

INS

Summer 2005

2000 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 402
San Francisco, CA 94109 USA
www.neuromodulation.com

Newsletter

News from the International Neuromodulation Society

Presidents' Message

Dear friends,

Very important events are occurring in the field of neuromodulation, and our Society is in the forefront of many of these changes. We are in this exciting field at the right time.

At its inception, in the early 1990s, the International Neuromodulation Society was a Society dedicated to the science and study of implantable technologies, mostly limited to the treatment of pain and spasticity. In recent years, as a bi-product of changes within the field, the INS and its journal, *Neuromodulation*, have broadened their scope and their definition of the term "neuromodulation" to include *all implantable devices that help to improve both sensory and motor functions of the body*. Within this expanded context, neuromodulation techniques are used to treat many diverse persistent conditions.

Implantable devices that fall under the category of "neuromodulation," to name a few, include **spinal cord stimulators** for pain and ischemia; **peripheral nerve stimulators** for pain and restitution of bladder functioning; **deep brain stimulators** for pain, psychiatric disorder, and movement disorders such as tremor, dystonia and Parkinson's disease; **motor cortex stimulators** for pain, epilepsy and depression; **vagal nerve stimulators** for epilepsy, obesity, depression and other mood disorders; **pacemakers** for disorders of cardiac rhythm; **cochlear implants** for hearing loss; **retinal implants** for blindness; **implantable pumps** to deliver intraspinal and intraventricular analgesics, drugs for Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, interstitial agents for cancer and intractable viral disorders, and **antispasticity agents**. Neuromodulation is a field that encompasses many differing specialties and has a major impact on the lives of people with diverse disorders and diseases. Just recently, the Food and Drug Administration of the USA Federal Government approved a vagal nerve stimulating device for the treatment of depression, the first neuromodulation device approval for a psychiatric disorder.

The field of neuromodulation and its Journal, *Neuromodulation*, encompass and should speak for many interdisciplinary fields of medicine.

As reflective of this growing interest in the field of neuromodulation, our Society and its family of national chapters is growing. Our Society now has five national chapters. Besides the North American Neuromodulation Society (Canada, Mexico and the USA), our first and largest chapter with 334 mem-

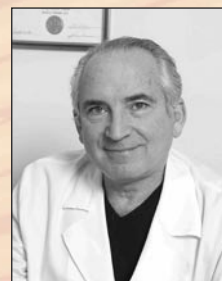
bers, we have an Australian chapter with 23 members, a Benelux (Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) chapter with 50 members, an Italian chapter with 48 members, an United Kingdom/Ireland chapter with 51 members. National chapters that are in various stages of formation include a Brazilian/South American chapter, a French chapter, a German chapter, a Japanese chapter, a Scandinavian chapter, a Southeastern European (Greece, the Balkans and Turkey) chapter, and a Spanish chapter.

In 2003 Enrique Reig of Madrid, Spain, hosted a very successful Congress of the INS in Madrid, attended by 550 persons. This June, Professor Mario Meglio will host the 7th International Meeting of our Society in beautiful and historic Rome, Italy. This event will immediately be followed by the 14th Meeting of the World Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (WSSFN). These Meetings will occur in the same venue, the Congress Center of the Catholic University – Policlinico Gemelli. (www.ptsroma.it/INS-ROME2005) (www.ptsroma.it/WSSFN-ROME2005)

Professor Meglio, the Board of the INS, and I want to personally invite all of you to come to Rome for these events which will offer the unique opportunity of meeting scientists and clinicians from all over the world. You will not want to miss this event which is to be held in one of the most magical cities of the world, Rome, with its architectural heritage and splendor, its urbane people, its unequalled opportunities to shop and, of course, its world recognized cuisine.

Mario Meglio, President INS

*Elliot Krames
President-Elect, INS, and
Editor-in-Chief, Neuromodulation, Journal of the INS*



Mario Meglio



Elliot Krames



Neuromodulation Editorial Board Meets at IFESS Congress: (from left to right) Liong Liem, Warren Grill, Sherri Frank, Elliot Krames, Thomas Sinkjaer, Robert Foreman, Mario Meglio, Brian Simpson, Simon Thomson, Tipu Aziz, and Ross Davis.

