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January 2014 Monthly ISTH e-Newsletter

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SSC 2014: Register, Submit Your Abstract & Make Plans to Attend!

This year's [60th Anniversary of the Annual Scientific and Standardization Committee \(SSC\) Meeting](#) from June 23 – 26, 2014, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA, is a must-attend scientific event! SSC 2014 will include a special trainee day on June 22 which will offer students and trainees important information on building a career, grant writing, mentorship and more. The formal program will be shared online in mid-February, and more information on the trainee program is coming soon!

The abstract deadline for SSC 2014 is approaching quickly. Delegates who would like to present their work at the meeting are invited to submit an abstract for consideration by the Scientific Committee. For more information on topics, submission process and travel grants related to abstracts, visit our [Abstract Submission Guide online](#)

Please note the deadlines that are quickly approaching!

SSC 2014 Abstract Deadline: March 3, 2014

SSC 2014 Early Registration Deadline: March 28, 2014

[Don't forget to make your reservations at your preferred location.](#)

Register for SSC 2014

To register for SSC 2014, visit www.ssc2014.org.



SSC 2014 Program

The SSC is pleased to offer an enhanced program with an array of new and continuously popular educational presentations as well as cutting-edge research through our subcommittee sessions, poster presentations and scientific program. Specifically, the SSC 2014 meeting will offer a program highlighting the latest discussions of diagnostic standards, disease nomenclature and classification, and research on bleeding and thrombotic disorders.

The SSC 2014 educational topics will include:

- Genomic Impact on Personalized Medicine
- The Evolving World of Haemostasis
- Vascular Biology of Hemoglobinopathies
- Vascular Biology of Malaria
- Therapeutics of Tomorrow
- And much more!

Important Links

- [Submit your abstract](#)
- [SSC 2014 Program At-A-Glance](#)
- [All upcoming SSC 2014 deadlines](#)
- [Thank you to our sponsors and exhibitors](#)
- [Sponsorship and Exhibition information](#)
- [Learn more about Milwaukee, Wisconsin](#)
- [Interested in making your travel plans?](#)

More Information on SSC 2014

For more information on SSC 2014, visit www.ssc2014.org, contact ssc2014reg@mci-group.com, or contact the ISTH at headquarters@isth.org or via phone at +1 919 929-3807.



ISTH e-Newsletter: Easier to Access, Read & Share

The ISTH is excited to share that its [e-Newsletter](#) is now easier to access, read and share with colleagues, trainees and friends.

As part of the evolution of the Society's communication program and with your feedback on our newsletter survey in mid-2013, with this issue we are re-launching our e-Newsletter in an HTML format which will be sent via e-mail at the end of each month. A text version of the newsletter will also be [available online](#).

Let us know what you think! Share your feedback and ideas for upcoming stories with us at newsletter@isth.org.

Don't Miss This: Second Advanced Training Course in Thrombosis and Haemostasis, March 14 – 16, 2014 in Cascais, Portugal

If you are a trainee in haemostasis, hematology, transfusion medicine, vascular medicine, or intensive care medicine, a Ph.D. wishing to acquire clinical and basic knowledge in the field, or a senior hematologist looking for an update – this is for you!

Early Registration Deadline: February 2, 2014

The [Second Advanced Training Course in Thrombosis and Haemostasis](#) offers three full days of intense examination on the subjects of blood coagulation and bleeding disorders, platelets and venous thrombosis. Leading scientists with vast experience in education will deliver focused lectures followed by ample time for discussion and close interaction with the participants. Additionally, the course has been accredited by the European Hematology Association (EHA) with 24 credit points. Course registrations are limited, and early registrations and hotel bookings are encouraged. If you are interested in attending, see the [formal program online here](#) and [register online!](#)



Your Last Chance to Contribute to the ISTH Core Curriculum

Now is your opportunity and last chance to contribute to the ISTH Core Curriculum. In the fall, the ISTH membership was asked to provide initial comments via an online survey on a draft version of the Core Curriculum. That feedback informed the committee leading the project and has been incorporated into a follow-up survey to capture final comments from the members of the ISTH.

