

antation society and its Sections

Cell Transplant Society
International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association
International Society for Organ Donation & Procurement
International Xenotransplantation Association
Intestinal Transplant Association
Transplant Infectious Disease

MARCH 2006 Volume III Issue I OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY

## Global network promotes ethical practices

Philadelphia, PA, USA — Key players in international transplantation met at the inaugural board meeting of the Global Alliance for Transplantation (GAT) in November to discuss their mission to advance the safe, effective and ethical, practice of transplantation for all patients in need.

The meeting agreed that "within the next 20 years there are major economic and health care benefits to individuals and communities through increased transplantation. As we increase the pool of donors through a global network, we can increase life expectancy and improve the quality of life for patients in need."

The participants decided to form the Advisory Board of the GAT and set out a list of priorities and intentions that would become the basis for the action plan. The Board will establish strategies for donation and transplantation that optimise the treatment and outcomes of organ, tissue, and cell transplantation.

Priorities for moving forward included encouraging organ, cell and tissue donation, ensuring ethical practice standards and guidelines in transplantation, establishing educational programs, promoting research and unified systems of data collection, increasing the flow of information to the public at large, and networking with all the important stakeholders. "As time goes on, our advisory Board will facilitate mutually beneficial relationships with stakeholders, encourage organ, cell and tissue donation, establish a transparent flow of information about our field of practice, share knowledge about education and training, and foster the development of global practice guidelines," said Jeremy Chapman, The Transplantation Society (TTS) Vice President and Director of Renal Medicine at Westmead Hospital, Sydney, Australia.

The Advisory Board will meet at the World Transplant Congress in Boston in July 2006 to establish the next steps and the action plan for the Alliance. Since the inaugural meeting, the Asian Society for Transplantation held a workshop in Karachi, Pakistan to identify the educational needs of transplant professionals in developing countries.



#### Statement of Strategic Intentions

- ✓ To promote organ, tissue, and cell donation.
- ✓ To endorse and/or establish institutional and professional guidelines.
- ✓ To establish educational programs to improve expertise and standards in transplantation.
- To develop systems and standards for data collection, analysis, dissemination, and validation of transplantation outcomes.
- To promote research and evidence-based transplantation practices.
- To increase transparency and increase public knowledge about donation and transplantation.
- To engage and communicate with governmental health, regulatory authorities and community stakeholders.

#### FOUR DECADES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, INNOVATION, GROWTH AND PROGRESS

## IN THIS ISSUE

Sign-up today for the World Transplant Congress in Boston

New TTS Research Fellowship opportunity Promoting and supporting ethical organ donation

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

t is with great pleasure that I announce that 2006 marks the 40th Anniversary of The Transplantation Society (TTS). TTS will be celebrating this anniversary by holding a number of special events to mark the occasion and to recognize the outstanding contributions of its distinguished members.

Nick Tilney, President Elect of TTS, has written a paper charting the events that have taken TTS from the fledgling society formed in 1966 to the outstanding organisation it is today, providing the focus for global leadership in transplantation. His paper will be published in *Transplantation* in June 2006. It is a fascinating chronicle and we hope you will all enjoy reading it. Take a look at the preview on p.5 for a few highlights.

## WORLD ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION DAY

Drs Jeremy Chapman, Francis Delmonico and I represented TTS at the First World Organ Donation and Transplantation Day held in Geneva on October 14, 2005. This event, organized with participation of the World Health Organization, will be an important part of the initiatives of the Global Alliance for Transplantation to promote organ, tissue and cell donation. I was part of a human chain formed by the families of organ donors, world leaders in transplantation and organ transplant recipients to accept and endorse the text World Health Assembly Resolution on Transplantation. On p. 6 you can read about the panel discussion that took place at the event that gave a global perspective on the issues and ethics of organ donation.

