am amazed that visual electrophysiology does not play a larger role in ophthalmic care around the world, and would like to explore ways to break down the barriers to using this technology. I cannot do this without your help. Finally, a society exists to provide benefits to its members. How can ISCEV better serve you personally? Would you like to see special topical issues of Documenta? Additional programs for student members? Special consortia? How can ISCEV help advance your status within your institution? I would be honored to work with you on these or any other issues, and along the way I look forward to meeting new colleagues and making new friends.

Current Position: Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, and Director of Clinical Electrophysiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD.

Training, Experience, Honors: BA 1977 University of Delaware (Biology & Psychology, with distinction); MA PhD 1982 John Hopkins University (Biopsychology); Postdoc fellowship 1983 Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (Ophthalmology); Assistant Professor 1983-1989, Associate Professor 1989-1993, Director of Clinical Electrophysiology 1982-1993, The Wilmer Eye Institute at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Fellow: Optical Society of America (OSA), 1993; Association for Research in Vision & Ophthalmology (ARVO), 2010; Disney Award from Research to Prevent Blindness, 2003

Committees & Memberships: I have served on >50 award and advisory committees for the Optical Society of America, which shows what a soft touch I am when working with organizations I believe to be worthwhile. Additionally, I was an OSA Director-at-Large from 1991-1993, co-chaired the 1997 OSA annual meeting in Long Beach, CA, and co-chaired the first OSA topical meeting (Noninvasive Assessment of the Visual System). I was a judge for Discover Magazine’s 1999 & 2000 Awards for Technological Innovation. I have taught ERG courses at the annual meetings of the American Academies of both Ophthalmology and Optometry. I have served on study sections for both the NIH and Fight for Sight.

I have co-edited 6 feature issues of either Applied Optics or Journal of the Optical Society A, on “Noninvasive Assessment of the Visual System”. Currently I serve on the Editorial Board of Documenta, and the organizing committee for the 2014 ISCEV annual meeting in Boston, MA, USA. I am a long-term member of OSA, ARVO and ISCEV.

Selected Publications:


Candidate statement (member-at-large, no geographical restriction)

Bo Lei

Personal Statement
The 28th ISCEV in Guangzhou is the first international meeting I have presented. I enjoyed so much its scientific and friendly atmosphere, and have become a loyal member. For more than 25 years I have been focused on visual electrophysiology. I have 50 peer reviewed publications in English. Results from my investigation enriched our understanding on the origin of the electroretinogram. Since 2009, I have gradually realized that there are many difficulties for the local visual electrophysiologists to understand and use the ISCEV standards and guidelines. I felt I should do something to bridge the gap. I have written articles in journals and textbooks to introduce the knowledge. In 2011, I organized an ISCEV approved training course and later have given more than 30 lectures with a total of more than 2500 audiences. I am pleased that many young talents are becoming interested in these objective functions tests. As the vice-chair of the local organizing committee of the 51st ISCEV symposium, I organized the pre-symposium training courses and the Olympic games, which were very successful and enjoyable.

With many years study and work experience in oriental and western countries, I am enthusiastic about serving ISCEV. I can and I will.

Current Position
Professor of Ophthalmology, the First Affiliated Hospital of Chongqing Medical University, Chongqing, China
Deputy Director, Chongqing Key Laboratory of Ophthalmology/Chongqing Eye Institute
General Secretary, Chongqing Ophthalmic Society

Training and Experience
2009-: Professor, Dept of Ophthalmology, First Affiliated Hospital of Chongqing Medical University
2001-2009: Assistant Prof, Ophthalmology and Vision Science, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO, USA
1997-2001: Post-doctoral fellow, Kellogg Eye Ctr, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA (Prof. Paul Sieving)
1993-1997: PhD, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel (Prof. Ido Perlman)
1989-1993: Resident, Ophthalmology, the First Affiliated Hospital of Henan Medical University
1989: MSc, Ophthalmology, Henan Medical University School of Medicine, Zhengzhou, Henan, China
1986: MD, Henan Medical University School of Medicine, Zhengzhou, Henan, China

Committees and Service
Member of ISCEV, ARVO, ASGT, Committee member of Chinese Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision
Editorial board and Secretary of Chinese Ophthalmology Textbooks for medical and graduate students

Awards
1995 Athens ISCEV travel grant; 2012 Chinese Ophthalmology Society Award

Representative publications (from 50 peer reviewed publications in English)
Candidate statement (Member-at-large Europe & Africa)

Marie Burstedt MD PhD

Personal Statement
The organisation of ISCEV is a necessity for all of us. The work of the ISCEV board and members is crucial, uniting different fields of science with the help of electrophysiology. The organisation sets a golden standard for clinical work and diagnosis. Since my first meeting and oral presentation in Nagoya (2003) these annual meetings have been an absolute necessity for me to develop and grow as an electrophysiologist, and always help me bring useful science and clinical knowledge back to the home clinic.

