

## Message from the Secretary-General

Dear ISCEV Friends,

I have recently returned from the 59th Annual Symposium in Liverpool, UK which was the first live Symposium since 2019. It was so wonderful to meet ISCEV colleagues in a face-to-face setting and to be able to engage in social interactions (have a quick conversation, meet up for coffee, share a meal, and enjoy so many activities we have missed these last few years). It was all very much appreciated, and the meeting was brimming with positive energy.

In all aspects, the Liverpool Symposium was very successful. It was very well organized, thanks to the local organizing committee and the symposium coordinators. The scientific presentations (paper and poster presentations) were exceptional, including the invited lectures. The meeting was held directly on the campus of the University of Liverpool and many attendees stayed in the student accommodations. These were incredibly convenient and cost effective and everything was located close together, including breakfasts, the lodgings, the symposium site, etc. There was even a pub located on campus for gatherings after the close of the symposium day.



The city of Liverpool was very welcoming; the opening ceremony was held in the beautiful Town Hall, with a welcome address by the Lord Mayor. The Olympics were held within walking distance of the symposium site and we were treated to a Ferry on the Mersey ride (older members will understand the significance of this). I arrived early enough to take advantage of the strong Beatles culture in Liverpool and to get a picture at Strawberry Fields. Full details of the Symposium will be provided in the Newsletter next year.

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During the 2022 membership meeting, there was one election discussed. This item was for the position of Vice President of Asia/Australasia. The incumbent, Professor Mineo Kondo, was willing to stand again and there have been no further nominations. You can ratify his second term via e-vote along with your 2025 Symposium host choice.

In addition, there were presentations for the 2025 Symposium venue. These two venues are Budapest, Hungary by Mirella Barboni & team and Utrecht, Netherlands by Maria van Genderen & team. Details about these locations are presented below as information for the e-ballot. Please read these to be informed for the voting! Also, please pay your annual dues, if you have not done so yet this year, so you will receive an e-ballot to vote.

I look forward to seeing many of you in March of 2023 at the 60th ISCEV Symposium in Kyoto, Japan. Until then, please stay well.

*Yours truly, Karen Holopigian, ISCEV Secretary General*

# The Director of International Communications

Dear ISCEV members, friends and colleagues:

The NewsXtra usually is sent out to advise you about voting. Last year we had eight (8!) candidates for member-at-large, this year it is seemingly easier: a choice between only two alternatives. But what alternatives! You will decide about the location of the ISCEV 2025 Symposium; in Europe, yes, but where? Two enticing choices are presented further down. We will use e-vote again for voting, this worked very well so far.



All paid members (not junior or emeritus type II) will receive voting details in a few days. The “paid” status means you have paid the membership dues for 2022 (apologies for the sordid content of this paragraph). How to pay the membership dues? This is detailed here: [iscev.wildapricot.org/DuesPayment](https://iscev.wildapricot.org/DuesPayment). Said page is also accessible from the ISCEV homepage, right yellow box, near bottom, “Membership Dues Payment”. In case of any questions or problems, don’t hesitate to contact me: [michael.bach@uni-freiburg.de](mailto:michael.bach@uni-freiburg.de).

The Liverpool Symposium was wonderful! Find photos on our free flickr account: <https://www.flickr.com/gp/iscev/v85284tNBu>. Credit: Lenita Walton, thank you.

Next stop: Kyoto!

*Michael Bach, ISCEV DoIC*

## Awards

### The Emiko Adachi Lecture

The two winners of the Emiko Adachi Award in 2019 were Dr. Mitchell Brigell and Professor Pierre Lachapelle. One Adachi lecture was presented at the 59th Annual Symposium in Liverpool by Dr. Mitch Brigell on “The importance of context: A memoir.” Professor Lachapelle will present his lecture at the 60th Annual Symposium in Kyoto in March 2023.

### The William W. Dawson Memorial Award

The William W. Dawson Memorial Lecture was presented by Mr. Arvind Chandna from Smith Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, San Francisco, CA, USA. His talk was entitled: ‘Probing visual function in children using steady state sweep VEP’.

The William Dawson Memorial lecture at the ISCEV annual symposium is made possible thanks to the generosity of Bill’s widow, Judyth. Judyth donates her royalties for the trademark of DTL Plus electrodes, invented by her husband with colleagues Trick & Litzkow. The DTL Plus electrode is the only DTL electrode endorsed by Bill, and is marketed exclusively by Diagnosys LLC.

