

# WORLD NEUROLOGY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 1, MARCH 2001

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### Highlights of the Season: Northern Hemisphere - Autumn, Southern Hemisphere - Spring

In order to attend WFN related Congresses, I recently retraced part of the route of Charles Darwin, who sailed from England aboard the H.M.S. Beagle across the Atlantic to Bahia, Brazil, round Cape Horn and thence across the Pacific Ocean, to Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, in 1831-32. During his trip, Darwin carefully observed and recorded seasickness (a neurological disorder), insanity and cruelty in his shipmates (behavioral disorders caused by the brain malfunction), and the migration of fish and birds whose brains have unerring sense of direction (an instinct which, even today, remains an enigma for neuroscientists).

En route, he described and recorded pristine flora and fauna in scientific logs. As a result, he was called a naturalist by contemporary description but, to my mind, was a neuroscientist in many of his concepts, as I discovered when I perused

his journal observations of the nervous system in *Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*, and *Journal of the Researches into the Natural History and Geology of the Countries visited during the Voyage of the HMS Beagle Around the World*. Darwin's voyage is a "must read" for neurologists whose discipline has been built upon evolutionary concepts of the nervous system development from paleo- to archi- to neo-structures within the spinal cord, cerebellum, brainstem, and cerebrum.

Unlike Darwin, whose ship made 12 knots before the wind on a good day, my wife and I traveled at 36,000 feet, 600 miles per hour, in order to attend the XIX Congress of the Brazilian Neurological Society. In a day, we passed from autumn with the birds migrating south to avoid winter, across the equator into springtime. Imagine the amazement of the Beagle crew, as they traveled the globe and slowly came to realize that life was "backwards" below the Equator.

Neurology in Brazil is a very dynamic and vibrant force, with a rapidly increasing cadre of neurologists. The meeting, organized by Professor Aroldo Bacellar, was superb in all respects with nearly 1,500

attendees from 34 national groups. Professors Bacellar, Gustavo Nora, and Octavio Carvalho orchestrated a remarkable scientific program and entertained the attendees with delightful evening programs.

Shortly after our return, as its Historian, I attended the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting of the American Neurological Association in Boston, Massachusetts, Chaired by President Richard Baringer. One highlight was the History Exhibit, conceived and executed by Dr. Christopher Goetz, Douglas Lanska, and others, which traced the evolution of neurology in America. In creating the exhibit and looking forward to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, considerable use was made of recent technological advances in communication. For example, a link between the past and the future was forged through recordings of ANA Past-Presidents' oral histories that are accessible to the world on the Internet at [www.aneuroa.org](http://www.aneuroa.org).

Thereafter, I traveled to Melbourne, Australia, for the 4<sup>th</sup> World Stroke Congress, sponsored by the International Stroke Society with the Australian Neurological and Stroke Societies as our hosts. The Congress attracted 1,300 delegates from 45 nations. Congress Chair Stephen Davis and Scientific Program Chair Geoffrey Donnan thanked sponsors, the International Stroke Society and the World Fed-

(cont. on page 3)



WFN President Dr. James F. Toole addressing the American Neurological Association meeting.

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- Editorial
- World Congress of Neurology London
- WFN Annual Reports
- Argentine Neurological Society
- WFN Ad Hoc Committee
- Book Reviews

Visit the WFN website at <http://www.wfneurology.org>

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## EDITORIAL

This issue of *World Neurology* contains the Annual Reports of the World Federation of Neurology for the year 2000. The facts are most revealing and reflect the magnitude of the workload that all the officers have undertaken. Moreover, it is through these reports that the work of such officers is made transparent to all. WFN's transformation to WFN "Inc." is a historical step. The efforts of the current Management Committee towards this goal, under the stewardship of President James F. Toole and particularly of Jun Kimura, First Vice President and Chair, Constitution and Bye-Laws Committee, are greatly appreciated.

Dr. Donna Bergen deserves our congratulations for the difficult job she has performed for WFN by taking an inventory of the manpower available in the 17 countries shown in the table featured in the President's Report. However, this service needs to be extended to cover all the countries that are members of WFN. This is a huge task, but will ultimately be most rewarding. Since I live in India I know that in this country, with a population of 1000

million, there are not more than 500–600 trained neurologists. The situation will be similar in many other countries. WFN must concentrate with the World Health Organization on improving neurological services throughout the world. WFN is already performing a magnificent task in developing countries through its Neurology Training Programme, its Education of Non-neurologists programme and through its programme of Continuing Medical Education, under the able guidance of Ted Munsat.

Former 'iron curtain' countries are better placed today. It was disclosed at the First European Co-operation Neurology Workshop, held at Trest in the Czech Republic, that for a total population of 316 million in 15 countries, there are more than 25,000 neurologists, similar to the number of neurologists worldwide who are currently members of the WFN. Let language alone be no barrier to bringing all neurologists around the world together under the umbrella of the World Federation of Neurology.

This issue contains the first in a new series of articles on WFN member societies. We hope to feature them in alphabetical order and we start therefore with the Sociedad

Neurológica Argentina. We can all learn more through these columns about the National Societies/Associations that are affiliated to the WFN, and their availability here and on the WFN website will provide a valuable historic record. All Delegates are asked to supply the WFN Administrator, Keith Newton, with information on their organisations.

The year 2000 was also historical since three neuroscientists shared the Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine. Our understanding of one of the greatest mysteries of the brain has been updated. Their research has helped in newer treatments for Parkinsonism, schizophrenia and depression. Dr Paul Greengard, Professor and Head of the Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience at Rockefeller University, has enhanced our understanding of the action of several drugs which have been used for affective disorders. His major work was focused on dopamine, a neurotransmitter which may be involved in schizophrenia when its availability exceeds requirements. The reverse is true in Parkinsonism where there is depletion of neurons which normally release dopamine in the striatum. The research work of Dr

*(cont. on p. 4)*

*(cont. from p. 1)*

eration of Neurology, for their support. As incoming President of the International Stroke Society, I recognized the efforts of the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, Dr. Judith Frayne, and the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee, as well as Professors Fumio Gotoh and Teruo Omae, for their services to the International Stroke Society.

This 4<sup>th</sup> World Stroke Congress focused on methods for prevention, early detection, intervention, and rehabilitation. A par-

ticularly important presentation was made by Professor Ruth Bonita, an Auckland, New Zealand native, now the Director of the Non-Communicable Disease Section of the World Health Organization. She emphasized that there are great variations in stroke incidence and fatality among nations. For example, stroke is far more common in Eastern than in Western Europe, indicating that stroke is preventable. She called for global cooperative action to correct this disparity.

While there, I was able to take a 2-day

tour of Sydney, hosted by WFN Delegate Dr. William Carroll. The Australian Society of Neurology is a candidate for the 2005 World Congress of Neurology, in the same venue as that of the recent world Olympiad.

The new Board of Trustees of the International Stroke Society includes: President, James F. Toole; President-Elect, Julien Bogousslavsky; Secretary, Takenori Yamaguchi; and Treasurer, Frank Yatsu. Plans for the next four years include an effort to bring the ISS and the WFN into a closer relationship.

From January 9–12, 2001, my wife and I attended the Egyptian Society of Neurology, Psychiatry, and Neurosurgery 2<sup>nd</sup> International Neurology Conference in the land of the oldest continuous civilization on earth. The Egyptian group is eclectic and steeped in its history, dating back to the time of Imhotep, Grand Vizier to Pharaoh Zoser. The conference consisted of contributions by neurologists, psychiatrists, and neurosurgeons in a transdisciplinary mode and was extremely informative. One could not avoid reflecting upon lost knowledge of the ancient Egyptians contained in their hieroglyphs and only recently deciphered from this dead record to lively Arabic and English, which was

*(cont. on p. 4)*



From left to right: (front) Dr. Obsis Madkour, Patricia Toole, Hala Hashim, Nina El-Tamawy; (back) Dr. Mohamed El-Tamawy, Dr. James Toole, and Dr. Saher Hashim at the Egyptian Society of Neurology, Psychiatry and Neurosurgery (January 9–12, 2001).

