



NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Number 1

December, 2000

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From the President



Michael J. Mack, M.D.

It is an honor and privilege to have been chosen to serve as the third President of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery. The Yeoman's tasks associated with forming a new society were performed by our first two Presidents, Bob Emery and Patrick Nataf, and have established ISMICS on a firm foundation and paved the way for further expansion and development of the Society. I follow in their footsteps, hopefully being able to bring to fruition a number of the initiatives that they established.

Acceptance of minimally invasive concepts into the mainstream of cardiac surgery is clear validation of the early work performed by ISMICS members and presented at the ISMICS meetings in Minneapolis, Paris and Atlanta. This is the "raison-d'être" for ISMICS. We

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About the President

Michael J. Mack, MD, Dallas, Texas was recently elected as the third President of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery. Dr. Mack is the current Director of the

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Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISMICS

June 27 - 30, 2001

**Hotel Bayerischer Hof
Munich, Germany**

Electronic Abstract Submission Available

www.ctsnet.org

ISMICS is pleased to be able to allow electronic submission of abstracts for the 2001 Annual Meeting. ISMICS has contracted with CTSNet to provide this service.

CTSNet, located at www.ctsnet.org, is a collaborative effort of the major cardiothoracic organizations around the world to provide a comprehensive, web-based repository of information for surgeons. More than thirty organizations participate in

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Abstract Deadline: February 12, 2001

From the Board in 2000.....

HONORARIA/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

It was agreed that, in accordance with current policy, the following guidelines would be adhered to:

- ♦ Oral and poster abstract presenters receive no honorarium and must pay to register for the meeting.
- ♦ Members invited to speak at the Post Graduate Courses receive complimentary registration to the course only and must pay to register for the main meeting.
- ♦ Members invited to speak at the main meeting receive complimentary registration to the main meeting only.
- ♦ Nurses invited to speak at the Post Graduate Course receive complimentary registration to the entire meeting, coach class, 21-day advance purchase, Saturday night stay required airfare, and up to 4 nights hotel stay
- ♦ Non-members invited to speak at the Post Graduate Course or the main meeting receive complimentary registration to the course and main meeting, coach class travel and hotel reimbursement not to exceed \$2000, and a \$1000 honorarium.
- ♦ Discussants, moderators and session chairs do not receive complimentary registration or honoraria, as they are members of the Society and should be willing to volunteer their time and effort on the Society's behalf.

SATELLITE SYMPOSIA POLICY

- ♦ All requests to conduct satellite symposia must be forwarded to the Executive Committee and Program Chairs for review of content, speakers, and corporate sponsors
- ♦ Satellite symposia will be permitted to take place "approved" if their content, speakers, and corporate sponsors are determined to not be in direct competition or conflict with the ISMICS meeting or interests.
- ♦ Companies or individuals may only conduct an approved satellite if they also sponsor the Annual Meeting at the \$10,000 level or higher.
- ♦ The additional fee to conduct an approved satellite is \$10,000 for a full day satellite (more than 4 hours) and \$5,000 for a half-day satellite (4 hours or less).
- ♦ Approved satellites may have an on-time complimentary use of the ISMICS membership mailing list and the ISMICS meeting registrant mailing list; may promote their satellite as taking place in conjunction with the ISMICS Annual meeting; and must include the following statement on all printed materials: "This program is independent of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (ISMICS). ISMICS does not endorse or accredit this program, and ISMICS has not been involved in the development of the content of this program."

BYLAWS CHANGES

- ♦ Honorary members will be permitted to vote
- ♦ Board members who miss 2 consecutive meetings shall become non-voting Board members.
- ♦ The Program Co-Chairs shall be made voting members and the Senior Advisor shall be a non-voting member.

