Dear Colleagues,

In Porto the executive board has proposed the official new name of IFSO that was subsequently approved by the general council. The logo of IFSO will remain the same. The new name is: "International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders". At the same time a new committee was formed to explore the aspects of metabolic surgery in relation to obesity and possibly also in lean patients. The chairman of this committee will be Francesco Rubino from Weill Medical Cornell Medical Centre, New York, USA.

New IFSO President and Officers

In Porto President elect Rafael Alvarez Cordero was elected as the new president of IFSO. Dr MAL Fobi from the USA was elected as new president elect. Finally Professor Luigi Angrisani was proposed as the new treasurer-secretary. He will work with the current treasurer Dr Harry Frydenberg and will take over this important function in 2009.

Future World Congresses

The 2008 meeting in Buenos Aires is starting to come into shape. More information in this newsletter. For 2011 the location was also decided. With an unanimous vote Frankfurt will be the location for the world congress. Professor Rudolph Weiner will be the congress president and organiser.

Membership Renewal

November 2007 the membership of IFSO and the subscriptions to Obesity Surgery need to be renewed. The member association will get the information. ALL MEMBERS need to register and subscribe to Obesity Surgery through their MEMBER ASSOCIATION to be eligible for the special benefits of IFSO members.

From the president:

Read his message on Page 2 and 3
THE EVOLUTION OF IFSO.
By Rafael Alvarez Cordero

Few days ago, at the General Council Meeting of IFSO, a new name was given to our Federation in order to be in accordance to the new perspectives in our discipline, therefore, it was approved the name: International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders, and it also was accepted to keep the logo IFSO.

I am at the Arquivo Hall, the magnificent auditorium where the Congress was held, and few minutes ago the last Round Table was presented by some of the most respected leaders in our discipline; its title was significant indeed: “Consolidation of Results”.

And I remember that historical day on 1995 where IFSO was founded in Stockholm, Sweden, and I review in my mind the extraordinary development of our Federation, the increasing participation of colleagues from many countries and national bariatric societies, and the enormous success of our official journal, Obesity Surgery, now considered the best in its field and the seventh more important scientific journal published in English, and I admire the unique devotion and dedication of Professor Mervyn Deitel, who, almost alone, prepared, edited and published our official Journal since its foundation.

Yes, we have succeeded, yes, today IFSO is a reality, IFSO has had tremendous impact on the development of bariatric surgery all over the world, even the World Health Organization has recognized the benefits of bariatric procedures; besides, we already signed a contract with a new Publisher, Springer Science & Business Media LLC to still improve the quality of our Journal; yes, our traditional annual meeting (world congress) is a “must” for everyone to attend; and for all these, the founding fathers, the past presidents, the congresses organizers, and all scientist and surgeons who have devoted a lot of their time to IFSO, deserve a great recognition.

And as the Arquivo Hall became deserted, I had some reflections on what we listened just minutes ago: Consolidation of Results.

Gastro-jejunal bypass in its diverse modalities was evaluated, long time results were presented, in summary, it was considered a great technique, probably the best.

Then Gastric banding was presented, with careful evaluation of the technique, the weight loss and the long term follow up were seen, it was considered a great technique, probably the best.

Biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch was the next, also a great technique, with short and long term success in terms of weight loss, comorbidities correction, etc, it was considered a great technique, probably the best.

And finally the biliopancreatic diversion was presented, with magnificent follow-up, studies on the metabolic consequences of it, solution of concomitant diseases, etc., it was considered a great technique, probably the best.

The panelists are the most experienced in the world, their techniques evidence their creativity and their results are evident.

So I remember a conversation I had few weeks ago with my father as we commented the Porto scientific program; in his 94th. year he is wiser than ever, and he told me:

Do you remember the treatments for venereal diseases on the XVI and XVII century?, and the “proven” treatments for tuberculosis on the XIX century?, some of those treatments
were successful, but they did not cure a single patient, because at that time we did not know the etiology of venereal diseases or tuberculosis.

-But we know a lot of obesity, and we know it is a multifactorial disease, I said.
-Which is an elegant way to say that we still do not know what obesity is, he replied. So, I think that we must recognize our formidable success, the gigantic benefits we have given to otherwise sick and almost invalid obese individuals, but our task is not over, and we must keep our research up to the moment we understand and we know what obesity is.

I am pleased to see more and more studies on the role of gut hormones and other substances in obesity and obesity control presented every year not only in our World Congress but everywhere, and published in Obesity Surgery and other scientific journals, but we must continue our research.