*(President's Column – cont. from p. 3)*  
used at the Congress.

His Excellency Dr. Ismail Sallam, Minister of Health, during an interview, conveyed his pride in the development of the neurosciences in Egypt. Dr. Montasser Ibrahim organized the meeting, along with Professors Anwar Etribi, Mohamed El-Tamawy, Osama Abdulghani, and Sherif Hamdy. As part of the celebrations, I was able to reminisce with Drs. Osamah Elwan, Obsis Madkour, and Emad Fadly, regarding their relationship with my university, Wake Forest, since the 1970's when a formal relationship between it and the University of Cairo was consummated. Thereafter, we have had frequent exchange of students and faculty, including Drs. El-Tamawy, Saher Hashem, Hassan Elwan, and Hussein and Hoda Elwan. For this, we owe a particular debt to Dr. Osamah Elwan, who has contributed his time and energy to the World Federation of Neurology since the early 1980's, serving in a variety of capacities and, most recently, on the Nominating Committee of the WFN.

*James F. Toole, President WFN*

*(Editorial – cont. from p. 3)*

Eric Kandel, a Professor at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University for over 30 years, has enhanced our knowledge of the processes of learning and memory; and, with the discovery of the cellular and molecular mechanisms involved not far off, his work may guide the production of new medication for patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Prof. Arvid Carlsson of the University of Gothenburg, Sweden shared the prize with them. Only recently, in 1997, another neuroscientist, Prof. Stanley B. Prusiner of the University of California, won the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the involvement of prions in degenerative brain disorders such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy. Three cheers for these neuroscientists for achieving the highest awards.

Medical science received a major boost in the recent decoding of the human genome, the so-called 'Book of Life', which experts hope will revolutionize the treatment of diseases. Completion of the human genome work was announced in

June last year but now the entire sequence has been published - in a special issue of 'Science' by the American scientist Dr J. Craig Venter, Chief of Celera Genomics, and his team of 282 scientists; and in 'Nature' by Sir John Sulston, former Director of the Sanger Centre and leader of the U.K team. They deserve our congratulations for this magnificent work. Papers published by the International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium (IHGSC) show that the human genome contains some 30,000 to 40,000 genes, fewer in number than previous estimates of up to 140,000 genes. The map is considered a draft since it is expected that there are still 'some holes' in it.



*Jagjit S. Chopra,*  
Editor-in-Chief, World Neurology

## WORLD CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGY, LONDON, JUNE 17-22, 2001

WCN 2001 is on target to be the most successful World Congress of Neurology – ever. At the closure date more than 2,000 abstracts had been received. The organizers are expecting an attendance well in excess of 4,000 delegates and possibly as high as 7,000 – thereby breaking all records. The facilities available at Earls Court have been designed to cope with these numbers so that not only will there be custom-built conference halls and presentation facilities but coffee and lunch (all free) breaks will have the space and arrangements to enable the meeting of colleagues and the exchange of views.

The Congress will have daily main themes

– on Stroke, Dementia, Epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis and Neuromuscular Disease – incorporating special lectures by world leaders and clinico-pathological conferences. Parallel symposia will cater for all the sub-specialties and a novel Neurological Tournament will reveal the World's Top National Neurological team. An international faculty will provide an educational programme throughout the Congress, which is already heavily booked far beyond expectations.

After a day at the Congress we will be able to enjoy ourselves with all the entertainment that London has on offer. Specific to WCN are the Opening Ceremony, with an

extravaganza of traditional pageantry, the Opera on Tuesday (Oliver Sacks's "The Man who Mistook his Wife for a Hat" – a case of visual agnosia) and the Gala Evening, 'A Midsummer's Night' spectacular with lavish entertainment and international catering (unlimited food and drink included) on Thursday; and the Final of the Neurological Tournament and Closing Ceremony on Friday.

The Congress has been most generously supported by the pharmaceutical and other neuroscience-related companies who will all be represented at the commercial exhibition at the Congress. This will include a long publishers' row and you will be kept up to date with events with a daily Congress newspaper. London is a superb venue by any standards but it has a reputation for being expensive. The organizers have been careful to find budget accommodation (down to about £35 (\$45) per night and inexpensive travel arrangements in London, so do contact Concorde Services ([www.concorde-uk.com/wcn-2001](http://www.concorde-uk.com/wcn-2001); Fax +44 20 8743 1010) with your requirements. However, the programme will certainly justify the cost of attendance. The World Federation of Neurology looks forward to welcoming you all in London on the 17–22 June 2001.

*Richard Godwin-Austen*  
Secretary-Treasurer General, WFN



*Changing of the Guards at Buckingham Palace in London.*

*We invite you to vote for*



# Sydney

## AUSTRALIA

*for the World Congress of Neurology, 2005*



The Australian Association of Neurologists (AAN) has great pleasure to invite you to consider Sydney, Australia as the Host City for the World Congress of Neurology 2005.



Sydney is recognised as one of the worlds most exciting, popular, safe and affordable cities, renowned for its natural beauty and the multitude of pursuits available to visitors and residents alike. The city's magnificent harbour setting, its cultural life, restaurants, international standard accommodation and welcoming people make the Sydney experience a memorable one.



We look forward to welcoming all our colleagues to the World Congress of Neurology in 2005, an event which will be as exceptional in its scientific content and organisation, as Sydney is as a venue and destination.



World Congress of Neurology  
2-9 September 2005 Sydney Australia

The vote for the city that will host the World Congress in 2005 will be taken by National Delegates during the World Congress in June, 2001 in London, United Kingdom.

Please vote for Sydney, Australia.

For further information on the Australian Association of Neurologist's bid to host the World Congress of Neurology, 2005, please visit our website at **[www.wcn2005.com](http://www.wcn2005.com)**

## WFN ANNUAL REPORTS 2000 AD

### REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

This past year was one of implementing some of the goals and strategic plans that were recommended and endorsed by the Council of Delegates at its Strategic Planning Conference in June, 1999. The Management Committee (re-named Trustees) has addressed our relationship with the World Health Organization and with advocacy groups representing patients with neurologic diseases. We have felt that the appellation "Mental Health," for the section of WHO where neurology has been located, does not express accurately the diseases with which the WFN contends. Drs. Leonid Prilipko and Benedetto Saraceno of the WHO, Ms. Mary Baker, Chair of the NGO alliance, and Dr. Matthew Menken, Liaison from WFN, have worked to correct this.

The WFN is particularly pleased that Drs. E.H. Reynolds and Jerome Engel of the International League Against Epilepsy and Miss Hanneke de Boer of the International Bureau of Epilepsy have assumed leadership by identifying epilepsy as a disease of the brain, for which worldwide efforts to identify and control this disease must be made. The emerging reality of aging populations worldwide with consequent increasing incidence and prevalence of diseases of the aging brain, such as stroke and dementia, must be addressed by training health workers in normal and abnormal brain function. In order to initiate this, the WFN is emerging as coordinator of lay action groups for international efforts to focus interests into unified action for prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation.