It's official! After flirting with each other for some time now, INS and IFESS are definitely in a relationship. They may be from different backgrounds, but as their initial shyness has receded, they have been delighted to discover just how much they have in common.

Neuromodulation is defined as the therapeutic alteration of the function of the central, peripheral and autonomic nervous systems by means of implanted devices, and the INS (mainly clinicians) promotes this particularly in the treatment of chronic pain, ischaemia, movement disorders, spasticity and epilepsy. IFESS (International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society) has more of an engineering bias, but its interests include restoring upper and lower limb motor function (especially after stroke, spinal cord and peripheral nerve injury), bladder, bowel and sexual function, respiratory function and auditory and visual neuroprosthetics. Stroke, spinal cord injury, bladder and bowel malfunctions are only some of the areas of common interest underlying the growing mutual attraction. Their fundamental shared interest is

in developing and applying electronic devices and systems for improving or restoring neurological function and the fundamental character of both is to be multidisciplinary. Furthermore, both know what it is like to have to struggle for acceptance by society, often being regarded as having tastes that are too expensive for their own good. Indeed, the theme of the last IFESS conference, held in Bournemouth UK in September 2004, was "Getting FES into clinical practice".

INS and IFESS already have a literary relationship, sharing the journal *Neuromodulation*. IFESS members publish two or three articles in every edition and Ross Davis, the distinguished neurosurgeon and past president of IFESS, acts as editor for this section of the journal. Ross also sits on the Board of INS.

However, their first real "date" was in Bournemouth last year when IFESS graciously offered INS a plenary session within their annual congress. Simon Thomson, Secretary of INS, introduced and chaired the session, I

gave an overview of neuromodulation, Bob Foreman, Treasurer of INS, spoke about the mechanisms of neuromodulation in angina and Mario Meglio, President of INS, introduced the concept of motor cortex stimulation for movement disorders. I then had the privilege of chairing a free paper session at which four outstanding presentations were made by IFESS members. The topics were: AC nerve blocking, automated sacral nerve root stimulation for the neurogenic bladder, intrathecal baclofen for spasticity, and computer modelling of motor cortex stimulation. To round it off we had a very successful joint Board meeting. An enjoyable social program, the English late summer sun and general ambience did nothing to hinder the relationship.

Bournemouth was so successful that INS and IFESS decided they would like to see each other again. As a result there will be an INS session at the 10th Annual Meeting of IFESS which will be held in Montreal, Canada on 5-9 July (see the calendar of events in this newsletter). The aim of "IFESS 2005" is to promote interdisciplinary discussions between expert researchers, bioengineers and clinicians in the allied fields of functional electrical stimulation, neuroscience and neurological disability. The two web sites will of course keep readers abreast of developments.

So far the affair has gone so well that both parties want it to develop into something more – a stable, long-term relationship. To encourage this the IFESS Board has formally invited the INS to provide one of its Board members to join it and act as a liaison between the two societies in the long term. I was delighted to be proposed and accepted and I regard it as both an honour and an important challenge. I genuinely believe that there is a very great deal to be gained by bringing and keeping the two societies ever closer and I will do whatever I can to facilitate this.

Brian Simpson

INS Immediate Past-President, INS/IFESS Liaison

Towards the new INS website

Pig's Swill

George Orwell once said that advertising was the noise made when rattling a stick in a metal bucket.

Good old George! What is clear to me is that, when that stick is rattled in its bucket, the pigs understand that it's dinner time, where to come and what's on offer. I call this good communication.

Although, on your list of priorities, communication may not appear very high, it has an important place in developing our speciality. Every one of you will benefit from properly managed and co-ordinated communication.

I have been commissioned to project manage the next generation of the INS website. My vision is to produce a focal point that is useful and easy to use for everyone that visits it. Our website will act as a portal for knowledge, education and promotion. Our audiences include everyone from other medical specialists, through the whole health chain to the patients that need us and the persons that pay our bills.

And our website should be an important resource centre for research and the media. It should be the place where good news, and bad, is released through a deliberate and controlled process, maximising the effect and minimising possible damage.

As our society evolves, it will attract other specialties. We will need to communicate through our democratic processes using the new interactive website. INS and chapter society meeting announcements, registrations and abstract submissions will all be expedited.

