2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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President’s Desk

Thank you. I introduce this last newsletter of 2010 with profound appreciation for the support that Jim Pane, President of the US Section Alliance, and I, as President of the US Section for this year, have received from you. It has been a busy and productive year for the Section and the College and we are privileged to have been a part of its success.

This year’s activities actually began in 2009 with the identification and confirmation of the site for the 2010 annual meeting in Denver. January brought a meeting in Chicago of the Executive Committee of the US Section to review budgets and to plan the overall activities for the year. A highlight, of course, was the annual meeting in Denver. Thanks to the efforts of headquarters staff in Chicago with close consultation with me and Jim, the US Section and Alliance meetings in May were a critical success. The focus was on surgical missions, an activity of increasing importance to our section that separates our organization from any other surgical group in the world. We were also honored by the attendance of the World Body President, Professor Christopher Chen and members of the World Body Executive Council.

At the Denver meeting we established relationships with other organizations with similar interests to ours in helping to meet unmet surgical need worldwide. ASAP-Today is a group founded by an anesthesiologist to promote closer collaboration between anesthesiologists and surgeons who do international work. Operation Giving Back is sponsored by the American College of Surgeons and serves as a resource for surgeons interested in this work. Kaiser Permanente has an arm dedicated to work in underserved areas both in the US and abroad. By working with like-minded individuals and organizations we will expand the influence of our Section and College to everyone’s benefit.

The keynote address by Dr. Glenn Geelhoed, a surgeon with a lifetime of surgical experience in conflict and deprived areas of the world, was a highlight of the meeting. In Denver, the first Pfizer-ICS-US Section Humanitarian Awards were presented and these will be awarded annually to surgeons of distinction in recognition of outstanding service to the underserved worldwide. The Dr. Arno Roscher Annual Endowed Lecture on Stem Cell Therapy for the Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease by Dr. Guilherme Silva will prove to be a landmark address that will be seen historically as a watershed in the treatment of cardiovascular disease. This revolutionary therapy will radically alter the way the damaged heart is treated with a profound impact on the work of future cardiologists and cardiac surgeons. The Research Scholarship Competition was awarded to four deserving individuals, and for the first time, one of those winners was a medical student. A sign that the College is on track to attract the best and the brightest to its ranks. Of course, many other lectures and presentations during this meeting provided vital and contemporary information useful for our everyday practice as surgeons. Next year’s meeting in Portland will continue the tradition of outstanding CME for our Fellows and guests with the theme of Trauma.

Of course, no meeting is only work and the US Section Alliance provided a wide variety of social activities for Fellows and their families, ranging from tours of the hotel to cooking demonstrations to wine tasting to the signature event, the Gala Dinner. This was a glittering affair during which winners of the Alliance-sponsored silent auction were announced. The silent auction raised several thousand dollars for the Alliance, more than covering the costs of the social events and adding to the resources of the Alliance for support of the Section and its activities.

While the Denver meeting was the highlight of the year, much work was accomplished in the following months as discussions with the Executive Committee over business items continued, including ongoing discussions with the International Body regarding repairs needed to the headquarters and...
REMINDER!

The 2011 Annual Dues notice was mailed at the end of November to members in the first billing cycle of the calendar year. If you normally get your dues notice in December and haven’t received it yet please contact Headquarters.

Noteworthy Congresses

June 8-11, 2011
US Section 73rd Annual Surgical Update
December 15, 2010 Abstract Deadline
Read inside for more information
Hilton Portland Hotel
Portland, Oregon, USA

Make reservations by calling 1-800-HILTONS or online at www.hilton.com. Reservations Code is: ICS

For additional information regarding meetings, please call (800) 766-FICS, extension 3129 for meetings in North America and extension 3106 for international meetings. Or visit the website at www.FICSONLINE.org
museum buildings co-owned by the US Section and the World Body. There are considerable potential expenses anticipated in the repair of areas of the buildings and you will be learning more about this in future communications and at next year’s Portland meeting.