My special field of interest is recognizing and phenotypically describing retinal degenerative diseases. My initial scientific work in Sweden was to describe a large population of RP cases with a unique phenotype expressing an extremely prolonged dark adaptation. This work has helped expand the knowledge of the diseases affecting the visual cycle. It has been a fantastic scientific journey going from finding the genetic cause, describing a unique RP phenotype in and now heading towards treatment strategies in a large subset of RP patients. But there is still more to do, more phenotypes and electrophysiological expressions to describe. After our last meeting in Chongqing, I hurried home with new ideas initiating new research.

It is my great pleasure and honour to be nominated. I intend to encourage my colleagues and all interested working in the field of electrophysiology in northern Europe to take more active part and join the organisation ISCEV and its meetings. To make the ISCEV organisation the unifying forum for electro- and neurophysiology, imaging, genetics and all complementary fields adding to all steps in the work of visual and retinal science.

Current Position
Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Sciences/Ophthalmology, Umeå University
Consultant Ophthalmologist, Head of Department of Electrophysiology, Eye Clinic, University Hospital, Umeå, Sweden

Training and experience
MD, Umeå University, School of Medicine (1990)
PhD, Umeå University (2003)
Associate Professor, Umeå University (2012)
Ad hoc expert group, European Medicine Agency
Candidate statement (Member-at-large Europe & Africa)

Charlotte M Reiff (former Poloschek)

Personal Statement
My first participation in an ISCEV meeting was 10 years ago. I was amazed at the friendly atmosphere, open-mindedness of the people, the kind-heartedness of the discussions, and finally the high-quality research projects of so many different basic and clinical electrophysiologists. Ever since then, I keep these things going by actively contributing to the conference and showing my research projects to the ISCEV community. I also adore to contribute to the family spirit by setting up new activities such as the ISCEV band that played two times at meetings (work for Boston is in progress) and integrate as many people as possible in social activities.

When the Dodt Award was awarded to me in 2010, I realized how important and what a great opportunity it is to get all our young, innovative researchers motivated and bring them into ISCEV. Another excellent occasion to capture young people with electrophysiology are the ISCEV teaching courses for which I served as faculty member in the Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision Human Course in 2008, 2010 and 2013.

My motivation to serve as Member-at-Large is to give back to ISCEV: Lots of helpful advice and things I learned from the membership; the innumerable moments of esteem and appreciation I experienced in the society as a young researcher. I would work hard to support our very international aspect by integrating everybody with an interest in electrophysiology in the structure and social fabric of our society. New methods to gather information on the function of the visual pathway such as imaging methods or the evolving field of molecular genetic methods need to be incorporated in the diagnostic process of diseases in order to protect and underline the importance of clinical electrophysiology. Finally, I would be more than happy to provide my full clinical knowledge as well as my research experience to keep ISCEV going as a modern, flexible and lovable society in the future.

Current Position
Senior Consultant, Neuro-, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Retinal Dystrophies
Head of Division Retinal Dystrophies, Deputy Head of Division Neuro-, Pediatric Ophthalmology (4500 personally examined patients/year, 800 surgeries (ophthalmic pediatric lid, strabismus and orbital surgery)
Clinical Deputy Head of Division Visual Function/Electrophysiology (1000 personally evaluated patients/year)

Training & Experience
Research fellow with Erich Sutter, Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, San Francisco, 2002
MD degree, Medical School, University of Heidelberg, 2003
Resident, Depts. of Ophthalmology, University of Regensburg and Freiburg, 2008
PhD (Dr. med.), Medical Faculty, University of Heidelberg, 2003
“Privatdozent” degree -> roughly equivalent to Associate Professor, Medical Faculty, University of Freiburg, 2012

Society, Committee and Board Activities
Membership of ISCEV, ARVO, German Society of Ophthalmology (DOG): Committee member of Clinical Demands, Pro Retina, Inc.: Faculty member, German Academy of Ophthalmology: Committee member of Quality Management of Sensory Neurophysiology Examination Methods, German Society of Ophthalmology (DOG): Executive Board member of Freiburg Expert Center for Rare Diseases.

Selected Publications
(out of 25 peer-reviewed publications)
2016 Symposium Invitation

Gyeongju, Korea (25-29 September 2016)

The Korean Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (KSCEV) would be delighted to welcome all ISCEV members to Gyeongju, the beautiful old capital of the Shilla dynasty (BC57-AD935), a city also called “the museum without walls”, offering not only a wealth of cultural treasures but also diverse enriching activities. It is located southeast of Seoul, the current capital city of Korea, and can be conveniently reached by either express train (2.5 hours) or plane (30 minutes) from Seoul.

Proposed dates for the symposium are Sunday 25th to Thursday 29th of September, 2016. The weather is early autumn and the perfect time to visit Gyeongju with temperatures ranging from 15-25°C (59-77°F) and beautiful autumn leaves at the peak of their beauty.

The proposed venue for the symposium is Hotel Hyundai (http://www.hyundaihotel.com/gyeongju_en/index.jsp) located on the waterfront of Bomun lake within the Bomun resort complex, with the convention hall of largest size and best hotel facilities in Gyeongju. There are over 400 rooms available and preliminary room rates are expected to be around 165 USD with breakfast included. In the vicinity, within the Bomun resort complex, there is wide choice of other accommodations to choose from, with prices ranging between 140-280 USD.

