



The
Transplantation
Society

and its Sections

Tribune

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

JULY 2006 Volume III Issue II

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY

TTS in official relations with the WHO

TTS is pleased to announce that its cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) on issues relating to transplantation has resulted in TTS being named a non-governmental organization in official relations with the WHO.



This makes TTS the first organization that the WHO would call on for assistance with respect to transplant related issues.

For several years, the World Health Assembly (WHA), the supreme decision-making body for WHO, has been examining the issues surrounding the practice of transplantation. At the 57th WHA in May 2004, delegates from the 192 member states formalized their commitment to finding solutions to the issues and invited TTS to partner with the WHO.

"TTS has been developing a relationship with WHO over many years through participation in WHO consultations on transplantation as well as other initiatives developed by WHO that address issues in the field of cell, tissue and organ transplantation. As a result of these fruitful interactions, TTS was invited to be considered as an NGO in official relations with WHO in 2005," explained TTS President Kathryn Wood.

"It is an exciting time for TTS. This opportunity will allow our Society and the WHO to harness our energy in a collaborative manner,"

said Francis L. Delmonico, Past Chair of TTS' Ethics Committee. "The official relationship will allow TTS to establish a unique international presence on the world stage that we hope will benefit both live donors and patients around the globe." Delmonico has been asked to represent the TTS on ethical issues and will be joined by Megan Sykes to represent TTS and IXA on issues relating to xenotransplantation.

The TTS Ethics Committee has been preparing for a role of this nature by holding discussion forums on ethical issues in many cities throughout 2005 and 2006. These forums have been the building blocks for developing TTS' positions on key issues in modern transplantation. Some of the issues TTS has been studying include transplant tourism and the care of live donors which will be two focal points for collaboration with the WHO in the coming months. Annika Tibell has been named the new Chair of the TTS Ethics Committee.

For more information about the resolutions passed at the 57th WHA visit www.who.int/transplantation. ©

TTS has entered into official relations with the WHO. Pictured here left to right are Luc Noël (WHO), Kathryn Wood, and Francis L. Delmonico at the World Health Organization in Geneva.

"The official relationship between TTS and WHO will allow TTS to establish a unique international presence on the world stage..."

FOUR DECADES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, INNOVATION, GROWTH AND PROGRESS

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There have been so many exciting developments for TTS since the last newsletter that I hardly know where to begin.

Official Relations with WHO – I am delighted that TTS has been accepted into official relations with the WHO. This is an important achievement for the Society and I would like to thank all of the members who have contributed to the development of the relationship between WHO and TTS over the past few years.

It is also a great pleasure for me to announce that Francis L. Delmonico will take up the post of **TTS Director of Medical Affairs** from July 1st. Part of this new role will be dedicated to the development of international relations for TTS.

There was an outstanding response to the **TTS New Directions Programme**. Excellent candidates were nominated from all Global Regions for **TTS New Recognition Awards** and **TTS Research Fellowships**. I am looking forward to announcing the winners of each of the new awards and congratulating the successful TTS Research Fellows at WTC. TTS plans to extend these programmes in the coming years to enable more members to be recognised for their contributions to the field

and to enable more young members from each of the Global Regions to receive research and clinical training.

The venues for **TTS New Key Opinion Leaders Meetings** for 2006 have also been confirmed as Barcelona, Buenos Aires and Hong Kong. Thank you to the local hosts for each of these meetings, Drs Lloveras and Grinyo, Cantarovitch and Casadei and Fan and Tong for their help. For each of these meetings TTS will invite members from each of the Global Regions to nominate an outstanding young investigator whom they feel has potential to be a future leader in the field to attend the meeting with them. Invitations to participate in these exciting meetings, where TTS hopes to identify the leaders of tomorrow, will be sent out from the CBO shortly.