ISMICS DELEGATES

President Nataf presented his plan to appoint delegates in each major country to help communicate with local cardiac surgeons about ISMICS and ISMICS's activities and to help with membership recruitment and meeting publicity. The Board voted to create a delegate system, with the President making the appointments and initial terms running through the 2001 meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee composition for 2000:

Randy Chitwood, Chair (Senior Advisor)
Valavanur Subramanian (US Representative)
Patrick Nataf (European Representative)
Leonardo Lima (World Representative)
Naresh Trehan (World Representative)

FUTURE MEETING SITE SELECTION

It was agreed that the 2002 and 2003 meetings should be held in the US in cities highly ranked by the members. It was also agreed that London would be the preferred venue for the 2004 meeting.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

An ad hoc Development Committee has been created, chaired by Didier de Canniere. with Patrick Nataf, Erik Jansen, and Bob Emery as members, charged with the responsibility of working with HCC and the Program Co-Chairs and the Board to develop and implement a formal plan for ongoing fund raising for both the Society and the Annual Meeting. It was agreed that while professional fund raising assistance is a necessity, the involvement of the members in the process is absolutely essential.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total income, including on-site registration revenues, should be approximately \$575,000, and total expenses should be approximately \$565,000, for a net income for the year of \$10,000. This could change as actual expense figures for the meeting are received.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

It was recommended that the Board review the lists of Suspended and Former members and identify those whom individual Board members are willing to contact to encourage them to rejoin the Society. A geographic distribution analysis of members showed that membership is becoming increasingly comprised of North Americans, with declining membership in other parts of the world. It was agreed that an ideal role for the membership committee would be to become actively involved in membership recruitment efforts, in the identification of potential members, and in the shepherding of the newly formed delegates in their role as representatives of ISMICS to their colleagues in their respective countries.

Highlights of the 2000 Annual Meeting

More than 400 people attended the Third Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery in Atlanta, Georgia on June 7-10, 2000. The Meeting provided an open forum for new discoveries in cardiac surgery. The 2 1/2 day program explored and defined the latest techniques and emerging technologies in minimally invasive cardiac surgery.

Thank you

The International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery wishes to thank the following companies for their support of the 2000 Annual Meeting:

A-Med Systems, Inc.
Computer Motion
Edwards Life Sciences
Estech
Ethicon
Genzyme
Guidant
Heartport
HemoDynamics
Medtronic
Sanofi-Synthelabo
Scanlan International
St. Jude Medical
US Surgical (USSC)

AND THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITORS:

A-Med Systems, Inc.
CardioVations, a division of Ethicon, Inc.
Chase Medical
Computer Motion
Cryolife, Inc.
Edwards Life Sciences
Estech, Inc.
GE OEC Medical Systems
Genzyme Surgical Products
Guidant
Haemacure Corporation
Harcourt Health Sciences
Heart Surgery Forum
Heartport
HeartStart
HemoDynamics Systems, Ltd.
JOMED
LiDCO
Medtronic, Inc.
Sanofi-Synthelabo, Inc.
Scanlan International, Inc.
St. Jude
USSC
Vitalitec International, Inc.

Congratulations to the Award Winners:

PRESIDENT'S AWARD BEST ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION

Shankha Biswas, M.D.
Durham, North Carolina

"Intramyocardial Low-Dose Basic Fibroblast Growth Factor Improves Regional Blood Flow and Function in Porcine Model of Hibernating Myocardium"

HONORABLE MENTIONS ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATIONS

Kenton Zehr, M.D.

Rochester, Minnesota

"Pitfalls and Results of Early Angiography After Off-Pump Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting"

Thorsten Wittwer, M.D.

Bucha, Germany

"Experience with Coronary Hybrid Revascularization"

HONORABLE MENTION BEST GENERAL POSTER

Adeline Chiu, M.D.

London, ON, Canada

"3-D Visualization for Minimally Invasive Robotic Coronary Artery Bypass"

HONORABLE MENTION BEST MODERATED POSTER

Sadri Alrawi, M.D.

Brooklyn, New York

"Intercellular Adhesion Molecule 1 Levels: A Comparative Study of Endoscopic and Open Methods of Saphenous Vein Harvesting for Coronary Artery Bypass"

HONORABLE MENTION BEST USE OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

Hendrick Treede, M.D.

