

# ISN news

An Official Publication of the International Society of Nephrology

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Newly elected officials were announced at WCN 2009. Find out the results!

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The new ISN Team is ready to go! Meet the new staff as they prepare to take ISN to the next level!

### WCN 2009: a Great Success!

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Advancing Nephrology around the World



## WCN 2009: The best platform to convey ISN's new mission to the world.

The World Congress of Nephrology 2009 (WCN 2009) was held by ISN in conjunction with the European Renal Association - European Dialysis and Transplant Association (ERA-EDTA), a combination of approaches that made WCN 2009 such a great success.

As explained by ISN President Eberhard Ritz and ERA-EDTA President Gérard M. London in their welcome speeches: whilst ERA-EDTA remains focused on the improvement in scientific progress of clinical nephrology, ISN pursues the humanitarian goal of advancing patient care in nephrology throughout the world. Together, both organizations offered a valuable comprehensive education program in research and patient care that provided countless benefits to all participants.

At the opening ceremony on Friday 22 May, Congress President Francesco Locatelli promised "the best presentations in the world." The Scientific Program at this year's WCN - put together by Co-Chairs Kai-Uwe Eckardt of Germany and Pierre Ronco of France - did not disappoint. More than 400 speakers addressed the 10,000 congress attendees with a wide range of top-level lectures chosen from the 3,600 submissions initially received.

More on pages 5, 6, 7

This newsletter is supported by an educational donation provided by





Carol Pollock

Dear All,

The recent, highly successful WCN 2009 coincided with the announcement of the newly elected ISN Councillors. It will be obvious that the caliber of individuals who 'put their hands up' for nomination to join the peak committee of the ISN was of the highest order. As a result of your voting, a highly experienced and committed Council will take the mission of the ISN forward. The skill and expertise of the nephrologists who make up the incoming ISN Executive committee, under the leadership of the ISN President Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe, will ensure the future of the ISN is in good hands. I extend my personal congratulations to John Feehally in being elected to the position of President-Elect. John has been a tireless advocate for our patients and our profession and has all the personal skills to influence global decision making that is necessary to improve nephrology care into the future.

The occasion of WCN 2009 signaled the end of Eberhard Ritz's Presidency, and his substantial achievements are highlighted in this newsletter. Incoming President Rodríguez-Iturbe has set ambitious goals, which I am confident will be supported by the ISN community. WCN 2009 was a highly successful scientific meeting and much credit is due to the combined efforts of our Scientific Program

Directors Kai-Uwe Eckardt and Pierre Ronco. It will be a difficult task for Rick Johnson and Adeera Levin to surpass the scientific quality at the 2011 Vancouver meeting!

I would like to offer my congratulations to all who were recognised by awards from the ISN at WCN 2009. They are highlighted within this newsletter. Having said that, I would particularly note that the Young Nephrologists Awards, were a new and highly successful initiative at this year's meeting. Congratulations to all awardees and many thanks to Fiona Brown for coordinating the Young Nephrologists Committee of the ISN.

The ISN welcomes the appointment of Luca Segantini as our new Executive Director. The outgoing Executive Director, Tom Reiser brought a professionalism to the management of the Society's affairs that will no doubt be built upon by Luca. Significant challenges exist in the role. However, it is clear he has the expertise and drive to capitalize on both challenges and opportunity to drive the ISN forward.

Please take advantage of contacting committee and executive members at ISN when relevant issues arise. The ISN exists for the benefit of members and welcomes input and comment. ▶

Carol Pollock

## Don't forget... Important dates for your diary

### July 15, 2009

Early registration deadline for the ISN Forefronts Symposium on Renal and Extrarenal Control of Acid-base Homeostasis in Health and Disease: [www.isn-online.org/forefronts](http://www.isn-online.org/forefronts)

### July 31, 2009

Submission deadline for the ISN COMGAN Fellowship Program: [www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn\\_20083.html](http://www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn_20083.html)

### September 30, 2009

Submission deadline for the COMGAN Sister Renal Centers Program. Forms will be available online as of mid August 2009: [www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn\\_20088.html](http://www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn_20088.html)

### October 1, 2009

Submission deadline for the COMGAN Research and Prevention Program: [www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn\\_20089.html](http://www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn_20089.html)

## In the Next Issue

### Meet the new President-Elect

#### ISN news

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#### Executive Committee

Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe (Venezuela) - President  
Eberhard Ritz (Germany) - Past-President  
John Feehally (United Kingdom) - President-Elect and Secretary-General  
Victor Schuster (USA) - Treasurer  
William Mitch (USA) - Publications Committee Chair  
Richard Johnson (USA) - Council Representative  
Philip Li (Hong Kong) - Council Representative  
William Couser (USA) - COMGAN Chair  
Giuseppe Remuzzi (Italy) - Appointed member

#### Council

##### Africa

Maher Fouad Ramzy (Egypt)  
Saratadevi Naicker (South Africa)