One clear example of this is the result of some bariatric techniques on non-obese patients with type 2 diabetes, we already know the satisfactory results of the technique, but we still do not know the reason of the success, (as some colleague said: is the diminution of “something bad” o the increase of “something good”?, we still do not know for sure); IFSO has a great task, we surgeons should work along with endocrinologists, neuroscientists and other specialists to get to the core of the problem.

But also, as I review the excellent papers and lectures of this Porto Congress, I see a lot of information on weight loss, percent of excess weight, but few papers on quality of life of those patients who have lost 50 or 100 pounds, and we should remember that obese individuals are human beings, so quality of life should be our most important concern.

Today IFSO enters in a new era: we do not forget what we already achieved, but as a Federation, we should promote the best bariatric surgery through the accreditation of Centers of Excellence, as was presented by our past President professor John Melissas, IFSO should promote better surgical techniques and multidisciplinary groups to attend obese patients, and IFSO should stress bioethics in our discipline. Granted, bioethics is present in almost every bariatric surgeon, but what about bioethics in patient selection and indications?, what about bioethics in thorough information for the patient?, what about techniques?, and follow up?, and what about bioethics in gathering and publishing results?: a code of Bioethics will be well received by all IFSO members.

So, as I leave the Arquivo Hall, I am pleased to see what have we done in the past, and I am excited to think what we may do in the future; all these ambitious goals should not be achieved without the participation of all IFSO members; so, as president of the Federation, I respectfully ask for your help, in your Clinics, in your Hospitals, in your bariatric societies; and also in our IFSO website, where your comments and proposals are important, your participation will make IFSO what we all dreamed that day on Stockholm in 1995.

May you have a nice IFSO year.

Rafael Álvarez-Cordero MD (*)
The 12th world congress in Porto was again a great success. Over 1200 participants enjoyed a highly scientific and also very entertaining program. The congress organizer Antonio Sergio, as a true congress president, appeared to be personally taking care of business in every single meeting room, the exhibition and poster area and in the mean time was also arranging all sorts of interim meetings. We have to congratulate him on this tremendous success. Of course the support of the industry was well appreciated and underlined by several entertaining industrial symposia and diners. The list of sponsors can be found on the congress website but the major sponsors Ethicon Endosurgery, Tyco Healthcare (now Covedien) and Allergan deserve to be specially mentioned.
The International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity was initiated in 1995 (Stockholm). The first official IFSO congress and founding meeting took place in Prague, Czech Republic 1996.

3rd Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders - European Chapter
Capri, Italy April 17-19, 2008

Message from the President of the Congress

Dear Colleagues,

After the pleasure and honour of organizing with Nicola Scopinaro the 1st International Symposium on Obesity Surgery (ISLOS) in March 1999, in my home town, Naples, it is now a great privilege for me to host the 3rd Congress of the European Chapter of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity in the lovely island of Capri. The focus at ISLOS was innovation versus tradition, the bomb of laparoscopy versus traditional laparotomy. In these days obesity is an increasingly devastating disease that surgery is desperately trying to fight "mini-invasively".

Europe is the place were new ideas and innovative concepts are born in this very young discipline. Innovation was a fact in Capri already 2000 years ago: during the reign of the emperor Tiberius, Rome "caput mundi" was ruled from the island of Capri. Each day he sent orders to the mainland from his wonderful villa by a type of "heliograph" which transmitted the sun's rays by means of a mirror of polished metal. For 2 and half days in Capri the world top experts in obesity surgery will meet. The congress will focus on state of the art in Europe. For those of us who work on this side of the planet, it is high time to reflect on how different is our way of thinking. During "versus" Sessions, Symposia, Keynote Lectures, Round Tables, oral presentations and concurrent video-sessions, different technical attitudes and treatment strategies implemented in Europe and rest of the world will be debated. Our aim is to increase knowledge to improve the management of this human suffering. Hoping that science and life pleasures will nicely combine during your stay in Capri,
I look forward to seeing you in this heavenly place!