#### USE YOUR VOTE

TTS elections will take place shortly. By the close of nominations at the end of January an outstanding list of candidates has been received from those who wish to stand in the elections as either Councillors to represent TTS Global Regions Europe, Latin America, Middle East & Africa, and Oceania. Each member of TTS who is in good standing is entitled to vote. Please ensure that you cast your vote as soon as you receive the ballot papers.

#### CONGRESS 2012

TTS has received a number of bids from National Transplantation Societies worldwide offering to host the XXIV International Congress of TTS in 2012. The Congress Organising Committee, chaired by Camillo Ricordi, will be reviewing the bids over the coming months to generate a short list that will be considered by Council in July in Boston.

#### TTS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

In 2006, TTS will be offering fellowships to train young scientists and clinicians from different TTS Global Regions. This is a first priority for TTS. Applications can be submitted via the website until March 31st. Please bring this opportunity to the attention of your colleagues and read more about the Fellowship on p.5.

## TTS KEY OPINION LEADERS OF TOMORROW

To build on the position of TTS as the global leader in transplantation, a series of meetings will be held to identify those talented young investigators who have the potential to become the Key Opinion Leaders of Tomorrow. These future leaders will be sought from each of TTS' Global Regions. I would like to thank Wyeth for supporting this exciting initiative in 2006. More information about the meetings will be posted on TTS' website.

#### WTC 2006

I hope by now that you have all taken full advantage of the low member registration rates, registered for WTC 2006, and submitted your most exciting data. It promises to be an excellent meeting with an outstanding programme, presenting the latest and most exciting science and clinical work in the field of transplantation. We have included some highlights of the program on p. 3. Abstract submissions close on March 3rd. If you have not submitted anything yet, you still have time.

#### INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lucy Felicissimo kindly agreed to fill in as Interim Executive Director from the end of October and the new look of the newsletter was one of her first initiatives. I hope that you enjoy the newsletter and I look forward to seeing you all in Boston in July.

Kahryn Wood



Kathryn Wood

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## First World Transplant Congress comes to Boston

he International Advisory Group has put together six days worth of educational programming for the 2006 World Transplant Congress (WTC) to be held at the Hynes Convention Center, Boston Massachusetts, July 22 – 27, 2006.

"This important meeting will provide a forum for exchange of new scientific and clinical information relevant to solid organ and tissue transplantation, create an arena for the interchange of ideas regarding care and management of organ and tissue transplant recipients, and facilitate discussions of the socioeconomic, ethical, and regulatory issues related to solid organ and tissue transplantation," said TTS President Kathryn Wood.

WTC is an occasion for physicians, surgeons, scientists, nurses, organ procurement personnel, and pharmacists from all over the world to come together in a common forum to share cutting-edge research in the field of solid organ and tissue transplantation. It is the first joint meeting of TTS, American Society of Transplant Surgeons and the American Society of Transplantation.

#### ON THE PROGRAM:

**POST GRADUATE COURSES:** On Saturday July 22, 2006, the courses include **Clinical Transplant Update**, which will provide an in-depth overview of the important topics in clinical transplantation relevant to all solid organs.

There will be a **Basic Science Update** course, developed specifically for the basic science researchers, and a **Basic Immunobiology Update for the Clinician**.

**Transplant Associate Professionals** symposium on donation and transplantation will be co-sponsored by the International Transplant Nurses Society (ITNS), the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) and



the North American Transplant Coordinators Organization (NATCO).

Take advantage of these postgraduate courses to get an update on basic science, basic immunobiology, organ donation and clinical transplantation.

#### Sunday July 23, 2006 PRE-MEETING SYMPOSIA:

- Pediatric Symposium
- Alloimmunization
- Infectious Disease Update
- Pathology Workshop: Multi-organ Approach
- Novel Technologies: Applications to Transplantation
- Ethics and Economics Symposium.
- Surgical issues in transplantation.
- Rampant skin cancer in solid organ transplant recipients.

