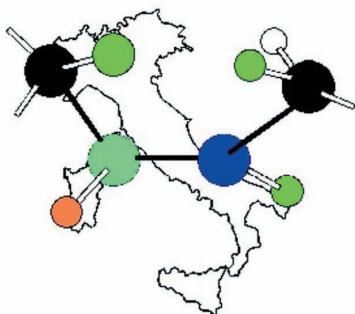


News from Italy

There is a new council for the Italian Society for Metabolic Diseases (SISMME): President; Roberto Cerone Members; Ubaldo Caruso, Carlo Dionisi-Vici, Laura Fiori, Marco Spada, and Franco Taroni.

The Annual meeting of SISMME was held in Naples last November. The meeting was joint to the Italian Society for Neonatal Screening and to the Clinical Genetic group of the Italian Society of Pediatrics. It was very successful with over 200 participants.

Carlo Dionisi-Vici
dionisi@opbg.net



Hot News from Brazil

We have just set up a Metabolic Information Hotline in Brazil, which can be accessed by the toll free number 08005102858 (from any part of Brazil).

The Service, called SIEM (Service of Information on Inborn Errors of Metabolism) mainly provides information, by an MD specialist in genetic metabolic disorders, on emergency measures for acutely ill patients, suggestions on diagnostic tests and on appropriate collection, storage and transport of samples. The service also gives information on laboratories which could help with diagnosis and management. Soon it will be set up also on a webpage with other useful information on IEM.

SIEM is based at Medical Genetics Service, Hospital de Clinicas de Porto Alegre, Rua Ramiro Barcelos 2350, 90035-003, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil, and has the sponsorship of Support, a company linked to the Nutricia/Milupa/SHS group.

Roberto Giugliani

Brazil
email rgiugliani@hcpa.ufrgs.br

Call for Proposals

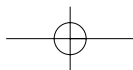
National Organization for Rare Disorders has made available NORD/Roscoe Brady Lysosomal Storage Diseases Fellowships. Fellowships are competitive one-year awards of \$50,000 to \$70,000 designed to support emerging clinical researchers and encourage careers in lysosomal storage diseases. Awards may be renewable for up to one year. Applicants will have earned the degree of M.D. within the past 10 years (in or after the year 1992). For all studies involving human subjects, adherence to the most current guidelines set forth by the NIH is expected of recipient institutions. Applications will be accepted through February 28, 2002 for collaborative clinical research involving multidisciplinary teams, focus on genetics, new treatments and diagnostics, and/or epidemiology of LSD's in general, or for a specific lysosomal storage disease. Basic science may be included as a component to funded projects. Further information on eligibility and application requirements may be directly obtained from www.rare-diseases.org; email inquiries to Lcataldo@rare-diseases.org; write National Organization for Rare Disorders, Attn. NORD/ Roscoe Brady LSD Fellowships, P.O. Box 8923, New Fairfield, CT 06812-8923 USA.

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SSIEM newsletter

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<http://www.ssiem.org.uk/>

February 2002

Secretary's column

The millennium seems to be cracking on at quite a pace. Is it just me or are the year's going by faster these days? We seem only just to have finished thinking about Prague when Dublin is nearly upon us, and Brisbane not very far away! We are fortunate indeed to have a wealth of very competent and enthusiastic meetings organisers amongst our ranks. If you would like to contribute too, see the box on the front sheet of this Newsletter.

There are a number of developments under active consideration for the website. Council is looking at using the site to provide educational facilities for the membership. So keep logging in occasionally and please get in touch if you have any suggestions for improvements.

The point was made during last year's AGM that not all countries with members have a corresponding member to represent them. However it is made clear in the front of the members handbook that some corresponding members represent more than one country. It was agreed that it would be impractical to have a corresponding member for all 61 countries where we have members! Prof Fumio Endo has been nominated by the Japanese Society as the new corresponding member to replace Prof Eto who retired this year. Two new members of Council were elected at the AGM, Prof Jean Marie Saudubray and Mr Ubaldo Caruso. It was felt that the number of Council members should not exceed 12. It was therefore proposed that a change to the constitution be considered by the next AGM. Finally, it was with some regret that Jane Collins stood down from Council before the natural end to her term of office. We would like to thank her for her contribution to the Society and will therefore need to call for nominations for her replacement to be received before the AGM this year.

Kind Regards

Mick Henderson

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Annual Meeting 2001 at Prague, Czech Republic

This was judged by all as a very successful meeting and was one of the biggest annual symposia so far. There were 621 active delegates and 69 accompanying guests as well as 39 exhibitors.

