NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

New president: Mal Fobi
New president elect: Harry Frydenberg
New treasurer Luigi Angrisani
Upcoming World Congress
   Paris 26-29 august 2009
SOARD Available for IFSO members

From the president:
MAL Fobi

IFSO is going through the pains of rapid growth. A society that was founded fourteen years ago by representatives from five nations has grown to a forty two nation member organization with greater than five thousand members. IFSO has gone from the International Federation for Surgery of Obesity to the International Federation for Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders.

We express thanks to those who had the foresight and took the initiative to start this organization. Obesity is a world epidemic and IFSO and its members are in the forefront of addressing the problem. Special thanks goes to both Dr Nicola Scopinario, the Honorary President of IFSO and Dr George Cowan, the IFSO Historian, both of whom spearheaded the formation of IFSO.

The management of IFSO from its inception to now has been done by the selfless voluntary efforts of three Executive Directors, Dr. Mervyn Deitel, Dr. Andrew Jamieson and Dr. Jan Greve working in close collaboration with the various IFSO Presidents, Nicola Scopinario, George Cowan, Emmanuel Hell, Andrew Jamieson, Martin Fried, Anicieto Baltazar, Henry Buchwald, Jan Greve, Arthur Garrido, John Malissas and Rafael Cordero during the past thirteen years. These past Presidents make up the Board of Trustees whose responsibility is to safeguard the financial stability of IFSO make sure the Mission of the organization is maintained and modified to keep up with the changes as the field of Obesity and Metabolic Surgery evolves. The Board was chaired by Dr George Cowan, Dr. Henry Buchwald and currently Dr. Martin Fried. Again our thanks to these dedicated individuals who have walked the walk to get us to where we are.

IFSO is a large organization with a twelve member Board of Trustees, a thirteen member Executive Council, an 84 member General Council, four regional chapters, forty two member societies with an estimated five thousand and growing membership and a journal to co-manage. IFSO in order to run efficiently needs not only the voluntary efforts from its members but a secretariat to keep up with this the growths and demands.

I assumed the office of the President of IFSO in September of 2008, realizing the challenges that lay before me. I promised at my inauguration in Buenos Aires to work with the assistance of all members, particularly the Board of Trustees, the Executive Council and the General Council to set IFSO on a strong structural base organizationally and financially. I promised to increase both the membership and the input from the members and diversify the organizational basis while maintaining the mission of the organization.

My objectives are to make sure IFSO is a registered non profit organization, with a secretariat and an Executive Director with the necessary administrative staff to run it. This Secretariat will be available to all constituents of the organization on a daily basis. secretariat@ifso.com The Executive Director will function following contractual guidelines under the supervision of the Executive Council who on the day to day basis will be represented by the President of IFSO or his designate.
These objectives may not all be completed in my term in office but will definitely be in place when I turn over the reigns of the Presidency to my honorable colleague, Dr Harry Frydenberg from Melbourne Australia at the Paris Congress.

I am glad to report that the Executive Council has had monthly meetings in October, and November thus far and the next meeting is on December 7, 2008. We have set the guidelines for transforming to a full time lay Executive Director with a secretariat. There has been a smooth transfer of the Editorship from Dr. Mervyn Deitel to the new Co-Editors, Dr. Henry Buchwald and Dr. Nicola Scopinaro. We have maintain open communication with Springer, the publisher of the Journal. The Obesity Journal is now offered to the members of ASMBS as a regular subscription at the same rate as any other IFSO member. SOARD will be offered to IFSO members at the rate that ASMBS members pay. The Plans for the Paris Congress is well underway under the stewardship of Professor Jean-Marc Chevalier and the French Scientific committee. www.ifso2009.com.

We have a great website www.ifso.com/ which will be updated regularly and is accessible to all members. This biannual newsletter welcomes submissions from members in addition to the regular reports from the President, the Executive Director, the Committees, the Regional Chapters and the announcements.

I am available to all members for any suggestions that may improve our organization. president@ifso.com/

I look forward to talking to you in person at any of the Regional Chapter meetings or at the Paris Congress. Just walk up and introduce yourself.

MAL Fobi MD FACS. FASBS

IFSO President 2008-2009.
It is with great pride and honor that the Société Française et Francophone de Chirurgie de l'Obésité (SOFFCO) invites you to Paris for the 14th World Congress of IFSO. French surgeons have been among the first bariatric surgeons in Europe and in the world and we have been waiting eagerly to organize this annual 2009 Meeting. Thanks to reference data like SOS study, bariatric surgery is now considered as the treatment of choice against morbid obesity. But all over the world guidelines have been edicted requiring interdisciplinary approach before and after the operation. This will be the principal topic of this Congress.

