Dear friends and colleagues.

We are only a few weeks away from our annual Symposium and the omens look good for a face-to-face meeting. On 8 June (see picture) I met the rest of the scientific committee, Prof Tony Fisher, Mr Richard Smith, Dr Richard Hagan and Dr Dorothy Thompson (not pictured, hurrying to catch her train) and we enjoyed assembling abstracts into the BriSCEV and ISCEV Symposium programme. The quality of the abstracts is noticeably higher than in previous years and I anticipate a thought-provoking meeting. You may have spotted our innovation session, in tandem with the manufacturers’ presentations, where we will explore with you what technological innovations and improvements would benefit your service or research. We will also cast an eye to the past with a short session which highlights some of ISCEV’s key historical achievements. It is a great pleasure to have Professor Sven-Erik Nilsson, former ISCEV President, to give an invited talk in this session.

I am aware that this happy message does not apply to all our members. Members in China are not able to travel, and post-travel quarantine requirements make travel too onerous from other countries such as South Korea. We also have members who cannot obtain visas or who cannot travel because of other obstacles created by the international political landscape. We will miss this opportunity to meet you all and to share your science.

If you have lost track, let me recap how COVID-19 has affected our previous meetings. In 2020, Prof Pierre Lachapelle and his team abandoned plans to meet on Les Isles de la Madeleine in Canada, and ISCEV invested in an online meeting in its place. In 2021, Prof Tony Fisher’s group had planned to host us in Liverpool, and in very uncertain COVID circumstances, the decision to defer that meeting to 2022 was made with insufficient time to host another online meeting in its place. A 2021 curtailed online meeting comprised Standards sessions...
and a Membership meeting. Our hosts for 2021, 2022 and 2023 all graciously agreed to move their meetings forward by one year. You will hear more about their plans at our Membership meeting on Saturday 6 August 2022.

Our online meeting was a great success in its own way, but your feedback reminded us that, despite the accessibility and low carbon impact of online meetings, the advancement of science depends on effective collaboration. Online meetings cannot replicate the spectrum of interactions – from planned, structured meetings to casual conversations – afforded by face-to-face meetings. These interactions create the space in which we are able to learn, to amend and to improve, making us all safer clinicians and better researchers. Dr Paul Constable’s committee, convened to address the issue of ISCEV’s carbon footprint, found this too. Although not unanimous, it was clear that ISCEV’s membership prefer to meet face-to-face.

Despite the challenges of the past two years, ISCEV has been extremely active as other reports in this Newsletter reveal. Our major Standard, the ERG, has been updated to its 7th version. The Calibration Guideline has been extensively revised and is due for re-circulation shortly. We have partnered with the IPS to develop a clinical FST protocol. A new online course is underway to fill the gap in technical training for visual electrophysiology: the first intake is oversubscribed and a second intake is planned. Demand outstripped supply for licenses to access the online “Eye-site” visual electrophysiology modules. Our membership continues to grow. An interim Board meeting has been instigated. The ISCEV archive has been catalogued and stored appropriately. The transition of that key ISCEV office, Treasurer, is well underway. ISCEV is in preliminary discussion with Springer about a new book, small and concise, covering the essentials of electrophysiology. The journal Eye has published a special collection of review articles focussing on the utility of visual electrophysiology. We are developing strategies for supporting the Board members whose duties are most onerous. We have successfully trialed outsourcing our abstract submissions to Oxford Abstracts.

Collectively, these endeavours set in place most of the changes I committed to making when elected as President: here I state emphatically that the lion’s share of the work has been done by others and not by me. I am grateful to all my ISCEV colleagues who give their time and expertise so generously to the Society. One area where I have made less headway is establishing harmonised reference data. This is likely to be a substantial undertaking and in the absence of specific funding it may need to grow incrementally. I am encouraged to see the area has sufficient interest to justify its own session in Liverpool this year, and I will continue to work to make high-quality reference data accessible to everyone interpreting visual electrophysiology.

