Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The 23rd World Congress of Dermatology will take place in Vancouver on June 8–13, 2015. We are very excited about the momentum that is building for this Congress, and greatly appreciate all the input that has been provided by ILDS member societies such as yours. The quadrennial WCD is one of the ILDS’s premier events and we would like to build on the successes of the last several Congresses.

The dates for the 23rd WCD have been carefully selected to minimize any potential conflict with major international dermatology meetings, religious holidays, and observances. In order to make it easier for your members to attend the 23rd WCD, the ILDS would like to request that member societies avoid scheduling large national or international meetings between mid-May and mid-July 2015.

We know that national societies usually plan their meetings one or more years in advance, and hope that you will take this special request into account during your planning process. The ILDS and the Vancouver 2015 WCD team look forward to interacting with you and your members in the lead up to the next World Congress of Dermatology.

Sincerely,
Wolfram Sterry
President, ILDS

We are delighted to report to all our Societies that our ‘Official Relations’ status with WHO has been reviewed and retained

Professor J.-H. Saurat
Immediate Past President, The International League of Dermatological Societies, London

Dear Professor Saurat,

In accordance with exchanges between our organizations last year, the WHO Executive Board reviewed the report of our collaboration at its 132nd session. I am pleased to inform you that the Board decided to maintain The International League of Dermatological Societies in official relations with the World Health Organization. In making its decision, the Board commended the continuing dedication of the organization you represent in support of the work of WHO.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my thanks to the members of The International League of Dermatological Societies for their work with WHO. I hope that our activities continue to be as fruitful. In this connection, please contact Dr. K. Weerasuriya, Medical Officer, Medicines Access and Rational Use, who serves as the Designated Technical Officer for our relations, to pursue implementation of our plan for collaboration or, as the case may be, agreement on such a plan.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. E. Renganathan
Director a.i.
Partnerships
Momentum is building in the planning of the 2015 World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver. This will mark the first time that the World Congress takes place in Canada, and it is expected that over 15,000 dermatologists from around the world will gather for the 23rd World Congress. We are pleased to announce the appointments of Prof. David McLean as Senior Advisor and Prof. Neil Shear as the Free Communications Chair for the WCD. Both Dr. McLean and Dr. Shear bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Committee and are excited to be involved in this momentous project. We are pleased with how the meeting is taking shape and look forward to welcoming the ILDS Board for their site visit in June and to share with them our vision for this Global Celebration of Dermatology.

We are also very proud to announce Pierre Fabre Dermo-Cosmétique (PFDC) as our first official Silver Sponsor. Partnering with top level sponsors such as Pierre Fabre Dermo-Cosmétique helps to ensure that the Congress continues to attract and showcase the best in the world of Dermatology and leading edge technology and treatments.

In March we had the pleasure of meeting our colleagues at the American Academy of Dermatology Conference in Miami. We hosted a cocktail reception and provided a sneak preview for delegates as to what’s in store for 2015 with a special WCD 2015 Countdown & Preview Symposium which featured dermatologists from around the world presenting state-of-the-art lectures. Our special three-hour symposium highlighted cosmetic, medical and surgical dermatology. Dermatologists were able to get a taste of what they can expect in Vancouver in 2015. Our continued goal is to build awareness of the value of global knowledge sharing. A big thank you to our colleagues at the American Academy of Dermatology for providing us with the space for our exhibit and time for our preview symposium.

We invite you to join us for our next WCD 2015 Preview Symposium at the 9th Asian Dermatological Congress taking place in Hong Kong in July of this year. Stay tuned for more information.

As we build up our contact database, we encourage you to contact the Congress Secretariat at: info@derm2015.org.

Please send us your name, mailing and email addresses, so that we can update you on our progress and news. For more information, visit our website at: www.derm2015.org.

Jerry Shapiro, MD, President
Harvey Lui, MD, Secretary-General

WCD 2015 Builds Momentum
Introducing the World Skin Health Day, a new initiative for 2013

The World Skin Health Day has been conceptualized to strengthen and recognize the importance of skin disease in the life of communities. It has been proposed as a collaboration between the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) and the International Society of Dermatology (ISD).

