Letter from Seoul

Local Organizing Committee Meeting
As the clock is now winding up towards the commencement of the 22nd World Congress of Dermatology in Seoul, the Local Organizing Committee fervently continues to strive towards the goal of creating an immeasurably rewarding and unforgettable experience for all delegates. As part of our final preparations for 2011, a second meeting of the entire Local Organizing Committee was held at the COEX Convention and Exhibition Center on November 26 for an evening of sharing and discussion on ways to improve our organization and enhance the WCD. The meeting began with an address from President Hee Chul Eun, reaffirming our strong commitment to the success of the 22nd WCD, and was followed by a presentation from Secretary-General Soo-Chan Kim on the overall progress of Congress preparations.

Gala Dinner Preparations
After a great deal of consideration and many visits to various locations around Seoul, the Local Organizing Committee has finally chosen Seoul Olympic Park as the venue for the 22nd WCD Gala Dinner. The park’s natural beauty combined with its historical significance and impressive facilities make it the perfect choice for an extraordinary evening of delicious food and breathtaking entertainment.

Olympic Park is one of Seoul’s most highly visited locations where the historic remains of the Mongchon Toseong Fortress from the Baekje Period (18 B.C. to 688 A.D.) co-exist in harmony with beautifully designed gardens, forests and modern state-of-the-art sports facilities. The Gala Dinner will take place near the waterside stage adjacent to Mongchon Haeja Lake, where attendees will enjoy inspiring musical performances accompanied by dancing water fountains, laser shows and magnificent firework displays. Every effort is being made to ensure that this is one event no one will want to miss.

Scientific Program Updates
Dermatologists continue to express an unprecedented level of interest as evidenced through a record number of 3,298 free communication abstracts submissions from 84 different countries. Following a review by the scientific committee, 408 papers were selected for oral presentation and 2,890 were selected for presentation as e-posters. Notification of abstract acceptance was sent to all submitting authors by e-mail last December. Oral presentations will be divided into 41 different sessions, each lasting approximately 90 minutes.
Meeting Information Center
ILDS affiliated organizations who would like to promote their future meetings at the 22nd WCD may take advantage of a special Meeting Information Center which will operate in the Exhibition Hall throughout the Congress. Information will be made available to Congress participants through the distribution of printed flyers and on LCD displays.

Organizations such as the 8th World Congress of the International Academy of Cosmetic Dermatology 2012 (IACD) and Cairo Derma IV will be promoting their events through this center and we encourage other groups under the umbrella of the ILDS to use this system to promote their events free of charge.

Incheon-Seoul Express Train
With the recent completion of an express railway line extending the Airport Railroad Express (AREX) to Seoul Station, visitors can now travel from Incheon International Airport to downtown Seoul in just 43 minutes – approximately 15 minutes shorter than by bus or taxi. This provides a very convenient means of travel to Seoul, particularly for delegates staying at hotels in the Gangbuk (North of Han River) area, famed for its multitude of historic sight-seeing and tourist destinations.

Important Deadlines
Extended Registration March 24, 2011*
Hotel Reservations March 30, 2011
Presentation Material Uploads March 30, 2011

*Rafter this date, registration will only be possible on-site at the Congress and fees will be increased by US $100 for both members and non-members.

To register or obtain more information about the 22nd World Congress of Dermatology, please visit the official Congress website at www.wcd2011.org

Three aesthetic dermatology workshops which will incorporate the extensive use of video demonstrations have been added to the program. With the addition of these workshops and 41 free communications sessions, a total of 323 sessions delivered by approximately 1,700 chairpersons and speakers will be offered at the 22nd WCD.

Furthermore, 20 organizations will host ancillary meetings at the WCD which participants may freely choose to attend.

Other Announcements
Scholarship Applications
The initial deadline for scholarship applications was August 31 2010. After two deadline extensions we are pleased to announce that we received a total of 280 applications. Pending receipt of abstracts and certifications each scholarship applicant will receive a monetary reimbursement towards their travel and accommodation expenses in addition to a registration fee waiver.

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Message from Vancouver, Canada

Vancouver 2015 World Congress of Dermatology Bid
www.derm2015.org

Countdown to Korea
2010 was a whirlwind year for us. It’s hard to believe that in only a few short weeks, we will be in Seoul, Korea to present our official proposal for hosting the 2015 World Congress of Dermatology.

