



# IFSO Newsletter

06/11



**Dr. Antonio Torres**  
President of IFSO

Dear Members of IFSO, Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to present you an update of IFSO's activities over the last months since the IFSO's May Newsletter.

First of all, I would like to thank you all for giving me the opportunity and honour of being the 15th President of the Federation and specially to the Board of Trustees and Executive Board for the proposal and the General Council, as representative of all IFSO members, for the nomination. I took up this position during our Annual World Meeting in Hamburg (Germany).

At present time, our Federation has 50 National Societies and two affiliated bodies, representing 52 countries and including 7.200 members. It means a 20% increase compared to August 2010. As I expressed in Hamburg, now IFSO has a solid reputation and the maturity, experience and dedication of the Officers, Board of Trustees, Executive Board and General Council Members are between the most relevant strengths of our Federation. Also the outstanding role of our journal, *Obesity Surgery*, in the field of bariatric knowledge has to be reinforced in the near future.

Nevertheless, we also have some weaknesses (lack of influence on political/social scenarios, non optimal communication between local societies, Chapters and IFSO's office) over which we will work from now. So we will focus our efforts in trying to get some aims in terms of strengthening IFSO, such as: consolidate Bylaws and Statutes changes, to create and implement a manual of policy and procedures, to communicate and maintain contact with the Chapters' Presidents, and to facilitate the participation of younger fellows in IFSO's business.

In this way the role of the very recently structured 11 Committees is crucial. They will focus on developing new statements on every obesity issue, on implementing guidelines on metabolic surgery, on improving the scholarships policy, and on optimizing the growth of the two IFSO endorsed Centre of Excellence (COE) Programs, the European Accreditation Council (EAC) and the Surgical Review Corporation (SRC).

Last June, the North American Chapter organized its annual meeting in Orlando. It was very successful, and IFSO co-sponsored the "International Travel Award", which was handed in during the International Reception on June 13. There, all of us shared a very nice evening.

In Hamburg, between August 31 and September 3, it was held our **XVI World Congress**. The meeting was really superb. There was live translation in all plenary sessions in Spanish and Portuguese. More than 2.200 participants, about 1000 submitted abstracts, and the level of the different courses, symposia, lectures, sessions and live surgeries certify this high qualification. I would like here to thank and congratulate Rudolph and Silvia Weiner for their extraordinary job on behalf of the Federation.

Next year, the next two official IFSO meetings will be the **V European Chapter-Meeting**, which will be held in Barcelona (Spain) on April 26-28, and the **North American Chapter Meeting** which will be held in San Diego (USA) on June 17-22.

With regard to the cooperation with other Societies and activities IFSO is continuously endorsing and participating in many meetings all over the world. In this way, the IFSO-European Chapter has developed a very attractive and promising initiative in conjunction with the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO). They have organized a Joint Meeting on a yearly base. The first one is going to be held in Munich (Germany) on 5-6 December 2011.

Finally, I would like to remind all of you that IFSO's whole organization is at your disposal. We have to work together to go after our main goal: the optimization of the treatment of all obese patients.

**Antonio Torres, MD, FACS**

**IFSO President 2011-2012**



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## *New Member Societies*

We are glad to **Welcome** in IFSO two Adhering Bodies:

- Slovenian Association of Bariatric Surgeons (SABS)
- Ecuadorian Society of Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery (SECBAMET)

[www.ifso.com](http://www.ifso.com)

### IFSO'S NUMBERS

- **50** ADHERING BODIES
- **1** AFFILIATED BODY
- **7.260** MEMBERS
- **1.227** OBESITY SURGERY SUBSCRIBERS
- **266** SOARD SUBSCRIBERS





# Chapters' Reports

## European Chapter NEWS



**Rudolf Weiner**

President of the  
European Chapter

The **European Chapter Executive Council** and **General Council** have recently met in Hamburg on August 29 and 31, 2011.

30 representatives of the European member societies attended the meeting and discussed many significant topics.

**5 new societies & 1 Affiliated body** have joined the European Chapter this year:

- Belgian section for obesity and metabolic surgery (BeSOMS)
- Finnish Obesity Treatment Expert Group (FOTEG)
- The Icelandic Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ISMBS)
- Slovenian Association of Bariatric Surgeons (SABS)
- Dutch Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (DSMBS)

Now the Chapter has **27 Adhering bodies** and **1 Affiliated body** with almost **1.700 members**.

The President elect of the Chapter is Prof. Yuri Yashkov.

The next congress of the Chapter will take place in **Barcelona on April 25-28, 2012**. The president of the congress will be Dr. Joan Pujol.

Prof. Jean Marc Chevallier and Prof. Michel Suter have been given an **Award of Appreciation** by the President of IFSO, during the Gala dinner, for their successful meetings held in Paris 2009 and in Lausanne in 2010.

Two of the three **2011 IFSO Scholarships** have been assigned to European young surgeons: Maria Dolores Frutos (Spain) and Thomas Bueter (Switzerland).

All the **Poster prizes** have been assigned to European surgeons: Kirstin Carswell (UK), James Rink (UK), Conor Magee (UK), Susanne Richter (Germany)

There were 4 candidates for the congress in 2014: Bruxelles, Prague, Moscow and Stockholm. Through a secret ballot vote it has been decided that the EC-meeting in **2014** will be held in **Bruxelles, Belgium**.

- A **joint meeting IFSO—EASO** will be held on **December 5\_6, 2011 in Munich, Germany**. For more information please visit [www.easo.org](http://www.easo.org)
- The **V European Chapter meeting** will be held in Spain, in **Barcelona, on 25\_28 April, 2012**. It will be the **first Iberian congress** jointly organized by SECO and SPCO: the Spanish and Portuguese societies for the Surgery of Obesity [www.ifsobcn2012.com](http://www.ifsobcn2012.com)

Prof. Dr. Rudolf A. Weiner

President EU-Chapter IFSO 2010-2012



**EC Chapter Board**

Hamburg, Germany,  
September 2011





# Chapters' Reports

## European Chapter NEWS



**Dr. Joan Pujol**

President of the  
Local Organizing  
Committee

Dear colleagues and friends,

The XVI IFSO World congress has been a great success.

It has been beautiful to meet all our friends again sharing our professional experience in an enjoyable atmosphere. Undoubtedly Professor Weiner and his team have done a great job (those German guys never fail!). Now it is time to come back home and put into practice everything we have learned.

But IFSO never sleeps and we are working intensively on the next big European event. The **V IFSO-EU chapter Congress** is coming up soon, this time it will take place in the Mediterranean city of Barcelona from **25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012**.

I can promise you new and fresh ideas that will be announced in forthcoming Newsletters and that will make the congress a completely revolutionary one, don't miss them.

Last but not least, I'm perfectly conscious that, above all, the soul of any meeting is its participants, in other words, every one of you. So, on behalf of the IFSO European chapter and the Spanish Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery it's a great pleasure for me to invite you all to come to Barcelona in April 2012.

Best regards

Dr. Joan Pujol

President of the Local Organizing Committee

[www.ifsobcn2012.com](http://www.ifsobcn2012.com)

**Barcelona'12**  
April, 26 - 28, 2012

**5<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders European Chapter (IFSO-EC)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Iberian Congress on Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery, (Spanish and Portuguese spoken)**

Join us and be part of IFSO-EC 2012!  
[www.ifsobcn2012.com](http://www.ifsobcn2012.com)



## Asia Pacific Chapter NEWS



Pradeep Chowbey

President of the APC

The IFSO Asia Pacific Chapter (IFSO-APC) membership continues to grow with the **Asia Pacific Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Society (APMBSS)** coming in as a "member society" of IFSO-APC. As there are a number of countries with smaller societies, who are ineligible to become a member of IFSO-APC in their own right, this is the perfect chance for them to come under the 'umbrella' of APMBSS and therefore be represented at a higher level. However, IFSO-APC will be encouraging these countries to form their own societies so they are independent entities. Talks will be on-going and members will be kept advised on the progress.