There will be public and password protected private pages so that we can communicate freely at different levels of sensitivity. The website will be designed in such a way so as to allow for exciting future projects such as device registry.

As a body, the INS has a lot to gain from properly managed communication. Having a collective voice will generate a wider perception of who we are, what

we do and what we stand for. It will add value to membership and strength to our voice.

So, when that person asks his internet browser, "What can I do about chronic pain or Parkinson's disease?", the INS will be there, able to communicate with him. We will be able to answer some of his questions and steer him forward.

And when you have good news about results or a patient problem that could benefit from sharing with others, our website will be there to assist you.

Communication is what brings us in from the wilderness and makes us a community. It lets us know that dinner is ready, even if it is only pig's swill.

Shaun Moffat
SM consulting

Australian Neuromodulation Society

The Australian chapter of the INS commenced in late 2004 after interest developed on from a national meeting of the Australian Pain Society in Canberra and a presentation from Dr. Simon Thomson of the INS Executive Board. The chapter now has over 25 members. Whilst receipt of the journal *Neuromodulation* is the most immediate obvious benefit, it is hoped the production of an electronic newsletter and yearly meeting will foster further interest in and understanding of neuromodulation in Australia.

As in many countries, pain medicine has not had a particularly high profile in Australia despite considerable high quality research and clinical work being performed. For many years the Australian Pain Society (a national chapter of the IASP) was the only regular pain forum. Formation of the Faculty of Pain Medicine with its role in examinations, training, post accreditation and standard setting has moved the specialty along dramatically. Neuromodulation as a modality has moved from a small handful of centres and practitioners to a much wider audience. The need to explain this modality to the wider

medical community and health system remains and there is much work to be done in assessing outcomes and defining cost/benefit ratios etc.

The Australian Chapter members look forward to meeting INS members in upcoming meetings in both Rome and Sydney. If 2004 was our gestation, then 2005 is our birth year and we look forward to a busy first twelve months as we find our feet in the INS family.

Marc Russo, Secretary
Australian Neuromodulation Society

Benelux Neuromodulation Society

In 2004, the membership of the Benelux Neuromodulation Society (BNS) has grown to about 50 members, covering an increasing variety of disciplines including neurology, neurosurgery, psychiatry, anesthesiology, biomedical engineering and rehabilitation medicine. The aim of the BNS Board is to attract even more disciplines applying neuromodulation or being interested in this treatment modality.

On November 20, 2005 the BNS had its second annual scientific meeting in the famous Castle of Rijckholt in the most southern part of The Netherlands. Our members Hans Vles, Geert Spincemille and Maarten van Kleef of the University Hospital Maastricht took care of the local organization and made it a successful meeting with about 50 participants attending the presentation of 10 compelling contributions by specialists in their fields.

Whereas the previous meeting in November 2003 had been focused on various neuromodulatory appli-

cations of deep brain and cortical stimulation (movement disorders, epilepsy, chronic pain, tinnitus, psychiatric disorders, coma), this meeting was dedicated to another two applications of neuromodulation: in childhood spasticity and in neuro-urological and related disorders. In the presentations on spasticity in children, various aspects were discussed, including the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying spasticity, the quantification of spasticity by e.g. gait analysis, as well as various treatment modalities, including intrathecal baclofen administration and non-neuromodulatory, ablative techniques. Neuromodulatory interventions by sacral nerve stimulation were discussed in the presentations on various urinary and fecal incontinence syndromes. The program of the meeting was considered as attractive and interesting by the attendants.

Following the scientific meeting, the Annual General Assembly of the BNS was held. To complete the

BNS Board to the required number of six members, two new members were nominated and elected as Board members for a period of 3 years: Loes Gabriels (psychiatrist, Antwerp) and Veerle Visser-Vandewalle (neurosurgeon, Maastricht). Furthermore, the General Assembly decided on the Third Annual scientific BNS meeting to be held on November 18-19, 2005 in Ghent. Like the first meeting in Leuven, this meeting will start with a keynote lecture on Friday afternoon. On Saturday, a session on "Neuromodulation in Epilepsy" is planned, followed by a free paper and poster session open to all BNS members. It is up to the BNS Board and the local organization to continue the success of the first and second meeting.