ISCEV’s previous UK visit was to Glasgow in 2005. Then, as with this year, the Symposium was held jointly with BriSCEV, ISCEV’s British chapter. BriSCEV was founded in 2003 by Prof Colin Barber and others, and its inaugural meeting took place in Nottingham, hosted by Colin Barber. BriSCEV is the UK’s professional body for Ophthalmic and Vision Science and has become a highly influential body despite its small size. Its annual meeting comprises didactic sessions, a career session and round-table peer discussions of real clinical cases as well as scientific contributions. This year, BriSCEV and ISCEV will share several scientific sessions and I hope these will prove to be mutually beneficial.

I am excited at the prospect of seeing you in Liverpool and sharing electrophysiology knowledge and expertise. Please introduce yourself if we haven’t met before.

Ruth Hamilton, ISCEV President

Message from the Secretary-General

Greetings from beautiful Alaska!

Recently, I was able to take a trip to Alaska that had been scheduled for 2020 but did not occur due to the COVID pandemic. Now that travel is possible again, I was able to reschedule and I truly appreciated my first ‘post-COVID’ adventure. There were, of course, many disruptions to all of our lives over the past several years, including changes in our work environments as well as changes to our collective ISCEV experiences. Our President, Ruth Hamilton, discusses the impact of COVID on the ISCEV experience in her report in this Newsletter. Other reports in this Newsletter no doubt touch upon this topic as well. Here, I will discuss a slightly different topic, namely, interactions in a ‘post-COVID’ environment, especially mean-
In May of this year, I attended the ISCEV@ARVO local meeting, prior to the ARVO annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. ISCEV@DENVER was successfully hosted by our Vice President for the Americas, Dr. Laura Frishman. It was wonderful to see international and US ISCEV colleagues in attendance, who expressed their joy at being able to attend in person and to interact at such a forum. The presentations at the meeting were extremely interesting and the social interactions during the breaks and after the meeting were very lively and enjoyable.

On a side note, during ISCEV@DENVER, I had some discussions with ISCEV members about YSCEV (young ISCEV), a sub-group of ISCEV aimed at our younger and/or newer members (as both a support group and a social network). YSCEV has a large following (>100 members) on Facebook. However, without an in-person symposium, the group has not been able to meet for several years and this could have presented challenges for the members to stay connected. There will be a gathering for YSCEV at the Liverpool Symposium and I strongly encourage anyone who is interested to attend this event.

As the 59th ISCEV Symposium in Liverpool approaches, the ISCEV board and the Symposium hosts & planning committee are all excited (and a bit anxious) at the prospect of having a face-to-face meeting. There has been an incredible amount of work done by the local hosts and planning committee and the Symposium looks to be exceptional. There is the usual flurry of activity that precedes an annual Symposium and which engages many of the ISCEV board members. This includes, happily, the typical surge in membership, which helps to keep our membership numbers stable, as other members are lost due to changing interests or aging or other factors.

I very much look forward to this Symposium, and for those of you able to attend, I look forward to interacting with you. For those of you that are not able to attend, I regret the circumstances that prevent your attendance and hope that those circumstances will change in the near future.

With my best regards

Karen Holopigian, ISCEV Secretary-General

Report of the Director of Education

It is my distinct pleasure to start serving a term as ISCEV’s Director of Education and to continue building on the successful programs created and implemented by my predecessors. I am very pleased to inform that the ISCEV course is on schedule to be conducted in person again after the last couple of years when it was delivered only online. The course this year will be held on Monday 1 and Tuesday, 2 August 2022 in conjunction with the 59th ISCEV symposium in Liverpool, UK. The University of Liverpool will be the course venue. As in the past the clinical and pre-clinical courses will run in parallel with multiple joint sessions. The teaching and demonstrations of electrophysiological techniques will be delivered by a faculty of international experts. All attendees will have ample time during and after the course to spend with the manufacturers.

Last year ISCEV had negotiated access to a visual electrophysiology module written by members of BriSCEV in partnership with the UK Royal College of Ophthalmology. While these modules are available at no cost to National Health Service workers in the UK, ISCEV purchased 50 licenses to enable non-UK ISCEV members to access the content, which includes additional ophthalmology resources. Each license gives two years of access to the whole Ophthalmology (Eye-Site) program including the visual electrophysiology module. With the request from ISCEV members for this license now exceeding 50 the executive board has directed that we keep track of the requests for licenses beyond the original 50 already given out and soon evaluate whether obtaining additional licenses is feasible.

