

2001-2004

ISPRM Executive Committee 2001-2002

President	John Melvin	Regional Vice Presidents	.
Past President	Satoshi Ueda	Africa & Middle East	Abdulla A.M. Eyadeh
Executive Vice President	William Peek	Asia & Pacific	Sae-il Chun
President Elect	Haim Ring	Caribbean, Central & South America	Veronica Rodriguez
Vice President	Linamara Battistella	Europe	Daniel Wever
Secretary	Martin Grabois	North America	Gaetan Tardif
Treasurer	Mark Lissens	.	.
Members at Large	.	.	.
.	Society	Naoichi Chino	.
.	Individual	Thomas Strax	.

Meetings of the ISPRM Board of Governors in Syracuse, Italy, on June 25 and June 28, 2002.

During the meeting on June 25, major part of the agenda to be discussed and decided on was the report of the Bylaws Committee, presented by its chairman Jose Jimenez. The Committee presented two documents consolidated from previously presented documents: Bylaws, edition 2001 and Policies and Procedures, edition 2001, together with nine motions concerning acceptance of these documents as the only operational documents for the governance and administration of the ISPRM, and proposed additions and alterations to the text of the documents. Most of these motions passed as presented but at the end it was decided to defer a final decision on the amended documents until the board meeting in 2003 in Prague.

At the meeting on June 28 the presidency of ISPRM was handed over to Haim Ring. He presented his working plan for the coming term and underlined the hierarchical structure of ISPRM as confirmed in the Board meeting on June 25. It consists of three levels: the first level is the President's Cabinet consisting of President, Past President, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer; the second level is the Executive Committee which is the President's Cabinet + Regional Vice Presidents + representatives of Members at Large + Executive Director (ex officio); the third level is the Board of Governors which is the Executive Committee + the Members at Large.

The 2nd ISPRM World Congress was presented to be held in Prague, Czech Republic, May 18-22, 2003. The original selected venue was Jerusalem, Israel, but due to the politically unstable situation in and around Israel as well as the worldwide effects of the attack on the World Trade Center in New York, the Israeli Organizing Committee had to decide, in consultation with the ISPRM President's Cabinet, to relocate the congress venue to Prague.

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Past President	John Melvin	Africa & Middle East	Abdulla M. Eyadeh
President Elect	Linamara Battistella	Asia & Pacific	Shigenobu Ishigami
Vice President	Chang-il Park	Caribbean, Central & South America	Matilde Sposito
Secretary	Naoichi Chino	Europe	Daniel Wever
Treasurer	Mark Lissens	North America	Alberto Esquenazi
Assistant Secretary	Önder Kayhan	.	.
Members at Large	.	.	.
.	Society	Sae-il Chun	.
.	Individual	Satoshi Miyano	.

The Second World Congress of ISPRM, organized by the Israeli PM&R Society, took place on May 18-22, 2003 in Prague, Czech Republic.

Notwithstanding the above mentioned problems, the Organizing Committee and the organizing company had been confronted with during the preparations, the congress proved to be very well prepared and very well organized. The well chosen venue was the Hilton Prague Hotel and Convention Center which offered a very luxurious residence and well-equipped meeting facilities. The location not far from the Old Town, with a choice of public transport on hand, made it easily possible to use spare moments to visit some of the numerous attractions of Prague.

The more than 1300 participants from 73 countries were offered a rich and varied scientific program and a commercial exhibition of rehabilitation-related technologies by 22 exhibitors. About 1,100 presentations had been submitted for either oral or poster presentation. Daily 5-6 halls were operated to accommodate the 64 oral sessions, covering all major aspects of P&RM, along with special educational activities such as workshops, mini-courses and a satellite symposium. Poster sessions were held every day.

A 'Young Scientist Award Competition' was organized. Ten works that reached the final stage were presented in a special session. The winner, Dr. Selles from The Netherlands, received the maximal score from both the jury and the audience.

The Social Program included an Opening Ceremony with the Czech Vice-minister of Health and the Mayor of Prague as well as ISPRM authorities, the President's Reception in the Old Town of Prague, concerts in old churches, and a Gala Dinner with the presentation of the Young Scientist Award and a warming-up for the ISPRM 2005 congress in São Paulo, Brazil.

The meeting of the ISPRM Board of Governors was held on May 21, 2003, presided by Haim Ring. Next to the Executive Committee, 43 individual members and representatives of national societies attended this meeting. This large number of attendants made it difficult to have a sensible and fruitful discussion.

During the presentation of the committee reports, John Melvin as the chairman of the Award Committee introduced a motion to accept the criteria and names of the ISPRM awards, i.e. the Sidney Licht Lectureship Award and the Herman Flax Lifetime Achievement Award. The motion was accepted, as well as a motion introduced by Jose Jimenez that there should be a survey, recognising all those awarded with ISPRM awards as well as IRMA and IFPMR awards in the past.

John Melvin reported that William Peek had been awarded the Herman Flax Lifetime Achievement Award and that the award had been presented in a short session during the luncheon break prior to this Board meeting.

Again there was ample discussion, such as the former one in Syracuse, about the bylaws and the amendments, introduced by Jose Jimenez as the chairman of the Bylaws Committee, especially concerning membership and finances. Again some decisions had to be deferred to a next meeting, mainly depending on proposals to be expected from the Membership Committee and the Finance Committee.

Another hot item was the report of the Audit Committee. A review of the books had been made, like usually was done in IRMA in the past, but that could not be accepted by the Audit Committee as an audit. It was decided to combine the roles audit/finance/investment into a merged Finances & Audit Committee and to organize an external audit.

Voting for the venue of the ISPRM Congress in 2009 between Australia, Puerto Rico and Turkey was won by Turkey. ISPRM V will be held in Istanbul, Turkey.

The representatives of Turkey had a lucky day: it was also voted that the ISPRM Board Meeting 2004 would be in Antalya, Turkey, on occasion of the Mediterranean Congress of PM&R.