Activity programs and outings will guide you to experience and discover Korean culture with 5000 years of history. For those more interested in the modern aspect of Korea, one of Asia’s most booming economies, nearby Busan (1 hour by bus) and Seoul will offer you world-class cuisines, the world’s largest department store and a taste of the world famous “gangnam style”.


Invitation: Head of the organizing committee Prof. Young-Hoon Ohn and KSCEV
2016 Symposium Invitation

Singapore (13-18 August 2016)

It gives us great pleasure to invite you to the Lion City, Singapore, for ISCEV 2016. With its diverse & vibrant multi-cultural society, Singapore is a premiere tourist destination in South-East Asia. It offers a perfect mix of the past and present; skyscrapers, architectural icons, streets adorned with building designs from the Victorian era as well as adventure sports, varied cultural heritages, and many spectacular tourist spots like the Night Safari and Universal Studios. Singapore is also a shopper’s paradise, and well-known for its fascinating variety of Asian and world cuisines.

Access: Singapore is one of the best connected cities in the world. Nationals from many countries do not require a visa to enter Singapore, which is easily accessible by air through Changi International Airport. In addition, due to its strategic location in the heart of South-East Asia, Singapore is the ideal gateway to explore the exotic cultures of neighbouring countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and Cambodia.

Venue: The symposium will be held at The Academia’s auditorium, a brand-new conferencing facility located right next to the Singapore National Eye Centre within the Singapore General Hospital campus. This area is easily accessible by bus/train and is just a few stops to Singapore’s famed shopping district, Orchard Road and a stop away from Asia’s favourite playground, Sentosa. Accommodations are aplenty nearby, ranging from budget to 5-star hotels with price ranges of USD 80-250. Worldwide cuisines are also readily available at all corners of our sunny little island.

Hospitality & Social Program: Our social program will highlight Singapore’s fascinating mix of Malay, Indian, Chinese and Eurasian cultures. An excursion option would include a city tour of our historical heritage sites, followed by a Sentosa beach-side party/Olympics complete with dinner, dance and cultural activities. Accompanying people may be kept entertained with visits to old favourites like the Singapore Zoo or be treated to endless fun by the newly opened River Safari and Adventure Cove Water Park, with itineraries for both young and old.

At dusk, the Singapore River comes alive with a kaleidoscope of activities including dining at Clarke and Boat Quays, attending a concert at the Esplanade, or trying your luck at our two new casinos. Here in Singapore, there are plenty of things to do and see. We welcome you to experience our hospitality and to take away memories that are Uniquely Singapore.

Estimated cost of registration: USD 450-500.

Organizers: Audrey Chia & Ranjana Mathur
Singapore National Eye Centre & Singapore Eye Research Institute
New Board Officers for 2014:
The following election results were obtained at the Membership Business Meeting, held during the 51st ISCEV Annual Symposium, 2013:

Congratulations to Prof. Mathias Seeliger, right, elected as Treasurer.

Congratulations also to Dr. Dorothy Thompson, left, elected as Director of Education.

Three further Board position, Editor-in-Chief and two Members-at-large, will be decided by e-ballot. Grateful thanks are extended to all ISCEV members who were prepared to stand for election.

At the end of 2013, the Board bids farewell to Prof. Ulrich Kellner who has served three terms—12 years—as Treasurer, and whose contribution to the work of the ISCEV Board has been immense. Prof. Graham Holder ends his 9-year tenure as Director of Education, a role in which his leadership has been exemplary. Prof. Laura Frishman concludes two terms as Editor-in-Chief where her expertise and success have been crucial for our journal. Finally, Prof. Marko Hawlina ends his two terms as Member-at-large: his expertise will be vital for holding a successful Symposium in Ljubljana in 2015. May I extend ISCEV’s grateful thanks to them all.

Standards & Guidelines
ISCEV Standards are one of the cornerstones of our Society, and four are currently under revision or about to be revised: the ERG Standard, the VEP Standard and the two Guidelines: Technical and Procedures. A committee is already established for the ERG Standard, but if you have a contribution to make to any of the four, or would like to be on a revision committee, please contact your Director of Standards, Daphne McCulloch:

daphne.mcculloch@uwaterloo.ca

Other News
ISCEV is now a contributing organisation to eye wiki: http://eyewiki.aao.org. Any ophthalmologist member of ISCEV can post to its site, which currently lacks any substantial electrophysiological content.

If you use facebook or LinkedIn, please like our page: www.facebook.com/ISCEV.org, or join our group: www.linkedin.com/groups/ISCEV-4811521

Remember, if you are registered with the International Council of Ophthalmology (www.icoph.org) you can now specify “electrophysiology” as your sub-speciality, or select “scientist” as your profession.

Caption competition
There were two notable entries:

“An unidentified ISCEV member prepares the crowd for Colin Barber’s annual complex and unbiased adjustment of the Olympic scores.”

and:

“The losing team know that the laxative chocolate they have given the ISCEV referee would soon start to work.”

The judge, Richard Smith, was unable to choose a winner, leading to the exciting news that the prize will be rolled over to 2014’s caption competition!