

INS

Autumn 2006

2000 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 402
San Francisco, CA 94109 USA
www.neuromodulation.com

Newsletter

News from the International Neuromodulation Society

President's Message

I am writing this address to let all of our membership know of the growth of our Society and what our Society's agenda during my Presidency will be. But first, I want all of you to know that I am truly honored to be your President and will do my very best to assure that our Society grows, both scientifically and financially during this Presidency. It is my challenge and task to assure all of you that your money and support for the INS and your chapter society means something to all of you.

During the INS Board of Directors Meeting on 10 June 2006, in Lille, France, I officially became the President of the INS. It is an honor to follow in the footsteps of my predecessor, Professor Mario Meglio, who led the Society as its President for the past three years and was one of the founding members of the INS. Mario Meglio, Chairman of the Department of Functional Neurosurgery at the Catholic University of Rome, Italy is, for me a hard act to follow. Mario is a gentleman and a true diplomat and I have learned much from him.

I also want to acknowledge and thank my predecessors before Professor Meglio for their work on behalf of the INS and their tutelage, during my tenure on the Board of the INS. I want to thank, in order of their Presidency, Lee Illis, neurologist from the United Kingdom, Giancarlo Barolat, neurosurgeon of Denver, Colorado, Mr. Brian Simpson of Cardiff, Wales, and Professor Meglio.

I want to personally thank Professor Robert Foreman for his support for me and his dedication to the INS. After completing two terms as the Treasurer of the INS, and devoting over nine years to the INS Board of Directors, Dr. Robert Foreman stepped down from the Board; however, his dedication to the INS and the field of neuromodulation remains steadfast, and he will continue his collaboration with the INS as the Chairman of the Review Committee for The New Investigator Best Manuscripts Award.

Dr. Simon Thomson, INS Secretary, embarked on his second three-year term, energized to facilitate communication within the neuromodulation community through the newsletter, and a project he initiated, the new INS website. Congratulations, Simon, on your re-election!

Congratulations are also in order for Dr. Liong Liem, the first President, and one of the founders of the Benelux Neuromodulation Society, who the INS Board elected as the new Treasurer of the Society. Eager to

see the Society grow, Dr. Liem agreed to collaborate on the website project, while also overseeing the INS' finances. Mr. Brian Simpson has agreed to continue on as liaison to the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society.



INS Board Members in Lille, France

Our Present Chapters

Presently, our International Society is represented worldwide by eight chapter Societies including Australia, the Benelux Chapter, (representing Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg), Germany, Italy, Japan, North America, Southeast Europe, (representing the Balkan States, Greece and Turkey), and the United Kingdom and Ireland Chapters. Chapters in France and Spain are nearly formed. A Chapter Society must have a minimum of 20 paid members and may include physicians, scientists, engineers, nurses, psychologists, or representatives of Industry who have a professional interest in neuromodulation.

Our Growth

During my Presidency, which will last three years, it is my commitment to make sure that our Society continues to grow in numbers and in science. To improve the science of neuromodulation, the INS Bylaws state that our chapter societies must hold annual scientific meetings for their membership and the INS must hold, once every two years, an International Congress - to stimulate scientific

Present INS National Chapters



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Jean Paul N'Guyen and Serge Blond at the First French Neuromodulation Society Meeting



Jorge Pallarés, Francisco Robaina and Joaquín Insausti at the Spanish Neuromodulation Society formation meeting

discourse amongst our members. To expand our membership, I have traveled seven times this year to meet with fellow interested clinicians and neuroscientists about the INS:

1. **Boston, USA** - for the American Society of Functional and Stereotactic Neurosurgery, to encourage communication and collaboration amongst our Societies
2. **Lille, France** - to attend the first French Neuromodulation Society meeting
3. **Madrid, Spain** - to help Spanish interested physicians hold an informational meeting for the formation of a Spanish Chapter
4. **London, UK** - to discuss the Society and meet current and prospective members
5. **Tokyo, Japan** - for the first Japan Neuromodulation Society Scientific Meeting
6. **Seoul, Korea** - to speak with interested anesthesiologists and neurosurgeons about the INS at the Korean Society for Functional and Stereotactic Neurosurgery Congress
7. **Beijing, China** - to discuss the INS at the Chinese Neuromodulation Workshop and to network with interested neuroscientists and neurosurgeons regarding the formation of a Chinese Chapter

Every year, we are invited to and represented at the USA National Institute of Neurologic Disorders (NINDS) Neural Interfaces Workshop in Bethesda, Maryland.

