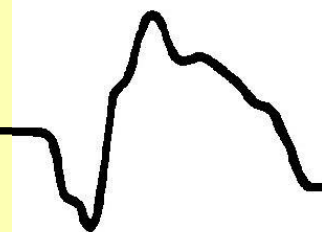


ISCEV Newsletter 2013

Edited by Bach & Hamilton



Contents

From the President	1
Message from the Secretary-General	2
Report of the Director of Education	3
Report of the Director of Standards	3
Report of the Editor-in-Chief, <i>Doc Ophthalmol</i>	4
Report of the Treasurer	4-5
Report of the Director of Communications	6
Reports of the Regional Vice-Presidents	7-8
Caption Competition	8
Recollections of a Symposium: Valencia 2012	9-10
Emiko Adachi Award 2012	11
Eberhard Dodt Memorial Award 2012	11
Dawson Memorial Lecturer 2012	12
52nd ISCEV Symposium: Boston, USA	12
53rd ISCEV Symposium: Ljubljana, Slovenia	13
Minutes of the 2012 membership meeting	14-15

From the President

Dear friends and colleagues,



It is a year since I wrote my first newsletter and all the emotions with which I wrote it.

Today, I'm writing to you with great pleasure and with a deep sense of responsibility, desiring not to betray the trust you showed when electing me as President.

This has been a very busy year, full of activities and news for our Society: there have been some changes on the Board, with new members and new officers and thank you all for your willingness to offer your services: Richard Smith, as the new Vice President for Europe and Africa; Michael Bach as Director of International Communications; Daphne McCulloch as Director of Standards, and Zheng Qin Yin as Member at Large. We will also have a new post, Symposium Coordinator, for 2014, and who better than Colin Barber for this job? I would also like to offer heartfelt thanks to those who have left these positions: Colin Barber, David Keating, Mike Marmor and Masayuki Horiguchi for the dedication and commitment they have shown to the Society.

Many conferences and courses, so valuable for spreading our science far and wide, have been held successfully in different countries. Our committees are working to keep our Standards and Guidelines constantly updated. With regard to this I would like to see our exams becoming as accessible as we can make them. They are considered, at least in my country, to be too long and too complex. I would like us to have quick, clear protocols that are easy to understand in order to encourage people who are less well versed in our field to apply them.

As promised, we are renewing the image of the Society: the newsletter has become totally computerized, the flyer has become more modern and direct. The Society can now be found on facebook and on LinkedIn. We are in contact with EYEWIKI to have information provided by us. Now our Symposium's site registration and Society subscriptions are both computer managed by the Society. For many of these things we must give special thanks to Ruth Hamilton, Michael Bach and Ulrich Kellner who have devoted a great deal of their time and energies to these innovations.

The Valencia Symposium was my first as President. I was naturally both very excited and fearful that I would not be up to the task. Even though I knew, from personal experience, how much work the organization of our Symposium requires, I had not realized quite how much work needs to be done—even at the level of the Board—in the preceding months to ensure that everything takes place on a regular basis. Thanks to the special ability of Concha Vilela to lead with calm, charm and determination, we all enjoyed an atmosphere of cordiality and fruitful scientific comparisons. As for me, I had also the honor of presenting the Emiko Adachi Award to Prof. Paul Sieving, and of sharing the emotion of Dr Kauro Fujinami when he received the Eberhard Dodt Memorial Award.

Now our meeting in Chongqing is fast approaching: I'm sure it will be a great success. Before ending I would like to express my feeling after having encountered, first hand, the profound distress felt by colleagues who live in countries where there is conflict: I am proud to represent ISCEV, a Society which sets a fine example of shared interests and constructive exchange of opinion and which seeks to spread a spirit of respect, friendship and cooperation in which all communities should be based.

With affection, Patrizia Tormene





Message from the Secretary-General

ISCEV membership has been thriving, and we now have 300 members (four new joiners since the Treasurer compiled his report, page 5): 103 from the Americas, 80 from Asia & Australasia, and 117 from Europe and Africa. Let me mention those countries who have one sole member in ISCEV, for they illustrate just how pervasive visual electrophysiological techniques are: Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Iceland, India, Israel, Kuwait, Lithuania, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, and Syria. This global presence of ISCEV proves our ability to meet the second part of our mission: *to promote co-operation and communication among workers in the field*. So much of this communication is achieved through the ISCEV website, and Michael Bach deserves all credit for this valuable asset. We also have thirty new members this year alone, plus several former members rejoining the Society after a period of absence—welcome to all.