In a second arena, it is becoming ever more evident that the standards for neurologists and neurological services differ enormously in different parts of our world. For example, in North America, Europe, portions of South America, Asia, and Africa, associations set standards and work to advance the development of neurology. However, in other areas, almost no neurological services exist. There is no way that neurologists can address all the burdens of diseases of the nervous system worldwide, unless we develop methods by which special skills can be taught to large numbers of health workers. The WFN will begin to work with those under-served locations to develop programs to correct this deficiency by:

1. Identifying areas of need;
2. Organizing teaching courses based

on local needs;

3. Developing information campaigns in collaboration with national societies;
4. Setting standards for training and continuing education;
5. Developing methods for assessing outcomes.

Dr. Donna Bergen has performed a tremendous service for the WFN by taking inventory of the manpower available in various countries (see table). Granted, this is but a close estimate based upon the numbers given by the various national groups and other sources that Dr. Bergen has been able to identify. We must, therefore, be educators who spread the message and teach it far more widely to lay populations, as well as to physicians, than we have been accustomed heretofore. It is my intention, during the final year of this administration, to emphasize our educational programs (see report by Research Group and Education Committee Chair Dr. Theodore Munsat) now that the organizational aspects (see report by First Vice President Kimura), financial (see report by Secretary-Treasurer Richard Godwin-Austen), and the administrative aspects (thanks particularly to Mr. Keith Newton, Administrator and Ms. Susan Bilger) have been so ably performed.

During this year, I have visited several of the venues proposed by national societies contending for the 2005 World Congress of Neurology – Sydney, Australia, Cairo, Egypt, Bangkok, Thailand, Madrid, Spain, Tunisia, and Czechoslovakia. All are outstanding locations, each with unique attributes for the Delegates to consider.

A remaining goal for 2001 is to assess whether our trial years of having a permanent WFN Secretariat has been as successful as it seems and what might be done to improve it further, by appointing an Oversight Committee, whose function will be to analyze our administrative procedures, location and financial structure of the head office, and to report their recommendations to the Trustees for consideration by the next administration.

As a signal achievement of this administration, the WFN can point with great pride to our communication network perfected in the past few years. This is the glue that binds us worldwide and special thanks must be given to our Editors:

1. World Neurology – Editor, Dr. J.S. Chopra
2. Internet Website, [www.wfneurology.org](http://www.wfneurology.org) – Editor, Dr. B. Todd Troost
3. The Journal of the Neurological Sci-

ences – Editor, Dr. Robert Lisak

4. Monthly Teleconferences by the Management Committee

I look forward to being with you in London in June for the World Congress of Neurology.

*James F. Toole,*  
President WFN

### Numbers of Population Per Neurologist

Australia	51,900
Belgium	71,800
Finland	20,200
France	39,300
Germany	41,100
Greece	21,200
Iceland	15,500
Ireland	285,000
Japan	63,000
Luxembourg	28,400
Netherlands	25,100
Norway	16,900
New Zealand	137,000
Sweden	30,500
Switzerland	22,600
United Kingdom	164,000
USA	26,200

### REPORT OF THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

With the formal adoption of the Memorandum and Articles of Association by the WFN Council of Delegates in May 2000, and by the Trustees of the WFN Inc. in September 2000, we have begun the final phase in establishing our Corporate status, transferring all of its membership to WFN Inc. Despite this transfer, all national societies will also continue to hold membership of the old WFN until we dissolve the organization and transfer its assets to WFN Inc. The carefully planned process under the endorsement of the UK Charity Commission is scheduled to be completed at the Council of Delegates meeting during the 2001 World Congress in London, marking a new era for our Federation. I consider it my good fortune to have witnessed the formulation of the blue print for our growth and development in the new millennium. As the Chair of the Constitution and Bye-Laws Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to thank again all the delegates and national societies for taking the time to help members of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee in achieving the transition which came to fruition under the leadership of President James Toole, five years after the project was initiated by the

previous administration.

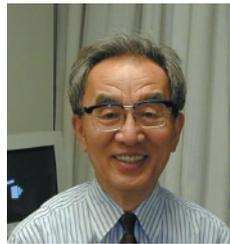
The new Memorandum and Articles contain few specifications because both documents have been intentionally kept general in order to allow as much flexibility as possible. However, once the document is in place, I consider it imperative that we develop a series of detailed rules which the Trustees are empowered to formulate under Clauses 5.4 and 5.6 of the Articles. These rules will fine-tune day-to-day operations and improve efficiency and consistency of our policies with respect to member societies. Dr. Richard Godwin-Austen as Secretary General has asked all the Committee Chairs to provide us with the procedural manuals that have been developed over the years. With the help from Keith Newton, I will be reviewing the compiled procedural list to draft the WFN rules book. In doing so I would not only consult the Constitution Committee and borrow from portions of the old Constitution and Bye-Laws which are of value, but would also consider other comments and proposals received during our wide consultations in formulating the Memorandum and Articles.

In addition to the work related to our corporate status, I was involved in a number of other WFN activities. I have successfully negotiated with a Japanese pharmaceutical company for their support of our missions by providing us with an unrestricted educational grant for developing and disseminating educational material related to dystonia and other movement disorders. Dr. Ted Munsat, as Chair of Education Committee, will oversee this project when the contract is finalized. I have also explored the possibility of formulating a World Federation Foundation in Japan following the lead of President Toole, who has already established such a Foundation in the US on behalf of WFN. I have secured a start up fund and am currently negotiating with various authorities to establish a nonprofit foundation for fund raising. This turns out to be a very tedious, time consuming process with a number of hurdles to clear to establish a tax exempt status. If successful, I am hopeful that, like the US Foundation its Japanese counterpart will attract sufficient charitable donations in support of neurological research and education.

During this interim, I attended the Council of Delegates Meeting in San Diego on April 29, and Trustees meeting of WFN combined with Organizing Committee of WCN in London on September 16–21. I also participated in several neurological congresses worldwide. These included

the 10<sup>th</sup> Asian and Oceanian Congress of Neurology on January 22–26 in Manila, Philippines held under the direction of Dr. Amado San Luis, the Association of British Neurologists' Spring Meeting on April 5–7 in Exeter, UK organized by Dr. Christopher Gardner-Thorpe, the Neurological and Neurosurgical Society of Rio Grande de Sul on June 15–17 in Porto Alegre, Brazil with Dr. Jeanette Farina as President, the Indonesian Neurological Association Meeting on July 1–4 in Surabaya organized by Dr. Moh Hasan Machfoed, and International Course of Neurosciences as part of tricentenary celebration of Chilean Neurological Institute on August 21–25 in Lima with Dr. Juan Altamirano as Director General.

It is my privilege to serve as the First Vice President of WFN at this juncture when we are undergoing major changes not only in modernizing our structure, but also in re-orienting our philosophy toward incorporated charity organization. I am convinced we are making a good progress for the cause of neurology as specified in the mission statements of the WFN Inc. due to be implemented in June 2001.



*Jun Kimura*, First Vice President  
Chair, Constitution and Bye-Laws  
Committee

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER GENERAL

The finances of the WFN have continued to be healthy during the past year. The Management Committee has settled into a pattern of annual budgeting to control expenditure and monitor income. The process begins in the last quarter of the year and goes through several drafts until an agreed plan for the coming year is reached.

In the year 2000, income came to approximately £260,000, of which £75,000 was derived from membership dues; £63,000 from investments; £40,000 from royalties; and £14,000 (\$20,000) from the surplus generated by the successful Pan-American Congress of Neurology in Colombia. Congratulations are due to all involved in the organisation of that meeting for a

magnificent effort. Expenditure again included provision for travelling fellowships for young neurologists thanks to the continuing generosity of Glaxo Wellcome. We are also beginning to develop our education programme and this is reflected in our financial profile. Running costs for the London Head Office and for Management Committee expenses were similar to the previous year, the latter largely as a result of the ongoing use of telephone conference calls to conduct the bulk of our business. Professional fees have reduced from their earlier levels when a great deal of intensive legal work and time had to be devoted to our constitutional affairs.