Munich, Germany

"First Experience with a New Multi-Detector-Tomograph for Planning of Minimally Invasive Surgery and Detection of Coronary Artery Bypass"

Plan NOW to Attend the 2001 Annual Meeting

Dear Colleague:

We want to take this opportunity to invite you to attend the year 2001 meeting in the beautiful city of Munich, the Capital of Bavaria in Germany, June 27-30, 2001.

The program will include presentations of a range of innovative techniques in coronary surgery, valvular surgery, robotics and visualization technology, gene therapy, laser therapy, perfusion and assist devices, conduit harvesting, and an examination of the future of cardiac surgery.

New topics will include anesthetic management and post-operative pain control, new surgical approaches for treatment of end-stage heart failure, new concepts in arrhythmia surgery and basic research including molecular biology, tissue engineering, cell culture and cell transplantation.

Leaders in various fields will be included as invited and keynote speakers. We will also offer postgraduate courses including "How To" sessions and video presentations. Immediately preceding the meeting, several industry-sponsored satellite symposia will take place focusing on specific topics in cardiac surgery.



We are proud to announce that the Bavarian Government will host the official congress reception in the beautiful rooms of the Bavarian Royal Residence. In addition we will organize a traditional Bavarian evening at one of the famous Munich beer halls.

Any surgeon or physician engaged in or interested in minimally invasive cardiac surgery is welcome and encouraged to apply for Society membership. You will also be eligible for reduced registration fees to the Annual Meeting and to participate as

an invited discussant or moderator and to serve on ISMICS committees. Most importantly, you will be part of a vital forum for networking and sharing experiences and techniques with your colleagues.

We have scheduled a full program of unique educational and entertaining events. With your active participation, we anticipate an exciting and extremely informative meeting that will certainly be key to the evolution of cardiac surgery.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Munich in June 2001.

Hermann Reichenspurner, MD, PhD Scientific Co-Chair
Rex Stanbridge, FRCS, FRCP Scientific Co-Chair

For registration and housing information, please contact:

Health Care Communications

One Bridge Plaza, Suite 350

Fort Lee, NJ 07024

Phone: (201) 947-5545 / Fax: (201) 947-8406

You may also visit our web site at <http://www.ismics.org>.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Chris W Akins, M.D.
Miami, Florida

Michael D Black, M.D.
Stanford, California

Mohammed A Fouda, M.D.
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Dwight E Hand, M.D.
Claremont, California

Tsai Kuei-Ton, M.D.
Taipei Hsien, Taiwan

Niberto L Moreno, M.D.
Miami, Florida

Michail M. Pankratov, M.D.
Merrimack, New Hampshire

Membership in ISMICS

ISMICS is the worldwide organization dedicated to pushing forward the new minimally invasive surgical technology. 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 eligibility to participate as an invited discussant or moderator at meetings and to 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@prri.com / www.ismics.org

Under New Management

Following a nation wide search, the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (ISMICS) has chosen the Professional Relations and Research Institute, Inc. (PRRI) as their administrative management firm. PRRI has provided comprehensive administrative and meeting management services to international, national, regional and state medical and surgical specialty societies for over forty years. Currently, PRRI provides services to many surgical organizations and affiliated foundations, including the American Association for Thoracic Surgery.

PRRI's staff are fully trained to handle the developing needs of ISMICS including administration, records and archive management, data processing, financial management, public relations, membership, and marketing. PRRI is located in Manchester, Massachusetts, a tiny seaside village thirty miles north of Boston. They employ approximately thirty professionals committed to serving their medical and surgical clients.

The following PRRI professionals will manage the various activities of the Society:

Kevin M. Cuff, MPA, Executive Director kevin@prri.com
Aurelie Alger, JD, Administrator aurelie@prri.com
Barbara Arsenault, Data Processing barbara@prri.com
Marina Maloney, Finance marina@prri.com
Sarah Elinskas, Membership sarah@prri.com
Lorraine O'Grady, Communications lorraine@prri.com

Kevin M. Cuff, MPA, the new ISMICS Executive Director, will assume day-to-day responsibility for the management of the Society. Kevin has over twelve years of association management experience including the last five as a chief executive of several PRRI surgical clients. Kevin has also served the United States Conference of Mayors and a major regional Chamber of Commerce in Massachusetts.