### The Dodt Award

The 2022 Dodt award was presented to Xiaofan Jiang from the Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London and the Dept of Ophthalmology and Dept of Twin Research and Genetic Epidemiology, King’s College London, UK. Her talk was entitled “Exploring longitudinal changes in flicker ERG peak times with age in an adult cohort.” The award was presented by Mrs. Elke Dodt.

In addition, in honour of the 25th anniversary of the Dodt award, a book was compiled by Mr. Richard Smith regarding the previous 25 Dodt winners. The book contained a photograph and statement about what winning the Dodt Award meant to the career of each of the previous 25 winners. Mr. Smith presented the book to Mrs. Dodt at the final banquet in Liverpool. Mrs. Dodt was quite overwhelmed with this lovely book and presentation.

### Travel Grants

Five travel grants were awarded but one award has been deferred until 2023.

# 2025 Symposium Invitation to Budapest, Hungary

Department of Ophthalmology, Semmelweis University Budapest, Hungary. **2–7 June 2025**

## Be amazed by Budapest – for the first time or again!

In terms of culture, architecture and natural surroundings, Budapest is one of the world's most beautiful cities. Sparkling with life yet still authentic, this is a metropolis that's both historic and modern, affording all the classical and cosmopolitan aspects of a European capital, stimulating, liberating and full of vitality.

After 42 years, Budapest would like to host the ISCEV Annual meeting again! Budapest, the capital and the largest city of Hungary (with around 2 million inhabitants) lies at the river Danube. This multicultural city is a favorable touristic destination among people all over the world, with a friendly environment, rich architectural, historical and cultural heritage. Hungary's location in the heart of Europe makes it easily accessible. Budapest airport is 20 km south-east of the capital, served by frequent buses that run directly into the city center. Regular international train and bus services offer a scenic and environmentally friendly alternative to plane travel. Each central rail and bus terminal in Budapest has its own metro station. The extensive and well-developed public transport (costs around 1€/route, or 5€ for a day) makes it easy to access the hotels, the proposed meeting venues and historical places.

## Your Hosts

Semmelweis University is a research-led medical school in Budapest, Hungary, founded in 1769. With six faculties and a doctoral school, training programs in three languages and welcoming 12,000 students from 95 countries, it covers all aspects of medical and health sciences. The Department of Ophthalmology was founded in 1804 and is one of the oldest Ophthalmology Centers in Europe. It is a member of the ERN-EYE, ERDC and EVIRC.net and a dedicated center of gene therapy for inherited retinal dystrophies since 2022. Its electrophysiology lab has a long tradition. There are many centers involved in visual electrophysiology in Hungary. The organizing committee is a joint venture of the Semmelweis University (Human electrophysiology), the Eötvös Loránd University (animal electrophysiology), the University of Pécs (Human and animal Electrophysiology) and the University of Szeged (Human electrophysiology).

## Venue

The purposed venue is the Basic Medical Science Center of the Semmelweis University for the Course and the Symposium. Within walking distance, this area offers a large variety of accommodations, ranging from 65€/night with breakfast in university hostels or Airbnb flats, to 160€/night with breakfast in more sophisticated hotels or you can go for luxury in 4 to 5 star hotels nearby or in the city center. You can also find various meal options all over the city for every taste: the average price of a lunch or casual dining is around 20€, a 3-course dinner costs around 40€.

## Social programs and activities

The welcome reception will be held at the venue, the Basic Medical Science Center of the Semmelweis University. For the ISCEV Olympics on Thursday we plan to take an excursion to the beautiful wine region Etyek and after the sportive activities we invite you to well-deserved cellar-visits, wine tasting and dinner at the Eszterházy Etyeki Kúria. The Adachi Lecture and Gala Dinner will be held in the Royal Riding Hall in the Buda Castle Quarter.

## Accompanying programs and activities

Budapest basks in a wonderful built and natural environment, reflected in its UNESCO World Heritage sites such as the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrassy Avenue. The city is famed for its breathtaking architecture and unforgettable flavors of Hungary's ever-evolving cuisine. With a stunning Opera House, a Major Contemporary Arts Centre, a prestigious Music Academy, Symphony Orchestras and a new National Dance Theatre, Budapest always offers a high-quality performance to enjoy in concert halls whose architecture merits admiration. In the scenic settings of the Castle District and Heroes' Square, the Hungarian National Gallery and Museum of Fine Arts together house Hungary's biggest art collection. Hungary is extremely rich in healing waters – 80% of its territory has thermal water underground. Visiting the city is not complete without a plunge into pools of healing waters at one of its splendid thermal baths.