At this time, ISTH members and specialists in the thrombosis and haemostasis are encouraged to provide any final comments on the updated curriculum.

Last year the ISTH began developing a Core Curriculum for clinical thrombosis and haemostasis specialists. The aim of the ISTH Curriculum is to provide a framework to facilitate harmonization of training that ensures the attainment of a pre-determined level of knowledge in thrombosis and haemostasis.

We acknowledge that while there will be regional variations in facilities, access to laboratory testing and clinical management options, but the curriculum can be used internationally to inform a set of minimum knowledge required for a medical doctor to be considered as a clinical specialist in the field of thrombosis and haemostasis.

The program can also be used as a framework for continuous professional development and maintenance of competence.

[To participate in the survey, click here and share with others.](#) Deadline: March 3, 2014.



ISTH Reach-the-World Courses in Review

Suzhou, China

Professor Changgeng Ruan and his team organized an ISTH-sponsored educational session in conjunction with the 14th National Congress on Thrombosis & Hemostasis from Oct. 12-13 in Suzhou, China. The educational session drew a vivid audience of about 200 young scientists.

The program presented was an attractive mixture of presentations of basic and translational sciences in haemostasis and thrombosis and clearly illustrated the high pace of scientific development in China, with outstanding research resulting in publications in high ranking journals like Nature. Afterward, a Master Class was organized with each teacher and about 30 students who engaged in a lively discussion on various thrombosis and haemostasis topics, during a two hour session. Additionally, the group visited the Cyrus Tang Hematology Center and had extensive discussions with a number of PIs working there.

As part of the ISTH-sponsored educational session in Suzhou, China, three speakers were invited to present. They included: Jeroen Eikenboom, from Leiden University Medical Center, to discuss the pathophysiology of von Willebrand Disease; Rodger McEver to talk on adhesive interactions of leukocytes, platelets, and the vessel wall during inflammation and haemostasis; and Hugo ten Cate to discuss the yin and yang of coagulation proteases in cardiovascular disease. These contributions were complemented by presentations from Yi Wu on the plasma kallikrein-kinin system in innate immunity: its evolution from coagulation; Liun Xia, on O-glycoprotein podoplanin and its interaction with platelet CLEC-2, Heyu Ni on platelets as versatile cells; Xiaoping Du on integrin signaling as a new antithrombotic concept; Li Zhu on platelet surface receptor shedding in thrombosis and cardiovascular disease; and finally, Kesheng Dai on the interaction of Gp1b-IX with vWF and its effects on platelet activation and apoptosis.

The course was a very successful and lively educational exchange and excellent at strengthening relations with the Chinese research community. Finally, as clearly expressed by Dr. Ruan, "This initiative should encourage Chinese researchers in hematology and thrombosis/haemostasis to join ISTH!"

ISTH gratefully acknowledges Hugo ten Cate, ISTH Council, for the content above.



Quezon City, Philippines

The ISTH-sponsored Educational Forum on Thrombosis and Haemostasis in the Asia-Pacific region was held in The Philippine Heart Center in Quezon City, metropolitan Manila, the Philippines by the Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion and the Philippine Society of Vascular Medicine from Nov. 8-9, 2013.

Only the approach of Super Typhoon Yolanda (A.K.A. Haiyan), one of the most powerful storms ever to hit land (stronger even than Hurricane Katrina), threatened to affect the conference as the Philippines lay directly in its path - landfall was predicted to coincide with the opening day of the conference. The approaching super-typhoon limited attendance at the conference as flights from across the Philippines were cancelled. Those delegates who were able to attend came from a number of clinical backgrounds including hematology, cardiology, vascular medicine, obstetrics, perinatology and infectious diseases.