Of course there will be up-to-date presentations on surgical expertise, laparoscopic approach, treatment of the complications and long-term results after surgery. But we will mainly focus on the difficult problems of failures and revisional surgery (indications, technics and results), the surgery for superobese patients and among children and adolescents, for whom the pediatricians have now to get involved in the fight against morbid obesity. This Congress will also focus on endoluminal surgery, without scar, which allows now to close a gastric pouch from inside, giving a new feeling of satiety.

But as you already know, IFSO Congress is becoming not only surgery of Obesity but also of metabolic disorders. Tremendous results of gastric bypass, and even gastric banding, on curing Type 2 Diabetes have led to many studies which have been directed by surgeons and physicians together. IFSO 2009 Paris meeting will make surgeons better understand what they are doing in excluding duodenum and proximal jejunum. And if Type 2 Diabetes is a gut disease best specialists will come and show us the role of intestinal hormones on the satiety. Fundamental Research studies on Adipous tissue are progressing and the best teams in this field will show us how the adipous organ is changing after surgery.

Fight against Obesity is now a world concern and it is the responsibility of such a world congress to explain epidemiologic, politicoeconomical and financial aspects of this struggle. The French Minister of Health, Madame Roselyne Bachelot-Narquin, will be participating, so as specialists from the five continents, comparing situations and ways to treat it. These aspects interest physicians and surgeons, but also political representatives, financial and third-party payers, so as insurers.

Time of the surgery is important and has to be a success. Now surgeons know that it will depend on the quality of the performance, but also on preparation and postoperative care. The surgeon has to be well formed and this Congress will be a good opportunity to remember the hard work that has been done by the national medical and surgical societies in Teaching Bariatric surgery, editing Guidelines and designating Obesity Centers of Excellence in all countries. Every specialist has his own work to do in evaluating the patient (psychologic, cardiac, dietician and pulmonary assessments). This medico-surgical ”bringing together” will be an important topic in this Congress. Every GP in front of his obese patient asks for simple questions and needs simple answers: pregnancy, cancer, organ transplantsations are situations that can be encountered sometimes. And the GP will be the first to deal with a possible severe complication after bariatric surgery: pain after band or bypass, vomiting, vitamin deficiency ...

We will offer you an exciting innovative congress, based on solid scientific presentations and keynote lectures on basic research and clinical problems, consensus meetings on recommendations, metabolic and revisional surgery and hope that you will share with us your attachment to fight against this worldly-spread Public Health Problem.

It is not necessary to present you Paris, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The Palais des Congrès, near from the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs Elysées, will be a great opportunity to meet. And PARIS au MOIS d’AOÛT is the best period to enjoy walking along the banks of the river Seine, climb the old streets of Montmartre or have a fast lunch "à la terrasse d’un café”.

Hoping that work and leasure will nicely combine during your stay,
I look forward to seeing all of you at the 2009 World IFSO meeting in Paris!

Professor Jean-Marc Chevallier
President of the IFSO 2009 World Congress

CONGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

The Scientific Committee is still working at the development of an attractive scientific program in order to offer numerous high level sessions.

The program will mainly focus on the following topics:

- Surgical procedures: technical evolution, results and complications
- Long-term results
- Endoluminal bariatric surgery
- Failures and Re-do surgery: indications, technique and results
- Surgery for BMI > 60
- Obesity epidemics
- Politico-economical features on Obesity prevention and treatment around the world
- Financial impact of obesity and bariatric surgery
- Adipocytes and adipous tissue before and after bariatric surgery
- Bariatric procedures and diabetes
- Gut hormones: behavioural and metabolic effects of bariatric surgery
- Allied Health essentials and surgical support
- Obesity centers of Excellence and Guidelines
- Teaching Obesity surgery and expertise
- Obesity surgery on children and adolescents
- Pregnancy, obesity and bariatric surgery
- Bariatric surgery and cancer
- Case reports and clinical problems

Presentations will include:
- Keynote lectures
- Round tables
- Symposia
- Oral presentations
- Videos
- Poster sessions
- Allied Health sessions
- Precongress workshops and experimental surgery
GENERAL INFORMATION

CONGRESS DATES
The Congress will take place from Wednesday, August 26 to Saturday, August 29, 2009.

