REGISTRATION AVAILABLE FOR ICR 2010 IN SHANGHAI

Arrangements, registration details and fees and solicitation of proffered papers have been determined by the Chinese Society of Radiology/Chinese Medical Association, who are hosts for the 26th International Congress of Radiology (ICR 2010) on 9-12 April 2010 in the Shanghai International Convention Center in Shanghai, China.

The theme “better radiology, better health care” will be reflected in lecture sessions and refresher courses covering 16 areas of diagnostic radiology. The areas will include chest, abdomen, cardiovascular, head and neck, musculoskeletal, genitourinary, pediatric, neuroradiology, interventional, nuclear imaging, ultrasound, women’s health, radiologic technology, molecular imaging, experimental imaging, and PACS and informatics. A faculty chosen from academic radiologists around the world will present current developments in each topic area. In addition, the organizers invite the submission of proffered papers from radiologists interested in presenting information about their own contributions to advancing radiology.

The April date is prior to the beginning of World Expo 2010, an international exposition in Shanghai which starts in May and continues through October. ICR 2010 will be combined with the 17th Chinese Congress of Radiology. On-site registration, afternoon refresher courses and an evening welcome reception will take place on Thursday, 8 April.

Additional information and registration forms can be obtained from the ICR website www.icr2010.org. Abstracts for scientific papers must be submitted before 15 December 2009 on forms obtained from the ICR website. The invitation includes oral presentations, posters and abstracts for publication only. Those proffering papers must be registered for attendance by 1 March 2009.
The registration fee for attending radiologists will be $350 US prior to 30 June 2009, $400 US prior to 31 December 2009 and $500 US between January 2010 and the beginning of the congress. Student registration will be $180 US before July 2009, $200 US before January 2010 and $300 US after that. Persons seeking student registration will need to attach a letter verifying their student status with their application.

The registration website also contains a listing of hotels convenient to the congress site, together with explanations and quoted prices. At the end of 2008, the Chinese currency RMB was approximately 6.8 to a single US dollar. Persons planning to attend will need visas and letters of invitation will be extended at the time of advance registration.

ICR 2012 SET FOR DUBAI

The 27th International Congress of Radiology (ICR 2012) will be held at a date to be determined that year in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. The meeting will be hosted by the Gulf States Society of Radiology and the Kuwait Society of Radiology.

Najib AlMarzouk of Kuwait will be the general chairman of the organizing committee. He is the founder of the Gulf States society and a leader in the Kuwait society. He also is a member of the ISR Executive Committee.

The decision was made by the ISR Executive Committee in November following a site visit to Dubai in October.

ISR VIRTUAL CONGRESS A SUCCESS

During the initial year of the first ISR virtual congress, radiologists in 70 countries accessed it 11,877 times on the ISR website to listen to lectures from 38 leading academic radiologists in 13 countries or review 55 clinical cases and 42 electronic posters.

“This has been a remarkable start,” said Claude Manelfe, of Toulouse, France, the ISR past president. “The virtual congress is the first educational effort produced by the ISR which is available to individual radiologists via their computers at any time. We had some difficulty announcing the availability of the congress on our website. So we can thank those who heard about it, looked at it and told others.”

The response was strong enough for the ISR Executive Committee to authorize a second virtual congress due to be complete and online in April of 2009. The second congress will be comparable to the first in format, with other outstanding speakers, case studies and electronic posters.

The co-authors of the second virtual congress are the same individuals who prepared the first one, Ricardo Garcia Monaco of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Luis Donoso Bach of Barcelona,
Spain. They pioneered the virtual congress concept for radiology with a Spanish language program that was adopted by the InterAmerican College of Radiology. An Argentine company, Tercer-Termino, prepared the three virtual congresses and now serves as technical producer for the ISR website www.isradiology.org.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Welcome to the electronic education era! In the past few years, several regional radiology societies and our International Society of Radiology have offered “virtual congresses” of educational materials for radiologists anywhere in the world to anyone who can use a computer to dial up the website containing each set of presentations. Some time this spring, the ISR will offer our second virtual congress which also will be available on the ISR website http://www.isradiology.org. It is available to any individual members or trainees in our national radiology societies at no charge.