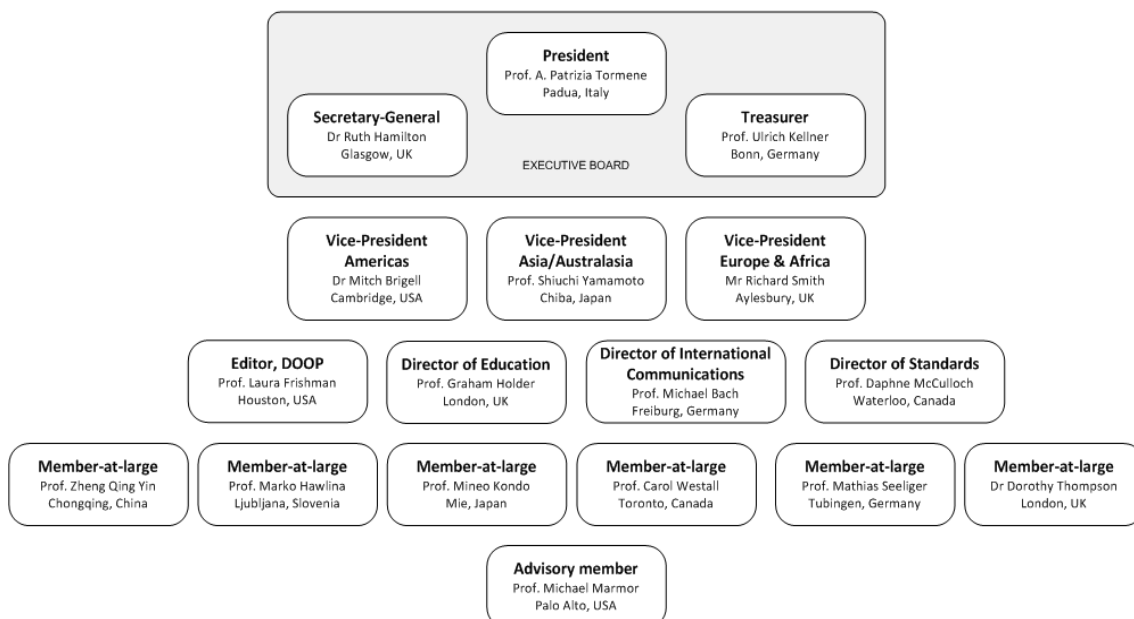
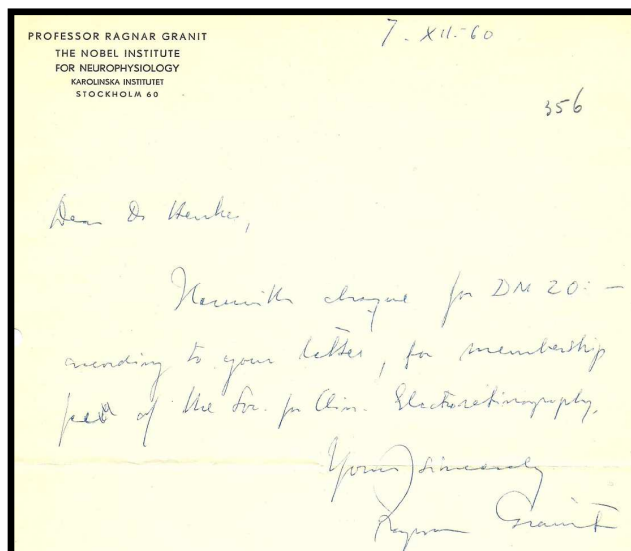
Another major asset of ISCEV is Ulrich Kellner. He is coming to the end of a twelve year stretch as ISCEV treasurer. The photo of him on the left shows how he took life before becoming Treasurer: if you want to see the “after” photo, take a look at the masthead on page 4. We won’t lose him: he will work closely with his successor, who inherits a smoothly running, web-based financial system and he is currently chairing the ERG Standard update committee: no well deserved rest just yet.

On the right is an item from the ISCEV archive. It is important for ISCEV’s finances that our members pay their dues promptly as

this allows us to meet our biggest financial commitments on time. It was thus very reassuring to see that even those soon to be awarded a Nobel prize found time to pay their dues, even before the year was out. The text reads: “7th December 1960. Dear Dr [Harold] Henkes, Herewith cheque for DM20— [about \$100 today], sending to your letter, for membership fee of the Soc. for Clin. Electrophysiology, Yours sincerely, Ragnar Granit”. I also found a lovely letter between other ISCEV members about socks, which I shall keep for the News Extra.

For those who are coming to Chongqing, I know that the organisers have been working extremely hard to make the Symposium a success. Please remember that paper copies of this Newsletter will not be available, so put the electronic copy on your laptop or gadget so that it comes with you. It will, of course, be available to download from the website.

Ruth Hamilton



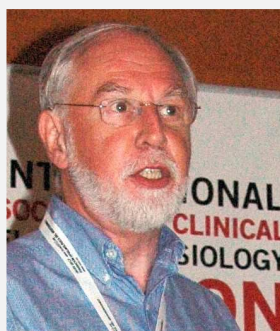


Report of the Director of Education

At the time of writing we are looking forward to the meeting in Chongqing, China. Hosted by Prof Zheng Qin Yin, I know that we can expect a fantastic reception and a very well organised meeting. The traditional ISCEV Course will take place with a faculty of Drs Bach, Hogg, Holder, Kellner, Poloschek and Thompson. In addition, there will be an animal Course organised by Drs Lei and Seeliger.

The ISCEV teaching Course was held last year in association with the meeting in Valencia, and according to the assessment forms, to the great satisfaction of the attendees. Congratulations are due to the faculty which included Drs Bach, Hogg, Palmowski, Kellner and Thompson. Thanks to Concha Vilela and her excellent team for the superb local organisation, and also to those companies who kindly donating their time and energy to assist with the practical sessions.

The annual Moorfields Course took place in March and was fully subscribed. With fellows, there were more than 50 attendees. The



faculty included ISCEV members Hogg, Holder, Leroy, Neveu, Niemeyer, Robson (AG), and Thompson. The German language Course took place in October with 23 participants. The faculty included ISCEV members Bach, Kellner and Renner. This year's Course, which will take place in November, is already fully subscribed, and ISCEV members Bach and Kellner will be on the faculty. ISCEV members ran a short

Course at Euretina (Hawlina, Holder, Leroy), and there was also an ISCEV presence at SOE with ISCEV members Holder and Hamilton organising a Paediatric Electrophysiology Course. Additional contributions came from other ISCEV members Breckel, Lorenz and Thompson. There was an ISCEV/SOE electrophysiology symposium chaired by Hawlina and Holder. Speakers were Hawlina, Holder, Leroy, Midena and Wildberger. Thomas Berninger organised a successful ISCEV approved Course in Munich "Function meets Morphology", speakers included ISCEV members Bach, Berninger, Hogg, Holder, Krastel, Jagle, Palmowski and Wildberger.

ISCEV Members intending to run "ISCEV Approved" Courses are again reminded that they should forward details of Course content and faculty to the Director of Education for approval. Only then can details be published on the ISCEV web-site.

This will be my last annual report as Director of Education, a post I have held since 2001. It is time now for someone else to take over. While I will be happy to continue teaching on the Course, should my successor desire it, I will no longer be the captain of that particular ship. I wish my successor every success in their new role. I would like to offer my personal thanks to all those friends and colleagues who gave up their time to help teach on the Courses I have organised, to the local organisers who made my task easier by being so efficient, to the equipment companies for their continuing support, but most of all to those of you who have attended and hopefully benefitted from the Course. Thank you!