President Toole has worked hard to establish a charitable Foundation in the state of North Carolina to support the Federation's work. Initial efforts have been focused on attempting to raise funds for specific ventures, such as eponymous lectures at the World Congress named for certain eminent colleagues, but the range of the Foundation's activities will spread beyond this sphere over time. The Foundation is to be overseen by a Board of Directors and that Board's membership will be broadened as the organisation develops and grows. Through this body, American philanthropists and other affluent figures will be able to contribute to the worldwide betterment of neurological services and simultaneously enjoy tax benefits as a consequence of their generosity. It is a model that we hope to replicate elsewhere and First Vice President Jun Kimura is already actively exploring with members of the Japanese banking profession whether similar measures may be successfully undertaken in that country.

Some of you will recall that the question of membership dues was raised at the Council of Delegates meeting held during the London World Congress Planning Meeting in 1999. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee, which has recommended that there should be a small increase in annual dues, the first for 20 years. The Management Committee has discussed the issue thoroughly over several of its telephone conference calls and has decided to bring back the Finance Committee's proposals to the full Council in June 2001 for further debate and, if accepted, implementation at the beginning of 2002.

The UK Charity Commission requires that an appropriate balance be struck between expenditure on the objectives for which the charity is established and investments in Reserves to generate funding for future growth. The key to this is the develop-

ment of a properly formulated Reserves Policy and this will be a prime goal for the Management Committee in the next six months.

A World Congress year will no doubt bring its miscellaneous cost implications but we shall do our best to ensure that we anticipate these as much as possible. As we enter a stage in the WFN's history when it sheds its old clothes and becomes a completely new type of organisation with a new team of trustees and officers to run its affairs, they will have a sound fiscal basis on which to develop the Federation's strategies for the next few years.



*Richard Godwin-Austen*  
Secretary-Treasurer General

## REPORT OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

There are currently 32 Research Groups in the WFN (please see below). The Chair of each Research Group is a member of the Research Committee. The last meeting of the Research Committee was on May 2, 2000 during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology in San Diego. In addition to the WFN Management Committee, sixteen Research Committee members or their representatives were in attendance. The value of establishing or distributing WFN Guidelines for good clinical practice was discussed with approximately equal sentiment both for and against such an endeavour. Dr Robert Feldman reported the goal of the new RG on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology as one which explores these issues in developing countries. New guidelines (rules) for the Research Groups under our new constitution were discussed and voted as follows:

1. Each RG will elect its own Chair and officers, ordinarily for one renewable four year term of office; but a RG may vary this arrangement exceptionally if appropriate.
2. Each RG will determine its own mission, consistent with the goals and objectives of the WFN.
3. A yearly progress and financial report will be provided to the WFN Secretariat.
4. All international meetings and conferences organized by the RG must

be approved by the WFN Education Committee.

5. The publication of official RG journals must be coordinated with the WFN Publications Committee.
6. The membership of a RG is open to all qualified neurologists and neuroscientists. If a qualified individual is denied membership, an appeal can be made to the Research Committee or Trustees.
7. New Research Groups may be admitted to the WFN upon suitable application to the Secretariat and approval by the Research Committee and Trustees. The applications should contain a mission statement, strategies by which the mission will be accomplished, membership list and officers.
8. Funds raised by any RG are WFN funds and are subject to UK Charity Commission regulations. Disbursement of such funds must be in furtherance of the WFN's stated charitable objectives.
9. Research Groups may be disassociated from the WFN for just cause by a majority vote of the Research Committee and confirmation of this action by the Trustees.

It should be noted that for the first time several Research Groups were directly involved with designing symposia for the World Congress. Details of the activities of specific Groups will be reported subsequently in World Neurology.

The WFN Research Groups continue to be diverse in mission, structure and activities. Nonetheless, they continue to perform an important function in bringing together international scientists and providing a platform for exchange of information and ideas with an emphasis on developing countries.



*Theodore L. Munsat*,  
Chair, Research Committee

### WFN Research Groups

1. Aphasia/Cognitive Disorders
2. Ataxia
3. Autonomic Disorders
4. Cerebral Palsy Prevention
5. Cerebrospinal Fluid

6. Cerebrovascular Disease
7. Clinical Neuropharmacology
8. Dementia
9. History of Neurosciences
10. Huntington's Disease
11. Intensive Care Neurology
12. Medical Education
13. Migraine and Headache
14. Motor Neuron Diseases
15. Multiple Sclerosis
16. Neurorehabilitation & Restorative Neurology
17. Neuroepidemiology
18. Neurogenetics
19. Neuroimaging
20. Neuroimmunology & Virology
21. Neuromuscular Disease
22. Neuro-Oncology
23. Neuro-Ophthalmol. & Neuro-otology
24. Neuropathology
25. Neuroradiology
26. Neurosonology
27. Neurotoxicology
28. Organisation & Delivery of Services
29. Palliative Care
30. Parkinsonism and Allied Disorders
31. Space/Underwater Neurology
32. Tropical Neurology

## REPORT OF THE WFN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dr. Toole, this past year has seen the continued development of several programs which were started during the early years of your presidency. I have every reason to expect that at the end of the coming year these programs will be even more firmly in place and will provide a realistic basis for additional growth in the future. I present this report in the form of the three major sub-Committees that carry out the work of the Education Committee.

### 1. Neurology Training Programs in Developing Countries (Chair, Alberto Portera-Sanchez)

The first neurology training program established under the supervision of the WFN was in Honduras. It has developed exceedingly well despite serious disruptions caused by Hurricane Mitch and continuing financial pressures. Much of this success is due to the hard work and dedication of the program director Prof. Marco Medina and the able staff he has recruited for the program. On March 21, 2000 Prof. Portera-Sanchez and myself made our second evaluation visit to the program in Tegucigalpa. A detailed educational pro-

gram for neurology residents has been submitted to the University and Hospital administrations. This is a plan that in our judgement is equivalent to the best training programs elsewhere in the world. This plan has been approved by the University of Honduras Educational Council. We judged the professional, educational and physical resources to be adequate. The neurology residency training program provides excellent opportunities for constructive criticism of both resident and faculty performance. Patient material is adequate although at times the patient care burden is taxing. It should be noted that despite the fact that the program has only been in existence a few years, it is attracting the very top students from the medical school. This was confirmed by discussions with others and our own observations. Both Prof. Portera-Sanchez and myself had adequate time to assess resident performance on the wards. There are currently four residents in training. We were both most impressed with the level of professional skills displayed and the maturity and compassion of the residents. They are knowledgeable physicians dedicated to the health care of Honduras who plan to stay in the country after their training is completed. In interviews with other housestaff in neurosurgery and medicine, it is clear that this training program has a major positive impact on these related services and the hospital community in general. Our experience with this first training program in Central America has been very gratifying and we can see a role for the WFN in assisting the development of similar programs in areas of need. We plan to provide continued support and supervision for the Honduras program as long as they feel it is useful and will make ourselves available to other developing countries as well.

## **2. Continuing Medical Education for Neurologists (Chair, Theodore L. Munsat, M.D.)**

During the past year the CME program has been reshaped and considerably expanded. Currently 26 national neurologic societies are participating. These include Bolivia, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Honduras, Hungary, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Macedonia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Tunisia, Uruguay and Yugoslavia. Participating countries receive twice yearly mailings of educational material without charge. The courses consists of the American Acad-

emy of Neurology's program Continuum, the WFN's new CME series "WFN Seminars in Clinical Neurology" and syllabi from various educational courses held in conjunction with international meetings.