The phrase ‘Community Dermatology’ is often used to describe this approach. For some it may be a program designed to provide specialized medical expertise to rural, marginalized communities but for others it may be a sun protection initiative. However the outcome of each programme is similar in that it allows inexpensive but effective treatment or preventive measures to reach a wider group of patients who otherwise might not attend for consultation. Global Skin Health Day is a means of drawing attention to the importance of skin health in every one’s lives.

Many dermatological societies already hold action days in which members carry out differing tasks from mole checks and sun awareness to community clinics in remote areas. The nature of these activities is determined by the needs of the populations served by the society and the practicabilities of undertaking wider interventions. However the choice of project has been very much left to the individual societies to tailor to the needs of their local communities.

Several member societies have already responded with the details of their intended day that they will label ‘World Skin Health Day’ and, as we anticipated, the dates of the WSHD will vary from nation to nation. But we hope that all our members might consider changing or co-branding the name of an already planned activity unless they foresee undertaking something new.

We believe that World Skin Health Day would provide a boost to the public image of dermatology as well as sending a clear message that we are united in the desire to improve the cutaneous well-being of our patients and the communities in which they live.

Steering Committee
Claire Fuller
Vangee Handog
Roderick Hay
Abdul-Ghani Kibbi
Jorge Ocampo-Candini
Terence Ryan
Wolfram Sterry

Call for expressions of interest

The International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) wishes to commission a project that will involve reviewing the current status of the global epidemiology of skin disease and developing a strategy document to identify and develop the grand challenges facing dermatology. Candidates are likely to have a background of epidemiology, health policy, public health, dermatology or statistics. This is suitable for a whole or part-time position for twelve months.

Expressions of interest should be received no later than 10th April, 2013, addressed to:

Eve Arnold
Chief Administrative Officer
The International League of Dermatological Societies
admin@ilds.org

Societies which have already expressed an interest

- Algerian Society of Dermatology
- American Academy of Dermatology
- British Association of Dermatologists
- Bulgarian Dermatological Society
- Chinese Society of Dermatology
- Czech Dermatovenereology Society
- Dermatological Society of Malaysia
- European Society of Contact Dermatitis
- French Society of Dermatology
- German Dermatological Society
- Indian Society of Teledermatology
- Latvian Association of Dermatologists
- Lebanese Society of Dermatology Mexican Academy of Dermatology
- Peruvian Society of Dermatology
- Philippine Dermatological Society
- Philippine Academy of Clinical and Cosmetic Dermatology
- Society of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists of Nepal (SODVELON)
- Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venerology
- Swiss Society of Dermatology & Venerology
- Taiwanese Dermatological Association
- The Australasian College of Dermatologists
- Tunisian Society of Dermatology and Venerology
- Turkish Society of Dermatology
- Women’s Dermatologic Society

ILDS Certificate of Appreciation

The Polish Dermatological Society, founded in 1921, has almost 2900 active members. In September 2012, 30th National Dermatological Congress was organized. During Opening Ceremony Prof. Dr. Andrzej Langner received ILDS 2012 Certificate of Appreciation. It was a great honour for Polish dermatologists.

Award Recipient
Andrzej Włodzimierz Langner
This conference, which has taken place annually since the commencement of the Advanced Diploma of Dermatovenerology Programme, was held once again in Moshi, Tanzania in the foot hills of Mount Kilimanjaro. The aim of the conference is to provide a relevant and focused update to the past graduates as well as provide stimulating education on tropical dermatovenerology to interested international clinicians attending the meeting. This year did not disappoint: The Conference covered 15 Sessions with a total of 30 speakers. 181 participants attended from 19 countries of which 10 were African countries. It was also great to welcome back over 80 of the past graduates.

As well as attracting the past graduates, a party from the American Academy of Dermatology participated including the President, Dr. Dan Siegel, Eileen Murray, Executive Director and Jennifer Thomson, Senior Manager for Education. The visit was organised by a former AAD President and ILDS Board member, David Pariser.

In addition, Prof. Wolfram Sterry, president of the International League of Dermatological Societies, introduced the ILDS Board to the meeting before they paid a visit to the facilities of the Centre. The board had travelled out to Tanzania to hold its annual meeting there and to take the opportunity to review the progress and developments at the Regional Dermatology Training Centre, one of the key flagship's of the ILDS work through its International Foundation for Dermatology.