A Facebook account for our Section has been created and you are invited to view this at any time for updated information about Section activities. The Section’s web page has been revamped and you are advised to check there frequently for updates and new messages: www.ficsonline.org. For those of you who have not yet provided headquarters with your email address, please do so: this is the best and quickest way to reach you.

Our Section was well represented this in several surgical missions. In February, shortly after its earthquake, I went to Haiti with a group led by Relief International and in October our Section sponsored, for the first time, a visit to Haiti that was led by Drs. Maxime Coles and Tony Jumelle and included ICS Fellows Sharmila DiSSanaike, Dr. Patrick LeCorps and George Miller. A non-Fellow anesthesiologist and nurses accompanied this team. Learnings from this trip will be presented in Portland at the session on Surgical Missions.

Dr. Gazi Zibari led trips to Iraq and Vietnam, the latter with ICS Fellow Dr. Quyen Chu, and Dr. Domingo Alvear led missions to the Philippines and Honduras. Next year’s trips include return missions to Iraq and the Philippines, among others, and you are advised to consult our web page for further information.

In October I represented the US Section at the American College of Surgeons annual meeting in Washington DC and in November I represented our Section at the International Forum of Minimally Invasive Surgery in Nanjing, China, giving lectures on anal and rectovaginal fistulae. Executive Committee members Dinesh Ranjan, Ari Haldorsson, Wickii Wigneswaren and I represented our Section at the 37th Annual ICS World Congress in Manila, Philippines, later in November. This meeting was co-sponsored by the Philippine Section of the ICS and was opened by the President of the Philippines, Mr. Benigno Aquino III. Other US Section Fellows who attended the meeting were Drs. Phyllis Bleck, Said Daee, Arno Roscher, Roque Ramirez and Adib Sabbagh in addition to US Section Executive Director, Nick Rebel.

As this busy year and my message come to a close, I note one more highlight: in a first for a major medical organization in the United States, your College and Alliance were led by two men. This is a reflection of the diversity and understanding that are a hallmark of the International College of Surgeons. We are grateful for your support and thank you for allowing us the opportunity to have served you.

With best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a new year of health and success for you and your family, and with warmest personal regards,

Jay Bachicha MD, FICS, FACOG
President, United States Section
International College of Surgeons

Jim Fane
President, US Section Alliance
International College of Surgeons

International College of Surgeons International Officers
Elected at the 37th Biennial World Congress
Manila, Philippines November 2010

International Executive Council (Term 2011-2012)

World President
Dr. Said Daee
USA

First Vice President
Dr. Carmencita Gotaoco
Philippines

President-Elect
Professor Adel Ramzy
Egypt

Corporate Secretary
Professor Yik-Hong Ho
Australia

Immediate Past President
Professor Christopher Chen
Singapore

Treasurer
Professor Manuel Huaman
Peru

Six Federation Secretaries:
Africa
Professor Refaat R. Kamel Jr.
Egypt

Asia
Professor N. Dorairajain
India

Europe
Professor Felipe de la Cruz Vigo
Spain

Latin America
Professor Angel Vanelli
Argentina

North America
Dr. Joseph Bachicha
USA

Pacific
Dr. Jesus Sison Jr.
Philippines

Four Additional Members (term 2009-2012):
Professor Clement Chan, Hong Kong
Professor Paul Hahnloser, Switzerland
Professor Peter Lim, Singapore
Professor N.K. Pandey, India

Three Additional Members (term 2011-2014):
Professor Ken Takesaki, Japan
Dr. Juan Barron Blanco, Mexico
Dr. Eddie Chang, Singapore

Of the 16 Vice Presidents the following are from the US Section:
Dr. Maxime Coles
Dr. Roque Ramirez
Dr. Adib Sabbagh
Dr. Gazi Zibari

Of the 30 Additional Governors the following are from the US Section:
Dr. Phyllis Bleck
Dr. Anthony Dardano
Dr. Francis Podbielski
Dr. Larry Sasaki

Additional Appointed Members:
Dr. Ken Takesaki, Japan
Chairperson of the Council of Federation Secretaries
Dr. Peter Lim, Singapore
Liaison to World Body Past Presidents
Dr. Joseph Bachicha, USA
Liaison to Board of Governors
Dr. Felipe de la Cruz Vigo
Liaison to Board of Governors