Amanda Rowe, the former ISMICS Executive, had accepted the management contract on a temporary basis and ISMICS is indebted to Amanda for her organizational development during the critical infancy of the Society.

ISMICS can be reached at 13 Elm Street, Manchester, Massachusetts 01944 978/526-8330;(fax) 978/526-4018; ismics@prri.com

Electronic Abstract Submission

(continued from page one)

CTSNet and have formed a unique electronic community of cardiothoracic surgeons. Every day, thousands of surgeons access this information resource from computers in their offices and homes to research cases, communicate with colleagues, explore the field's journals, investigate devices and surgical techniques, find out about meetings and submit their abstracts, and conduct private electronic meetings.

Abstract Deadline: FEBRUARY 12, 2001

The Heart Surgery Forum Now in Index Medicus / Medline

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has just accepted The Heart Surgery Forum (HSF) for inclusion into the prestigious Index Medicus (and the online version - MEDLINE). The HSF joins a small but premiere group of specialty publications in the field of cardiovascular surgery including the Annals of Thoracic Surgery (ATS), the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (JTCVS), the European Journal of Cardio-thoracic Surgery (EJCTS), Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation, Journal of Cardiac Surgery, Advances in Cardiac Surgery, Circulation, and Chest.



The acceptance of The Heart Surgery Forum for full indexing is retroactive and all previously published papers from Volume 1, Issue 1 to the most recent will be included. Over the next few weeks the articles will be added to the MEDLINE database and can be located during any MEDLINE search.

Although a relatively new journal (only five years online and two years in print), the HSF

is a totally new paradigm in academic publishing. The HSF has attempted to completely revitalize the process of manuscript review and dissemination by taking full advantage of the technological revolution offered by desktop computers, scanners, digital video, CD-ROMs, and the Internet. By earning this distinction from the NLM, the HSF has shown that its unique methods are a new model in scientific publishing which opens the door to a bright new era. This selection confirms that the goals of our peer review and multimedia publishing model have been realized. By taking the best of traditional journal publishing and upgrading the methods and technology using the Internet, the HSF has created a prototypical journal that can review and disseminate new contributions with an efficiency and breadth never seen before

Acceptance into the Index Medicus and MEDLINE also carries very profound benefits to potential authors. The Index Medicus and MEDLINE are the most commonly used mechanisms for new authors to find prior authors and create a reliable trail of references. MEDLINE, as the largest and most reputable database of prior publications, is the main source for obtaining author citations.

Over the next few years, the HSF staff will continue to develop advanced methods to facilitate the rapid publication of quality science.

Mark M. Levinson, MD
Editor-in-Chief

The International Society for Minimally Invasive Surgery: A Historical Perspective

Robert Emery, M.D.

Minimally invasive cardiac surgery (MICS) has become a dominant propelling force in the field of cardiovascular surgery. The development of MICS was spread over many years. Gynecologists and general surgeons first performed laparoscopic procedures and demonstrated that similar results in standard procedures could be obtained utilizing smaller incisions and video-assisted devices with improved patient recovery. The broader use of arterial conduits, the development of video-assisted thoracic surgery and economic constraints on the cardiovascular community led to the introduction of minimally invasive procedures in the cardiac surgical arena. In 1995 Robinson, et al, published the first manuscript on minimally invasive coronary surgery and the sub-specialty dramatically expanded. (Robinson 95) The public and the lay press readily accepted the process (Anclamo 97), but as in general surgery before, controversy developed in the cardiovascular community (Ulliyot 96).