Prof. Graham E Holder, Director of Education

Report of the Director of Standards

My first direct encounter with ISCEV Standards was at the 1994 ISCEV Symposium in Banff, Canada. On the second morning of that Symposium I rose at dawn and walked briskly through breath-taking mountain scenery to attend a breakfast meeting about the new VEP Standard. There I encountered the ISCEV family in full swing and I learned my passion for clinical electrophysiology of vision was shared by experts from around the globe. Nearly 20 years later, the enthusiasm and dedication of ISCEV members is familiar, but no less impressive. Thank you for electing me to the post of ISCEV Director of Standards (2013–2016) and to my predecessor Michael Marmor for his continuing support for the handover and the work in progress; it is my pleasure and honour to take up this challenge.

The crux of the challenge posed by our Standards and Guidelines is to keep pace with rapidly changing technological and clinical developments, while maintaining consistency with the well-established clinical norms and interpretations. Standards must define reliable, efficient, current protocols that are practical across the widest possible range of settings. Developing and updating effective international clinical standards is a major focus of ISCEV activity and fundamental to the mission of our Society.

I enter the post of Director of Standards on a strong foundation. My predecessors have orchestrated regular updates to each of the main ISCEV Standards that have been published in sequential years of our journal *Documenta Ophthalmologica*. Each published Standard is prepared by a hard-working committee with contributions from across the ISCEV membership. An ERG Standard committee chaired by Ulrich Kellner is currently updating the ISCEV Standard for full-field clinical ERGs. My priority now is updating the overarching *ISCEV guidelines to clinical applications and procedures* and the *ISCEV technical guidelines for recording and calibration*. Both of these support the ISCEV Standards by providing supportive information and are educational to those new to the field. The first was developed by an ISCEV Working Party as a web publication in 1999 and updated in 2001. The updating was well underway last year and the working party, chaired by Scott Brodie, is making good progress. Next year the updating of the technical guidelines will be at the top of my agenda.

I will miss the ISCEV annual Symposium as due to illness in my family I am unable to travel. I wish you all the best in Chongqing and will look forward to news of the Symposium.



Daphne McCulloch, ISCEV Director of Standards



Report of the Editor-in-Chief, *Documenta Ophthalmologica*



Documenta Ophthalmologica, ISCEV's journal, appears in six regular issues per year. Springer, the publisher, also allows the Society to publish the abstracts of the annual meeting in an online issue. The purpose of the journal is "to promote the understanding and application of clinical electrophysiology of vision." The journal does not impose page charges and has free color illustrations, even in the hard copy of the regular issues, not a policy that all journals can advertise. Given these benefits, I encourage ISCEV members to submit papers on original research, case studies, or technical reports. In 2012, there were only 94 submissions in total, down from 122 the prior year. This year, 2013, is a little better, with 95 submissions as of September 19, but stronger support from members is needed.

Journal Operations: The web-based Editorial Manager (EM)TM for submission and review of papers is working well, and the developers are adding new functions and are responsive to requests for changes. In the recently released EM 10.1, access to a personal identifier functionality – ORCID (Open Research Contributor ID) – has been added. ORCID provides a unique alphanumeric code for each author, eliminating the problem that not all author's names are unique, or an author's name may change due to marriage for example. As members will have been encountering, several publishers, research institutions, academic and private, are moving to this standardization of author ID. A starting point for reading about ORCID is <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ORCID>.

Many members give generously of their time in reviewing manuscripts. The Editorial Board and Associate Editors, Bach, Kondo and Brodie work to maintain and improve the quality of the journal. The Case Report section, edited by Brodie, continues to provide a valuable venue for interesting and novel clinical observations. Diana Epstein of Di-Ep Biomedical Editorial Services Doc-oph@di-ep.com keeps the online submission and review process running smoothly.

There is some hope that better metrics for evaluation of journals (and the authors that publish in them) are emerging, but impact factor is still getting much attention. For a given year the impact factor is based upon citation of papers that were published in the journal in the prior two years. *Documenta Ophthalmologica*'s impact factor fell from a high of 2.187 in 2010, to 2.107 in 2011, to only 1.542 in 2012. Our impact factor is very dependent on the Standards published in the past couple of years. Vigilant authors, reviewers and editors can help by ensuring that the most recent ones are cited. Please update your reference manager so that prior publications of ISCEV Standards and Guidelines are replaced with the newest ones. For example, the updated "ISCEV standard for clinical pattern electroretinography (PERG)" appeared in the first issue of 2013, the "ISCEV standard for clinical multifocal electroretinography" in the first issue of 2012, the "ISCEV standard for clinical electro-oculography" was in the first issue of 2011.

Special issues and call for papers: Special issues on timely subjects with original research and reviews from prominent investigators elevate the stature of the journal. Please consider proposing a special issue in your area of expertise. This year, an interesting issue entitled "Special issue on vision after premature birth", proposed and edited by McCulloch and Fulton was published, but currently there are no special issues in the pipeline. Invited contributors to special issues, previously unfamiliar with the journal, will be impressed with our ability to review and bring their papers to publication in a timely manner. In addition to thinking about a topic for a special issue, please consider supporting the journal with a submission soon. The web address to use for your submissions to *Documenta Ophthalmologica* is: www.editorialmanager.com/door/.

Prof. Laura Frishman

Treasurer's Report

Dear ISCEV members

The accompanying spreadsheet displays the financial data for 2004–2012 and an estimate for 2013. The figures are given in Euros, as all funds except for the US dollar account are held in Euros. The accounting and tax records must also be reported in Euros.

The financial outcome in 2012 was positive due to several factors. The major effect is the change of timing for DOOP billing and subsequent payment. Therefore ISCEV did not pay for DOOP in 2012 (about 28.000 Euro). In addition, the return payment of the Valencia meeting was made quickly and there was no symposium pre-financing in 2012. This has already changed in 2013 with pre-payments for Chongqing and Boston, cautiously calculated double payment for DOOP, and increased one-time costs for the set-up of abstract and symposium payment website. Not included in the calculation is the Symposium income via the new website, as it is yet not final and will be paid to the organizers.