Finally, I would like to thank every member of TTS Council and particularly the CBO staff for their hard work, guidance, support and encouragement throughout the past two years. TTS is a great organization to work with and I would encourage all of you to get involved. ☺



Kathryn Wood

New leadership at TTS' Central Business Office

Francis L. Delmonico will bring tremendous experience and energy to the TTS Central Business Office as he begins his role as Director of Medical Affairs, effective July 1, 2006.

His main roles will include facilitating relationships with international, national and regional organizations and governments, management of the CBO and development of TTS programs.

Delmonico is no stranger to the Society as he has been involved in a variety of initiatives. As Chair of the Ethics Committee he has been very active developing and leading the TTS Amsterdam and Vancouver Forums on the Care of the Live Donor as well as with the Global Alliance for Transplantation and the newly formed official relationship with the World Health Organization.

His professional experience in transplantation is extensive. He is a Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, Director of Renal Transplantation at Massachusetts General in Boston and President of the Organ



Francis L. Delmonico

Procurement and Transplantation Network and the United Network for Organ Sharing.

His professional interests also focus on health care ethics and national policy regarding organ donation. He will be a welcome member of the team at the TTS CBO. ☺

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Appreciating Kathryn Wood's Presidency

This year, The Transplantation Society celebrates its 40th Anniversary, a milestone for all of us to celebrate. Indeed, the entire field of transplantation has advanced, grown, and improved into the excellence we now take for granted through the knowledge, innovations, and efforts of its members throughout the world.

The Society has one other important milestone to remember this year: the presidency of Kathryn Wood.

Kathryn has been, arguably, the most pro-active, forward looking, energetic, and influential President in the history of our organization. Under her sustained leadership and dedication to the Society's role and importance, and with the support and efforts of the Officers and Council, TTS has become an increasingly visible presence throughout the world in education, standards of care, and ethical behavior for all of us in the field.

Working with our corporate sponsors, she has initiated a series of important awards for the most active contributors to transplantation and its associated activities. She has identified and collaborated with rising regional leaders by initiating a series of Key Opinion Leaders Meetings. She has supported and

embellished the vision of the Global Alliance in Transplantation (GAT), a program designed to provide guidance and bring together professional societies, and their corporate sponsors, as a public health channel to sustain effective world-wide transplantation practices.

Under her aegis TTS has entered into official relations with WHO to provide a highly visible umbrella for the global efforts of the Society.

She has welcomed two new corporate sponsors, Bristol Myers Squibb and Genzyme, to the Society. She has improved communication between members and interested parties through the newsletter and through the Society website. This website has also become an important vehicle for educational activities for all members.

As Immediate Past-President, Kathryn will remain active in the workings of the Society and its various committees. She will, however, be able to spend more of her prodigious energies on her research and on her position as Professor of Immunology at the University of Oxford.

Thank you, Kathryn, for your vision, leadership, and plain hard work. The Society will miss you at its helm. Godspeed!

Nicholas L. Tilney, Incoming TTS President



*Incoming TTS president
Nicholas L. Tilney*

OBITUARY

Norman Shumway

The Society regrets to inform its members that Norman Shumway, an emeritus TTS member acknowledged worldwide as a leader in training cardiac surgeons, died recently of cancer at age 83.

He pioneered the development of the surgical techniques to transplant hearts and performed the first successful heart transplant in the United States nearly 40 years ago.

The early enthusiasm for heart transplantation diminished due to problems of organ rejection and the ethics around the definition of brain death. For a decade, Shumway and his associates were the only clinicians transplanting hearts. The problem of organ rejection was beaten with the discovery of cyclosporine and Shumway was the first to use it for heart transplants.

Soon other cardiac surgeons were transplanting hearts again using the techniques he developed.

"I am alive today because of Dr. Shumway," said one of his patients who received a heart transplant at Stanford 18 years ago when she was 3-years-old.