These will run in parallel with a series of mini-symposia in basic science where young investigators have an opportunity to present their work. Be sure to read about the **Young Investigator Awards** in upcoming newsletters or by visiting the TTS website

The four-day Congress will feature sunrise symposia, early morning workshops, daytime state-of-the-art symposia, lectures, poster sessions, debates, social events and the popular "What's Hot Basic/Clinical" session.

WTC has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essentials and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME).

For more information about the WTC and a full schedule of planned events visit **www.wtc2006.org** ②

## IN BRIEF

#### WHO supports China's attempts to modernize transplantation practices

Officers of The Transplantation Society (TTS) Ethics Committee recently attended meetings in Karachi, Pakistan, and Manila, The Philippines, organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) as part of its consultation process with national health authorities on the topic of transplantation.

Vice-Minister of Health, Huang Jiefu, who chaired the meeting in Manila, gave an interview to Beijing's Caijing Magazine following the meeting. He acknowledged that most human organs used for transplantation in China are those of executed prisoners.

The current Chinese protocol meets international standards of medical ethics and no organs are harvested without the consent of either the prisoners or their families. Yet, in order to improve the current regulations, in particular to establish more transparency and third party oversight, a draft legal framework for transplantation activities will be submitted to the State Council of China.

Vice-Minister Huang also indicated that the development of live organ donation, currently accounting for only 5% of the supply of human organs, is a necessary challenge.

In addition, China will introduce an accreditation/authorization system for hospitals where transplantation activities are taking place, a national co-ordination to ensure proper over-

### 2004 RECIPIENTS

### MAREN SCHULZE Autologous islet-like cells to treat diabetes

Prolonged correction of hyperglycemia may be possible if autologous isletlike cells are transplanted, indicating a potential new therapy for diabetes says Young Investigator Award recipient Maren Schulze.

The award winning paper entitled, "Normalization of Blood Glucose by Human Monocyte-Derived cells in Streptozotozin Diabetic Mice-Perspectives for Autologous Cell Therapy" was based on an investigation used to determine if islet-like cells derived from human peripheral blood monocytes could provide a new diabetic therapy.

While islet cell transplantation is a growing treatment for diabetes, the supply of cells is limited and the immunosuppressive regimens are hazardous. Over the course of this investigation however, the islet-like cells appeared to be a future possible source. The islet-like cells were found as aggregates, some staining for insulin, glucagon, somatostatin and pancreatic peptide. Insulin mRNA was also detected.

Incubating the cells with glucose resulted in insulin and C-peptide secretion. Transplanting the insulin-secreting cells into diabetic mice produced a correction in hyperglycemia within 2 days that lasted until day 8 post-transplant. Lymphocyte infiltrates in the kidneys indicated rejection was responsible for the failure to normalize blood glucose after day 9.

Schulze's early research focused on the characterization and differentiation of rat embryonic stem cell-like cells. She showed their ability to induce donor specific tolerance to second set allogeneic heterotopic heart transplants. Other studies with monoclonal antibodies showed rat and human bone marrow and blood contained a subpopulation of cells with the same epitope. These cells were isolated and expansion studies revealed cells of mononuclear origin, which could be dedifferentiated to a state that expressed stem cell specific antigens. These stem cell-like cells showed they could differentiate into various somatic cells, including one that produced insulin. It was this earlier work that developed into the research described in her paper.

Schulze graduated in Medicine from the University of Kiel, Germany in 1999. She then trained in Surgery in the Department of General and Thoracic Surgery at the University of Kiel. Afterwards, she was a scientific assistant and resident in General and Thoracic Surgery. Schulze also trained in plastic surgery



Maren Schulze

and hand surgery while a resident in the intensive care unit for severe burns at University Hospital in Lubeck. She spent one year as a rotational resident in Traumatology at the University of Kiel and works part-time for the German Society of Organ Transplantation.