Jan Holsheimer, PhD
Secretary
Benelux Neuromodulation Society

International Neuromodulation Society New Investigator Award Competition

The International Neuromodulation Society (INS) is pleased to announce a competition for New Investigator Best Manuscripts in the area of neuromodulation, and will offer up to four awards of a minimum of \$2,500 each. The award(s) will be given in recognition of outstanding originality and ingenuity in the scientific work concerned with neuromodulation. All areas of neuromodulation will be considered in this competition. Both basic and clinical science will be encouraged for submission. Our aim is to encourage investigation of mechanisms of action. The current lack of information is impeding the approval of new treatments and preventing neuromodulators from improving the efficacy, safety, and applicability of existing treatments. The INS is very enthusiastic about this competition, because it believes it will encourage new investigators to invest their time and energy to make critically important contributions to the field of neuromodulation.

To qualify for the competition, each candidate must have completed training within the last five years, or must be within the first five years of his/her faculty appointment at the time of submission of the manuscript, nomination and supporting documents.

The nomination for the award will require documentation in addition to the manuscript. A letter from the department chair or supervisor needs to certify that the

candidate meets the qualifications. A current curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation must be submitted with the manuscript. One recommendation must come from the immediate supervisor of the candidate. Since selection of the award recipient will be based on the review of a manuscript describing original work, he/she must be the first author. If the manuscript has additional co-authors, then the manuscript must be accompanied by a letter from the co-authors attesting to the significant contribution of the first author in the investigation described in the manuscript.

The best manuscripts will be chosen, through a review process, by an Awards Review Committee. The Committee is made up of outstanding basic and clinical scientists who have made important contributions to science and to neuromodulation.

The reviewers include:

- Tipu Aziz, MD, from Neurosurgery at Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford and Charing Cross Hospital in Oxford, England
- Warren Grill, PhD, from the Department of Bioengineering at Duke University
- Bengt Linderoth MD, PhD, from the Dept. of Neurosurgery at the Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden
- Theo Meert, MD, from J&J Pharmaceutical Research and Development in Belgium

- Richard North, MD, from the Department of Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University
- William D. Willis MD, PhD, from the Dept. of Neuroscience and Cell Biology at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
- Robert D. Foreman, PhD, from the Dept. of Physiology at the Univ. of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

The award-winning manuscript(s) must be submitted to *Neuromodulation*, the journal of the INS, and the official journal of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society, for publication.

Submission Deadlines:

First Competition - April 1, 2006

Second Competition - January 1, 2007

Please submit entries to:

International Neuromodulation Society
New Investigator Award Competition
2000 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 402
San Francisco, CA 94109 USA
Tel: +1.415.567.1219 Fax: +1.415.567.2534
E-mail: INS@neuromodulation.com
Web: www.neuromodulation.com

The INS is grateful to Medtronic, Inc., for providing a grant to institute these awards.

The INS: Q & A

The INS Board of Directors and I are excited about the Society's recent growth, and with several new national chapters being formed and others in the pipeline, we welcome our new members and thank our membership for their steadfast support! It has occurred to us that some of our newer members, or maybe those of you who have been thinking about joining, may be unfamiliar with the structure of the Society. As Executive Director of the INS, and the person to whom members can turn if they have questions or suggestions, I would like to clarify how the INS functions.

Who directs the INS?

The INS has a Board of Directors which manages the business and affairs of the Society, and appoints an Executive Director. The Executive Director conducts the day-to-day business and implements the decisions of the Board. The Board of Directors consists of two tiers: the Executive Officers, and the General Directors. The Executive Officers are composed of the President, Immediate-Past President or President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor-in-Chief of the journal, *Neuromodulation*. The General Directors are composed of the National Chapter Presidents, two Directors-at-Large, and *Neuromodulation's* Editor for Functional Electrical Stimulation, who also serves as a Director-at-Large. There are two Meetings of the Board each year: one for all the Directors, and another for only the Executive Officers. However, all significant decisions are ratified by a majority vote of the full Board of Directors.

