

# I A C R NEWSLETTER



1<sup>st</sup> January 2007

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Following elections in May-June 2006, four new regional representatives were elected. They are: Surapon Wiangnon for Asia; Marc Colonna for Europe; Lynn Gloeckler Ries for North America; Eduardo Laura for South & Central America. They replace Akira Oshima, Roberto Zanetti, Dennis Deapen and Maria Paula Curado.

The Executive Secretary of the Association, Dr Paola Pisani, resigned from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006. Under our constitution, the IARC "provides, in agreement with the Executive Board of the Association, a professional staff member to act as Executive Secretary". At the time that the Executive Board met (7-10 November), there was no indication that a successor to Paola would be nominated before the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. The members were then asked to vote on a small amendment to our constitution. This made provision for a temporary vacancy in the position of Executive Secretary. The vote took place by mail, and by a large majority, the amendment was accepted (see Constitutional Changes below). On 21<sup>st</sup> November, IARC nominated Eva Steliarova-Foucher to the post, for a period of one year; the nomination was enthusiastically accepted by the Executive Board, and Eva took up the position on 1<sup>st</sup> December. The Executive Board greatly appreciate all the work Paola has done for the Association.



Eva Steliarova-Foucher

The composition of the Executive Board is shown in the panel.

## IACR EXECUTIVE BOARD (2006)



<b>President</b>	Dr Max Parkin, UK	<a href="mailto:parkin_iacr@iarc.fr">parkin_iacr@iarc.fr</a>
<b>General Secretary</b>	Dr Timo Hakulinen, Finland	<a href="mailto:timo.hakulinen@cancer.fi">timo.hakulinen@cancer.fi</a>
<b>Executive Secretary</b>	Dr Eva Steliarova-Foucher, IARC	<a href="mailto:steliarova@iarc.fr">steliarova@iarc.fr</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr Egil Engen, Norway	<a href="mailto:egil.engen@krefregisteret.no">egil.engen@krefregisteret.no</a>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Dr Hans Storm, Denmark	<a href="mailto:hans@cancer.dk">hans@cancer.dk</a>
<b>Regional Representatives:</b>		
Africa	Dr Moussa Koulibaly, Guinee	<a href="mailto:moussakoulibaly@hotmail.com">moussakoulibaly@hotmail.com</a>
Asia	Dr Midori Soda, Japan	<a href="mailto:soda@rerf.or.jp">soda@rerf.or.jp</a>
	Dr Surapon Wiangnon, Thailand	<a href="mailto:surapon@kku.ac.th">surapon@kku.ac.th</a>
Europe	Dr David Brewster, UK	<a href="mailto:david.brewster@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk">david.brewster@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk</a>
	Dr Marc Colonna, France	<a href="mailto:mcolonna.registre@wanadoo.fr">mcolonna.registre@wanadoo.fr</a>
North America	Dr Heather Bryant, Canada	<a href="mailto:heatherb@cancerboard.ab.ca">heatherb@cancerboard.ab.ca</a>
	Dr Lynn Ries, USA	<a href="mailto:RiesLynn@mail.nih.gov">RiesLynn@mail.nih.gov</a>
South America	Dr Eduardo Laura, Argentina	<a href="mailto:elaura@criba.edu.ar">elaura@criba.edu.ar</a>
Oceania	Dr Paul Jelfs, Australia	<a href="mailto:Paul.Jelfs@cancerinstitute.org.au">Paul.Jelfs@cancerinstitute.org.au</a>

Your regional representative is your contact with the Executive Board of the Association. Please give him/her suggestions for activities that you think should be introduced, increased, or reduced.

## Treasurer

Early in 2006, the Association was informed by IARC that the Executive Secretary, as an IARC staff member, would no longer be permitted to undertake any financial transactions on behalf of the Association. Since the Executive Secretary has, according to our By-Laws, acted as treasurer, a difficult situation was created. An interim solution involved the President and General Secretary handling the banking transactions, while the Executive Secretary kept the accounts. At its meeting in November, the Executive Board resolved to appoint a Treasurer to the Association, who would be responsible for the management of all our financial affairs, and the By-Laws were modified accordingly (see below). Egil Engen, of the Cancer Registry of Norway, agreed to take on this role, and this was endorsed by the Executive Board. He will be invited to attend all future meetings of the Board. The IACR secretariat in Lyon ([iacr@iarc.fr](mailto:iacr@iarc.fr)) remains responsible for other administrative matters, including sending the invoices to the members.



Egil Engen

## Audit

The IACR accounts for year 2005 were successfully audited in September 2006 by the IACR auditor, Mr. Eero Keränen from Cancer Society of Finland.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

As described above, the following changes (underlined/deleted) were made to the **Constitution**:

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) provides the Association with a Secretariat. IARC provides, in agreement with the Executive Board of the Association, a professional staff member to act as Executive Secretary. A vacancy in the position of Executive Secretary may be filled by decision of the Executive Board for a maximum period of one year.

