WELCOME TO ISMICS 2007!

On behalf of everyone who has been working diligently this year on the Annual Scientific Meeting, I would like to welcome you to Rome and thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules. Every three years ISMICS goes abroad for the annual meeting in order to recognize the international character of our Society membership. This year we are fortunate to be in Rome, during a wonderful time of the year, at the Aurelia Convention Center located in a beautiful and park-like setting.

The other special aspect of this year’s meeting is our celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Society. ISMICS had its first official meeting in Minneapolis in 1998 with Dr. Bob Emery as our inaugural president. Since then we have gone through many growing pains as a young Society, resulting in the vibrant and dynamic organization that you see hosting the meeting here in Rome. Along the way our...

(continued on page 14)
specialty has to offer,“ continued Dr. Detter.

Sessions are grouped by topics and include: Innovative Valve Technology and Techniques, Heart Failure Surgery and Devices, Innovative Technologies for Surgical Revascularization, Cardiac Arrhythmia Surgery, Thoracic Surgery and Imaging/Facilitating Technology, Strategies and Outcomes of Surgical Revascularization, Facilitating Surgical Technologies, and Endovascular & Perfusion Technologies.

“The presentations selected cover all aspects of our specialty and are truly on the cutting edge of minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery,” stressed Dr. Ferdinand. “The research and work given by our colleagues at the ISMICS meeting sets a standard of the highest quality.”

In addition to the 27 oral presentations, there are 56 posters which will compete in a moderated poster competition, 8 video presentations, and 6 case reports.

The entire ISMICS meeting also encompasses three postgraduate courses, a plethora of educational breakfast SIGs and lunch symposia, several WetLabs, invited speakers, and a comprehensive exhibit hall full of industry suppliers and innovators.

This year ISMICS is again breaking new ground with a first of its kind program for Residents. The International Fellows Program is scheduled for Thursday 7 June, 11.30 – 14.00 and is designed to provide a forum for cardiothoracic trainees to gain exposure to new technologies and techniques. “We hope the residents will also use this opportunity to build lifelong collaborations and friendships with their peers and to meet some of the world’s foremost leaders in minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery,” continued Dr. Ferdinand.

“There is a tremendous amount of information, science, and discussion that takes place during the ISMICS Annual Scientific Meeting. We are excited about the educational opportunities, as well as the opportunity to network with our colleagues and enjoy this remarkable city,” concluded Dr. Ferdinand.

Several members of the ISMICS Program Committee: (l to r) Kemp Kernstine, Keith Allen, Gianni Angelini, James Fonger, Johannes Bonatti, Anthony deSouza, Francis Ferdinand, Vassilios Gulielmos and Rex Stanbridge.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ROME

VATICAN MUSEUMS (MUSEI VATICANI) & THE SISTINE CHAPEL (CAPPELLA SISTINA)

The Vatican Museums boast one of the world’s greatest art collections. They’re a gigantic repository of treasures from antiquity and the Renaissance, all housed in a labyrinthine series of lavishly adorned palaces, apartments, and galleries leading you to the ultimate treasure: the Sistine Chapel.

Glorifying the human body as only a sculptor could, Michelangelo painted nine panels, taken from the pages of Genesis, and surrounded them with prophets and sibyls. The most notable panels detail the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden and the creation of man. On the side walls are frescoes by other Renaissance masters, such as Botticelli, Perugino, Signorelli, Pinturicchio, Roselli, and Ghirlandaio.

ARCH OF CONSTANTINE

The Arch of Constantine was erected by the Senate in A.D. 315 to honor Constantine’s defeat of the pagan Maxentius (in 306). Historically, the arch marks a period of great change in the history of Rome and thus the history of the world. Converted to Christianity by a vision on the battlefield, Constantine ended the centuries-long persecution of the Christians and began the inevitable development that culminated in the conquest of Rome by the Christian religion.

TREVI FOUNTAIN (FONTANA DEI TREVI)

The design centers on the triumphant figure of Neptunus Rex, standing on a shell chariot drawn by winged steeds and led by a pair of tritons. Two allegorical figures in the side niches represent good health and fertility.
THE YEAR AHEAD

Rex Stanbridge, MD
ISMICS President Elect

It’s a privilege to be writing this column on the 10th anniversary of the formation of ISMICS. At its birth, ISMICS was a new society designed to meet the needs of the developing sub-speciality of minimally invasive cardiac surgery, its techniques, technologies, emerging results and integration between science and industry.