Dorothy Thompson and John Grigg developed an ISCEV endorsed, 6-week on-line, self-paced interactive microcredit course, with the education team at Sydney University, Australia. The course aimed to address the need for technical training identified by ISCEV members in USA. The first course launched on 23 May 2022 with insightful and practical contributions from Oliver Marmoy, Arlene Drack, Wanda Pfeiffer, Anne Geor-
giou, Ajoy Vincent, Anupreet Tumbler and Paul Constable, with Dorothy and John chipping in! Course participants pass the course by making presentations to the group. These presentations and discussions are moderated by 3 tutors, one in each time zone. Our thanks to tutors, Wanda Pfeiffer USA, Haipha Ali Australia and Anne Georgiou UK, for contributing to the success of this inaugural course. The first course was quickly over-subscribed and we are excited to announce that a second course is planned for later this year. Please look out for the new dates on the ISCEV site.

Suresh Viswanathan, ISCEV Director of Education

Report of the Director of Standards

There was no ISCEV symposium last year and in lieu of the usual “Standards” session, two meetings were held on-line in September 2021, several hours apart to better enable participation in different time zones. Proposed revisions to the ISCEV-Standard for clinical full-field ERG were presented, with an aim of maintaining consistency while broadening the delivery model to potentially benefit a wider range of patients. This prompted much feedback, and I am grateful for your emailed comments and for the highly constructive discussions during the on-line sessions. It is a pleasure to report that the updated version was approved by a large majority in the membership ballot and that the Standard was published in the June issue of Documenta Ophthalmologica. Special thanks to fellow committee members Laura Frishman, John Grigg, Ruth Hamilton, Brett Jeffrey, Mineo Kondo, Shiying Li and Daphne McCulloch.

The on-line standards sessions also included presentations by Daphne McCulloch on the ISCEV guidelines for the calibration of stimulus and recording parameters, with plans to review further refinements at the forthcoming ISCEV symposium in August. John Grigg described the full-field stimulus threshold test (FST), a psychophysical method used increasingly by ISCEV members in clinical trials including multi-centre studies. A need for greater standardization of the FST was highlighted and there was strong support from the floor to develop a guideline or protocol, with the suggestion to collaborate with the Imaging and Perimetry Society (IPS). The collaboration was initiated by Ruth Hamilton and Chota Matsumoto (IPS President) and a committee has been convened including six members from each Society. Kick-off meetings were held on-line in February 2022, and I am grateful to Jasleen Jolly for leading the writing and development of this guideline on behalf of ISCEV. A progress report is planned for the ISCEV standards session in August.

Finally, I note that the next ISCEV standards due to be updated are for the pattern ERG and visual evoked potentials and as always I welcome your thoughts and suggestions, as well as any proposals for future ISCEV extended protocols or guidelines.

Anthony Robson, ISCEV Director of Standards

Editor-in-Chief, Documenta Ophthalmologica

Dear ISCEV members,

Documenta Ophthalmologica (DOOP), the official journal of ISCEV, is in partnership with Springer Nature and known as a hybrid or transformative journal as it is published both online and in print. We publish two volumes per year, each with three issues, plus an online-only supplement for the abstracts from the Annual ISCEV Symposium. The purpose and scope are aligned to those of ISCEV: to promote the understanding and application of clinical electrophysiology of vision for both basic and clinical sciences. As I write this, Documenta Volume 144 is complete with the publication of issues 1–3.
January 1st, I began my term as the Editor-in-Chief, succeeding Pierre Lachapelle, the 5th Editor-in-chief since 1985 when DOOP was adopted as the official journal of ISCEV. Thank-you Pierre, for the healthy state of our journal and for your dedicated work for the past 8 years. A special thanks as well to our three Associate Editors, Mineo Kondo, Jan Kremers and Suresh Viswanathan, for the extra support throughout the transitions in 2022.

