



PLEXUS

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF ANATOMISTS

JUNE 2005



Office Bearers of the IFAA:

President: Professor David Brynmor Thomas

Vice President: Professor Nobutaka Hirokawa

Secretary General: Professor Bernard Moxham

Treasurer: Dr Duane Haines

Secretaries: Professor Jacques Patrick Barbet
Professor Xu Qunyuan

Standing Committees of the Federation:

Anatomical Terminology (FICAT)

Chairman: Professor Ian Whitmore
Secretary: Professor Colin Wendell-Smith

Anatomical Education (FICAE)

Chairman: Professor John Morris
Secretary: Professor Mitsohiro Kawata

Medical Humanities and Ethics (FICMHE)

Chairman: Professor Gareth Jones
Secretary: to be announced

International Congress 2009 (FIC)

Chairman : Professor B. Kramer
Secretary: Professor G. Louw

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

Lateral view of a naturally mummified human brain. This brain was found in the course of a forensic examination of a specimen in the open bushveld. It represents the first naturally mummified human brain found in Africa. The brain was retrieved from the cranial cavity, and upon closer examination revealed the normal appearance of a modern human brain. This specimen raises interesting questions regarding the process of natural mummification. A full article describing this specimen is currently in press. Authors: Nikki Eklektos, Manisha Dayal and Paul Manger

Photograph courtesy of Dr Paul Manger, School of Anatomical Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Editorial

What is it about anatomy that brings out the passion in those who practice the discipline?

Is it the love of structure, the fascination with the form and outlines produced against bulges and bumps? Is it perhaps the sinuous lines produced by vessels and nerves which track through the interstices? Perhaps, it is the combination of art and artistry which have produced an amazing structure which can only function superbly when everything is intact or aligned. I suspect that in recent years it has also been the attacks upon the discipline by "others" in high places.....those "educationalists" who wish to alter the curriculum, reduce the time and "wipe" anatomy off the face of the medical "planet". Perhaps in retrospect, we will see these "attacks" as a "good" thing,

as never before have I heard so many anatomists taking up the cudgels and wishing to fight for their discipline. We have heard this in many ways...at Congresses, in documents being produced by various Societies and in Editorials in journals. So, perhaps I cannot answer the question about what makes an anatomist passionate about the discipline, but one thing I have come to realise, is that **"we all talk the same language.....Anatomy"**, and that is what counts most!!

I hope you enjoy this edition of Plexus, which brings wonderful contributions from Societies and individuals around the globe.

Beverley Kramer
Editor

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In Memoriam *Liberato John Alphonse DiDio*

On the 7th of May in the year 1920, in São Paulo, a new and very special citizen was born - **Liberato John Alphonse DiDio** - the person who became one of the most important and most representative anatomists all around the world.

After being born and educated in the same city, Mr. DiDio entered the University of São Paulo Medical School in 1945 from which he graduated and obtained his degrees of D.Sc. and Ph.D with honour and distinction.

In 1952, in the position of General Secretary, Dr DiDio, together with the President, his Professor, Dr Renato Locchi, founded the Brazilian Society of Anatomy. Just three years after his graduation, Dr DiDio was appointed to the position of Chairman of the Anatomy Department of the University of Minas Gerais School of Medicine, in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Despite such a meteoric and brilliant career, Professor DiDio did not stay in this new position, but tried to improve his knowledge and expand his horizons.

So in the early sixties he traveled abroad and became a Rockefeller Fellow, starting his training in Electron Microscopy and Molecular Biology under the orientation of three great professors, Professor Stanley Bennett, Department of Anatomy, University of Washington, Professor Don

Fawcett, Department of Anatomy, Harvard Medical School and George Palade (Nobel Laureate), Department of Cytology, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City. At the same time, Professor DiDio also became a Visiting Professor at the University of Washington, joining Dr. Edward Boyden and Dr. Bassett in teaching gross anatomy.



Professor DiDio, pictured at the ISMS Congress at Sun City, South Africa in 2001. The photograph was taken by Professor W. Hamlett

After this important experience, together with his natural ability to teach and do research, Professor DiDio was hired as Professor of Anatomy at the Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. In 1966, after being invited to participate in the foundation of the Medical College of Ohio, Toledo he became the Chairman of the Department of Anatomy and six years later, was elected Dean of the Graduate School.

With his increasing prestige not only in the medical environment but also in the scientific field, together with his admirable humanistic culture, Professor DiDio was asked to be a consultant of the Pan American Health Organization and Encyclopedia Britannica, Barsa.

His leadership abilities and his capacity of organizing and previewing activities years in advance, lead him to become not only President and Emeritus Chairman of the American Association of Anatomists but also President of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists.

In 1990 he became Emeritus Professor of the Medical College of Ohio and two years later was awarded the title of Dean Emeritus.

Due to his continuous interest in the anatomical science, his privileged mind and his great proficiency in five languages, Professor DiDio was invited to be a member of the International Nomenclature Committee, of the International Anatomical Veterinary Nomenclature Committee, and a member and General Secretary of the Federative Committee on Anatomical Terminology.

In the scientific field, he became well known for his huge intellectual production of publications and books. He published three hundred and seventy nine scientific papers, eleven translated books (some translated into Portuguese, Italian and Spanish), fifteen book reviews and participated in the Editorial Board of twenty nine Scientific Journals in Brazil, USA, Chile, Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Mexico and Portugal. He presented one hundred and fifty abstracts to congresses and symposia, gave two hundred and fifteen seminars in numerous universities worldwide and had strongly contributed for the formation of new anatomists by being academic advisor of ninety two graduate students in Brazil, forty two in the USA and 1 in Portugal.

During his life, Professor DiDio received numerous honours and awards from Universities and Scientific Associations. He became Professor Honoris Causa of the Catholic University of

Chile, of the New University of Lisbon, of the University of Brasilia, of the University of Rio de Janeiro, of the National University of Trujillo, and of the University of Timisoara. He had also received titles of Honorary Member from the Associations of Anatomists from many countries around the world such as Chile, Ecuador, United States, Israel, Peru, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Germany, Venezuela and Brazil.

Moreover, Professor DiDio has been honored by many cities and countries with the award of the title of Honorary Citizenship of the cities of Belo Horizonte, New Orleans, São Paulo. The following medals were also awarded to him: Great Official of the Order of Merit in Medicine of the Republic of Brazil, Medal for Cultural Merit of the Republic of Italy, Great Medal of "Inconfidencia" from the Government of Minas Gerais, Medal from New Bedford, Massachusetts, Marble Plaque from the Instituto Nacional de Neurologia of Mexico City, Golden Key Award from the International Institute of Toledo, Ohio, Andreas Vesalius Award from the Mexican Society of Anatomists, Gold Medal from Cordoba, Argentina, "Arnaldo Vieira de Carvalho " Medal from the University of São Paulo Medical School, the "Ipiranga Order", Great Official, awarded by the Government of the State of São Paulo and the "Anchieta Medal", from the city of São Paulo.

The Brazilian Society of Anatomy is very proud indeed for having such a special Honorary Member who has dignified Science, Medicine and Anatomy.