## Estimated costs

For members: 500€ for symposium only and 600€ for combined registration.

Accompanying person: 400€.

Experience the wonders of Budapest!

*On behalf of the organizing committee: Mirella Barboni, Ditta Zobor, Eszter Mikó-Baráth, Balázs Varsány*



Budapest view



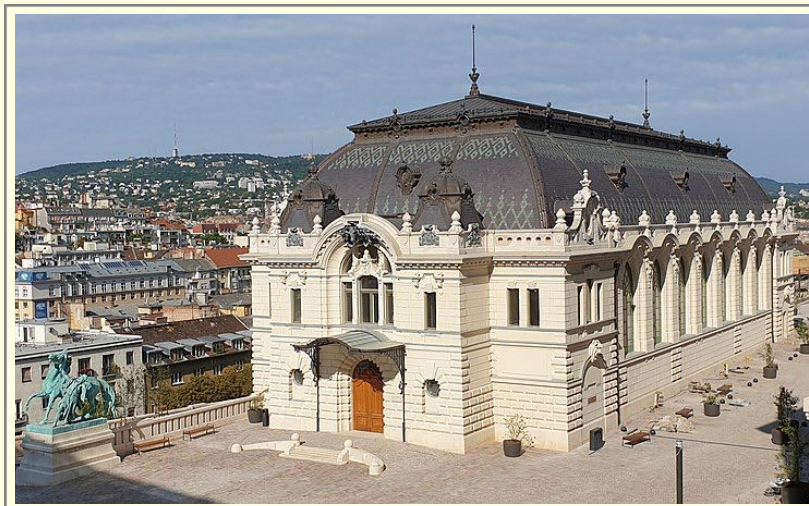
Eszterházy Etyeki Kúria (winery)



Basic Medical Science Center, Semmelweis Univ.



Opera House Budapest



Royal Riding Hall, Buda Castle Quarter



# 2025 Symposium Invitation to Utrecht, Netherlands

**25–28 June 2025**

We are very pleased to invite you to Utrecht, the Netherlands, for the ISCEV Symposium in 2025. Utrecht is the fourth largest city of the Netherlands with a population of 360.000. It is a very attractive town with a medieval center dominated by the Dom cathedral, many canals, and a lively cultural scene with a big music center, concert hall, and lots of restaurants and pubs. The University of Utrecht has an ophthalmology department that originates from the “Hospital for Necessitous Eye patients” founded by Franciscus Donders and Herman Snellen more than 175 years ago.

**Access:** From Amsterdam Airport, trains to Utrecht take about 30 minutes and leave every 15 minutes; tickets cost around €/ \$ 10,–. International flights and many international trains like the Thalys, ICE, TGV, and Eurostar arrive at Amsterdam Airport. International trains from Germany go directly to Utrecht Central Station. Utrecht is the number 1 cycling city of the world: bikes can be rented at every train station and there are numerous cycling tracks in and around the city.

**Venue:** The symposium will be held at the “Geertekerk”, a medieval church that now serves as a venue for conferences, dinners, and meetings. The Geertekerk has been renovated in 2015, consists of two large foyers, has perfect lighting and sound systems and a professional kitchen that can serve large groups. It has four smaller rooms that can be used for the ISCEV course, preparation room for the speakers, industrial sponsors, and posters. The venue can be easily reached on foot from the Central Station, and has a parking garage nearby.

There are numerous hotels within easy walking distance from the venue (range €/ \$ 90–300). One small hotel (capacity 36) is situated in the old Eye Hospital, with charming rooms with an ophthalmology theme (“Eye Hotel”, €/ \$ 125).

**Hospitality and Social program:** Many excursion options for attendees and accompanying persons are available including a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage “Waterlinie” and “Kinderdijk windmills”, Utrecht’s Miffy Museum, and Amsterdam (canal tour, Van Gogh Museum, Rijksmuseum). Other options are a Craft Beer tour, guided cycle tours, and a visit to the historical Eye Hospital. Utrecht lies near the National Park “Utrechtse Heuvelrug”, ideal for hiking, and on and off road cycling. Welcome reception and dinners will be held at the Academic Building and Cloister Garden, the National Railway Museum, and the Museum “Speelklok”, home of old musical instruments.

Estimated registration: €/ \$ 650–700.

*Organizers: Maria van Genderen and Herman Talsma, Bartiméus Institute and Utrecht University.*







More photos from  
Utrecht, Netherlands

