THE ISPRM WORLD CONGRESS 2011 – CALL FOR TENDER

By Werner Van Cleemputte

We herewith would like to announce that the tender for the 2011 ISPRM World Congress is now open to bidding.

It is undoubtedly a great challenge for a national society to organise the ISPRM World Congress in its country. Apart from the high scientific level the ISPRM World Congress also offers an opportunity to welcome a large number of colleagues from all over the world.

We therefore would like to encourage national societies to submit their bid for the 2011 World ISPRM congress.

An application to hold the 2011 ISPRM World Congress can be made by any active National Society, member of the ISPRM and in good standing for at least two successive years or any individual active ISPRM member in good standing fully backed by his or her national society.

Application requirements to hold the ISPRM World Congress are now available on our website www.isprm.org

The applications, i.e. an official letter or email from the National Society should be sent either by post or by email to the Central Office (see address below).

Deadline for applications: January 21, 2005

The application will be confirmed by the Central Office and the National Society will send a bid book in two copies to the Central Office. The National Society will be invited to make a presentation during the upcoming ISPRM Board Meeting in Sao Paolo. Each presentation will take 10 minutes followed by 5 minutes question time. Presentations will be made in alphabetical order. After the presentations, the venue for the 6th ISPRM World Congress in 2011 will be decided on by secret ballot.

Good luck!!
CHINA WILL BID FOR THE 6TH ISPRM WORLD CONGRESS IN 2011

By Jianan Li, MD

The Chinese Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (CSPMR) under the China Medical Association (CMA), the China Association of Rehabilitation Medicine (CARM) and the Hong Kong Association of Rehabilitation Medicine (HKARM) had an important meeting in Beijing in April 2004. The three organizations decided to establish a taskforce to bid for hosting the 6th ISPRM World Congress in 2011 in Beijing, China. The proposed Organizing Committee will be steered by Prof. Jianan Li as Chairman and Prof Zongyao Wu as Chief of the Scientific Committee. The CMA International Office will be the secretariat.

China is a developing country and therefore rehabilitation services in the country are also developing. There is a huge demand in training of rehabilitation professionals to make a better service for the 130 million disabled people. The world congress held in China will launch a great motion to facilitate social and professional awareness of physical and rehabilitation medicine, which will definitely speed up the development of the specialty of PRM in China.

We pledge to host the largest congress. Considering there will be more than 50,000 rehabilitation professionals in China by the year 2011, we expect that 2,500 people in the Mainland China will convene in the ISPRM 2011. The total number of participants including attendees from overseas may possibly reach 3,500 or more, which will be unprecedented in the history of the ISPRM.

Besides, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is a treasure to be developed and will be beneficial to those who make good use of it. We believe that TCM may contribute to the modern rehabilitation medicine. On the other hand, the development of TCM needs modern medicine and international exchange. The world congress held in China will build up a broad bridge for the East meeting the West.

China, with a history of over 3,000 years, is well known for its abundant tourism attractions, historical sites and cultural relics. Tours before and after the Congress will be more than attractive, such as the Great Wall, the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses, the rivers and mountains in Guilin, the Three Gorges along the Yangtze River and mysterious Tibet, etc.

Our bidding obtained strong support from the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Beijing Bureau of Tourism and the Beijing Government.

Our proposed secretariat, the International Department of the Chinese Medical Association, organizes dozens of conferences every year such as the 23rd International Congress of Paediatrics in 2001, the 5th International Diabetes Federation Western Pacific Region Congress in 2002, the 9th International congress of Dermatology. The largest meeting was 4,500 people. The forthcoming international conferences in Beijing include: Asia Pacific Digestive Week, 2004; CMA-FIGO International Congress on OB&GY, 2005, Regional Meeting of International Society of Genecology Endoscopy, 2005; and the 2nd International Conference on Birth Defect and Disabilities in the Developing World, 2005.

One will never walk into a same Beijing twice. Its victory in the bidding of the Olympic Games 2008 has actually won the city something more than a sports event. The colossal amount of investment to be poured into different aspects in the run-up to 2008 is going to give Beijing a complete face-lift. The pace of changes in Beijing in the next five years will be unprecedentedly rapid. This will undoubtedly add aura to being the host city of ISPRM 2011.
5TH MEDITERRANEAN CONGRESS OF PRM
by Gulseren Akyuz, Chairperson of the Scientific Committee

We were really honoured to welcome more than 600 of our colleagues in Antalya for the 5th Mediterranean Congress of PRM. We are very happy to hear that most of the participants were satisfied by the scientific program and social activities.

Antalya is one of the most beautiful and attractive cities in Turkey, boasting magnificent natural landscapes and lots of historical sites. It is visited the whole year around by people coming from all over the world. We hope that you enjoyed the city as much as the scientific program and the social activities.