It’s a great pleasure to announce that the 2008 ISMICS meeting will be in Boston Massachusetts next June. For many years we have kept to a strict format of the same Eastern and Western North American seaboard sites. This will be an exciting, different Eastern Seaboard venue and I encourage you all to submit your work and join me there.

For the upcoming year we are looking at increasing the profile of thoracic surgery at ISMICS. Kemp Kernstine is leading this with invitations to many well known minimally invasive thoracic surgeons. We hope that next year’s meeting will have a strong added thoracic influence.

This December, the ISMICS Winter Workshop is being held in Anatalya, South Turkey and being run by Oztekin Oto, in association with his annual meeting of the Turkish Heart and Health Foundation which combines cardiology and cardiac surgery in one innovative meeting. There is a special ISMICS day on Friday with a very good program and I encourage you to attend.

One aspect I would like to develop within the Society is to widen the way in which members can influence nominations to the Board of ISMICS. Currently we have three members from the USA, three from Europe and three from the rest of the world: each appointment is for three years, giving one vacancy in each zone each year. I would be happy to receive suggestions from members as to how this could be done to best fit in with the Society. Giving members a greater influence would be one way to add value to, and increase member benefits. Indeed, increasing membership itself is important and we invite each of you to promote one new colleague to membership.

This year we have initiated a trainee lunchtime session and we hope this will provide a successful opportunity for trainees to participate in the future of cardiothoracic surgery and focus on current issues of particular interest to them.

The ISMICS journal is called INNOVATIONS, created by Randy Wolf and Randolph Chitwood, who currently acts as the chief editor. Submission for recognition in Medline is due imminently. Its impact factor should be enhanced by the excellent and frequently cited papers created especially by the ISMICS Consensus teams. In a new journal, any publications accepted in print will be retrospectively recognised for Medline listing once the recognition is approved. So get publishing, we value your work.

ISMICS encourages papers and presentations on new and innovative ideas and technologies; it is a fundamental part of the Society to seek out the new, not just to acknowledge the already established. In order to compare positively in the surgical world with many developing competing technologies, it is necessary to maintain an edge. I believe ISMICS gives you this edge.

Engage and enjoy.
10 YEARS OF INNOVATION

Reflections on ten years of development and change. From a small group of enthusiastic surgeons to a leading international organization.

As the 9th President of ISMICS, my goals were to usher in a clear focus on international resident involvement in ISMICS that would transcend one year, to update the bylaws of the organization and to foster the new official journal, Innovations. We added a Thoracic Surgery Resident Association (TSRA) resident to the program committee and included an oral report from the president of the TSRA at the annual directors meeting. Under my tenure, we reviewed and evolved the ISMICS bylaws to reflect a more mature society. This included changing the composition of the nominating committee to include the past 5 presidents of ISMICS. As ISMICS was financially solvent, we created a Finance Committee to oversee and maintain the Society’s fiscal health. Today, these changes continue to help shape the current ISMICS. It warms my heart to see the first international residents seminar this year at ISMICS!
- Randall K. Wolf, MD, 2005-2006

ISMICS was founded in 1997 in order to foster new and innovative techniques and technologies in cardiothoracic surgery from around the world. Since then, we have grown to become the leading society devoted to innovation and the latest developments affecting cardiothoracic and cardiovascular surgery. The ISMICS meeting continues to grow, with each year seeing record attendance by faculty, practicing cardiothoracic surgeons, fellows, residents, and Allied Health professionals interested in learning about the latest developments in cardiothoracic surgery. This year, our Program Committee has worked tirelessly to create a program that is not only challenging, but incredibly diverse. ISMICS works closely with our industry supporters in order to ensure that the latest technologies are given a premier place in our program, so that attendees are always learning something new and on the cutting edge. From the 2005 Annual Meeting.
- Naresh Trehan, MD, 2004-2005

ISMICS’ main goal has been to provide an international forum for the exchange of the latest information in cardiothoracic surgery. My tenure was marked by major milestones. In the fall of 2003, ISMICS leadership developed the Expert Consensus Statement concept. The first Expert Consensus panel conducted a thorough research of the latest developments in the field and released its opinion at the London Meeting. In London, I was pleased to inform the members of the consolidation of the CTT meeting with the ISMICS Annual Meeting. This merger proved our intent to continue to refine ISMICS’s educational mission focusing on innovative techniques and technologies and allowed us to strengthen intellectual and financial resources.