The term "minimally invasive cardiac surgery" is, however, a broad encompassing term whose definitions remain unclear (Oz 97, Emery 98). This sub-specialty of cardiac surgery is technologically dependent and relies on the development and verification of instrumentation and techniques that involves crossing scientific disciplines coupled with the input of industry. Even in an age of economic constraints, the formation of a new cardiac surgical society was warranted to address these issues and provide a platform for the development of such expertise.

HISTORY

In May of 1997 at the Second World Congress in Paris, France, the issue of a minimally invasive cardiac surgical society was broached. A small group presented the issue to the 600-member audience. A motion was made by Dr. William Mayfield and an advisory committee, and a slate of officers was elected. This committee consisted of ten Europeans, ten Americans and ten members from other cardiovascular communities worldwide. Six weeks later in Minneapolis, Minnesota, members of this advisory committee and other interested parties met to consider the legal structure, requirements for membership and reconfirmation of general interest in society formation to that audience. A founding board of directors was elected consisting of three Europeans, three Americans, and three members from other cardiovascular communities worldwide, as well as an executive committee. The *Heart Surgery Forum* was volunteered and accepted as the official journal of the society.

The advisory committee and board members met in Utrecht, Netherlands in September of 1997. Membership criteria were formalized; the executive committee for the society formed and by-laws designed. Over the next several months, the articles of incorporation and by-laws were legally established and a (501)(c) tax-exempt medical society was created under the laws of the State of Minnesota. Mr. Gary Crowe was named executive director. In January of 1998 at the Society of Thoracic Surgeons meeting, the first formal board meeting was held and the articles of incorporation and by-laws were ratified, officially forming the society. To allow assistance in formulating the direction and growth of the society, a senior surgeon is selected on a rotating basis to advise the Board of the Society. An agreement with the *Heart Surgery Forum* as the society's publishing organ was approved. The new society then verified the date of the first annual meeting to be in Minneapolis in June 1998, established a program committee and began solicitation for membership. The International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery was introduced in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Facts and Myths of Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery Symposium on January 24, 1998.

MISSION OF THE SOCIETY

The International Society for Minimally Cardiac Surgery proposes to create a forum of discussion for the development and verification of new MICS procedures and instrumentation designed to facilitate use and to create a safe and effective delivery of such cardiovascular care with principles (delineated above right) as well as provide educational and research opportunities for members. This forum is an integration of basic science, industry and medicine forming a marriage to further develop MICS. Rapid changes in MICS are apparent and criteria for surgeons' technical development and continuing medical education are necessary. The membership is international, as is the interest and enthusiasm of this new cardiac surgical subspecialty. To assure integrated discourse, honorary membership was created to allow speakers to continue to participate in the

ISMICS Goals

- ◆ Provide a dais for partnership of medicine and industry to cooperatively develop minimally invasive cardiac surgery.
- ◆ Provide scientific forum and peer review for development and evaluation of minimally invasive cardiac surgical procedures and techniques.
- ◆ Provide a structure of surgeons/scientists for multi-national investigations.
- ◆ Provide financial and educational support for traveling fellows and scholars to study minimally invasive cardiac surgery.
- ◆ Provide assessment of educational programs and sponsor continuing medical education of superior quality in minimally invasive cardiac surgery.

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hope that by continuing innovation and “out of the box” thinking, and maintaining a receptiveness to new and innovative concepts we can fulfill the purpose of ISMICS by serving as an incubator and think tank for new ideas in cardiac surgery. The “dilemma of the innovator” of gaining acceptance into the mainstream and then ceasing to innovate is one that we must avoid.

Following the success of our last annual meeting in Atlanta, our program chairman and president-elect, Herman Reichenspurner, is putting together an outstanding program for our next annual meeting in Munich on June 27-30, 2001. As well as an outstanding scientific program, Professor Reichenspurner has organized a superb social program. The opportunity for members to take their families and enjoy summer vacation in Bavaria should not be missed.

