INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

NEWS & VIEWS – DECEMBER 2003

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wish all their
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a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year

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THE ISPRM INTERNATIONAL STUDENT-FACULTY EXCHANGE PROGRAM: AN ANNUAL REPORT

By Mark A. Young

Committee Members: Mark A. Young MD, MBA, FACP (Baltimore, USA)
Peter Disler PhD MBBCh FRACP FAFRM (Melbourne, Australia)
Luigi Tesio MD (Italy)

"Alone we can do so little, together so much" - Helen Keller

Inspired by the legacy of the legendary disability activist and educator, Helen Keller, the "ISPRM International Student-Faculty Exchange Program" has significantly touched the academic and educational lives of rehabilitation physicians and students, the world over.

Code-named "Operation Global Goniometry", the activity of the committee centers on disseminating education and academic learning opportunities in PR&M across the globe.

The program was inaugurated in November of 2002, when President John Melvin (USA) and President Elect Haim Ring (Israel) determined the vital importance of promoting International Education. With the encouragement of the ISPRM Board, a new committee was born.

Since spreading rehabilitation expertise internationally, has always been recognized as a priority of the ISPRM, and its predecessors IRMA and the IFPMR, the establishment of this committee represented a logical continuation of ISPRM's mission and vision.

Mark Young (USA), Peter Disler (Australia) and Luigi Tesio (Italy) were invited to lead the committee and to spearhead the international effort. In the year that the committee has been in existence, many impressive global achievements centered on promoting global educational opportunities in rehabilitation have unfolded.

The Primary Functions and Responsibilities of the Committee:

- To serve as a central clearing house for international learning opportunities in Rehabilitation
- To facilitate placement of medical students, residents, faculty physicians and allied rehabilitation professionals in global voluntary didactic rotations
- To share information about global PRM educational opportunities with the membership of the organization
- To track the outcomes, progress and successes of the committee's educational initiatives
- To interface and network with other rehabilitation educational organizations in pursuit of International Education and Scholarship in the field

The Committee serves as a central clearing house for educational opportunities, the world over. To track the individual accomplishments and progress of the committee since the inauguration of the program, a special photographic web site has been established. (http://www.isprm-edu.org)

The committee draws inspiration and encouragement from many of the global luminaries in the field of PM&R, including Professor Mathew Lee, Chairman and Professor of the New York University Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation whose fervent lifelong love of international Physiatry education has motivated many people. Professor Herman Flax another International Physiatric "Ambassador" has traveled the world over in the name of rehabilitation education. He has accomplished a lifetime of outstanding and unique contributions to the care of individuals with disability. Both individuals with their dedication and commitment to PM&R serves as mentors and advisors to the committee.

With the arrival of the New Year, we wish to review the accomplishments of the committee. This article is intended as a Chronicle of the committee's milestones, "an Annual Report" highlighting a select sample of some of the major global attainments.

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✓ **The Prague PR&M Educational Summit**: (May 08, 2003)
"A BLUEPRINT FOR INTERNATIONAL P&MR EDUCATION SUCCESS"

This event, a unique and unprecedented international convocation of rehabilitation educators was conducted as part of the 2nd ISPRM World Congress held in Prague on May 18-22, 2003. The meeting brought together P&RM scientists and practitioners from over 60 countries of all continents. The educational summit was chaired by Mark Young and Peter Disler specifically focused on international residency training and educational issues and was attended by developing and developed nations. Panelists as well as delegates from over 40 nations were in attendance. The convocation enabled physicians from all corners of the globe to network and review relevant residency and educational issues. A total of 10 countries were present as panelists, selected by the ISPRM scientific committee to represent each of 5 global continents. In addition, there were over 50 physicians representing 40 nations who served as "delegates" through there presence at the event. The event served as an international "meeting ground" for academic rehabilitation physicians interested in promoting global educational goodwill. On a practical level, the event was a valuable opportunity for rehabilitation educators from different lands to network and create synergistic opportunities. Blueprints were drawn up for the establishment of an international rehabilitation educational resource center.

✓ **The Vilnius, Lithuania Physiatry Connection**: (September 11, 2003)

At the invitation of Professor Alvdas Jusodovecius of the University of Vilnius, Dr. Mark Young was invited to Lithuania in September of 2003 to address the Lithuania Parliament on the all important issue of Vocational rehabilitation and Spinal Cord Injury. Dr. Young shared his experience as a Maryland State vocational rehabilitation doctor.
A series of educational sessions were also held at the University which included a Roundtable discussion with the residents. Dr. Young donated copies of his book, PM&R Secrets to all in attendance.

✓ **The Philippines Connection**

Dr. Bryan O'Young, Adjunct Associate Professor at NYU was invited to the Philippines to lead a series of didactic discussions. As co-editor of the internationally acclaimed PM&R SECRETS, DR. O'Young distributed copies of his book and shared unique insights about PM&R education in the Unites States.