##### Asia/Pacific

Georgi Abraham (India)  
Gavin Becker (Australia)  
Peter Kerr (Australia)  
Suhnggwon Kim (Republic of Korea)  
Philip Li (Hong Kong)  
Toshio Miyata (Japan)  
Rezvi Sheriff (Sri Lanka)  
Chih-Wei Yang (Taiwan)

##### Europe

Dick de Zeeuw (Netherlands)  
Jorge Cannata-Andía (Spain)  
Kai-Uwe Eckardt (Germany)  
Meguid El Nahas (UK)  
Laszlo Rosivall (Hungary)  
Kamil Serdengeçti (Turkey)  
Peter Stenvinkel (Sweden)

##### Latin America

Ana Cusumano (Argentina)  
Juan Fernández-Cean (Uruguay)  
Marta Franco (Mexico)  
Sergio A. Mezzano (Chile)

##### Middle East

Riyad Said (Jordan)

##### North America

Roland Blantz (USA)  
Allison Eddy (USA)  
Agnes Fogo (USA)  
Richard Johnson (USA)  
Nathan Levin (USA)  
Adeera Levin (Canada)  
Marcello Tonelli (Canada)

#### ISN Committee Chairs

**Acute Kidney Injury Committee** - Ravindra Mehta (USA)  
**Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee** - Gavin Becker (Australia)  
**Forefronts Committee** - Kai-Uwe Eckardt (Germany)  
**History of Nephrology Committee** - Leon Fine (USA)  
**Interventional Nephrology Committee** - Miguel Riella (Brazil)  
**Medical Advisory Committee** - Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe (Venezuela)  
**Membership and Marketing Committee** - Claudio Ronco (Italy)  
**Nexus Committee** - Kumar Sharma (USA)  
**Nominating Committee** - Rashad Barsoum (Egypt)  
**Publications Committee** - William Mitch (USA)  
**Renal Disaster Relief Task Force** - Raymond Vanholder (Belgium)  
**Young Nephrologists Committee** - Fiona Brown (Australia)

#### ISN COMGAN Committee Chairs

**COMGAN Core Committee** - William Couser (USA)  
**CME Programs** - Norbert Lameire (Belgium)  
**Education Advisory Committee** - Saraladevi Naicker (South Africa)  
**Fellowship Committee** - John Feehally (United Kingdom)  
**Hemodialysis Advisory Committee** - Nathan Levin (USA)  
**Kidney Health in Disadvantaged Populations Committee** - Guillermo Garcia Garcia (Mexico)  
**Peritoneal Dialysis Advisory Committee** - Fredric Finkelstein (USA)  
**Renal Pathology Advisory Committee** - Agnes Fogo (USA)  
**Research and Prevention Committee** - Giuseppe Remuzzi (Italy)  
**Sister Renal Centers Program Committee** - Paul Harden (UK)

#### ISN COMGAN Regional Committees

**Africa Committee** - Omar Abboud (Sudan)  
**East Asia Committee** - Haiyan Wang (China)  
**Eastern and Central Europe Committee** - Adrian Covic (Romania)  
**Latin America Committee** - Pablo Massari (Argentina)  
**Middle East Committee** - Riyad Said (Jordan)  
**OSEA Committee** - David Harris (Australia)  
**Russia and CIS Committee** - Konstantin Gurevich (Russia)  
**South Asia Committee** - Georgi Abraham (India)

# ISN COMGAN at WCN 2009

The ISN COMGAN Poster Session, dedicated to the Fellows Poster Awards and Sister Renal Centers-Schrier Award was hosted on Saturday 23 May. Forty-nine past and current ISN Fellows proudly presented their abstracts to the jury members of the Fellowship Committee. Five Sister Renal Center pairs competed for the Schrier Award by presenting their impressive achievements linked to the development of renal practice in their home countries. The award winners were all announced and invited to speak at the ISN-COMGAN Workshop held on Monday 25 May.

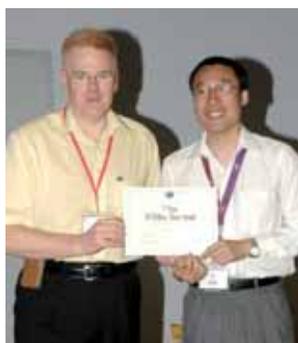
## Fellowship Awards

After much deliberation, the jury chose to reward the following 3 Fellows for their outstanding abstracts:

- **Yingyos Avihingsanon (Thailand)** was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Prize for his abstract on “Urinary Podocyte Loss: Biomarker of Active Lupus Nephritis”;
- **Gang Liu (China)** was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize for his abstract on “Abnormal Distribution of Laminins in Glomerular Basement Membrane Associate with Effacement of Podocyte Foot Processes in Human Alport’s syndrome”;
- **Guillermo Rosa Diez (Argentina)** was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize for his abstract on “Determination of Kt by ionic dialysance is a simple method to estimate dialysis dose in critically ill patients”.