At the IFSO-APC 2nd World Congress which was held in Japan in February 2011, it was identified that IFSO-APC could play a mentoring role in generating awareness of bariatric surgery in a number of countries. As a result of this a **Professional Education & Training Committee** was formed to investigate how different societies can be assisted through mentoring and attending Workshops. Since that time, discussions have been taking place on how that can be achieved and currently members of the Committee are liaising with surgeons from Thailand in relation to organising a training workshop in (possibly in Bangkok) using wet cadavers. This issue will be discussed at the next IFSO-APC Executive Committee meeting and we hope these workshops will be held towards the end of this year or in early 2012.

We are also delighted to announce that the **IFSO-APC 3rd Congress** will be held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan from **12th to 14th April 2013**. At this stage it is proposed that Taiwan will be co-hosting the Congress with a Chinese Society, with an afternoon session dedicated to that Society which would be presented in Mandarin. It is hoped that this session can be held with simultaneous translation.

We would also like to announce that, at the IFSO Conference held in Hamburg, Germany on 30th August 2011, Dr Pradeep Chowbey was elected as 'President Elect' of IFSO.

In welcoming APMBSS to IFSO-APC, our member countries now include Australia and New Zealand (OSSANZ); India (OSSI); Japan (JSSO); Philippines (PSBMS) Singapore, Taiwan, UAE, Saudi Arabia (EPOC) and Kuwait.

With Warm Regards,

Pradeep Chowbey MS, MNAMS, FIMSA, FICS, FACS

President - IFSO - Asia Pacific Chapter

Lilian Kow BMBS, PhD, FRACS

Secretary/Treasurer IFSO-APC & IFSO Representative



IFSO-APC Meeting held in Hamburg, Germany in September 2011



Join us at the 2013 IFSO-APC 3rd World Congress in Taiwan



Dr Pradeep Chowbey following his election as President Elect of IFSO



## Asia Pacific Chapter NEWS



Lilian Kow

APC Representative

24th Annual Scientific Conference of the Obesity Surgery Society of Australia and New Zealand



I am delighted to announce that the Obesity Surgery Society of Australia & New Zealand (OSSANZ) **24th Annual Conference** will be held in **Darwin** from **11th to 13th April 2012**.

The Conference theme 'Bariatric Surgery - more than an operation' will incorporate a multidisciplinary approach to obesity surgery and will explore not only the basic science of obesity but current trends, approaches and issues facing bariatric surgeons and allied health.

Our Key Note Speakers include the following:

**Professor Phillip R Schauer** who is Chief of Minimally Invasive General Surgery, Director of the Cleveland Clinic Bariatric and Metabolic Institute and Professor of Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. His research interests include the pathophysiology of obesity and related diseases and outcomes of laparoscopic management of obesity.

**Professor Michael Cowley** who is the head of the Monash Obesity and Diabetes Institute. He is an internationally recognised physiologist with a strong focus on developing drugs to treat obesity, diabetes and metabolic disorders.

**Associate Professor David Dunstan** is a VicHealth Public Health Research Fellow and is the Head of the Physical Activity laboratory in the Division of Metabolism and Obesity at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute. His research focuses on the role of physical activity and sedentary behaviour in the prevention and management of chronic diseases.

Calls for papers close on **30th November 2011**, with Early Bird Registration closing on 23rd February 2012. For more information go to [www.ossanzconference.com.au](http://www.ossanzconference.com.au) or email [ossanz@ossanzconference.com.au](mailto:ossanz@ossanzconference.com.au)

Lilian Kow

President & Chair

OSSANZ



## North American Chapter NEWS



**Bruce Wolfe**

President of the  
North American  
Chapter

After a very successful 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in June, the ASMBS recently hosted the Second Annual Fall Educational Event. It was another exceptional event with increasing attendance and a tremendous amount of positive feedback from the attendees. This 2 day, 9 course, event for both surgeons and integrated health professionals is particularly known for its current and relevant topics, intimate setting, lively debates and dynamic discussions. We are now sharpening our educational focus on the **2012 Annual Meeting (June 17 – 22) in San Diego**. Remember the Deadline for Abstract Submission is **October 31**. To submit your abstract, go to link <http://asmbs2012.abstractcentral.com/>. Follow the 2012 meeting web site, <http://2012.asmbs.org/> for more details.

The ASMBS announced the newly elected new officers and members of the Executive Council during the Annual Meeting. Dr. Robin Blackstone was inducted as the 2011/2012 president and Dr. Jaime Ponce was voted in as president elect. As president, Dr. Robin Blackstone, is dedicating this year to pursuing the following goals:

- Bring added value to membership
- Advance the medicalization of obesity by sharing critical changes in the paradigm for understanding obesity as a disease and educating our colleagues and the public about the mechanism of action of the procedures we do to treat obesity and its related diseases
- Continue the quest for a standard covered benefit for the treatment of obesity
- Update and renew our Centers of Excellence Program
- Become a resource for public education in obesity and treatment options

The ASMBS has been extremely productive these past few months through the work of our committees, the backbone of the organization. A few committee highlights include: the Quality Standards Committee is looking into the development of quality measures and analysis based on composite measures rather than volume alone (stay tuned for more info); Access to Care Committee continues to fight for bariatric surgery inclusion in the Health Exchanges as well as issues on the state level and are now busy developing ASMBS' formal response to the CMS decision to reopen the NCD to include Sleeve Gastrectomy as a covered procedure; Bariatric Training Committee, together with the Executive Council, approved 31 Fellows who satisfactorily completed an ASMBS approved fellowship curriculum; The Communications Committee and ASMBS IT Team launched the newly updated ASMBS.org web site (check it out!); the Insurance Committee is developing a Model Policy for Insurance Companies, the International Committee had a successful Latin American course, international reception and awards ceremony at the ASMBS Annual Meeting, accomplished getting an on-line only subscription to SOARD for international subscribers, increased international membership and participation, and worked closely with the Clinical Issues Committee to write the *ASMBS Global Healthcare Statement* to be published in SOARD in the Nov/Dec issue.

Two other ASMBS statements to be published in SOARD this fall are the *Pediatric Bariatric Surgery Statement* written by the Pediatric Surgery Committee and the Clinical Issues Committee and *A Pathway to Endoscopic Bariatric Therapies* written by the ASGE/ASMBS Task Force on Endoscopic Bariatric Therapy.

Dr. Bruce Wolfe

President of the North American Chapter





## Latin American Chapter NEWS



**Carlos Casalnuovo**

President of the  
Latin American  
Chapter

During the **IV Congress of the Latin American Chapter** of the International Federation for the Surgery of the Obesity (IFSO) that took place in **Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in March 2011**, Prof. Dr. Carlos A. Casalnuovo was appointed IFSO-LA President, for the period 2011-2013. Dr. Marco M. More was appointed as Secretary.

Dr. Carlos A. Casalnuovo is currently Founding Member, Honorary President and Executive Director of the Argentine Society for the Surgery of the Obesity (SACO) and Chief of the Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Section of the Hospital de Clinicas, University of Buenos Aires.

At the Latin American Chapter we are working hard on our first objectives, on the following topics:

**A detailed "Latin American Registry for the Surgery of Obesity" (RELACO)** formed by the region's countries.

Therefore we have invited all Bariatric Surgeons of Latin America together with their multidisciplinary teams to be part of this registry. In order to do so it is necessary to have all the information we have requested in a form that will soon be incorporated into the Latin American Chapter website, [www.ifsolatinoamericano.com](http://www.ifsolatinoamericano.com)

The information that will be included in the Latin American database is important not only for IFSO but also for all Bariatric Colleagues; for an active participation in upcoming National Courses and Congresses in Latin American and Worldwide; to participate in Cooperative Studies; internships in different credited Bariatric Surgery services specially in Latin America and the rest of the world; to improve communications and make them more fluid. Our "Inclusive System" proposal for all Bariatric Surgery teams in each country, will allow them to be represented in the Latin American Chapter and in IFSO, and also to foster the growth of the Latin American Chapter inside IFSO.

**Inclusion of Bariatric Psychologists and Bariatric Nutritionists from local Bariatric Societies of IFSO's dependent countries.**

These specialties teams should belong to their local Bariatric Societies and therefore to IFSO.