**Nadir Eunice Valverde Barbato de Prates,
M.D., Ph.D.**

**Richard Haldi Cabral, M.D., Ph.D.
José Carlos Prates, M.D., Ph.D**

International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA)

XVI Congress of IFAA in Kyoto, September 25 - 27, 2004

Meeting of the General Assembly of the IFAA August 25, 2004 - 02.30 p.m. 1st Draft

Agenda

1. Opening remarks by the President of the IFAA, David Brynmor Thomas
2. Receipt of credentials of delegates from Constituent Associations and Societies (Secretary General Moxham/Treasurer Haines)
3. Distribution, discussion and vote on the minutes of the last meeting held in Rome (Kühnel/Moxham)
4. Report of the Secretary-General and changes to the IFAA Constitution (Moxham).
5. Report of the Treasurer (Haines)
6. Report of the Chairman of the Federative International Committee on Anatomical Education - FI-CAE - (Drukker) and of the Federative International Committee on Anatomical Terminology - FI-CAT- (Whitmore)
7. Reports of the other Federative International Committees
8. A) Name and address of the candidates presented for election to the Executive Committee (see note i below).
B) Name of the Associations or Societies and of the sites candidating for organization of the subsequent Federative International Congress of Anatomy (FICA) (see note ii below)
C) Name of Associations or Societies applying for membership of the IFAA (see note iii below) (Moxham)
9. Election of the members of the new Executive Committee (Moxham)
10. Presentations of the candidates to organize the next FICA (10 minutes each).
Election of the president, site, date of the XVII Federative International Congress of Anatomy (Moxham)
11. Admission of new members of the IFAA (Moxham)
12. Any other business
13. Adjournment

Officers:

President: DAVID BRYNMOR THOMAS (U.K.)

Secretary General: BERNARD JOHN MOXHAM (U.K.)

Treasurer: DUANE E. HAINES (U.S.A.)

Secretary: JACQUES PATRICK BARBET (France)

Secretary: XU QUNYUAN (China)

The names and signatures of the officers and delegates of the associations of anatomists are contained in the attendance document. The names of Societies and of the countries are the

following:

Argentina:	Sociedad Rioplatense de Anatomia
Bosnia-Herzegovina:	Anatomical Society of Bosnia-Herzegovina
Brasil:	Colegio Anatomico Brasileiro
	Sociedade Brasileira de Anatomia
Bulgaria:	Bulgarian Anatomical Society
Chile:	Sociedad Chilena de Anatomia
Costa Rica:	Asociacion Costaricense de Anatomia
Czech Republic:	Czech Anatomical Society
Estonia:	Estonian Morphological Society
Finland:	Anatomici Fenniae
France:	Société Anatomique de Paris
	Association des Morphologistes
Germany:	Anatomische Gesellschaft
Italy:	Società Italiano di Anatomie
Japan:	Japanese Association of Anatomists
Netherlands:	Nederlandse Anatomen Vereniging
New Zealand and Australia:	Under review
Poland:	Polish Anatomical Society
Portugal:	Ibero-American Society of Anatomy
	Portuguese Anatomical Society
Republic of China:	Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences
Romania:	Romanian Association of Anatomists
Russia:	Russian Society of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology
South Africa:	Anatomical Society of South Africa
Spain:	Sociedad Anatómica Española
Switzerland:	Swiss Society for Anatomy, Histology and Embryology
United Kingdom:	Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland
United States:	American Association of Anatomists

1. Opening Remarks by the President of the IFAA, David Brynmor Thomas

The President PROFESSOR DAVID BRYNMOR THOMAS presided over the session and opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. He began by thanking the Japanese Association of Anatomists, the Science Council of Japan, the members of FICA, the Organising Committee and the Presidents (Professors Hirano and Hirokawa) of the XVIth Congress for all the good work done on behalf of the IFAA.

Before proceeding with other matters, the President asked delegates whether there were any objections to „observers“ attending the meeting and to the meeting being televised to other parts of the Congress. There were no objections.

The President thanked the Executive Committee for its work on behalf of the IFAA and outlined the way in which issues had been dealt with for the Federations „revitalisation“. He particularly drew the Assembly's attention to the need to maintain a newsletter of high standard, to consider developing the IFAA's website, and to revitalise the Federative International Committees (FICs).

Finally, he requested that the members of the General Assembly should stand in silence in remembrance of two past Presidents of the IFAA who had recently died - Professor Motta and Professor DiDio.

2. Receipt of credentials of delegates from Constituent Associations and Societies (Secretary General Moxham/Treasurer Haines)

Each Society could be represented by two delegates: a voting and a non-voting delegate. A Secretary of the IFAA, Professor Barbet, took the „register“ of delegates immediately before the meeting and recorded the names of voting delegates. The Treasurer looked at the list of delegates attending the meeting to assure the IFAA that only fully paid up subscribers to the IFAA were represented with voting delegates.

It was duly noted that attendance at the General Assembly by constituent member associations/societies was poor and that this was a matter for discussion and action by the Executive Committee of the IFAA.

3. Distribution, discussion and vote on the minutes of the last meeting held in Rome (Moxham)

The minutes were approved unanimously and it was agreed that they should be prepared for publication in Plexus.

4. Report of the Secretary-General and changes to the IFAA Constitution (Moxham)

Significant changes to the IFAA Constitution were presented to the meeting. These changes had been much discussed by the Executive Committee of the IFAA and had been presented to constituent member associations/societies of the IFAA in due and proper time before consideration at this General Assembly meeting. The Secretary General outlined the proposed changes and the „philosophy“ underlying the reasons for change (see Appendix 1). The General Association Assembly agreed unanimously to all proposed changes. In addition, the Japanese Association of Anatomists proposed that there should be an amendment to Article 5 of the Constitution to read: *„Associations that do not pay annual dues **for three consecutive years (or more)** cannot be considered members of the IFAA....“*. The proposal was voted upon and agreed unanimously.

Concerning the FICs, in addition to the Federative International Committee for Anatomical Education (FICAE) and for Anatomical Terminology (FICAT), the Executive Committee of the IFAA proposed that two further FICs should be established – a Federative International Committee for Ethics and Medical Humanities and a Federative International Committee for Scientific Networking. The General Assembly agreed unanimously to this proposal. The Executive Committee recommended dissolution of the Federative International Committee for Revitalisation of the IFAA, the Federative International Committee for Applied, Comparative, Developmental & Experimental Morphology, and the Federative International Committee for Anatomical Publications. The President reported that there was no further need for the Committee on Revitalisation since other mechanisms were now in place. He thanked all those who had contributed to this important committee and, in particular, Professor Barbet who had recently been its Chair. The Assembly approved the proposal to dissolve the aforementioned FICs. It was noted that there were still unresolved issues concerning the status of the Federative International Committee for Morphological Symposia.

The Secretary-General reiterated the comments of the President that it was important to have a well-read newsletter and a state-of-the-art website so that information concerning the IFAA could be properly disseminated to constituent member associations/societies of the IFAA and to anatomists in general.

5. Report of the Treasurer (Haines)

The Treasurer gave the financial report of 1999 – 2004 (see Appendix 2). Most of the expenses were

for minor incidental expenses (e.g. bank transactions), for FICAT and IFAA meetings and for the replacement of stolen computers used for IFAA business, the total amount being USD\$7681.99. The Balance Credit as of August 12th 2004 amounted to USD\$25,068.33. In accordance with the Constitution of the IFAA, Professors Sprumont and Pias had been appointed as Auditors and had written to confirm the veracity of the accounts. The President thanked the Treasurer and the Auditors for their work.

The accounts and the Treasurer's report were approved by the General Assembly.

6. Reports of the Chairman of the Federative International Committee on Anatomical Education - FICAE - (Drukker) and of the Federative International Committee on Anatomical Terminology - FICAT- (Whitmore)

A written report concerning the activities of FICAE was provided by its Chair, Professor Drukker (Appendix 3). He announced that he was standing down as Chair and that, in line with the new Constitution of the IFAA, an election would be held in the next few months. A list of members of FICAE for the next period was presented to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General of the IFAA (Appendix 4) and was approved by the General Assembly. Finally, the General Assembly remembered in silence the death of a member of FICAE, Professor Sandy Marks.

A written report concerning the activities of FICAT was provided by its Chair, Professor Whitmore (Appendix 5). The Committee met 10 times and worked on histology (incorporating cytology) and embryology terminologies. Lists of terms were circulated to constituent member associations/societies of the IFAA and the Chair thanked them for comments received. It was anticipated that Terminologia Histologica would be published in 2005. Publication of Terminologia Embryologica was planned for 2006/07. The chair anticipated that subsequently FICAT would return to review Terminologia Anatomica.

