

June 2010

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International Society for
Adult Congenital Heart Disease

ISACHD June 2010 Newsletter

President's Message

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If you were not in Skamania Lodge, you have truly missed something! From June 6-9, David Sahn had organized a terrific symposium-the 20th Annual Congenital Heart Disease in the Adult symposium -together with his co-directors Erwin Oechslin, Gary Webb, Craig Broberg and Pamela Miner. The beautiful environment inspired the faculty to give excellent talks and the participants were very enthusiastic and interactive.

The weather was beautiful upon arrival, which made the terrace with the terrific view irresistible. Sunday started with two parallel sessions, one on diagnostic methods and imaging and the other one with clinical case studies. Gary Webb, as moderator, made this a very lively and interactive session. In the ISACHD lecture, I showed the campaign on patients lost-to-follow-up in the Netherlands, an enterprise that has been quite successful. A project like this could inspire other people to perform similar activities in their own region. For each country of course, the way to go will be different, depending on population characteristics, geographical factors and financial opportunities. Furthermore, cultural differences around the world are important for international communication. Various examples of the five dimensions of culture were shown, such as the "deflatable lady". I will write a separate newsletter on this topic. For all ISACHD members it's very important to realize the different habits and ways of communication amongst us.

Gary Webb presented the "ACHA Vision 2020", which addressed, amongst others, education and accreditation goals. Two patients presented their intriguing life story and personal experiences. In the afternoon we enjoyed an exciting debate between Mike Gatzoulis and Mike Landzberg on septal device closure in PAH. Mike Landzberg was irresistible as a rapper, while the whole audience was clapping the rhythm section.

During the next three days there were high-quality lectures on the right ventricle, heart failure, pregnancy, Fontan survivors, neurodevelopmental en psychological issues and anatomical problems. The workshops were extremely successful because of the well selected cases and the lively interaction with the participants. For the debate on "Every narrowing of the aorta should be dilated", Eric Horlick showed up, running with a sports towel around his shoulders, supported by blaring music and surrounded by four Toronto cheer girls. He wanted to compete with the handsome "Hugo Boss entourage", the group of young fellows I had brought with me from the Netherlands. It was decided that the word "every" should be avoided in future debates, otherwise I will never be able to win (unless I never accept the "pro" position again, which was suggested by Welton Gersony). Jane Somerville held a special and nice

Skamania Lodge



presentation on problems in setting up a GUCH center and Joe Perloff closed the course with the Mentor's Lecture on his impressive and unorthodox career.

The Sternwheeler Dinner Cruise, the fire ring with singing, guitars and bagpipe, and the group hike along the extremely wild water falls were other highlights of this course. What else can we do than to thank David Sahn and his co-directors for organizing such an exceptionally successful and unique course?! Just an advice: join this eminent course next year in Cincinnati!

Plan to join us in Cincinnati June 19-22, 2011



Regional News From Canada



Download Canadian guidelines from www.isachd.org or from www.cachnet.ca

Regional News From Europe



For this year's ESC meeting in Stockholm there will be an unprecedented number of 8 sessions on Congenital Heart Disease, including one Focus Session on the "dilating aortic root" organized by prof Barbara Mulder from Amsterdam, and one session entirely dedicated to the new GUCH guidelines, arranged by the chairman of the writing task force of the new guidelines, prof Helmut

Baumgartner of Münster, Germany.

For those who come to the ESC there also will be a social event of the GUCH

WG og the ESC; all ISACHD are very welcome to this event. Details will be announced later. For those who are planning to come to Stockholm: it is advisable to book early for the hotel accomodation, because in recent edition in Stockholm those who booked late often had to stay outside Stockholm, up to 60 km form this beautiful capital of Sweden, where the Congress venue is. Also in Stockholm, during the business meeting of the WG, Pedro Trigo Trindade from Zurich, Switzerland, will replace Folkert Meijboom form Utrecht, The Netherlands as chairman of the WG for the coming 2 years. Johan Holm from Lund, Sweden is elected as new vice-chairman; According to the new ESC policy they will be elected for a duration of 4 years (instead of 6 years), in order to enhance active partiapiation of more members of the WG's nucleus.

3rd European Teaching Course in Adult Congenital Heart Disease 2010

The 3rd European Teaching Course in Adult Congenital Heart Disease will be arranged in Lund, Sweden October 22-23rd. The course is endorsed by the ESC working group on GUCH with the participation of international speakers. The aim of this course is to give an overview on a basic level, as well as an update on new developments in the field of GUCH. The target audience is cardiologists who want an insight in this subspecialty, as well as anaesthesiologist, surgeons, nurse specialists and others involved in the care of GUCH patients. Special attention will be made on practical management and diagnostic tools and the program includes parallel workshops in echocardiography, 3D echo and MRI with good opportunities for discussion and questions to the speakers. You can see the program at www.guch2010.com. The city of Lund is in southern Sweden, within 45 minutes from Copenhagen airport

Regional News From Latin America

During the XXXVI Argentine Congress of Cardiology, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from October 7th to 9th, 2010, there will be a Joint Session between the ISACHD and the Argentine Society of Cardiology on "Adult Congenital Heart Disease" with the participation of Drs. Jane Somerville and Michael Landzberg, as special guests. Endorsement of EURO GUCH has also been requested.



Journal Watch

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