In order to follow the bariatric team multidisciplinary work criteria, and being IFSO a multidisciplinary society with its Allied Health Professionals' committee, we believe that integrating the psychologists and nutritionists is a priority. If they are enlisted in each of IFSO's local societies in each country and consequently in IFSO itself they would be under this International Federation umbrella with the objective of supporting their members in all aspects related directly to their profession, therefore giving greater scope to the team work involved in the improvement of severe obese patient's treatment.

This item has been discussed in the General Assembly of the Latin American Chapter of IFSO in Cartagena, Colombia, and was approved unanimously.

**Encourage all Latin American countries to become IFSO members**, whether they do not have national Bariatric Societies or if they have their own societies but are not yet IFSO members.

Up to date 1 Bariatric Society from North America (Mexico) 3 Bariatric Societies from Central America (Panama, Guatemala, Costa Rica) and 8 societies from South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) are IFSO members.

The **Pre-Congress Post-Graduate Course, in Hamburg**, has been organized for August 31, 2011 (XVI IFSO World Congress) where well known Latin American professionals of our specialty, as well as from Spain and Portugal, will be participating. The course will be in Spanish and Portuguese.

**Election of the Chapter's President Elect for the period 2013-2015.**

All Societies member of the IFSO Latin American Chapter are invited to submit their candidates for this position. They should send:

A brief CV of the candidate with a focus on Bariatric Surgery and his relationship with IFSO

A brief project for his future involvement as President of the Chapter

Candidates must be proposed by their local Societies and may be endorsed by other Chapter's Societies

Deadline for proposals' submission: June 15, 2011. [ifsolatinoamerica@gmail.com](mailto:ifsolatinoamerica@gmail.com)

The election and voting (1 representative for each Society) are planned to take place in Hamburg during the Chapter's meeting (to be confirmed).

**Next Congress of the Latin American Chapter, 2013 will be held in Peru**, city to be decided: Cuzco or Lima.

**Revision of the Latin American Chapter Bylaws** in order to evaluate eventual modifications.

**Website update** to include information on the Latin American Bariatric Societies, Scientific Meetings and future Congresses, etc.

Carlos Casalnuovo

President and Representative of the Latin American Chapter



# World Meetings

## 2011\_IFSO World Annual Meeting

### GERMANY

### XVI World IFSO Congress



Rudolf Weiner

President of the Congress

30 August\_3 September, 2011 - Hamburg, Germany

[www.ifso2011.de](http://www.ifso2011.de)

## XVI World Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders



The "German Society for the Surgery of Obesity" of the German Society for Visceral- and General Surgery, on behalf of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders (IFSO) was in charge of the organization of the **XVI World Congress of the IFSO**. This was held in Hamburg from August 30 until September 3.

The first intention for organizing IFSO 2011 in Germany was born in 2006 and the decision was made in 2008 (in Buenos Aires, Argentina). The congress was supposed to be held in Frankfurt, home town of Prof. Rudolf A. Weiner, but nobody at that time was expecting the influence of the International Automobile Fair , the largest in the world, on hotel capacity and costs. Therefore the congress organizing company INTERPLAN voted for Hamburg which was one of the many options in Germany. The Congress center Hamburg (CCH) was selected as venue of the congress.

IFSO 2011 was attended by **2230** participants from **74** countries and additionally **425** from the industries. The total number of all registered attendees, professionals and industrial staff, was **2690**. This was the highest number in the history of IFSO (XIII Buenos Aires: 1212; XIV Paris: 1461; XV LA: 818 plus 200 exhibitors). In Hamburg additionally **325** surgeons registered for Postgraduate Courses. The number of countries increased from 53 countries in Buenos Aires up to 72 in Hamburg. New national societies came from Europe and Asia. A large number of individual members registered for the first time. The **on-site registrations** increased from 185 in Paris up to **310** in Hamburg.

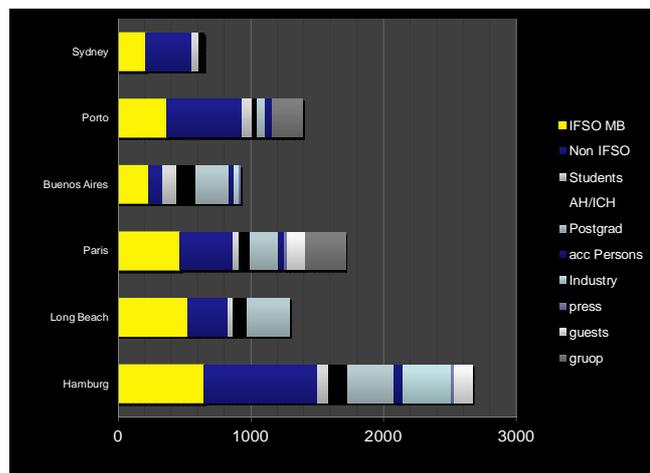
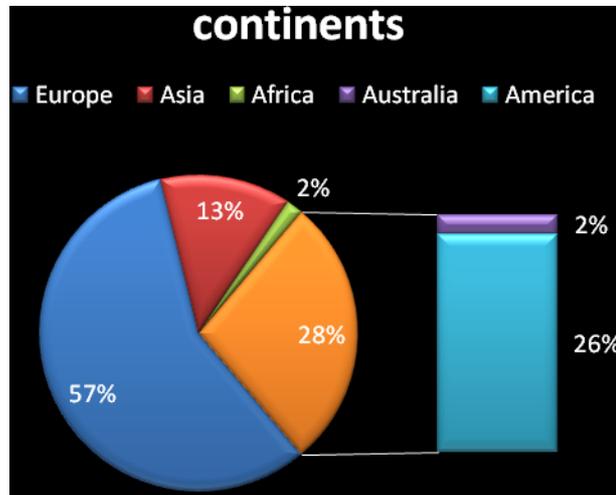


Fig1 Distribution of different categories of congress participants 2006-2011



Especially countries from Asia joined IFSO for the first time. The distribution of participants per continent was:



**Fig.2 Distribution of registered attendees 2011 per continent**

In Table 1 the distribution of the participants coming from the 12 leading countries in 2010 and 2011 are shown:

Country	Long Beach	Hamburg
Belgium	22	63
Brazil	146	248
France	52	83
Germany	30	390
India	19	56
Israel	4	57
Italy	25	90
Mexico	63	44
NL	15	66
Spain	15	54
Switzerland	5	53
UK	27	114
USA	194	123

*Table 1 Number of attendees from the 12 top countries in LA (2010) and HH (2011)*



The Latin-American surgeons have been an important & constant factor at all IFSO congresses for the last 5 years. The surgeons from Brazil are always the second largest group at all congresses since IFSO 2008. The greatest changes during the last years were seen in UK and India. Germany started from a place at the end of the scale up to the top in 2011.

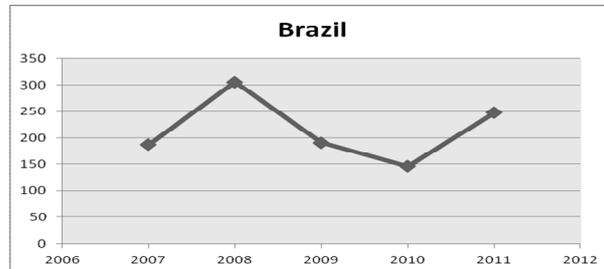


Fig.3 Number of Brazilian at IFSO 2007-2011

The meetings of the different councils & boards started on Monday, August 29 with the EU-Chapter Executive Meeting at the Congress Center. Tuesday all meetings of the Board of Trustees, Editorial Board of Obesity Surgery, Executive Board and General Council of IFSO were held followed by General Council Dinner at the Elbpanorama (Fig. 6).