### And to the **By-Laws**:

~~The Executive Secretary shall act as Treasurer to the Association, and shall~~ The Executive Board will appoint a Treasurer to the Association who will:

- Maintain good order of the Association Finances and ensure that financial regulations are adhered to.
- Maintain an up to date account of all financial transactions.
- Advise the Executive and membership on expenditure of the budget.
- Prepare a statement of revenue and expenditure to be presented at the Annual Business Meeting for ratification.
- Be empowered to disburse Association funds for such purposes as are agreed.

## MEMBERSHIP

A record number of new members – 70 from 21 countries joined the Association in 2006 (Annex). The total membership is now 665 in 137 countries.



## SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Following the successful meeting in Uganda (2005), the 28<sup>th</sup> annual scientific meeting was held in **Goïania, Brazil**, from 8-10<sup>th</sup> November 2006, with participants from 36 countries.

The annual meeting was preceded by a 2-day IACR course on survival analysis. Timo Hakulinen coordinated the faculty, which included Ása Klint and Paul Lambert. The course was attended by 31 students from Brazil, Argentina, China, Korea, Croatia and Peru.

The meeting was hosted by the Goiania cancer registry. The Director, Maria Paula Curado, and her staff put a huge amount of effort and enthusiasm into developing an absorbing scientific programme and exciting social events. The quality of scientific presentations was higher than ever, most notably the posters (there were 96, with awards being made at the end of the meeting by Hans Storm). Invited speakers included Jack Siemiatycki (Canada) on

Occupation and Environment, Elaine Ron (USA) on Radiation and Cancer, Eero Pukkala (Finland) on mapping (with a lot of animation – in the slides, that is), Max Parkin (UK) on time trends and Wendy Scharber (USA) on automation in cancer registries. During the opening ceremony, the director of IARC, Dr Peter Boyle, gave a talk on the activities and future priorities of that organisation, and the final morning was devoted to a round table discussion on cancer in Latin America, introduced and chaired by Dr Silvia Robles (World Bank). The evenings were devoted to dining and, being Brazil, a lot of dancing.



The 29<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will be held in **Ljubljana, Slovenia**. The dates are 18-20<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, and the host is the Slovenian Cancer Registry (Director: Maja Zakelj). The proposed themes are “At the cross-roads of tradition and new technologies in cancer registration” and “The role of the cancer registries in cancer control”. Registration and abstract submission will be on-line. The

meeting will be preceded by an IACR course on Spatial Statistics (Faculty Eero Pukkala and Nicky Best) on the 17<sup>th</sup> +/- 18<sup>th</sup> September. Further announcements will follow – the course fee is likely to be € 50. Further information can be found at <http://en.iacr2007.si/>

In 2008, the meeting will be held in **Sydney, Australia** and in 2009 in **New Orleans, USA** (a joint meeting with the National Cancer Registrars Association of the USA).



## FELLOWSHIPS



### Calum Muir Memorial Fellowship

The fellowship is available to staff of cancer registries to spend time elsewhere, in order to gain experience or learn new techniques that will be of value to them and to their home institution. The award is for a period of about one month, and covers the expense of travel, and per diem living expenses<sup>1</sup>. The application forms are available on the IACR website. The selection committee is: Paul Jelfs (Australia) and Heather Bryant (Canada).

There were 3 awards in 2005/2006:

- 2005 Supot Kamsa'ard Thailand Khon Kaen visited Cancer Institute Chennai, India
- 2006 Ann Korir Kenya Nairobi CR visited London Thames CR, UK
- 2006 Yogesh Verma India Sikkim visited UK Cancer Registries



### Constance Percy Memorial Fund

The fund was established in 2005 in memory of Connie Percy, who died in 2004, and who, during a long career in the US NCI was probably the most regular attendee at the IACR annual meetings. She was the leading expert on classification and coding of cancer. The fund exists to support the attendance of members of the Association from developing countries to attend the Annual

<sup>1</sup> The Executive Board has decided that the *daily allowance will be calculated as whichever is the smaller of 50% the WHO per diem, or the actual cost of accommodation + 2/3 of non-hotel component of the WHO per diem*

Scientific meeting. Candidates can apply for funding to the secretariat in Lyon. The two members of the selection committee are Brenda Edwards and John Young (USA).

## IACR PUBLICATIONS

Most, but not all, publications have been prepared jointly with the IARC, and all have been available to members of the Association at discounted prices. Since IARCPress closed in 2005, all joint IARC/IACR publications are commercialized by WHOPress. The IACR members used to enjoy a 25% discount on the price of these publications. The continuation of this advantage will be discussed with WHOPress.

### **Cancer Incidence in Five Continents, volume IX**

The Association has nominated two of the editors for this important joint publication, Brenda Edwards (USA) and Hai Rim Shin (Korea). A report is being prepared to inform members of current status and anticipated progress, and will be circulated to everyone soon.

