

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
International Liaison Committee
on the occasion of the 20th Congress
of the European Society of Microcirculation
Maison de la Chirnie, Paris - Monday 31 August 1998**

Present

Professor David Lewis - Chair
Professor Bengt Fagrell
Professor Rob Reneman
Professor Robert Gore
Professor Oda
Professor Tsuchiya
Professor Charles Michel
Professor Peter Gaehtgens
Professor L Rilantono

Apologies

Professor Michael Perry
Dr Julian Lombard
Professor Virginia Huxley
Dr Sarah Gray
Dr Mary Ellsworth

Professor Lewis opened the meeting by thanking the participants for attending and welcomed Professor Rilantono to the meeting to talk about the 4th Asian Congress on Microcirculation. He also welcomed Bob Gore who was representing the Americas in the absence of the usual representatives.

He reminded the group that their function was to encourage the interchange of information about microvascular meetings and to ensure that the co-ordinated view could be developed regarding World Congresses.

World Congress Sydney 19 - 23 August 2001

Professor Lewis reported the plans for the meeting in Sydney were progressing well. The meeting had been arranged such that the IUPS Meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand, would take place a week after the World Congress thus allowing delegates that wish to visit both meetings to take the advantage of their journey to Australasia. A discussion developed regarding the need to avoid duplication at the two meetings and organise the programmes appropriately. Professor Michel suggested that themes developed in Sydney could be continued from a somewhat different perspective in Christchurch.

Proposal to hold the World Congress in Washington/DC in 2005

Professor Lewis informed the Committee that a proposal had been developed to hold the World Congress after Sydney in Washington/DC in the year 2005. This would break with the principal established in 1991 that the World Congresses would be held every 5 years but would have the benefit of allowing the meeting to occur back to back with the IUPS in that year which would be held in the Washington area. In support of the proposal, Professor Gore explained that Washington/DC was a good site for a congress and there were financial incentives in holding the meeting close to the IUPS in terms of sponsorship, exhibitions, etc.

There was general agreement that it would be preferable to hold the meeting in spring rather than summer from a climatic standpoint as well as the visual attraction of the Cherry Blossom!

There was general agreement that the Committee should be flexible about the precise timing of World Congresses.

Some concern was expressed that linking the World Congress with the IUPS on 2 occasions in succession may be setting a precedent and it was agreed that links with other groups should be encouraged and that it should be up to the local organisers to determine which linkages best met their needs. Professor Reneman made the point that it was important to avoid too many overlapping or consecutive meetings to avoid saturation as far as the delegates were concerned.

Subsequent European World Congress

Following the meeting in the United States, it would be Europe's turn to host the World Congress. Professor Lewis proposed that it should be left to the Europeans concerned as to when, where and with whom they would arrange that meeting.

4th Asian Congress for Microcirculation

Professor Rilantono thanked the Committee for the opportunity to discuss the 4th Asian Congress which was scheduled to meet in Yogyakarta in mid Java from 23/25 October 1999. The Indonesian Society of Phlebology and Microcirculation would be hosting the meeting under the auspices of the Asian Union for Microcirculation. The principal interest of the meeting would be similarities and differences between Western and Eastern medicines at the level of the microcirculation. There would be a pre-Conference satellite on traditional Asian Medicines. Professor Rilantono was particularly keen that speakers from the United States and Europe were present and clinically orientated topics would be of special interest as cardiovascular disease was now the major killer in that part of the world, and diabetes was increasing in prevalence.

The venue for the meeting was a traditional Javan City from a cultural standpoint. Accommodation would be cheap and Professor Rilantono was confident that the economic crisis and political instability would not be barriers.

Professor Lewis thanked Professor Rilantono for her information and encouraged the Committee to support the meeting. Professor Rilantono would be provided with addresses of the Liaison Committee members and copies of the flyer regarding the meeting would be distributed. Professor Rilantono's e-mail address regarding the congress was cardio@dnet.net.i.d.

Emerging Microcirculatory Societies

Professor Lewis reported that a Russian Society had been formed the previous year following a meeting in Yaroslavl. Professor Koslov from the Free University, Moscow, was the current President and it was hoped that the Russian Society would eventually be represented amongst the European Society Executive.

Colleagues in Africa, particularly the Nigerian physiologist Professor K.O. Adeniyi, were also keen to promote microvascular research.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.