It is with great anticipation that ISTH and the SSC will hold their first meeting on the African Continent in a few weeks: Dr Nevine Kassim, Meeting President, is waiting to welcome you! In addition to great science, she has also arranged to acquaint attendees with the beauties and culture of her home country.

Regular attendees of SSC meetings know that the meetings have grown in attendance and in educational opportunities over the past decade. This year’s meeting continues this expansion by offering a day and a half of education presentations, featuring presidential lectures, interactive sessions, and meet-the-expert sessions.

CME for the Educational Program will be available from UEMS/EACCME and, through dual sponsorship, from the AMA. In order to extend the educational benefit of the meeting, the Education Program will be webcast for the post-meeting use of registered delegates and all ISTH Members. The sessions will be available as a downloadable podcast to computer, iPod or mp3 player. You will be able to access the sessions via the “Members Only” section of the ISTH homepage.

Another exciting first of the Cairo meeting is presentation of ISTH named lectures, usually reserved for ISTH Congress programs. The Shirley Johnson, Pia Glas-Greenwalt and Marion Barnhart memorial lectures will be delivered during the Education Program. Dr Alan Nurden, Chair of the ISTH Lectureship and Awards Committee, noted that beginning with Cairo and going forward, these lectureships will recognize the contribution of individuals from countries where education in thrombosis and hemostasis is developing.

Presentation of the named lectures also recognizes the increasingly important role of the SSC in supporting research and education in thrombosis and hemostasis.

If you have not yet registered for the meeting, there is still time. Registration fees, even onsite, are low. ISTH subsidizes the cost for each delegate in order to make the SSC meeting accessible to everyone who wishes to attend. Registration is available online.
ISTH Council at Work

The logistics of collaboration among the international leaders of ISTH and between leadership and global membership has always been a challenge.

Not too many years ago, organization of international activities was slow and expensive: by mail, telegram, and telephone. Then came the miracle of Facsimile—now almost obsolete—quickly followed by the explosion of Email and the possibilities of the Internet.

ISTH Council has traditionally met in conjunction with either the biennial ISTH congress or the annual SSC Meeting. The growth and success of the Society; however, increasingly demands more opportunity for the elected leaders to convene. Under the leadership of Frits Rosendaal, Council Chairman, Council Members met for a 2-day strategic planning retreat in Amsterdam on February 7-9. In an atmosphere focused on the current status and activity of the Society and on medium and long-term strategic plans, Council members discussed a number of important issues.

As a follow-up to this meeting, Council began using virtual technology to conduct its work. The Executive Committee has already met via video conference to review plans for the May Council meeting in Cairo, and Standing Committees are queuing up for work sessions of their respective groups.

A number of new initiatives are on the table for action at the May Council meeting, including selection of the next SSC Annual Meeting President and venue, and election of the next Council Chairman-elect, all of which will be reported to you by the Council Chairman in the next ISTH eNewsletter.

Future plans for this newsletter under the direction of the new ISTH Committee for Communications and Public Relations (Hugo ten Cate, Chairman), will enhance its value to membership. While the Newsletter will continue to report activities of the Society, a new theme will focus on ISTH members and their work. Ideas of the Committee include articles on social issues of practice and research in various nations, scientific information and summaries of important international meetings, and reports on timely and important medical and scientific topics.

Your ideas are welcome. Kindly submit ideas and contributions to the Communications Committee in care of Allison Peacock at ISTH Headquarters. The next issue is planned for July 2010.

ISTH Fellowships

In last month’s ISTH eNewsletter, we were pleased to announce the first recipients of the new ISTH Advanced Fellowships for young colleagues from developing countries, Dr L.P. D’Atri from Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Dr M.M. Rahman from Dhaka, Bangladesh. A second set of awards is pending.

The Fellowships are administered by the ISTH Education and Outreach Committee, Drs Uri Seligsohn and Frits Rosendaal, Co-chairmen. Selection of recipients is a rolling process with new awardees being chosen in January and June of each year. To learn more about this training opportunity, visit the ISTH homepage or refer to the recent issue of JTH, at ‘Announcements.’

Next deadline for applications: 1 June 2010
VTE gains recognition as US Public Health Issue

The Division of Blood Disorders of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in partnership with the Health Resources and Services Administration, US National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and the American Society of Hematology recently convened a meeting in Atlanta, GA, USA, on March 9-11, 2010. The meeting was the first annual National Conference on Blood Disorders in Public Health, and a main focus was to raise awareness of risk factors, prevention and treatment of VTE with the goal of improving outcomes for affected patients and those at risk for developing thrombotic disorders.