Next year, I will be attending the Chinese Society for Functional and Stereotactic Neurosurgery (SSFN) Congress, hosted by Luan Guoming, neurosurgeon, to discuss the formation of the Chinese INS Chapter, the first Korean Neuromodulation Society Congress, hosted by Lee Jung Kiu and Chang Jin Woo, in April of 2007, to welcome this chapter, and the Brazilian SSFN Meeting, hosted by Dr. Osvaldo Vilela Filho, to discuss formation of a Brazilian chapter.

Our Numbers Continue to Grow

| Years | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Australia | 2 | 2 | 22 | 22 |
| Benelux | 5 | 32 | 50 | 44 |
| Germany | 3 | 7 | 11 | 47 |
| Italy | 42 | 45 | 41 | 42 |
| Japan | 0 | 1 | 2 | 34 |
| NANS | 342 | 273 | 358 | 338 |
| South East Europe | 0 | 0 | 1 | 21 |
| UK & Ireland | 30 | 21 | 29 | 58 |
| Non-Chapter Members | 21 | 17 | 38 | 25 |
| Total | 445 | 398 | 552 | 631 |

As you can see, interest in the INS is growing and our Society is in turn blossoming. Just think, five years ago, we had only 15 paid members outside of NANS, our largest chapter with 350 members. We now have >600 members, half of whom come from outside of North America.

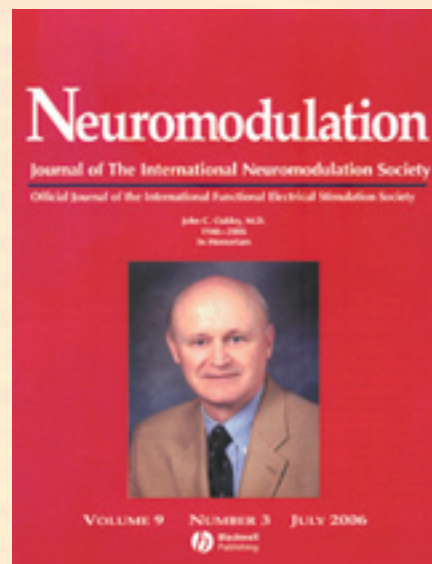
Our journal, *Neuromodulation*, is growing too, and I am proud of its fulfilling one of the missions of the INS: to disseminate scientific information germane to the field of neuromodulation in the world. Its focus has expanded from mostly pain-related articles to include studies on various applications of neuromodulation, such as deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease. Last year, the Journal earned a profit for the Society, approximately \$50,000.

As proud as I am of the Journal, I am also disappointed that the National Library of Medicine still has not agreed to index it in Index Medicus/Medline. However, due to the trust that our authors have in our Journal, our Editorial Board Members' support and expertise in reviewing manuscripts, and the diligence of our managing Editor and INS Executive Director, Tia Sofatzis, it is getting better, and it still has room to improve. We continue to need and inspire good science to grow our Journal, and subsequently the field of neuromodulation!

In an effort to have Neuromodulation speak for the whole of the rapidly growing field of neuromodulation, in its 10th year of publication, the journal's title will expand to "*Neuromodulation Technology at the Neural Interface*".

Lastly, I want to remember a dear, dear friend and colleague of mine and all of us, who, most unfortunately, has been lost to us. John Oakley, a true human's human, neurosurgeon, husband,

father, friend, and colleague died this year in a tragic accident. John, as a former President of the North American Neuromodulation Society, was a Board member of the INS and a true thought leader in the field of neuromodulation. His contributions, his smile, and his passion for life will be missed by all!

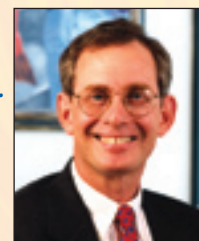


To our partners in neuromodulation, the Industry that develops and manufactures the devices that we implant and care for, I continue to welcome your advice and your criticism of our activities. I also welcome your continued moral and financial support of our organization. I guarantee a true working partnership of our Society to your Industry.