At the 2005 Meeting in New York, we held live surgery sessions hosted by Lenox Hill Heart and Vascular Institute and ACTS. In that same year, the Society changed its name to International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery and we reached out to the thoracic surgery community by adding programming and recruiting leading thoracic surgeons to join the Society. The 2004 Annual Scientific Meeting represented a sea-change in the way the program was organized when interactive wetlabs started, providing an opportunity to test-drive new devices and learn the latest techniques, mini-presentations now widely used at other scientific meetings were introduced, and didactic sessions alternated with hands-on learning in the wetlabs. I am also proud to count myself as one of the initiators of Innovations, our professional journal dedicated to less invasive techniques and technologies in cardiothoracic surgery. The idea of creating this journal was conceived during my presidency and led to the launch of Innovations in 2005.
- Valavanur Subramanian, M.D. 2003-2004

We have matured from our modest beginnings in 1997 and have become a principal resource for the cardiothoracic community in new and less invasive cardiac surgery techniques. Established with the mission to promote and support both research and education in minimally invasive cardiac surgery, and to provide a forum for interpersonal interactions, ISMICS remains the principal liaison among researchers, inventors, manufacturers, and surgeons devoted to the development and introduction of new technologies in support of minimally invasive cardiac surgery. As an organization, we continue to lead in developing cutting-edge cardiac surgical techniques and our annual meeting is a reflection of how far we have progressed. Excerpted from his Presidential Message, published in the ISMICS Newsletter in December, 2002.
- W. Randolph Chitwood, Jr., MD, 2002-2003

ISMICS still means a lot to me! I was one of the founding members and member of the Board of Directors for a total of 8 years. At the beginning, it was just a handful of enthusiastic surgeons with great ideas. And now in 2007, ISMICS is a large, international, and very professional scientific organisation. After the initial enthusiastic period, (which greatly relied on the enormous initiative and administrative effort provided by Bob Emery and his group) ISMICS underwent a difficult phase in the migration towards a professional society. Under the presidency of Michael Mack, I had the pleasure to serve with Rex Stanbridge as Program Chair of the annual meeting in Munich in 2001. At the unforgettable Bavarian evening in Munich, everybody felt the turning point of the Society. At about the same time, we were fortunately able to contract with PRRI to establish an Executive Office of the Society. During my Presidency and continuing, it has been a pleasure to work with key figures, such as Ranny Chitwood, Mani Subramanian, Naresh Trehan, Randy Wolf, Jim Fonger, David Cloud and Aurelie Alger to build up the professional aspects of ISMICS. Today, ISMICS is a fully accepted scientific organ within the international Cardiothoracic surgical world. Happy Anniversary ISMICS - I am proud to be part of it!
- Hermann Reichenspurner, MD, PhD, 2001-2002

Visit the ISMICS Website www.ismics.org . Complete programs from the annual meetings are available back to 2001, in addition to the winter workshops, consensus statements, and other ISMIC initiatives.
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’etre” for ISMICS. We 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. Excepted from his President’s Message, published in the December 2000 issue of the newsletter.

- Michael J. Mack, MD, 2000-2001

Our relationships with industry continue to flourish and grow. From the beginning, it was recognized that the Society cannot exist without industry, as our work is dependent on technology and innovation. Barriers, particularly conflict of interest, still exist and need to be addressed.

ISMICS has developed into a vital and important component in cardiothoracic surgery. We have established our reputation within the specialty and with our industry partners. We need to continue to encourage young surgeons to participate - by giving them a forum for presentation of their research, a journal for the publication of their papers, and active positions within our leadership. We cannot become an “old boy’s club”. Senior members must encourage and mentor our younger colleagues to contribute their ideas and participate in ISMICS.