Each country has a designated "WFN CME Co-ordinator" who is responsible for effective participation in the program. Participants meet at a convenient location approximately six weeks after completing a course for a discussion of course content and relevance. An evaluation form is provided for feed-back to the WFN. Those who successfully participate receive a certificate of achievement at the end of each year. The first certificates awarded will be mailed shortly.

A special comment is needed for the new series "WFN Seminars in Clinical Neurology". The first course on neurology (Prof. Clare Fowler, Chair) will be mailed to participants within the next few months. Yearly volumes are planned with additional courses on epilepsy (Prof. Jerome Engel, Chair) and dystonia in the formative phases. This educational material is written by acknowledged international experts and has a unique perspective. Management recommendations are made with the understanding that the readers, who primarily practice in developing countries, will have limited financial and diagnostic resources. We are attempting to provide information which demonstrates that excellent neurology can be practiced without the use of expensive technology. Initial feed-back on this program has been most gratifying. The fact that the material is currently presented in English only is a problem in some countries and we are exploring ways to provide translations. Much of the course material will be placed on our website. We have discontinued charging societies for postage as this has dissuaded some from participating.

As part of the WFN CME program, we hope shortly to have the journal "Neurology" available on the Internet for participating centres.

## **3. Education of Non-neurologists in Developing Countries (Chair, Gretchen L. Birbeck)**

It is a fact that in many countries neurologists are not available to provide neurologic care. Neurologic illness is often managed by physicians with little experience in diseases of the nervous system or care givers who are not physicians. To answer this need Dr. Birbeck has developed a model program in Zambia which

is now beginning to mature and should be ready for pilot trials in other countries in the near future depending on funding. The heart of the program is an innovative instructional manual which has been developed after extensive consultations and field testing. The title "Where There is No Neurologist: A Manual for Paramedicals in Developing Countries" encapsulates the goal. The manual contains abundant relevant diagrams and charts and creative flowsheets for diagnosis and treatment. The chapters are organized according to common symptoms and contain useful information for families. A directory of drugs and a glossary are included. An essential part of the program is a series of clinical tutorials for the caregivers which are conducted on site.

Although the Education Committee has been involved with other activities, such as approval of international meetings, the three major programs cited above are the most important elements which require continuing support and further development. All of these programs are in need of substantial funding and we are currently exploring sources for the needed support. We look forward to another productive year.

*Theodore L. Munsat,*  
on behalf of the WFN Education Committee

## **REPORT OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, JOURNAL OF THE NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES**

The Editorial Board remained unchanged, but rotations off and new appointments will be forthcoming in the next few months. No format changes were made to the journal. Effective 2000 the journal was indexed both in the neuroscience and clinical neurology categories in the SCI, SCI-E, and Journal Citation Reports.

Sixteen issues featuring 205 articles and one special issue edited by Michael Swash, Supplement Editor, featuring eighteen papers from the 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis/Motor Neuron Disease held in Vancouver in November 1999, were published.

We continue to work on monitoring the review cycle to produce an accelerated acceptance/rejection rate. Of the 416 new submissions and the 186 carryovers from 1999, 196 manuscripts were accepted in 2000 compared to 244 last year; 225 manuscripts were rejected in 2000 com-

pared to 210 in 1999.

The distribution of manuscripts accepted by country, however, parallels that of 1999. The top five ranked countries were Japan (33%), USA (17%), Italy (9%), Germany (6%), and UK (5%). These five countries alone accounted for 138 or 70% of all manuscripts accepted in 2000. Geographically, rankings for accepted manuscripts were as follows: Japan had 64; Western Europe had 56; USA and Canada had 37; Asia (non-Japan) had 20; the Middle East had 3; Scandinavia had 7; South/Central America had 2; Australia had 3; and Africa had 1 and Eastern Europe had 3.

Clinical research still dominates every issue. Editorial and review articles have been developed. *Ad hoc* reviewers were acknowledged in April, volume 175.1.



Robert P. Lisak,  
Editor-in-Chief, JNS

## REPORT OF THE WFN WEBMASTER

The website of the WFN, <http://www.wfnneurology.org>, is continuously changing to meet the needs of the organization. The following report reviews the sections of the website and highlights some of the recent additions.

*Home Page:* Highlights of major importance including now links to the XVII World Congress of Neurology website for the meeting June 17–22 in London. We have also published a full-length manuscript in pdf format: Neurology and Public Health: The Global Burden of Disease Study - Implications for Neurology (129 kb, PDF file)

*Mission Statement:* The updated Mission Statement of the WFN is published on the website.

*Officers:* The complete listing of the officers of the WFN with e-mail addresses is listed on the WFN site.

*Committees:* The composition of the major

committees of the WFN, the WFN Management Committee and the broad membership of the WFN Continuing Education Committee are now listed.

*Research Groups:* A link for direct contact with Research Group Leaders appears at the top of this section followed by a listing of all of the WFN Research Groups with their published Annual Reports in PDF format.

*Publications:* The publication section provides a direct link to the official publications of the WFN. These are the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences* and *World Neurology*. Each of the last five issues of *World Neurology* has been published on the WFN website in PDF format. The website contains contact information and the e-mail address of the editor of *World Neurology*, Dr. Jagjit S. Chopra.

*Member Societies:* There is a complete listing of all the member societies of the WFN from Argentina to Yugoslavia. Each listing provides: (1) The name and address of the member society, (2) the e-mail contact and website if applicable and (3) the name and e-mail address of the current WFN delegate.

*Meetings:* The WFN website provides a continuously updated chronological listing of meetings of neurological interest throughout the world. Special consideration is provided for WFN sponsored meetings with detailed contact information and website addresses when available. There are some listings as far as 2006. We realize that the listing is not complete, as many societies have already decided upon dates and venues for future meetings that we as yet do not have posted. We encourage neurological societies and their member to submit relevant information to the WFN Webmaster, B. Todd Troost, at [todd@toddtroost.com](mailto:todd@toddtroost.com). A listing in this section does not necessarily imply sponsorship or sanction by the WFN, but we have elected to be as inclusive as possible.

*Related Sites:* We have selected 30 major categories of links of Neurological interest and created links to many of the sites within each section. We have continuously updated these links, but realize that with over 1,000,000 new pages of content appearing on the Internet each day that we have missed many sites of interest. One of the most recent links is to the new website of the American Society of Neuroimaging at <http://www.asnweb.org>. We encourage member societies who have developed websites to send their information to the WFN webmaster.

*Help:* The help section of the website has been updated and includes directions about navigation on the website in addition to links to appropriate software necessary to view the WFN website.

*Guestbook:* We have created an interactive Guestbook for submission of inquiries and information to the WFN Webmaster. There has been some activity but not as much as expected on this portion of the website. Members are encouraged to use the Guestbook or communicate ideas directly to the WFN Webmaster.

*Summary:* As promised, the WFN website has been an ever changing dynamic site replete with information about WFN activities and World Neurology. We receive many thousands of "hits" annually but would like to make the Website even more useful to the membership and increase our presence. We encourage new suggestions and ideas for sections or new links and look forward to another year of changes with enthusiasm.



B. Todd Troost,  
WFN Webmaster  
[todd@toddtroost.com](mailto:todd@toddtroost.com)

## REPORT OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, WORLD NEUROLOGY

Four issues of *World Neurology* (March, June, September and December 2000) were published according to schedule in the year under report. Over 22,000 copies of each issue were mailed to readers in most parts of the world without any time delay. One of the most important problems we face is that a large number of mailed copies are returned undelivered from their respective destinations either because the addressees have moved away from the given address or the current address on our database is wrong. All officials and members of the World Federation of Neurology are requested to notify the WFN London office of their latest addresses. National Associations/Academies of each country are also requested to provide the WFN office in

London with up-to-date address lists. Not only do undelivered copies of this Newsletter represent a material loss to WFN, the even greater loss is that this most important link between the WFN and its members is removed. Top priority is given to WFN news in this communication and it is vital that through it all members are kept informed of the latest developments within WFN.