Norman Shumway came from Michigan, received his early training at Baylor University and his medical training at Vanderbilt University. He then took postgraduate training for a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. He joined Stanford Medical Center in 1958 determined to prove that hearts could be transplanted. ☺



XXII TTS Congress in Sydney, Australia 2008

The XXII International Congress of The Transplantation Society will feature state-of-the-art speakers discussing the most recent developments in the field of transplantation.

Clinicians and scientists working in the field of transplantation in Australia are developing a program highlighting the scientific issues of the day. The organizing committee is also looking at innovative ways of using new electronic media, to make the science more accessible.

Every visitor to the beautiful city of Sydney will experience good old-fashioned Australian hospitality.

For more information on the congress to be held at Sydney Convention and Exhibition Center, Darling Harbor, Sydney, Australia, from August 10-14, 2008, visit www.transplantation2008.org



Highlights of WTC 2006



TTS celebrates 40 years with commemorative pin

**WTC marks
TTS' 40th
Anniversary
and the first
worldwide
collaboration in
transplantation.**

It is an exciting time in transplantation as The Transplantation Society, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, and the American Society of Transplantation, collaborate to present the 1st World Transplant Congress, which received a record breaking 4000 abstracts submitted for presentation.

TTS members will be able to participate in a large variety of pre-conference symposia, post-graduate courses, view poster sessions and attend TTS' most anticipated and prestigious events of the year. Please check your conference program for times and locations for these and other events. The WTC program is available on the web at wtc2006.org.

TTS MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Join Kathryn Wood, for her presidential address and presentation of the Medawar Prize and TTS New Recognition Awards on Wednesday, July 26th from 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Hynes Convention Center. TTS has made some exciting inroads this year on the world transplant scene including taking a position on ethical issues that affect the future of the field of transplantation.

All TTS members are also asked to attend the Society Business Meeting on Wednesday, July 26th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Hynes Convention Center in room 302. Catch-up on the Society's strategic plan and accomplishments; meet the new Director of Medical Affairs and new Society members; and vote on important by-law changes.

FORTY YEARS WITH TTS: FROM HOPE TO SUCCESS, EXTENDING LIFE AND HEALTH WORLD-WIDE

Not only does this year mark TTS' 40th Anniversary, but it is also the first worldwide collaboration in transplantation. To celebrate this landmark collaboration and the anniversary, Nicholas L. Tilney, incoming TTS President, has written a commemorative booklet about the 40 years of international collaboration, innovation, growth and progress of the Society. A copy of the

booklet is included in your delegate bag. If you wish to pick-up a copy of the booklet for a colleague and meet Tilney and some of the pioneers in the field of transplantation, please visit the TTS booth.

While at the booth TTS members can pick-up a TTS membership pin created to commemorate the 40th Anniversary. The Anniversary's slogan represents TTS' commitment to the improvement of transplantation over the years: 40 years with TTS – From hope to success, extending life and health worldwide.

If you are not a member of TTS, stop-by the booth to find out about the benefits of joining TTS and one of its Sections. You can also learn how easy it is to become a member on-line, how to research on the TTS website and how to read *Transplantation* and *Tribune* on the Internet.

Meet the Editor-in-Chief of *Tribune*, Henrik Ekberg, to discuss how you feel about the new look of the newsletter or to bring forward any ideas for future articles.

TTS has recently appointed the new Director of Medical Affairs, Francis L. Delmonico, who will also be at the booth to meet with TTS members.

A schedule will be posted at the TTS booth announcing when Nicholas L. Tilney, Francis L. Delmonico, and Henrik Ekberg will be available. ©

Awards and Fellowships

2006 MEDAWAR PRIZE

The Medawar Prize recognizes the world's most outstanding contributions in the field of transplantation. It is funded from a generous endowment by Novartis Pharma AG to The Transplantation Society (TTS). The 2006 Medawar Prize recipients will be announced at the TTS presidential address and added to an illustrious group of 22 previous Medawar Laureates.

2006 TTS NEW RECOGNITION AWARDS

Recipients of the new 2006 TTS New Recognition Awards will be announced at WTC.

