



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Number 1

April, 2002

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## From the President



Hermann Reichenspurner, MD, PhD

Dear Colleague;

I am honored and pleased to serve as the fourth President of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery. Formed in 1997 to enhance, promote, and support research and education in minimally invasive cardiac surgery, the Society has grown and achieved significant recognition within the cardiothoracic community. ISMICS is taking the leadership role in sharing the direction of new and less invasive techniques in cardiac surgery on a global basis. We continue to promote cooperation with such organizations as STS, AATS, and EACTS, and we continue to foster a unique partnership with industry. It is an exciting time for our specialty and our Society.

ISMICS provides an ideal academic platform for the young scientific investigator to present their experimental or clinical studies.

ISMICS is not only focussing on minimally invasive techniques in coronary surgery, but rather includes any new and interesting technology presented on the whole spectrum of cardiac surgery. This includes new techniques in valve surgery, arrhythmia therapy with particular focus on atrial ablation and surgical treatment of heart failure. Also experimental and first clinical studies in new strategies, such as angiogenesis treatment and cell transplantation, belong to the Society's interest.

In addition, ISMICS wants to provide additional training opportunities for residents and surgeons, such as postgraduate courses and live surgical teleconferences. The whole training and education process of a modern cardiac surgeon needs to be continually refined to ensure it includes virtual training, teaching in endoscopy or experience with robotic telemanipulation systems.

Final plans are being made for the upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in New York City on June 20 – 23, 2002. The Program Committee, chaired by Dr. Hani Shennib

*(continued on page 3)*

## Fifth Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISMICS

### JUNE 20-23, 2002

**Marriott Marquis Hotel**  
**New York, New York**

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## From the Board in 2001.....

### Highlights of the Board of Directors Meeting and the Annual Business Meeting June 27, 2001 and June 30, 2001 / Munich, Germany

#### MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Current membership as of June 19, 2001, is made up of 556 Active Members and two Honorary members for a total of 558 members.

#### FROM THE TREASURER

Financial statements for the period January 1, 2001, through May 31, 2001 reflect the strong financial position of the Society.

#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Dr. Shennib reported on the highlights from the January and June Board meetings:

- ♦ ISMICS has joined CTSNet, the largest cardiothoracic internet community in the world. ISMICS used its electronic abstract submission to facilitate the Annual Meeting abstract submission process.
- ♦ ISMICS negotiated a three-year contract with *The Heart Surgery Forum*. Oral or Poster Presenters are encouraged to submit a manuscript to *The Heart Surgery Forum*.
- ♦ The ISMICS newsletter will be published twice a year to keep ISMICS members informed of Society activities. Future newsletters will be distributed electronically and will be available on the website.
- ♦ ISMICS has begun a comprehensive review and restructuring of all standing Committees with the intent of making all Committees more active and involving more members. Beginning in January 2002, ISMICS Committees will have at least two regular face-to-face meetings per year, one held in conjunction with the Society's Annual Meeting and one held in January. ISMICS is currently considering the appointments for the website, an Editorial Review Committee, an Advisory Board to the Board of Directors and the appointment of a Society Historian.
- ♦ ISMICS has signed a contract with the management company - PR/RI, which became effective on September 1, 2000. PR/RI now handles all of the administrative responsibilities of ISMICS, including the Board of Directors, Committees, Membership, the database and all financial services.
- ♦ The Society continues to increase dialogue with STS, AATS, and EACTS.
- ♦ ISMICS continues its unique partnership with industry, including hosting a first of its kind, corporate advisory dinner among the Board of Directors and industry.

#### FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Total registration for the 2001 meeting was 411 attending physicians, 159 attending industry representatives and 69 guests, for a total of 639 attendees.

#### FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr. Mack presented the report.

President	Hermann Reichenspurner
Past President	Michael J. Mack
President-Elect	W. Randolph Chitwood
Secretary (3-year)	Hani Shennib
Treasurer (until to 2003)	Steven R. Gundry
Senior Advisor (2-year)	Kit Arom
European Director (3-year term)	Anthony DeSouza
North American Director (3-year term)	Randall Wolf
non-European and non-North American Director (3-year term)	Eugene Sim
Program Co-Chairs for 2002 (1-year term)	Hani Shennib Valavanur A. Subramanian

#### NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Mack opened the floor up for general discussion from the membership. Dr. Mack remarked that ISMICS has made great strides in the past year in terms of growth and in recognition within the cardiothoracic community. However, the Society's leadership realizes that this is just the beginning, and that in order to continue to grow ISMICS needs to be sensitive to the needs of the membership. Dr. Mack asked the membership to please share any thoughts, suggestions, opinions or ideas that they may have on the Society. The membership addressed specific issues relating to the number of papers accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting, and suggested perhaps the Annual Meeting needed better scheduling. It was noted that there were inefficiencies in the audio-visual and poor transitions from one paper discussion to another. In addition, the membership suggested that the Program Committee further evaluate the oral presentation of posters. Finally, the membership encouraged future open discussions about Society issues.

Dr. Mack thanked the membership and assured them that the Board will consider all of the ideas and opinions at the next regularly scheduled meeting, which will be held at the time of the EACTS meeting in September in Lisbon, Portugal. In the meantime, members are encouraged to contact the President, President-Elect or the Secretary. Dr. Mack assured the audience that every effort would be to incorporate member ideas in the upcoming meeting agenda.

## From the President *(continued from page one)*

and Dr. Valavanur Subramanian, have completed the selection of abstracts and the final program will be available in the near future on the ISMICS website: [www.ismics.org](http://www.ismics.org). This year for the first time a special, live telesurgical postgraduate course will be offered. At the main scientific meeting, the topics included are Beating Heart Surgery, Robotics, Atrial Ablation, Heart Failure, and New Operative Techniques from the Experts. There will be an excellent distribution of abstract presentations and invited lectures. Some of the highlights are specific symposia (e.g. on new anastomotic devices) and exciting scientific debates. The ISMICS Annual Scientific Meeting has become the international benchmark for the introduction and critical, peer review of new technology in heart surgery and I urge all members and those who want to become members to attend.

The meeting will be held at the New York Marriott Marquis in Times Square located in the heart of New York's Theater District. All of New York City's excitement and attractions are close by or just a cab ride away. In addition to the interesting scientific program, the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee has also planned an exciting social agenda to incorporate all that the "Big Apple" has to offer.

We are looking forward to an expansion of our current membership and I encourage any interested persons to contact myself or the executive staff office by e-mail at [ismics@prri.com](mailto:ismics@prri.com) or by phone at 978-526-8330.

I am truly looking forward to welcoming all of you at our annual meeting in the exciting city of New York.

Sincerely,  
Hermann Reichenspurner, M.D., Ph.D.  
President ISMICS

### 2001 ANNUAL MEETING Award Winners

#### PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION

David Adams, M.D., Boston, Massachusetts

#### HONORABLE MENTION - BEST ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION - BASIC SCIENCE

Daniel Burkhoff, M.D., New York, New York

#### HONORABLE MENTION - BEST ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION - CLINICAL

Sunil M. Prasad, M.D., St. Louis, Missouri

#### YOUNG INVESTIGATOR'S AWARD

Stephen Thelitz, M.D., Columbus, Ohio  
Jacqueline Wunderlich, M.D., Columbus, Ohio

#### BEST USE OF AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS

W. Douglas Boyd, M.D., London, Ontario, Canada

#### BEST MODERATED POSTER

Fraser D. Rubens, M.D., Ottawa, ON, Canada  
Marc Ruel, M.D., Ottawa, ON, Canada

#### HONORABLE MENTION BEST MODERATED POSTER

M.P. Buijsrogge, M.D., Utrecht, The Netherlands

## 2001 - 2002 ISMICS Committees

### Editorial Advisory Committee

David H. Adams, MD  
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Leonardo E. Lima, MD  
Alan H. Menkis, MD  
John Pym, MD  
Thomas A. Vassiliades, MD  
Marco Zenati, MD