✓ **Pediatric Rehabilitation Fellowship in Baltimore**

Dr. Jeongyi Kwon, a pediatric physiatrist in Seoul Korea came to Baltimore Maryland in search of a fellowship opportunity in Pediatric Rehabilitation. She was placed at two major Baltimore Hospitals including the Kennedy Institute and Mt. Washington Rehabilitation Hospital (See photos on web site).

✓ **Calcutta Comes to Baltimore**

Dr. Mouli Madhab Ghatak is a young physiatrist residing in Calcutta, India whose lifelong dream was to come to America to visit centers of rehabilitation excellence. With the help of the ISPRM education committee, Dr. Ghatak's wishes were fulfilled. With the help of USA physiatrists, Mark Young and Bryan O'Young, Dr. Ghatak was offered a clinical exposure to several rehabilitation venues in Baltimore and New York. Dr. Ghatak also spent time at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and the Thomas Edison Rehabilitation Center in New Jersey. Dr. Ghatak's visit to Maryland was especially meaningful where he had an opportunity to shadow Dr. Young at the Maryland Rehabilitation Center and to visit the State of Maryland Assistive Technology Center.
A dinner lecture sponsored by the Maryland Society of PM&R was held on the eve of Dr. Ghatak's departure. The lecture was appropriately given by Dr. Herman Flax, the former ISPRM president (see web photo).

✓ **Dr. Andrew Fischer visits Kuwait**

Dr. Andrew Fischer, associate professor of PM&R at Mt. Sinai in New York was invited to Kuwait to offer a week long workshop on new approaches in Pain management employing segmental injections. Dr. Fischer's workshop was especially meaningful since he shared pain management techniques with fellow physiatrists across the globe and continued the committee's tradition of sharing and caring. Dr. Fischer presented a similar workshop to a standing room only audience at the ISPRM meeting in Prague .

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✓ **Dr. Marta Imamura visits the NIH**

Marta Imamura, a member of the PM&R faculty at the University of Sao Paulo was a guest lecturer at the National Institute of Health in June of 2003. Dr. Imamura lectured on new assessment tools in Segmental Spinal Sensitization Models of Pain and together with Dr. Andrew Fischer, of New York City, presented a workshop on new techniques in the management of spinal pain.

International Telemedicine Project:

During Dr. Ghatak's visit to Baltimore, exciting plans were discussed for the formation of a TELEMEDICINE LEARNING PROJECT involving Indian and American Physiatrists. Using telemedicine and internet video-camera technology, rehabilitation students and residents far across the oceans could learn about rehabilitation diagnosis of rare disorders endemic to particular regions. As a starting point, Dr. Ghatak and Dr. Young selected Leprosy and Anthrax as initial learning topics. Both diagnosis present with unique musculoskeletal and neurophysiologic manifestations.. (Since Leprosy is common in India and rare in America and cases of Anthrax are now being seen in the USA, this was deemed suitable topics for international education)

The above report describes a select sample of the activity of the committee.

AN INVITATION:

The membership of the ISPRM is cordially invited to become actively involved in the activity of the committee.
A previous issue of News and Views contained a questionnaire and article on how to contribute to the international educational effort.

The committee is extremely interested in learning of contributions to global rehabilitation education by ISPRM members and would be happy to publicize any educational opportunities on its web site. www.isprm-edu.org

Photographs highlighting the international attainments of ISPRM members and constituent nations are greatly encouraged.

Please respond to MA.YO@VERIZON.NET

108TH CONGRESS OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION - MORE THAN AN NATIONAL EVENT

By Christoph Gutenbrunner, MD, PhD, Congress President

From October, 2nd to October 5th, 2003, the 108th Congress of the German Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (DGPMR) took place in Hamburg. The most important event during this congress was an international session under the title "PMR in Germany – a European Challenge". Additionally a progressive concept for congress communication with in clinical topics has been realized.

"During the debate on the maintenance and future development of the speciality of physical and rehabilitation medicine in the German medical association already in the early phase I had a key experience that made it very clear to me that we will not be able to survive as a speciality without the integration of German PMR structures into the European and international context" the president of the congress Professor Christoph Gutenbrunner stated in his introduction. Four excellent presentations followed: Professor Haim Ring, President of the International Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation gave an overview about "Trends in Rehabilitation Medicine", and Professor Gunnar Grimby gave a lecture on the „Progress in Scientific Publication in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine". „The Development of ICF-Core-Sets" was the subject of the contribution of Professor Gerold Stucki, who took over the presidency of the DGPMR after the congress. The session was completed by Professor Michael Qiuttan who talked about "Perspectives and Cooperation in the German Speaking Countries in Europe".