The Chair asked for continuing financial support for FICAT during the next 5 years from the IFAA and thanked the national societies for their past financial support.

A list of members of FICAT for the next period was presented to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General of the IFAA (Appendix 6) and was approved by the General Assembly.

7. Reports of other Federative International Committees (Brynmor Thomas)

There were no reports to present to the General Assembly.

8^A. Name and address of the persons presented for election in the Executive Committee (Moxham)

President

David Brynmor Thomas
Parkgate, 27, Hepburn Gardens
GB-St Andrews, Fife KY16 9DG
United Kingdom
Tel.: ++44-1334-476431; fax. ++44-1334-479775
e-mail: dbt@st-and.ac.uk

Vice-president

Nobutaka Hirokawa

Secretary General

Bernard Moxham
School of Molecular and Medical Biosciences,
University of Wales Cardiff,
Museum Avenue, P.O Box 911,
GB - Cardiff CF 1 3US
United Kingdom
Tel.: ++44-29-20874031; fax. ++44-29-20874486
e-mail: moxham@cardiff.ac.uk

Treasurer

Duane E. Haines
Department of Anatomy
The University of Mississippi Medical Center,
2500 North State Street,
Jackson, MS 39216-4505, U.S.A.
Tel.: ++1-601-9841640; fax. ++1-601-9841655
e-mail: dhaines@anatomy.umsmed.edu

First Secretary

Jacques Patrick Barbet
Laboratoire d' Histologie-Embryologie,
Faculté de Médecine Cochin-Port Royal,
24, rue du Faubourg St-Jacques
F-75014 Paris, France
Tel.: ++33-1-44.41.23.56; fax. ++33-1-40.51.09.46
e-mail: jp.barbet@teso.net

Second Secretary

Xu Qunyuan (China)
President Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences
President of the Capital University of Medical Sciences
You Na Men, Beijing 100054
People's Republic of China
Tel.: ++1-601-984.1640; fax. ++1-601-984.1655
e-mail: gxu@public.beta.net.cn or cumsw@public.bta.net.cn

8^B. Names of the Associations or Societies and of the places bidding for organization of the next Federative International Congress of Anatomy (FICA) (Moxham).

It was announced that two member associations/societies were bidding for the XVII Congress of the IFAA – the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences and the Anatomical Society of South Africa.

8^C. Name of Associations or Societies applying for membership of the IFAA (Moxham).

The Scientific Society of Anatomists, Histologists, Embryologists and Topographoanatomists of Ukraine; The Lithuanian Society of Anatomists; and The European Association of Veterinary Anatomists had written to the Secretary-General to apply for membership of the IFAA..

9. Election of the Members of the new Executive Committee (Moxham)

The General Assembly elected unanimously the proposals for members of the new Executive

Committee of the IFAA (see minute 8A) for the period leading up to the next International Congress of the IFAA.

10. Presentations of the candidates to organize the next FICA and Election of the president, site, date of the XVII Federative International Congress of Anatomy (Moxham).

After presentations by delegates of the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences and of the Anatomical Society of South Africa, the delegates voted:

For the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences:	7 votes
For the Anatomical Society of South Africa:	11 votes
Total:	18 votes

It was consequently announced that the next Congress of the IFAA would take place in 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa. The meeting agreed to postpone nomination of the President of the Congress.

The President thanked all the delegates from the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences and the Anatomical Society of South Africa for their excellent presentations. He indicated how difficult a decision it was for the General Assembly to make and he looked forward to the next Congress in Cape Town

11. Admission of new members of the IFAA (Moxham)

Three new Societies were officially declared as accepted: *The Scientific Society of Anatomists, Histologists, Embryologists and Topographoanatomists of Ukraine; The Lithuanian Society of Anatomists; and The European Association of Veterinary Anatomists*

12. Any Other Business

The Japanese Association of Anatomists put forward a document concerned with the future and purpose of the anatomical sciences for consideration and adoption by the IFAA (The Kyoto Declaration 2004). This was unanimously approved by the General Assembly and will be disseminated to constituent member associations/societies by the Secretary-General.

The Japanese Association of Anatomists proposed that the voting system at the General Assembly should be changed to reflect the number of members in constituent member associations/societies. The advantages and disadvantages of such a system were briefly discussed and the General Assembly resolved to let the Executive Committee deliberate further on the matter.

There being no further business a proposal was made to adjourn the meeting

13. Adjournment

At 5:20 p.m. the General Assembly was adjourned.

Kyoto, August 28, 2004

**Prof. Bernard Moxham,
Secretary General**

International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive Committee held at Royal Holloway College, Egham, U.K., on 8th January 2004.

5.1 Members Present:

Members of the Executive Committee:

Professor David Brynmor Thomas (President)
Professor Bernard J. Moxham (Secretary-General)
Professor Duane Haines (Treasurer)
Professor Patrick Barbet (Secretary)

N.B. Invited Representatives of the Federative International Committees (FICs) and invited members of the Japanese Anatomical Association were requested to meet the Executive Committee before, or at the end of, formal business:

Professor Hiroshi Hirano (International Congress Committee)
Professor Ian Whitmore (Anatomical Terminology)

Apologies for absence were received from:
Professor Xu-Qunyuan (Secretary)

5.2 Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes were approved of the meeting of the Executive Committee (with invited representatives of the FICs) that was held in Timisoara, Romania, on 12th September 2002 during the XVII ISMS.

5.3 Matters arising from the last meeting:

Vide 4.5: The Secretary-General reported that he had notified all delegates of the IFAA by electronic means of the Constitutional decisions taken at Timisoara that had led to the appointment of Professor David Brynmor Thomas as President of the IFAA.

Vide 4.8: The Secretary-General confirmed that he had approached many constituent member associations (i.e. those for which he had addresses) in order to prepare them for the IFAA General Assembly in Kyoto. Many had already responded, providing names of delegates (or stating their intention to elect delegates).

5.4 President's Business:

The President had no business to report.

5.5 Secretary-General's business:

The IFAA Constitution was reviewed, Article-by-Article, in preparation for submission to the IFAA General Assembly in Kyoto (see Article 10). This would follow the distribution of information concerning the changes proposed to known delegates appointed for the Rome IFAA General Assembly (see Article 8) and for subsequent distribution, and discussion, by national associations that are constituent members of the IFAA. The "principles" underlying the proposed changes were:

- ?? to make available solutions to problems that had emerged since the last IFAA Congress in Rome (e.g. the procedures to be adopted following the long-term incapacitation of an Officer of the IFAA; the appointment of a new IFAA President following incapacitation of an existing President elected at a General Assembly; the effective and constitutional workings of the Executive Committee between Congresses);
- ?? to enable effective management of the IFAA between Congresses (e.g. the remits and characteristics of FICs; the ability to apply (and modify) the IFAA Constitution; the membership of the Executive Committee; the relationship between the IFAA and Congress organizers; auditing of IFAA accounts/financial statements);
- ?? to enshrine within the Constitution procedures that will permit more individuals to participate in the activities of the IFAA (including decision making) while maintaining the "sovereign" responsibilities of the IFAA General Assembly (e.g. the role of delegates between Congresses; the privileges and duties of national associations that are constituent members of "good standing" within the IFAA; the involvement of FIC chairs in the IFAA Executive Committee; the ways in which the Constitution can be amended between Congresses and prior to ratification of such changes by the General Assembly).

It was agreed that the existing "Officers" of the

IFAA (President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, Secretaries) would present themselves to the General Assembly for re-election (in accordance with Articles 12 and 14).

Following earlier discussions with some members of the Japanese Anatomical Association, it was agreed that this Association should be asked to nominate one of their members for election as Vice-President of the IFAA at the General Assembly. It was felt that this action would acknowledge the contribution of our Japanese colleagues to contemporary Anatomy, would reflect their large size in the IFAA community, and would highlight their contribution to the IFAA through the organization of the XVII IFAA Congress in Kyoto.