In April, Springer re-organised and DOOP acquired a new publishing editor, Rebecca (Becky) Shreeve. We will miss our former editor, Patrizia Bianchi not only for her support and expertise but also for her warm familiarity with our society. Becky brings her enthusiasm and her experience of hybrid medical journals; I look forward to working with her. Our managing editor, Diana Epstein and her team and our production editor at Springer, Jasmine Fatima, and her team are unchanged; I thank them for their excellent ongoing support.

I am pleased to announce that Dorothy Thompson has accepted an appointment as Associate Editor; we look forward to her joining our Associate editors in the expert moderation of the reviews and reviewers.

Operational matters

Since January 2022, the Journal has received 65 new submissions, 48 of which were within scope and appropriate for review. We have also managed 19 revised submissions from previous years. Since 2011, annual submissions to DOOP have ranged from a low of 88 to a high of 227. Such wide fluctuations would be difficult to manage; however, the true rate of appropriate submissions has been quite steady at about 100 per year across the decade. Fluctuations result primarily from the submissions outside the scope of the journal. A relatively steady flow of submissions points to the ongoing strength of clinical electrophysiology of vision, but may prove limiting in the current climate with new journals competing for quality manuscripts. A modest expansion of scope will be a topic for discussion at the upcoming business meetings in Liverpool (ISCEV Board, Editorial Board and ISCEV Membership Meeting). It is important, however, that we retain our strengths and remain truly authoritative within our specialism.

Official impact factors for 2021 will be released later this month; other indices, such as the Scimago Journal Rank (SJR), indicate that we are solidly in the second quartile of indexed ophthalmology journals (40th of 127). Our journal metrics for prestige and citation impact are supported by the widely recognised ISCEV Standards, Guidelines and Extended Protocols. Recently, DOOP published a revision to our oldest and most cited Standard, the Standard for full-field clinical electroretinography (2022 update) (see report of the Director of Standards in this Newsletter). Please take this opportunity to review its use in your clinics and research. Over the past 5 years, nearly a quarter of the citations of all ISCEV Standard have been citations of outdated Standards (as listed on Scopus). One way to improve this is for ISCEV members to be vigilant, not only in their own work but in their collaborations, teaching and reviewing.

The journal’s social media profile is increasing with tweets to accompany new publications. Thank-you to Diana Epstein and Ruth Hamilton for managing this initiative. Journal authors may be approached to provide a tweet but do please tweet proactively and share publications with your own networks.

Online Collections

Online journal collections: one for ISCEV Standards and Guidelines and another for the ISCEV Extended Protocols will be available later this year. ISCEV members and friends and familiar with convenient access to ISCEV Standards and Guidelines on our webpage; these will remain. The Springer journal collections will provide additional promotion and access points for the broader scientific community. I am open to suggestions and guest editors for further online collections on topical themes. These can be organised with retrospective and/or new content and are free of the constraints of deadlines and length that apply to traditional Special Issues.

In these first months as Editor-in-chief, I am encouraged by the steady flow of submissions and by the consistent quality of our reviewing process. The norm for our journal is expert constructive reviews with thoughtful balanced moderation. I thank our reviewers, especially those on the Editorial Board, and look forward to meeting many of you in Liverpool.
Dear friends and colleagues:

One of the nicest aspects being the “Director of International Communications” is the high frequency it brings me in contact with you – be it via email only. I'm the one to frequently populate your inbox, and I'm the one you turn to first when problems arise. [Not problems with electrodes, no one asks me there (my tip would be: are the resistances of active/inactive similar? Glad you asked.)] And nearly everything can be solved! If you thought I might be trying to “sell” this position, you're right:

There is an interesting document on our website, just below the photos of our leading ladies, the “full history Gantt chart” (PDF). Going back to 1958 (!) it depicts officers for this society. The “Director of International Comms” was created 2002, and will be vacated 2024. Since I will have done 3 terms by then I'm not eligible for re-election. So please think about it.