1<sup>st</sup> Prize



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

Presentation of Fellowship Awards by John Feehally, new ISN President-Elect, to the three winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Yingyos Avihingsanon**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Liqiang Meng on behalf of **Gang Liu**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Guillermo Rosa Diez**

## Sister Renal Centers Program - Schrier Award

The posters were reviewed by a jury composed of William Couser, Gavin Becker and Paul Harden. The prize, awarded to the SRC pair ‘Nigeria-UK’ was received by Timothy Olanrewaju, from the University of Ilorin, Teaching Hospital, who presented the impressive developments achieved with the help of their supporting Center, the Sheffield Kidney Institute.

The award, worth USD 5,000, was handed over by Robert Schrier, who is the founding father of the SRC Program and lent his name to this Prize, which recognizes outstanding Sister Renal Centers at every biennial World Congress. ▶



Rashad Barsoum, Timothy Olanrewaju and Robert Schrier



Timothy Olanrewaju

## Highlights from the ISN COMGAN Workshop

In addition to the Fellowship and Schrier Award announcements, the COMGAN Workshop also highlighted exciting achievements in key COMGAN Programs:

### CME Program



▶ Randall Lou

Randall Lou gave an excellent presentation on the workshop held in April 2008 in Guatemala. Lou is a past fellow, SRC participant, CKHDP Committee Member, former President of the Guatemalan Society of Nephrology and current Regional Vice-President of the Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension (SLANH). The workshop

focused on the prevention of kidney disease in Central America. The great success of the workshop led to Pan American Health Organisation's (regional branch of WHO) commitment to include CKD in the next summit of Presidents from the Central American and Caribbean countries. Since then, a formal collaboration has been agreed upon. Lou's efforts have been one of the main forces behind this exciting collaboration.

### Research & Prevention Program



▶ Sanjid Kumar Sharma

Sanjid Kumar Sharma (Nepal) is the current Research & Prevention project coordinator, past fellow and SRC participant. His presentation at the workshop focused on his efforts to create a self-sustaining organization for community screening and management of CKD and its risk factors. Organizations like this have progressively spread throughout

Nepal involving many local doctors, nurses, medical students and health workers gaining the support of health authorities. This remarkable program, well known throughout the country and beyond, is an example of how prevention programs are feasible even in very low resource settings. Sharma was recently invited to present the results of this program at several meetings in Japan and India.

All presentations are available on the COMGAN News page on the ISN Gateway: [http://www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn\\_20098.html](http://www.isn-online.org/society/outreach/isn_20098.html)

## Life-Saving Impact

The other presentations at the 2009 COMGAN Workshop were prime examples of how ISN COMGAN efforts can lead to tangible life-saving results when developed on a national health care level.



▶ Dibya Singh Shah

Dibya Singh Shah underwent an ISN Fellowship training in Australia in 2006. When she returned home to the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu, Nepal in 2007, she coordinated the implementation of a National Renal Transplant Program. As a result, the first transplantation in Nepal was successfully carried out in

August 2008. Since then, a total of 30 transplants have been performed in Nepal.

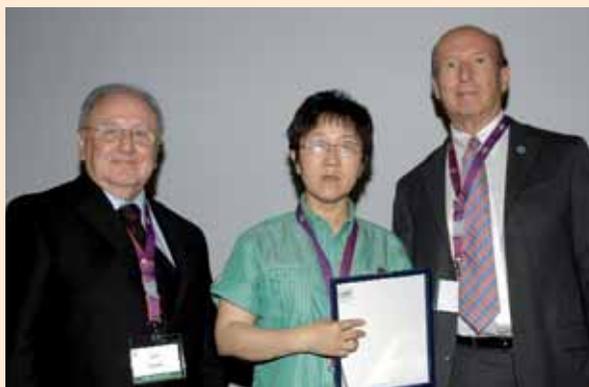


▶ Charlotte Osafo

Charlotte Osafo is currently the Chief of Nephrology in the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital of Accra, the largest hospital in Ghana. Osafo was inspired as a resident to increase the number of dialysis facilities in Ghana. She conducted her ISN Fellowship training at Birmingham in the United Kingdom and upon her return to Ghana, Osafo started the first

dialysis program, and she has now developed several additional satellite units as well as a new transplant program. ▶

## Additional Sister Renal Centers Program News



▶ Rashad Barsoum, Nan Chen (China) and William Couser (COMGAN Chair) congratulating the graduated China-UK pair.

Rashad Barsoum, the outgoing SRC Program Chair, was congratulated and thanked for his major contributions that led to the recent successes of the program; at the same time, Paul Harden was welcomed as the incoming Chair of the SRC Program. Barsoum's last act as Chair was to congratulate and give a plaque to the program's first graduate center pairs being: Armenia – Belgium, China – UK and China – France.

# WCN 2009 Thanks for a Great Congress!



► Kai-Uwe Eckardt

ISN would like to recognize the Scientific Program Committee, under the leadership of Kai-Uwe Eckardt and Pierre Ronco, for creating such an innovative program that covered all aspects of basic and clinical Nephrology. Their hard work and contributions truly made this year's Congress the leading event in Nephrology worldwide.