The main topic of the symposium was 'Growing older'. Although this theme was rather difficult for the Council and the local organizers due to the lack of known speakers, it turned out to be an excellent choice. The feedback from participants and invited speakers from outside fields was very positive. There had clearly been much food for thought. The molecular and clinical consequences of aging, and mechanisms of oxidative stress in IEMs particularly merit the further attention of our Society.

15 invited speakers agreed to participate at the meeting, 10 from Europe, 4 from USA/Canada and one from Japan. In addition, the Komrower Lecture was presented by Prof. Galjaard from Rotterdam.

Abstract submissions

About 90% were received by email with nearly half on the last day before the deadline! There was a total of 342 submissions including multiple entries, 308 abstracts after excluding duplicates or multiple copies. Duplicate entries represented a major problem for the organisers. 50 abstracts were accepted for oral presentation, 241 for poster, 14 as abstract only, 3 were rejected.

Satellite meetings

Several satellite meetings took place in addition to the main Symposium; ERNDIM Trust and Executive Board meeting, Scientific Advisory Board of ERNDIM, meeting of ERNDIM DPT Centers, SSIEM Council, dietitians meeting, X-ALD meeting, company sponsored lunch workshops. All of these contributed to the busy and highly productive atmosphere of the conference.



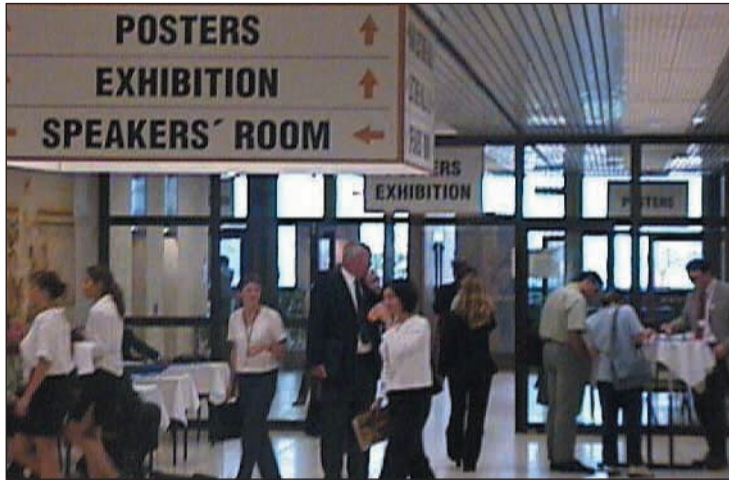
Evening social programs

The welcome party took place in the Congress Venue with plenty of food, wine and local beer. A most interesting and enjoyable medieval evening was organized in Drevce fortress, and the splendid Symposium Dinner took place in the stunning surroundings of Prague Castle. Most delegates were able to spend some time exploring our beautiful city, and we hope that many will want to return to visit us again.

Finally I would like to thank all those who collaborated in organising this successful meeting, particularly Martina Souckova from Guarant with whom we formed a very productive working relationship.

Viktor Kozich

Head of the local organising Committee



Venue selection for future meetings

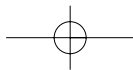
Council has decided to formalise the process of venue selection in order to give all potential hosts an equal opportunity. Proposals to host a meeting should be submitted to the SSIEM secretary. They should be received before the end of July and will apply to the meeting six years hence. For example, submissions made this year will be considered for the meeting to be held in the year 2008. The proposals will be circulated to council and corresponding members and will be discussed at the meeting that takes place during the annual symposium of that year. A provisional decision will be made that will be subject to a satisfactory site visit.

SSIEM awards 2001

This year's winners for the best oral presentation were:

L. Bonafe B. Thony, J.M. Penzien, B. Czarnecki and N. Blau from the University Children's Hospital, Zurich; Sepiapterin reductase deficiency: a new inborn error of tetrahydrobiopterin metabolism
And for the best poster:

G. Matthijs, K. Martens and E. Schollen from the Centre for Human Genetics, University of Leuven; D-HPLC analysis as a platform for molecular diagnostics of congenital disorders of glycosylation (CDG)



Meetings Diary

Human Genetics Society of Australasia Inc.

Adelaide, July 7th - 10th 2002
 Hilton Hotel
 Further information from:
 The Society website: hgsa.com.au
 The secretariat: icms.com.au

Mechanisms of mitochondrial function and disease. June 6-9, 2002

An International symposium to be held at the Westin Galleria, Dallas Texas. Hosted by the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Speakers will include
 John Shoffner MD, Atlanta
 Richard Kelley MD PhD, Baltimore
 Eric Shoubbridge PhD, Montreal, Canada
 Jan Smeitink MD, Nijmegen, Netherlands
 Yu-Ichi Goto MD, Tokyo, Japan
 Salvatore DiMauro MD New York
 David Thorburn PhD, Melbourne, Australia

Grazia Isaya MD, PhD, Rochester, MN
 Georgirene Vladutiu PhD, Buffalo
 This meeting will bring together the leading researchers in mitochondrial research to present their latest findings. There will also be sessions devoted to the basic understanding of mitochondrial function and disease targeting both clinical and laboratory general practitioners.