It was reported by the Secretary-General that a very positive request had arrived from the Chinese Anatomical Association for the General Assembly to consider the possibility of them organising the XVIII IFAA Congress. It was agreed that the Chinese authorities would be further approached so that a formal letter declaring their interest could be elicited.

5.6 Treasurer's business:

A financial report was presented by Professor Haines showing that, at 1st January 2003, the IFAA bank balance stood at \$22,903.75. On the 30th November 2003, the balance was \$26,283.62. The report provided for the Secretary-General's files the names of individuals working for the IFAA who had received financial benefit/reimbursement of expenses, the total sum of money spent amounting to \$1,221.35 (including reimbursement for a stolen laptop computer used for IFAA business). The report also included the names of national associations that are constituent members of the IFAA and who had paid their subscriptions for 2003. The Treasurer agreed to provide members of the Executive Committee with the names of associations that had not paid their subscriptions. It was noted that the present IFAA Constitution does not contain Articles relating to defaulting payment of subscriptions.

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Treasurer, decided not to recommend increasing the subscription rates for membership of the IFAA.

The Treasurer reiterated his view that the financial statements prepared for the General Assem-

bly should be audited by independent, professional auditors and that this procedure should be enshrined within the IFAA Constitution. In line with the present Constitution, the President agreed to contact two delegates who would be present at the Kyoto Congress to audit the IFAA's financial statements.

5.7 16th International Congress of the IFAA, Kyoto, Japan:

In the light of discussions outside this meeting held with Professor Hirano, and with delegates of the Japanese Anatomical Association, the Executive Committee wished to record its pleasure with the progress being made on the Kyoto Congress and on the publicity that had been produced. Given the special circumstances in Japan, and the long held principles of the Japanese Anatomical Association, the Executive Committee endorsed the decision to have two Presidents for the Kyoto Congress (Professor Hirano and Professor Hirokawa). It was felt, however, that this should not form a precedent for future Congresses.

5.8 Any Other Business:

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Executive Committee in Kyoto (August 2004), just before the meeting of the IFAA General Assembly.

Notes concerning Matters relating to Federative International Committees (FICs):

Federative International Committee for Anatomical Terminology (FICAT):

Professor Whitmore provided an oral report. He stated that the Committee met approximately twice per year and that work on histological and embryological terminologies had progressed well. It was noted that associations that are constituent members of IFAA had received, for comment a draft report concerning histological terminology. Publishers were now being contacted and it is hoped that the histological terminology would be finalised near the time of the International Congress in Kyoto. It was envisaged that the embryological terminology would be available in draft form next year for comment by IFAA constituent member associations. Future plans included the formulation of odontological and an-

thropological terminologies and updating of the anatomical (topographical anatomy) terminology. Although, for good reasons, developments in the odontological and anthropological areas were presently on hold, members of the IFAA Executive Committee indicated their reluctance to contemplate withdrawal of FICAT from these important areas of anatomical sciences. Professor Whitmore stated that FICAT presently consisted of 19 members and that membership changes were imminent (new members to be drawn from associations in line with Article 22 of the IFAA Constitution).

Federative International Committee for Anatomical Education:

It was noted that Professor Drukker had provided an apology for absence and had written documents outlining developments of FICAE up to the Kyoto Congress.

Federative International Committee - Revitali-

sation:

It was agreed that Professor Barbet would provide a report for the next meeting of the Executive Committee during the Kyoto Congress.

International Committee for Scientific Meetings (ISMs):

It was agreed that the Chair of this committee, Professor Di Dio, would be approached to provide a report for the next meeting of the Executive Committee during the Kyoto Congress.

Federative International Committee for the Anatomical Press:

The status of this Committee remained in need of clarification.

Professor Bernard J. Moxham (Secretary-General)

News from Member Societies

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ANATOMISTS

Burr becomes president-elect; Drake appointed to AAA Board

David Burr, Professor and Chair of Anatomy and Cell Biology at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has been chosen as AAA president-elect, after serving just a year as AAA secretary-treasurer. In his candidate's statement, Burr pointed to several key challenges facing AAA and the discipline of anatomy in the coming years, including:

- ?? Dealing with the potential shortage of future instructors, particularly in gross anatomy;
 - ?? Maintaining the vitality and novelty of research in the morphological sciences; and
 - ?? Sustaining AAA financially.
- ?? Also elected to the AAA Board of Directors were:

?? *Julian Guttman*, Postdoctoral Fellow, Biotechnology/Michael Smith Laboratory, University of British Columbia

?? *Charles Little*, Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology, University of Kansas

?? *Hazel Sive*, Member, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and Professor of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

At the AAA Annual Business Meeting held on April 4 in San Diego, President Emeritus John Fallon congratulated Kathy Svoboda as she moved up to assume the AAA Presidency for the coming two years. Svoboda announced that Richard Drake, Director of Anatomy at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, had been appointed secretary-treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by Burr's election. She also thanked outgoing Board members John Fallon, Kimberly Latacha, Lynne Opperman and Robert Specian for their service, presenting them each with a certificate of appreciation.

In other action at its April meeting, the AAA Board:

- ?? Appointed Kurt Albertine to a five-year term as editor-in-chief of *The Anatomical Record*;
- ?? Recommended that John Gurdon (Univ. of Cambridge) be made an AAA Honorary Member;
- ?? Recommended that dues remain the same in 2006 and asked the Finance Committee to review the AAA dues structure; and
- ?? Accepted 98 new Regular and 66 new Student/Postdoctoral members.

Roger Markwald accepts AAA's highest scientific accolade

AAA's 2005 Henry Gray Award, its most prestigious honor, was presented April 5 during the Society's Annual Meeting to Roger R. Markwald, Professor and Chair of the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy at the Medical University of South Carolina. The award, co-sponsored by the American Association of Anatomists and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins (publishers of *Gray's Anatomy of the Human Body*), recognizes unique and meritorious contributions to and achievements in anatomical sciences by a distinguished AAA member.



While Markwald's graduate research was concerned with the male reproductive system, he shifted his research emphasis to the cardiovascular system as a young faculty member and has conducted research in this area ever since. Early on, Markwald's ultrastructural studies characterized embryonic myocardial cell myofibrillar organization. In more recent years, he has expanded his research by elucidating the molecular biological factors that modulate myocardial cells and heart development. Markwald's current work on tissue engineering and regenerative medicine and the use of stem cells in the treat-

ment of cardiac injury or disease holds great promise.

Complementing his research efforts, Markwald serves as editor-in-chief of *The Anatomical Record*, the series editor for *Cardiovascular Morphogenesis*, and a member of the editorial boards of *Tissue and Cell Research*, *Circulation Research*, and the journal *Endothelium*. He was President of AAA from 1989-1990 and President of the American Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Neurobiology Chairpersons from 1998-1999.

Among Markwald's numerous other awards, he has been recognized 14 times for outstanding teaching at every institution at which he has held an academic appointment and received the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching from Texas Tech. He also held an NIH Research Career Development Award and a Lyndon Baines Johnson Research Award for his work in cardiovascular biology.

Markwald did his undergraduate work at California State Polytechnic University, then received both his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Colorado State University. After postdoctoral work at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) from 1969-1970, he became an assistant professor of anatomy in 1970 and was promoted to associate professor in 1974. Markwald moved to the Department of Anatomy at Texas Tech University Health Science Center in 1975, where he became Professor in 1981 and served as Acting Chair from 1981-1982. From 1984-1992, Markwald chaired the Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy at the Medical College of Wisconsin; he returned to MUSC in 1992 to chair the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy.

Based on an article written for The New Anatomist by Duane E. Haines, Ph.D. (Univ. of Mississippi)

Carmichael honoured For exemplary service, distinction in Anatomy



AAA's 2005 A. J. Ladman AAA/Wiley Exemplary Service Award was presented on April 5 during the Society's Annual Meeting to Stephen W. Carmichael, Professor and Chair of the Department of Anatomy at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine.