► Pierre Ronco

A special extended "Thank You" is offered to the Congress President, Francesco Locatelli, and Congress Secretary, Piergiorgio Messa. Their dedication over the last few years made WCN 2009 possible. ISN was honored to have such a pair of gracious and hardworking hosts. ►

## WCN 2009 Numbers

- Over 10,000 representatives of the Nephrology community coming from 123 countries around the world.
- More than 121 scientific sessions
- 400 speakers
- 2,300 posters presented
- Congress lectures chosen from over 3,600 submissions from some of the top researchers in the world.

## See you in Vancouver!

The World Congress of Nephrology takes place every second year. The 2011 edition will take place in Vancouver, Canada, between 8 and 12 April. The ISN Council decided during its meeting on Thursday 21 May in Milan, that Hong Kong will be hosting the Congress in 2013. ISN will work in cooperation with the Hong Kong Society of Nephrology to prepare the event.



in cooperation with the  
Canadian Society of Nephrology

WORLD CONGRESS OF NEPHROLOGY

# WCN2011

VANCOUVER, CANADA / APRIL 8-12 / 2011

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# Highlighting the ISN Award Winners

At WCN 2009 in Milan, ISN, in conjunction with supporting organizations, honored those researchers and professionals that have raised the bar in their respective fields. ISN is proud to recognize and support the winners of the **ISN Alfred Newton Richards Award**, the **Bywaters Award**, the **ISN Jean Hamburger Award**, the **Roscoe R. Robinson Award**, the **ISN Amgen International Prize for Therapeutic Advancement in Nephrology**, the **Lillian Jean Kaplan International Prize for the Advancement in the Understanding of Polycystic Kidney Disease** and our **2009 Honorary Members**.



► Pierre Ronco, Heini Murer and Eberhard Ritz



► Jared J. Grantham and Jan Weening



► Claudio Ronco and William Finn



► William G. Couser and Saraladevi Naicker

**1.** Since 1987 the **ISN Alfred Newton Richards Award** has recognized outstanding basic research in fields relevant to nephrology. This year the award was given to Heini Murer of Switzerland.

**2.** The **Bywaters Award** was established by the ISN Acute Kidney Injury Committee in order to recognize outstanding contributions to the understanding of acute renal failure. The founder of the Acute Dialysis Quality Initiative (ADQI) and the Acute Kidney Injury Network (AKIN), Claudio Ronco was honored as the 2009 Bywaters Award winner for his lifetime achievement in this field.

**3.** The **ISN Jean Hamburger Award** was first introduced in 1987 to recognize outstanding research in nephrology with a clinical emphasis. Jared J. Grantham was this year's winner and was presented the honor during the plenary session of the World Congress on May 26.

**4.** The **ISN Roscoe R. Robinson Award** was established before the 2005 WCN to acknowledge outstanding achievements in the field of education in nephrology and medicine. This year, the award was given to Saraladevi Naicker who is currently Academic Head of the Department of Internal Medicine and of Renal Medicine and head of the Division of Nephrology at the University of the Witwatersrand. Saraladevi Naicker received her award during the plenary session on May 25.

**5.** The **ISN Amgen International Prize for Therapeutic Advancement in Nephrology** was established in 2003 by Amgen to recognize those whose basic or clinical scientific research has directly led to therapeutic advancements in the field. At the plenary session on May 26, ISN and AMGEN were honored to present this award to Carl Erik Mogensen.



► Carl Erik Mogensen

**6.** The **Lillian Jean Kaplan International Prize for the Advancement in the Understanding of Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD)** recognizes leading professionals or researchers in the struggle against PKD. The long term goal of the Kaplan International Prize is to increase the research that will lead to a treatment and cure for the millions of people who suffer from PKD. This year, thanks to a generous contribution from Thomas Kaplan, the Prize was awarded to three pediatric nephrologists, Lisa M. Guay-Woodford, Corinne Antignac and Friedhelm Hildebrandt. The awardees received their awards during the plenary session on May 25. The three were also asked to present their work at the Congress during a dedicated PKD session on May 25. ►



► Friedhelm Hildebrandt, Lisa M. Guay-Woodford & Corinne Antignac

## Honorary Members



Honorary Membership is conferred upon individuals who have made contributions of exceptional merit to ISN. This year ISN's Honorary Members are Rashad Barsoum, Kirpal S. Chugh and William G. Couser (respectively 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> from left). The certificates were handed over by ISN Past-President Eberhard Ritz (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) during the Congress President's dinner on Monday 25 May at the Palazzo Mezzanotte in Milan.

# ISN Elections

This year, 13 Council seats were up for elections. The Nominating Committee had proposed three candidates for each of the 13 vacancies. ISN Councillors are a reflection of the various disciplines and geographic diversities that make up the Society. This year's incoming Councillors represent Africa, Asia-Pacific, North America, Europe and Latin America.

ISN voting privileges are extended to all ISN members in good standing. The polls opened at the end of March on the ISN Gateway, where members could find additional information on all candidates. Voting continued both online and on site (in Milan) until May 23. Members could also request a hard copy ballot and return it by fax or mail (paper voting closed on May 22).