- Patrick Nataf, MD 1999 - 2000

Do you have memories and recollections from the first 10 years of ISMICS? Please feel free to share with the officers and leadership.

10th Anniversary Renaissance & Awards Reception
Friday, 8 June, 18.30 - 20.30, Lancassi Salon, Santo Spirito in Sassia Complex
Transportation departs Aurelia Convention Centre promptly at 18.00

Flashback to 1997
Renaissance – Back to Where it all Began…
Personal recollections from world leaders in cardiothoracic surgery who were there – a meeting in Rome where a handful of surgeons shared their experiences with a set of new techniques that later came to be called MIDCAB. The surgeons formed an organization (ISMICS) to focus on minimally invasive approaches and new technologies.

Fast Forward to 2007
Informal, Celebratory, Personal…
ISMICS is back in Rome on the happy occasion of its 10th Anniversary. Enjoy Italian aperitifs and savory snacks. Take your picture with a living statue. Admire the 15th century frescoes.

AWARDS:
Poster Finalists & Best Moderated Poster
Best Video Presentation
Robert Emery Young Investigator Award
Best Mini Presentation
President’s Award

RENAISSANCE - BACK TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN
Antonio Calafiore, MD
University of Cantania, Cantania, Italy
Valavanur A. Submaranian, MD
Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY, USA

LOOKING FORWARD - ISMICS LEADERSHIP FUND
James D. Fonger, MD and Robert W. Emery, MD
ISMICS HOSTS THREE POSTGRADUATE COURSES ON WEDNESDAY

8.00 - 10.00

EMERGING ATRIAL FIBRILLATION TREATMENTS

Chairs: Krishna Khargi, MD
Cardiac Center The Hague-Delft,
The Hague, Netherlands
Ralph J. Damiano, Jr., MD
Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA

Updated in content and format to emphasize surgical techniques and maturing technologies, this course features presentations from world-class surgeons. The latest clinical results and devices will be reviewed and active debates will outline challenges going forward in this evolving field.

10.30 - 12.30

ENDOVASCULAR AORTIC THERAPIES

Chairs: Martin Grabenwoeger, MD
Hospital Hietzing
Vienna, Austria
George Tolis, Jr., MD
Caritas St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center, Boston, MA, USA

New this year, this Course highlights the latest trial results and clinical practices in this rapidly expanding field for the treatment of thoracic aortic disease. Building programs and practices as well as strategies for complex aortic pathology will be highlighted.

14.00 - 16.00

PERCUTANEOUS VALVULAR THERAPIES

Chairs: Ottavio Alfieri, MD
Ospedale San Raffaele
Milan, Italy
William E. Cohn, MD
Texas Heart Institute
Houston, TX, USA

Also new this year, is the latest in emerging technologies presented by the international leaders of both pre clinical and early trial experiences. Approaches, techniques and future directions will be discussed in an interactive format.

Registration for the Postgraduate Courses will be open on Tuesday from 14.30 - 18.00 and beginning at 6.30 on Wednesday.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: EVOLUTION, REVOLUTION, RENAISSANCE

THOMAS J. FOGARTY, MD, FACS

FRIDAY, 14.30

Dr. Thomas J. Fogarty is an internationally recognized cardiovascular surgeon, inventor, entrepreneur, and vintner. He has been involved with a wide spectrum of innovations in business and technology, serving as founder/co-founder, and Chairman/Board Member of over 33 various business and research companies, based on devices designed and developed by Fogarty Engineering, Inc.

During the past 40 years, he has acquired over 100 surgical patents, including the “industry standard” Fogarty balloon embolectomy catheter and the widely used Aneurx Stent Graft that replaces open-heart abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) surgery.