CONGRESS VENUE

REGISTRATION
To attend the Congress fill in the registration form and return it to the organizing Secretariat.
The registration form can be submitted online to the congress web site: www.Ifso2009.com.

Call for abstracts opens November 12, 2008.
Deadline for abstracts submission is March 31, 2009.

ACCOMODATION
Paris offers a full range of hotel rooms, in all categories. Special congress rates have been negotiated especially in those hotels located at walking distance from the congress centre, or easily accessible with transport system. A full use and rates will be available at www.ifso2009.com together with reservation access from November 12th, 2008. For group reservations (more than 10 persons), please contact the secretariat directly at ifso2009@colloquium.fr

Palais des Congrès de Paris

In 2005, the “Palais des Congrès de Paris” received the IAPCO National Supplier Award (International Association of Professional Congress Organisers).

“State of the Art” IT services

200 staff to help you with all aspects of your events: IT, AV, lighting & sound, exhibition construction, security, cleaning. ...
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 (secretariat@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.

Obesity Surgery: Thank you Mervyn Deitel

From Januari 1st 2009 Professor Henry Buchwald and Professor Nicola Scopinaro have effectively taken over the editorship of Obesity Surgery. The first issue is very much anticipated!

The now past Editor and founder of the journal (in collaboration with George Cowan) Mervyn Deitel has been recognized by both the general council and executive board of IFSO for his outstanding achievement over the past years. IFSO is very grateful for all the work and effort Deitel has put into the journal which certainly can be considered a lifetime achievement.

Mervyn Deitel together with MAL Fobi, president of IFSO

IFSO Scholarships 2009

Requests for IFSO scholarships need to be addressed to the IFSO secretariat (secretariat@ifso.com) 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.
SOARD now Available for IFSO members at reduced Fee

In 2009 an optional subscription to the journal Surgery of Obesity and Related Diseases is available for IFSO members. The subscription is in ADDITION to the subscription to Obesity Surgery and can only be obtained through the IFSO secretariat. The annual fee is US $ 98 including postage.

Members of IFSO will be requested by their national secretariat to indicate whether they want to receive the journal that at this moment appears 6 times per year.

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.
REPORT:
XIII Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders
September 24-27, 2008 – Buenos Aires, Argentina

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 and metabolic disorders (IFSO) was in charge of the organization of the XIII World Congress of the IFSO. This was held in Buenos Aires from September 24 to 27.

It was attended by 1212 participants, from 53 countries. The total number grows to 1400 if we incluide 74 exhibitors, 16 from the press, 50 staff members and 48 security staff. The scientific program covered both topics related to bariatric surgery and to allied health. It also included pre-congress activities, lectures, interactive sessions, symposia; all of them in charge of well known professionals. The program layout provided delegates with the opportunity to be active participants.

There were 5 pre-congress activities: "Only Surgeries" (a full day practical course with live surgeries), "Basic Course: Understanding Bariatric Surgery from the Multidisciplinary View" (an overview of the fundamentals of allied health in bariatric practice management, together with an interactive symposium. The support and monitoring in the follow up were explored and controversial cases were discussed between two debaters, including an active participation from the audience) "Advanced Bariatric Surgery course: The Techniques" (where the different options and their details were approached, as well as their complications of the different surgical techniques), "Statistics Course" (using friendly basic and application statistics through critical review of the bariatric literature), and "ASMBS 2nd. Trans-Atlantic Meeting: Metabolic Surgery" (with the highest level in the field from experts).

There were 11 keynote lectures and 15 symposia allowing participants to focus on key topics (implications of severe obesity, new technologies, metabolic surgery, controversies with interactive debate, lap revisional surgery, bariatric surgery and the law, and several multidisciplinary symposia - MD).

There were also sponsored symposia supported by the industry (Covidien, Allergan and Johnson & Johnson), each had a 90 minutes slot at midday.

All abstracts submitted to the Congress were evaluated by an independent international jury (IFSO Scientific Committee). A total of 315 abstracts were presented: 36 videos, 81 general session oral presentations, 42 MD oral presentations, 85 moderated posters and 71 unmoderated posters.

The two best posters awarded were: "Adjustable gastric banding, our experience on 200 patients. Long term evolution and results" Carim J, Oliveira A, Carim F, Mario H, and Peralva S, and "Adipose Tissue from lean and ex obese patients exhibited differences in tissue content and mesenchymal stem cell potential" da Silva C, Baptista L, da Silva K, Aniceto M, Takiya C, Borujevic R and Rossi M.

Two scholarships were awarded to young surgeons from Bombay, India to enable them to attend the congress, Dra. Aparna Govilb Bhasker and Dr. Yasin Kazi.