A number of ISTH members were participants at the meeting, including Dr. Nigel Key who is a member of ISTH Council and a member of the new ISTH Communications and Public Relations Committee, and Dr. Gary Raskob, ISTH member and Dean of the College of Public Health at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Dr. Key brought the meeting to the attention of the ISTH Communications Committee, and noted that while hemophilia surveillance, treatment and complications are on the radar of US health officials, there has been little focus on disorders of VTE or their prevention in the past. The new focus on VTE in the US has the potential to increase future research funding as the magnitude of the disorder receives public recognition. Dr. Raskob was quoted in an ASH press release about the rising concern in US health agencies over the incidence of DVT and the need to educate the public about risk factors and prevention of the dangerous disorder, which he termed highly preventable.

It is estimated that nearly 1 million people are annually affected by DVT and PE in the US, alone, and an estimated 300,000 of these die from PE.

In support of its mission to stimulate research and education in the diseases of thrombosis and disorders of normal hemostasis, ISTH will develop strategies to heighten public and governmental awareness of these problems and to insure that these diseases receive increased attention from national and international health agencies and funding bodies.

To read more about recommendations issuing from the Conference, follow this link to the free Supplement of American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Volume 38(4) “Blood Disorders in Public Health: Making the Connection.”

Hold the NEW dates!
XXIII ISTH Congress, Kyoto, Japan

Attention! The dates of the next ISTH Congress in Kyoto are slightly changed to July 23-28, 2011.

It has been more than 20 years since ISTH convened a congress in Japan. Dr Yasuo Ikeda, XXIII Congress President, with Dr Hidehiko Saito, Honorary President, and Drs Akira Yoshioka and Koji Suzuki, Vice-Presidents, are working enthusiastically with their Local Organizing Committees and International Advisors to make the next ISTH congress an outstanding achievement of science, education and cultural enrichment.

The venue for this congress will be the state-of-the art Kyoto International Congress Center, site of the 1997 U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), known worldwide as the Kyoto Protocol. The Kyoto ICC is admirably suited for multi-national events and is proud of its history as a global center of international exchange.

A living museum of human history, 20% of Japan’s national treasures are found in the ancient city of Kyoto. The city was proclaimed a World Heritage Center in 1994 and offers congress attendees beautifully preserved historical buildings, spectacular gardens and many museums.

Watch the 2011 congress website for more updates.
Other Meetings of Interest

Maastricht Summer School on Thrombin Generation

From 15-18 June 2010, the first Maastricht summer school on thrombin generation will be held at the Cardiovascular Research Institute Maastricht. The activities will comprise:

1) Lectures by experienced faculties
2) Hands on experience with different available techniques
3) Master-classes in which attendees present their research before a panel from the faculties (optional)

The number of attendees is restricted to 30 and the registration fee shall include lodging and meals. Candidates are invited to send an abstract of no more than 300 words on the work they wish to present. The best abstract will be granted an award equal to the registration fee. There also three stipends for young scientists from developing countries.

Registration deadline 1 May 2010.

For more information contact:

hc.hemker@thrombin.com or r.aldieri@thrombin.com

XI European Symposium on Platelet and Granulocyte Immunobiology

On behalf of the International and Local Scientific Committees, I have the great pleasure to invite you to attend the XI European Symposium on Platelet and Granulocyte Immunobiology which will take place in France from October 21st to 24th, 2010.

To celebrate the XXth anniversary of this symposium, we have chosen Beaune, Capital of Burgundy wines and city of art, as congress venue.

The Scientific Committees have set up a fascinating and up-to-date program in the main areas of platelet and granulocyte immunology, from basic science to clinical application, new approaches and perspectives.

We are particularly pleased that many experts in the field have agreed to join us for state-of-the-art lectures but emphasise that we allow time for short presentations chosen from the abstracts to encourage younger colleagues to participate actively at this meeting. A poster exhibition will be held with poster discussion sessions.

The final programme can be found on the website: http://sfts.asso.fr/sympo-platelet.

21st International Congress on Thrombosis, July 6-9, 2010.
Milan, Italy

For issues related to the scientific programme, faculty, abstracts, and general queries, contact the Secretariat, c/o Prof. P M Mannucci.