### Local Arrangements Committee

Valavanur A. Subramanian, MD, Chair  
James D. Fonger, MD

### Nominating Committee

Robert W. Emery, MD, Chair  
Michael J. Mack, MD  
Patrick Nataf, MD

### Program Committee

Hani Shennib, MD, Co-Chair  
Valavanur A. Subramanian, MD, Co-Chair  
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William E. Cohn, MD  
Anno Diegeler, MD  
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Ludwig K. vonSegesser, MD

## Thank you

*The International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery wishes to thank the following companies for their support of the 2001 Annual Meeting:*

Edwards Life Sciences  
Genzyme  
Guidant Europe  
Medtronic Europe  
Medtronic, Inc.  
Novadaq Technologies  
Percardia  
St. Jude Medical



**Fifth Annual Meeting of the  
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIAC SURGERY**

**June 20-23, 2002 / Marriott Marquis, New York, New York**

**Preliminary Program Highlights**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2002**

1:00 – 5:00

**LIVE CASES from Lenox Hill Hospital**

Minimally Invasive Left Ventricular Aneurysm  
Repair – Left Thoracotomy

Valvanur A. Subramanian, M.D.

Lateral Midcab, Proximal Aortic Vein  
Graft Connector

James D. Fonger, M.D.

Trans-Abdominal Robotics, Bilateral CABG

Didior F. Loulmet, M.D.

Subclavian MIDCAB to Ramus Intermedius  
with Endoradial Vein Harvesting

Mark W. Connolly, M.D.

Valvanur A. Subramanian, M.D.

Interim Presentation: Neurological Injury:

Pump, Clamp and no Touch - What  
Makes the Difference?

Antonio M. Calafiore, M.D.

1:30 – 3:00

**Forum Abstracts: High Risk CABG**

Moderators: Naresh Trehan, M.D.  
Rex Stanbridge, M.D.

3:30 – 4:30

**Forum Abstracts: Facilitated Anastomosis**

4:30 – 6:00

**Anastomotic Device Symposium**

*Proximal Devices: Techniques, Advantages  
and Limitations* Robert W. Emery, M.D.  
and Friedrich C. Riess, M.D.

*Proximal Anastomotic Devices, Routine or  
Selective Application?*

Valvanur A. Subramanian, M.D.

*Distal Devices: Techniques, Advantages  
and Limitations* Thierry Carrel, M.D.,  
Kalervo Verkalla, M.D., Lishan Aklog, M.D.  
and Gerhard Wimmer-Greinecker, M.D.

*Distal Anastomotic Devices: Are We There?*

David H. Adams, M.D.

6:00 – 7:30

**Industry Sponsored Symposium**

6:00 – 7:30

**Poster Reception**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2002**

8:00 – 10:00

**Featured Abstracts: Coronary Outcomes**

Moderators: Valvanur A. Subramanian, M.D.  
Joseph F. Sabik, III, M.D.

10:15 – 12:00

**Heart Failure**

Moderators: Bruno Reichart, M.D.  
Michel Carrier, M.D.

10:15 – 10:30

**New Techniques for Ventricular  
Remodeling**

Hermann Reichenspurner, M.D., Ph.D.

10:45

**Biventricular Pacing for Congestive Heart  
Failure: Early Experience in Epicardial  
Lead Placement vs. Coronary Sinus  
Placement**

Kara J. Quan, M.D.

11:00

**Ventricular Assist Devices – Impact of  
the REMATCH Trial**

Eric A. Rose, M.D.

11:30

**Guest Speaker - Jeff Gold, M.D.**

*September 11th –  
Ground Zero: A Physician's Perspective*

12:00 – 1:30

**Lunch Symposium**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2002**

8:00 – 10:00

**Featured Abstracts: Innovative**

**Coronary Techniques**

Moderators: Gideon Uretzky, M.D.  
Marco Zenati, M.D.