New approaches were used in the program design: a) Parallel multidisciplinary activities were running concurrent with the surgical topics where professionals from different specialties related to obesity, anestheisa, pneumonology, clinical, nutrition, endocrinology, psychology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, showed the trends in the different specialties and debated and discussed some of the most controversial issues and proposed new approaches together with the audience's participation. We gave the "Multidisciplinary approach of the severe obesity" an important place within the program. b) Commenters: we introduced this figure after keynote lectures and symposia, in the hands of leading experts in each topic, in order to enrich knowledge. c) Moderated posters, from all the submitted posters the best ones were selected to be presented as moderated posters. One of the authors presented the poster in front of two moderators who opened the discussion and encouraged the audience's participation.
This approach worked very well and it may be considered for future congresses.

The scientific program has been translated into Spanish and recorded.

During the Congress Opening Ceremony, the previous IFSO congress were honored and remembered by the hand of young boys and girls.

An enjoyable social program with Argentine hospitality and spirit complemented the scientific activities. A Welcome Reception and Dinner at "Madero Tango", in Puerto Madero, on the first day of the congress showed a great exhibition of tango dancing and singing while enjoying a friendly atmosphere a delicious dinner. A Gala Dinner “Night of surprises” at Golden Center in Parque Norte was the highlight at the end of the Congress with attractive music, food and gifts.

The IFSO Business Meetings (Executive Board and Council Meeting) were held on September 23rd, with a large attendance of IFSO members, in the "Villa Maria Estancia", enjoying a day at the countryside, combining work, brainstorm, the peace of nature and sharing the traditional asado (barbecue) and the argentine folklore show.

We had an important commercial exhibition during the dates of the congress where 15 companies had the opportunity to interact with participants.

Thanks to IFSO board for the confidence that have placed in me, to all the companies for the excellent trade support, particularly to the main sponsors, Allergan, Covidien and Johnson & Johnson, and to all the speakers and participants that helped make the Congress a success.

Undoubtedly the XIII IFSO World Congress was from all points of view a resounding international event!

Prof. Dr. Carlos A. Casalnuovo President XIII IFSO World Congress
Distribution of Participants per Country

- Brazil: 59
- Argentina: 47
- México: 39
- Chile: 34
- USA: 28
- Colombia: 132
- France: 96
- Venezuela: 77
- Spain: 70
- Greece: 60
- Portugal: 59

Volume 3, nr. 1
Upcoming IFSO meetings

2009: August 26-29, Paris, France
2010: Long Beach, Los Angeles, USA
2011: Frankfurt, Germany
2012: New Dehli, India
2013: Turkey

Please note these dates in your agenda.
A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2009 to all IFSO members from the executive board of IFSO
IFS0 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
Depamanto 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 Bariatrica (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)
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<tr>
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<th>E-mail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>MAL Fobi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fobimal@aol.com">fobimal@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
<td>Luigi Angrisani</td>
<td><a href="mailto:luigiangrisani@chirurgiaobesita.it">luigiangrisani@chirurgiaobesita.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-elect</td>
<td>Harry Frydenberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:harryfry@ozemail.com.au">harryfry@ozemail.com.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Jan Willem Greve</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.greve@ah.unimaas.nl">j.greve@ah.unimaas.nl</a> <a href="mailto:secretariat@ifso.com">secretariat@ifso.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior past President</td>
<td>Rafael Alvaerz Cordero</td>
<td><a href="mailto:raalvare@infosel.net.mx">raalvare@infosel.net.mx</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair Board of Trustees</td>
<td>Martin Fried</td>
<td><a href="mailto:docfried@volny.cz">docfried@volny.cz</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 congress organiser</td>
<td>Jean-Marc Chevallier</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jean-marc.chavallier@wanadoo.fr">jean-marc.chavallier@wanadoo.fr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary President</td>
<td>Nicola Scopinaro</td>
<td><a href="mailto:scopinar@unige.it">scopinar@unige.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Chapter:</td>
<td>Antonio Jose Torres</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ajtorres@teleline.es">ajtorres@teleline.es</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American Chapter:</td>
<td>Arthur Garrido</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abgarrido@uol.com.br">abgarrido@uol.com.br</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASMBS (North America):</td>
<td>Kelvin Higa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:higanoid@gmail.com">higanoid@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Pacific Chapter:</td>
<td>Sanjay Borude</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drborude@vsnl.com">drborude@vsnl.com</a></td>
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