Luigi Angrisani
President of the Congress

The program will mainly focus on the following topics:
1. Malabsorptive and restrictive procedures, technical evolution and results
2. Allied Health essentials and surgical support
3. Endoluminal bariatric surgery
4. Re-do surgery, indications, technique and results
5. IVT: filters and pharmacoprophilaxis
6. Pre-operative weight loss
7. Experimental bariatric surgery
8. Trials in bariatric surgery
9. Emergency bariatric situations
10. 5-10 year results
11. Monitoring results and weight loss
12. Case reports
13. Surgery for BMI <35
14. Bariatric procedures and diabetes
15. New surgical procedures for diabetes treatment
16. Plastic and reconstructive techniques
17. Robotics and new technologies
18. Incisional hernia
19. Re-do surgery for long term complications, lack of weight loss or obesity recidi-visim

Presentations will include:
- Keynote lectures
- Round tables
- Symposia
- Oral presentations
- Allied Health sessions
- Pre and post congress Workshops

All these presentations will be given in Plenary Sessions

www.ifsoicapri2008.com
IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Payment of membership fees and subscriptions for Obesity Surgery need to be made directly to the member association of your country. Your local secretariat will forward the fees and your personal details to the IFSO secretariat (MedConnect, see www.ifso.com). To guarantee continuation of your Obesity Surgery subscription early payment is crucial.

Who is Member of IFSO

Individual Members are those Surgeons or Allied Health Practitioners who are members of IFSO national societies and their dues of $US20 have been paid to the IFSO Treasurer either through their society or individually. This is done automatically by most IFSO Societies e.g. Brazil, ASBS, Austria so if you are a financial member of these societies you are a member of IFSO.

Affiliated Individual Members are those from countries who do not have their own Societies at this time, such as Lithuania, South Africa, or Honduras and these members pay their dues directly to IFSO.

The big advantage of IFSO Membership is reduced registration at IFSO sponsored meetings (much more than $20) and a significant reduction in subscriptions to the Obesity Surgery Journal (for IFSO members $80 US when paid directly to IFSO, also see www.obesitysurgery.com). ASBS members also receive the journal SOARD as part of their dues. Another advantage in the near future will be listing on the new IFSO website.

New Editors of Obesity Surgery

Two of the most distinguished members of IFSO have been elected as the successors of Mervyn Deitel the current editor of Obesity Surgery. Mervyn Deitel who has made Obesity Surgery the successful journal it currently is with a citation index of 3.7 has sold the journal to Springer and will step down as editor in chief end of 2008. Henry Buchwald, a past president of IFSO bariatric surgery and IFSO and its honorary president as of January 2009. In the near future will be listing on the new IFSO website.

Nicola Scopinaro president will be the coming period they will work closely with Mervyn Deitel to guarantee continuation of your Obesity Surgery subscription early payment is crucial.

IFSO Scholarships 2008

Requests for IFSO scholarships need to be addressed to dr Harry Frydenberg (harryfry@ozemail.com.au) eligible are members from developing countries, residents and research fellows. The scholarship consists of a travel reimbursement for the upcoming world congress of IFSO and free entrance to the congress. Election of the candidates is made by the executive board of IFSO.
The “Argentina Society for the Surgery of Obesity” (SACO), organize in the name of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity (IFSO), the XIII World Congress. It is a great pleasure and honour to welcome you to Buenos Aires for IFSO 2008.

Apart from sharing information and experience in the decade where the surgical treatment of morbid obesity is accepted all over the world, we would like you to know that at the southern end of America there is an extensive nation that offers visitors natural and cultural wonders: traditions, cuisine, ways of life that can be as wonderful as the scenery to be visited.

A well known expression assures that “All the world can be found in Argentina”.

Welcome to the beauty of South America

Prof. Carlos A. Casanuovo, MD, FACS
SACO President
IFSO
International Federation
for the Surgery of Obesity

XIII World Congress

September 24 – 27, 2008

Hilton Buenos Aires Hotel
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Main Topic:
“Multidisciplinary Approach of the Severe Obesity”

WWW.IFSO2008.ORG
Welcome Letter IFSO 2008 Buenos Aires

The "Argentine Society for the Surgery of Obesity" Sociedad Argentina de Cirugía de la Obesidad (SACO), on behalf of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity (IFSO) is in charge of the organization of the XIII World Congress of the IFSO.

It is a great pleasure and honor to welcome you to Buenos Aires for IFSO 2008, a major event in an atmosphere of friendship and hospitality.

During the Congress, we will offer you basic and advanced courses, solid presentations of leading experts, lectures, posters and video sessions, consensus meetings and a highly professional exhibition of important companies involved in bariatric surgery.

Apart from sharing information and experience in the decade in which surgical treatment of morbid obesity was accepted all over the world, you will find at the southern end of the American continent an extensive nation that offers visitors natural and cultural wonders: traditions, cuisine, and a way of life that can be as wonderful as the places to be visited.