The INS has grown up and we will continue to grow. I am looking forward to seeing all of you this year, next year, and years to come. Our next INS congress will be 2007, and we are looking forward to all of you and your colleagues coming to this truly international event.

Sincerely yours,

Elliot Krames, M.D.
President, INS



The New Investigator Best Manuscripts Award

*The past is shaped, the present is gone,
Put on the shelf to be in view.
So if the future is what we have,
Let's start to live it, with me and you.*

—David H. Kessel, 1998

The International Neuromodulation Society community is excited because it believes the future is now for neuromodulation. It is one of the fastest growing fields in medicine today. This field includes the care of people with a broad spectrum of clinical disorders, basic science, clinical research, bioengineering, and inquiry at the neural interface. Every effort is being made to expand the community and increase the knowledge base by encouraging and promoting research and education. Since the future is now, members of the International Neuromodulation Society realize that a significant effort must be mounted to overcome the lack of information about the mechanisms that make neuromodulation work to treat clinical disorders. This research is critical because the field will only advance if this research can be used to support the approval of new treatments and allow neuromodulators to improve the efficacy, safety, and applicability of existing treatments.

One important way to make the future now is to encourage new investigators to conduct scientific work in this exciting arena and to publish their important findings in *Neuromodulation*, which is the journal of the International Neuromodulation Society and the official journal of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society. To inspire and motivate new investigators, The New Investigator Best Manuscripts Award in the area of neuromodulation has been established to stimulate interest in this important field. The award will be given to one or more new basic and clinical

investigators who have been recognized for outstanding originality and ingenuity in a scientific project. The award(s) will be a minimum of \$2,500 and up to \$10,000.

To qualify for the competition the new investigator must have completed training within the last five years, or must be within the first five years of their faculty appointment at the time of submission of the manuscript, nomination and supporting documents. This qualification gives an opportunity for individuals who may have trained in another area, but then a novel or life changing event transpires in their experience to get them excited about clinical and/or basic research in neuromodulation. This experience may lead them to pursue an active program in this emerging and understudied area of research.

To make the future now for the new investigator, she/he must be nominated for the award. A letter from the department chair or supervisor needs to certify that the nominee meets the qualifications. The new investigator must submit a current curriculum vitae and two letters of recommendation along with the manuscript. One recommendation must come from the immediate supervisor of the nominee. Since selection of the award is based on the review of a manuscript describing original work, she/he must be the first author. If the manuscript has additional co-authors, then the manuscript must be accompanied by a letter from the co-authors attesting to the significant contribution of the first author in the investigation described in the manuscript.

The best manuscripts will be chosen through a review process that is established by an Awards Review Committee. The Committee is composed of

outstanding basic and clinical scientists who have made important contributions to science and to neuromodulation. The reviewers include:

- **Tipu Aziz, MD**, from Neurosurgery at Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford and Charing Cross Hospital in Oxford, England
- **Warren Grill, PhD**, from the Department of Bioengineering at Duke University
- **Bengt Linderöth MD, PhD**, from the Department of Neurosurgery at the Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden
- **Theo Meert, MD**, from J&J Pharmaceutical Research and Development in Belgium
- **Richard North, MD**, from the Department of Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University
- **William D. Willis MD, PhD**, from the Dept. of Neuroscience and Cell Biology at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
- **Robert D. Foreman, PhD**, from the Dept. of Physiology at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

The International Neuromodulation Society is very enthusiastic about this award, because it believes it will encourage new investigators to invest their time and energy to make critically important contributions to the field of neuromodulation now and in the future.

*Robert D. Foreman, Ph.D.
Award Committee Chairman*



SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Please submit entries before January 1, 2007 to:

INS New Investigator Competition
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The award-winning manuscript(s) must be submitted to *Neuromodulation*, the journal of the INS, and the official journal of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society, for publication.

The INS is grateful to Medtronic, Inc., for providing a grant to institute these awards.