COVID-19 made it very difficult to make new personal friends in our field, especially sad for young colleagues. So our “Young ISCEV” group <facebook.com/groups/1640824466185400/> showed little activity, but it’s gaining traction as I hear. And I am happy that Natalie Doran (email: Natalie@diagnosysllc.com, Twitter @NatalieBDoran) stepped up to facilitate this; also there is a pertinent session (with refreshments) on Friday at the end of the day in the Liverpool program. Natalie feels she’s not young enough – she and I have a difference of opinion on that point.

Above I wrote “email only” – Well, here's to hoping we can get together in person again, finally, at this year's Symposium in Liverpool. My trains & accommodation are booked, my abstract was accepted, what can go wrong?

Looking forward to see you there, all the best,

Michael Bach, ISCEV Director of International Communications

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Treasurer’s Report

Dear ISCEV colleagues,

This is my first year as your treasurer. I am very grateful for your trust in me during the elections. I will try to serve the society at my best possible. The time until now has been spent to bring the society up to date legally. The society is registered in Germany and we had to register officially some changes in the society, such as addresses and membership meetings. Furthermore, the board had to be registered. Finally, Mathias Seeliger had to pass all the accesses to bank accounts to me. The consequence is that Mathias had to continue doing all the paper work until now, which he thankfully did. Actually, Mathias and I met recently and most of the paper work has been done. Some minor things, such as passing the Paypal account remain.

This year’s financial report is therefore still his work. Thanks once more to Mathias. As you will see, the society is financially still in a good shape although the last few years were also a financial challenge.

I am looking forward to meeting the colleagues and friends in person again in Liverpool!

Jan Kremers, ISCEV Treasurer
Dear ISCEV Members,

I am happy to report from the Americas that ISCEV’s pre ARVO meeting took place this year, in person, on Saturday April 30, the day before the start of the ARVO meeting in Denver Colorado. There were 30 participants, arriving from the Americas, and Europa/Africa. Eleven of the participants gave presentations, some focused on the use of ERGs and VEPs in evaluation of subjects with various inherited and acquired disorders, others, on refinements in recording techniques and analysis. The presentations were followed by lively question periods. Before the presentations, during the break and after the meeting, we were able to greet colleagues that we had not seen face to face for a long time, and to talk and laugh together, without the aid of a virtual platform. Very best wishes to members of ISCEV who will be able to experience the pleasure of in person meeting at the upcoming Liverpool Symposium.

In 2023, we are looking forward to ISCEV in Kyoto Japan in mid-March. ARVO will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana in late April; an ISCEV pre-ARVO event is under consideration, suggestions are welcome. We also, of course, are looking forward to the return of the ISCEV Symposium to the Americas, in eastern Canada in late April; an ISCEV pre-ARVO event is under consideration, suggestions are welcome. We also, of course, are looking forward to the return of the ISCEV Symposium to the Americas, in eastern Canada in late April; an ISCEV pre-ARVO event is under consideration, suggestions are welcome.

Sincerely,

Laura Frishman, ISCEV Vice President Americas
It was difficult to hold face-to-face conferences during this past year because of COVID-19. I report on the ISCEV-related events that took place under these circumstances and upcoming conferences in Asia and Oceania.

In Korea, KSCEV is conducting electrophysiological equipment-oriented webinars for its members. The first webinar was held on April 27th under the theme of RETeval of the LKC Company, and the speakers were Quentin Davis (USA), Ungsoo S. Kim (Korea), and Hoon Dong Kim (Korea). KSCEV is planning the 2nd webinar around June focusing on equipment for Diagnosys.

In China, The National Visual Electrophysiology Course and 1st Xiamen Ophthalmic Examination Forum was held on 12–13 November 2020 hosted by Professor Shiyong Li. The Visual Electrophysiology session of the 26th National Congress of Chinese Ophthalmology Society (CCOS) will be held on 8–11 September in Chendu and will be hosted by Professors Shiyong Li and Ke Yao.