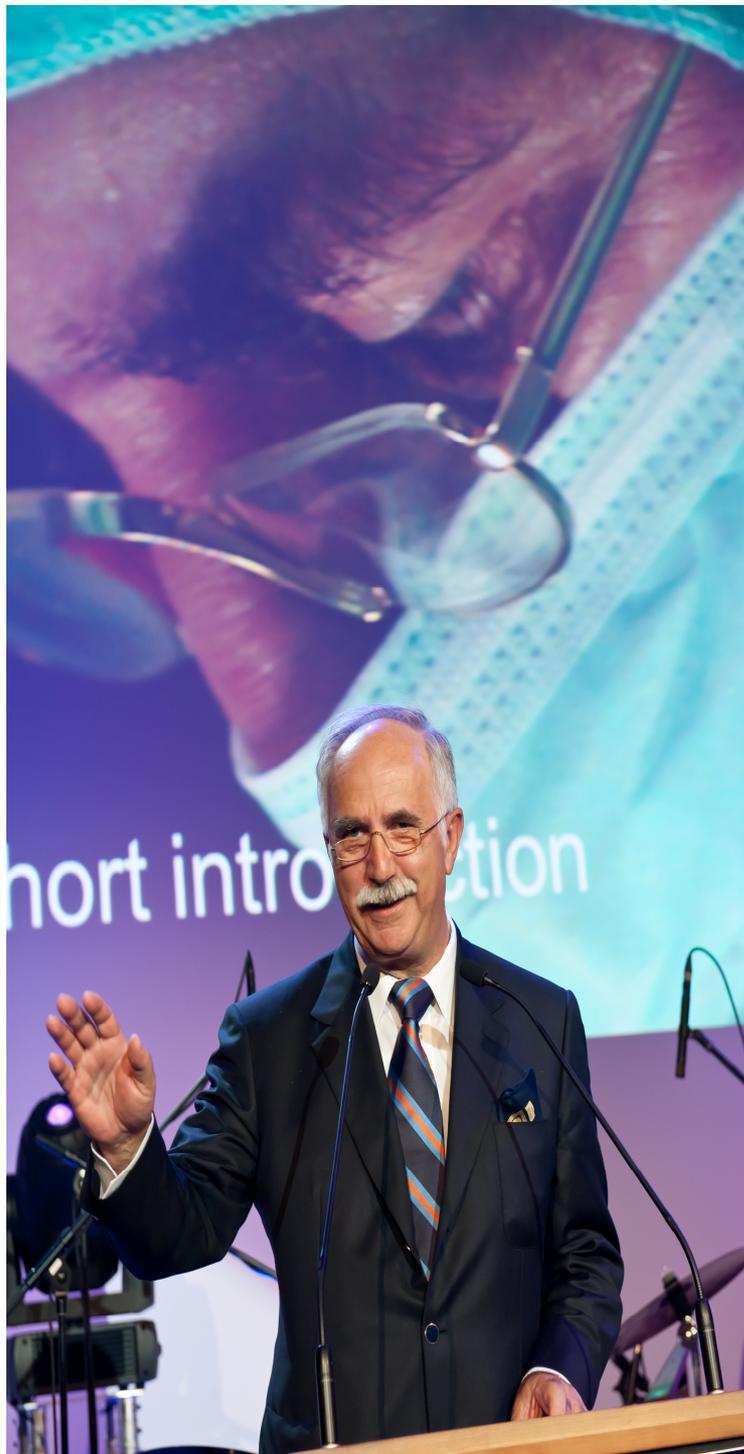


Fig.4 General Council Dinner on the top of "Elbpanorama" in Hamburg

The scientific program covered more topics than those related to obesity & metabolic surgery and to integrated health (IH). 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: The Postgraduate Course A "Obesity Surgery – Tips & Tricks" organized by IFSO in cooperation with ASMBS, the Postgraduate Course B: Metabolic Surgery (organized by the Metabolic Committee of IFSO), Course C: Latin-American Course (organized by the Latin -American Chapter), Course D: Med writing and Course E: Center of Excellence Program.

The XVI World Congress of the IFSO was officially opened in an opening ceremony by the Congress President Prof. Dr. Rudolf A. Weiner and the President of IFSO Prof. Dr. Karl Miller. Referring to the address of welcome there was time to get together, meet old friends and make some new friends.



*Fig.5 Welcome of the Congress president Rudolf A Weiner during the get-together-party.*

There were **10 plenary sessions**, **10 symposia**, **1** keynote lecture, **6 integrated health sessions** and consensus conferences and **23 scientific sessions** including **video sessions** 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).

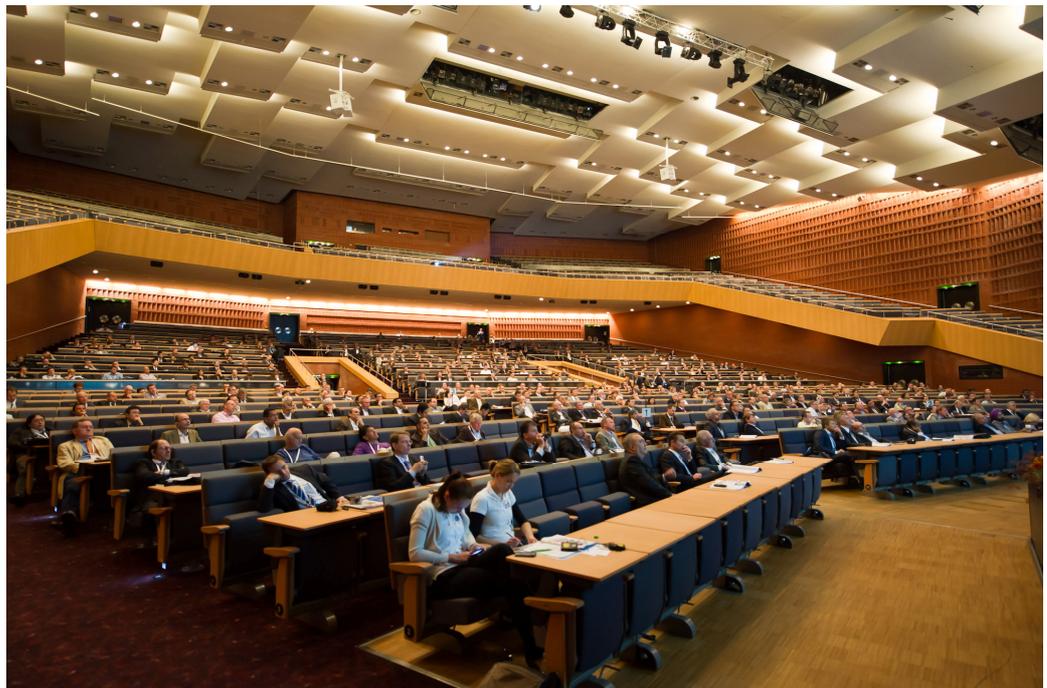


Fig 6. Plenary session Hall

There were also **7 sponsored symposia** and training courses with 48 speakers supported by the industry. The total number of all scientific sessions was **56**.

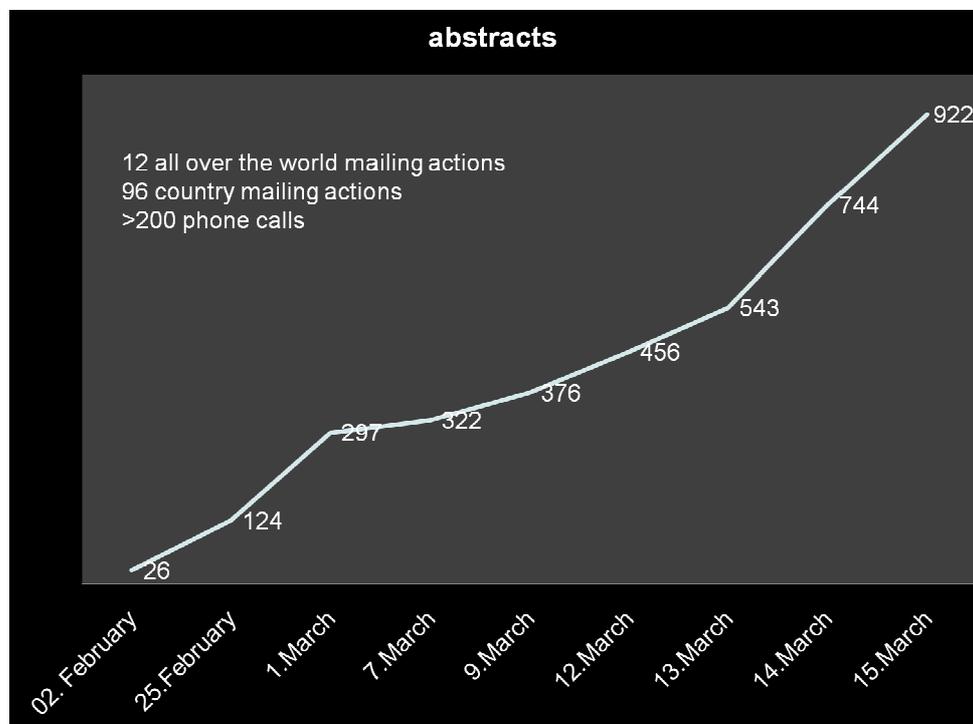


Fig.7 Development of abstract submissions

All abstracts submitted to the Congress were evaluated by an independent international review jury under the guidance of IFSO Scientific Committee. From **922** submitted abstracts a total of **589** abstracts were presented: including **85** videos and **323** posters. Since 2008 the number of abstracts increased by 300 %.

