RINGERTZ LEADS NEW ISR OFFICERS

Hans Ringertz of Stockholm, Sweden, began his term as president of the International Society of Radiology at the conclusion of the 25th International Congress of Radiology in June in Marrakech, Morocco.

He succeeded Claude Manelfe of Toulouse, France, who became past president. Dr. Manelfe also was appointed chairman of the ISR’s International Commission on Radiologic Education. Nickolas Gourtsoyiannis of Heraklion, Crete, Greece, became president-elect and Jan Labuscagne of Pretoria, Republic of South Africa, became secretary-general. James Borgstede of Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA, was chosen as treasurer.

Elected as representatives of national societies to the ISR Executive Committee were Ricardo Garcia Monaco of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Renato Adam Mendonca of Sao Paulo, Brazil, Rolf W. Guenther of Aachen, Germany, Najib AlMarzouk of Kuwait City, Kuwait, and Luis Donoso Bach of Barcelona, Spain.

Continuing as representatives of continental societies were Iain McCall of the European Society of Radiology, Lenny Tan of the Asian and Oceanian Society of Radiology and Hassen A. Gharbi of Tunis, Tunisia, of the African Society of Radiology. James Thrall of Boston, Massachusetts, succeeded Arl Van Moore of Charlotte, North Carolina, representing the American College of Radiology.
Retiring Members of the ISR Executive Committee Lawrence Lau and Arl Van Moore, left, with president Claude Manelfe, immediate past president Francisco Arredondo and secretary-general, Nickolas Gourtsoyiannis.

Officers were confirmed by the national society representatives attending the biennial meeting of the International Committee. The International Committee also confirmed the budget for 2008 and a series of technical changes in the ISR bylaws.

The ISR has commissioned the production of a second virtual congress consisting of lectures, case reports and electronic posters, to be prepared by the end of the current year. The first ISR world-wide virtual congress was prepared in December 2007 and remains available to any radiologist on the ISR website www.isradiology.org. Drs. Garcia and Donoso, who organized the first virtual congress, also will prepare the second one.

Following the spring resignation of Giorgio Rizzatto of Gorizia, Italy, who served as webmaster for four years, the assignment was made to Drs. Garcia, Donoso and Noureddine Chakir for the current two-year term. The ISR switched its technical service to the website to the Argentine company, Tercer Termino, which prepares the virtual congresses and other electronic education material.

ICR 2008 IN MOROCCO
PRONOUNCED A SUCCESS

More than 2400 radiologists, radiographers, exhibitors and other visitors attended the 25th International Congress of Radiology 5-8 June in Marrakech, Morocco.

The congress was opened by Prince Moulay Rachid, brother of Moroccan King Mohammed VI. He presented medals from the Moroccan government to Farida Imani of Rabat, president of the organizing committee, to Claude Manelfe, retiring president of the ISR, to Guy Frija of Paris,
former executive secretary of the French Society of Radiology and a native of Morocco, to Hedvig Hricak, chairwoman of radiology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City, and to Alain Dana, chief of radiology at the American Hospital in Paris.

In addition, the prince congratulated Beclere medalists Elias Zerhouni, director of the US National Institutes of Health, and Francisco Arredondo, ISR past-president of Guatemala City, Guatemala.

The ambassador of Kuwait to Morocco, M. Salah Mohamed Al-Baijane, presented awards from the Kuwait government, to 14 radiologists selected by the ISR for outstanding contributions of posters and case studies to the ISR virtual congress and to the exhibits at ICR 2008. The 10 winners of the ICR posters were Asmae Sqalli Houssaini of Rabat, Morocco, Djamila Maiza of Paris, France, Mourad Boudlaf of Paris, Imane Skiker of Rabat, Mourad Kardache of Paris, Ildebrando D’Angelo of Cephalu, Italy, Liliane Ollivier of Paris, Samir Ayat of Algiers, Algeria, Roland Talanow of Cleveland, Ohio, USA and Ryutarou Ukisu of Yokohama, Japan. The winners of the awards for contributions to the virtual congress were Dr. Talanow, Rafael Salvador Izquierdo of Barcelona, Spain, Monica Rebollo Polo of Madrid, Spain, Cristina Besada of Buenos Aires, Argentina and Shamin Malik of Nakuru, Kenya.
Prize winners for outstanding contributions to the electronic posters for ICR 2008. The prizes were presented by the Kuwait Radiological and Imaging Society on behalf of their government.