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Looking Forward with the New INS Website

The INS is a growing and maturing professional organisation. Our remit is to bring together the professional and scientific interests of those interested in this rapidly evolving specialised field of neuromodulation. We communicate with each other through our journal and newsletter and our scientific meetings, but soon our communication will be further enhanced by the addition of our new interactive website. It is fitting that a technology based specialty society like our own should at last have a sophisticated website.

A society website has to fulfill several functions. Firstly, we want this to be a resource to our membership. The Society can only exist if it has members and in this competitive world we want to prove our worth to our members so that they want to join and most importantly renew. The website can be edited by the Executive Director and the Website Editorial Board. The website server and construction of the website will allow secure storage of vast amounts of data which could in the future be used to support a registry or bibliography.

Secondly, we want to project to the wider community, both to our potential and existing patients, potential new members, our referring colleagues, scientists and industry. The home page includes many of the common therapy names so that metatagging and search engines will quickly bring our home page to the fore. A page on frequently asked questions will guide the visitor through to helpful advice. Descriptions and images of the techniques and indications are included as well as information and history about our Society.

Thirdly, there is a members-only section which can be accessed by password. This area will include a discussion forum with a number of threads. Each member will also be assigned their own email address for more direct communication.

Fourthly, there is the capacity for each national chapter website to be linked to the main INS site. Each national chapter website is under its own editorial control. It is hoped, although not essential, that each will use the same design template. Each site will have both public and members-only sections.

Finally, it is hoped that much of the business of the Society can be conducted on line, so that those that need to, can complete membership application forms, renew contact information and easily pay their annual subscriptions. There will be billboards for posting information about meetings and an area to allow meetings' administration and advertising.

We work in a rapidly developing field. Our endeavours at the neural interface are helping us to not only provide solutions to chronic disease but also to help redefine our understanding of the disease itself. Many of us have been working in relative isolation, with the new website, we shall bring each of us from around the world closer together.

I feel that I have been working on this website idea for years but from mid-September 2006 we hope to have the INS site up and running. Then it will require refinement and updating. I am sure that you will have suggestions for the INS site and hopefully you will contribute to your own national chapter site as well. As our Society grows there will be an increasing need for effective communication. We think our website will be a major asset to our Society, we hope you do too.

I would like to thank the boards of the INS, NS(UKI), and NANS who have supported the budget for this new website as well as Tia Sofatzis, Shaun Moffat who initially developed the website plan, and finally Webeurope, who have constructed the new site.

*Simon Thomson, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.A.
Secretary of INS
Website Editor*



INS Website screenshot

Italian Neuromodulation Society

The Italian Neuromodulation Society was established on 28 November 1999, as Italian Chapter of International Neuromodulation Society. The Italian Chapter has 47 members, specialized in anaesthesiology and neurosurgery, who are distributed in each Italian Region. The President of the Italian Chapter is Dr. William Raffaelli.

We have organized the following activities this year:

1. Two Consensus Conferences, under the Italian Chapter aegis, to establish guidelines to be used nationally for neuro-implantation procedures.
2. Two meetings of Italian Chapter: the first in Pisa in June in connection with The First Congress of FederDolore (Italian Federation of Pain Centres Congress); and the second

- "Morphine Intrathecal Delivery for Chronic Nonmalignant Pain: Lowest Age of Enrollment"

- The administration of drugs by spinal route (usually morphine) for the treatment of chronic non-malignant pain / Risk management in neurostimulation technique.

took place in July in Torino, in conjunction with The World Congress of WISP, and was directed by Doctors William Raffaelli and Mario Meglio. Approximately 60 to 75 physicians participated in our scientific activities.

The 3rd National Congress of INS Italian Chapter will held on April 1, 2007 in Rimini, and all the interested colleagues are invited to take part in it.

*William Raffaelli, M.D.
President*

The Japan Neuromodulation Society (JNS)

The Japan Neuromodulation Society (JNS) was founded in 2005, by reorganizing the Japanese Society for Electrical Stimulation Therapy, which has an 18-year history and more than 200 members, and electing a new members of the advisory board. Dr. Yoichi Katayama was elected to be a representative of the advisory board of the JNS. Dr. Katayama, as the Congress President, hosted the 19th Annual Congress on May 21, 2005 in Tokyo. Approximately 90 members attended the Congress.