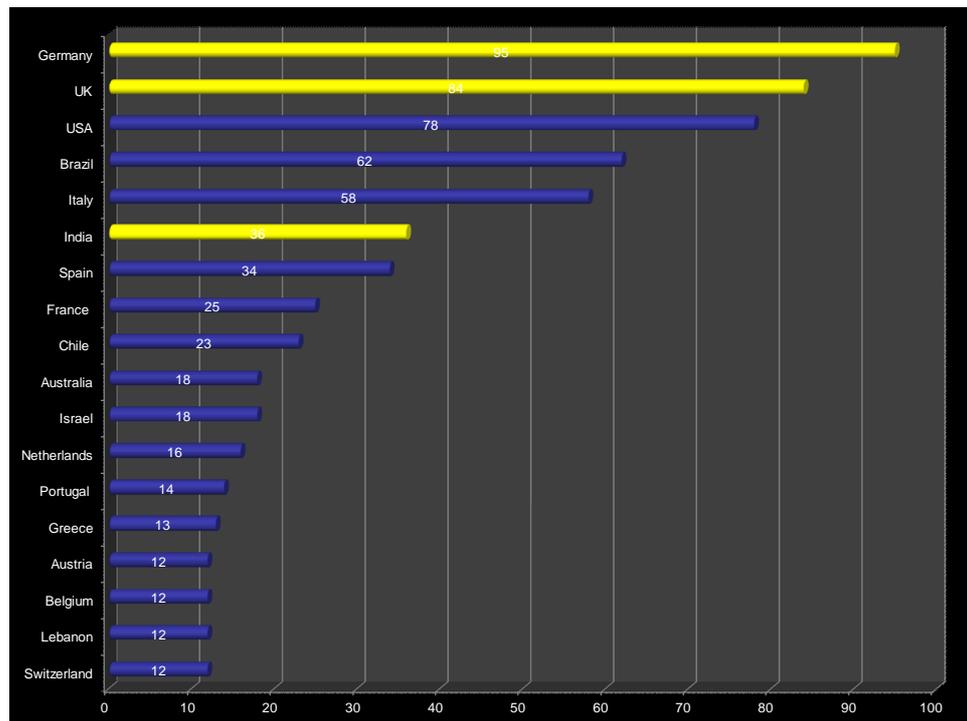


Fig.8. Ranking list of abstract submissions 2011

The number of abstracts from Germany was on the top of the ranking list.

The scientific actions (all oral presentations, videos and posters) increased up to the record of **784** and if we add the presentations during the lunch symposia up to **832**.

**A hot topic of the congress was Metabolic surgery.** The dramatic rise in the prevalence of obesity and diabetes has become a major global public health issue and demands urgent attention from governments, healthcare systems, and the medical community. The IFSO 2011 World Congress reflected the importance of metabolic surgery and continuing sessions, starting with the postgraduate course on Wednesday (August 31) until Saturday (September 3).

In addition to behavioral and medical approaches, various types of surgery on the gastrointestinal tract and new endoscopic techniques constitute powerful options to ameliorate diabetes not only in patients with severe obesity, but in patients considered of normal weight. Studies on surgical approaches to type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) show that surgery may help in normalizing blood glucose levels, reducing or avoiding the need for medications, and providing a potentially cost effective approach to treating the disease. New studies presented at IFSO 2011 focused on surgical procedures and their roles in alleviating T2DM in the population of patients without obesity. The question of different types of diabetes were also discussed. The IFSO Scientific Committee believes that research and findings in this field will be scientific dynamite. An interdisciplinary plenary session with endocrinologists focused on research into surgery for the resolution of diabetes.



### Novel endoscopic device

Multiple devices and techniques that utilize the GI tract's putative mechanism for altering energy balance and non-weight-loss effects on glucose tolerance were explored and demonstrated during the meeting. A joint meeting with gastroenterologist demonstrated the rapid development in this field.

The **best posters** awarded were: 1<sup>st</sup> Poster prize Kirstin Carswell (UK), 2<sup>nd</sup> Poster prize: James Rink (UK) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Poster prize (shared by two surgeons with the same ranking in the blind peer review): Conor Magee (UK), Susanne Richter (Germany).

**Three scholarships** were awarded to following young surgeons: Maria Dolores Frutos (Spain), Jayashree Todkar (India) and Marco Bueter (Switzerland).

**Invitation to aspiring surgeons.** For the first time in the history of the IFSO World Congress, special offers for aspiring surgeons were available. The congress organization has invited the Federation Latino Americano de Cirugia (FELAC) organization and the European Obesity Academy (EOA) to Hamburg.

### Novelties during the Hamburg Meeting:

Live-Surgery from 4 OR with 15 surgeons from all other the world with simultaneous translation

Simultaneous translation into Spanish and Portuguese

Electronic voting system in all Plenary sessions. The questions were established by the Scientific Committee together with the Chairman and printed upfront within the program.

Integrated Health was for the first time within the scientific program of IFSO and was not organized before at any IFSO congress. Therefore was no double registration necessary and more experts were able to attend.

Joint sessions with the anesthesiologists endocrinologists and gastroenterologists.

Highlighting poster presentations by posters of distinction, separate poster sessions without overlapping to the oral presentations, poster session wine & cheese and poster prize election with anonymous scoring of Chairman and Moderators.

Video late night sessions with food & drinks

Separate sessions for young surgeons with special rate for fellow organizations, for the first time at IFSO: EOA (European Obesity Academy), FELAC (for fellows of the Latin American Chapter), Theodor Billroth Academy (German support group for young surgeons from all over the world).

First joint Meeting with the International Bariatric Club at Facebook, including live-stream transmission of live-surgeries for registered members.

Congress highlights on Facebook & Twitter

First IFSO meeting with European CME-Credits (European union) and German CME points.

Honoring heroes in surgery and modern minimal invasive surgery techniques

Abstract CD and DVD with all surgeries

Booth for the next 2 upcoming IFSO meetings (free of charge)

Official nomination of Centers of Excellence on the base of the EU-BC certification

Hand-layouts with presentations and figures for all Postgraduate Courses

Training center and hand-son courses within the industrial exhibition area



There was no official opening ceremony with political speeches – and more than 1.000 people were attending the get-together-party.

The final program was printed in 106 pages in A4 format

The IFSO T-Shirts were seen often in Hamburg at night, but the first T-Shirt with the note " IFSO-Staff" was dressed by Professor George Cowan jr. He explained his fashion: " I was one of the persons who chose the name IFSO 15 years ago".