Schulze is the recipient of a Scholarship from the German Research Organization. After completing her specialist surgical training in 2005, she plans to take up a Fellowship in Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery at the University of Capetown, South Africa. While there, she will continue to investigate monocyte-derived insulin producing cells in a non-human primate model of diabetes.

### KOJI YAZAWA Extended survival of xenograft organs

K idneys from GalT-KO donor pigs are resistant to hyperacute and accelerated humoral rejection even without complement inhibition or removal of pre-existing antibodies according to research findings from Young Investigator Award recipient Koji Yazawa and his colleagues.

The award to Yazawa was for his paper entitled, "Neither Complement Inhibition nor Depletion of Natural Antibody is Required to Avoid Hyperacute or Accelerated Acute Rejection Following GALT-KO Pig-to-Baboon Renal Transplantation." Past studies have shown that despite tolerance-inducing regimens and removal of natural antibodies to the alpha 1, 3-gal epitope, survival times have remained limited in xenografts from miniature pigs to baboons.

To overcome this limitation, Yazawa,

and his colleagues in the Transplantation Biology Research Center of Harvard Medical School, investigated using donor kidneys from knockout (GalT-KO) inbred miniature pigs. Baboon recipients were treated with regimens to induce tolerance, inhibit complement and produce immunosuppression. Recipients of kidneys from wild-type donor pigs also had extracorporeal removal of anti-Gal antibodies.

Professor Kazuhiko Yamada, Yazawa's supervisor says, "These results are very exciting because using the inbred GalT-KO pigs we have been able to extend the survival of experimental non-human primates receiving xenograft organs." Yamada is head of the Organ Transplantation Tolerance and Xenotransplantation Laboratory at the Transplantation Biology Research Centre, Harvard Medical School.

Yazawa attended Osaka University

Medical School, Japan and obtained his M.D. degree in 1995. After completing his residency in Urology, in 2000 he joined Osaka University Graduate School



Koji Yazawa

of Medicine to study for his Ph.D. During this period he joined the Transplantation Biology Research Center, Massachusetts General Hospital as a Research Fellow with Professor Kazuhiko Yamada. The results described in the paper were obtained during the one and a half years that Yazawa was a member of Professor Yamada's team. Yazawa returned to Osaka, Japan in 2004 where he practices as a clinical urologist.

## 40 years of history in the making

Society has been a global leader of international cooperation, innovation, growth and progress in bringing the promise of organ replacement to patients.

To mark the 40th Anniversary Nicholas L. Tilney has written a commemorative booklet describing the early attempts at transplantation that led to the first successful kidney transplant between identical twins in 1954. The booklet, which will be published in June 2006, outlines the spectacular advances that have helped revolutionize modern medicine.

In the 1960s the immunocompetency of lymphocytes and the significance of cross matching were recognized. Histocompatibility genes were discovered and HLA was defined while immunosuppression was being explored.

The next decade brought tissue typing, DR matching and the Transplant Registry. Malignancies in immunosuppressed recipients were recognized and a tumor registry was established. Organ preservation improved so that organs could be more widely distributed; patient mortality decreased. The first antilymphocye antibodies became available.

In the 1980s, there was a significant increase in organ transplantation, including extra renal organs, as potent immunosuppressant drugs became available. The first, cyclosporine, led to increased multicentre collaboration in clinical trials. Many clinical trials tested treatment regimens, especially as other immunosuppressant drugs, such as tacrolimus, began to appear. Ethical issues emerged with the potential commercialization of organs.

Despite the great advances in organ transplantation, in the 1990s rejection was still a problem, especially chronic rejection. Newer immunosuppressant drugs, such as mycophenolate mofetil and rapamycin, became available and strategies to optimize treatment were **1966 - 2006** Four Decades of International Cooperation, Innovation, Growth and Progress

June 2006

Transplantation

evaluated. Induction therapy with monoclonal antibodies was initiated and the possibilities for inducing tolerance were considered.