The results for the new ISN Councillors were announced during the ISN General Assembly on May 24. ISN is proud to welcome:

## Africa



**Maher Fouad Ramzy, Egypt** - Maher Fouad Ramzy is the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the African Journal of Nephrology. He is a Past-President of the African Society of Nephrology.

## Asia Pacific



**Suhnggwon Kim, Republic of Korea** - Suhnggwon Kim is President of the Korean Society of Nephrology and a Councillor for Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO).



**Chih-Wei Yang, Taiwan** - Chih-Wei Yang is the Executive Councillor for the Taiwan Society of Nephrology and is currently the Director of the Department of Nephrology at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital.



**Peter Gerard Kerr, Australia** - Peter Kerr is an active member in the Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry (ANZDATA) and the Australia and New Zealand Organ Donation Registry (ANZOD). He is also a Council member of the International Society for Hemodialysis (ISHD).

## Latin America



**Sergio Mezzano, Chile** - Sergio Mezzano is the Past-President of the Chilean Society of Nephrology and the Latin-American Society of Nephrology. He served on the KDIGO Board of Directors and is an Honorary Member of the Spanish Society of Nephrology. Sergio Mezzano is also a member of the Chilean Academy of Medicine.

## New President-Elect



ISN would like to announce John Feehally as the new President-Elect until April 2011. John is the current ISN Secretary-General and Chair of the ISN COMGAN Fellowship Program. He is a Past-President of the Renal Association, the professional body of nephrologists and renal scientists in the UK and a member of the Renal Advisory Group at the UK Department of Health.

## North America



**Roland Blantz, USA** - Roland Blantz was Councillor and President of the American Society of Nephrology from 1996 until 2003 and was also a member of the WCN scientific program committee in 2007.



**Allison Eddy, USA** - Allison Eddy has served as Council member and Program Committee Co-Chair for the International Pediatric Nephrology Association and was Deputy editor for the JASN from 2001-2007.



**Marcello Tonelli, Canada** - Marcello Tonelli established and chairs the Canadian Society of Nephrology International Health Committee and is the President-Elect of the Canadian Society of Nephrology.

## Europe



**Dick de Zeeuw, The Netherlands** - Dick de Zeeuw serves on the editorial board for seven international journals and is a member of five international Steering Boards and Committees on nephrology or clinical pharmacology management.



**Jorge Cannata-Andia, Spain** - Jorge Cannata Andia is an Honorary Member of nine societies of nephrology and has served as Treasurer of the Spanish Society of Nephrology, President of the Spanish Society for Bone and Mineral Metabolism, and President of the ERA-EDTA.



**Kai-Uwe Eckardt, Germany** - Kai-Uwe Eckardt is a founding member of the KDIGO Executive Committee and Co-Chair of the organization. He is a past Council member of ERA-EDTA and served as Secretary of the WCN 2003. Most recently he was Program Co-Chair for the WCN 2009 in Milan. He is also the new ISN Forefronts Committee Chair.



**Meguid El Nahas, UK** - Through his work at the Sheffield Kidney Institute, Meguid El Nahas has set up Diploma and Masters courses in nephrology dedicated to the training of nephrologists for all over the world. He has fostered the development of Sister Renal Centers in the UK. He was also the inaugural Chair of the International Committee of the British Renal Association.



**László Rosivall, Hungary** - László Rosivall is the Founder and President of the Hungarian Kidney Foundation. He has also served as President of Semmelweis University and the Worldwide Hungarian Medical Academy. ▶

## Outgoing Councillors

ISN would like to thank all of our outgoing Councillors for their contributions. Each member of the Council has sacrificed countless hours for the benefit of ISN's mission. Their efforts have helped ISN take steps to spread knowledge and resources to developing countries around the world and will surely create an easier path for those that follow.

### 2009 Outgoing Council Members

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Amin Arnaout (USA)

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Joanne Bargman (Canada)

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Emmanuel Burdman (Brazil)

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Tilman Druke (France)

---

John Feehally (UK)

---

Jürgen Floege (Germany)

---

David Harris (Australia)

---

Iekuni Ichikawa (Japan)

---

Giuseppe Remuzzi (Italy)

---

Claudio Ronco (Italy)

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Haiyan Wang (China)

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This year, 26 percent of the membership participated in the election process (over 2,500 votes), making it the most successful election in recent history. Thank you for your implication in the life of your society!

# News in Brief

## ISN General Assembly

The General Assembly held on 24 May started with a moment of silence to remember Steven Hebert and Thomas Andreoli. Both were passionate about ISN and contributed immensely to the success of the society. The General Assembly covered ISN Programs and Committees through the reports from the President, Secretary-General, Treasurer and the ISN COMGAN Chair. In addition, leadership and committee changes were announced and ratified (see below).

