ILDS Welcome Reception in San Diego, 18th March 2012

On the occasion of the 70th annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology in San Diego the ILDS Executive Committee hosted a cocktail reception in the evening of 18 March. The reception, held at the Marriott Hotel on an evening of several competing attractions, was well attended by friends of the ILDS, who stopped by for a drink and a chat. Jean Bolognia and Chris Griffiths acted as official ILDS meeters and greeters for the guests. Our president, Wolfram Sterry gave a short speech of welcome and provided an update for those present on the recent achievements of and plans for the ILDS. The announcement of the Berlin summit was particularly well received by our member societies. Jerry Shapiro then took the floor to apprise us of the arrangements for the Vancouver World Congress, these too were greeted with enthusiasm. These receptions are a very worthwhile means of reaching out to our membership.
diseases as well as in anatomy, pharmacy, and hygiene. Later on, the world-famous professor of ophthalmology, Dr. Charles A. Webster, took the chair of dermatology, and in 1899 he passed it on to Dr. Walter B. Adams. Dr. Adams built up the specialty into the largest clinical practice in the university’s hospital, and in the process he became one of the foremost dermatologists in the world.

Considering the rather limited number of medical courses offered by the college in 1882, there were by the turn of the century twelve medical departments, dermatology included. In 1908, the treatment of skin diseases was accommodated in a remodeled house near the Woman’s Pavilion. In 1920, when the institution became recognized as AUB, Dr. Walter B. Adams was still head of dermatology, and he remained in that capacity until he suffered a stroke in 1924. A year later, he retired as professor-emeritus.

Subsequently, dermatology at AUB became the responsibility of the late Dr. Yusuf M. Rawda, a 1915 MD graduate of AUB who was a clinical assistant in diseases of the eye and ear, as well as in dermatology.

Dr. Rawda was succeeded by the late Dr. Daniel H. Escher who held the title of Lecturer on Dermatology and Syphilology in the Department of Practice of Medicine at the AUB Faculty of Medicine.

The era of modern dermatology began with the late Dr. Harant T. Chaglassian, a 1931 MD graduate from AUB who joined the School of Medicine as an instructor in medicine in 1933. By 1959, there were three full-time faculty members in dermatology: Dr. Chaglassian, Dr. Fuad S. Farah, and Dr. Amal K. Kurban. In 1960, dermatology was made a division in the Department of Internal Medicine and headed by Dr. Chaglassian.

In 1962, Dr. Johnny A. Malak, a 1956 MD graduate of AUB, joined the division as a clinical faculty, following his return from the USA. In 1963, Dr. Najib H. Shehadeh, another 1956 MD graduate from AUB, became the second clinical faculty in the division.

After Dr. Chaglassian passed away in 1965, Dr. Amal Kurban was appointed head of the Division of Dermatology. During his tenure, the division witnessed tremendous progress. Undergraduate as well as postgraduate teaching took on great strides. Research was in full swing and publications appeared methodically. Numerous articles covering basic research, investigative work, and clinical studies appeared in the medical literature. This was unfortunately brought to a halt by the 1975 Lebanese war.

In 1964, graduate medical education/residency training program in dermatology was started. It was modeled along the US training programs and since then an average of two specialists per year graduated, many of whom are already in practice in Lebanon and abroad.

At the national level, the Lebanese Dermatological Society was established in 1963 with significant contributions from Drs. Chaglassian, Farah, Kurban and Malak and Kibbi who all took office as presidents of the Society and established the specialty within the region and internationally.

Throughout the years of war, i.e. between 1975 and 1991, and despite the exodus of some faculty members, the department kept up its diligent work as best as it could under the then-prevailing circumstances. In 1984, a milestone took place during which the Board of Trustees of AUB approved the change of status of the division to that of a department and Dr. Amal Kurban was appointed at the helm of the newly recognized department. When the strife in Lebanon finally ended, the department, headed by Acting Chairman Dr. Shukrallah Zaynoun, regained full thrust and resumed all its activities and functions including its presence in the region.

In 1994, I was appointed acting chairman and later in 1997 became Chairman. I continued my predecessors’ footsteps in maintaining excellence in teaching, service and research. I hope the department will achieve preeminence through exemplary world-renowned educational programs and expansion of excellent interdisciplinary research, while taking advantage of the newly emerging world-class facilities, and while enhancing high quality service in what is known to be a challenging and complicated healthcare system.

The most recent achievement of the Department of Dermatology is its establishment of the Hair and Nail Center, the objective of which is to provide an optimized setting where patients having all types of hair and nail problems are treated. In addition, the Department has launched a genodermatoses program; it is directed by a world-class and board-certified clinical geneticist who trained in Columbia University – USA.