Dr. Adib Sabbagh, USA,
Second Vice Chairperson of the International Executive Committee

Representatives at Large
Dr. Argoanza, Philippines
Dr. Juwanna, Indonesia
Dr. Millesi, Austria
Dr. Terazas, Bolivia

The next World Biennial Congress will be held in 2012 in India, with the venue to be determined.
It is a pleasure to share with you some insights from the recent ICS surgical mission to Haiti, which was my first. I have chosen not to tell stories of great deprivation and surgical triumphs, although there were plenty of these. Instead, this is my personal journey, and here is what I learnt:

I learnt that I am not the finicky sleeper I thought I was. When you’re tired enough, a cot on the floor under a mosquito net (Fig 1) is comfortable, and blaring music from the neighboring club (“Israël’s Place”, run by a surly racketeer of the same name) cannot keep you awake. An international group of prosthetists (I hadn’t realized this was its own specialty) were constructing a lab at the hospital to enable quality prosthetics to be made locally. Their leader was also a yoga teacher, and yoga sessions on the rooftop overlooking the hills at sunrise are a great way to start the day. Friendships built with other volunteers while in the break room at the hospital – physicians, nurses, psychologists, and many with no formal training but an eagerness to help - are intact to this day.

I learnt that flexibility is your biggest asset, along with a willingness to extend beyond the familiar. A frenulectomy that takes 5 minutes to perform in the office can help a malnourished infant feed, and save a life. After a few successful frenulectomies, there were lines outside the clinic of parents bringing their children in for this simple procedure – the word-of-mouth (no pun intended) referral pattern is very strong in Port-au-Prince! Circumcisions become important operations when babies with phimosis who have never had their foreskins retracted, develop recurrent infections from bathing in dirty water. I do neither procedure in my regular practice, but in Haiti the population is young, and all surgery winds up being pediatric surgery.(Fig 2)

I learnt that I am, still, first and foremost, a doctor; not a trauma-and-burn-fellowship-trained-critical-care-boarded academic general surgeon. When I finished operating one afternoon, I volunteered at a Partners-in-Health clinic in the tent city, where I was the only physician. I diagnosed and treated scabies in a 6 month old and his entire family; malignant hypertension and angina in older patients; urinary tract infections in innumerable young women, and reassured many that their sebaceous cysts and lipomas were benign. This bread-and-butter medical care was as fulfilling as anything I did in the OR, and I would argue, as useful.

I learnt that humility and an open heart may be the biggest gifts we bring. When a severely dehydrated 3 year old with tibial agenesis and bowel obstruction from an acutely incarcerated inguinal hernia showed up at the clinic, we rapidly started resuscitation only to discover that no anesthesiologist was available. Fortunately the German Red Cross accepted the child in transfer, and so we embarked on a harrowing 1 hour ride on a very crowded pot-holed road in a rickety jeep shortly before a major political rally, with the driver using the wrong side of the road and other road-users cursing us and banging on the jeep, since they didn’t know it was a de-facto ambulance. As I handed him over to the very nice surgeon at the GRC, I felt a pang – I’m usually the one accepting patients from smaller hospitals, and this was my first experience on the other end of a transfer. Despite risking life and limb on the road, I didn’t get the opportunity to operate; could I still feel satisfied that I had helped this child?

Most of all, what I discovered is that the opportunity to learn something new, to grow, to adapt to an entirely different system, culture, (continued, page 4.
2011 US Section Officers
for the term commencing January 1, 2011

President
Dinesh Ranjan, MD, FICS
Iron Mountain, MI

Dinesh Ranjan became a Fellow of the ICS in 1996. Subsequently he worked to create the Transplant Subspecialty Section where he became the first chair. He has held numerous positions within the US Section that include Regent, Vice President, Chair of the Council of Specialty Groups and Treasurer.