The details about participation in our first VC are contained elsewhere in this Newsbulletin. The way it works is that a group of lecturers are invited to contribute talks that can be recorded along with visuals. Our virtual congress also included electronic posters and case reports. For a short period termed the “congress,” a number of lectures were made available for viewing and email discussions each day. After the time frame of the congress, all of the presentations and other contents are kept in a so-called “virtual campus.” Thus, since 2007, our first “congress” became a “campus” and remains available on our website indefinitely.

The ISR virtual congress is not the first one for radiology. Some years ago, Luis Donoso Bach of Spain and Ricardo Garcia Monaco of Argentina put together a Spanish-language virtual congress which was adopted by the InterAmerican College of Radiology and remains available at www.radiologiavirtual.org. A bit later, the American College of Radiology put together a congress and offered it to radiologists in other countries. The Radiological Society of North America and the European Society of Radiology both offer presentations from their annual meetings on their websites. And there may be others that we have not heard about. We anticipate that the ISR planned series of virtual congresses will continue indefinitely.

So, let us be proud of the efforts to put together these virtual congresses. But the sense of pride must extend to radiologists in all parts of the world who have become sufficiently computer literate to make comfortable use of electronic teaching materials. Last summer, when we awarded prizes to several contributors tour first virtual congress, one of the winners told us that she looked at all of the lectures and used some of them as topics for clinical staff rounds in her hospital in Kenya.

Besides the virtual congress packages, the ISR is committed to using our website for other educational materials. Last year, we posted the definitive text on imaging tropical diseases by
Philip Palmer and Maurice Reeder on our website. Their publisher, Springer, granted permission and the authors asked us to help with electronic distribution. We hope to be able to announce other educational materials with the cooperation of other societies and individuals.

In the previous issue of this Newsletter, I invited all of our societies which have websites to arrange links with the ISR website. That offer is still open.

This Newsletter is mailed to officers of all of our national member societies and also posted on our website. We will welcome the time when all of our societies will share their current email addresses with us and will feel free to post ISR teaching materials on their own websites.

Hans Ringertz, president, International Society of Radiology

SECOND PAN ARAB RADIOLOGY CONGRESS

The second Pan Arab Radiology Congress will take place 21-24 April in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt with the sponsorship of the Pan Arab Association of Radiological Societies. Details about the scientific program and registration process are available on the organization website: www.parcalex.com.

The scientific sessions will be presented in French. The meeting has the cosponsorship of the French Society of Radiology, the Egyptian Society of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, the French Society of Neuroradiology, the Pan Arab Neuroradiology Society, the Pan Arab Interventional Radiology Society, the Egyptian Society of Women’s Imaging Health and the Egyptian Society of Interventional Radiology.

SOUTH AFRICA DISTRIBUTES TROPICAL RADIOLOGY

The Radiological Society of South Africa has distributed to all its members electronic copies of the definitive text on “Imaging Tropical Diseases” furnished to them and to all other ISR national society members.

“Thank you for the ‘Imaging of Tropical Diseases’ DVD,” wrote Clive Sperryn, president of RSSA, to Hans Ringertz, president of ISR. “We have been able to distribute the DVD to all the academic departments and there has been a very positive response. The ISR website is already linked to the RSSA website and we have advised all our members that this publication is available on the ISR website.”

The book was written by Philip Palmer and Maurice Reeder, both radiologists residing in the US, and published by Springer. The publisher reassigned the copyright to the authors and they donated the distribution of DVDs to the ISR, the Radiology Outreach Foundation and the American College of Radiology. The DVDs were included in the registration package for attendees at ICR 2008 in Morocco last summer. Then the contents were posted on the ISR
website, where they are available to members of all national societies, Dr. Ringertz explained.

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
The fifth ICR in September 1937 was staged in Chicago, USA, and was the first one outside of Europe and the last one prior to World War II. The photos, found in an ISR file, show attendees at the formal dinner and national society delegates at a reception sponsored by the Chicago Roentgen Society. The ISR will offer a prize to anyone able to identify every person in both photographs.