10:15 – 11:30

**Featured Abstracts: Valve and Aortic Surgery**

Moderators: Stephen B. Colvin, M.D.  
Edward B. Diethrich, M.D.

11:15 – 12:00

**Guest Speaker – Amy Waldman**

**New York Times Correspondent**

*A Nation Challenged: Diaries of  
Reporters in Afghanistan -  
Fear, Numbness and Spectacle*

12:00 – 1:30

**Lunch Symposium**

1:30 – 2:30

**Forum Abstracts: Basic Science**

Moderators: Paul F. Grundeman, M.D.  
Francis G. Duhaylongsod, M.D.

2:30 – 3:25

**Forum Abstracts: Arrhythmia**

Moderators: Randall K. Wolf, M.D.  
Robert G. Metheny, M.D.

3:25 – 3:50

**Implications of New Technology on  
Training of Cardiac Surgeons –  
Is a Change Needed?**

William A. Baumgartner, M.D.



## What is ISMICS and Why Does it Exist?

*"The only thing constant is change. ...and the nature of change is exponential. For people who find change something they are not content with, I could image that being a real problem. The collective effect of change is large and generally positive."*

Gordon E Moore (Moore's Law)  
Reflection of his retirement from Intel  
New York Times, May 27, 2001

The International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery was formally founded in 1997. It was the coalescence of early meetings in the field of minimally invasive cardiac surgery and was founded to provide a forum for new ideas in the emerging field of minimally invasive cardiac surgery. These concepts and experiences were largely in the early stages of development, and innovative -but were not necessarily ready for "primetime"

The past year has been an eventful one for ISMICS. The society elected new management PRRI. ISMICS became a member of CTSNet ([www.ctsnet.org](http://www.ctsnet.org)), with a direct link to ISMICS from the CTSNet website. We signed a new 5- year contract with Heart Surgery Forum as the official journal of ISMICS. Membership ranks swelled to its current 558 members.

As I conclude my year of President at ISMICS, I feel privileged to have served its membership. At the end of my career, when I will reflect upon the highlights, I feel confident that I will view the year I spent as President of ISMICS as one of the accomplishments of which I am most proud.

The year began with ISMICS in an identity crisis with the question being asked: "What is that "raison d'être" for ISMICS?" Why does ISMICS need to still exist? The main body of work in the field, beating heart surgery, was being rapidly assimilated into mainstream cardiac surgery. The programs of the established societies were now replete with presentations of minimally invasive surgery. Wasn't ISMICS job now complete? To answer this question, one needs to look to the field of technology in a work called *The Innovators Dilemma* by Clayton M. Christensen. He describes the evolution that occurs when innovative companies become successful and mainstream. The tendency is to lose the creative spirit that originally gave birth to the innovation. One must always seek to recapture that creative spirit and continue the innovation. Innovation in cardiac surgery does not begin and end with beating heart surgery; there is fertile field for continued innovation in which ISMICS should serve as the "incubator" of new ideas.

Closer to home is the paradigm shift in coronary revascularization by catheter- based therapy. The original introduction of coronary balloon angioplasty by Greuntzig in 1979 was clearly disruptive technology. But in the 22 years since,

the sustaining technology of guiding catheters, steerable wires, low profile delivery, and exchange systems, closure devices, stents, IVUS, antiplatelet therapy, 2b3a agents, brachytherapy and drug eluting stents have significantly improved the original value of Greuntzig's disruption.