We have now had the enviable pleasure of meeting hundreds of international dermatologists on all five continents. We’ve had exhibit booths, hosted special cocktail receptions, and gave lectures at the AAD in Miami, the EADV in Gothenburg, CILAD in Cancun, the Regional Asian Conference in Malaysia, the Global Dermatology Summit during EXPO 2010 in Shanghai, Sharnderm in the Middle East, and RADLA in Buenos Aires. These are only a few of the many places to which our Bid Committee members have been invited to participate. Our primary goal has been to learn about what matters most to you in deciding where the world’s next premier international dermatology conference should be held. We greatly value all the advice and feedback we’ve received about Vancouver 2015, and we are confident that you will find everything you need here in our city.

And for 2011… Once again, we were at the AAD in New Orleans in February 2011 where we welcomed guests at our exhibit booth, and hosted three separate receptions in conjunction with the Canadian Dermatology Association, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Toronto.

Canada’s Contributions to Global Dermatology
For Canadians, hosting the World Congress is really an extension of an ongoing commitment to building dermatology at the international level. We are proud to count numerous leading dermatologists now practicing around the world as resident and fellowship alumni of our dermatology programs. Canadian dermatologists have also been at the forefront of research. For example, a disproportionately greater share of all subjects worldwide for biologic clinical trials were recruited in Canada. Recognizing that there remain great needs for building dermatology expertise in developing countries, the Canadian Dermatology Association has provided financial and practical assistance to African dermatology training centers in Tanzania and Mali. Canadian dermatologists were instrumental in establishing two onsite compounding laboratories for producing inexpensive topical agents at the Tanzania center. Our members have also individually volunteered their professional services by working abroad in less fortunate countries. Canadians have also served in leadership roles in numerous major international dermatology organizations including the ILDS itself.

Why Vancouver?
Vancouver’s new waterfront Convention Centre is within easy walking distance of 13,000 hotel rooms in the downtown core.

Each of the candidate cities is a special world-class destination with much to offer, including Vancouver. Our city is one of the most cosmopolitan and culturally diverse places in North America. No matter where in the world you are from, you will most assuredly feel welcome and comfortable from the moment you arrive here. Couple this with the unparalleled natural beauty, myriad activities, and gastronomic delights, and you have all the ingredients for a unique and unforgettable experience.

It’s also an official fact. Vancouver is rated as one of the world’s best places to visit. Readers of Condé Nast Traveler magazine have once again named Vancouver the Best City in the Americas in the magazine’s annual Readers’ Choice Awards survey (November 2010 issue). This is the fifth time Vancouver has won the title since 2004. The poll, which defines the Americas as Canada, Central America and South America, asked readers to rate cities on a variety of criteria, including culture and sites, restaurants, lodging, shopping, ambience and friendliness.

Vancouver is no stranger to major accolades. In 2009, the city was named the world’s most liveable city by the Economist Intelligence Unit, North America’s top destination for international meetings by the International Congress & Convention Association, and top city in the Americas in the Mercer Human Resource Consulting annual quality of living survey.

Up! magazine has ranked Vancouver as Canada’s Most Walkable City for the second year in a row. Vancouver topped the list based on judging criteria that assessed the experience each city provides to pedestrians — ranging from width of sidewalks to parkland paths.

It is our pleasure and honor to convince you that together, we can make Vancouver 2015 a reality. Let’s all support our Korean hosts by attending the 22nd World Congress of Dermatology in May — see you in Seoul!

Harvey Lui
Secretary-General
World Congress of Dermatology Vancouver 2015 Bid Committee

Message from Vienna, Austria

23rd World Congress of Dermatology
Vienna Bid – www.wcd2015.com

Vienna – From a proud past to a challenging future – Join the Vienna bid for the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology!

The New Year in Vienna has started with a lot of verve. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra under Franz Welser-Möst ushered in the New Year in traditional fashion with the 2011 New Year’s Concert at the Musikverein in Vienna. Performing compositions by the Strauss family as well as Joseph Lanner, Joseph Hellmesberger and Franz Liszt, the orchestra and conductor presented this most Viennese of all music not only to the audience in attendance in the Golden Hall but also to television viewers in over 70 countries worldwide.

Also in medicine Vienna derives its strong roots from its history. But after 120 years of academic service for dermatologists through the Austrian Society of Dermatology, we also ask the question: How will the future of global dermatology look like? What are the needs of dermatologists in the clinic and in private practice?

Picture of F. Welser-Möst conducting the 2011 New Year’s concert (picture alliance / dpa).