- TTS-Roche Award for Outstanding Achievement in Transplantation (Basic)
- TTS-Roche Award for Outstanding Achievement in Transplantation (Clinical)
- TTS-Roche Award for Excellence in Translational Science
- TTS-Roche Award for Worldwide Impact in Transplantation
- TTS-Roche Award for Excellence in Transplant Infectious Disease
- TTS-Genzyme Award for Innovation in Surgery and Technology
- TTS-Genzyme Award for Education and Training in Transplantation

2006 TTS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Recipients of the new 2006 TTS Research Fellowships will be announced at WTC.

- TTS Research Fellowship
- TTS-Basic Science Research Fellowship
- TTS-Roche Research Fellowship in Transplant Infectious Disease
- TTS-Transplantation Proceedings/Transplantation Research Fellowship

2006 TTS YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

Ten TTS-Astellas Young Investigator Awards will be presented to TTS members with the highest scoring abstracts during WTC.



The TTS booth will be located in the main lobby of the Hynes Convention Centre near the Registration Hall.

New TTS sponsor



TTS would like to welcome Bristol-Myers Squibb as its sixth corporate sponsor. BMS' sponsorship makes a significant statement of strong support for the leadership and initiatives of TTS. TTS is grateful to BMS for their support.

The CBO team



Frank Lindo, Filomena Picciano, Kathryn Wood, Lucy Felicissimo, and Sabrina Santucci at the TTS Central Business Office in Montreal, QC, Canada.

Dr. Starzl celebrates 80 years



Past-Presidents of TTS, Oscar Salvatierra and Carl Groth, together with Kathryn Wood went to Pittsburgh to celebrate Dr Starzl's 80th birthday on March 11, 2006. From left to right: Salvatierra, Starzl, Groth and Wood.

Thank you for voting

A record breaking number of votes were received for the 2006 elections of TTS Officers and Councillors. New Councillors for each of TTS Global Regions will be announced at WTC.

SVJETLAN BOSKOVIC

Reliable assays to predict graft survival

Svjetlan Boskovic received a Young Investigator Award for a paper entitled, "Long-term Observations in Renal Allograft Recipients Treated with a Chimerism-inducing Nonmyeloablative Regimen with CD154 Blockade".

Boskovic studied monkey renal allografts long term to establish reliable tolerance assays that can predict outcome. The recipients received a pre-operative conditioning regimen, peri-operative anti-CD154 antibody and cyclosporine for one month. Treatment with donor bone marrow to induce chimerism produced long term survival, for over 5 years. Donor spleen cells or no donor cells resulted in graft loss due to acute or chronic rejection. Several

assays showed that chronic rejection was associated with anti-donor antibodies, positive C4d in renal biopsies and γ -interferon production in the indirect pathway. These assays will be helpful to predict the long-term survival of renal transplants.

Boskovic graduated from the University of Sarajevo Medical School, Bosnia. He was a Research Fellow in Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital, studying tolerance induction and novel immunosuppressive therapies in primate and human transplantation. He is an instructor in Surgery and assistant in Immunology at Massachusetts General Hospital. ☺



Svjetlan Boskovic

MICHELLE SOLOMON

Block IFN- γ to prevent islet rejection

Transplanting islets from SOCS-1-Tg mice into diabetic mice produced longer normoglycemia says Michelle Solomon in her Young Investigator Award-winning research paper entitled, "Constitutive Expression of Suppressor of Cytokine Signaling-1 (SOCS-1) In Pancreatic Islets Delays Islet Allograft Rejection". Solomon's study focused on blocking IFN- γ signaling as a strategy to prevent β -cell destruction during islet allograft rejection.

Islet cells from SOCS-1-Tg transgenic mice were transplanted into mismatched recipients. Staining showed the donor islet cells were present longer than control islet cells.