The congress started with the opening ceremony, during which Prof. Dr. Onder Kayhan briefly talked about the history of the Turkish and Anatolian civilizations which began nearly 2,500 years ago and lasted until the present day as the Republic of Turkey. The Opening Ceremony ended with a slide show of Turkey, made by the famous photographer Adnan Veli Kuvanlık. Social activities included a performance by Ney, a group combining modernized and traditional Turkish belly dance in the ancient theatre ASPENDOS on 2 October and the Gala Dinner closed off the whole range of social functions.

The scientific program started on 30 September with the workshops. On the first congress day, some of the P&RM specialists and residents had the chance to attend the 3 workshops including ‘electrophysiology’, ‘clinical gait analysis’ and ‘management of spasticity in cerebral palsy’.

Between October 1 and 4, the scientific program continued with invited lectures, oral and poster presentations. In total 173 speakers and chairpersons were invited to the congress. In total, there were 110 lectures, 104 oral presentations including 35 of neurological rehabilitation, 36 of orthopaedic rehabilitation, 16 of osteoporosis, 16 of rheumatology and more; 224 poster presentations including 59 of neurological rehabilitation, 36 of orthopaedic rehabilitation, 33 of rheumatologic diseases, 32 of osteoporosis were presented and discussed. Apart from the scientific program we also had the chance of having 3 interactive sessions, so that we were able to discuss ‘training and exchange programs for PRM residents in Mediterranean countries’, and ‘main problems affecting rehabilitation services in the Mediterranean area’, and ‘challenges of training in the field of P&RM in Europe’.

Pharmaceutical companies also paid great attention to the congress; more than 40 companies exhibited their products for 5 days. Additionally companies in the field of orthoses and prostheses, EMG, and DEXA were also present. We were very lucky because we worked with INTRA Travel Agency. Special thanks to them, because they are the best.

Now, we invite all of you to the 5th ISPRM World Congress in Istanbul in 2009! We look forward to seeing you again.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS: MARK LISSENS APPOINTED VICE PRESIDENT OF ISPAPOFF
International Society for Physical Activity in the Prevention of Osteoporosis Falls and Fractures

A multidisciplinary scientific society endeavouring to encourage further research in the field of osteoporosis, falls and fractures ISPAPOFF was officially launched at the International Congress of Osteoporosis in Xian, China 2 April 1999. Physical activity will be the main topic at the IOF (International Osteoporosis Foundation) in 2005.

A group of researchers and clinicians with an interest in physical activity gathered on 1st April 1999 during the Third International Congress on Osteoporosis held in Xian, China. The resulting Society - The International Society of Physical Activity for the Prevention of Osteoporosis, Falls and Fractures (PAPOFF) was officially launched at the same congress on 2nd April 1999. The following statement from the society was issued at the launch. "The aim of the society is to encourage physical activity at all ages of life, particularly with a view to improving tone, strength, muscle function and postural stability, and with the ultimate goals of reducing the risks of falls and fractures. This is a multi-disciplinary scientific society which will endeavour to encourage further research in the field and to promote education to the public and healthcare professions.”
Dr Ole Simonsen, Orthopaedic Surgeon from Hjoerring, Denmark, who has a special interest in physical activity and exercise was elected the first President of the society. He states "I am delighted that since the initial meeting in China many more people have already shown great interest in the Society. I hope that people with an interest in the field of physical activity and exercise from different backgrounds will contribute to the society and make it a success. I hope that members will start networking with one another and that the Society will develop close links with other organisations with common interests."

If you would like to become a member and receive the Newsletter, please contact the Secretariat. There is no Membership Fee at present as the Society newsletter is being sponsored by Pharmaceutical Companies.

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Please feel free to submit articles for the News & Views and to take part in our Editorial Board.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

- 26th Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Sports Medicine, 6-9 January 2005, Chennai, India. Contact: jssandhu2000@yahoo.com
- Meeting of the Biofeedback Foundation of Europe (BFE), February 22-26, 2005 Hasselt, Belgium, visit www.bfe.org
3rd ISPRM World Congress - April 10-14, 2005 in Sao Paolo, Brazil, www.isprm.org/brazil

- 6th World Congress on Brain Injury – IBIA, in conjunction with the 13th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM), 5 – 8 May 2005, Melbourne, Australia – www.icms.com.au/braininjury
- Principles and Practice of Pain Medicine, June 22-26, 2005, The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston Visit: www.med.harvard.edu/conted
- 4th ISPO Central and Eastern Europe Conference, 22-24 September 2005, Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro – information at 4.ISPOCEEBELGRADE@eunet.yu
- 4th World Congress of Neurorehabilitation, Hong Kong, 12-16 February 2006, visit www.wcnr2006.com
- World Parkinson Congress, 22-26 February 2006, Washington. USA, Contact: info@worldpdcongress.org

4th ISPRM World Congress – June 10 - 14, 2007 in Seoul, Korea - NEW DATES

5th ISPRM World Congress – May 9 -13, 2009 in Istanbul, Turkey

Please feel free to announce your upcoming congresses in this agenda by sending an email with all relevant information to the Central Office.