This meeting will benefit mitochondrial researchers and all practitioners who may encounter the diverse presentations

of mitochondrial disease including, neurologists, gastroenterologists, geneticists, cardiologists, ophthalmologists, and clinical pathologists. Sessions will also be devoted to therapy and management and be suitable for therapists and nurses.

Contact www.umdfo.org and www.utsouthwestern.edu enter the continuing education page, and Dr Mike Bennett, Chair of the Scientific Committee michaelj.bennett@utsouthwestern.edu

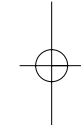
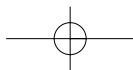
8th Annual Asian-European Workshop on Inborn Errors of Metabolism

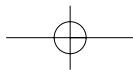
"New Approaches in Diagnosis and Management of Inherited Metabolic Disorders"

Vilnius, Lithuania, 8th-13th September, 2002
 Directly after the 40th Annual Symposium of SSIEM
 Dublin, Ireland, 3rd-6th September 2002
<http://www.geneticahumana.lt/aewiem.htm>

Correspondence concerning the Meeting should be addressed to:

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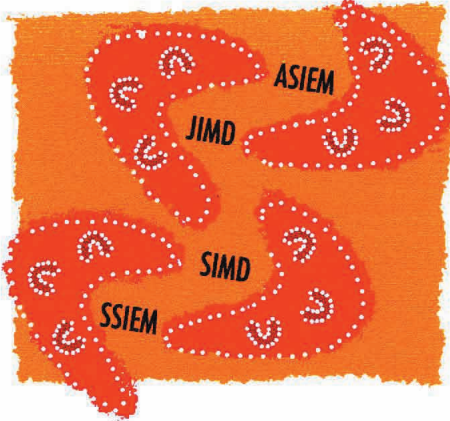


IXth International Congress on Inborn Errors of Metabolism:

The organisers want to be sure that you have all marked in your diaries the dates for this Congress, which is to be held in Brisbane, Australia, from 2nd to 6th September. This is a wonderful opportunity for a visit "down under". There will be two satellite meetings held in Sydney, before the conference, one on tandem mass spectrometry in newborn screening, and the other on urea cycle disorders. The scientific programme for the Congress is being finalised, and the first announcements are expected in late February. After the conference a number of exciting tours to tropical areas, outback national parks, and the Great Barrier Reef will be available. A once in a lifetime opportunity, so be there!

All the details about the Congress, as they emerge, will be found on the website, at www.iciem.org

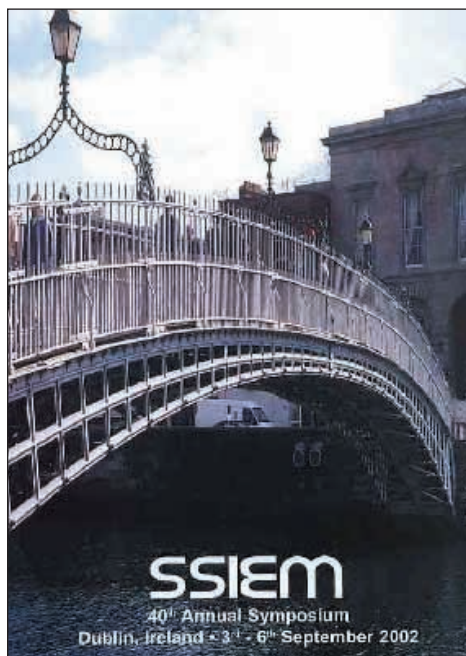
Bridget Wilcken
Congress President



ICIEM 2003



SSIEM Annual Symposium 2002, Dublin



On behalf of the SSIEM Council and the local organising committee I would like to invite you to attend the 40th annual Symposium of the SSIEM, which will take place in Dublin from the 3rd to the 6th September 2002. The theme of the meeting will be 'Multi-System Involvement in Inborn Errors'.

The Symposium venue is University College Dublin, which is located about 6km south of the City Centre, set in over 120 hectares of landscaped grounds. There will be ample opportunity for delegates to explore the historic city centre of Dublin and the surrounding area, as the campus is very well served by public transport.

The last time that the SSIEM Symposium was held in Dublin was in 1966, when approximately 30 delegates attended! The membership of the SSIEM had expanded

greatly since then, as has the whole field of inherited metabolic diseases. I hope that each delegate will find much to interest them in the scientific programme, and much to enjoy in the social events.

We look forward to welcoming you to Dublin and we hope that during your visit you will experience some of our traditions and culture and the warmth of the Irish welcome.

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