### **Cancer registration, Principles and Methods**

This standard text on cancer registration is out of print. Its pdf format can be downloaded via the Association website. IACR is committed to ensuring that a new edition (or replacement) is prepared soon, and will ascertain which other organisations can participate.

### **Pathology of tumours for cancer registry personnel**

This manual was prepared by Antoine Buemi and published jointly with the European Network of Cancer Registries (ENCR) in 2001. A revision is underway, which includes tables linking entities described in the WHO Blue Book Classification of Tumours with corresponding ICD-O (3) codes (from the Blue Books).

## ICD-O 3

At present, the members have access to copies of ICD-O 3 at a 30% discount, if ordered through the Association. WEBSITE

The association website is: [www.iacr.com.fr](http://www.iacr.com.fr). It is hosted by the server at IARC, Lyon. There have been some problems in ensuring that it is maintained in a timely manner, but it remains the main source of information on activities and resources of the Association. The membership list is also maintained online. A thorough verification of all information will be under way in the next couple of months.

## CANREG



Provision of the software and user support is part of the formal agreement with IARC. CANREG has been made available to members of the Association on request, and free of charge. Andy Cooke, who has been the technical person responsible for the last 11 years, resigned from IARC in May 2006. A rather minimal service has been maintained until mid-November 2006, but since then there is still no replacement for Andy. The situation is expected to improve soon, as promised by IARC. CANREG is used by many of our members, who are concerned about a potential lack of support.



## WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION



The IACR is an international non-governmental organization that is officially recognized by WHO, and, in this capacity, gives advice on cancer-related subjects. Periodically, members are requested to represent the Association in regional meetings, or to act as consultants to WHO (Geneva) or one of the regional offices. A new work plan covers the next tri-ennium (2007-2009). In it, the Association is undertaking to expand the collaboration with WHO, specifically in 3 areas:

- Commenting upon and testing revisions to the International Classification of Diseases

in preparation of ICD-11 with respect to cancer

- Helping with the provision of cancer incidence data, to provide WHO with the estimates of the world cancer burden.
- Assisting the WHO cancer unit to prepare “country profiles”, which will incorporate information on the availability of different statistical sources on cancer in a given country.

The secretariat will request help from members in areas in which they are known to have appropriate expertise.



## ANNEX. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANCER REGISTRIES: NEW MEMBERS 2006

COUNTRY	REGISTRY	STATUS	COUNTRY	REGISTRY	STATUS	COUNTRY	REGISTRY	STATUS
Argentina	Tierra del Fuego	Associate	Italy	Valle d'Aosta	Associate	USA	Kansas	Voting
Austria	Vorarlberg	Voting	Kenya	Nairobi	Associate		Maryland	Voting
Brunei	Brunei Darussalam	Associate	Korea	Daejeon	Voting		Massachusetts	Voting
China	Anshan	Voting	Lebanon	National	Associate		Mississippi	Associate
	CangWu	Associate	Libya	Benghazi	Associate		Missouri	Voting
	Chuzhou, Huaian	Associate	Malaysia	Sarawak	Voting		Montana	Voting
	Dafeng Center, Jiangsu	Associate	Morocco	Casablanca	Individual		Nebraska	Voting
	Dalian	Voting	Peru	Cajamarca	Associate		Nevada	Voting
	Guangzhou	Voting		Arequipa	Voting*		New Hampshire	Voting
	Haimen	Associate	Romania	Bucharest	Associate		North Carolina	Voting
	Haining City, Zhejiang	Associate	Russia	Altai	Voting		North Dakota	Voting
	Jianxing	Associate	Sri Lanka	National	Associate		National Program of Cancer Registries	Voting
	Shenzen	Associate	Switzerland	Fribourg	Associate		Ohio	Voting
	Yanting	Voting	United Arab Emirates	National	Associate	Oklahoma	Voting	
France	Guyane	Associate	USA	Alabama	Voting	Oregon	Voting	
Germany	Nordrhein Westfalen	Associate		Alaska	Voting	Pennsylvania	Voting	
	Schleswig-Holstein	Voting		American Cancer Society	Associate	South Carolina	Voting	
Greece	Marian Panagiotopoulou	Individual		Arizona	Voting	South Dakota	Associate	
Iran	Guilan	Associate		Arkansas	Associate	Tennessee	Associate	
Italy	Brescia	Voting		Delaware	Voting	Texas	Voting	
	Naples	Voting*		District of Columbia	Voting	Vermont	Voting	
	Palermo	Associate		Georgia	Voting	Virginia	Associate	
	Reggiano	Voting		Idaho	Voting	West Virginia	Voting	
	Salerno	Voting		Indiana	Voting	Wyoming	Associate	
	Sondrio	Voting				Zambia	National Associate	

\* Membership status upgraded in 2006