Transplanting SOCS-1-Tg islets into chemically induced diabetic mice produced longer normoglycemia compared to controls. Despite a lower incidence of diabetes, SOCS-1-Tg islets were not protected from β -cell destruction naturally occurring in diabetic mice. Solomon concluded that graft specific SOCS-1 and blocking IFN- γ may be important to develop therapies to prevent islet rejection.

Solomon has a first class honors degree in Biotechnology from Flinders University, South Australia. She then undertook research on the regulation of pro-islet rejection at the Australian National University and received her Ph.D. in 2003. ☺



Michelle Solomon

CONSTANTINO FONDEVILA

Peptides to improve liver function

Constantino Fondevila's award winning paper was entitled, "Cyclic RGD Peptides with High Affinity for $\alpha 5\beta 1$ Integrin Inhibit Macrophage Recruitment in Steatotic Liver Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury".

Fondevila studied ischemia/reperfusion injury, which often results in dysfunction of liver transplants. He hypothesized that fibronectin-leukocyte interactions are critical in this injury. He assessed the effect on liver function of blocking $\alpha 5\beta 1$ Integrin, a primary leukocyte receptor for fibronectin. Blockade was achieved by administering RGD peptides into the liver before and after cold storage and by treating the recipient rats for 3 days

post-transplant. Cyclic RGD peptide effectively blocked leukocyte-fibronectin interaction and significantly improved liver function and recipient survival. The peptide inhibited monocyte/macrophage recruitment into the graft and decreased the expression of pro-inflammatory mediators. These findings are the first to document $\alpha 5\beta 1$ -fibronectin interactions in liver ischemia/reperfusion injury.

Fondevila studied medicine at the University of Navarra School of Medicine and finished his training as a surgical resident in 2000 at the Department of Surgery at the University of Barcelona. ☺



Constantino Fondevila

TTS Sections plan first joint meeting

The International Islet and Pancreas Transplant Association (IPITA) is excited about the joint meeting to be held in conjunction with the **International Xenotransplantation Association** and the **Cell Transplant Society** in Minneapolis (September 15-20, 2007).

The program co-chairs Megan Sykes, Bernhard Hering, David Sutherland and their councils have developed a state-of-the-art program that combines scientific progress in cellular transplantation, xenotransplantation, and in islet and whole pancreas transplantation. To find out more about the meeting visit www.cts-ipita-ixa-2007.org.

International Pancreas and Islet Transplantation Association

IPITA is a growing society with an energetic council that has been focussing on improving international communication with a revamped website. Other global initiatives include developing multi-disciplinary trials in islet transplantation and collaborating on whole pancreas transplant programs. Join IPITA online today to participate and contribute to these initiatives.

International Society for Organ Donation and Procurement

ISODP is pleased to announce the following newly elected officers:

Valter Duro Garcia (Brazil), President

Howard M. Nathan (United States), President-Elect

Bernard Cohen (Netherlands), Treasurer

Hakan Gäbel (Sweden), Immediate Past-President

Join the ISODP and participate in the 9th Congress to be held in Philadelphia, USA in the fall of 2007. Further details will be available on the TTS website.

Satellite symposium for IXA at WTC

Join the International Xenotransplantation Association for an exciting satellite symposium at the 2006 World Transplant Congress to be held on Saturday, July 22nd from

1:00-5:00 p.m. at the Hynes Convention Center. The presentation *Advances in Xenotransplantation: Is the Gal Knock-Out pig essential to clinical success*, will be directed by Megan Sykes, Professor of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and Kazuhiko Yamada MD, Associate Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School. The goal of this satellite symposium is to review the outcomes of the initial experiments and try to conclude whether the GalT-KO animal is an essential innovation for successful xenotransplantation or only a minor improvement.

Discussions will center around The Biology of α Gal Islet Transplantation, Alternatives to Xenotransplantation, Cardiac Transplantation, Renal Transplantation and Safety Issues.