The organizing committee for ICR 2008 was led by Farida Imani of Rabat, a past president of the Moroccan Society of Radiology, Noureddine Chakir was the general secretary and Abdelhafid Sbihi was chairman of the scientific program committee.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

One of the first responsibilities of any new president is to say thanks to those who have served the organization before his term begins. So I start by acknowledging the efforts and achievements of my immediate predecessors, Claude Manelfe and Francisco Arredondo, of all of the members of the ISR Executive Committee. Furthermore, I want to thank Luis Donoso Bach and Ricardo Garcia Monaco who put together our first ISR virtual congress, and Farida Imani, Noureddine Chakir, Abdelhafid Sbihi and their Moroccan colleagues, who organized ICR 2008, of those who have contributed to our activities. And I want to welcome all of you who attended the live congress and all who have visited the virtual one.

Unlike most societies which have individual members, the International Society of Radiology is a confederation of national and regional societies. This is why you, as an officer of your national society, have a vital role in relating to the ISR. This Newsletter is sent to society officers and then it is inserted in our website www.isradiology.org where the same information is available to anyone who wishes to look at it. But one responsibility that we ask of all of our society officers is to share with your members anything we can provide which is of value to them. So telling them about our website and our educational efforts and materials is important. For that effort, we need your help.

In the last couple of decades, the ISR has started and expanded its website. That website is linked with other sites of radiology organizations. We would like to link our website with all of the websites of our societies, thus I invite you to explore that with your webmaster and then contact us to arrange a link. It is easy to do. There is no cost to you and it is one more way of showing your members that your society is part of the world of radiology.
As long as I have been on the ISR Executive Committee, I have heard about the problems of communicating with all of our member societies. International communications can be very difficult where the mail service is poor, the phone service is poor and internet connections are unreliable. We still rely upon ordinary mail because--try as we do---we still do not have email contacts for all of you. Gradually, we are getting more email contacts. But whether or not we have email, we do not have your change of officers unless you write to us and tell us the new names and addresses.

When we make a mailing, whether in reality or electronically, our message goes out and we never know whether you received it or not. If it is a notice to pay your dues and you pay them, we know we have contacted you successfully. If we get no response, we do not know why. Our dues notice is particularly important. Because without your dues, unfortunately, the ISR would crumble and disappear. So, if you are no longer the officer in charge, please pass our information along to the person who is. And, if you will send us a note with the current leaders names, addresses and electronic contacts, we can be certain that you will get all of the information from us that hopefully will help your society and its members.

I hope to get a flood of letters and emails and offers for website links.

We are all part of radiology at a time when the promises and challenges to our specialty make our future very uncertain. For the past century and more, radiology has grown more vital to health care because the technology which has grown with us. This has kept us ahead of the dilemmas we need to solve and made it possible for us to counter the attacks which some people make on our specialty. Coping with these opportunities and problems is part of the mandate of the International Society of Radiology. As one example, I note our recent effort to push the World Health Organization toward keeping its medical radiology sections. Their continued effort will be valuable to many of us and its loss would have been tragic.

I am proud to be the president of ISR. To accomplish anything, I need your cooperation. Thanks for what you have done---and please do more.

ICR 2010 SET
FOR SHANGHAI

“Better Radiology, Better Healthcare” is the theme for ICR 2010 scheduled for 9-12 April 2010 in the Shanghai International Convention Center in the largest city in China.

The ICR will precede by about a month the opening of a world exposition which begins in May in Shanghai. The preparations of the city for a world fair will also benefit the visitors to ICR 2010, said Ji Qi, president of the congress for host Chinese Society of Radiology and Chinese Medical Association.

“Shanghai is a city which has demonstrated the greatest vigor and vitality during the years of
China’s reform and opening,” wrote Dr. Qi and Xiaoyuan Feng, chairman of the ICR organizing committee. “Coexistence of modernization and traditional features and blend of oriental and western culture are the obvious characteristics of Shanghai. It possesses a wealth of historical monuments and tourist attractions in addition to the highly technological environment. Excellent hotels and restaurants, the cultural programs and tours will show the unique charm of Shanghai.”

ICR 2010 will be the second ICR in China. The first one was held in 1996 in Beijing, the national capital city.