Dr. Ranjan completed his medical education at Rajendra Medical College in India. He was eventually recruited to the University of Kentucky in 1994 to start the Liver and Pancreas Transplant Program as an Associate Professor and Chief of Transplant Section in 1994. He was instrumental in building the transplant program at University of Kentucky to local and regional prominence. He was promoted to a Full Professor with Tenure in 2004. He held the position of the Chief and Director of Transplant Section until 2009 when he left the University to join the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center as the Chief of Surgical Services.

He believes that the College’s future lies in propagating the cause of newer members, while utilizing the international standing of ICS to promote philanthropy and education.

Vice Presidents
Boniface Abba, MD ..................Virgin Islands
Frank Bongiorno, MD ...............Ann Arbor, MI
Gregory Caputy, MD ...............Honolulu, HI
Horacio R. D’Agostino, MD .......Shreveport, LA
Anthony N. Dardano, Jr., DO ..Boca Raton, FL
Zaki-Udin Hassan, MD ............Lexington, KY
Michael Jacobs, MD ...............Southfield, MI
Antoine Jumelle, MD ...............McAllister, OK
Uretz Oliphant, MD ...............Urbana, IL
Francis Podbielski, MD ..........Springfield, MA
Roque Ramirez, MD ..........Corpus Christi, TX
Chand Ramaiah, MD .............Lexington, KY
M. Hosein Shokouh-Amiri, MD ...Shreveport, LA
Thavam C. Thambi-Pillai, MD ....Dayton, OH
Jacob Varon, MD .................Houston, TX

Second Annual Evening at the International Museum of Surgical Science
On November 6, 2010 over 60 guests participated in a benefit to raise funds for the Surgical Teams of the US Section. Over $11,000 was raised during a 3 hour cocktail reception that featured the Museum’s latest exhibit Our Body: The Universe Within. Visitors were able to view the human body in ways that many have never seen before. Go to www.IMSS.org to learn more.

Our thanks are extended to all those who supported this worthwhile cause of the College. Please visit FICS Online and view the Donor Page to see a list of contributors. Visit our Facebook page (ICS US Section) to see photos from the event.
The headquarters staff are in the process of changing e-mail addresses. Please refer to the staff listing below and on page 1 of this newsletter for the correct address.

The former e-mail address will still be in effect and checked for the next several weeks but please be sure to start updating and changing your distributions lists, contact files and any other areas where you may have made note of contact information.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Nick Rebel  
E-mail: nrebel@ficsonline.org

**DIRECTOR, CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION**  
Paul A. Pancer  
E-mail: ppancer@ficsonline.org

**MEETING AND PUBLICATIONS MANAGER**  
Maggie Kearney  
E-mail: mkearney@ficsonline.org

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**Reminder!**

The deadline for abstract submission for the 2011 Annual Surgical Update in Portland was December 15th. If you missed the deadline, but have a Trauma specific paper that you wish to have considered, please contact Mr. Paul Pancer the CME Director immediately to see if space is still available. New fellows are specifically encouraged to participate and get active in the College.

In October, 2011 President Dr. Dinesh Ranjan traveled to Portland to meet with faculty at the Oregon Health Sciences University and other local hospitals to engage surgeons from the area in our program. What he found were friendly accommodating colleagues who were more than happy to take time out of their busy schedules to learn how they might help. He also found a beautiful city with activities for the entire family. The centrally located Hilton Hotel will be a great starting point for meeting delegates and their families to enjoy a day or two before or after the scientific portion of the meeting. Not only is the downtown area of Portland filled with restaurants, museums, shopping and cultural activities, but the surrounding areas are among some of the most beautiful in the country. Public transportation is clean, safe and extremely economical. Shoppers will enjoy a break from sales tax as Portland has none. Plan now to join your colleagues in the US Section for what promises to be a most educational and enjoyable conference. Watch your mail (regular and especially email) for more information in the coming months. Check FICS Online frequently for updates as well.

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**Mission to Haiti (continued from page 2)**

and country, relatively unburdened by the strict hierarchy and bureaucracy that surrounds at home, is worth the trip alone. Many of us fall into a rut after we finish training. Mission work is a way to challenge our hearts and minds, to once again feel the thrill that we all felt after our very first solo operation as a resident. The journey benefits us, every bit as much as the people helped by the mission. I hope you will join us next time!