Our Board Members, who are world-renown experts in the field of neuromodulation, frequently give scientific lectures and act as representatives of the Society at international educational conferences, and at Industry-sponsored events. The INS board believes that the Society should be inclusive and as such membership of the INS is open to all medical specialties and industry personnel with a major scientific interest in neuromodulation. Part of the success of these relatively new therapies is the relationship that the INS has with industry. Although some of the Board of Directors may have declared interests in serving on Industry advisory panels, they are dedicated to maintaining company neutrality while representing the Society. During each Board Meeting, members of Industry meet with the Directors and present the latest research, company, and product information. The Board Members constantly are on the lookout for new research and technology to publish in our Journal, *Neuromodulation*, and thus convey leading edge information to our membership.

For more information on the roles of the Board of Directors, please consult the INS Bylaws, which are available online at <http://www.neuromodulation.com/Bylaws.htm>

Who are the INS' Directors?

Officers

Mario Meglio, MD - *President*
Simon J. Thomson MBBS, FRCA, FIPP - *Secretary*
Robert D. Foreman, PhD - *Treasurer*
Elliot S. Krames, MD, DABPM - *Editor-in-Chief of Neuromodulation & President-Elect as of 06/05*
Brian Simpson, MD, FRCS - *Immediate Past-President*

National Chapter Presidents

Australia - T.B.A.
Liong Liem, MD - *Benelux Countries*
William Raffaelli, MD - *Italy*
Richard North, MD - *North America*
Paul Eldridge, MD, FRCS - *United Kingdom & Ireland*

Presidents of National Chapters in Formation

Athanasios Koulousakis, MD - *Germany*
Francisco Robaina, MD, PhD - *Spain*
Damianos Sakas, MD - *Southeastern Europe*

Other National Chapters in Formation

The INS Board has been working hard to encourage national chapter formation in order to enhance the worldwide nature of our Society. There is interest amongst the following groups of countries:

France and French speaking countries
Scandinavia
Japan
Brazil

Directors-at-Large

Ross Davis, MD *Neuromodulation* Editor for Functional Electrical Stimulation
Giancarlo Barolat, MD (newly elected)
Bengt Linderoth, MD (newly elected)

How is the Board of Directors elected?

To ensure continuity in leadership in this young Society, the INS Officers are elected from amongst the Directors, by the Directors' majority vote, and serve for a term of three years. The Editor-in-Chief, also elected by the Directors, serves on the Board until he resigns, or is asked by the Directors to step down. Likewise, *Neuromodulation's* Editor for Functional Electrical Stimulation is elected by the Directors and serves an indefinite term. The National Chapter Presidents are elected democratically by the members of their respective Societies.

Should a National Chapter President become an INS Officer, he or she may choose to serve in both positions, or he or she may resign from the Chapter Presidency.

In 2005, in an effort to involve our Members in the election of Directors-at-Large, the INS distributed a call for candidates, encouraging members to nominate candidates whom they felt would make a contribution toward the leadership of the Society. Though the membership did not bring forth any write-ins, members voted for the candidates proposed by the Society's Nominating Committee.

Who will be the next INS President-Elect?

The INS Board of Directors is proud to announce the election of Elliot S. Krames, MD, as the Society's President-Elect. Dr. Krames' one-year term in this role will commence on June 12, 2005, and his three-year term as President of the INS will commence in June 2006.

Dr. Krames has been the Editor-in-Chief of *Neuromodulation* since the journal's inception in 1997, he serves on the Board of the North American Neuromodulation Society, and is Co-Founder and

Co-Chairperson of the National Pain Foundation. Dr. Krames is the Medical Director of the Pacific Pain Treatment Center, a private interdisciplinary practice of pain medicine and neuromodulation in San Francisco, California, USA. Within his practice, Dr. Krames also directs a teaching program for fellows in pain medicine, which is accredited by American Board of Pain Medicine.

What is the outcome of the recent Director-at-Large election?

It was a close race, but Dr. Giancarlo Barolat and Dr. Bengt Linderoth are the new Directors-at-Large. Congratulations!

Why do membership fees differ between National Chapters?

The INS annual membership fee is \$125 US: \$100 is allotted for a year's *Neuromodulation* subscription, while \$25 is retained by the INS for administrative purposes. To defray their administrative expenses, the National Chapters include an additional fee.