One can view beating heart surgery as disruptive. But it is the sustaining technology that will ultimately create the value to beating heart surgery. Sustaining technology such as stabilizers, now in their 2nd and 3rd generation, carbon dioxide blowers, shunts, pericardial stay-sutures, suction exposure devices, anastomotic connectors and possibly robotics. We are really only 5 years into the evolution of beating heart surgery and sustaining technology and techniques will ultimately make the procedure more patient friendly, more surgeon friendly and therefore of value. That sustaining technology should be developed by the members of ISMICS

One should also realize that in the field of minimally invasive cardiac surgery the "low hanging fruit" has already been picked. However there is a lot of other fruit ripe for picking, but "higher up" on the cardiac surgery tree. Those areas include new treatments for atrial fibrillation, gene therapy delivery, congestive heart failure management, percutaneous valve surgery, muscle and stem cell transplantation, tissue engineered valves and conduits, distal anastomotic connectors, artificial small vessel conduits and image-guided surgery.

Despite what the catheter-based intervention world may believe, this is not the beginning of the end of cardiac surgery, but the end of a new beginning. The mandate for the members of ISMICS is to continue to innovate, continue to incubate, continue to change and to cause change. In order to effect these changes, the members should be cognizant of the drivers of adoption:

- ♦ Validation of clinical outcomes
- ♦ New technology to create ease of use
- ♦ Training and education in new technology and techniques.

Members of ISMICS should focus on these three areas to enhance the value of technology and techniques already incubated and should look to the "new" new thing so that ISMICS can fulfill its role as the "incubator of cardiac surgery".



# A Glimpse into the Future?

**Hermann Reichenspurner, M.D., President**  
**Michael J. Mack, M.D., Past President**

During the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (ISMICS), the Board of Directors hosted a dinner for industry sponsors of the meeting. The purpose and focus of the evening was to conduct a forum to elicit ways in which surgeons and industry could better “partner” together in the development of new technology and techniques in surgery. The specific agenda was to determine how ISMICS could help foster this relationship. The dialogue was open, frank and meaningful. Recurring themes from the evening included: medical meetings; industry not feeling like true partners; and the need for ISMICS to increase its membership and registrants to the annual meeting.

As part of the evening, participants were asked to answer the following question. “In your opinion, predict the three ‘hottest’ areas and the three ‘coldest’ areas in cardiac surgery in the next 3-5 years.” The results are as follows:

## WHAT’S “HOT”

1. The facilitated anastomosis
2. New treatments for congestive heart failure
3. New treatments for atrial fibrillation
4. Muscle and stem cell therapy
4. Angiogenesis and gene therapy
4. Limited access totally endoscopic CABG
4. Alternative coronary revascularization (VCAB)
4. Robotics
5. Other areas with 1-2 votes included:
  - a. Catheter assisted cardiac surgery
  - b. Valve fasteners
  - c. Destination therapy
  - d. Percutaneous rapidly deployable valves
  - e. Prosthetic valves
  - f. Biventricular assistance for limited access surgery
  - g. Tissue engineering
  - h. Image guided surgery
  - i. Arterial grafting
  - j. Hybrid procedures
  - k. Development of small vessel conduit
  - l. Information technology
  - m. Perfusion refinements
  - n. Stroke prevention (embolic devices)

## WHAT’S “NOT”

1. Robotics
2. On pump/sternotomy CABG
3. Vein grafts
4. Conventional valve surgery
4. Transmyocardial laser Revascularization
4. Beating heart surgery
5. Other areas with 1-2 votes included:
  - a. Brachytherapy
  - b. Femoral cannulation
  - c. Cardiology
  - d. Defibrillator therapy
  - e. Congestive heart failure treatment
  - f. Open mitral valve surgery
  - g. Atrial fibrillation treatment
  - h. Limited access surgery
  - i. Glues and adhesives
  - j. Anastomotic devices
  - k. Xenotransplantation
  - l. Angiogenesis
  - m. Cardiac surgery
  - n. Gene therapy
  - o. Total artificial heart
  - p. Tissue engineered valves
  - q. Alternative revascularization techniques
  - r. Heart center in every town
  - s. The Ross procedure
  - t. Cardiac transplantation
  - u. Hybrid procedures
  - v. Mechanical valves
  - w. Homografts