Transplantation in the new millennium is focussed on investigating the role of stem cells in clinical transplantation. Techniques to repair and construct organs for transplantation are being evaluated and the Global Alliance for Transplantation has been established to ensure efficient organ sharing and evaluate ethical issues that come with a global network.

Tilney traces a fascinating path through the history of transplantation from the very earliest days when physicians could only dream of replacing failing organs to the present day when organ transplantation has become an effective and routine treatment.

Aristotle said, "If you would understand anything, observe its beginning and its development." ②

## IN BRIEF

#### Continued from page 3

sight and optimal use of human organs including a national donor and recipient registration system, as well as set fees for transplantation procedures. This will allow for better control of trafficking in human organs and transplant tourism.

Vice-Minister Huang hopes this new set of regulations will improve the international image of China.

China, with approximately 60,000 kidney transplants, 6,000 liver transplants and 250 heart transplants since 1993, is now second only to the United States.

#### New Fellowship opportunity for TTS members

The Transplantation Society (TTS) has introduced a 2-year Research Fellowship to assist young investigators to achieve their potential of making a significant contribution to the field of transplantation.

The Fellowships are designed to provide research training to TTS members and are available for both basic and clinical research for studies either in the laboratory or a clinical setting. Eligibility for each award is defined by the period of training already completed and, in some cases, by academic qualifications, age and location of the host institution.

Successful candidates will be announced at a special ceremony at the World Transplant Congress in July. Full details of the application procedure are available at **www.transplantation-soc.org**. Deadline to apply: March 31, 2006

# A Gift for Life, World Donation Day

ENEVA, Switzerland—A roundtable discussion organized under the auspices of the 7th European and 1st World Organ Donation and Transplantation Day has provided a global perspective on the issues and ethics of organ donation.

Professor Philippe Morel and his team from the University of Geneva organized the one of a kind gathering. The event hosted discussions on a range of issues including the potential impact of the dramatic growth of the commercial organ market.

Alex Capron, Director of Ethics, Trade, Human Rights and Health Law for WHO, said "as early as 1970, The Transplantation Society (TTS) has affirmed that the sale of organs is indefensible under any circumstances." The Society maintains it is the obligation of transplant programs to ensure that donors have not been solicited and are not acting for profit. In 1989, the World Health The guiding principles establish, as universal ethical standards, that:

- all donations should be knowing and voluntary;
- organs should be distributed equitably;
- organs should preferably come from deceased donors;
- among living donors, related donors are preferred;
- no payment should be given or received for organs.

In May 2004, the WHA reviewed the guiding principles to ensure they more clearly addressed, among other concerns, the safety of the living donor. The principles were updated to consider special cultural factors such

as attitudes towards cadaveric donations.

Adib Rizvi, Director of the Sindh Institute for Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) in Karachi, Pakistan, said that in some cultures there remains a resistance to organ donation after death. Rizvi said legislation has been delayed in Pakistan's Senate for 12 years. In Pakistan, one of the few Muslim countries without a brain-death law, societal reverence for the dead, low literacy rates and other factors combine to

encourage government inaction.

The absence of an appropriate legal framework has resulted in a dramatic increase in 'unrelated commercial transplantation.' In 1990 'unrelated commercial transplantation' was 25 percent of all transplantations done in Pakistan. By 2004, in the absence of a



#### ORGAN DONATION A GIFT FOR LIFE

legislative framework, it had grown to 84 percent of all transplantations, making Pakistan a center of transplant tourism.

Frank Delmonico, Chairman of the Ethics Committee of TTS called for global guidance for the welfare of living donors. He said experts and leaders in transplantation from more than 40 countries attending the Amsterdam and Vancouver Forums had developed an international reference of guidelines focused on the living donor.

Rafael Galindez, the Senior Executive of Argentina's National Organization for Transplantation said the access to safe, effective and ethical transplantation requires the collaboration of all stakeholders, professionals, health authorities and the public. He said Argentina's new National Information System for Procurement and Transplantation allows for regulatory analysis, surveillance and monitoring and provides transparency to procurement and transplantation activity.