The organizers of the meeting included: Maria Teresa Abola, Patricio Palmes, Enrico Tuy, Angelina Mirasol and Maribeth Delos Santos. They developed an excellent two-day program including talks and interactive sessions given by international invited speakers from the Asia-Pacific region (Yukio Ozaki from Japan, Lee Lai Heng from Singapore, Chris Ward from Australia and Claire McLintock from New Zealand) and local speakers from the Philippines.

Opening lectures included an enlightening review by Lee Lai Heng addressing thrombosis and haemostasis from an Asian perspective – how people from this region not only have a different risk profile for disorders of thrombosis and haemostasis but also face significant challenges in access to diagnostic testing and delivery of health care, issues that are often taken for granted by clinicians and scientists in Europe and North America. This was followed by a marvelous overview by Chris Ward that described the close interaction between the coagulation and inflammatory systems and how dysregulation of these processes led to disease and identified potential therapeutic targets. Subsequent sessions on the first day included a comprehensive review given by Maria Teresa Abola on the new direct oral anticoagulant drugs and how their introduction might impact on management of patients in the region, presentation of clinical case studies of thrombophilia, as well as lectures on diagnosis and management of DVT and PE, and thromboprophylaxis, management of thrombocytosis and the clinical implications, diagnosis and management of HIT. Clinical case presentations were given by local fellows and residents with local and international invited speakers providing comment.

The second day included clinical case presentations and discussion relating to management of thrombosis and placental-mediated pregnancy complications and obstetric haemorrhage moderated by Claire McLintock, Gilda Martinez and Raul Quilamor. There was lively interaction and discussion from the audience and these sessions seemed to be very popular with delegates. Other topics on day two included management of patients with bleeding disorders, management of bleeding in patients on the new anticoagulants followed by a session on thrombosis in malignancy. The Educational Forum ended with an update on Dengue fever with



an enlightening summary of national public health measures being adopted to reduce the impact of this mosquito borne virus, which is a significant public health issue in the Philippines.

Apart from enjoying the opportunity to hear excellent lectures and clinical cases about thrombosis and haemostasis, the ISTH Educational Forum provided an unrivalled opportunity to make new connections to develop future collaborations with clinicians working in the field of thrombosis and haemostasis in the Asia Pacific region, and the support of the ISTH in facilitating the meeting was hugely appreciated. It was incredibly encouraging to see a number of excellent poster presentations by fellows and residents exhibited at the meeting, which showcased the hard work and dedication of the upcoming generation of doctors who are interested in this field. By the end of the meeting, all the delegates left feeling enthusiastic and optimistic about the future for the specialty of thrombosis and haemostasis in this region, and the ISTH Educational Forum signaled the start of an exciting and important journey ahead.

It was only as delegates to the ISTH Education Forum began to head home that the enormity of the destructive effect of Super Typhoon Yolanda became evident. Initial estimates were of thousands of lives lost in the province of Leyte in central Philippines, with the destruction of 70-80 percent of buildings in the path of the typhoon; loss of telecommunications, power and no access to food, fresh water or shelter for people in affected areas. While this terrible news cast a pall somewhat over the success of the meeting – it also highlighted the importance of new friendships and a stronger sense of fellowship - and underscored the significance of building closer alliances in our region. Our hearts, best wishes and aroha go out to all those affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda and to paraphrase General Douglas MacArthur, “We will return.”

ISTH gratefully acknowledges Claire McLintock, ISTH Council, for the content above.



Vascular Biology SSC Project Questionnaire – Call for Participants

Here at the ISTH, our committees and subcommittees are always working to improve their studies. As such, our [SSC Vascular Biology subcommittee](#) would like to invite you to participate in the new multicenter evaluation of a new method to standardize concentration measurements of microparticles by flow cytometry. An evaluation of this method in 20 centers will start next month.