Dr. Fogarty is the recipient of countless awards and honors; most significantly, he is the recipient of the Jacobson Innovation Award of the American College of Surgeons, the 2000 Lemelson-MIT prize for Invention and Innovation and was inducted into the Inventors Hall of Fame in December 2001.
MORE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Presidential Address
Friday, 11.00 - 11.30
“Innovation:
The Strategy for Tomorrow”
James D. Fonger, MD
Columbia, South Carolina

Current Controversies
Saturday, 11.00 - 11.30
“Do Drug-eluding Stents Represent Long-Term Danger?”
Rex Stanbridge, MD, Moderator
Speakers: David Paul Taggart, M.D., Ph.D. and Gerhard Schuler, M.D.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the American College of Surgeons and the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery. The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA CATEGORY 1 CREDITS™
The American College of Surgeons designates this educational activity for a maximum of 22.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

DISCLOSURE POLICY
In order to comply with the ACCME’s Updated Standards for Commercial Support, the American College of Surgeons (ACS), as the accredited provider of this activity, has implemented a new disclosure process to ensure that anyone in a position to control the content of the educational activity has disclosed all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. Per these updated standards, it is mandatory that both the Program Committee and speakers complete disclosures. Members of the Program Committee were required to disclose all financial relationships and speakers were required to disclose any financial relationship as it pertains to the content of the presentations. ACS defines a “commercial interest” as any proprietary entity producing health care goods or services, with the exemption of non-profit or government organizations and non-health care related companies. The ACS considers “relevant” financial relationships as financial transactions (in any amount) occurring within the past 12 months that may create a conflict of interest.

The updated standards also require that ACS, through our joint sponsorship partners, manage any reported conflict and eliminate the potential for bias during the session. The Program Committee members (if applicable) and speakers were contacted and the conflicts have been managed to our satisfaction. However, if you perceive a bias during a session, please advise us of the circumstances on the session evaluation form. Please note we have advised the speakers that it is their responsibility to disclose at the start of their presentation if they will be describing the use of a device, product or drug that is not FDA approved, or the off-label use of an approved device, product or drug of unapproved usage.

The requirement for disclosure is not intended to imply any impropriety of such relationships, but simply to identify such relationships through full disclosure, and to allow the audience to form its own judgments regarding the presentation. Please refer to the onsite handout for the most current listing of Author and Faculty Disclosures.

DISCLAIMER
The views expressed and materials presented in the course of any activity sponsored by ISMICS including lectures, seminars, instructional courses or otherwise, represent the personal views of the individual participants and do not represent the views of the Society. The Society assumes no responsibility for such views or materials and hereby expressly disclaims any and all warranties, express or implied, for the content of any Society-sponsored presentations.

HOW TO CLAIM CME CREDITS/LETTER OF ATTENDANCE
Please use the form provided in the back of the 2007 Final Program Book to track your session attendance for your own records. For attendees who require a letter of attendance or CME certificate, you will be able to make application electronically the week following the meeting. ISMICS requires an email address to forward you the link to apply. If you registered via fax or post, and are not an ISMICS member, the Society may not have your email address. Email update forms are available at the ISMICS Registration Desk.
SUPPORTERS

The following companies are providing a variety of learning experiences during the meeting and work with leadership to determine effective presentation and learning formats. Each has a significant commitment to minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery. These companies have provided generous, unrestricted education grants this year.

**PLATINUM**
Medtronic, Inc.

**GOLD**
Boston Scientific Corporation
Edwards Lifesciences, Inc.,
Sorin Biomedical
St. Jude Medical, Inc.

**SILVER**
Atricure
Cardica, Inc.
ESTECH

The ISMICS Exhibition Hall is located on the lower level of the Aurelia Convention Center, easily accessible via staircase or elevators. The Society is pleased to provide this opportunity for surgeons to examine the newest products, devices, and technologies available, and to facilitate a dialogue between the minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery community and its industry partners.

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EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

**Wednesday 6 June**
17.00 - 19.00 (5:00 pm - 7:00 pm)

**Thursday 7 June**
7.15 - 11.00 (7:15 am - 11:00 am)
13.30 - 17.45 (1:30 pm – 5:45 pm)

**Friday 8 June**
7.30 - 10.30 (7:30 am – 10:30 am)
13.30 - 16.00 (1:30 pm – 4:00 pm)

The Welcome Reception will be held on Wednesday from 18:00 - 19:00. Continental breakfasts will be served on Thursday and Friday mornings and a continuous beverage service will be available during all Exhibition Hours.