Finally, the 60th ISCEV Symposium and Courses will be held in Kyoto, Japan on 13–18 March 2023. The Chair of the Congress is Professor Masayuki Horiguchi of Fujita Medical University. It will be held in a face-to-face format. We hope that the COVID-19 epidemic will have settled down by that time, and we look forward to meeting everyone from around the world in Kyoto.

Otherwise, the ISCEV community in Asia and Australia is strong and progressing. The information obtained from all of its members have contributed to the better treatment of our patients. I thank all members who have made ISCEV a strong ophthalmic community in our region of the world.

Mineo Kondo, ISCEV Vice President Asia & Australasia

Vice-President Europe & Africa

ISCEV aims to extend knowledge, co-operation and communication among workers in the field of clinical and basic electrophysiology of vision. The three vice presidents help promote these aims by working with symposium hosts in their respective time zones.

An ISCEV symposium depends upon synergy, teamwork and months of preparation. The Liverpool team have coped with pandemic uncertainties and the disappointment of postponing the 2021 ‘in person’ symposium. Meanwhile during 2021 on-line meetings blossomed and a number of popular webinars and meetings were hosted by visual electrophysiology and ophthalmology societies, such as SEVE, SOE and BriSCEV.

These are great ways to keep in touch and up to date, but I have missed the spontaneity of conversations – those chats we enjoy without first ‘raising a virtual hand’ or being told ‘you’re on mute’! It is a testament to the enthusiasm and resilience of the Liverpool team that the 2022 ISCEV will be an ‘in-person’ symposium. With 80 submissions, it promises to be a feast of clinical science and research. Led by symposium co-ordinators Richard Smith and Colin Barber, supported by BriSCEV, the ISCEV executive team, and a hefty symposium manual, the steering committee has navigated the symposium in-person plans into Liverpool’s harbour. Gillian Ruddock and Richard Hagan prepared social and financial plans for myriad local contingencies and finally, Tony Fisher, who has waited more than 10 years to bring ISCEV to Liverpool University, was able to publish his conference website detailing the cultural experiences Liverpool offers.

We look forward to sharing our planning experiences with future ISCEV hosts. Most importantly, we are excited to welcome you to Bri/ISCEV 2022 and the irrepressible city of Liverpool without first raising our hands!

Dorothy Thompson, ISCEV Vice President Europe and Africa
Dear ISCEV Members:

We are pleased to announce that the 60th ISCEV meeting will be held in Kyoto, Japan from 13 to 18 March 2023. The Congressional Venue will be the Kyoto International Conference center. The venue has several different rooms for the ISCEV dinners; the Welcome Reception will be in Swan Hall and a traditional Japanese meal will be served at the gala dinner.

There are many hotels available in Kyoto; the fees vary from 96-485 USD per day. There are many wonderful places for the accompanying persons’ tour. Some of these include the Bamboo forest, a handicraft center, temples, castles and market places.

Preparations are well underway. We look forward to seeing you in Kyoto.

Masayuki Horiguchi, MD PhD, Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, Fujita Health University School of Medicine

The Emiko Adachi Award & Lecture

Due to the limitations of the virtual meeting, there was no Emiko Adachi lecture in 2020, nor in 2021. The next Adachi lecture, by Dr. Mitchell Brigell, is scheduled for presentation at the 2022 ISCEV Symposium in Liverpool.
Minutes of the 2021 ISCEV Membership Meeting (draft for approval)

The minutes were announced via email, published on our website and can be perused here: https://iscev.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/minutes/ISCEV_MembMins2021.pdf

Please acquaint yourself with these meeting minutes so you can make an informed decision whether to accept them as a true representation during the upcoming virtual membership meeting on 2022-08-06.

2022 Membership Meeting Agenda

1. Opening and President's Welcome
2. Tasks of the Membership Meeting
3. Minutes of 2021 Membership Meeting
4. Report from the 2022 Symposium Host
5. ISCEV Officers' Reports
6. Exoneration of the Board
7. Highlights from the Board of Directors Meeting
8. Elections
9. Future Symposia
   • 2023: Kyoto, Japan by Prof. Masayuki Horiguchi
   • 2024: Montebello, Canada by Dr. Allison Dorfman and team
   • 2025: TBD
10. Other Business