[To participate and for more information, click here and share with others!](#)

Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC) Project – Participants Needed

On behalf of the [ISTH SSC DIC subcommittee](#), we would like to announce efforts to set up an international registry for the diagnosis and management of disseminated intravascular coagulation. The main aim of this registry is to assess the current diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for DIC in a large prospective cohort of patients with DIC.

[Interested? Click here for more information and how to participate:](#)

JTH Editor's Picks for Oct. – Jan.

The [Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis \(JTH\)](#) is the official journal of the Society and is the leading medical journal in the fields of thrombosis and haemostasis. Its impact factor as of 2012 is 6.081.

[To access the JTH Editor's Picks for Oct. through Jan. click here.](#)

Special Issue: The [2013 State of the Art issue](#) from JTH is the definitive collection of topical reviews in thrombosis and haemostasis written by internationally acclaimed experts in the field. Access is free to this issue!

Don't forget! Take advantage of your ISTH society discount of 35% off all Wiley Publishing book titles.



ISTH Membership for 2014

As you may know, it's that time of the year again – membership season!

All ISTH members who have yet to [renew](#) their membership for 2014 are encouraged to [renew now](#) to ensure that all benefits including subscription to the JTH, meeting discounts and educational opportunities remain intact. As the leading global community of specialists in bleeding and clotting disorders, the ISTH offers benefits that inspire, drive and connect us in the translation of science to advance clinical practice to improve the lives of millions of people worldwide.

If you have yet to join us as a member, we invite you to join the Society. Please see a list of our [benefits here](#) and [register today!](#)

In Recognition: New ISTH Members

Thank you to our new and renewing ISTH members. With your membership, we continue to work toward our mission of advancing the understanding, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of thrombotic and bleeding disorders. Your support doesn't end with becoming a member though. We hope you'll continue to support the ISTH throughout the year by participating in surveys, attending [events](#), volunteering for [committees](#) and [subcommittees](#) and much more.

In recognition of our new members, [please see our comprehensive list of new members online.](#)



ISTH Bylaws Amendment Outcome

The ISTH recently held a vote to amend its bylaws to have one designated seat for Reach-the-World (RtW) countries per Council class. This bylaws change has overwhelmingly been approved by the ISTH membership. Voting ended on January 11, 2014. [The updates are now reflected in our bylaws online.](#)

The ISTH Council believes that this will be a critical addition to the Society's governance being more inclusive and will provide a direct voice of the RtW countries on ISTH's governing body, thereby allowing the Society to fulfill its global mission more effectively.

Much of the growth in our Society, but also much of the increasing need to address thrombotic and bleeding disorders comes from countries that the ISTH refers to as RtW countries and that are defined as per criteria of the World Bank as "[developing](#)" countries.

As such, our Society plays a particularly important role and our programs and activities aim at building capacity on a scientific, educational as well as care level.

We thank all ISTH members for their active participation in this important vote.

Elections for the Council Class of 2020 are upcoming, and voting will be announced soon via email to all ISTH members.



Upcoming Meetings:

Below you will find several upcoming meetings along with a link to all relevant events and meetings on our website at www.isth.org. To be included, [e-mail us here](#).

58th Annual Meeting of the GTH

2/12/14-2/15/14. Vienna, Austria

7th Annual Congress of the European Association for Haemophilia and Allied Disorders

2/26/14-2/28/14. Brussels, Belgium

Platelets 2014: 8th International Symposium and ISTH-Endorsed Platelets 2014 Educational Course

4/2/14-4/6/14. Ma'ale Hachamisha, Israel

18th International Vascular Biology Meeting 2014

4/14/14-4/17/14. Kyoto, Japan

Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology 2014 Scientific Sessions

5/1/14-5/3/14. Toronto, Canada

7th International Conference on Thrombosis and Haemostasis Issues in Cancer (ICTHIC)

5/9/14-5/11/14. Bergamo, Italy