In conclusion and in my capacity as a Chair of the Department and as a board member of the ILDS, if I have reached out and touched at least one person per annum over the course of nearly a quarter of a century of teaching at this outstanding department and in the board, I realize with a joy coupled with humility that I have reached out and touched the lives of many, many people, and, in return, they too have reached out and enriched my world of dermatology.
Culinary Delights
In the core of Vancouver's downtown area, you’ll find a variety of exquisite restaurants to choose from. The Vancouver community is multi-ethnic; including Asian, Greek, Indian, Italian and Portuguese communities, reflecting Vancouver’s dining experience. Vancouver has access to fresh and organic options throughout the year and offers its visitors, tourists and residents a wide variety of flavours from around the world. There’s no shortage of restaurants with gorgeous scenery, drop-dead views and heaping platters of the freshest catch of the day, it’s turned into a quintessential experience.

Outdoor Activities
Active visitors will quickly discover that Vancouver is like a giant playground just waiting to be explored. Vancouver is an explorer’s city. Whether you prefer to discover by foot, bike, car or boat, interesting neighbourhoods, gardens, parks and activities are around every corner.

With endless options for activities, sights and attractions, Vancouver is a city to explore. By coach or minibus, horse-drawn carriage or helicopter, bicycle or on foot – on your own, as a couple, group or family – your choices for fun, excitement and enjoyment are limitless!

For more information, please contact the Congress Secretariat at info@derm2015.org or visit www.derm2015.org.

We look forward to welcoming you to Vancouver for the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology on June 8 to 13, 2015!

ILDS Certificate of Appreciation
Evangelina B. Handog

I to r: Steve Stone, Ron Moy, Evangelina Handog, Wolfram Sterry

Evangelina Handog having been presented with the ILDS Certificate of Appreciation by Wolfram Sterry, President of the International League of Dermatological Societies, at the American Academy of Dermatology Recognition Lunch in San Diego in March, 2012.

CDSI Member’s Corner
Cosmetology Dermatology Society (India)

January 2012 saw two important members of the CDSI – President Dr. Amala Kamat, and Vice President Dr. Jaishree Sharad, participate in The World Congress of Cosmetic Dermatology at Cancun, New Mexico. Dr. Kamat delivered a talk on ‘Facial Melanosis—an Indian perspective’ and Dr. Sharad conducted a symposium in which she spoke on Newer Anti aging cosmeceuticals and nanotechnology. As Chair of the session she also involved luminaries in the field from countries as diverse as Dubai, Germany and USA.

Dr. Shyam Verma, Vice President of CDSI was one of the main organizers of a unique seminar on ‘Skin Lightening Agents, Fairness of Skin and Women’ organized by the M.S. University of Baroda, India’s Women Studies Center. The seminar was very well received and the keynote address was delivered by a noted Indian actress and social rights activist. Prof. Thomas Ruzicka, the celebrated professor of dermatology from Munich who was Dr. Verma’s guest during that time also spoke on the ‘darker side of light skin’.

CDSI, a sister society of the Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologist and Leprologists (IADVL) had a stand alone session during the annual congress of IADVL in Jaipur, India. Our session provided a platform for upcoming young dermatologists to come and speak on their experiences as young practitioners. Various studies like ‘Periorbital melanosomas and fractional laser’ (Dr. Bhavini Lodhya) ‘Hair reduction lasers in patients on isotretinoin’ (Dr. Asha Doshi), ‘Facial Melanosis and Histopathological correlation’ (Dr. Neetu Rajdeo), ‘Female pattern hair loss and androgens’ (Dr. Kalyani Nair) were presented. Dr. Prashant Goyal made a presentation on Scarring management with 532nm Q switched ND YAG in type III skin. The talks were all extremely well appreciated. CDSI has conducted sister society meetings in the past in EADV Gothenberg, EADV Lisbon and during the World Congress in Seoul.

CDSI acknowledges the importance of imparting quality training to young dermatologists. Therefore over and above our hugely popular national congress we are starting from next month ‘satellite symposia’ which are planned to be held in large cities all over the country. Young dermatologists will be trained at nominal charges.

Thus CDSI continues its march boldly into the future, making inroads on the Global Dermatology platform. We have many plans in the pipeline which are premature to be declared now but we are sure that we will have the pleasure of sharing them with you in the next newsletter.

AEDCA
Ecuadorian Association of Dermatology and Allied Sciences

Please receive a salute on behalf of AEDCA, Asociación Ecuatoriana de Dermatología y Ciencias Afines (Ecuadorian Association of Dermatology and Allied Sciences).