Lack of advertisements is another issue which requires immediate attention. Members are requested to promote *World Neu-*

*rology* as an advertising medium so that not only are our publication expenses offset but also potential advertisers may see their important messages reaching almost all the neurologists of the world. They will find that the benefit will be worth the money spent many times over.

Members have been kept abreast of the latest books released in Neurology from the Book Reviews published regularly in this Newsletter. This information is in addition to the Calendar of coming events which are also regularly featured. If space

is available then one or two academic topics are also discussed in these columns. The main topic addressed during the year 2000 was Epilepsy and one manuscript each on epilepsy was published in each of the four issues. Members are requested to send their critical reviews and suggestions to the Editor-in-Chief for further improvement of *World Neurology*.

Jagjit S. Chopra,  
Editor-in-Chief, *World Neurology*

## SOCIEDAD NEUROLÓGICA ARGENTINA

### Origin and purpose

Following the establishment of the Neurological Society of Buenos Aires, on November 3, 1952, a non-profit Civil Association, designated The Argentine Neurological Society, was set up on October 11, 1957. Its headquarters is located in the City of Buenos Aires, capital of the Argentine Republic. At present this society is expanding and building a new three-storey building. The Society's main purpose is to foster study, research, appropriate professional neurological standards and in general progress in the neurosciences.

It holds scientific meetings in which reports, communications and collaborations



presented by its associates and special guests are considered. It organizes and supports the holding of congresses or special, national or international meetings, in isolation or jointly with similar scientific institutions in the country or abroad, always of a strictly scientific nature. It organizes and supports improvement and updating courses and lectures, research work and all other activity conducive to progress and diffusion of neurosciences. It advises public or private entities on scientific, educational, assistance and ethical problems linked with Neurosciences. Lastly it publishes a journal devoted to the diffusion of scientific work presented at its sessions or congresses, special collaborations, literature reviews, analysis of journals and publications of neurological interest. It has different types of associates, among which are the honorary members who may be natives or foreigners. They are recognized for services rendered to the Argentine Neurological Society, for

outstanding scientific performance in the field of Neurosciences or for certain personal qualities.

The Argentine Neurological Society is directed and governed by a Steering Committee made up of 11 regular members who hold the following posts: a President, a Vice-president, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer and five regular members; a Governing Committee (regular and substitute), an Admission Jury, a Court of Honor and representatives to the different permanent and temporary international bodies including Delegates to the World Federation of Neurology, Pan-American Congress and to regular International Meetings. The Steering Committee meets once a month to deal with different relevant topics (organization of academic events, financial, association aspects, etc.).

### Annual congresses

Every year in the month of September, from the beginning, the Neurological Society of Argentina has held its Annual Congress, which gathers a considerable number of neurologists in the country (encouraging the attendance of those who are in the training stage), as well as outstanding national guests and foreigners. A different place in the country is chosen as the site every year. Outstanding presentations by lecturers of distinguished background are offered. Free platform presentations are also provided as well as posters. So far, we have held thirty-seven national congresses. In each one of these there is the annual assembly, where the site for the next annual congress is chosen and every two years the new officers of the society are chosen.

In the year 1997 the XVI World Congress of Neurology was held successfully in the City of Buenos Aires. This event was outstanding for its academic level and for

the remarkable number of attending natives and foreigners. The XXXVIII Argentine Congress of Neurology "Ushuaia 2000", was held in September 2000 in Ushuaia, the southernmost city of the world, well-known for its beautiful scenery. The XXXIX Congress of Neurology is already being organized and will be held in the City of Mendoza in 2001. This city is known for its wines and is located at the foothills of the Andean Mountain range, where one may walk near one of the highest peaks in the world, the Aconcagua summit.

### Work Groups

In addition, within the Argentine Neurological Society (ANS), neurologists meet as Work Groups. In the field of Neurosciences, these are devoted to the study and research of each one of the subspecialties (Vascular, Dementia, Movement Disorders, Cephalic, Epilepsy, Neuroepidemiology, Neurogenetics, etc.). With advances of the different disciplines related to Neurosciences, new Work Groups are created, that is to say, the ANS is continually stimulating the development of groups and methods to achieve professional growth and the updating of neurologists through the Ongoing Educational program. These Work Groups, among other tasks, accomplish work plans developed during the year. They organize symposia, meetings and post-graduate courses, with the purpose of transmitting their experience. At the present time, a group of Neurologists from the Argentine Neurological Society jointly with the Argentine Neurological Society of Pathology is performing epidemiological surveillance of Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease and other Transmissible Human Spongiform Encephalopathies.

### The Argentine Neurological Journal

The Argentine Neurological Society publishes the Argentine Neurological Journal.

It is managed by a director, three vice-directors, and has an Editorial Board and two advisory councils: one national and the other international. The journal is published quarterly, as also are the supplements. In the latter the free presentations at the Annual Congresses organized by our Society are published, as well as updates on diverse topics of interest for the neurological community.

### Web Page and e-mail

For more communication between neurologists and the Argentine Neurological Society, the latter has an electronic mail whose address is [sociedadneurologica@ciudad.com.ar](mailto:sociedadneurologica@ciudad.com.ar). It also possesses a link in the web page <http://www.rochelink.com.ar/> called Neuroweb, a site providing all the information related to the institution, its associates, literature searches, organization of congresses, symposia, meetings, courses and everything of interest to neurologists. The entire activity developed by the Argentine Neurological Society is intended to promote the study, the research, suitable professional neurological standards and in general the progress of in Neurosciences.

Association Headquarters address: Sociedad Neurologica Argentina, Combate de los Pozos 59, Piso 1°, Depto 5, (C.P) 1079 Cap-Fed, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel./Fax: +54 114 952 5658.

Current total membership: 171.



President: Dr. Hector Zavala



Secretary: Dr. Eduardo Bartolome

## FIRST EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION NEUROLOGY WORKSHOP

### Trest, Czech Republic, April 13–19, 2000 (A report)

Pursuing its policy of European cooperation in the new atmosphere of international solidarity the EFNS Management Committee decided to organize a special workshop in Moravia. Eighty young neurologists (under the age of 40), five representatives of each former communist country, were guests of the EFNS in the castle of Trest. During 3 days these selected referees gave account on their national neurology performance in the following aspects: in-patient services, out-patient services pre-graduate education, post-graduate education and research.

Another 3 days were devoted to lectures given by experts in the field of stroke, dementia, headache, multiple sclerosis and vertebrogenic disorders. Fourteen lecturers from 9 countries participated in this educational part of the program. Discussions to practical issues in neurology aimed to international comparison and to proposals for future standards.

This first workshop was conceived for East and Central Europe. National delegates represented 15 countries (Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Ukraine) with total population of 316 millions and more than 25,000 neurologists. The outcomes showed a lot

of enormous differences that exist not only between Western Europe and the countries in transition, but also within this area itself. The density of neurologists in individual countries ranges from 1 per 7000 to 1 per 32,000 inhabitants. The differences are even greater when it comes to the availability of equipment, ranging e.g. from one CT facility per 100,000 people to one per million. In some countries with defective insurance systems a fee for CT examination could be equivalent to an average 1-month salary. Also neurologists themselves have a lot to overcome, being actually rewarded in at least 9 of our hosted countries by a lower than average local country salary. The equivalents of such neurological wages are somewhere around 40 Euro per month. English as a communicating medium proved to be well practicable, despite the fact, that none of the participants was native English speaking and that most participants were fluent in Russian. Nevertheless discussions about the international teaching courses in East European countries show, that the neurological audience in large is by far not yet prepared to consume English courses directly. General knowledge and training in neurology in East European countries stays on a very good level. In summary, the workshop in Trest invoked a new spirit of neurological solidarity in Central and Eastern Europe and was accompanied by a feeling of gratitude to the EFNS.