What does it take to form a National Chapter?

It takes a few neuromodulators who are established in the field, along with the desire and energy to initiate a chapter in their region. The organizers must:

- recruit at least 20 paid members
- form a legal, not-for-profit organization in the country of origin
- draft Chapter Bylaws in compliance with the INS' Bylaws
- maintain financial independence
- organize an annual scientific meeting
- report regularly to the Executive Office of the INS

Individuals with a professional interest in neuromodulation, regardless of discipline, are welcome to join a Chapter in their region. Those residing in an area without a Chapter can join the INS parent organization. Anyone interested in forming a new National Chapter or in joining one, is encouraged to contact the INS Executive Director for more information.

How many INS members are there, and where do they live?

Argentina	1
Aruba	1
Australia	22
Austria	3
Belgium	21
Brazil	1
Canada	4
Germany	8
Ireland	10
Israel	2
Italy	48
Japan	3
KSA	1
Luxembourg	1
Malaysia	1
The Netherlands	28
New Zealand	1
Spain	7
Sweden	2

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Switzerland	6
United Kingdom	41
USA	330
Total Members	542

When is the next General Assembly of Members?

We invite all INS Members to attend the General Assembly during the INS Congress in Rome, on June 12, 2005. During the Assembly, we will pres-

ent the latest Society news, and information about the next generation of the INS website.

What's new?

The INS is now planning the next generation of its website, which will enable greater communication amongst our members, Board of Directors, Industry, insurance companies, and patients. For more information about the forthcoming website, please refer to the

article entitled, "Pig Swill," on page 2.

As INS Executive Director, I invite discourse, and I welcome your recommendations as to how the INS can better serve the neuromodulation community.

Tia Sofatzis, Executive Director
E-mail: INS@neuromodulation.com

Italian Neuromodulation Society

The Italian Chapter is pleased report that in 2004, it had 48 members and carried out the following activities:

- the Annual National Congress, focusing on neuromodulation and neurostimulation
- a Consensus Conference entitled "Morphine Intrathecal Delivery in Chronic Non-malignant Pain: Lowest Age of Enrolment"

- collaboration on the National Congress of Palliative Care Meeting and the 3rd Pain Therapy Congress about electrical stimulation

In 2005, the Italian Chapter hopes to maintain, or even increase its membership and create an Italian-language web journal, in cooperation with the INS' forthcoming website. The Italian Chapter's site will feature:

- scientific information about Neuromodulation

- news about the Chapter and national and international educational meetings

In June, the Italian Chapter will hold its Annual National Congress and its smaller regional meetings in conjunction with the 7th INS Congress in Rome.

William Raffaelli, President of the Italian Neuromodulation Society

Luana Balducci, Executive Director of the Italian Neuromodulation Society

The 4th Annual Scientific meeting of the Neuromodulation Society of UK and Ireland, NS(UKI)

This meeting was held in Liverpool at the Walton Centre on 12th and 13th November 2004. The scientific organising committee was chaired by Consultant Neurosurgeon and now President of NS(UKI), Mr. Paul Eldridge, and was assisted by his colleague Mr. TRK Varma and outgoing president of NS(UKI), Dr. Simon Thomson.

The Walton centre has a considerable track record at hosting national and international conferences in pain medicine. Linda Cossins and her team deserve much praise for their role in making this meeting a logistical success.

The meeting was attended by 45 registrants and a further 20 faculty and guests. The NS(UKI) board had offered a year's free membership to NS(UKI) to full fee paying registrants as well as discounted registration fee to members. Questionnaires at the meeting revealed a high degree of satisfaction with the meeting and content.

This year membership participation was encouraged by inviting free papers. The scientific committee selected those for presentation on the Saturday morning. This was an excellent initiative and helped to ensure that our INS chapter remains dynamic and inclusive.

Professor Richard North, President of the North American Chapter, gave us the keynote lecture on his recently published randomised controlled trial of SCS in FBSS. Gordan Findlay, Spinal neurosurgeon at the Walton, gave us an entertaining and thoughtful discussion on the evidence base for spinal surgery.