TROPICAL RADIOLOGY
DVD AVAILABLE

The definitive text Imaging of Tropical Diseases, written by Philip Palmer and Maurice Reeder, has been made available by its authors and the publisher, Springer, for distribution in a DVD form to national member societies of the International Society of Radiology and to their individual members.

As a book, the volume measured 1700 pages and included more than 2500 illustrations. The publisher granted the authors permission to reproduce it in DVD form and to make copies available at no charge to radiologists around the world who deal with tropical diseases.

The first distribution of the DVD was included in the registration package for persons attending ICR 2008 in June in Marrakech, Morocco. A mailing was sent to officers of the 86 national society members of ISR late in July. The Radiology Outreach Foundation also provided copies to the teaching centers on its distribution list. The entire volume has been posted on the ISR website www.isradiology.org. Rather than suggesting that individual radiologists write to ISR or ROF for copies, the authors suggest that societies can make copies and distribute them to their own members. Or they can tell their members to look on the ISR website. Copies of the DVD can be distributed by radiology societies with consent of the authors and the cooperating organizations. But sale of copies is prohibited.

Preparation of the DVD was made for the authors by the US Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the American College of Radiology and the ISR.

WHO OFFERS IMAGING PUBLICATIONS

The World Health Organization has available limited numbers of a dozen publications and a CD-Rom relating to diagnostic imaging. All of them were prepared for WHO by consultants and international committees of experts.

Six of the publications and the CD-Rom are free and can be requested from the WHO Team of
Diagnostic Imaging and Laboratory Technology.  ingolfsdottirg@who.int.

The CD-Rom contains a WHO lecture series on radiology and ultrasound produced in 2002.

Diagnostic Imaging: What is it? When and how to use it where resources are limited (WHO/DIL/01.01) (2001) is available in English and French

Basic physics of ultrasonic imaging (2005) (ISBN 92 4 159299 0) is in English

X-ray equipment maintenance and repairs workbook for radiographers and radiological technologists (2004) (ISBN 92 4 159163 3) is in English


Consumer guide for the purchase of x-ray equipment (2001) (WHO/DIL/00.01) is in English

The other five publications in English must be purchased from the WHO Press (WHP) in Geneva, Switzerland, fax 41 22 791 4857 or email bookorders@who.int

Pattern recognition in diagnostic imaging (2001) (ISBN 92 4 154632 8) for 35 Swiss francs (CHF) and in developing countries for 24.5 CHF. Order no. 1930188


ICRUM ANNOUNCES SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Report 78, “Prescribing, recording and reporting proton-beam therapy” has been published by
the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements and is available from its
publisher, the Oxford University Press. Details about the purchase of this and other available
ICRUM reports can be obtained from the publisher at www.jicru.oxfordjournals.org.

The ICRUM now offers 67 earlier reports dealing with a variety of topics relating to radiation
standards and measurements. Two new publications: report 79 on “Receiver operating
characteristic analysis in medical imaging,” and report 80 on “Dosimetry for radiation
processing” are scheduled to be published during 2008.

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERS
SEEKS RADIOLOGY CONSULTANT

Medecins sans Frontiers, an international organization which provides health care to needy
people in troubled areas of the world, is seeking a radiologist to consult on x-ray programs for a
six-month period beginning in September of this year. The individual selected will be paid an
unspecified salary for the six months and a possible extension of time.

The radiologist sought should have experience in international practice and a knowledge of
imaging tropical diseases. A knowledge of ultrasound and its applications to obstetrics, plus the
use of basic x-ray techniques for diagnosis of tuberculosis, HIV and for use in orthopedics also is
desired.

The assignment will be to one of the several MSF regional centers in Paris, Brussels,
Amsterdam, Barcelona or Geneva, with travel to countries where MSF is providing health
services.

Applications, with a CV and letter of interest should be sent to Isabelle Saussereau FAX 41 22
849 8404 or email isabelle.saussereau@msf.org.

HONG KONG ANNUAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER

The Hong Kong College of Radiologists will conduct its 16th annual meeting 1 and 2 November at
the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building in Hong Kong. Special focus sessions
on pediatric radiology, oncology, nuclear medicine, interventional radiology and palliative
medicine will be featured. For details, the college can be contacted via enquiries@hkcr.org or by
fax (853) 2554 0739.