### The roots of modern day minimally invasive and abdominal surgery. Forgotten legends?

IFSO  
2011



*Fig.9. Great interest and fruitful scientific discussions during the sessions*

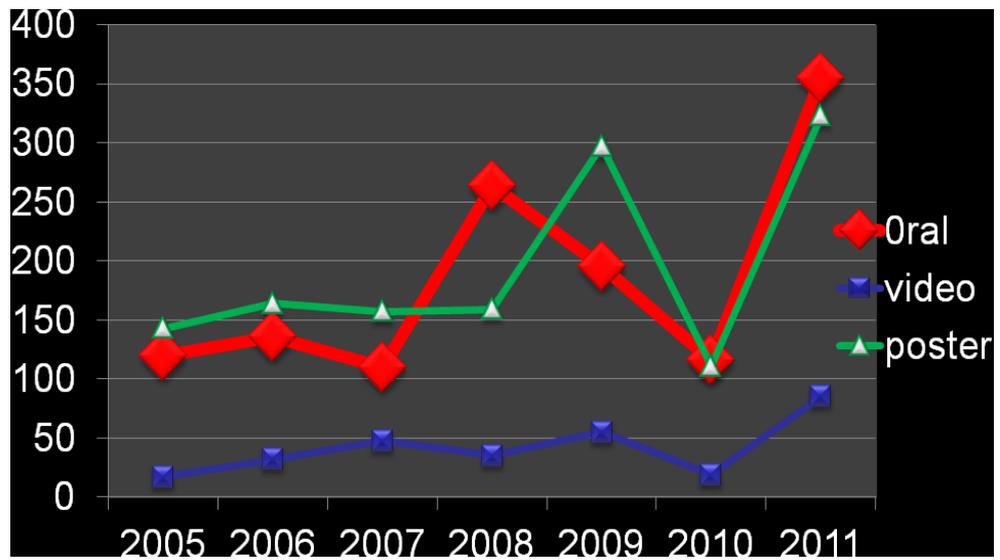


Fig.10 Number of oral presentations, videos and posters 2005-2011



Fig.11 Antonio Torres (Spain) (on the left) took over the IFSO presidency from Karl Miller (Austria)



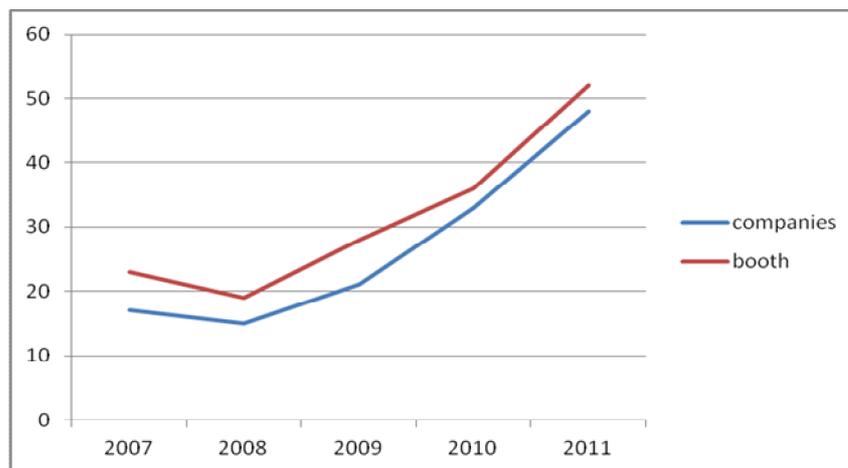
**Industrial exhibition**

25 booths at IFSO 2009 were doubled up to **52** booths in 2011. The square meter of the industrial exhibition increased more than 280 %. The costs per square meter decreased down to 25 %, so that, including the ESI training center, the Hall of **3500 square meter** was adequate for the meeting. Small innovative companies with limited budget were able to present their products.



*Fig.12. View into the exhibition hall*

*Fig.13. Companies & booth at IFSO World Congresses 2007-2011*





*Fig. 14. View into one of two halls of the Handelskammer.*

The Farewell Dinner was celebrated in the "Handelskammer" (Chamber of Commerce) of Hamburg. The ambience of this location was classic and typically "hanseatic". The whole atmosphere during this event was totally breathtaking and impressive. After the dinner there was time to dance or communicate with each other. Everybody was really relaxed and happy.

During the Farewell Dinner, the previous IFSO congresses were honored. Jean-Marc Chevallier (France) and Michel Suter received an IFSO award for the organization of IFSO 2009 and IFSO EU-Chapter Meeting 2010 with positive financial balances for IFSO.



*Fig. 15. Karl Miller, Jean-Marc Chevallier and Michel Suter*



During a break the Certificates of the COE-program were handed to the representatives of the new Centers of Excellence of the IFSO endorsed program of EAC-BC.



Fig16. Hand-over of certificates to John Melissas (Greece) by Nicola Scopinaro (Italy)

Mervyn Deitel (Canada) takes the opportunity to present a slide show of cartoons related to the topic of morbid obesity.

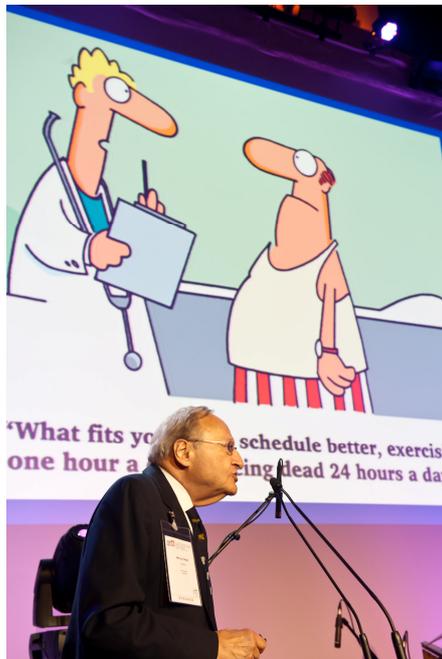


Fig 17 Mervyn Deitel (Canada) during his presentation.



The music of FEMALE VIBRES let us dance until midnight. Only the live-surgeons had to leave the Farewell Party earlier to be ready for the surgeries starting at 7 a.m.



Fig. 18 Female Vibres

The Farewell Dinner was the highlight at the end of the Congress with attractive music, food and drinks.

Thanks to Dr. Sylvia Weiner for being the “central nervous system” of the large scientific program (Fig. 19).



Fig. 19 Thanks from the Congress President and father Prof. Rudolf Weiner to the daughter Dr. Sylvia Weiner.



More than 800 surgeons from all over the world were watching the live surgery from UKE (University Hospital Eppendorf in Hamburg) in the plenary session room. Simultaneously the live transmission was performed to the sessions of the anesthesiologists.



Fig.20 Live-Surgeon at the OR of the University Hospital of Hamburg



Fig. 21 Live-transmission from UKE into the Plenary session Hall

Thanks to IFSO Executive Board for the confidence that have placed in me, to all the companies for the excellent trade support, particularly to the Platinum sponsors: Johnson & Johnson and Covidien, Gold sponsor: Allergan and a large number of sponsors, especially Storz and Olympus and all the others, to all the speakers and participants that helped us making the Congress a success.



Undoubtedly the XVI IFSO World Congress was from all points of view a resounding international event ! Of 145 responds by e-mail and mail we will publish just the following two:

The President Elect of IFSO Professor Pradeep Chowbey (India) wrote (an excerpt): "It was really a great and wonderful show under your dynamic leadership and guidance. The Scientific Committee has put-in a great effort in organizing and making the Congress a memorable one academically as well as socially! The Congress brought forward new scientific achievements, clinical experiences and new concepts in the field of metabolic & obesity surgery to meet the objective and improve the understanding of diabetes and provide direction for future treatments of curative intent. While the Congress is over, the sharing, networking and learning is continuing!"

The Honorary President of IFSO, of the EU-Chapter of IFSO and of many national societies, the only one of the German Society for Surgery of Obesity, Professor Nicola Scopinaro (Italy) stated:

"Dear Rudi, dear Sylvia,

Words are lacking to adequately comment on the experience I just lived in Hamburg at what will most probably remain in everybody's memory as the best meeting we had in IFSO history, waiting for a future very unlikely surpass. I am a very old and expert meeting visitor, and I have never spent one undue word just to please the meeting organizer.

First of all, the organization, which, when the number of participants far exceeds 2,000, especially when you did not expect it (and certainly you did not until the very last moment), becomes a very hard test, nearly impossible to be passed without any problems. On the contrary, not the least detail was less than perfect, and everything went so easy that it was like to attend a regular family dinner. Despite the enormous number of people attending the event, I am sure that nobody felt the sensation of over-crowding that unavoidably accompanies this kind of huge meeting. In my opinion, this was the most amazing feeling. It reminds me of the extremely technically difficult surgical operation, that, when the surgeon is very much familiar with them, appear to the external observer as easy as to cut a slice of bread.

The scientific program, despite the number of rooms and the variety of subjects, was in every single moment when I was present as pleasant as watching a nice movie.