In Japan Shiho Takaoka, Chief of the Office for Organ Transplantation in Japan's Ministry of Health, said the brain-death definition for potential donors only became law in 1997. Previous to that time, all donors were defined by heart deaths. He said that since introduction of the law, acceptance of the brain-death definition has resulted in very few additional transplants and that efforts are underway through public information programs and other means to improve the level of donations.



(From left to right) Luc Noël, WHO, Kathryn Wood, President, TTS, and Frank Delmonico, Chairman, TTS Ethics Committee attended A Gift for Life in Geneva.

Assembly adopted resolution WHA 42.5 entitled "Preventing the Purchase and Sale of Human Organs." Four years later, the WHA approved "Guiding Principles on Human Organ Transplantation" which resulted in legislation in support of high ethical standards in more than 60 countries.

## **TTS Sections**

### NEWS & UPDATES

#### Benvenuto a Milano and Lake Maggiore

A slate of world-class researchers in diabetes, neurological and muscular diseases, heart and liver diseases, oncology, tissue engineering, stem cells and xenotransplantation and immunological tolerance will highlight the 2006 Cell Transplant Conference, **May 18 - 20**, **2006** in Milan, Italy.

A section of the event has been dedicated to Ethical and Regulatory issues, with particular reference to Stem Cell research.

Visit www.celltx.org/2006 for up to the minute information.

#### **ISODP conference a success**

The 8th Congress of the ISODP, arranged by members Valter Duro Garcia and Mario Abbud Filho, was held in December in Gramado, Brazil. The ISODP Congress was conducted jointly with the 5th Congress of the International Transplant Coordinators Society (ITCS), the 1st conferences of the Brazilian and Latin American Transplant Coordinators Organizations and the Brazilian Transplanted Patient Societies.

World-renowned experts participated in panel discussions and gave presentations on topics including donor management, extended criteria and non-heart-beating donation, quality control of the organ donation process and the ethics of living unrelated donation. There were over 400 participants from 25 countries across Europe, the United States and Asia.

Håkan Gäbel, President of the ISODP and Nicholas Tilney, President-Elect of TTS, presided over the closing ceremony of the Congress, which was highlighted by the presentation of nine Young Investigator Awards.

New elected officers include Valter Duro Garcia (Brazil) President, Howard M. Nathan (United States), President-Elect and Bernard Cohen (Netherlands) who shall remain as the Treasurer. Håkan Gäbel (Sweden) will be the Immediate Past-President.

Join the ISODP and participate in the 9th Congress, to be held in Philadelphia in the fall of 2007.

#### IXA focuses on ethics in 2005

International Xenotransplantation Association (IXA) made progress by working closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) towards implementing Resolution 58.18, which mandates harmonization of international guidelines and practices regarding xenotransplantation.

The Association and its Ethics Committee met with health authorities in April in Geneva

to take preliminary steps for promoting ethical conduct in xenotransplantation. To support this initiative, the IXA Council has established an Outreach Committee headed by Bernhard Hering.

IXA is proud to introduce new President Megan Sykes who took over from Tony D'Apice. New council members include Peter Cowan, Tony Dorling, Joseph Leventhal and Bernhard Hering. Robin Pierson III was elected President-Elect. Carl Groth was honored for his contributions to the field by being named an Honorary Member of IXA.

A highlight of IXA's activities was its biannual meeting held in Göteborg, Sweden in September. A symposium on ABO-mismatched transplantation drew participants as well as financial support. The Association would like to thank Michael Breimer and his committee for their hard work and success in organizing this meeting.

#### Get involved with IPITA

The International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association (IPITA) is a scientific forum for the exchange and discussion of clinical and experimental results and experiences relevant to the transplantation of insulin producing tissue in the treatment and cure of diabetes mellitus.