One such possible topic is the need for easy communication over long distances in areas with low-level medical services. In such situations teledermatology can be a remedy. Dermatologists from Central Europe and Italy, including Austrian Professor Peter Soyer, have contributed to this field. Professor Soyer, now based in Brisbane, Australia, has conceived with his colleague Professor Rainer Hofmann-Wellenhof the www.telederm.org project, an open access, freely available online consultation platform in dermatology, which is today used by 1950 dermatologists from 104 countries worldwide. Now he is developing...
specialised services based on teledermatology for Australia and performing melanoma screening research projects within the wider community using the next generation of mobile phones.

Clearly in countries, in which the distance to the next dermatological service is extensive, teledermatological services will gain further interest. Prof. Steven Kaddu from Graz, Austria, originally from Kampala, Uganda, added a new dimension to teledermatology, when he started the Telederm Africa Project funded by the Commission for Development Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The purpose of this project is to establish a virtual collaboration between African partners, USA and Austria. A unique online archive of tropical skin conditions will also emerge which should serve as an internet source of educational material for training and updating of medical specialists and health personnel. A secondary aim of the project is to establish and secure an active channel and platform for dermatological research collaboration. Recently, a mobile iPhone-based dermatology application for the Africa Tele-dermatology Project on http://africa.telederm.org has been developed.

Do you want to learn more about us and our bid? Visit our booth at the 69th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) in New Orleans from 4–8 February 2011. Invitations to our Welcome Reception will be sent out early in 2011!

Looking forward to receiving your positive reply to our request and hopefully to welcoming you in Greece in June 2011, we remain at your disposal for any further information or clarification you may need.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Nicholas Stavrianos, Congress President
Dr. Talia Kokaourou, MD, Congress General Secretary

The Philippine Dermatological Society

Skinweek Program

The Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS) has a vision to be a highly-recognized society … striving towards excellence in the attainment of healthy skin for all. The PDS Mission statement is to be an organization of humane and service-oriented dermatologists observing the highest ethical professional standards and promoting knowledge through information dissemination, training and research.

PDS, the Philippines’ largest organization of world-class board-certified medical specialists caring for the skin, hair and nails, in cooperation with the national government’s Department of Health has officially endorsed by the Philippine government by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 395 on the same year, and by Presidential Proclamation No. 110 thereafter.

The yearly SKINWEEK theme is Balat… Alagaan La-ban sa Sakit (Skin Care and Disease Prevention for All).

Skinweek is a nationwide campaign to uplift the health status of Filipinos through patient education and early skin disease detection and prevention by proper dermatologic care. This is in line with the Philippine Dermatological Society’s (PDS) vision to lead the country in the attainment of healthy skin for Filipinos through service, training and research activities.

In 2005, the national government’s Department of Health incorporated the National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week (Skinweek) as a National Health Program. It has since been a part of the country’s official calendar of events that highlight skin health.

The four components of the Skinweek Program are: Education and Information Campaign on Skin Health, Community Outreach, Research Activities and Continuing Medical Education.

Education and Information Campaign

Skin diseases are among the most common health problems in the Philippines. During SKINWEEK, PDS members deliver public health lectures on Basic Care for Healthy Skin, Hair and Nails in schools, local community health centers, hospital lobbies, free clinic venues and city and town halls.

Educational Poster Exhibits on Skin Care, Skin Diseases and Skin Safety are set up in all PDS-accredited Dermatology training institutions nationwide.

Community Outreach Clinics

Free clinics are held for the general public with PDS dermatologists providing free dermatology consultations and medications. When needed, referrals to accredited dermatology facilities are done.

During the 2010 Skinweek over 220 PDS Fellows, Diplomates and resident physicians participated during the Free Skin Clinics held in more than 60 locations nationwide. Coordination was done with local government units, community health centers, schools, parishes and community organizations.

Research Activities

To encourage research in various dermatologic fields, A residents’ Research Forum is organized yearly. Dermatology resident physicians from each of the PDS accredited training institutions competitively present original studies. A Research Poster Contest is mounted as well.

Continuing Medical Education

CME activities are an integral part of Skinweek. The Philippine Dermatological Society annual convention is held at this time. Featured are lectures, symposias and fora with board certified faculty of international and national distinction. Clinico-pathologic presentations and poster exhibits are set up. Pre-convention workshops on Dermatology subspecialties like pediatric dermatology, lasers, procedural and dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology are held.

The Skinweek Program exemplifies the mission of the Philippine Dermatological Society to serve and educate the Filipino public. It is a manifestation of PDS members as Physicians Dedicated to Skin Health.