XXXII World Congress of International Society of Hematology, October 10-13, 2010.
Jerusalem, Israel

Abstract Submission Deadline: May 18, 2010
Early Registration Deadline: July 28, 2010

Member Donations to the Reach the World Initiative

Members frequently make additional donations to ISTH in conjunction with their annual membership renewal. 100% of voluntary contributions with dues payments are credited to the Society’s Reach the World Initiative. Members who do not wish to receive their complementary print subscription to JTH may also donate the annual issues to an RTW-supported member. For more information about the RTW Initiative, you may contact ISTH Headquarters or the Co-chairs of the Education and Outreach Committee, F. R. Rosendaal or U. Seligsohn.
Associate, Regular and Emeritus: 3 Levels of ISTH Membership

Although ISTH historically has only one type of membership—Individual—it comes in three levels. Surprisingly, the smallest of these may be the most important: Associate Members currently account for 5.7% of total membership, and many Regular members are unaware of this opportunity for junior colleagues.

Associate membership is offered at a reduced rate (only $35/year) and provides many benefits. It is available for students, trainees, fellows, post-docs, technicians, research and clinical staff. Applicants for Associate Membership submit a letter from their institution or supervisor certifying their status, along with the usual new member application form.

For students and others in training, Associate membership is available for up to three years.

Tangible benefits of Associate Membership include significantly reduced annual dues, voting privileges in Society business, discounted registration to Society congresses, a premium Online Only subscription to the Society’s official journal, JTH, and access to Members-Only materials and opportunities on the ISTH website.

Intangible benefits are professional networking and support from the international experts who are the Regular and Emeritus Members of ISTH; and the opportunity to expand and shape a field of medical science with enormous importance to humanity.

Associate members represent the future. Regular members are encouraged to share their experience with young colleagues who may take up the mission of ISTH and become the future leaders in this field.

Membership Survey, 2010

The ISTH Membership Committee (Bjarne Østerud, Chairman) is planning a membership survey for later this year. An electronic survey instrument will be circulated from ISTH Headquarters. This will provide members with an opportunity to give feedback on how well the Society serves your needs and meets your expectations as well as helping your elected leaders to identify areas and issues for future growth. The membership committee wants to hear from you!

Results of Council Election for the Class of 2016

Following the request for potential nominees for the Council Class of 2016, 37 members were proposed by the February 1, 2010 deadline. The proposal letters and personal statements were available and the Council Members voted to determine the final 10 nominees for the 5 Council positions following the same process that has been used previously. The full membership was solicited and the balloting concluded on April 16th.

We are pleased to announce the new Council Class of 2016 consisting of Marco Cattaneo (Italy), Bjorn Dahlbäck (Sweden), Andreas Greinacher (Germany), Yukio Ozaki (Japan), and Paula Tracy (USA). Congratulations to the five new members of Council.

After the Cairo SSC Meeting, the new Council Members will replace the outgoing members of the Class of 2010 – Ph. G. (‘Flip’) de Groot (The Netherlands), David Lane (UK), Ian Peake (UK), Uri Seligsohn (Israel), and Denisa Wagner (USA). We certainly want to thank these five Council Members for their dedication and ongoing service to the Society.

Bob Montgomery, Chairman
ISTH Nominating Committee
Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis Updates

In March JTH Co Editors-in-Chief, Drs David Lane and Mike Greaves, along with their Editorial Staff, met in Oxford with the Publications Committee and representatives of Wiley Blackwell Publishers to review the annual report of the journal and to make strategic plans for the coming year. Several innovations are under consideration or in development to further enhance the educational value of JTH for ISTH members and for the research community. More about this soon...

For those who are coming to the SSC Meeting in Cairo next month, you are invited to stop by the JTH booth that will be personned by JTH Editorial Staff. Reprints will be available of the 2009 PM Mannucci Award-winning articles, and the staff will be pleased to answer questions about manuscript submission, processing and other JTH matters.

Check out these forthcoming publications in the April issue:

- A debate between Mismetti and Laporte versus Bounameaux and Reber on the need to monitor new oral antithrombotics.
- A review of antithrombotic drugs in CHD by Schulman and Spencer.
- A review on ADAMTS-13 assays in TTP by Pevandi et al.

Two “In Focus” papers on the theme of effect of air pollution in hematologic disease: Effects of inhalable particulate matter on blood coagulation (Bonzini et al) & Air pollution and hospitalization for venous thromboembolic disease in Chile (Dales et al) with commentary by P.M. Mannucci.

An “In Focus” comparing consensus guidelines on thromboprophylaxis in orthopedic surgery (Struijk-Mulder et al) with commentary by Sobieraj-Teague et al.