Becoming a member of the IPITA section, you will be eligible to attend and benefit from a discount on registration fees at the first ever Joint Meeting in Minneapolis, USA from **September 15 - 20, 2007** between Cell Transplant Society, IPITA and International Xenotransplantation Association.

### Basic Science meeting to be held in Canada

The 2007 Basic Science Symposium of The Transplantation Society will be held **September 5 - 8, 2007** in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel and Conference Centre. The event will be co-sponsored by the Canadian Society of Transplantation.

Topics discussed at the meeting will focus on the basic science of transplantation with an emphasis on transferring knowledge to the clinical setting. An international program committee is in the process of finalizing the program and the session lecturers.

Program details will be available on the TTS website.  $\bigodot$ 

## IN BRIEF



#### New look and new name

To celebrate its 40-year anniversary, The Transplantation Society is introducing a brand-new newsletter, *Tribune*.

The word Tribune is one of the earliest references to transplantation. In mythology, Cosmos and Damian are credited with transplanting the leg of a black Moor onto the body of a Tribune — an officer who commanded a legion of soldiers — who lost his leg in battle. Cosmos and Damian are reputedly the patron saints of physicians.

Tribune also means a dais for speakers confronting an assembly, which has led to its most popular derivative: Tribune as in the name of a newspaper.

Send your ideas for articles and your comments about TTS *Tribune* to info@transplantation-soc.org



The Transplantation Society (TTS) Central Business Office team: (from left to right) Sabrina Santucci, Administrative Assistant, Frank Lindo, Membership Services Manager, Filomena Picciano, Manager –Society Operations. You can reach TTS Central Business office by e-mail: info@transplantation-soc.org or telephone: +1-514-874-1717

## **WEBSITE** UPDATE

Visit our website at www.transplantation-soc.org

#### Easy online membership payment and journal purchase

You can now pay your TTS and TTS Section membership dues through a secure online payment system on the TTS website. Credit card transactions are processed when you check out and an immediate confirmation is sent to your email address. Purchasing journals has never been so simple.

#### Become a Society member online

Not a member of TTS? Sign-up online and become a member of the Society or any of our distinguished Sections and take advantage of all the benefits we have to offer.

#### TTS Research Fellowship

Apply online for the TTS Research Fellowship award. Submit all documents through the website quickly and easily. Applicants must submit a summary of their curriculum vitae, proposed research or clinical training plan, statement of career goals, names and addresses of two referees, start date of Fellowship, statement from the sponsor at host institution, Sponsor's CV/Biosketch, and active and pending research support. Deadline to apply: March 31, 2006

#### **Online Education**

Remember to visit the TTS website periodically to get up to date education information.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

# 2006

#### 8th International Congress of the Cell Transplant Society Milan, Italy May 18 to 20, 2006

CHAIR: Antonio Secchi INFO: www.celltx.org/2006

#### World Transplant Congress 2006

under the auspices of The Transplantation Society, the American Society of Transplantation, and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons

#### Boston, MA, USA July 21 to 28, 2006

CHAIR: A. Benedict Cosimi INFO: www.wtc2006.org

For a comprehensive list of all meetings occurring in the transplant field, please check out **www.transplantation-soc.org** click on Meetings & Events on the homepage.

# 2007

Basic Science Symposium 2007 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada September 5 to 8, 2007 (Westin Hotel)

CHAIRS: Ken West, Tony Jevniko and Lori West

Joint Meeting of the Cell Transplant Society (CTS), the International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association (IPITA), and the International Xenotransplantation Association (IXA) Minneapolis, MN, USA September 15 to 20, 2007

CHAIRS: D. Sutherland, B. Herring, and M. Sykes

# 2008

XXII International Congress of The Transplantation Society Sydney, Australia August 10 to 14, 2008

CHAIR: Jeremy Chapman INFO: www.transplantation2008.org

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