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**DEDICATED WET LAB TIMES**

**MEDTRONIC:**
G-3

**CARDICA:**
R-8

**Wednesday 6 June**
17.00 - 18.00 (5:00 pm - 6:00 pm)

**Thursday 7 June**
9.00 - 9.45 (9:00 am - 9:45 am)
14.45 - 15.30 (2:45 pm – 3:30 pm)
16.50 - 17.45 (4:50 pm - 5:45 pm)

**Friday 8 June**
9.15 - 10.30 (9:15 am – 10:30 am)
15.00 - 15.45 (3:00 pm – 3:45 pm)

In addition, WetLabs are open during all Exhibit Hall Hours.
**FOOD AND SCIENCE: INDUSTRY SPONSORED SYMPOSIA**

**THURSDAY 7 JUNE**

6.00 – 7.15
**SIG Breakfast: Issues and Troubleshooting in Thoracic Robotic Surgery**
Crowne Plaza Rome—St. Peter’s, Foro Constantino
This session is offered by: ETHICON, A Johnson & Johnson Company / I-Flow Corporation / Intuitive Surgical, Inc.

12.00 – 13.15
**Lunch Symposium**
Crowne Plaza, Rome, St. Peter’s
This session is offered by ESTECH

12.00 – 13.15
**Lunch Symposium: Expanding Treatment Options in Severe Aortic Stenosis**
Crowne Plaza, Rome, St. Peter’s
This session is offered by Edwards Lifesciences

**FRIDAY 8 JUNE**

6.15 – 7.30
**Breakfast Symposium: Fibrin Glue Technique for Cardiothoracic Surgeons**
Crowne Plaza Rome—St. Peter’s, Foro Adriano
This session offered by CSL Behring, K.K.

6.15 – 7.30
**Breakfast SIG: Professional Journal Reviews—Developing a Critical Eye for Manuscripts**
Crowne Plaza Rome—St. Peter’s, Foro Traiano

11.45 – 13.00
**Luncheon Symposium: MICS Marketplace - Therapy Solutions for the Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgeon**
Crowne Plaza Rome—St. Peter’s, Foro Traiano
This session is offered by Medtronic, Inc.

11.45 – 13.00
**Luncheon Symposium: Reaching Superior Outcomes in AF Surgery**
Crowne Plaza Rome—St. Peter’s
This session is offered by Atricure, Inc.

11:45 – 13:00
**Luncheon Symposium: Epicor Cardiac Ablation System (HIFU) – a Minimally Invasive Approach to Concomitant AF Surgical Ablation**
Crowne Plaza—Rome, St. Peter’s, Foro Constantino
This session is offered by St. Jude Medical, Inc.

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**Moderated Poster Competition**

The Moderated Poster Competition will feature a 2-round judging process. Posters will be divided into topic groups with approximately the same number of posters in each group. Authors must attend the entire session to be considered for the Best Moderated Poster Award.

**First Round: Thursday 7 June (18.00-19.00)**
Authors give a timed, 3-minute presentation; then respond to questions posed by other authors and attendees in their topic group. Topic groups run concurrently until all posters have been presented. The authors and attendees of each group will score all posters in that group. Based on the peer scoring, a winner will be named for each topic group, who then proceeds to the Final Round.

**Final Round: Friday 8 June (16.30-17.15)**
Finalists will make their presentations to all meeting attendees in the main Scientific Session Hall, using PowerPoint slides. The topic moderators from the First Round will score the Final Round presentations to determine the Best Moderated Poster Presentation.

The winner will be announced during the Friday Evening Anniversary Renaissance Awards Reception
ISMICS is pleased to announce its first International Fellows Program. The afternoon program has gathered together some of the leaders in the field to provide presentations and their insights to the specialty. This program will provide a unique opportunity for fellows to hear (and meet) the international experts in minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery, as well as to network with an international group of their peers.

Session participants will:
- Be able to discuss the evolution of cardiothoracic surgery from generally open techniques to the most current minimally invasive techniques and technologies.
- Describe the process for publication in a professional journal, from manuscript submission, through the review process and copyright release.
- Gain an understanding of the differences in training paradigms around the world and what local factors drive these differences.