Please note that already more ISCEV members have paid for 2013 compared to 2011. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding the treasurer's report. Looking forward to see you in Chongqing.

Best regards, Ulrich Kellner



Treasurers Report

(Euro)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	estimated
Income										
Membership dues	29.227,95	27.138,00	33.943,97	28.090,23	23.855,55	23.521,15	25.518,88	29.472,77	28.903,42	27.000,00
Symposium income through treasurers office	0,00	28.638,16	5.440,89	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Bank account interests	1.493,39	1.102,97	2.172,38	3.252,53	2.887,38	1.785,54	1.536,14	1.067,59	111,99	1.000,00
Publisher editorial payment	8.264,17	3.975,00	6.846,85	10.829,44	5.775,25	6.738,15	6.158,80	25.041,46	13.409,00	13.400,00
Symposium return (income & returned pre-financing)	0,00	19.128,63	22.343,00	0,00	0,00	1.919,79	0,00	14.823,25	5.000,00	10.000,00
Dawson Lecture	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	3.600,00	3.570,00	3.600,00
Other income	0,00	500,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Total Income	38.985,51	80.482,76	70.747,09	42.172,20	32.518,18	33.964,63	33.213,82	74.005,07	50.994,41	55.000,00

Expenditure										
Treasurers office	255,27	540,62	735,49	1.039,31	0,00	0,00	30,00	96,75	121,26	400,00
Check handling fees, bank charges	1.468,13	532,17	413,83	221,99	119,35	132,60	207,54	340,94	153,41	300,00
Credit card handling fees	1.347,27	2.558,88	1.992,41	1.540,32	1.404,16	1.190,20	1.443,39	1.617,38	1.564,51	2.800,00
Internet services	1.135,26	162,58	569,55	213,54	569,96	212,96	212,96	598,79	1.605,26	3.000,00
Lawyer	3.297,32	131,10	139,20	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Accounting	0,00	1.044,00	696,00	714,00	357,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	2.501,98	800,00
Secretary general office	4.697,91	4.227,60	14.828,00	2.587,20	9.295,54	4.203,40	0,00	0,00	6.951,50	5.000,00
Editors office	4.098,00	1.062,50	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	500,00
ISCEV Subscriptions DOOP	27.825,00	31.561,50	26.999,50	26.250,00	26.250,00	26.250,00	26.248,71	28.569,00	0,00	57.000,00
Symposium financing	44.095,50	46.302,48	12.776,57	7.363,23	1.980,26	9.087,03	18.930,85	6.199,02	571,79	20.386,79
Travel grants	2.904,85	2.457,20	2.893,12	3.499,28	4.870,38	6.990,00	8.000,00	4.300,00	5.000,00	5.000,00
Dawson lecture	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	3.600,00	3.500,00	3.600,00
Lab visits	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	1.463,19	6.343,81	0,00	4.500,00	3.500,00	2.500,00
Total Expenditure	90.869,24	90.040,01	61.308,18	42.389,56	46.309,84	54.410,00	55.043,45	49.725,13	25.348,45	100.886,79

Balance										
Total Income - Total Expenditure	-51.883,73	-9.557,25	9.438,91	-217,36	-13.791,66	-20.445,37	-21.829,63	24.279,94	25.645,96	-45.886,79

Assets (as of 31.12.200x)										
USD Account	906,73	12.591,99	12.888,32	6.266,13	3.958,97	837,38	492,95	4.342,99	7.871,62	5.000,00
EURO Account	6.402,89	12.765,81	22.492,33	35.278,37	28.940,95	9.544,35	6.784,39	75.735,72	23.127,03	6.100,00
Deposit	136.394,27	108.624,58	107.122,08	99.701,48	101.425,24	101.385,41	84.771,43	35.166,30	109.917,72	84.000,00
Total Assets	143.703,89	133.982,38	142.502,73	141.245,98	134.325,16	111.767,14	92.048,77	115.245,01	140.916,37	95.100,00

Members (paid, honorary & emeritus)	276	264	283	290	272	275	283	262	306	296
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



Report of the Director of International Communications

A communication from the new Director of International Communications.

It is an honour to serve as your new “DoIC”. I am not a complete newcomer to this task: in 1996 I built the first instalment of the ISCEV website, nearly 20 years ago, antediluvian in Internet time. In spite of major changes in the world at large and specifically in clinical electrophysiology, the ISCEV website has stayed rather conservative and I largely plan to leave it that way. For web 2.0 aspects we simply link to LinkedIn, facebook (not for me), and possibly Google+ in future – so much easier to use well-developed technology rather than roll one’s own.

What has changed is the look of the website, and a few items have been added: Among them is an on-line collection of PDFs from the first edition of the clinical electrophysiology of vision “bible” <<http://www.iscev.org/books.html>> gracefully donated by the copyright holder, Dr. John Heckenlively (thank you!). On the lighter side we now have Colin Barber’s “Multifocal Monuments” on-line <<http://www.iscev.org/varia/2013/multifocalMonuments.pdf>>, which I love mostly for Colin’s comments, on top of the images. Proudly here I add one myself (see accompanying pictures and Colin’s explanation below). The main picture was taken 300 m east of my office; the building in the background is the combined eye-ENT building from the University Medical Center Freiburg.

Another new development is the website of our yearly symposium <<http://www.iscev.org/symposia/2013/>>, now created by your DoIC rather than the local organisers. In future this will be part of our website with the goals to (1) reduce costs by avoiding paying 3rd parties to develop it, (2) keep it somewhat consistent with what members expect, and (3) keep it permanent after the Symposium. Our trial run this year went well, building on intensive exchange between Shiyong Li and me.

Any suggestions on our website, even critique, is welcome. Looking forward to see you at our Symposia.