*Pavel Kalvach,*  
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Group photograph taken at the First European Co-operation Workshop in Trest, Czech Republic, April 2000

## WFN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON NEUROETHICS (A REPORT)

In London in 1999 the Council of Delegates of the WFN decided to form an ad hoc Committee on Neuroethics. Prof. F. Gerstenbrand, Vienna, Austria, was authorized to form the Committee as chairman. Prof. H. Baumgartner, Innsbruck, Austria, has accepted to act as secretary of the Committee.

Today, ethical considerations are increasingly important for both the practice of neurology and for neurological research. The process of globalization is sharply increasing awareness of both national and worldwide health problems. Dramatic progress in biology and medicine is challenging traditional ethical, legal, religious, cultural, and social values. Affluent societies are facing the burden of costly high-tech medicine, others are suffering from lack of the most basic medical resources. Some countries are struggling with difficult end-of-life decisions including medically assisted suicide and euthanasia, others with a low or even decreasing life expectancy. Although ethical problems may differ substantially among countries, others are similar worldwide. Recognizing the universal concepts of human rights and human dignity as a shared responsibility, the worldwide neurological community should address these ethical and medical problems in the field of neurology.

It is the mission of WFN to serve the worldwide community of persons who suffer with brain and nervous system diseases and providers who care for them. Hence, the ad hoc committee will establish a forum for discussing global issues in neurology and focus on the following: (1) ethics in neurological practice, (2) ethics in neurological research, (3) distribution of information on "neuroethics" (ethics in neurology), (4) education in "neuroethics". Neurological specialists from different ge-

ographical areas as well as from diverse cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds have been invited to join the committee. Following preliminary discussions the first topic chosen was "brain death" with the aim of producing recommendations for worldwide minimal standards. A discussion paper based on a European position was presented at the Havana conference (3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on Coma and Death, Havana, Cuba, February 22–25, 2000). A draft paper will be circulated in February 2001 for comment from Committee members. The final paper should be presented at the London conference, June 2001.

Topics already addressed: (1) "Biomedicine Convention of the Council of Europe" (EFNS-Congress, Prague, 1997), (2) "Decisions at the end of life" (Danube Symposium, Dubrovnik 1997), (3) "Neuroethical issues in clinical trials. Implementing the ICH guidelines" (EFNS-Congress, Seville, 1998), (4) "Compassionate use/off label use of medicinal substances and medical products" (EFNS-Congress, Lisbon, 1999), (5) "Persistent vegetative state versus apallic syndrome: comparison of two entities (3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on Coma and Death, Havana, 2000), (6) "Allocation of resources in neurology: east and west – a challenge to European solidarity" (EFNS-Congress, Copenhagen, 2000).

Intensive preparation with numerous discussions and the collection of information was necessary for the intended completion of the Committee. An archive for special literature and for detailed information was founded. Contacts were made with WHO, national ethics committees, health organizations and health authorities. A home page is in preparation. There is the

suggestion to organize a list of juridical specialists and other experts for special topics to serve on the Committee.

This report provides information about preliminary, past and current activities and should outline a general action plan for the future. The work of the committee will be officially communicated. A list of the ad hoc Committee members will be circulated in February of 2001.



*Dr. Dr. h.c. Franz Gerstenbrand*  
Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Restorative Neurology, Hofzeile 18–20, A-1190 Vienna, Austria. E-mail: f.gerstenbrand@Eunet.at

## BOOK REVIEWS

### Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disorders

Editors: Michael E. Shy, John Kamholz, Robert E. Lovelace  
ISBN: 1-573-31182-0 (cloth: alk paper)  
No. of Pages: 544  
Price: US \$150  
Publication Date: 1999  
Publisher: The New York Academy of Sciences

This book is volume 883 of the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences and is based on the Proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disorders held in 1998 at Sainte-Adele, Quebec. It is a comprehensive book on these disorders divided into 5 parts. Part I deals with a clinical and pathological review of what constitutes CMT. In Part II discussions are based on Pathogenesis of Demyelination in CMT including Schwann Cell-Axonal interactions and programme of PNS myelination; molecules involved in the pathogenesis of CMTI; Schwann cell culture and studies of myelination; mouse and rat models in studies of CMT. Part III is on Genotype/Phenotype correlations in CMT and in Part IV details of Diagnosis and Therapy of CMT are given. Part V consists of poster papers. Current progress made towards the understanding of the genetics, molec-

(cont. on p. 16)

## WORLD CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGY – NEUROLOGICAL TOURNAMENT

It is not too late for you to represent your country in the forthcoming Neurological Tournament which is being held at this year's XVIIth World Congress of Neurology in London, 17–22 June. Every country is invited to form a team of four neurologists to take part. The Tournament will be held as a knockout competition over the 5 days of the Congress and teams will be asked questions covering any aspect relevant to clinical neurology. We hope the Tournament will be treated in a light-hearted fashion and will end with the grand final just before the closing ceremony of the Congress on the Friday afternoon. The Tournament will not only identify the most knowledgeable national team, but will also be highly educational for participants and audience alike. Already countries including South Africa, Italy, Japan and Thailand have put forward teams and we very much hope that many more will do so. If you are interested in taking part we suggest that you contact your country's WFN delegate who has been invited to put together a team for the Tournament.

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## What's New in Neurology...

### Special Product Highlight

#### Handbook of Clinical Neurology, Revised Series

New volumes published:

#### Handbook of Clinical Neurology - Revised series 73 (29)

##### *The Epilepsies, Part II*

Series edited by P.J. Vinken and G.W. Bruyn, volume edited by H. Meinardi

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#### Handbook of Clinical Neurology - Revised series 75 (31)

##### *The Autonomic Nervous System, Part II. Dysfunctions*

Series edited by P.J. Vinken and G.W. Bruyn, volume edited by O. Appenzeller

ISBN 0-444-82813-3

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For more details, please go to: [www.elsevier.com/locate/hcn](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/hcn)



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#### American Academy of Neurology

5–12 May 2001, Philadelphia, USA  
Booth numbers 1039 & 1041

#### 24th International Epilepsy Congress/XV International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology

13–20 May 2001, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Booth numbers 3 & 4, San Telmo room

#### Associated Professional Sleep Societies 15th Annual Meeting

5–10 June 2001, Chicago, USA

#### XVII World Congress of Neurology

17–22 June 2001, London, UK  
Booth number 3, Earls Court 2

#### XIV International Congress on Parkinson's Disease

28–31 July 2001, Helsinki, Finland  
Booth number B14

We look forward to seeing you!

### Clinical Neuroscience Research

#### Volume 1/1 out now!

Editor-in-Chief: William E. Bunney, Jr., M.D., Department of Psychiatry, University of California, Irvine, CA, USA.

*Clinical Neuroscience Research* is an international scientific journal and the official publication of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease (ARNMD). The focus is on basic neuroscience and clinical investiga-



tions that further our knowledge of cognition, mood, behaviour and motor function of both normal and abnormal brain function. It will include articles on the cellular, neuropsychological, neurophysiological, and molecular functioning of the central nervous system. *Clinical Neuroscience Research* will publish original and review papers that relate to epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and the pathophysiology of brain disorders.

For more details on the Journal, go to:  
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For more details on the Association, go to: <http://www.arndm.org>

### News about Sleep Medicine

*Sleep Medicine* – the new journal launched in 2000 – has gone from 4 to 6 issues in 2001. In addition, *Sleep Medicine* is now also included in PubMed where you can find the abstracts of all published volumes starting from 1/1.