Cathy Stannard of the British Pain Society has been working collaboratively with NS(UKI) and the Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS) on

producing informative guidelines on the use of spinal cord stimulation for pain. Several drafts of this have already been scrutinised but these were the provisional guidelines and further discussion was encouraged. Dr. Stannard was left in no doubt by the NS(UKI) membership that any guideline should not be too restrictive or allow future medicolegal misuse. It was felt that this was a good initiative and would be of value to future commissioning of SCS.

Sheila Hill, Director of Service Development at the Walton centre, told us about setting up a new service and about the new NHS tariff system for reimbursement.

The annual general meeting was held at the end of the afternoon. Dr. Simon Thomson stepped down as founding President of NS(UKI) after 4 years in the role. Paul Eldridge had been elected as President last year and Dr. Sam Eldabe was elected to the board so bringing our board membership up to six.

Dr. Michael de Jongste, Cardiologist from Groningen, joined us and gave us an up to date talk on the neurophysiology and mechanisms of action of SCS in angina. Professor Ian Swain from Salisbury gave us our first exposure to functional electrical stimulation. Although we share the same journal we actually have quite different backgrounds so it was interesting to see how the two disciplines of FES and neuromodulation are likely to combine in the future.

Dr. Donna Lloyd talked to us about implanted neuromodulation devices and MRI safety. This is a much more complex subject than at first appreciated. One of her recommendations was to visit www.mri-safety.com for up to date information.

Dr. Michael Leong, Stanford, gave us a talk on the soon to be marketed Ziconotide from Elan Pharmaceuticals. Elan had also sponsored a satellite symposium on Ziconotide on the Friday morning. Ziconotide is the first new drug to have a licence for intrathecal therapy for pain. In so doing a number of randomised controlled studies have been done that support the evidence base for intrathecal drug delivery in pain of malignant and benign origin. Ziconotide appears a difficult drug to manage but shared experience of its use is already making its introduction for others easier.

Finally Dr. Simon Thomson gave a talk on indications and a glimpse of the future for intrathecal drug treatment for pain.

Our Society is now well established, our membership has stabilised thanks to the new standing orders system and a new management company. Our finances are in good shape and we are fulfilling our aims and objectives. I have no doubt that the formation of this Society has benefited patients and as such may it continue to flourish.

Dr. Simon Thomson
Immediate Past-
President of NS(UKI),
INS Secretary, and INS
Newsletter Editor



Publications

Neuromodulation, Journal of the International Neuromodulation Society and the Official Journal of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society (IFESS)

Published by Blackwell Publishing

Elliot S. Krames, MD, Editor-in-Chief

Neuromodulation disseminates scientific and clinical information relevant to the field of neuromodulation. The journal advances the basic and clinical science of the field of neuromodulation. *Neuromodulation* publishes original, scientific works, scientific reviews, abstracts of papers accepted for review at national and international congresses, and past and future news of events and activities of the society and its membership. *Neuromodulation* expertly addresses the multidisciplinary scope of the topic by covering such topics as anesthesiology, angiology, cardiology, neurology, neuroscience, rehabilitation medicine, urology and vascular surgery.

Neuromodulation is currently Indexed/Abstracted in SciSearch, ISI Alerting Services, and Neuroscience Citation Index. It will re-apply for inclusion in Index Medicus in 2007.

This is your Journal. Please submit your articles relevant to neuromodulation to the Journal. With each and every submission, our Journal and Society grow.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.neuromodulation.com/Neuromodulation.htm>



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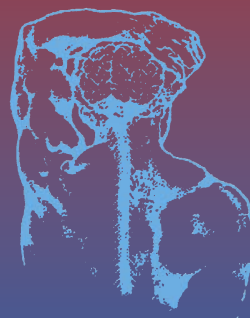
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Neuromodulation

Journal of The International Neuromodulation Society

Official Journal of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society



Volume 8 Number 2 April 2005

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Educational Conferences

2005

10-17 June

The 7th Congress of the International Neuromodulation Society
Rome, Italy (June 10 – 13)

And

The 14th Meeting of the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (June 14 – 17)
Rome, Italy

Chairman: Professor Mario Meglio, INS President

For additional information, contact the Organizing Secretariat:
PTS Congressi Srl
Via Tevere, 20
00198 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 85355590

Fax: +30 06 85356060

E-mail for INS Congress: INS.