Standing Committees of Council

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ISTH Forum

I find it notoriously difficult to diagnose protein S deficiency and sometimes repeat testing is needed and even then a final clear diagnosis may not be possible. I sometimes wonder whether it wouldn’t be easier, less cumbersome, and may be even less costly to do away with the traditional serum- and plasma test and just do gene sequencing for protein C and S and antithrombin deficiency to nail the diagnosis. Can you comment on this?

How would you answer? Can you add your expertise to the ISTH Forum?

The Forum gives you a chance to post questions to an international audience of experts. ISTH Headquarters monitors all submissions to the Forum and makes sure questions are answered in a timely manner. All questions and answers are archived and searchable by keyword or topic.

Go to [www.isth-forum.org](http://www.isth-forum.org) to view the above question and post a response. Be sure to post your own questions dealing with thrombosis and hemostasis today!
2009 Pier M. Mannucci Young Investigator Prizewinners

The Mannucci Prizes are awarded in honor of Pier M. Mannucci, the first Editor-in-Chief, of the *Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis* for his best articles by Young Investigators younger than 35 years of age. The prizes are made possible by a generous contribution from Bayer HealthCare, and recipients are selected by a jury of editors.

Here are the 2009 winners as well as links to abstracts of their articles.

C Baldauf for the article

*Shear-induced unfolding activates von Willebrand factor A2 domain for proteolysis*

*Volume 7, Issue 12 (p 2096-2105.)*

M Kannan for the article

*Molecular defects in ITGA2B and ITGB3 genes in patients with Glanzmann thrombasthenia*

*Volume 7, Issue 11 (p 1878-1885)*

T Lobo for the article

*Ixolaris, a tissue factor inhibitor, blocks primary tumor growth and angiogenesis in a glioblastoma model*

*Volume 7 Issue 11 (p 1855-1864)*

J Wang for the article

*Levels of microparticle tissue factor activity correlate with coagulation activation in endotoxemic mice*

*Volume 7, Issue 7 (p 1092-1098.)*

A Rose for the article

*Warfarin dose management affects INR control*

*Volume 7 Issue 1 (p 94-101)*

Other resources available on the ISTH webpage

The ISTH has links to many valuable educational sites, medical societies, meetings of interest, and other resources. Links to these sites are provided as a service to the membership and to the research community. These can be accessed via the ISTH Resources page.

2010 Membership Renewal

ISTH membership is based on the calendar year. New members joining during the course of the year receive privileges retroactively to the beginning of the year.

Benefits of members are suspended for members who do not renew by 1 January of each calendar year. Benefits are reinstated with payment of current dues.

The ISTH Membership Secretary, membership@isth.org is at your disposal for any concerns related to your membership status.

2010 Membership Directory

The 2010 print copy of the ISTH Membership Directory with information about your Society and contact information for fellow members was delivered in March.

Have you checked out the online membership list? The Membership pages are also available online, so if you’re traveling or have misplaced your print copy, you can go to the ISTH webpage at Members Only and access the list there.
ISTH

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Fax: 555 929-3935
Email: headquarters@isth.org

Message from the Membership Secretary

Thanks for your continued membership in 2010. We have added 88 new members so far for 2010 and we currently have 3283 members throughout 79 countries. Please feel free to contact me anytime at membership@isth.org if you have any questions about your membership.

Sharon Overcash
ISTH Membership Secretary

ISTH Calendar

The ISTH convenes an international Congress biennially, while the Scientific and Standardization Committee and its scientific subcommittees meet annually. In Congress years, Society and SSC meetings are held in conjunction. Future Congresses will be in these locations:

- **56th Annual SSC Meeting**
  - Nevine Kassim, President
  - Cairo, Egypt
  - May 22 - 25, 2010

- **XXIII ISTH Congress**
  - Yasuo Ikeda, President
  - Kyoto, Japan
  - with 57th Annual SSC Meeting
  - July 23-29, 2011

- **XXIV ISTH Congress**
  - Frits R. Rosendaal, President
  - Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  - with 59th Annual SSC Meeting
  - 2013

- **XXV ISTH Congress**
  - Sam Schulman, President
  - Toronto, Canada
  - with 61st Annual SSC Meeting
  - 2015

- **58th Annual SSC Meeting**
  - Cheng-Hock Toh, President
  - Liverpool, UK
  - 2012

- **XXVI ISTH Congress**
  - Johannes Oldenburg, President
  - with 63rd SSC Meeting
  - Berlin, Germany
  - 2017

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