Michael Bach, PhD, ISCEV-DoIC



A new Multifocal Monument in Freiburg, Germany

This monument (far left) is sited, appropriately enough, in the grounds of Freiburg University Eye Hospital, which appears with flowery splendour in the background. Built in 1996 (but only just noticed by our contributor who works there), it is a work by artist Kazuo Katase entitled, even more appropriately, “Cone”.

The colour coding is a source of much puzzlement and discussion, with just a small central field of maximum response (white) and no colouring at all on the rest of it. There is conjecture that this is intended to indicate that the more peripheral responses are not statistically distinguishable from noise, a point often made (not to say laboured) by representatives of the Freiburg school.

An interesting feature of the installation (right, top) is that it has attracted the

same kind of popular attention as the Glasgow multifocal monument (qv). Night-time sees attempts by the local populace to scale the monument – not by the simple hand-scrabble method used in Glasgow, but using advanced mechanical aids as one would expect in Germany. Vorsprung durch Technik, indeed!

Other works by the artist have received similar attention (right, bottom), but it is not known whether the gentleman attempting an inner circumnavigation of the giant ring succeeded in his attempt, or whether he fell to earth onto his head.

Colin Barber



Regional Vice-Presidents' Reports

The Americas



ISCEV@ARVO was held in Seattle, Washington on the Saturday preceding the ARVO meeting. Seventy attendees enjoyed a program of fourteen talks on a variety of topics related to clinical electrophysiology of vision. Discussion was lively and the camaraderie of the ISCEV community was evident before, during, and after the meeting. Electrophysiological data was prominently featured in many papers and posters, illustrating the value of these techniques in translating vision research from the laboratory to the clinic.

Many Americans are looking forward to the upcoming Symposium in Chongqing and we are looking forward to hosting the ISCEV community in Boston for the 2014 annual symposium.

Mitch Brigell

Europe and Africa

This is my first report since being elected as Vice President for Europe and Africa at the 50th ISCEV symposium in Valencia, of which, more in a moment. I must first pay tribute to my predecessor, Professor Colin Barber. Colin joined ISCEV in 1974 and served as Secretary General before becoming Vice President and he was elected as an honorary member in 2012 in recognition of his many contributions to the Society. However, he will be remembered most fondly for his planning of the ISCEV Olympics and as master of ceremonies for the ISCEV banquet over many years. Colin has proved beyond doubt that humour is a truly international commodity, and his expertise at keeping score clearly results from his profound understanding of chaos theory. Colin has fortunately decided not to retire completely just yet.



The 50th ISCEV symposium (4-8 June 2012) did not coincide exactly with the 50th birthday of ISCEV, but it was a special occasion nonetheless. It was held at the Medical College in the vibrant city of Valencia, famous for its bold modern architecture as well as its history. Dr Concha Vilela and her team hosted an excellent and well attended scientific meeting, with a wide variety of oral and poster presentations and keynote lectures, preceded as usual by the ISCEV course –see pages 9 & 10 for more details. We had a taste of the culture of Spain and I particularly remember the evening at Lake Albufera where we watched the sun set from a boat (left).

forward”, chaired by Graham Holder and Marko Hawlina and “Electrophysiology in paediatric practice”, chaired by Graham Holder and Ruth Hamilton.

The Société d'Exploration de la Vision et d'Electrophysiologie (SEVE) met during the Société Française d'Ophtalmologie meeting in Paris (11-14 May 2013) with themes of strabismology and normative values, led by Martine Crochet. It was an unusual and welcome development to have a presenter from Mali with a paper on normal ranges in African subjects.

Events held in German included an electrophysiology session at the Deutsche Ophthalmologische Gesellschaft meeting (ISCEV@DOG) in Berlin (20-23 September 2012), an electrophysiology course for ophthalmologists held at Siegburg (26-27 October 2012), organised by Ulrich Kellner, with 25 participants, and the 21st Munich Electrophysiology Course led by Thomas Berninger (13-14 June 2013), with the theme “Function meets morphology”.

In Britain, electrophysiology has featured at the congress of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists for the last three years. The attendance has been around 40-50, despite two having been 8am sessions. Speakers at this year's congress in Liverpool (21-23 May 2013) were Graham



Holder, Richard Smith and Neil Parry. BriSCEV has had two meetings in the last 12 months with 60-70 attendees at each. The 10th BriSCEV meeting (10-11 September 2012) was held in Aberdeen, home to the most northerly electrophysiology department in the UK. It was organised by Vikki McBain and its theme of assessing structure and function in inherited retinal disease reflected the importance of Aberdeen as a centre of research in biomedical imaging. One of the keynote speakers was Prof David Lurie, a pioneer of magnetic resonance imaging. The meeting also included a wonderful opportunity to experience the Scottish sport of curling, followed by whisky, haggis and an authentic rendition of Robert Burns' "Ode to a Haggis" by Susanne Kelly.

The 11th BriSCEV meeting moved southwards (a little) to Edinburgh (24-25 June 2013). Organised by Jonathan Whittle, Ruth Hamilton and Vikki McBain, it was held in the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. The theme of the half-day course which precedes the main meeting was the electro-oculogram. This excellent session included an update on the latest research into the origins of the EOG and Fast Oscillation by Paul Constable, an account of the bestrophinopathies by Bart Leroy and a practical demonstration of the alcohol-induced light rise with David Sculfor as its main casualty. If you have ever been tempted to drink scotch whisky through a straw, this photograph (right) may persuade you to think again...



The main sessions were spiced with bold hypotheses to challenge established belief. John Robson made a case for replacing white light with cyan as a scotopic stimulus. Tony Fisher believes electrophysiology responses should have a p-value rather than a signal-to-noise ratio. Neil Parry presents evidence for a non-retinal origin of the ERG i-wave. After all this excellent science – more whisky!