The award, co-sponsored by the American Association of Anatomists and John Wiley and Sons, Inc., recognizes an AAA member distinguished in the field of anatomical sciences who has provided exceptional service to the society.

Carmichael's standing in the anatomy community is illustrated by his service on the AAA Board of Directors from 1999-2002 and as a member of the Anatomical Terminology Committee since 1994. He was a founding member of the American Association of Clinical Anatomists, has been a member of the AACA Council since 2001, and is currently editor-in-chief of AACA's journal *Clinical Anatomy*. In addition, he has served as a liaison between AAA and AACA. As President of the Histochemical Society from 1997-1998, he forged a partnership between AAA and HCS that resulted in co-location of annual meetings in 2003 and prospects for future cooperative ventures. Carmichael has been invited to speak on his research interest at numerous institutions worldwide in Australia, France, Hungary, India, Japan, Peru, South Africa, and Thailand, among others—a testament to his standing in the international anatomical community.

Carmichael's service to the future of anatomy is evidenced by the fact that, while at Mayo, he has supervised more than 25 committees for individuals working on Ph.D. degrees 20 committees for students working on their MS degree, and had eight summer Medical Fellows. In addition, he finds time to work with undergraduate and high school students interested in science.

*Based on an article written for The New Anatomist by
Duane E. Haines, Ph.D. (Univ. of Mississippi)*

Kurt Albertine named Anatomical Record Editor-in-Chief

Kurt Albertine, Professor of Pediatrics, Adjunct Professor of Internal Medicine, and Neurobiology and Anatomy, and Director of the Research Microscopy Facility at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center, has been named editor-in-chief of *The Anatomical Record*, one of AAA's two flagship journals.

Albertine, currently one of the journal's associate editors, begins his new role on January 1, 2006, when *Anatomical Record* Editor-in-Chief Roger Markwald steps down after eight years at the helm. Among the goals Albertine has set for the journal, is one that *The Anatomical Record* will be "the premier integrative anatomy journal attracting reports of hypothesis-driven studies and lasting invited reviews." By integrative anatomy, he explains, "I mean anatomical research that incorporates other disciplines, including (but not limited to) physiology, pathology, biochemistry and molecular biology, cell biology, and/or neuroscience."

Albertine was instrumental in establishing a graduate training program for anatomy teacher-scholars at the University of Utah and bringing about institutional changes to reward faculty for their teaching-related endeavors. To dedicate his efforts to *The Anatomical Record*, he recently stepped down as director of Utah's highly successful human anatomy course, now one of the most respected courses in the medical curriculum, thanks to Albertine's efforts over the past 10 years.



In addition to his role with *The Anatomical Record*, Albertine is on AAA's Educational Affairs Committee and on the editorial board of the *American Journal of Physiology: Lung Cellular and Molecular*. He belongs to numerous professional societies, among them the American Association of Clinical Anatomists, the American Physiological Society, the American Thoracic Society, the International Society of Lymphology, the Microscopy Society of America, the Perinatal Research Society, and the Society for Leukocyte Biology.

"With the advent of new imaging technologies, anatomy is once again a 'hot' field," Albertine maintains. "I'll be using my links to other disciplines to stump aggressively for *The Anatomical Record*," he says.

HUNGARIAN ANATOMICAL SOCIETY

The Hungarian Anatomical Society had its biannual Congress in Pecs, Hungary, between the 16th and 18th of June. The Honorary Membership of the Society was conferred on **Professor Pierre Sprumont**, President of the EFEM. The Diploma of Honorary Member was presented to Professor Sprumont at the meeting following which he delivered a lecture entitled "New medical curricula and morphological teaching: where are we heading?"

At the end of the meeting, a new President and Board of the Society was elected. The new President of the Hungarian Anatomical Society is:

Dr. Agoston Szel, MD, PhD, DSc
Professor of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology
Semmelweis University

Department of Human Morphology and Developmental Biology
Tuzolto u. 58. BUDAPEST, Hungary
Email: szel@ana2.sote.hu

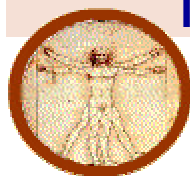
Secretary General: Professor Katalin Halasy
Email: halasy.katalin@aotk.szie.hu

Treasurer: Professor Katalin Koves
Email: koves@ana2.sote.hu

National delegate: Professor Gyula Laza
Email: Gyula.lazar@aok.pte.hu

Dr Gyula Lazar
Professor of Anatomy
Past president of the Hungarian Anatomical Society

ITALIAN SOCIETY OF ANATOMY AND HISTOLOGY



The **ITALIAN SOCIETY OF ANATOMY** was founded in 1929 by Nello Beccari, Luigi Castaldi and Emerico Luna, under the auspices of Giulio Chiarugi. The first meeting of the Society was held in Bologna (October 8-10, 1929), with the presidency of Giulio Valenti. Very recently (December 30, 2004) the Italian Society of Anatomy has changed its name and is now addressed as "Società Italiana di Anatomia ed Istologia" - (SIAI), in English: **ITALIAN SOCIETY OF ANATOMY AND HISTOLOGY** (<http://www.societaitalianadianatomia.unifi.it/>).

The Italian Society of Anatomy and Histology is intended to promote research and didactic activities in the field of morphological, anatomical and histological sciences. At present, the Society is constituted by about 450 members. The 59th National Meeting of the SIAI will be held in Sorrento (Naples) in September.

The official publication of the Society is the **Italian Journal of Anatomy and Embryology** (<http://www.societaitalianadianatomia.unifi.it/itj.html>), which edits original papers, written in English, dealing with the entire field of anatomy, histology and embryology of vertebrates, especially mammals. Every year, the Journal also publishes the Proceedings of the annual meeting of the Society in a supplement.

President: **Prof. Giovanni Giordano Lanza**
University of Naples "Federico II"; Department of Biomorphological Functional Sciences, Naples, Italy

Secretary: **Prof. Giovani Orlandini**
University of Florence; Department of Anatomy, Histology and Legal Medicine, Florence, Italy

Treasurer: **Prof. Paolo Romagnoli**
University of Florence; Department of Anatomy, Histology and Legal Medicine, Florence, Italy

MEETINGS

University of Sassari, Department of Biomedical Sciences :International Symposium - Modern Trends in Anatomy - Sassari, June 2-3, 2005
http://www.societaitalianadianatomia.unifi.it/giornata_studio.html

University of Florence: Further training in innovative microscopy for biotechnologies—Florence, June 6-10, 2005
<http://bio.inoa.it/cpmic/index.php>

Italian Society of Histochemistry - XXXI National Congress - Pisa, June 15-17, 2005
<http://www.congressoistochimicapisa.it/>

European Association of Clinical Anatomy, 8th Meeting 2005 - Palermo, June 30 - July 3, 2005
<http://www.unipa.it/eaca8thcongress/index.html>

59th National Meeting of the Italian Society of Anatomy and Histology - Sorrento (Na), September 18-21, 2005 <http://www.cans2005.it/>

Information provided by
Professor S. A. Nottola
stefania.nottola@uniroma1.it

Swiss Society for Anatomy, Histology and Embryology (SSAHE)



The President of the association is **Professor J.P. Hornung**, DBCM of Lausanne.

For further information on the Society, please consult their website:

<http://www.unifr.ch/sqahe/welcome.html>

Secretary and Treasurer:

Dr Beat Riederer

Département de Biologie Cellulaire et de Morphologie (DBCM) Rue du Bugnon 9

1005 Lausanne

Switzerland

Phone: ++41-21-692 5154

FAX ++41-21-692 5105

E-mail: BeatMichel.Riederer@unil.ch

ABOUT A NON-MEMBER OF THE IFAA: THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION FOR EXPERIMENTAL MORPHOLOGY (EFEM)

Though much younger than the IFAA (the European Federation for Experimental Morphology, or EFEM, was only founded in 1989), the EFEM shares with its distinguished ancestor the distinctive trait of not having individual members. Its constituent members are national or regional ("transnational") Anatomical Societies which group scientists from the European region within and beyond the limits of the European Union. If the EFEM belonged to the International Federation, its constituent members would be represented twice in the General Assembly, once by their own Delegate, and once by the EFEM Delegate, somewhat overweighting Europe in the IFAA.