I mentioned a family dinner, and this was certainly this is what impressed me the most. When a meeting is so big, the participants must forget about the "personal touch" of the organizer, the human hospitality, unless the organizer (here the unvaluable advantage of being an entire family, but especially Rudi and Sylvia, at work) has such a personality as to give to everybody the "divine" sensation that he/she is/are present in every place and every moment, exactly like in a family dinner..

So far, the feeling of all participants. As to myself, I will never forget the wonderful care you took of me, from the very first to the very last moment. The personal hospitality you afforded me made me feel much better than at home, forgetting about all my physical problems.

Thank you for giving everybody, particularly myself, a wonderful memory to be kept forever.

I embrace you both,

Nicola"



Let`s continue the successful work of IFSO and we will we never stop our activities to support the prevention of obesity all over the world. Prevention is the only solution, but if morbid obesity exists, the individual can be saved only by surgery.

*Thank You for Joining  
IFSO 2011 in Hamburg*



Prof. Dr. Rudolf A. Weiner

President XVI IFSO World Congress 2011

President EU-Chapter IFSO 2010-2012

President German Society for Surgery of Obesity



# 2012\_IFSO World Annual Meeting

## INDIA

### XVII World IFSO Congress



**Pradeep Chowbey**

President of the Congress

**11\_15 September, 2012 New Delhi, India**

[www.ifso2012.com](http://www.ifso2012.com)

Prof. Pradeep Chowbey was elected President of the Asia Pacific Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery Society (APMBSS) during the 6th International Congress of APMBSS held at Singapore, 21-23 October 2010.

The **XVII World Congress IFSO 2012** will be held on **11 – 15 September 2012** in **New Delhi**, India in association with the Obesity & Metabolic Surgery Society of India (OSSI) and the Asia Pacific Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery Society (APMBSS). The Congress will be hosted by Prof. Pradeep Chowbey, Congress President, President-APMBSS, President Elect-IFSO (APC), Past President-OSSI and Director - Max Institute of Minimal Access, Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket New Delhi, India.

**XVII WORLD CONGRESS  
IFSO 2012**  
(International Federation for  
the Surgery of Obesity & Metabolic Disorders)  
September 11-15, 2012 • Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi, India

**OSSI**  
Obesity & Metabolic Surgery Society of India  
(OSSI)

**APMBSS**  
Asia Pacific Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery Society  
(APMBSS)

Organized by  
**MAX HEALTHCARE**  
Institute of Minimal Access  
Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery

[www.IFso2012.com](http://www.IFso2012.com)



# 2013\_IFSO World Annual Meeting

## TURKEY



**Mustafa Taskin**

President of the  
Congress

## XVIII World IFSO Congress

29 August\_1 September 2013 Istanbul, [www.ifso2013.com](http://www.ifso2013.com)

Dear colleagues,

We are glad that time passes so fast that less than 2 years left for the 13th Congress of IFSO which will be held in Istanbul which is the only city that connects Europe and Asia and forms Eurasia. We are working with our team for preparing a unique, vast and exciting scientific and social program for an unforgettable congress. The European congress of EASO will also be held in Istanbul between 25-28th of May of this year. I will chair a bariatric surgery session in this congress and we will have a special booth in this congress that will advertise the upcoming IFSO congress in Istanbul.

I will also join the EAES congress in Torino 15-18<sup>th</sup> of June this year before the Hamburg congress of IFSO. It would be great opportunity to meet with our colleagues in advance and discuss the upcoming events and advertise the 2013 congress.

We are also advertising our upcoming meeting in the local congresses throughout Turkey. We will be holding our **3rd National Congress on Obesity Surgery and Metabolic disorders** with international participation in Antalya between 21-24th of September this year which will be a small rehearsal of the big event in 2013. We will also have opportunity to evaluate the advancement of Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery in Turkey by organizing this event.

I would like to invite all of you to our local congress which would be a joint congress with Turkish Minimal Invasive Surgery Society which will be organized 21-24<sup>th</sup> of September in Antalya. I would like to thank all my friends for their participation and their support for this local event in advance. Please check our website <http://www.minimalinvaziv2011.org/en/>

I hope to meet with you in Hamburg,

Prof. Mustafa Taskin, MD

President of Turkish Obesity Surgery and 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of IFSO

International Federation for the  
Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic  
Disorders (IFSO)  
[www.ifso.com](http://www.ifso.com)

**IFSO 13**  
**XVIII WORLD CONGRESS**  
18<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR THE SURGERY OF OBESITY & METABOLIC DISORDERS  
29 AUGUST - 01 SEPTEMBER 2013, ISTANBUL / TURKEY  
[www.ifso2013.com](http://www.ifso2013.com)

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## 2014\_IFSO World Annual Meeting

### CANADA



Michel Gagner

President of the Congress

### IXX World IFSO Congress

26\_30 August, 2014 - Montreal, Canada

<http://www.congresmtl.com/Communications/IFSO2014/IFSO2014.pdf>



Please have a look at this video of the beautiful Montreal:

<http://www.tourisme-montreal.org/MontreMontrealTV>



## 2015\_IFSO World Annual Meeting

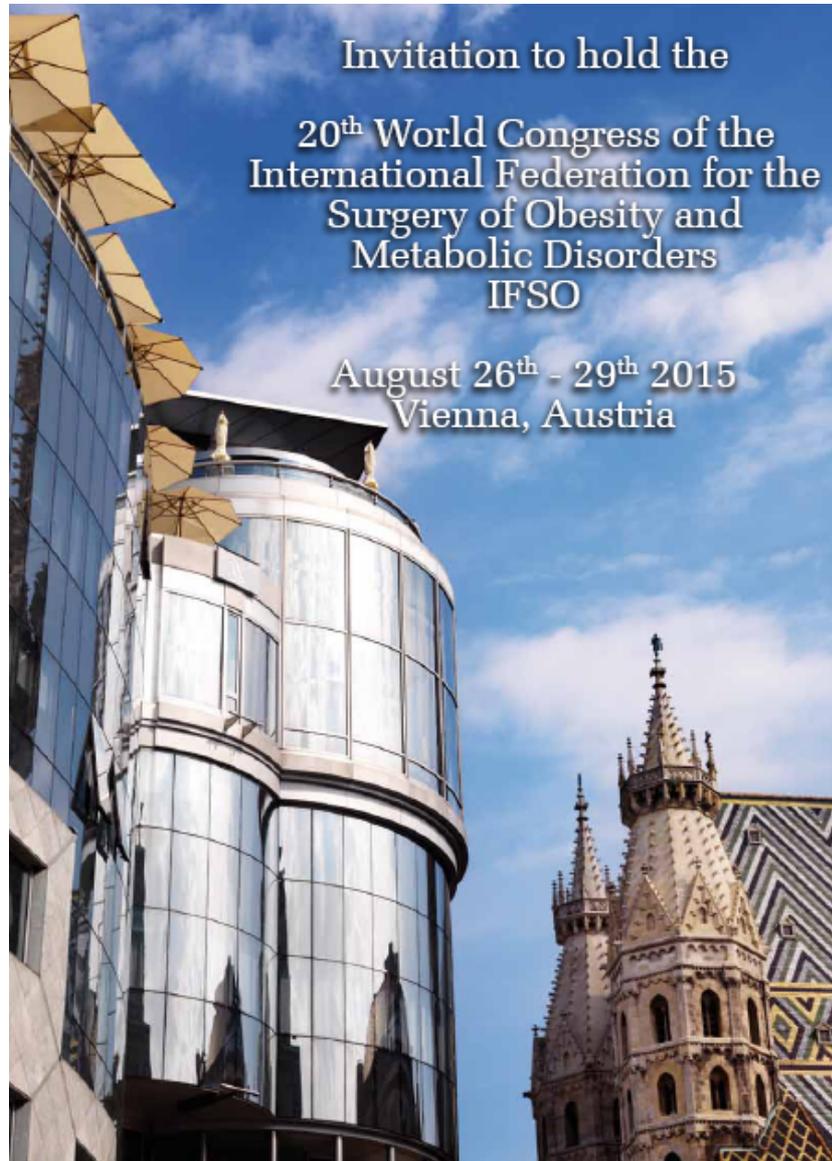
**AUSTRIA** XX World IFSO Congress



Karl Miller

President of the  
Congress

26\_29 August, 2015 - Vienna, Austria



### 2015\_IFSO World Congress

The General Council in Hamburg, on August 30, has decided that the XX World Congress in 2015 will be held in Vienna, Austria.