## Passing the Torch



Having reviewed ISN's achievements since WCN 2007, President Eberhard Ritz formally passed his presidential duties on to his successor, Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe. With a word of thanks to the

Council and membership, Eberhard Ritz wished the incoming team great success in the advancement of ISN.

## Moving Forward

As his first act as ISN President, Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe welcomed the new 2009 Executive Committee, incoming Council members and new Committee Chairs. He then disclosed his priorities during his tenure as ISN President as follows:

- Increase membership
- Prioritization of Programs
- Better Finance Management
- Kidney Disease Data Center
- Collaborations with Affiliated Societies
- World Kidney Day
- ISN Gateway/Education
- 2010 Anniversary Celebration
- WCN 2011 Vancouver

## 2009 New Committee Chairs

- **ISN Forefronts Committee**  
Kai-Uwe Eckardt, Germany
- **Sister Renal Centers Program Committee**  
Paul Harden, United Kingdom
- **Nominating Committee**  
Rashad Barsoum, Egypt
- **WCN 2011 Scientific Program Committee**  
Richard Johnson, USA

## 2009 - 2011 Executive Committee

- **President**  
B. Rodríguez-Iturbe, Venezuela
- **Past-President**  
Eberhard Ritz, Germany
- **President-Elect & Secretary-General**  
John Feehally, United Kingdom
- **Treasurer**  
Victor Schuster, USA
- **Publications Committee Chair**  
William Mitch, USA
- **Council Representatives**  
Richard Johnson, USA  
Philip Li, Hong Kong
- **Presidential Appointments**  
William Couser, USA  
Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy

## World Kidney Day 2010! A Call to Action...



Mark your calendars! The next World Kidney Day will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010. The specific focus for this year's campaign is on Diabetes, the most common cause of kidney failure. It is therefore absolutely crucial to reach out to diabetes sufferers and all healthcare providers to raise awareness of the link between diabetes and kidney failure and the need for regular screening to detect any early signs of kidney disease. Your mobilization around WCN 2009 and your local activities in promoting early detection and screening proved essential in ensuring that those in need received suitable treatment preventing complications linked to CKD. We want to build on our success in 2009 with increased activities and outreach for WKD 2010. The WKD Steering Group is in full planning mode now and will be populating the WKD website with new ideas, slogans and template materials to help all of you start planning for 2010. As we begin this process, we would welcome your feedback, thoughts and ideas. You can share your views by emailing [info@worldkidneyday.org](mailto:info@worldkidneyday.org). Happy Planning from the WKD Team!

# Renal and Extrarenal Control of Acid-Base Homeostasis in Health and Disease

September 17-20, 2009  
Florence, Italy

## Co-Chairs

Giovambattista Capasso  
University of Naples, Italy

Reto Krapf  
University of Basel, Switzerland

Orson W. Moe  
University of Texas Southwestern  
Medical Center in Dallas, USA

Carsten A. Wagner  
University of Zurich, Switzerland

*This Forefronts Symposium will explore various aspects of acid-base regulation in physiological and pathophysiological processes integrating cellular and systemic sensor and effector mechanisms. Topics range from acid-base regulation in model organisms to human disease and its treatment.*

*Bringing together scientists and clinicians from a broad range of fields related to pH-regulation, this symposium will provide a unique platform for interdisciplinary discussions of these scientifically exciting and clinically important processes.*

## Important Dates

Registration Opening  
April 27, 2009

Travel Grant Submission  
June 15, 2009

Abstract Submission  
June 30, 2009

Early Registration Deadline  
July 15, 2009

Discover the full program and register online at  
[www.isn-online.org/forefronts](http://www.isn-online.org/forefronts)

[www.isn-online.org/forefronts](http://www.isn-online.org/forefronts)

Advancing Nephrology around the World





John Feehally

## Insights on the Elections

We have just completed a very successful ISN Council Election.

Conducted on-line, we received a remarkable 2,500 on-line votes, no less than 26% of our total eligible membership. This is an unusually high number of voters for such a Society election, and easily outstrips our previous record 'turn out'. This is a sign of the vigour and wellbeing of ISN, but even though I am delighted with the turnout this year, I would strongly encourage those of you that did not participate in these elections, to make this a priority for 2011. It is critical for ISN to have the values and ideas of its entire membership represented in our Council and Executive Committee. Our elections are the best and easiest way to ensure this goal.

We owe a vote of thanks to the diligent work of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Bernard Rossier, which produced a slate of 39 highly-qualified candidates for our 13 Council vacancies.

My thanks also to all who were willing to be nominated, allowing their names to go forward into the ballot. I know that for those of you who were unsuccessful there will have been disappointment that you cannot be directly involved in the leadership of ISN through the Council. I also know that the many qualities of our candidates mean that all could have done an outstanding job, and I do hope that those who were unsuccessful will continue to find ways to work for the mission and goals of ISN in their own countries and regions, and around the world.

And, of course, my congratulations to our 13 newly-elected ISN Councillors, many of whom were able to attend a brief Council meeting at the end of the World Congress of Nephrology in Milan to begin their six year term of office. I can promise them plenty of work ahead!