However, it is obvious that the European Federation strongly supports the objectives of the International Federation. Article §2.4 of its Statutes reads:

"EFEM and its Constituent Societies adhere to the principles of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) and to the resolution regarding the free circulation of scientists of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU)."

The Statutes also guarantee that the EFEM be a truly democratic federation by giving to each of its constituent members the same rights, the same duties and an equal representation in the

General Assembly.

The founding fathers of the EFEM had in mind a Federation mainly aiming at scientific innovation and cooperation, and they accordingly named it the Federation "for Experimental Morphology". It must be remembered that the foundation took place at a time when the term "anatomy" was not fashionable, and when the notion of the "New Anatomist" had not yet been publicized.

EFEM has stated from its beginnings that it would not organise meetings or congresses. Rather than adding new congresses to the long list of existing national or international events, it has actively promoted the holding of Joint Meetings between its members. Among these, the Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, the Anatomische Gesellschaft, the Association des Morphologistes, the Italian Society of Anatomy, the Nederlandse Anatomen Vereniging and the Sociedad Anatómica Española have convened several Bipartite, Tripartite or Multipartite Meetings.

In 1998 the EFEM began to award Travel Grants to younger members of its constituent societies, to allow them to attend meetings or to perform a laboratory visit in a European research institution. Up to now, 18 of these Grants have been awarded. The conditions to apply for such grants

have been adapted to take into account the differences encountered in various countries: in some cases it is possible to earn a Ph.D by the age of 28 years following a MD-diploma, whereas it would be quite impossible to get a Ph.D before the age of 35 years elsewhere; the term "young scientist" does not correspond to the same age all over Europe!

Similarly, since 1998 the EFEM sponsors the holding of official EFEM Lectures delivered by famous morphologists during meetings held in Europe. The list of the past EFEM Speakers is eloquent in itself: Jan Voogd, Nicole Le Douarin, Karl Zilles, Miklós Palkovits, Raymond Gasser, David Brynmor Thomas who spoke in Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Serbia or Switzerland. The names of these EFEM speakers were proposed by member societies.

In 2002 the EFEM issued a public statement relating to the activities of "Professor" Günter von Hagens. This statement was sent to the Council of Europe, but not to governments, as the EFEM does not substitute for its members in contacting their national authorities.

A new field of activities recently appeared with the occurrence in Europe of a new academic organisation. The "Bologna Declaration" signed in 1999 by 44 European Ministers of Education aimed at introducing a European Higher Education Area by 2010 where students, teachers, and employers could use commonly understandable definitions of educational programmes and diplomas. Notwithstanding this Declaration, most of European medical schools or faculties had meanwhile reformed their curricula. The actual tendency is to teach medicine in vertically integrated programmes, which means that, in a majority of medical teaching institutions, the 5-year or 6-year programme forms an ensemble that does not fit with one of the principles of the Declaration! According to this principle, all curricula should be based on a 2-cycle system, an obvious source of conflict with the integrated reformed

programmes.

The member societies of EFEM are now tackling their academic and national authorities. The results of these discussions may be qualified as discrepant. In some countries, medical faculties were forced to re-introduce a 2-cycle system, whereas some other governments officially kept medical teaching out of the scope of the "2-cycle principle". In view of these inconsistencies, EFEM will try to disseminate information on the evolution in the various countries, and to promote the formation of a network among all its members coping with the problem. It would be damaging for European morphology if some authorities play one member society of EFEM against another.

This supplementary orientation of EFEM was preceded in 2004 by the creation of a "Transnational Study Group on Education in Anatomy" supported by the Federation. The first informal meeting took place in March 2005 in Paris, with an exchange of information, and of views, on Body Donations. Other gatherings of the study group, which includes persons from all over Europe, will be devoted to equally specific questions.

During its first 16 years of existence, the European Federation for Experimental Morphology has tried to foster the development of Morphological Sciences in Europe. Starting from a merely scientific orientation, its activities have lately increased in the domain of formation because of the impact of recent political decisions about higher education. However, like the IFAA, the EFEM can only be what its members want it to be. The Delegates of the constituent societies constitute the Council of Delegates, which is the governing body of the European Federation. Therefore, they play a crucial role in establishing links not only with the EFEM Board but also between themselves. As within the IFAA, the importance of this role should not be underestimated by the constituent member societies.

PIERRE SPRUMONT, PRESIDENT EFEM

NEWS FROM IFAA COMMITTEES

Federative International Committee on Anatomical Terminology: PROGRESS REPORT

For those of you who do not know what FICAT is: It is the Federative International Committee of Anatomical Terminology of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA). As the name indicates the committee deals with the anatomical terminologies (see below). The committee was founded by the General Assembly of the IFAA in 1989 on the occasion of the XIII IFAA Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and reaffirmed in Lisbon (1994), Rome (1999) and recently in Kyoto (2004). The present membership of FICAT is listed under www.ifaa.net and can be found in the December-2004-issue of PLEXUS. Contrary to the past and following the revised constitution of the IFAA, the officers of FICAT were this time not appointed by the General Assembly of the IFAA, but had to be nominated by the members of FICAT. The nomination procedure, carried out via internet and headed by Professor Jan Drukker, from Maastricht, The Netherlands, yielded overwhelmingly that Professor Ian Whitmore, from Waltham Abbey, UK/Stanford, USA, should be the Chair and Professor Colin Wendell-Smith, from Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, the Secretary. These election results reflect not only what excellent jobs the two have done in the past but also how harmonious the Committee is.

The first meeting of FICAT after the XVI International Congress in 2004 in Kyoto was held in Brussels, Belgium, from March 29 to April 2, 2005, hosted by Professor Antoine Dhem from Brussels. Of the three newly



Our gracious hosts in Brussels with Professor Grignon of France.

elected committee members only two could attend the meeting, Professor Beverley Kramer, from Johannesburg, South Africa, and Professor John Fraher, from Cork, Ireland. They were warmly welcomed by the Chairman and the committee members. Although the IFAA constitution does not mention vice-chairmen or vice-secretaries for the committees, FICAT felt it would be wise to have deputies to step in should the need arise. In the Brussels' meeting Professor Lutz Vollrath, from Mainz, Germany, and Professor Pierre Sprumont, from Fribourg, Switzerland, were proposed and approved as Vice-chairman and Vice-secretary, respectively.

The Terminologia Histologica has been completed and awaits publication during the early part of 2006. While The Terminologia Anatomica, which came out in 1998, was published by Thieme, Stuttgart, the Terminologia Histologica, the Terminologia Embryologica and a revised version of the Terminologia Anatomica will be published with Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. Currently FICAT is working full speed to finish Terminologia Embryologica. It is hoped that the work will be completed in mid 2006. As

usual, at that time the list of terms will be circulated to the member societies of IFAA for comment.



Professor and Mrs A. Dhem with The FICAT committee and spouses, in Brussels, taking a short break from the deliberations on terminology

Now that the Terminologia Histologica is with the publishers, FICAT is thinking about the revision of the Terminologia Anatomica. Major changes are not anticipated. Of course, the mistakes that crept in will be remedied. Also new terms for structures as yet unnamed in the terminology will be added. A major thrust will be to bring the terminology closer to that used by the wider world of medicine. Already now, FICAT would greatly value any input from anatomists and doctors all over the world with respect to anatomical terms. Feel free to send your input via email to terminology.input@ifaa.net

The next FICAT meeting will take place in August 2005 in Stanford, California, USA. It is being organized by the FICAT Chairman, Professor Ian Whitmore.