The 20th Annual Congress was held at Toshi-Center Hotel in Tokyo on May 20, 2006. The

Congress President was Dr. Kazuo Hanaoka. Dr. Elliot S. Krames presented a special invited lecture, and members were much impressed by his talk. The topics, presented at the congress, included a variety of neuromodulation techniques such as stimulation therapies involving cerebral cortex, deep brain structures, spinal cord and peripheral nerves, and intrathecal drug delivery.

The 21st Annual Congress will be held at Toshi-Center Hotel in Tokyo on May 26, 2007. The Congress President is Dr. Akiyoshi Namiki.

Dr. Yoichi Katayama continues a representative of the advisory board of the JNS. We believe that we have made great strides in developing this important field. We are grateful to Dr. Elliot S Krames for his kind and strong support.

*Yoichi Katayama, M.D., Ph.D.
JNS President*

North American Neuromodulation Society (NANS)

The 9th Annual meeting of the North American Neuromodulation Society was held on November 10-12, 2005 in Washington, D.C. Following opening comments by President, Richard North, and Program Chair, Elliot Krames, Dr. Michael Merzenich set the tone for the meeting with his keynote address, focusing on his groundbreaking research in plasticity of the nervous system and its implications for neuromodulation therapies. The program featured a wide range of topics including spinal cord stimulation, brain stimulation, intrathecal therapies, novel stimulation uses, and functional electrical stimulation. Fourteen papers and 9 posters were presented at the meeting.

Ali Rezai, M.D., is organizing our Tenth Annual Meeting, which is entitled Neuromodulation: Coming of Age. As this will be our tenth meeting, we wish to make it a special one, both in terms of the scientific program, and the venue. This will be held at the new Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, on December 7 - 10, 2006.

The program not only will provide a better understanding of what we do, but also will take a hard look at the future. Part of the dynamic period in which we live is represented by the challenges of reimbursement for our modalities.

To address these challenges in North America, we have formed a coalition of physician organizations, whose members implant neuromodulation devices, with participation from the three major manufacturers. Marshall Bedder, M.D., is coordinating our efforts with other organizations to develop a grass roots network around the country that can be mobilized regionally to address coverage issues efficiently.

We are collaborating with other organizations to develop guidelines for neuromodulation treatment. Richard North, M.D., our Immediate Past President, is doing a yeoman's job preparing the first draft of The Guidelines of Neurostimulation for Neuropathic Pain. These guidelines are a critical element necessary to communicate with payers regarding coverage. We must leverage the existing evidence based

medicine, regarding our field with the expertise of our leaders to develop guidelines that will not only provide a framework for treatment, but also will positively affect the way our specialty is practiced.

We are actively participating in several efforts in Washington, D.C., to improve reimbursement for procedures. We have received financial commitment to pursue grassroots efforts to ensure coverage of procedures.

This year presents many challenges and opportunities, as our field is coming of age.

*Joshua Prager, M.D.
NANS President*

*Jaimie Henderson, M.D.
NANS Vice-President*

Southeast European Neuromodulation Society

The origins of the Southeast European Chapter of INS go back to the 1st Southeast European International Symposium on Neuromodulation, which took place in Athens, Greece, in 2003. In the presence of the current President of the INS, Dr. Elliot Krames, the President of the INS at the time, Mr. Brian Simpson, officially declared the commencement of the process for the formation of the Chapter. Many participants of that meeting became the founding members and the Chapter obtained its full recognition as a scientific society with respect to the legal, financial, and tax-related authorities in the European Union, in December 2004. Currently, the Chapter is based in Athens, Greece.

The Chapter is facilitating the cross-fertilization of ideas, and fostering a closer collaboration among neuromodulation-related specialists from the countries of the Southeast European region. This region includes Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Croatia, FYROMA (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and Albania. The Chapter expects to promote the proper application of neuromodulation therapies. This will hopefully convince insurance-related organizations to cover the costs and therefore, make neuromodulation more available to the people of our region.

The Southeast European Neuromodulation Society Roundtable will be held in conjunction with 8th Hellenic National Congress for Pain on October 19-21, 2006 in Hania-Crete, Greece.