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Masoud A. Alzeerah, MD**, Amarillo, Texas  
**Michael Argenziano, MD**, New York, New York  
**Rosalind Bacon, MD**, London, England  
**Thomas Beaver, MD**, Gainesville, Florida  
**Philip Brown, MD**, Nashville, Tennessee  
**Seitkhan Djoshibaev, MD**, Kyrgyzstan  
**David Evans, MD**, Indianapolis, Indiana  
**Francis Ferdinand, MD**, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania  
**Mishaal Ghandour, MD**, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia  
**Christian Gilbert, MD**, Danville, Pennsylvania  
**Carl C. Gill, MD**, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
**Scott M. Goldman, MD**, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania  
**Robert A. Gustafson, MD**, Morgantown, W. Virginia  
**Richard R. Heuser, MD**, Phoenix, Arizona  
**David C. Kress, MD**, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
**Kishor Lathi, MD**, Boston, Massachusetts  
**Zan K. Mitrev, MD**, Skopje, Macedonia  
**Chandra Mullangi, MD**, Dallas, Texas  
**David J. O’Regan, MD**, Yorkshire, England  
**Brian A. Pelafox, MD**, Orange, California  
**Jose Pomar, MD**, Barcelona, Spain  
**Thomas Schwann, MD**, Toledo, Ohio  
**Yong T. Shin, MD**, Seattle, Washington  
**Thomas A. Sulling, MD**, Tallinn, Estonia  
**William P. Sweezer, Jr., MD**, Concord, California  
**Hakim Tarmizi, MD**, Jakarta, Indonesia  
**Lucia Torracca, MD**, Milano, Italy  
**Gregory D. Trachiotis, MD**, Washington, D.C.  
**Hugo K. Vanerman, MD**, Aalst, Belgium  
**Ulrich O. Von Oppell, MD**, Cape Town, South Africa  
**Robert Wiechmann, MD**, E. Claire, Wisconsin  
**Richard E. Wood, MD**, Dallas, Texas  
**Vipin Y. Zamvar, MD**, Cardiff, Wales  
**Ralph de la Torre, MD**, Boston, Massachusetts

## Membership in ISMICS

ISMICS is the worldwide organization dedicated to advancing minimally invasive surgical techniques. Any surgeon or physician engaged in, or interested in minimally invasive cardiac surgery, is encouraged to apply for membership.

Members of ISMICS receive a subscription to the print and electronic versions of *Heart Surgery Forum*, reduced registration fees to Scientific Sessions and the Annual Meeting, and are eligible to participate as a discussant or moderator at meetings, and serve on ISMICS Committees.

Please contact the ISMICS Administrative office for additional information or an application:

International Society for  
Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery  
13 Elm Street, Manchester, MA 01944  
Phone: (978) 526-8330 / Fax: (978) 526-4018  
E-Mail: [ismics@pri.com](mailto:ismics@pri.com) / [www.ismics.org](http://www.ismics.org)

***Fifth Annual Scientific Meeting of the  
International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery***

**JUNE 20-23, 2002  
Marriott Marquis Hotel, New York, New York**

The International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (ISMICS) was formed in 1997 to enhance, promote, and support research and education in and related to the field of minimally invasive cardiac surgery. The Fifth Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (ISMICS) will provide an open forum for new discoveries and emerging techniques in cardiac surgery. The ISMICS Annual Scientific Meeting has become the international benchmark for the introduction of and critical, peer review of new technology in heart surgery.

**Preliminary Topics**

Beating Heart Surgery  
Robotics  
Atrial Fibrillation  
Heart Failure  
Operative Techniques from the Experts  
Basic Science  
New Techniques in Valve Surgery  
Interventional Vascular Surgery  
Anastomotic Devices

**Who Should Attend?**

Cardiac and Thoracic Surgeons  
Anesthesiologists  
Interventional Cardiologists  
Surgical Assistants and Perfusionists  
Cardiothoracic Nurses

**For more information about ISMICS,  
we invite you to visit our Web site at <http://www.ismics.org>**



**International Society for  
Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery  
13 Elm Street  
Manchester, MA 01944**

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