Finally, on a more serious note, my "constituency" includes Europe and Africa, but what is ISCEV doing for Africa? I have had emails from two colleagues in Egypt who are trying to maintain an electrophysiology service in very difficult circumstances. Electrophysiology could do a great deal to improve understanding of many diseases that afflict the "two-thirds" world, but we need to support and build links with those who are trying to conduct research and provide clinical services in these challenging circumstances.

Richard Smith FRCS FRCOphth

Caption competition

This photograph was taken in 1996 at the Tübingen meeting. Members are welcome to submit captions: the best caption, fairly assessed by a strictly impartial and independent panel of judges—or possibly by just one, biased judge—will win a prize, to be presented in Chongqing.



The photo shows an ISCEV delegate (anyone know who?) in the foreground, and in the background a very relaxed-looking Colin Barber, former ISCEV Secretary-General, former Vice-President for Europe & Asia, and mastermind of ISCEV Olympics.



Submit your suggestions to Richard Smith at richard.smith@doctors.org.uk.



Recollections of a Symposium: Valencia 2012

50th
ISCEV
2012
VALENCIA - SPAIN



The ISCEV 2012 meeting was held in Valencia, its first time in Spain and from the very first moment in India when we offered our country as host, we planned how to be able to offer all of you a good program of science and social activities. We have been delighted to share with you 2000 years of history and to discover Spanish culture—from the moment of the welcome party by the swimming pool of Colegio de Médicos de Valencia, until the end of our week singing “happy birthday” to our 50 years of ISCEV meetings.



Anybody fall in the swimming pool?

The Dawson Lecture was given by Dra. Carmen Ayuso, head of the Spanish Research Group of Retinal Dystrophies. She told us the results of more than twenty years working together, a really large study. Her lecture title was “From bench to med in molecular genetics of retinal dystrophies”.



We had the honor of being the first group to use the new conference room



Our new President gave us a warm welcome

Prof. Romero gave us the guest lecture “*Experimental and Animal Models*” and after his lecture our local authorities gave us a warm welcome. This day finished with a nice dinner at the Colegio de Médicos with a Sevillanas Workshop.



Prof. Niemeyer gave us his advice and the rest of us managed to survive: Dra. Navea head of FOM, Prof. Romero Vice Rector of Universidad Católica de Valencia and Dra. Vilela, Symposium Convener

In the afternoon, we visited the modern Valencia by Calatrava, “Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias” and after that, old Valencia, the Cathedral, La Lonja (built at the XVI century) and El Almudín (Roman, Visigothic and Arab period of the City). In the evening we went to Albufera Lake, twenty kilometers away from Valencia where we had a boat promenade just with the sunset and after that, a nice dinner at the lake restaurant “El Raco de L’Olla”.



More than thirty boats were used for a promenade at the ancient Albufera lake full of Valencian traditions

The following day after a working morning and lunch we went to the Golden Sands in Playa de la Malvarrosa for the Olympic Games of this year, supervised, as always, by the very well trained Colin Barber and Karen Holopigian with the assistance of our young volunteers. The European team had to fight very hard to obtain the first prize (played on Friday night).



Michael and a big group of ISCEV members arrive with great success till the end of Sevillanas course helped by the bailarinas



... and it was very clear what was about our work



The judges were very busy...

On Friday morning we had the Clinical Case Session with the supervision of Prof. Marmor and a great success of participation. Two hours were dedicated to this session.

After oral sessions and lunch we had the Adachi Lecture in the afternoon with Prof. Paul Sieving. It was delivered at the main conference room of the two-hundred-year-old Botanic Garden of the University of Valencia and the title was *"The tortuous path of translational research: adventures with CNTF for retinal neurodegenerative disease"*.



Happy birthday ISCEV

Prof. Emiko Adachi and President Patrizia Tormene gave Prof. Sieving the "Emiko Adachi Award"



The last dinner was at the seaside, Playa de la Patacona and we enjoyed the food and the wines and also the music of the Spanish Tuna formed by students of the Faculty of Medicine

Just to finish our party and our ISCEV Meeting we sang altogether the Happy Birthday Song for our 50 years meeting. Patrizia Tormene and Concha Vilela blow out the candles and Concha gave thanks to all the people for coming to our country and for the high scientific and social participation of that meeting, receiving a standing ovation from the members present.

The senior, program, junior and volunteer ISCEV 50th organizing committee:

Concha Vilela, Francisco Javier Romero, Amparo Navea, Emilio González, Victoria Martín, Javier Sancho-Pelluz, Leticia Morales, Carmen Mateu, Milagros Martínez, Saray Millan, Geles Crespo, Colin Barber, Dorothy Thompson, Karen Holipigian, María Ortiz, Martin Hayes, Victoria González and Fernando Ortíz.



The Emiko Adachi Award & Lecture: Prof. P. Sieving



Paul Sieving receiving the Adachi Award from ISCEV President Patrizia Tormene in the presence of Professor Emiko Adachi

The prestigious Emiko Adachi Award was presented to Professor Paul A. Sieving, Director of National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health of the United States of America. Prof. Sieving definitely met the criteria set by ISCEV for the recipient of the Adachi award; someone who has provided outstanding service to ISCEV over a long period of time and has made significant scientific contributions to clinical electrophysiology of vision.

Prof. Sieving is well-known internationally for his studies on blinding genetic retinal degenerations, including retinitis pigmentosa, X-linked retinoschisis, and Stargardt disease. His laboratory team has been investigating different neurotrophic factors that could delay the degeneration in transgenic and naturally occurring animal models of human eye diseases. His group has also developed a mouse model of X-linked retinoschisis and successfully treated this condition by gene therapy which restored retinal function. In addition to his administrative duties as head of NEI and the supervision of his laboratory team, he still maintains a clinical practice at NEI for patients with different genetic retinal diseases. He has been successful in all areas.