Rome2005Wptsroma.it

E-mail for WSSFN Congress: WSSFN.
Rome2005Wptsroma.it

5-9 July

10th Annual Conference of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Chairman: Prof. Mohamad Sawan, P. Eng.

For additional information, contact

IFESS' 2005 Secretarial Offices:

Tel.: +1 514 340 3215

Fax: +1 514 340 4440

E-mail: info@ifess2005.org

7-9 September

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
Neural Interfaces Workshop
Bethesda, Maryland, USA

For additional information, contact:

Dr. Joseph J. Pancrazio of NINDS

Tel: 1 301 496 1447

E-mail: pancrazj@ninds.nih.gov

2006

11-12 November

9th Annual North American Neuromodulation Society Meeting
Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC, USA

For additional information, contact:
Kris Haskin, Executive Director, NANS
4700 W. Lake Avenue
60025 Glenview, IL, USA

Tel: +1 847 375 4714

Fax: +1 877 594 6704

E-mail: american@neuromodulation.org

Website: www.neuromodulation.org

18-19 November

3rd Scientific Meeting of the Benelux Neuromodulation Society Meeting
Ghent, Belgium
Chairman: Dr. van Roost

For additional information, contact:

Marja de Regt, BNS Secretariat

Dept. Anesthesiology

St. Antonius Hospital

P.O. Box 2500

NL - 3430 EM Nieuwegein

The Netherlands

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Fax: +31 30 6092296

E-mail: marja@anest-nieuwegein.net

23 – 27 August

11th Annual Conference of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society
Sendai, Japan
Conference Chair: I. Kimura
(Nishitaga National Hospital)

For Additional information, contact:

Yasunobu Handa, MD, PhD

Department of Restorative

Neuromuscular Rehabilitation

E-mail: yasunobu@handa.med.tohoku.ac.jp



Medtronic

The International Neuromodulation Society is a society that fosters cooperation and partnership between clinicians, scientists and industry. We are proud of this cooperation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our corporate partners for all of their support since the inception of the International Neuromodulation Society. Without the support of our corporate partners, our Society, the journal, *Neuromodulation*, and the chapters of the INS would not be in existence today.

Now you can find information about the INS, its national chapters, upcoming meetings and the INS' journal, *Neuromodulation*, on line!
Visit the new INS web site today www.neuromodulation.com

INTERNATIONAL NEUROMODULATION SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The goal of the International Neuromodulation Society (INS) is to promote therapeutic neuromodulation in its broadest sense at a clinical and scientific level. A major focus of the Society is to promote and achieve high standards of clinical and scientific investigation through the exchange of knowledge by organizing regular scientific meetings and publishing the journal *Neuromodulation*, thus enabling collaboration and communication within and between working groups nationally and internationally. The scientific objectives of the INS are to increase our understanding of the mechanisms of neuromodulation and to evaluate existing and new applications. The clinical objectives are to refine the indications for this therapy and to extend the application and availability, thereby maximizing the benefit.

The Journal, *Neuromodulation* is dedicated to the dissemination of scientific and clinical information relevant to all individuals and groups interested in the field of neuromodulation. It is the goal of neuromodulation, to enhance normal bodily function or to reduce bodily dysfunction by modulating normal and abnormal function of the peripheral and central nervous systems. This approach for today and future is made possible by a positive partnership of basic scientists, Industry and clinical scientists. The INS, the journal, *Neuromodulation*, and the INS' chapters are proud to join this partnership.

The International Neuromodulation Society's National Chapters are:

- Australian Neuromodulation Society
- Benelux Neuromodulation Society
- Italian Neuromodulation Society
- Neuromodulation Society of the United Kingdom and Ireland
- North American Neuromodulation Society

By joining any one of the chapters of the INS, persons receive membership not only in the chapter itself, but also receive membership benefits of the International Neuromodulation Society.

The advantages of membership include but are not limited to:

- Excellent, and increasingly large, international meetings every two to three years as well as chapter meetings.
- The International Neuromodulation Society's journal, *Neuromodulation*, four issues per annum and now in its eighth volume.
- Informative newsletters published semi-annually.
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