We encourage all ISMICS members to submit abstracts for presentation at the Munich meeting. We also ask you to encourage your professional colleagues who are not ISMICS members to submit abstracts for presentation at the meeting and to consider membership in ISMICS. One of the changes that we have made is the electronic submission of abstracts. The deadline for electronic abstract submission is February 15, 2001, and directions for the electronic abstract submission form can be obtained from the website: www.ctsnet.org. Although paper abstracts will still be accepted this year, (Paper abstracts must be submitted by February 12, 2001.) we anticipate a total transition to electronic abstract submission for the 2002 meeting.

Again, we strongly encourage members to recruit their professional colleagues for membership in ISMICS. Membership application forms can be obtained from our website.

As ISMICS expands, a number of changes have been made to foster growth. PRRI, an association management group based in Manchester, Massachusetts, has been chosen by the ISMICS board as the administrative team. PRRI is an experienced organization that manages multiple associations, including the American Association for Thoracic Surgery. Kevin Cuff assumes the role of Executive Director of ISMICS. Kevin and PRRI’s experience and expertise will be a valuable addition to the Society.

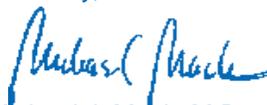
On behalf of the members and the ISMICS Board, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Amanda Rowe, our outgoing Executive Director. Amanda’s attention to detail, fastidiousness and willingness to do the minutiae associated with the legal and organizational aspects of a new society are, in a large way, responsible for our success to date. We wish Amanda success as her family continues to grow and she devotes the necessary time to motherhood. Her efforts on behalf of ISMICS are appreciated by all.

Another exciting change for ISMICS is that it has become a part of CTSNet. This will allow easier access to ISMICS and the dissemination of information to a larger audience. We are excited about this association with CTSNet and hope that members will access the ISMICS website. We are working hard on making the website an active one so that it can be a forum of professional exchange and information for all members and potential members. We are also planning our 2002 meeting which will be held in May, 2002 state-side. More information will be coming shortly.

In closing, we encourage active participation in ISMICS. Those who are interested in participating more may contact myself or any of the members of the Executive Board. Kevin Cuff, Executive Director is available by either email at ismics@prri.com or phone at 978-526-8330.

I look forward to seeing you in Munich in June and encourage you to utilize the new electronic abstract submission form to become an active participant in Munich.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Mack, M.D.
President

About the President.....

(continued from page one)

Cardiothoracic Surgery Associates of North Texas and serves as the Chairman of the Cardio-Thoracic Research Science Technology Institute (CRSTI).

Mike did his undergraduate study at Boston College and his medical study at St. Louis University. He trained at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, the University of Minnesota and the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas where he has remained since 1976.

He is also an active member and elected office holder in many international, national, state, and regional medical and surgical specialty societies including the American Heart Association, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation and the American Association for Thoracic Surgery.

An avid hockey fan (probably from his days in Boston and Minnesota), Mike and his wife Barbara (Grant) have five children – Anne, Andrew, Kate, Molly and Ryan.

ISMICS History *(continued from page 6)*

functions of the society. To date, two individuals have been selected: Gary Crowe (Minneapolis, MN) and Hamilton Jordan, (Atlanta, Georgia).

A primary goal of the society is to work in concert with other national and regional societies including but not limited to the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the European Society of Cardiovascular Surgery and the Asian Society for Cardiovascular Surgery utilizing Internet-based communication to allow a rapid exchange of information. Annual meetings are held on a global basis in June and are designed to encompass postgraduate education in fields related to the development of MICS, plenary sessions dealing with selected papers involving MICS, and invited speakers considered experts in their field to further enhance the knowledge and the direction of the participants.

This new global society will preeminently allow communication among a broad base of parties interested in minimally invasive surgery and be an important step in assuring the delivery of advanced cardiac surgical care to the patient population.

UPCOMING ISMICS MEETINGS

June 27-30, 2001
Hotel Bayerischer Hof
Munich, Germany

2002
New York, New York

2003
San Francisco, California

Send us Your E-Mail Address

In order to keep our database up to date, we would like receive your e-mail address.

Please send it to ismics@prri.com. Thank you.



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Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery**
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