The title of his lecture was *"The tortuous path of translational research: Adventures with CNTF for retinal neurodegenerative disease"*. He reported on his laboratory studies on pharmacological approaches to slowing degeneration in transgenic animals. The results of these studies led to the first human clinical trial of ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) for retinitis pigmentosa which was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science journal in 2006. They reported that encapsulated cell technology (ECT) implants of CNTF were safe and promising as a mode of administration of protein therapeutics to the eye. Interestingly, he also found that CNTF suppressed ERG responses, and this suppression was attributable to a negative regulation of the phototransduction machinery in rod photoreceptors. At the conclusion of his lecture, he emphasized that further studies were needed to determine the mechanism of CNTF-induced improvement of photoreceptor function, and the need for new technologies to monitor photoreceptor degeneration.

After the lecture, he answered many questions from ISCEV members. All of the ISCEV members felt his lecture was both informative and inspiring, and all wished Professor Sieving continued success in his future endeavors.

Mineo Kondo, MD, PhD

The Eberhard Dodt Memorial Award: Dr K. Fujinami



Congratulations to Dr Kauro Fujinami (above, right), recipient of the 17th Eberhard Dodt Memorial Award, for his paper on genotype-phenotype correlations in Stargardt disease/ABCA4-related retinopathy. Frau Dodt had travelled to Valencia with her daughter, and made the €3000 award in person, with this speech:

Most honoured Prizewinner, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear friends,

"Gratitude is how the heart remembers ...". These were the words with which I welcomed the audience in Bad Nauheim twelve years ago at a great concert in aid of the Eberhard Dodt Award. I was grateful for the fact that by means of this Prize the life's work of my husband was being rewarded; I was grateful that his friends and colleagues had laid the financial foundations for the Prize fund; I was grateful that I repeatedly found helpers, who by their active support or by their donations turned our motto "More research – see better", into a reality. For it is certainly the case, as was said by the German scholar and

statesman Wilhelm Freiherr von Humboldt, a brother of the natural scientist and geographer Alexander von Humboldt: "I reckon that the greatest misfortune that could affect me personally is blindness." Young scientific researchers in the sphere of clinical electrophysiology of vision again and again feel motivated to present their research results in competition with one another. Hence today in Valencia we can once more, for the seventeenth time, from a set of very significant presentations, single out the best research achievement. I have already had the honour of presenting it in person during the annual ISCEV Symposium on frequent occasions. To be able once more to carry out the presentation in person this time is a great pleasure, because for me this is what have inherited from my late husband: supporting young scientists was always close to his heart and this continues to be associated with his name. As you know, this prize is intended to be a stimulus for young scientific researchers in the sphere of clinical electrophysiology of vision on their path to increased scientific knowledge, which involves great exertions but promises success. Thus the jury has this year, after considering a number of very good pieces of work, judged your research contribution, Dr. Fujinami to be especially worthy of the prize. I hand you the prize, with my warmest congratulations.



The Dawson Memorial Lecture: Prof. C. Ayuso



Carmen Ayuso with Concha Vilela and Emiko Adachi

The second William Dawson Memorial Lecture was given by Prof Carmen Ayuso on molecular genetics of retinal dystrophies. Bill's wife, Judyth, was unable to travel to Valencia but sent her warmest wishes to Prof Ayuso and to ISCEV colleagues and friends:

I am saddened that I can not be at ISCEV this year as I was very much looking forward to seeing Valencia and experiencing the legendary Spanish hospitality, as well as seeing Bill's and my dear friends once again. As you know, Bill invented the DTL electrode for eye electrophysiology. The royalties from use of the trademark by the Diagnosys firm are now being donated to ISCEV in Bill's memory, and are being used for the annual Dawson Lecture. I was most pleased when Professor Carmen Ayuso was chosen to be this year's Dawson Lecturer. She has had a brilliant career with wide-ranging interests, many publications, and even more citations. The topic of her lecture is most timely, and I regret I will be unable to hear it. I send her my greetings and

sincere thanks, along with best wishes for a continued successful, productive future in ophthalmology research. Through Professor Barber, I send my greetings to everyone, and, once again, my regrets at being unable to attend this year's symposium. I wish each of you good health, and continued success. I will see you in the future.

Judy Dawson

51st ISCEV Symposium: Boston, USA



On behalf of the planning committee (Scott Brodie, Anne Fulton, Karen Holopigian, Mary Johnson, Jonathan Lyons, Anne Moskowitz, and Board Liaison Colin Barber) it is my pleasure to welcome the ISCEV family to Boston for the 52nd Symposium, July 20–24 at the Boston Marriott Cambridge. The meeting venue is in Kendall Square, adjacent to the MIT Campus and the Charles River. There are many good restaurants and pubs in easy walking distance from the hotel, and all the attractions of Boston are easily accessible via the "T" (the Boston subway system) which stops just outside the Boston Marriott Cambridge. We are pleased to announce that Art Cideciyan, from the Scheie Eye Institute, University of Pennsylvania, will give the Dawson Lecture at the meeting, covering his exciting work on measuring functional impact of gene transfer therapy for hereditary retinal disorders. Other meeting features include pre-meeting courses on clinical and pre-clinical (animal) electrophysiology, an opening reception at the Museum of Science, a guided trolley tour of historic Boston, and the Adachi Lecture and Banquet at the Shalin Lui Performance Center in Rockport, MA. We look forward to hosting you in Boston, for what we anticipate to be a memorable ISCEV Symposium.

Mitch Brigell



52nd ISCEV Symposium: Ljubljana, Slovenia

Join us at the 53rd Symposium of the
International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision (ISCEV)
to be held in conjunction with the
13th Meeting of European Neuro-ophthalmological Society (EUNOS).



Dates

23 - 27 June 2015

Venue:

Cankarjev Dom, Cultural and Congress Centre,
Ljubljana, Slovenia www.cd-cc.si

Please find further information at
www.iscev.org



Prof Marko Hawlina and Dr Jelka Breceelj





Minutes of the 2012 ISCEV Membership Meeting

Friday 8th June 2012, 15:30
Colegio Oficial de Médicos de Valencia
Valencia, Spain

64 Members were in attendance.

Opening & welcome by the President

Prof. Patrizia Tormene opened the meeting, thanking the membership for the esteem and affection demonstrated by electing her as president and noting that many ISCEV issues had continued to be addressed by the Board. New projects have been initiated to bring about goals proposed at the time of the election, specifically: to promote the Society's image; to encourage participation of young people; to upgrade the educational tools of the Society and to disseminate our science in different international contexts. Prof Tormene thanked those who had collaborated so far for their great willingness, and stressed that the Society needs the active participation of all its members to develop and prosper. She then thanked Dr Concha Vilela and the Mediterranean Ophthalmological Foundation for their hard work and willingness to organize a symposium with prudent use of resources.