Topics to be covered include:

- Global Issues for Cardiothoracic Residents & Fellows
- The Emergence of Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery in Rome
- Technological Advances in Cardiac Surgery—Innovation Leads the Way
- Unique Publication Opportunities Offered By INNOVATIONS Journal
- Training Paradigms—A Global Comparison (Germany, Australia, Japan, North America, China, India)
- 2008 Fellows Issues Brainstorming—Planning for the Future

INNOVATIONS is the official journal of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery. All papers accepted for presentation at the ISMICS Annual Meeting are required to submit full manuscripts to INNOVATIONS within two weeks of the Annual Scientific Meeting. Publishing decisions are those of the Editors and Editorial Board.

Don’t Miss the Invited Topics:

“Heart Failure: Restoration and Devices”
Roland Hetzer, MD; German Heart Institute, Berlin, Germany
Lorenzo A. Menicanti, MD; Instituto Policlinico San Donato, Milan, Italy
John V. Conte, MD; Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD, USA
O. Howard Frazier, MD; Texas Heart Institute, Houston, TX, USA

“Where is the Best Home for My New Medical Device Idea: Large Company or Small?”
Thomas J. Fogarty, MD; Fogarty Engineering Inc., Portola Valley, CA, USA
Paul Spence, MD; University Cardiothoracic Surgical Associates, Louisville, KY, USA
John R. Liddicoat, MD; Medtronic Inc., Minneapolis, MN, USA

“To Beat or Not to Beat—Two Approaches to T-CAB”
Johannes Bonatti, MD; Innsbruck Medical University, Innsbruck, Austria
Sudhir P. Srivastava, MD, Cardiac Surgical Associates, Odessa, TX, USA
4TH ISMICS CONSENSUS CONFERENCE:
VIDEO-ASSISTED THORACIC SURGERY (VATS)

The 2007 ISMICS Expert Consensus Conference on “Video-Assisted Thoracic Surgery in Lung Cancer Resection: Is VATS Lobectomy Advancing Patient Care” was held April 14-16 at the Hotel Regina in Paris, France.

This year’s panel was chaired by Dr. Robert J. Downey from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York. An international panel of experts in the field met for two days to review the current evidence, research, questions, and meta-analysis available. After an initial overall review, the members broke into working groups to address questions and then reconvened to work on the final consensus.

Panel members included:

- Davy Cheng, M.D.
  London Health Sciences Centre, Canada
- Kemp Kernstine, M.D.
  City of Hope National Medical Center, USA
- Janet Martin, Ph.D.
  London Health Sciences Centre, Canada
- Toshiya Ohtsuka, M.D.
  Fuchu Metropolitan Hospital, Japan
- R. A. Schmid, M.D.
  University Hospital, Switzerland
- Hani Shennib, M.D.
  Brunswick Medical Center, Canada
- Rex Stanbridge, M.D.
  St. Mary’s Hospital, England
- Randall K. Wolf, M.D., USA
  University of Cincinnati, USA

The formal report of the Expert Consensus Panel will be presented by Dr. Downey on Friday morning at 10.30 and will be published in an upcoming issue of INNOVATIONS.

Previous ISMICS Consensus Statements

2006 Transmyocardial Revascularization (TMR)
2005 Endoscopic Vascular Harvesting
2004 Off-Pump Surgery
NEW TIME AND LOCATION

2007 CASE REPORTS SESSION

***WEDNESDAY 6 JUNE, 19.30 - 21.00***

CROWNE PLAZA—ROME, ST. PETER’S, FORO CONSTANTINO

Moderators:

Lishan Aklog, MD
Heart & Lung Institute & St. Joseph’s Hospital & Medical Center,
Phoenix, AZ, USA

Claudio Muneretto, MD
Ospedale Civile di Brescia, Brescia, Italy

This session includes a supper buffet. Each presenter is allowed 8 minutes to present followed by 7 minutes for discussion.