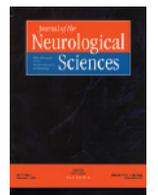
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### Journal of the Neurological Sciences

Please turn to page 9 of this issue of *World Neurology* for the 2000 Annual JNS Report written by Robert Lisak, Editor-in-Chief.

For more details, please go to:  
<http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jns>



### World Congress of Neurology

As mentioned in the "Come and Meet us" section above, we will be attending the World Congress of Neurology from 17–22 June in London. Please come and visit us on booth number 3 in Earls Court 2. In addition to free sample copies of all our key neurology journals – including *Journal of the Neurological Sciences* – we will also have free copies of *The Lancet*, and *NewScientist*.

In addition to the journals, we will have all our best-selling and most recently published neurology books and book series on display for you to browse at your leisure. Titles on display include volumes from the prestigious *Handbook of Clinical Neurology* Revised Series, *Handbook of Neuropsychology* 2nd edition, and *Supplements to Clinical Neurophysiology*. In the Electronic Corner you will be able to see our complete package of electronic services, and be able to get hands-on experience yourself as well. Each exhibit day a different service will be demonstrated including the **Lancet Neurology Network** on Tuesday and Friday ([www.lancetneuronet.com](http://www.lancetneuronet.com)), **Neuroscion** on Monday and Thursday ([www.neuroscion.com](http://www.neuroscion.com)), and **NewScientist's** website on Wednesday ([www.newscientist.com](http://www.newscientist.com)).

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(cont. from p. 13)

mular biology and pathogenesis of CMT is described explicitly in this volume. It is a very good reference book on CMT and should be of interest to most neuroscientists.

*Editor-in-Chief*

## Neuroendocrinology in Physiology and Medicine

Editors: P. Michael Conn and Marc E. Freeman  
 No. of Pages: 574  
 ISBN: 0-896-03725-8  
 Price: US \$125  
 Publication Date: 1999  
 Publisher: Humana Press

This book has filled a major lacuna in the field of Neuroendocrinology and indeed is a rare kind of publication, perhaps necessitated by the emerging neuroendocrinological axis. A hard cover book with contributions from 56 authors recognized as skilled teachers, it is designed to provide systematic coverage of analytical, anatomical, functional clinical and pathological topics in neuroendocrinology. It is divided into six parts which deal with: The interactions between the Nervous and Endocrine Systems; Neuroendocrine regulations of reproduction, parturition, lactation, growth, development, metabolism and fluid balance; Neuroendocrine correlates of stress, behaviour and biological processes; Neuroendocrine regulation of biological rhythms; Neuroendocrine Pathology and Disease; and lastly coverage of the Emerging Areas of Neuroendocrinology. The layout and flow of the book is excellent and the enthusiastic reader will find it most palatable. He or she may be a medical or postgraduate student in physiology or the neurosciences. The book will fulfill the needs of a vast majority of clinicians and is a must for institutional libraries.

*Editor-in-Chief*

## Motor Disorders

Editor: David S. Younger  
 No of Pages: 548  
 ISBN: 0-316-97600-8 (alk. paper)  
 Publication Date: 1999  
 Price: US \$129.00  
 Publisher: Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins

This is a comprehensive book on motor disorders with contributions from 74 authors who are well known in the respective fields of motor disorders. The planning

and set up of the book has been done meticulously with a coverage of basic concepts of electrophysiology as applicable to the diseases of muscle, nerves and neurophysiology of clinical motor control. The muscle and nerve pathology in various diseases is exhaustive with emphasis on cytopathology also. The neuromuscular ailments starting from hypotonic infant to the affection of muscle and nerve associated with HIV infections and other diseases are covered in 29 chapters. The role of neurotrophins and neurotrophine growth factors and their impact on motor and other systems is explicit. Finally, part V of the book covers Neurorehabilitation from its principles to practicability. In short, it is a well-written book which anyone working in different spheres of neuromuscular disorders would love to read and possess. Institutions should seriously consider it for their libraries.

*Editor-in-Chief*

## Clinical Neurocardiology

Editors: Louis R. Caplan, J. Willis Hurst, Marc I.K Chimowitz  
 ISBN: 0-8247-1991-3  
 No. of Pages: 498  
 Price: US\$195.00  
 Publication Date: May 1999  
 Publisher: Marcel Dekker, New York

Three famous specialists (2 vascular neurologists L R Caplan and M.Chimowitz and one cardiologist J W Hurst) have produced an excellent book which deals with various aspects of Neurocardiology, such as – the neurology of cardiac arrest and circulatory failure, - the symptoms, diagnosis, causes and treatment of brain embolism – the neurological effects of drugs used in cardiac patients – the neurological complications of cardiac interventions – the cardiac manifestations of neurological diseases and the cardiac findings in patients with disorders that affect both the heart and the nervous system.

This book is a masterpiece because it is both practical (see for instance the excellent discussion on both the management of coronary artery disease in patients with carotid stenosis and of carotid stenosis in patients undergoing coronary artery bypass) and remarkably documented with some 1,500 references and with a short description of nearly a hundred disorders involving the heart and brain. This book is a "must" for cardiologists, internists, and neurologists.

Marie-Germaine Bousser  
 Paris, France

## CALENDAR

\* = Meeting endorsed by the Continuing Education Committee of the WFN

### 2001

#### Méditerranée III — Neuroepidemiology in the Mediterranean area

8–10 April 2001

Palermo, Sicily  
 Contact: Professor Giovanni Savettieri  
 Organizing Secretariat: SERONO SYMPO-SIA, Via Casilina, 125, 00176 Rome, Italy  
 Tel: +39 06 70384 513 / 506  
 Fax: +39 06 70384 677  
 E-mail: roberta.cenci@serono.com

#### 6th Meeting of the European Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics and 9th Meeting of WFN Neurosonology Research Group

(preceding the 10th European Stroke Conference)

13–15 May 2001

Lisbon, Portugal  
 Contact: Dr. Victor Oliveira, Hospital St. Maria, Department of Neurology, P-1699 Lisbon, Portugal  
 Secretariat: EuroCongressos, R. Francisco Andrade, 4, P - 1700-198 Lisbon, Portugal  
 Tel: +351 218 472 577  
 Fax: +351 218 473 746  
 E-mail: eurocongressos@mail.telepac.pt

#### XIV International Congress on Parkinson's Disease

28–31 July 2001

Finlandia Hall, Helsinki, Finland  
 Contact: CongCreator CC Ltd, PO Box 762, FIN-00101 Helsinki, Finland  
 Tel: +358 9 4542 190  
 Fax: +358 9 4542 1930  
 E-mail: secretariat@concreator.com  
 URL: <http://www.concreator.com/icpd-2001>

#### 4th Congress of the European Paediatric Neurology Society

13–16 September 2001

Baden-Baden, Germany  
 Contact: AKM Congress Service GmbH, Obere Schanzstraße 18, D-79576 Weil am Rhein, Germany  
 Tel: +49 7621 98330  
 Fax: +49 7621 78714  
 E-mail: akmweil@akmcongress.com

#### European Charcot Foundation Symposium on The Progressive Phase of MS; its Pathology and Treatment

(including the 7th European Charcot Foundation Lecture by Prof. P. Soelberg Sørensen on The role of IVIG in the Treatment of Secondary Progressive MS)

18–21 October 2001

Venice, Italy  
 Contact: European Charcot Foundation, Heiweg 97, 6533 PA Nijmegen, the Netherlands  
 Tel.: +31-24-3561954  
 Fax: +31-24-3540920  
 E-mail: info@charcot-ms.org