Lutz Vollrath
Vice-Chairman

The Editor looks forward to publishing reports from the other IFAA Committees in the next edition of Plexus

REPORTS ON CONGRESSES FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES



100th Annual Meeting of the Anatomical Society, Leipzig, March 11-14, 2005

The 100th Annual Meeting of the Anatomische Gesellschaft (Anatomical Society) took place at Leipzig, March 11-14, 2005. It was the sixth coming together at the same place. The first Annual Meeting was held in 1887, one year after the foundation of the Anatomische Gesellschaft in Berlin September 23, 1886, followed by 1911, 1938, 1968 and 1987. In retrospective, the meetings at Leipzig designate turning points in the life of our society: the anticipation of World War I and II, the students' revolution in Western Europe, the falling of the wall between East and West Berlin. The sixth coming together of scientists with interests in morphological fields occurs at the beginning of globalization.

According to the old tradition, the congress centre was located at the Institute of Anatomy, where Wilhelm His celebrated the first Annual Meeting with the intention of getting members to know one another. This personal contact, according to the opinion of the four founders of the Anatomische Gesellschaft, is like an engine which brings forth our knowledge on morphological science. Disagreements between persons and on results should be of second importance. From the very beginning, the Anatomical Society judged itself as a society beyond national interests. The sixth meeting at Leipzig continued in the spirit in which the founders would have wished. The general atmosphere among the 320 participants from all over Europe was open-minded, friendly and in search of communication and scientific progress.

The scientific program focussed its first main topic on classical and modern aspects of bones and joints. In particular, new insights were obtained on chondrogenic progenitor cells in support of cartilage regeneration. This session ended with a "specimen show" which was presented by dissectors of gross anatomy from Luebeck, Kiel, Cologne and Leipzig and was highly appreciated by the audience. The work from Kiel, Luebeck and Cologne was honoured by poster prizes. The second main topic on the "epigenetic control of cell differentiation" was lectured in a strict and a broad sense. Mechanisms for the determination between mitosis versus cell differentiation were explained for the fly ovary. Follicular growth appeared to be dependent on the cholinergic system expressed by granulosa cells. Angiogenesis in the corpus luteum was found to be under the influence of endocrine VEGF. Additionally, molecular mechanisms on the development of the human heart as first described by W. His were presented. The data obtained from the Leipzig collection of human malformed hearts documented the continuity of heart research from the 19th to the 20th century.

Katharina Spanel-Borowski, Head of the Department of Anatomy of the University Leipzig

Wolfgang Kühnel, Secretary of the Anatomische Gesellschaft

THE Yth AII-RUSSIAN CONGRESS OF ANATOMISTS

The Yth AII-Russian Congress of Anatomists, Histologists and Embryologists was held on the 17 - 18 September, 2004, in Kasan (the capital of the Republic of Tatarstan). The Ministry of Public Health and of Social Development of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, the Kazan State Medical Uni-

versity and the All-Russian Scientific Society of Anatomists, Histologists and Embryologists took part in its organization.

The published materials of the Congress contain 530 abstracts, with more than 340 specialists having participated in it directly. Among them, there were five Academicians and five Corresponding Members of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, 118 professors, 57 lecturers, 83 Heads of the Departments of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology and 23 specialists from the countries which were in the past the Republics of the URSS.

The Congress was welcomed by the President of the EFEM and member of FICAT, Professor Pierre Sprumont of Switzerland.

The plenary session of the Congress was represented by the reports made by Professor Y. Chelishchev, from Kazan ("The plasticity of sensory neurons phenotype"), Professor A. Kiyassov, from the same University of Kazan ("The cellular differentiation and interaction in development and regeneration of kidney"), Professor V. Banin from Moscow ("The complex of Golgi - the modern cytological approaches in analysis of cell functions"), Professor L. Korochkin from Moscow ("Stem cells as morphological problem"), Professor V. Yariguin from Moscow ("About the use of stem nervous cells in clinical and experimental medicine"), Professor Yu. Denisov-Nikolsky from Moscow ("The actual problems of functional morphology of bone") and Professor Yu. Borodin from Novosibirsk ("Lymphatic morpho-functional region in endo[exo]toxicosis").

The scientific program of the Congress also included 11 symposia:

1. Epithelium and connective tissue under normal and experimental conditions - six oral and 10 poster presentations;
2. Functional and applied morphology of the cardiovascular system - four oral and 26 poster presentations;

3. Problems of medical anthropology and ecological morphology - five oral and 10 poster presentations;
4. Blood, hemopoiesis and immune organs - five oral and 15 poster presentations;
5. Functional and applied morphology of organs of the locomotor apparatus - three oral and 16 poster presentations;
6. Internal organs in ontogenesis and under experimental conditions - five oral and 13 poster presentations;
7. Functional and applied morphology of nervous system - five oral and 25 poster presentations;
8. Functional and applied morphology of the endocrine system - six oral and 10 poster presentations;
9. Comparative morphology and anatomy of agricultural animals - three oral and seven poster presentations;
10. Embryogenesis and regeneration - five oral and five poster presentations;
11. Clinical anatomy - six oral and 18 poster presentations.

The 2nd plenary session of the Congress was devoted to the analysis of the Society's activities and to the elections of the President of the Society, the Board and its Presidium for 2004 - 2009. In 1999 - 2004 more than 20 All-Russian and international, more than 50 republican and regional conferences were held under guidance of the Society. The remarkable events were two Congresses of the International Academy of Integrative Anthropology (in Belgorod and St Petersburg), Summit of Morphologists of Russia and Ukraine, and certainly the meeting of FICAT (St Petersburg, 2000) and publication of Russian edition of "Terminologia Anatomica" (2003), containing the lists of Latin, English and Russian equivalents. The Congress also approved the international activities of the Society. **Prof. L.L. Kolesnikov** was again unanimously elected as **President** by the delegated members of the Society.

Prof V. Kulikov Moscow, Russia

COMMUNICATIONS FROM FAR AND WIDE

The Caribbean experience

Although I was in the twilight of my regular academic career at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, the quest for fresh pastures and the urgent need to be closer to my family in the United States were the greatest motivational force that inspired my early and voluntary retirement from the University of Pretoria.

A job offer in the Caribbean was more than I could bargain for, since it satisfied both aspirations. The thought of the lush green tropical vegetation and the cool breeze and clean beaches of the Caribbean all reminded me of my early childhood on the Atlantic coasts of West Africa.

So in January of 2003, I arrived St Kitts and Nevis, West Indies to take up a position of Professor of Anatomy at Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. The School is an offshore American University with the headquarters in New Jersey, USA. Most of the student population is from the United States and Canada. The School has a current and well-stocked library, air-conditioned auditorium with giant plasma screens, advanced ultramodern information technology facilities and numerous teaching aids. In brief, the School is state of the art.

The well articulated program consists of seven, fifteen-week semesters (102 weeks) on the Island and three, fifteen-week semesters (45 weeks) of clinical rotation in affiliated accredited Veterinary schools in the USA.

The anatomy courses are taught in the first and second semesters (30 weeks). There are new intakes of between 70 to 115 students every semester. Each semester is allocated two hours of lectures every Monday and eight hours of labora-

tory dissection from Tuesday through Friday. Different Professors deliver the lectures every week, but we jointly run the dissection laboratories.

Research is encouraged but it is not a necessity. A new faculty member has to cope with the sudden transition from the regular teaching and research of conventional universities to a situation where teaching is the main focus. The Professors here are well renowned and respected in their various fields and are mainly drawn from North America, Africa, Europe and South America. This diversity actually exposes the Faculty to different ideas and concepts, which when integrated, are to the advantage of the students.

The Island is educationally friendly. The Islanders are accommodating and the general atmosphere is relaxed and healthy. Like a friend of mine put it "Some save and pay to visit the Island, while others are paid to save and stay on the Island".