Take your time to visit Buenos Aires, you can wander through the landmarks of the city's past of hard-working immigrants, enjoy the grace of tango, experience the passion of football and let yourself become absorbed into the writings and the history of great Argentine and Latin American authors. We have art galleries offering international shows, great museums and entire city districts that revive the past. You will be drawn by the rich experience of a wide cultural blend of peoples of many nations. Don't forget to relax in the setting of a city café.

Enjoy Buenos Aires and from here the rest of Argentina, with mountains, deserts, seas, large cities, large extensions of steppes and the Pampas grasslands, climb the Andes mountains, ski, ride horses or turbulent rivers, admire the whales coming to breed in the Península de Valdés-Puerto Madryn, the rainbows at Iguazú Falls, and 60 meters high ice towers detaching from the Perito Moreno glacier and plunging into the water as small icebergs.

A well known expression assures that “all the world can be found in Argentina”.

Prof. Carlos A. Casalnuovo MD, FACS
President XIII World Congress IFSO
BUENOS AIRES

Buenos Aires is the capital city of the Republic of Argentina and one of the most important cities in Latin America.

One of the most interesting attractions of Buenos Aires is its architecture. Its style reflects the influence of the Spaniards, French and Italians in its buildings and in its parks. The city has wide avenues, mansions, extensive green spaces, hundreds of sculptures and a large quantity of churches; all integrated among houses, office buildings, apartment buildings and modern skyscrapers.

Buenos Aires surprises its visitors with its contrasts; with a mixture of different styles that distinguishes the big cities of the world: elegant, noisy, cultural, lover of the tango, of endless coffee chats, of nightlife and of course: of football.

The majority of the “Porteños” are identified with the neighborhood where they lived almost all their life. It is not common that tourists visit all these neighborhoods since there aren’t specific attractions; but nine of them concentrate most of the tourist attractions: La Boca, San Telmo, Monserrat, Puerto Madero, San Nicolás, Retiro, Recoleta, Palermo and Belgrano.

ARGENTINA

Known romantically for its tango, the gaucho and excellent meat. From a scenic point of view, nature has endowed Argentina with a varied assortment of original and beautiful landscapes.

In the North, the renowned and spectacular Iguazú Falls. The provinces of Salta, Jujuy and Tucumán, each with their own particular character. In the West, the province of Mendoza, noted for its fine wine production, the towering Andes mountain range with the Aconcagua, the highest mountain (6,959 mts.) in the Americas. East, the province of Buenos Aires, the main cattle raising district. Next the cosmopolitan city of Buenos Aires, with its beautiful buildings, churches, parks and the famous Colón Theatre. Mar del Plata, 400 kms. away, an extraordinary sea-side resort known for its gambling tables. Going south, the delightful provinces of Río Negro and Neuquén, with wooded mountains, trout and salmon filled lakes and rivers and skiing in winter. Península de Valdés, the world’s second largest whale breeding colony, also filled with penguins, sea lions and seals. Further South, vast sheep grazing lands, mountains ranges, lades and almost virgin territory. Ushuaia, the southernmost town in the world. Close by the glacier zone, of which the Perito Moreno offers an overwhelming sight each time its towers of ice break into multiple icebergs. Pre and Post Congress Tours to visit these sites will be available. There is air transportation to all parts and good accommodation.

Local Organizing Committee

President
Carlos A. Casalnuovo

Vicepresident
Silvio Albarracin

General Secretary
Daniel Caiña

Treasurers
Claudia Refi
Horacio Rozas

Members
Adrián Alvarez
Antonio Cascardo
José M. Foscarini
Gregorio Jrimian
Marcelo Guangirol
Antonio Signoretta
Mario Antozzi
Ezequiel Ochoa
Marco More
Lic. María T. Panzitta
and all SACO Committees

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Carlos Casalnuovo,
congress president 2008
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE CONGRESS COURSES

- Metabolic Surgery (Tyco Symposium)
- Basic Bariatric Surgery
- Advanced Bariatric Surgery
- Psychology and the Obesities
- Pre and Post Surgery Nutrition
- Nursing and Surgery Nursing in Bariatric Surgery
- Hands-on in Bariatric Surgery, Experimental (not confirmed)

MULTIDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIA

- Anesthesia in Bariatric Surgery
- Medico-Legal Aspects of Bariatric Surgery
- Reconstructive, Plastic and Functional Surgery
- Neumonology in Severe Obesity
- Nutrition in Bariatric Surgery
- Pediatric and Childhood Obesity
- Psychological aspects in the Obesities and Bariatric Surgery
- Thyroids, Obesity and Bariatric Surgery Meta-

Plenary Sessions
State of the Art Lectures
Symposia
Workshops
Invited Presentations
Keynote Lectures
Controversies
Panel Discussions

Interactive Sessions with audience
Free papers
Video Sessions
Poster Sessions

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT

SUBMISSION:
April 18th., 2008
Handover of the Presidency of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders.