ITA celebrates 20th Anniversary

The Intestinal Transplantation Association will host its Tenth International Small Bowel Transplantation Symposium in Los Angeles, California, USA in the summer of 2007 (dates TBD). This will mark a milestone of twenty years of continued clinical and scientific innovation, which has made intestinal transplantation a clinical reality. Since more centers are performing intestinal transplants, the association hopes to have a record-breaking attendance.

At this meeting, participants can expect an update on the International Bowel Transplant Registry and discussions on basic science, pre-clinical and clinical experience. All investigators, clinicians and support staff involved in the field are invited to participate. Further details will be available shortly on the TTS website.

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 to be 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 shortly. ☺

One-hundred new members

Since January, TTS has increased its membership by more than 100 new members. Thank you to the membership committee, chaired by John Fung, who has been working hard at promoting membership in the Society.

CME application update

A site survey will be conducted during the World Transplant Congress (WTC). The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) will make a final decision by November 2006 on the acceptance of The Transplantation Society's (TTS) initial self-study application, submitted this past March.

New key opinion leaders meetings

Wyeth will be supporting the three new Key Opinion Leaders Meetings in 2006. Look at the Meetings and Events calendar on the TTS website for meeting dates and locations. These meetings are only open to those invited by TTS.

Bids for 2012

There was a great response from national and regional societies wishing to host the 2012 TTS Congress. Bids have been received from Berlin, Geneva, Göteborg, Istanbul, Madrid and Singapore. The Congress Organizing Committee, chaired by Camillo Ricordi, is currently reviewing the bids. ☺

WEBSITE UPDATE

Visit our website at
www.transplantation-soc.org

Fast and convenient journal access is just a click away

Transplantation is available online to TTS members. To read the journal, visit the TTS website and login to your personal profile. Once you enter your username and password, click on the link for "Transplantation Online Access". This will bring you to the Publisher's website where you can view *Transplantation*.

Become a TTS member online

Visit our website to join the ever-growing international network of transplant professionals. Become a member of our TTS family or any of the prestigious Sections and take advantage of all the benefits we have to offer. We offer savings on journals and industry meetings to all TTS and Section members and much more.

Online education

The Transplantation Society has developed an educational program for residents, fellows, transplant specialists and related professionals. Four new tutorials and video lectures by international experts in all aspects of basic biology and clinical practice are added each month for TTS members to view. Visit the TTS website periodically to get up to date information on the education program.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2006

Key Opinion Leaders Meetings (by TTS invitation only)

Barcelona, Spain
September 21 to 24, 2006

Buenos Aires, Argentina
November 2-5, 2006

Hong Kong
December 2006

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: David Sutherland, Bernhard Herring, and Megan Sykes

INFO: www.cts-ipita-ixa-2007.org

2007

Tenth International Small Bowel Transplantation Symposium

Los Angeles, California, USA
Summer 2007 (Dates TBD)

CHAIR: Gennaro Selvaggi

Basic Science Symposium 2007 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

September 5 to 8, 2007
(Westin Nova Scotian Hotel and Conference Center)

CHAIRS: Ken West, Anthony Jevnikar, and Lori West

INFO: transplant.medical.org/BSS_2007.htm

ISODP Meeting Philadelphia, PA, USA

November 2007 (Dates TBD)

CHAIR: Howard M. Nathan

2008

XXII International Congress of The Transplantation Society Sydney, Australia

August 10 to 14, 2008

CHAIR: Jeremy Chapman

INFO: www.transplantation2008.org

For a list of all meetings please check
www.transplantation-soc.org

THE TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY OFFICERS

NEW OFFICERS AND COUNCILLORS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TTS BUSINESS MEETING

To consolidate its position as the leading global organization, the Council will now have representation from all six regions of the world: North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, Middle East, Oceania, and Asia.

Kathryn Wood
President

Nicholas L. Tilney
President-Elect

David E.R. Sutherland
Immediate Past-President

David H. Sachs
Vice-President (Western)

Jeremy Chapman
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