John Feehally, ISN Secretary-General

## Young Nephrologists News

### WCN 2009 - Insights from a Young Nephrologist

The Young Nephrologists Committee (YNC) Awards for best abstracts written by young investigators were presented for the first time at WCN 2009, displaying the first accomplished project of the YNC, created to increase the liaisons between ISN and the young renal community.

The session was very successful: the quality of the selected studies was outstanding; the performance of speakers impressive and the global representation was achieved. Studies from China, Hungary, United Kingdom and France were selected in both clinical and basic science categories, ranging from a randomized controlled study in lupus nephritis to the analysis of genetic basis of kidney diseases.

The presentations created clear visibility and stimuli for young investigators, who in other events may not be able to have a voice with such repercussions. The session, chaired by Fiona Brown (who deserves compliments for chairing the Committee and for her leadership in this project) and Valerie Luyckx was well attended and many of the leaders of the Society were present.

Building on this success, the YNC who met on the fringes of WCN 2009, exchanged views on possible future activities to keep on increasing the attractiveness of ISN in the young renal community and cultivate future leadership in the society.

Roberto Pecoits-Filho, active member of the YNC



ISN recognized Masood Moghul from the United Kingdom and Wei Chen of China (respectively 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from left to right) for their clinical contributions. Kalman Torny of Hungary and Juliette Hadchouel from France (respectively 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> from left to right) were given this award for the best basic research contributions.



Luca Segantini

# Who is Luca Segantini?

The International Society of Nephrology is happy to introduce Luca Segantini as our new Executive Director. Luca took over on April 1<sup>st</sup> from Tom Reiser, who helped build the ISN into the leading community for nephrologists worldwide. Even with the substantial momentum that ISN has gained already in 2009, Luca has his work cut out for him. His goal: to communicate to the world ISN's renewed mission of advancing the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of kidney diseases in the developing and developed world.

To get a sense of Luca's priorities and plans for ISN, ISN News asked him a few introductory questions:

**Q: What interests you most about the Society?**

A: I have been working to strengthen medical-related groups and societies throughout Europe for the past 20 years. So I've been waiting for an opportunity to combine my healthcare publishing, event coordination and e-business experience with the community management skills I acquired in the last seven years. The ISN represents the perfect environment where I can contribute my experience and know-how. There's no better place to be.

**Q: Can you elaborate a bit more on your past endeavours?**

A: Most recently, I successfully launched and developed a global business association, recruiting and training a staff of 21 professionals from nine different nationalities, while designing and implementing a multi-pronged outreach strategy consisting of marketing, web strategy, event organization, media relations, business development and research activities.

I have also developed a news and event network dedicated to bridging the gaps between research, business and policy in the science and technology field. Through this network, I have had the pleasure of working with research institutions, such as Imperial College, Karolinska Institute and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

I spent the initial part of my professional career as editorial director of two large medical publishers, based in Milan and in Chester (UK), where I delivered medical and pharmaceutical information to physicians, pharmacists and patients through textbooks, journals, CD ROMs, databases and the Internet. After that, I founded and managed a healthcare communications agency. I have a degree in Veterinary Medicine, which gives me all the scientific background I need, but please don't ask me about your cat or dog, as I specialized in farm animals!

**Q: As ISN's Executive Director, what are your top three priorities?**

A: My short-term priority is to establish a set of clear processes to improve the way ISN is managed. There is a new team in place, and they have wonderful skills so I want to make sure they can use them in the best possible way. In a slightly longer term, I feel it is necessary to communicate the unique philanthropic and humanitarian DNA of the Society. This communication will be the key to secure new forms of funding, appeal to more members and extend our alliances with other scientific organizations worldwide - which will inevitably result in a greater reach for ISN.

**Q: Can you tell us a little bit more about yourself?**

A: Well, I'd start by mentioning that I am a funny sort of Italian: I don't drink espresso, I like beer more than wine, and I favor cool weather over the sunny places. I left my native Milan (a city where the glamour of fashion and design is complemented by a fast business pace and work ethic that overcome all possible pleasures in life...) for the equally weather-wise dull Brussels, where quality of life for families is much greater. My four children keep me busy during weekends, and what little free time I do have is spent reading, cooking fish and playing the occasional basketball game (I can still cope and enjoy it, which is reassuring...).

**Q: What are you most looking forward to with regards to ISN in 2009?**

A: I am blown away by the level of engagement from all stakeholders. The current membership reflects how articulate, diverse and committed the community is. A professor of mine once pointed out the high correlation between passion and success. The ISN seems to have both in abundance, and I'll try to make sure this never changes. ▸

**If you'd like to reach out to Luca and welcome him, you can contact him via email at [lsegantini@isn-online.org](mailto:lsegantini@isn-online.org).**

# Who's Stepping in?

With a view to providing improved services to its members, ISN has decided to hire a new management team which has officially started servicing ISN as of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2009. ISN members who went to the WCN in Milan, might have had a chance to meet a few of our key players. We hope that WCN 2009 is the start of a wonderful relationship. Below is a list of the new ISN team members.