*Damianos E. Sakas, M.D.
President, Southeast European
Neuromodulation Society*

Benelux Neuromodulation Society

In 2006 the membership of the Benelux Neuromodulation Society (BNS) has grown to about 60 members, covering an increasing variety of disciplines including neurology, neurosurgery, psychiatry, anesthesiology, urology, biomedical engineering and rehabilitation medicine. The aim of the BNS Board is to attract even more disciplines applying neuromodulation or being interested in this treatment modality.

On November 18 and 19, 2005 the BNS had its third annual scientific meeting, which was held in the historic Flemish city of Gent. Prof. Dirk van Roost, neurosurgeon at the University Hospital of Gent, took care of the local organization and made it a successful meeting, where about 45 members and other interested people attended the presentation of 13 compelling contributions by specialists in these clinical fields.

Whereas the previous meeting in November 2004 was focused on childhood spasticity and neuro-urological and related disorders, this meeting was dedicated to the management of chronic pain and epilepsy by neuromodulation.

The session on epilepsy started with a keynote lecture by Prof. Chkhenkeli from Chicago and was followed by an overview of the basic neurophysiological and pathophysiological mechanisms of epilepsy. Other aspects discussed were the mechanisms involved in the treatment of epilepsy by vagal nerve and hippocampal stimulation. These introductions were completed by a discussion of imaging techniques used in the identification of brain targets, including SPECT and functional MRI combined with magneto-encephalography. In the session on chronic pain management stimulation of less common targets, such as the occipital nerve, motor cortex and somatosensory cortex was discussed. The program of the meeting was considered as attractive and interesting by the participants.

Following the scientific meeting, the Annual General Assembly of the BNS was held. All Board members resigned since their three-year term was completed; but according to the decision of the previous General Assembly, two of them were nominated for a second period to assure continuity. Liong Liem (President) and

Jean-Pierre van Buyten (Treasurer) left the Board, and the following members were nominated and elected: Bart Nuttin (President), Veerle Visser-Vandewalle (Vice-president), Jan Holsheimer (Secretary), Loes Gabriëls (Treasurer), as well as two new members: Benoit Pirotte (neurosurgeon) and Teus van Laar (neurologist).

The General Assembly also approved the Financial Report 2003-2004 and the Budget 2005 and 2006. Finally, the General Assembly agreed to the proposal of the Board to dedicate the Annual Meeting 2006 to "*Ethical and legal aspects of neuromodulation: on the road to guidelines*". This meeting will be held on 17-18 November in Maastricht, and will be organized by Veerle Visser-Vandewalle. It is up to the BNS Board and the local organization to continue the success of the previous meetings.

Jan Holsheimer, Ph.D.
Secretary

IFESS and INS Montreal 2005

The 2005 IFESS (International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society) Annual Conference, its 10th, was held in July at the Mount Royal Centre in the beautiful city of Montreal, Canada and was attended by more than 200 delegates from around the world.

My overall impression from this very successful meeting was of an increasing blurring of the lines of demarcation between the areas of interest of the two groups, IFESS and INS. Thus deep brain stimulation (DBS), motor cortex stimulation (MCS), magnetic stimulation, neural plasticity and imaging were recurring themes. Much excellent basic research is helping to rationalise the parameters and approaches used in clinical neurostimulation. I was delighted that Robert Levy was invited to speak about MCS in movement disorders; this was a direct result of his talk at the recent INS Congress in Rome being heard by a member of the IFESS conference organizing committee, Jane Burridge – a nice example of cross fertilisation between the societies.

We very much appreciated the opportunity to have an INS session, as we had in Bournemouth in 2004. Richard North spoke about the major Johns Hopkins study of spinal cord stimulation versus reoperation for "failed back surgery syndrome" and gave a timely talk about cost effectiveness; Ross Davis spoke about the problems

associated with active implantable devices, giving us the benefit of his wisdom and his enormous experience of the field; Mojgan Hodaie brought us up to date on DBS for Parkinson's disease and on the exciting recent developments in DBS for severe mental disorders; my contribution was a brief review of the history of the INS, a discussion of my role as INS-IFESS liaison and a talk about MCS for refractory pain. I rather enjoyed the thought that several lectures about the motor cortex, my own included, were being given across the street from the institute which is so intimately associated with the famous neurosurgeon Wilder Penfield and his seminal work on the mapping of the cerebral cortex.

