The World Congress, held in the Hotel Lotte, was an outstanding meeting both from the scientific and social points of view. We are all very grateful to the President of the Congress, Prof. Jin Pok Kim, the Secretary, Prof. Hoong-Zae Joo, and all the members of the Local Organizing Committee for the effort that they expended so successfully in organizing this exceptionally good meeting. The Opening Ceremony included an address by the Minister for Health, who welcomed the participants, and a lecture by our Past President, Prof. Jorge Puig La Calle, who elaborated the beauty of the Hospital San Pau in Barcelona.

Recognition and thanks must go to the Scientific Committee for the work they carried out and the selection of an appealing programme made up of a range of topics organized in Start of the Art Lectures, Panel Discussions and Symposia. The programme was of a high scientific level and was attended and followed with great interest, as were the poster sessions and particularly the free paper sessions. As usual the free papers were selected from the submitted abstracts that were evaluated by a blinded international panel of experts, thus guaranteeing high scientific standards. The high turn out (about 750 registered members and accompanying persons) is indicative not only of the continued interest of the members but also of the healthy state of the CICD.

The high point of the free paper session was the Grassi Prize Competition: the four best papers selected from among all those accepted for presentation were judged by a Committee chosen for this purpose. What turned out to be a very close competition was won by the paper entitled: ‘Loss of Heterozygosity and Microsatellite Instability in Sporadic Colorectal Cancer. Analysis of 96 Cases’ by C.L. Maillo, F.J. Angulo, M. Moreno-Azcoita, J.J. Gonzalez-Aguilera, M.A. Fernandez-Peralta and M. Palacio from the Hospital Universitario de Getafe, Madrid, Spain. The Grassi Prize of US $1,000 was presented to Dr. Angulo during the Official Banquet held at the Little Angels Performing Arts Center.

The next World Congress will be held in Madrid from September 16-19, 1998. The President of the Local Organizing Committee is Dr. Mariano Moreno-Azcoita. The registration fee has been set at $500 for members and $300 for residents in training. The Preliminary Programme was distributed during the Seoul Congress and it is planned to publish it in Digestive Surgery. It’s not too early to begin thinking about the topic of abstracts you will want to submit for this program.

Prof. Farthmann and Prof. Becker, the new German National Delegate, presented, on behalf of his National Section, Hamburg’s bid to host the 17th World Congress of CICD which is to be held in the year 2000. Prof. Becker reminded those present that a CICD congress has never been held in Germany and also emphasized the importance of the location of Hamburg. His presentation clearly showed both the beauty of the city and the excellence of the congress and hotel facilities it offers. Following the recommendation of the International Committee, Hamburg was unanimously selected as the venue for the 2000 World Congress by the General Assembly.
CICD Participation in 1997 SIC Program

CICD has agreed once again to participate in the meeting of the SIC to be held in Acapulco, Mexico, in 1997. CICD will organize two panel discussions on the subjects of ‘Molecular Biology in Digestive Cancer’ and ‘Controversies in Laparoscopic Surgery for Digestive Disease’. Because the SIC will not be able to provide any registration concessions for presenters, we have recruited panelists from CICD members who will be able to attend the meeting at their own expense.

Officers Elected

Seoul are:
Honorary President
Louis F. Hollender, MD, Strasbourg, France
Past President
Robert E. Condon, MD, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
President
John Wong, MD, Hong Kong
President Elect
Eduard H. Farthmann, MD, Freiburg, Germany
Secretary General
Antonio Basoli, MD, Rome, Italy
Treasurer General
Laurence Y. Cheung, MD, Kansas City, Kansas, USA
Councillors
Teruaki Aoki, MD, Frank J. Branicki, MD, Jin Pok Kim, MD, Roger Leicester, MD