Please feel free to contact them with any questions that you may have:

## Society Management

- Luca Segantini, Executive Director  
lsegantini@isn-online.org
- Ferial Saouli, Society Manager  
fsaouli@isn-online.org
- Noémie Auvergne, Society Coordinator  
nauvergne@isn-online.org

## COMGAN - Global Outreach Programs

- An Devriese, COMGAN Manager  
adevriese@isn-online.org
- Sophie Dupuis, COMGAN Coordinator  
sdupuis@isn-online.org

## Marketing/Communications/PR

- Julie Cooper, Marketing Manager  
jcooper@isn-online.org
- Adeline Prieur, Marketing Coordinator  
aprieur@isn-online.org

## Events/Meetings Management

- Jenny Bateman, Forefronts Manager  
jbateman@isn-online.org
- Anne Grist, WCN 2011 Manager  
agrist@isn-online.org

## Business Development

- Stacey Wilson, Business Development Manager  
swilson@isn-online.org

## Membership and Information Management

- Rhonda Theoret, Information Director  
rtheoret@isn-online.org
- Kathleen Gallagher, Membership Administrator  
kgallagher@isn-online.org

## An Devriese



Many ISN members will be happy to see a familiar face on the new team. An Devriese will continue with her position as ISN COMGAN Manager. In this position, An provides a centralized management and liaison for the Program Chairs. This helps to create synergies between the various programs and regional Committee activities ensuring everyone is aiming toward common goals.

An started with ISN in June 2003 as the Fellowship Program Coordinator. As other Global Outreach Programs were handed over to professional management, An was named the Global Outreach Programs Manager (COMGAN) in September 2005. As well as being the COMGAN Manager, An has also held various other positions in the Society, such as Society Manager and Membership Manager. As of October 2008, An resigned as Society Manager in order to focus on the area of ISN she feels most passionate about, managing and developing ISN-COMGAN.

“I am delighted to continue my work with ISN towards its humanitarian mission aboard the new team”, she told ISN News.



## Ferial Saouli

Ferial is the new ISN Society Manager. For those of you who have not had a chance to meet with her in Milan, watch out for a detailed interview of Ferial in the next ISN News. ▶

# ISN Members – the way you access *Kidney International* and *Nature Reviews Nephrology* has changed!

Members can access the latest nephrology research and resources by taking the following steps:

1. Log on to <https://portal.isn-online.org/Login.aspx>
2. Using your ISN Username and ISN Password (Forgot your ISN password? Click to reset or contact [membership@isn-online.org](mailto:membership@isn-online.org))



3. Select journal (top right corner)

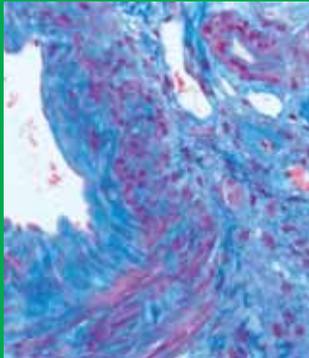


4. Select the journal you wish to view



PLEASE NOTE: If you wish to access the ISN Network – you will be prompted to confirm your nature.com login.

Please contact [membership@isn-online.org](mailto:membership@isn-online.org) if you experience any login problems.



## Mark your calendar for the ISN Nexus Symposium 2010 The Kidney and the Vascular System: Emerging Culprits in Pathogenesis and Advances in Therapy

**April 15-18, 2010 / Kyoto, Japan**

This Nexus symposium addresses recent advances of translational research and clinical medicine on the intriguing links between the kidney and extra-renal vascular system. Newer culprits involved in vascular alterations, such as mineral metabolism, oxygen disorders, adipobiology, pointed by recent cutting-edge discoveries, will be highlighted to better understand pathologies of cardio-renal syndrome and bone-vascular connection, as well as identify promising targets for innovative, future therapies.

**Abstracts submission opening: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009**

### Translational Sessions

- Mineral Metabolism
- Oxygen Disorders
- Adiposcience
- Promising Targets for Future Therapy

### Clinical Sessions

- Cardio-renal Syndrome
- Bone-Vascular connection
- Renovascular benefits of cardiovascular drugs
- Recent Therapeutic Advances

For more information:  
[www.isn-online.org/nexus](http://www.isn-online.org/nexus)

### Chair

Hirofumi Makino (Japan)  
President of the  
Japanese Society  
of Nephrology (ISN)

### Co-Chairs

Eberhard Ritz (Germany)  
Past-President of the  
International Society  
of Nephrology (ISN)

Tadao Akizawa (Japan)  
President of the Japanese  
Society of Dialysis  
Therapy (JSDT)

### Scientific Program Committee

Jürgen Floege (Germany)  
Tilman Drueke (France)  
Kai-Uwe Eckardt (Germany)  
Carmine Zoccali (Italy)  
Agnes Fogo (USA)  
Olivier Devuyst (Belgium)  
Mark Cooper (Australia)  
Ton Rabelink (Netherlands)  
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