In the spirit of increasing collaboration between the two societies, Tia Sofatzis and I attended the Board of Directors meeting where several exciting proposals and initiatives were discussed, particularly relating to future meetings. We were also able to pass on the benefit of some useful lessons we had learned in the INS about the thorny but crucially important issue of membership and the payment of subscriptions.

The social programme was equally successful; the ambience of Montreal, the coincidental jazz festival and an excellent gala dinner with great entertainment all made for a very enjoyable time. My most lingering memory, however, (and

I suspect the same will be true for most people who were there) will be of the amazing videos of monkeys controlling robot arms in three dimensional space by using signals from their motor cortex. Andrew Schwartz's presentation of this prodigious research project involving many dedicated people at the University of Pittsburgh was really something special.

Brian Simpson, M.D., F.R.C.S.
INS Liaison Officer to IFESS



German Neuromodulation Society

The German Neuromodulation Society (DGNM) is a Chapter of the International Neuromodulation Society (INS). Its purpose is to support science and research as well as activities, which require practical skills in the field of neuromodulation.

The German Neuromodulation Society is aiming at stimulating not only the association between German and German-speaking doctors of all disciplines, but also the cooperation with domestic and international doctors, scientists, experts and respective professional societies. The goal will be achieved by exchanging the latest scientific knowledge and knowhow and by motivating scientific activities.

The German Neuromodulation Society observes the interests in the subjects of training, further training and research, and consequently assures the professional standard. The field of neuromodulation, nationally and internationally, is under its responsibility.

Current Studies

- Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (in cooperation with the Benelux Neuromodulation Society)
- Functional electrical stimulation in spinal lesion (in cooperation with DGBMT)
- Psychiatric side effects after STN stimulation (in cooperation with the German DBS Society)

Executive Board

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| President: | Dr. Athanasios Koulousakis, M.D. (Kolonias-Germany) |
| Vice President: | Dr. Vassilios Vadokas, M.D. (Heilbronn -Germany) |
| Secretary: | Dr. Matthias Winkelmüller, M.D. (Hannover-Germany) |
| Treasurer: | Dr. Hermann Keller, M.D. (Muttens - Switzerland) |

The first conference which focused on the topic "Neuromodulation in Germany," was held in

December 2005, in Cologne. The lectures there covered the whole area of neuromodulation, ranging from deep brain stimulation to peripheral field stimulation.

The next congress of the INS Germany will take place on 3rd and 4th November 2006 in Hanover, Germany, and will focus on "Lumbar Back Pain," and "Abdominal Visceral Pain."

The German Neuromodulation Society is based in Heilbronn, Germany.

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Vassilios Vadokas, M.D.
Vice President

5th Annual Scientific Meeting Neuromodulation Society of United Kingdom and Ireland 1-2 December 2005, Dudley, West Midlands

Last year's conference hosted over 100 delegates to a meeting which provided an update on exciting developments in neuromodulation. The attendance exceeded our target and the society's thanks are owed to Dr Jon Raphael and his team for their efforts in organisation.

To set the scene, a pre-meeting seminar on advances in spinal cord stimulation was organised by Advanced Bionics at a hotel near the hospital. Dr Todd Whitehurst presented new ways of approaching therapy by drawing on their experiences in other areas of neural therapy such as cochlear implantation. Dr Joshua Prager, President of the North American Neuromodulation Society, shared his vast clinical experience. The seminar was well received and chair of the satellite seminar, Mr. Brian Simpson commented on how neurostimulation is being taken to new levels.

The 5th ASM of the NS(UKI) commenced with the keynote conference speaker. Two presentations on the scientific basis of spinal cord stimulation by Prof Bengt Linderöth of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm updated the audience on laboratory research into neurotransmitters involved in this process in both neuropathic and ischaemic pain. From this scientific basis, the conference moved to explore some therapeutic uses. Emerging areas were considered by Prof Nick Kenefick a colorectal

surgeon from Bristol, UK, describing his experiences and research data on sacral nerve stimulation for rectal pathology of faecal incontinence and constipation. Dr Sam Eldabe from Middlesbrough, UK, provided the interim results of patient controlled analgesia from the European multicentre study of the patient therapy manager demonstrating high patient satisfaction with this modality and no greater complications than comparable therapies.