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After the scientific part of the session the president of the German Society German Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Professor Christoph Gutenbrunner **appointed**

- Professor Haim Ring, Tel Aviv, Israel, Head of the Loewenstein Rehabilitation Center, Raanana, Israel, Chairman of the Rehabilitation Medicine Department at the Tel Aviv University School of Medicine and President of the International Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ISPRM)
- Professor Gunnar Grimby, Stockholm, Sweden, Editor of the Journal for Rehabilitation Medicine and
- Professor Michael Quittan, Vienna, Austria, President of the Austrian Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Secretary of the European Federation of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

as Corresponding Members of the society. "We are very glad to admit three excellent scientists to our society. All of them have contributed significantly to our scientific work. We look very much forward to an even more intensive cooperation in the future." Gutenbrunner said in his closing remarks.

The main topics of the congress were

- physical medicine and rehabilitation in contractures
- guiding the rehabilitation process by PMR specialists
- postoperative treatment and rehabilitation in shoulder and elbow trauma

One topic was discussed on one congress day, starting with overview lectures in the morning, followed by topic-related workshops and seminars. In the afternoon panel discussion with the lecturers of the morning sessions and the chairmen of the workshops an seminars took place including short statements and providing one hour of time for discussion with the audience. This innovative concept was very successful and has been very much acknowledged by the participants.

Parallel a scientific programme with original papers and posters of a great variety of topics of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation have been presented, and a special session on "controlled studies in Balneology and Medical Climatology" and on "Evidence Based Medicine in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation" completed the programme.

STROKE REHABILITATION COURSE IN QUITO (ECUADOR)

By Haim Ring MD

Between the 18-21st of November, Haim Ring MD, chairman of the neurological rehabilitation department at the Loewenstein Rehabilitation Center (Raanana) and chairman of the Rehabilitation Medicine Department at the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University and Arie Burstin, chief PT at the Beth Rivka Geriatric Center in Petach Tikwa Israel, conducted a theoretical-practical course on Stroke Rehabilitation in Quito, Ecuador.

The course, in Spanish, took place at the auditorium of the Carlos Andrade Marin hospital of the Social Security with over 100 participants - physiatrists, geriatricians, neurologists, neurosurgeons and allied medical professions - from all over Ecuador. The program consisted of two lectures by each visiting lecturer, every morning, on different aspects of stroke rehabilitation and examination of patients in the afternoon for 2-3 hours ending with therapeutic recommendations (drug regimen, physical therapy, cognitive treatment).

The examinations were transmitted by closed circuit to a large screen so demonstrations on physical examination and therapies, application of TENS or FES or points for botox injections, could be clearly seen. Some of the physiotherapy equipment brought by Arie Burstein was left there as a gift to the local allied medical professionals departments.

Haim Ring also lectured at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica and at the hospital Eugenio Espejo of the Universidad Popular. A special meeting with the Ecuadorian PM&R Society took place where the Israeli curriculum for PM&R was presented.

The social activities entailed a visit to "mitad del mundo" (latitude 0!) and the old city of Quito, mainly the beautiful churches from the time of the Spanish Empire ("la conquista"). The audience followed with vivid interest both the lectures and the demonstrations, for long hours, asked questions and returned a warm feed-back. Indeed, a very gratifying though hard journey.

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

In the upcoming weeks you will all receive an invitation to renew your ISPRM membership for the year 2004.

In a non ISPRM Congress year it is sometimes difficult to convince our members to renew their membership as the benefit of the reduced fee for the ISPRM congress is an asset that is now not applicable. Remember however that we have a large number of congresses endorsed by ISPRM offering reduced registration fees for ISPRM members (see Upcoming Congresses).

Your membership is important, yes even crucial in order to further develop the ISPRM not only financially but also to consolidate the representation of the ISMPR and its members worldwide. Belonging to this society as a member is therefore mandatory for each individual PM&R specialist and national society.

For 2004 members will not only receive their membership card but also the Membership Certificate that will be printed on a special stationery and that can be displayed in your cabinet.