Anybody interested in short or long time employment should visit our web sites: www.rossmed.edu (Medical school) or www.rossvet.edu (Veterinary school).

Professor Levi O.C. Ohale DVM. PhD.



ROSS
UNIVERSITY

'Serially sectioned images of the entire cadaver for three-dimensional images and virtual dissection software.'

In order to make realistic three-dimensional (3-D) images of an entire body, to be used in medical education and clinical trials, serially sectioned images of the entire cadaver need to be prepared in advance.

The first experiment was the Visible Human Project (VHP), which began in 1993 at Colorado University, Denver, Colorado, and compiled data of the magnetic resonance (MR), computed tomography (CT), and anatomical images of a male cadaver (1994) and a female cadaver (1995). The VHP was a revolutionary experiment of its time, due to its original idea and data acquisition methods.

In 2001, the Visible Korean Human (VKH) experiment began in Ajou University, Suwon, Republic of Korea, and data of an entire male cadaver was produced in 2003. The VKH, the first of its kind in Asia, produced the data to compensate the VHP data as follows: MR and CT images of an entire cadaver; anatomical images without any missing images (interval: 0.2 mm, pixel size: 0.2 mm) and with real color similar to the living body; and, segmented images of eleven anatomical structures based on the anatomical images.

Successively in 2002, the Chinese Visible Human (CVH) experiment began in the Third Military Medical University, Chongqing, China, and its data was produced in 2002 (male cadaver) and in 2003 (female cadaver). The CVH produced the advanced data as follows: serially

sectioned images of cadavers of young age, good body contours, and few pathological findings; anatomical images including easily identifiable arteries, into which red gelatin was perfused.

The serially sectioned images of an entire cadaver from the VHP, VKH, and CVH, which complement each other at present, play the role of main resources of the medical image library, where 3-D images and software are made for medical education and clinical trials. In the medical image library, users can select from the VHP, VKH and CVH, data for their own purposes. For the users, researchers of the VHP, VKH, and CVH should improve their own data in quantity and quality, since each project has its own merits and demerits over the other. Moreover, other serially sectioned images, which might overcome the VHP, VKH and CVH data, are expected to be developed.

One data set of serially sectioned images is the Visible Korean Human, for which I am responsible. I attached an email where information on the Visible Korean Human can be obtained (dissect@ajou.ac.kr)

Min Suk Chung

Associate Professor
Ajou University School of Medicine
Republic of Korea

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

1. Asian-Pacific International Congress of Anatomists 2005



The 4th Asian-Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (APICA) will be held in Kusadasi, Turkey between the 7th - 10th September, 2005

Abstracts will be accepted online:
www.apica2005.org

Contact: **Professor Nedim Simsek Cankur**
(Chairman of the Organizing Committee)
Department of Anatomy
Uludag University Faculty of Medicine
16059 Bursa, Turkey
Email: cankur@uludag.edu.tr

2. XIXth International Symposium on Morphological Sciences

The XIXth International Symposium on Morphological Sciences will be held in Budapest,

Hungary: August 2007
For further information contact Professor Imre.

3. The Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists: South Africa, 2009

For further information contact:

Professor B. Kramer:

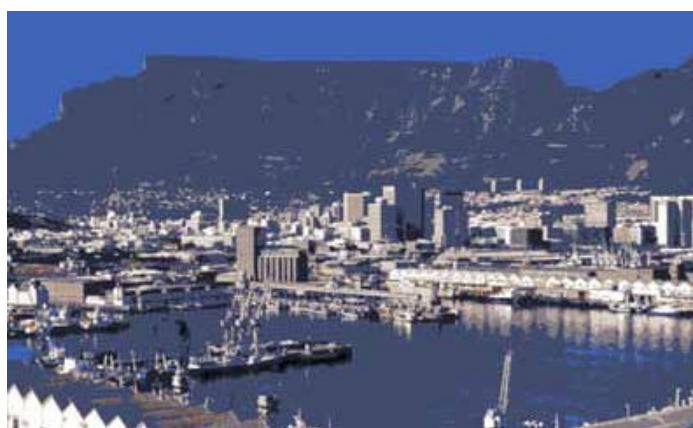
kramerb@anatomy.wits.ac.za

As the next IFAA Congress will be held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2009, the Editor of Plexus is taking the liberty to bring you information about South Africa over the next issues. This will hopefully assist you with knowing more about the country and also aid you with planning your travels while in the country.

Cape Town, where the Congress will be held, is the "Mother City" of South Africa. The history of Cape Town is intimately linked to that of seafaring men and explorers such as Bartholemew Dias, Vasco da Gama and Jan van Riebeeck. van Riebeeck and his companions started a new society on the sandy shores where the city now stands.

The beauty of Cape Town is enhanced by the uniqueness of its setting. The city lies trapped between the bay and a group of mountains, in a valley flanked by Signal Hill and Lion's Head to the west and Devil's Peak to the east. Behind the city, the majestic Table Mountain looms, sometimes brooding, sometimes welcoming.

Table Mountain is a rare creation of nature. It



can be seen from up to 100 kilometres away, a dark shadow against the azure African sky. The mountain rises 1000 metres to a flattened plateau. In summer, south-easterly winds bring moisture which condenses along the plateau as the famous "white table cloth".

The city, the bay and the mountain are only a few of the features which make up the Cape Peninsula and its surroundings. The mountains of the Cape Peninsula fall steeply into the sea and a variety of "villages" cling to the narrow coastal shelf.

There are Sea Point and Camps Bay, both of which have a markedly Mediterranean flavour.

For anatomists, a visit to the beach at Clifton



is a must, for it is here that the most wonderful "living anatomy" can be practiced by viewing the bikini clad South African bodies.

Further south is Llandudno and beyond that, under the Karbonkelberg, the fishing village and harbour of Hout Bay. From here a drive along Chapman's Peak will take you through Noerdhoek, Kommetjie and Scarborough. On the eastern side of the peninsula another row of villages hugs the shoreline, best known of which is Muizenburg which provides holiday makers with the best swimming in the Cape.

Situated at the tip of the Peninsula is the Cape Point Nature Reserve. This lonely but beautiful spot draws people from all over the world for this is the "Cape of Storms", the "Cabo Tormentoso", representing the turning point of the southern seas as they voyaged to the east and the tip of Africa where ancient mariners

were lured to their death.



If you dream of good wines, then the

fertile soils of the valleys of the Eerste and Berg Rivers is where you should head. Here, over 300 years ago, founding farmers planted vines and fruit orchards. The wine route takes one through countless historic farms, such as Boschendal and L'Ormarins which are open to the public and at which, wine can be enjoyed!



Next issue, we will visit the Drakensburg mountains which are a "must see" for ecologists and lovers of the outdoors.

Acknowledgements:

Information

? Off the Beaten Track. Published by the Automobile Association, The Motorist Publications (PTY) Ltd. 1987.

? The Coast of Southern Africa. Kench, J. and Gerhardt, K. Struik Publishers, Cape Town. 1984.

Photographs

? South African Tourist Board



Michelangelo Buonarrotti—artist and anatomist

PLEXUS CONTRIBUTIONS:

Plexus is intended for staff and students of all member Societies of the IFAA. Should you receive a copy, please distribute it as widely as possible in order to inform all members of the events and issues covered by the IFAA and its member Societies.

Contributions will be gratefully accepted. Please submit all the information either by email or on a disc to:

The Editor of the Newsletter:

Professor Beverley Kramer
School of Anatomical Sciences
Faculty of Health Sciences
University of the Witwatersrand
7 York Road
Parktown, 2193
Johannesburg
South Africa

Email: kramerb@anatomy.wits.ac.za

Tel: 27-11-7172405

Fax: 27-11-7172422

Assistant Editor: Mrs N. Pather

Address: as above

Email: pathernp@anatomy.wits.ac.za