Minutes of the 2011 ISCEV Membership Meeting

The minutes of the 2011 ISCEV Membership Meeting, as in the 2012 Newsletter, were adopted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Report from the 2012 Symposium Organiser

Dr Concha Vilela welcomed ISCEV to the new auditorium of the Colegio in Valencia and noted how nice and friendly ISCEV members were. She reported that 199 delegates had registered for the symposium, 124 of whom were members. There were eight exhibitors and 35 accompanying persons. 63 oral papers were to be presented in 12 sessions, and 63 poster presentations in three sessions. Prof. Tormene thanked Dr Vilela and her team for hosting such a successful Symposium.

Elections

Honorary members: Prof. Michael Bach proposed Prof. Eberhart Zrenner, and Prof. Tormene nominated Prof. Colin Barber. Both were elected unanimously.

V-P Americas: Dr Mitch Brigell was re-elected unopposed to serve a further three year term.

V-P Europe & Africa: Mr Richard Smith was nominated and elected unopposed.

Director of Standards: Prof. Daphne McCulloch was nominated and elected unopposed.

Director of International Communications: Prof. Bach was nominated and elected unopposed.

Member-at-large (no geographical restriction): Prof. Seeliger was re-elected unopposed for a second term.

Member-at-large (no geographical restriction): Prof. Zheng Qing Yin and Dr Shigeki Machida were nominated for a postal ballot of all members [Prof. Qing Yin was subsequently elected].

The outgoing Officers, Drs Keating and Horiguchi and Prof. Barber, were thanked for their work for the Board.

ISCEV Officer's Reports and matter arising

Mr David Sculfor confirmed that the bookkeeping had been audited and was satisfactory. The membership voted unanimously to exonerate the Treasurer based on the report in the Newsletter.

The Director of Education updated his report with a review of the successful 2012 course, attended by 56 people.

The Editor-in-Chief of *Documenta Ophthalmologica* thanked contributors, reviewers and citers of ISCEV standards, and exhorted the membership to submit papers to the journal.

Other reports were as in the 2012 newsletter without addition.

The membership voted unanimously to exonerate the Board.



Highlights from the 2012 Board meeting

Future of ISCEV Symposia

Prof. Barber described augmented support for symposium organisers by incorporating the symposium website within www.iscev.org, by receiving registration fees using existing payment methods for membership dues, and by an annual Board appointment of a Symposium Co-ordinator (SC) for each symposium to liaise between the Board and the local host, with a term of two years. Prof. Barber will seek to clarify this role by acting as SC for 2014 and 2015.

ISCEV Finance Review Group

Prof. Kellner presented a summary of the work undertaken by the group. It had been decided that, given that liability for symposia rests with ISCEV and not the host, this should define the quantity of reserves required: the Board agreed that €100k was optimal, as it could cover the costs of cancellation of up to two Symposia due to unforeseen and uninsurable circumstances, but remained at a level acceptable to the requirements of a charitable society.

The Board noted that an honorarium for the Editor-in-Chief would contravene the bye-laws. The terms of the Springer contract will be reviewed and adjusted accordingly.

The Board agreed that prompt payment of Membership fees should be more strictly enforced, with loss of Member privileges on non-payment, and that the website will only list paid members.

Small lab visits / travel grants

Two lab visits took place in 2012: Dr Shiyong Li from China visited Prof. Holder's lab in Moorfields, UK and Dr Echevarria from Cuba visited Prof. Hawlina, Slovenia.

Twenty-two travel grant applications were received in 2012, and seven awards were made: Ashley Wood, Anna Machalinska, Pawloski Przemyslaw, Jamie Healey, Ioannis Dimopoulos, Bao Nguyen and Natsuko Nkamura.

No call for small lab visit applications was issued in 2012, pending Board review of all ISCEV grants including small grants for lab visits, travel grants and possible grants for course attendance. The Finance Review Group will remain convened to undertake this review.

ISCEV Standards

PERG: Prof. Bach thanked those who had contributed to the draft versions and noted that further changes had been made during the Symposium and were available on the website to view. The membership will be asked to approve the PERG Standard 2012 update by e-ballot [PERG Standard 2012 update approved by a majority in the e-ballot].

ERG: Prof. Kellner has agreed to chair the 2013 ERG Standard revision committee.

VEP: Standard requires revision in 2013, and a chair is sought.

Procedures Guidelines: Prof Scott Brodie has agreed to chair a revision committee, which is seeking further input from clinicians with substantial VEP experience.

Technical Guidelines: Dr John Robson has been chairing this review, and future direction is to be discussed.

Particular thanks were expressed by Prof. Barber to Prof. Marmor for his service to ISCEV as Director of Standards.

Future ISCEV Symposia

2013: Chongqing: Prof. Bo Lei gave an enticing and welcoming presentation about plans for Chongqing, noting it was 23 years since ISCEV had last been to China.

2014: Boston: Dr Brigell and team updated plans and extended a welcome to the Membership.

2015: Europe/Africa: Three delightful invitations were presented from Ile de Mer (France), Liverpool (UK), and Lubljana (Slovenia). Following a ballot of members present, Ile de Mer and Lubljana went forward to the e-ballot [Lubljana was subsequently selected to host the 2015 meeting].

2016: Asia/Oceania: Invitations are welcome for selection in 2013. Korea may offer to host.

Any other business: No further business had been notified to the Secretary-General.

Close: The meeting closed at 16:50.

Dr Ruth Hamilton, Secretary-General, 12 March 2013