# 2011-2012 Upcoming Congresses



## "Psychological aspects of obesity Congress. Therapeutic Strategies"

November 10-11, 2011, Buenos Aires Psychoanalytic Association (APdeBA), Buenos Aires, Argentina

[www.saco.org.ar](http://www.saco.org.ar)



## European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO)

5-6 December 2011, Munich, Germany

[www.easo.org/meetings](http://www.easo.org/meetings)

**European Obesity Medico-Surgical Workshop**  
Medicine and surgery in optimising the care of obese patients

**5-6 December 2011**  
Maritim Hotel, Munich  
jointly organized by EASO and IFSO-EC

This European workshop, jointly organized by EASO and IFSO-EC in collaboration with the German Obesity Association (GDO), will address key current challenges in the medical and surgical care of severely obese patients. The workshop will combine lectures by international experts, and smaller group sessions on practical issues. The objective of the workshop is to provide surgeons from the industrialized and developing countries with management and research issues related to the medico-surgical care of obese patients. The programme of the workshop will be relevant to both experienced and junior physicians specializing in internal medicine, diabetology, endocrinology, diet and nutrition, gastroenterology, gastroenterology, bariatric care, and surgeons together willing to learn and exchange opinions and experiences in this rapidly evolving field of obesity management.

**Main topics**

- Obesity surgery and
  - Indications - metabolic surgery
  - Adolescents and the elderly
  - Pregnancy and fertility
  - Evaluation of comorbidities
- Eating disorders
- Complex metabolic diseases
- Preoperative and follow-up
- New and old surgical techniques

**For further information:**  
please contact us at [enquiries@easo.org](mailto:enquiries@easo.org) or at [www.easo.org/meetings](http://www.easo.org/meetings)

EASO Secretariat  
2755 High Street  
London W12 7UL  
UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 893 5236

[www.easo.org](http://www.easo.org)



## "A new present for the future of diabetes" - SICOB, SID (Italian Society of Diabetes) and SIO (Italian Society of Obesity)

February 24, 2012, Roma Capitolina – Sala Protomoteca, Rome, Italy

### SICOB-SIO National Congress

18-20 April, 2012 Abano Terme (PD), Italy

[www.sicob.org](http://www.sicob.org)



## 5<sup>th</sup> IFSO EUROPEAN CHAPTER MEETING and 1<sup>o</sup> congreso Iberico de Cirugía Bariátrica y Metabólica (SECO-SPCO)

25-28 April, 2012 Barcelona, Spain

[www.ifsobcn2012.com](http://www.ifsobcn2012.com)

[www.congresoiberico2012.com](http://www.congresoiberico2012.com)

**Barcelona'12**  
April, 26 - 28, 2012

**5<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders European Chapter (IFSO-EC)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Iberian Congress on Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery, (Spanish and Portuguese spoken)**

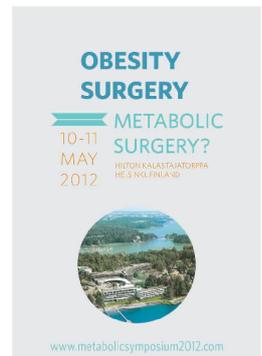
Join us and be part of IFSO-EC 2012!  
[www.ifsobcn2012.com](http://www.ifsobcn2012.com)



## 2011-2012 Upcoming Congresses

### FOTEG meeting "Metabolic surgery?"

10-11 May 2012, Helsinki, Finland  
[www.metabolicsymposium2012.com](http://www.metabolicsymposium2012.com)



### International Congress on Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and Related Diseases and the IV International Symposium, a multidisciplinary approach

August 2012, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
[www.saco.org.ar](http://www.saco.org.ar)

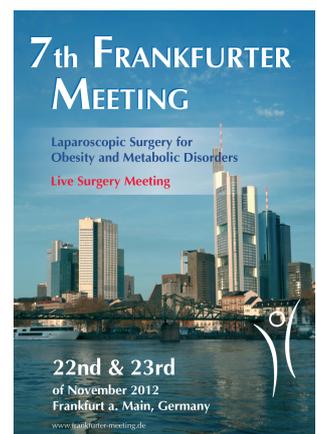


### 5<sup>th</sup> Ukrainian Conference "Surgical treatment of obesity and related metabolic disorders"

Yalta (Crimea), September 2012  
[www.obesitysurgery.org.ua](http://www.obesitysurgery.org.ua)



### 7th FRANKFURT MEETING "Laparoscopic Surgery for Obesity and Metabolic disorders" 22-23 November 2012, Frankfurt, Germany [www.frankfurter-meeting.de](http://www.frankfurter-meeting.de)



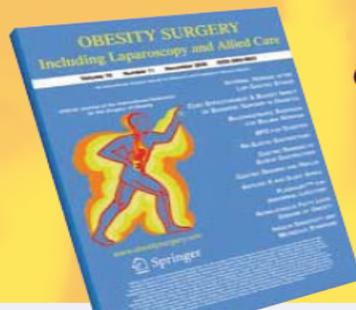


## The Journals

### Obesity Surgery



[springer.com](http://springer.com)

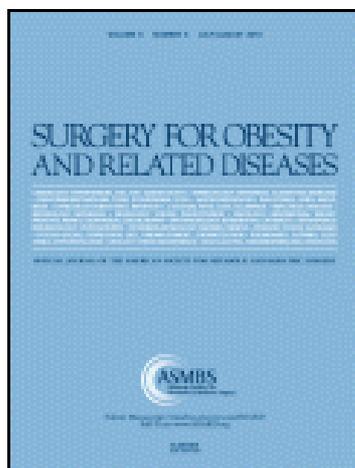


### Reduced *Obesity Surgery* Group Subscription Rates for IFSO Member Societies

The **International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders (IFSO)** encourages all IFSO Member Societies to take advantage of the reduced group subscription rate to ***Obesity Surgery***, IFSO's official journal. The benefits of subscribing to the journal through IFSO include:

- A full year's subscription (12 issues) at the special rate of only **USD \$80,00** (including shipping and handling)
- Online access to the current year's subscription as well as all previous years.

### Surgery of Obesity and Related Diseases (SOARD)



Becoming a member of IFSO you can subscribe **SOARD** at the discounted rate

of **USD \$92,00**



## HOW TO JOIN IFSO

### 2012 FEES

IFSO Membership: **20,00\$**

IFSO Membership + Obesity Surgery: **100,00\$**

IFSO Membership + Obesity Surgery + SOARD: **192,00\$**

### Individual Membership

Only members who live in Countries where there is no National Society for the Surgery of Obesity can apply to become "Individual affiliated members", writing to the Secretariat and asking for the application form.

Payment can be made by bank transfer or credit card/paypal on [www.ifso.com](http://www.ifso.com) (with a surplus fee of 4%)

### Membership through the National Society

All national societies must send the list of their members (using the "Model list" provided by the Secretariat) **by December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

Payment from the society must be made by bank transfer, after receiving the receipt by the Secretariat.

The reduced subscription rate of **USD \$80,00** to the Springer Journal **Obesity Surgery** is only one of the many benefits of IFSO membership. Further benefits include:

- An official IFSO Certificate of Membership
- Subscription to the Elsevier journal **SOARD** at a discounted rate of **US \$92,00.**
- Use of the website to advertise National Society activities
- Links to National Society websites on IFSO's website
- Reduced entrance fees to International and Regional meetings
- Membership in a professional global network
- Regular E-newsletters
- Listing in the surgeon's registry on IFSO's website

For details on how your National Obesity Surgery Society can become a member of IFSO, for Individual membership requests and for any other information feel free to contact:

### **IFSO Executive Secretariat**

#### **Manuela Mazzarella**

Rione Sirignano, 5 – 80121 Napoli – Italy

Ph. 0039 – (0)81 7611085

Fax 0039 – (0)81 664372

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