The programme was diverse and there were too many excellent presentations to cover them all with justice but a particular favourite of mine was a great session on the achievements of the Albino outreach programme at the RDTTC, started many years ago, but blossoming even more, following the addition of a vocational training programme for albino patients. These individuals can now learn skills that enable them to earn a living out of the sun undertaking such roles as dressmaking.

This programme compliments the already well established care programme for management of skin cancers and sun protection for this group. Additionally we heard about an exciting project which involves making sunscreens on site, curative as well as preventive for patients with skin cancers and sun protection for this group.

None of the achievements of the RDTCC could have been possible without the generosity of many donors. In particular the International League of Dermatological Societies continues to be the main supporter but in addition many societies provide on-going generous financial contributions specifically for this great cause. We are most grateful for this backing and hope that this report provides some evidence and encouragement that all is worthwhile.

P.D.S for L.I.F.E.

Last year was a milestone in the history of the Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS) as we celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of the organization with yearlong activities focusing on service and camaraderie.

Now in 2013 we begin a new term and take off with the theme 'PDS for L.I.F.E. (Leadership, Integrity, Faith, Excellence) which is most appropriate as it embodies the values that we espouse as an organization. These are core values to live by and inspire us in our daily activities.

L.I.F.E will drive the three main priority areas to be developed by the leadership over the next two years. These priority areas are aptly embodied in the acronym P.D.S-People, Domi- nance in Dermatology and Service and Social Responsibility.

Dr. Martin Ageyi gave in his first international presentation a very interesting and practical account of how he has set up an informal teledermatology network with some international consultant dermatology ‘friends’. He shared with us the highs and lows and some of the amazing cases he has seen and discussed over cyberspace with his teledermatology team.

The programme was diverse and there were too many excellent presentations to cover them all with justice but a particular favourite of mine was a great session on the achievements of the Albino outreach programme at the RDTTC, started many years ago, but blossoming even more, following the addition of a vocational training programme for albino patients. These individuals can now learn skills that enable them to earn a living out of the sun undertaking such roles as dressmaking.

This programme compliments the already well established care programme for management of skin cancers and sun protection for this group. Additionally we heard about an exciting project which involves making sunscreens on site, curative as well as preventive for patients with skin cancers and sun protection for this group.

None of the achievements of the RDTCC could have been possible without the generosity of many donors. In particular the International League of Dermatological Societies continues to be the main supporter but in addition many societies provide on-going generous financial contributions specifically for this great cause. We are most grateful for this backing and hope that this report provides some evidence and encouragement that all is worthwhile.

P, for people, and this means focusing on membership empowerment and engagement. The Organizational Development Program (ODP) was launched last January, with workshops for the Board Members, Officers and the society’s work force – the chairpersons of the committees, subspecialties, task forces, board of examiners and board of accreditation. The ODP is an ongoing series of workshops designed to increase our society’s effectiveness and relevance to its members. Action plans were formulated with this goal in mind.

In an effort to reach out to the members, a L.I.F.E. Enhancement Action Program was launched in 2011. Non-academic discourses such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures. For starters, we will be bringing subspecialty core group workshops, such as ‘assertive communication’ and ‘financial management’ were conducted among the society’s regional chapters. For the next two years, we shall expand the program to include academic and administrative lectures.

In an exciting note, we are hosting a Sister Society Meeting in the 11th International Congress of Dermatology conference in New Delhi, India on December 4, 2013. We are warmly inviting everyone to attend this session and meet your colleagues from the Philippines!

Lastly, S, for service and social responsibility, which is the heart of our society’s mission. For the months of January-March, we are promoting a countrywide ‘Impetigo Awareness Campaign’. We are disseminating medical information and lectures to different schools and providing medical missions in different localities. Just recently, as part of our Leprosy Mission for the month of February, we visited and gave gifts to the 70 leprosy patients confined at the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital. All these projects are part of our Skin Safety Campaign – a nationwide advocacy to promote skin health and patient safety.

It is our pledge in the Philippine Dermatological Society to continue serving the underprivileged. We will be more involved in programs promoting an eco-friendly environment. These are some of the plans for the society as we welcome the year of 2013 and hopefully these and more will reach fruition. With the members joining hearts and hands, together we are living and loving PDS for L.I.F.E.

Rosalina E. Nadela, MD, MSc, FPDS
President – Philippine Dermatological Society