If any questions about membership should arise, please feel free to contact the Central Office.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

Congresses with the ISPRM logo in the left margin are endorsed by the ISPRM and offer reduced registration fees to ISPRM Members

- The **6th International Conference on Pain and Chemical Dependency**, February 4-7, 2004, Brooklyn, New York, visit www.painandchemicaldependency.org
- **32nd** Annual National Conference of **the Indian Association of PMR,** 6-8 February**,** Calicut, Kerala, India, visit www.iapmrcon2004.org/
- **Super EMG MMIV** February 14-21, 2003, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, visit: http://ccme.osu.edu
- **14th Annual Convention** of the **Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine**, February 18-21, 2004, Legazpi City, Albay, Philippines. Visit: www.eparm.org

➢ **8th Annual Meeting of the Biofeedback Foundation of Europe**, February 24-28, 2004, Winterthur, Switzerland, information can be found at www.bfe.org

- The **4th World Congress on the Aging Male**, February 26-29, 2004, Prague, Czech Republic Visit: **www.kenes.com/aging**
- **State of the art in Chronic Low Back Pain Symposium**, 4-6 April 2004, Bodrum (Turkey) organized by the Erasmus MC**.** Info**:** h.j.stam@erasmusmc.nl
- **Joint Conference of the American Society on Aging and National Council on Aging**, April 14-17, 2004, San Francisco, California, visit www.asaging.org/summer-series
- **10th International Congress on Public Health** by the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA), 19 - 22 April 2004, Brighton, England, visit **www.phaworldcongress.com/**

➢ **2nd Japanese-Korean Joint Conference** (Korean and Japanese Society of PM&R), April 24-25, 2004, Kyoto, Japan, contact: nobuishi@me.ndmc.ac.jp

- Combined Annual Scientific Meetings of the **Australian Society for Geriatric Medicine (ASGM) and the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM),** 27 – 30 April 2004, Esplanade Hotel**,** Fremantle Western Australia**:** Contact: AFRM@racp.edu.au

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- **Annual Scientific Session of the American Pain Society**, May 6-9, 2004, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, visit www.aps.org

- **Spring Meeting** of the **Royal Belgian Society of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**- Quality of Life Measurement in Rehabilitation: Misleading Evidence?, May 8, 2004, Leuven, Belgium. Visit www.uzleuven.be/rehabilitation

- The 14th **European Congress of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation,** May 12-15, 2004, in Vienna, www.ecprm2004.org or Dr. Michael Quittan, michael.quittan@univie.ac.at

- **SCI ASIA Meeting,** Denver USA**,** May 14.-16, **www.asia-spinalinjury.org**

- **SpineWeek 2004,** May 30 – June 05, 2004, Porto, Portugal – Combined meeting of the Leading Scientific Spine Societies being the **International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine – Spine Society of Europe - Soc. Ibero-latino-americano de Columna Vertebral – Cervical Spine Research Society – Brazilian Society for the Pathology of the Spine – Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association, Spine Section** Visit www.medicongress.com

➢ 8th **Congress of the European Federation for Research in Rehabilitation** (**EFRR**) June 13-17, 2004, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Visit www.cd-cc.si/EFRR2004/ or contact: crt.marincek@mail.ir-rs.si

- **Principles and Practice of Pain Medicine**, June 23-27, 2004, The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, USA Visit www.med.harvard.edu/conted

- **5th World Stroke Congress**, June 23-26, 2004, Vancouver, Canada, Visit: www.kenes.com/stroke2004

- 11th World Congress of the **International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics** (ISPO), 1- 6 August 2004 Hong Kong: ispo@pctourshk.com

- **Rehabilitation International Assembly and World Congress**, August 9-13, 2004; Oslo, Norway. www.RI-Norway.no

- **Towards Global Partnerships: Working together for Effective Clinical Practice**, An international conference organised by the **International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation**, 25-27 August 2004, Corinthia San Gorg Hotel, Malta. Info: tania@markallengroup.com

- 3rd World Congress of the **World Institute of Pain**, 22-25 September 2004, Barcelona, Spain info@clinicadeldolor.com or wipcongress@meet2.net

- 43rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISCOS, **International Spinal Cord Society and the Hellenic Society Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**, 26-29 September 2004, Athens, Greece. Visit www.triaenatours.gr

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5th Mediterranean Congress on PM&R, September 30 –October 03, 2004, Antalya, Turkey, visit www.medcongress.org or contact Pr. Tansu at Arasil, tansu@surf.net.tr

- 19th Annual Congress of the **Société Française de Médecine Physique et de Réadaptation**, September 30 – October 2, 2004. Cité de Sciences & de l'industrie, Paris, France.
  Contact : sofmerparis2004@rth.ap-hop-paris.fr

- 66th **Annual Assembly of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation** (AAPM&R), 07 – 10 October 2004, Phoenix, Arizona, USA- Visit www.aaprmr.org

- 5th **Interdisciplinary World Congress on Low Back & Pelvic Pain**, 10 – 13 November 2004, Melbourne, Australia – visit www.worldcongresslbp.com

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 **Australasion Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine** (AFRM), 5 – 8 May 2005, Melbourne, Australia – www.icms.com.au/braininjury

- 11th **World Congress on Pain** (IASP), 21 – 26 August 2005, Sydney, Australia – www.iasp-pain.org

4th ISPRM World Congress – October 8 - 12, 2007 in Seoul, Korea

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

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