Porto 2008 gala diner
Rafael Alvarez Cordero (left) takes over the presidency from John Melissas (right) watched by senior past-president and executive director Jan Willem Greve (centre). John Melissas initiated during his presidency the committee on accreditation and led the discussion on the change of the name of IFSO. Rafael Alvarez Cordero, one of the pioneers of bariatric surgery and co-founder of IFSO has important plans to further improve the organizational structure of IFSO.

IFSO Executive Board

The executive board of IFSO for 2005-2006 is as follows:

President: Rafael Alvarez Cordero (Mexico)
President-elect: MAL Fobi (USA)
Junior Past-President: John Melissas (Greece)
Senior Past President: Jan Willem Greve (Netherlands)
Secretary-Treasurer: Harry Frydenberg (Australia)
Executive-Director: Jan Willem Greve (Netherlands)
2008 congress organisor: Carlos Casalnuovo (Argentina)
Chair Board of Trustees Henry Buchwald (USA)
Honorary President: Nicola Scopinaro (Italy)

Chapter Representatives:
Europe: Martin Fried (Czech Republic) American Society (ASBS): MAL Fobi (USA)
Latin America: Arthur Garido (Brazil)

Upcoming IFSO meetings

2009: August 26-29, Paris, France
2010: USA
2011: Frankfurt, Germany
2012: India
IFSOS Member Associations

ARGENTINA
   Sociedad Argentina de Cirugía de la Obesidad (SACO)
AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND
   Obesity Surgery Society of Australia and New Zealand (OSSANZ)
AUSTRIA
   Österreichische Gesellschaft für Adipositaschirurgie
BELGIUM - NETHERLANDS - LUXEMBOURG
   BeNeLux Association of Bariatric Surgeons (BABS)
BRAZIL
   Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia Bariátrica (SBCB)
CHILE
   Departamento Cirugia Bariatrica Chile
CZECH REPUBLIC
   Czech Obesity Society (COS)
EGYPT
   Egyptian Society for Bariatric Surgery (ESBS)
FRANCE
   la Société Française de Chirurgie de l’Obésité (SOFCO)
GERMANY
   Deutsche Gesellschaft für Chirurgie der Adipositas
GREECE
   Greek Society for Bariatric Surgery
HUNGARY
   Hungarian Bariatric Surgery Foundation
INDIA
   Obesity Surgery Society of India (OSSI)
ISRAEL
   Israeli Association for Obesity Surgery (ILA)
ITALY
   Società Italiana di Chirurgia dell’Obesità (SICOB)
JAPAN
   Japanese Society for the Study of Obesity/Malnutrition (JSSOM)
KUWAIT
   Kuwaiti Society for Bariatric Surgery (KSBS)
MEXICO
   Sociedad Mexicana de Cirugía de la Obesidad, A.C. (SMCO)
PANAMA
   Asociación Panamena de Cirugía Bariátrica (APCB)
PARAGUAY
   Sociedad Paraguaya de Cirugía de la Obesidad (SPCO)
PERU
   Surgical Association of Obesity in Peru
POLAND
   Polish Association for Prevention and Treatment of Obesity
PORTUGAL
   Portuguese Obesity Surgery Society
ROMANIA
   Romanian Association of Bariatric Surgeons
RUSSIA
   Russian Society of Bariatric Surgeons
SPAIN
   Sociedad Española de Cirugía de la Obesidad (SECO)
SWITZERLAND
   Swiss Study Group for Morbid Obesity
SOUTH AFRICA
   South African Association for Obesity and Metabolism
TURKEY
   Turkish Obesity Surgery Society (TOSS)
UKRAINE
   Ukrainian Association of Bariatric Surgery (UABS)
UNITED KINGDOM
   British Obesity Surgery Society (BOSS)
USA/CANADA
   American Society for Bariatric Surgery (ASBS)
YUGOSLAVIA
   Yugoslav Obesity Surgery Society (YOSS)
### IFSO Executive Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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