The delegates took a break from the lectures to enjoy the leisure facilities and to meet with colleagues at the conference dinner to the background of a local jazz band.

The second day started with an update on deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease from Ms Ros Mitchell, a neurosurgeon from Birmingham, UK, and with a presentation on the use of sacral nerve stimulation for urinary incontinence by Ms Sohier Elniel, an urogynaecologist from London.

Two further overseas speakers provided refreshing insights for the delegates. Dr Allen Burton, Associate Professor of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre, was able to share his experience in managing severe cancer pain by intrathecal therapies. Dr Bob van Hilten, Associate Professor of Neurology at Leiden,

Netherlands, presented on his experience in managing the dystonia of CRPS with intrathecal baclofen.

To get a sense of the developing research and experience from the UK, 10 free papers were accepted for presentation covering areas such as the basic science of potassium channel dysfunction in neuropathic pain, the clinical outcomes of SCS therapy, adverse events of intrathecal therapy and cost effectiveness studies.

The meeting ended with a presentation from Dr Kate Grady of the British Pain Society on the developing guidelines for intrathecal drug delivery systems.

The Sixth Annual Meeting is to be held in Cork, Ireland on 19-21 October 2006, where it is hoped all those who use neuromodulation in their professional lives will once again enjoy the academic and social interactions of this multidisciplinary society.

Simon Thomson, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.A.
Immediate Past President, NS(UKI)

2006

2007

12-15 September

11th Annual International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society Conference
Miyagi – Zao, Japan

For additional information, please visit:
<http://www.ifess.org/conferences.htm>

IFESS 2006 Secretary:
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3-4 November

Second Annual Meeting of the German Neuromodulation Society
Hannover, Germany
For more information, please contact:

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17-18 November

4th Annual Meeting of the Benelux Neuromodulation Society
Maastricht, The Netherlands

“Ethical and Legal Aspects of Neuromodulation: on the Road to Guidelines”

For additional information please contact:
Veerle Visser-Vandewalle, MD, PhD
Dept. of Neurosurgery, Univ. Hospital
Maastricht, P.O. Box 5800, NL – 6202 AZ
Maastricht, The Netherlands
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E-mail: vva@snch.azm.nl

19-21 October

6th Annual Scientific Meeting
Neuromodulation Society
of United Kingdom and Ireland
A Joint Meeting with the Irish Pain Society

For full details please visit the meeting website at www.nsukiasm.org

South East European Neuromodulation Society Roundtable
Held in conjunction with 8th Hellenic National Congress for Pain
Hania-Crete, Greece
For additional information, please contact:

Damianos E. Sakas, MD
President, Southeast European Neuromodulation Society
Professor of Neurosurgery
Dept. of Neurosurgery, Univ. of Athens
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7-9 December

10th Annual Meeting of the North American Neuromodulation Society
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

For more information, please contact:
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Vanessa Mobley, CMP, Executive Director
4700 W. Lake Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025 USA

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1 April

The 3rd National Congress of the Italian Neuromodulation Society
Rimini, Italy

For additional information, please contact:
William Raffaelli, MD, Congress Chairman
Ospedale Infermi di Rimini
Terapia Antalgica e Cure Palliative
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1 April

2nd Scientific meeting of Australian Chapter of the International Neuromodulation Society
Hyatt Regency Hotel, North Terrace, Adelaide
Satellite Symposium to Australian Pain Society

For additional information, please contact:
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E-mail: penny.underhill@ans-medical.com.au

26 May

The 21st Annual Congress of the Japan Neuromodulation Society (formerly known as the Japanese Society for Electrical Stimulation Therapy)
Toshi-Center Hotel, Tokyo, Japan

For additional information, please contact:
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The International Neuromodulation Society is a society that fosters cooperation and partnership between clinicians, scientists and industry. We are proud of this cooperation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our corporate partners for all of their support since the inception of the International Neuromodulation Society. Without the support of our corporate partners, our Society, the journal, *Neuromodulation*, and the chapters of the INS would not be in existence today.



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