Thoracic Aortic Stenting In Patients With Connective Tissue Disease: A Word of Caution

Francois Dagenais¹, Jean-Pierre Normand², Roch Turcotte³, Eric Dumont⁴,
Pierre Voisine⁵ / ¹Cardiac Surgery, ²Radiographer, ³Cardiographer, Laval
Hospital, Sainte-Foy, PQ, Canada

Endovascular Repair of Thoracic Aortic Pseudoaneurysms In Patients With Marfan Syndrome

Joseph S. Coselli, Karen Amerman, Charlie Cheng, Scott A. LeMaire
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine and the Texas
Heart Institute at St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, Houston, TX, USA

Successful Surgical Management of Esophageal Injury Following Radiofrequency Ablation of Atrial Fibrillation

Zev Davis¹, Thomas J. Hinkamp¹, Moeen Saleem² / ¹Edward Heart Hospital,
Cardiac Surgery Associates, Naperville, IL, USA, ²Edward Heart Hospital,
Midwest Heart Specialists, Naperville, IL, USA

Fail Chest Minimal Invasive Treatment

Jose R. Matilla, Francisco Felix, Teresa Magalhaes Godinho
Thoracic Surgery, Pulido Valente Hospital, Lisbon, Portugal

Minimally Invasive Approach To A Novel Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Configuration In Pediatric Patients: Early Experience

Francis Fynn-Thompson¹, Frank Cecchin² / ¹Cardiac Surgery, ²Cardiology,
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Invited Case: Full Endoscopic Treatment Of Lone AF In An Awake Patient With Epidural Anesthesia

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membership has grown, we have launched *Innovations*, our own scientific journal, and some of the cutting-edge ideas we have developed for our own meetings are now being adopted by others. The Consensus Statements and the Winter Workshops continue to be activities we offer as unique ISMICS contributions to the field of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Dr. Christian Detter and Dr. Francis Ferdinand have been the 2007 meeting Co-Chairs. After countless hours of hard work over the year they have put together both an interesting and high quality Scientific Program that features something of interest for everyone. The physician meeting attendance is strong and the Exhibit Hall, as of the start of the meeting, is sold out.

The ISMICS staff, led by Executive Director Aurelie Alger and Meeting Manager Pam Wilson, has helped us organize a very unique setting for the 10th Anniversary Renaissance Awards Reception on Friday night. ISMICS offers sincere thanks to Pam Wilson for her excellent oversight of our annual scientific meetings over the past four years. Almost all of the past ISMICS presidents have come to Rome to help us recognize our 10 year anniversary milestone. We know you will enjoy your time here with us in Rome.

Thank you for your continued support of ISMICS as we enter our second decade of supporting innovation in Cardiothoracic Surgery.

James D. Fonger, MD,
2007 ISMICS President

... we have gone through many growing pains as a young Society resulting in the vibrant and dynamic organization that you see hosting the meeting here in Rome. Along the way our membership has grown, we have launched Innovations, and some of the ideas we have developed for our meetings are now being adopted by others.

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**THE "ONE TO WATCH": MADHU NARASIMHAN**

ISMICS is pleased to welcome a young high school student, Madhu Narasimhan, to Rome for the ISMICS Annual Scientific Meeting. Attendees at last year’s meeting may remember the bright young man who asked some insightful questions of our speakers.

Madhu followed up with the 2006 Program Committee Chairman, Dr. William Cohn. Since the 2006 Annual Scientific Meeting, in pursuit of his goals, Madhu worked with our keynote speaker, Thomas Fogarty, as well as with Dr. Albert Chin and his team of surgery-engineers at Boston Scientific.

The following is excerpted from his original correspondence with Dr. Cohn, and clearly reveals a unique and talented individual:

> Before graduating high school, I am determined to do the following things.

- Work on research or intern with a company and cardiac surgeons in the Bay Area.
- Complete my own research project in cardiac surgery, publish a paper along with it, and present research internationally.
- Become the youngest member of ISMICS and some other cardiac surgery societies.
- I am also the Founder and President of a not-for-profit medical philanthropy organization. We have funded the building of a water well through UNICEF already.
- Start a pharmacy/pharmaceutical clinic in a poor, rural village in India.
- Go on an August, 2008 medical mission in India. Working at a hospital in India, as well as touring poor villages and providing them with medical aid materials. I am also planning on searching for US doctors who may be willing to dedicate a week or ten days to doing this with me.

And final goals: Publish a novel, travel essay, OR short story (not necessarily a medical thriller) and getting accepted to Harvard College on Early Action status.

Having watched his progress so far, we look forward to what this young man will accomplish in the future!
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