Our organization is working on the II Congreso Internacional de Dermatología Pediátrica (II International Congress of Pediatric Dermatology) to be held at hospital ‘Roberto Gilbert Elizalde’ in the city of Guayaquil, Ecuador, South America, June 18 to 20, 2012.

Dra. Danny Suquilanda Feria,
President AEDCA
President of the II Congreso Internacional de Dermatología Pediátrica

Indian Society of Teledermatology

Indian Society of Teledermatology (INSTED) observes World Psoriasis Day

The President of INSTED, Prof. Jayakar Thomas delivered a CME Lecture on ‘Psoriasis as a systemic Disease’ in Chennai, India. This CME was attended by
practicing Dermatologists and Residents (postgraduate students) of Dermatology from various colleges/universities. Prof. Thomas, after delivering the details about the biologics effortlessly, highlighted the fact that psoriasis is now becoming one of the most common manifestations of metabolic syndrome. He emphasized that it was the duty of every dermatologist to approach psoriasis patients with this important fact in mind and do their best to improve the quality and longevity of life of their patients.

Following the lecture, there was interaction between the speaker and the participants. It was accepted that the advent of biologics has paved way in managing resistant cases where other drugs cannot be used. The take-home lesson was, approach to psoriasis is multidisciplinary and all psoriatics should be screened for metabolic syndrome. Benefit of use of biologics should reach deserving patients.

All present renewed last year’s pledge that ‘We have the duty to see that every patient with psoriasis is helped to live his/her normal span of life in perfect health’. 

Dr. Parimalam Kumar, Secretary


Leprosy week was observed from 29.1.–4.2.2012 in connection with World Leprosy Day together with IADVL Chennai City Branch. Hand outs in English and Tamil were distributed to patients and the public.

29.1.2012 – Commencement of the week long programme with a screening camp by Prof. Jayakar Thomas, President INSTED, Founder IADVL CCB.

30.1.2012 – CME lecture at Sree Sathya Sai Medical College, by Prof. Jayakar Thomas.

31.1.2012 – Free skin camp, conducted by Dr. Dinesh Kumar Devarg, member INSTED, Executive Member, IADVL CCB.

01.2.2012 – CME lecture at Stanley Medical College by Prof. Jayakar Thomas.

02.2.2012 – Screening of school children by Dr. Parimalam Kumar, president IADVL CCB and secretary, INSTED.

03.2.2012 – Free skin camp, conducted by Dr. Renuka Ramakrishnan, Secretary, IADVL CCB, member INSTED.

04.02.2012 – Week long program was concluded at the International Dermatology Update 2012, organized by INSTED, in collaboration with the Dowling Club, a division of British Association of Dermatologist.

All stood up to recognize, appreciate and respect the staff and workers involved in the eradication of the disease all over the world.

An oath was taken to detect and treat the disease at an early stage & remove the stigma attached to it.

The three-day scientific program will cover all aspects of dermatology – from new understandings of common skin conditions, such as rosacea, to the latest advances in cosmetic dermatology. For the first time in South Africa, the International Psoriasis Council will be presenting its popular ‘Meet the Experts’ session where attendees can interact and network with leaders in the field.

‘This exciting international gathering in this vibrant host city offers something for everyone,’ said ISD President Francisco Kerdel, MD. ‘Those attending will gain a greater appreciation of the global nature of dermatology and how our collective collaboration will lead to better care for patients around the world.’

Online registration for the 3rd CCD is now open, and the early registration deadline is June 30, 2012. Abstracts must be submitted by June 1, 2012. For more information and to register for the meeting or submit an abstract, visit the meeting Web site at www.ccd2012.co.za.

About the ISD

Founded in 1959, the International Society of Dermatology is the only international society comprised of individual dermatologists from all fields of dermatology with a focus on global issues in dermatology. The Society’s mission is to facilitate the exchange of information among dermatologists on a global basis and remains true to its roots by concentrating on issues relating to global dermatology and tropical skin diseases – including basic sciences, venerology and public health, and teaching dermatology in developing countries.

For more information, please contact Karen Sideris at kmssgis@msn.com.

Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology

The Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID) is pleased to present the 37th Annual Meeting in Okinawa from December 7 to 9, 2012.

This meeting focuses on original research in health and disease in the skin, and highlights our current and emerging discoveries. The designated theme is Geographic Pivot and Scientific Niche, which reflects the unique location of Naha, the central city of Okinawa islands and their potential role in promoting scientific innovation particularly in East Asian countries. We welcome all participants from the countries as well as those who participate from The Society for Investigative Dermatology and the European Society for Dermatological Research.

The main venue of the meeting is Loisir Hotel & Spa Tower Naha. Visit the website for more details about the meeting at http://www.cs-oto.com/jsid37/en/ which was just launched. Come to visit and join us in Okinawa!