THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF DERMATOLOGY

Vincent A. Cipollaro, M.D.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**CHAPTER 1:** THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF DERMATOLOGY .......................3

**CHAPTER 2:** THE CONGRESSES.................................................................6

**CHAPTER 3:** FROM MOUNT VESUVIUS TO FUJI-YAMA ............9

**CHAPTER 4:** THE SOCIETY CHANGES ITS NAME ..............20

**CHAPTER 5:** THE CASTELLANI-REISS MEDAL AND AWARD....22

**CHAPTER 6:** THE MARIA DURAN AWARD.................................25

**CHAPTER 7:** THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SOCIETY .......28

**CHAPTER 8:** THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH FIDE AND THE RDTC .............................................................31

**CHAPTER 9:** THE JOURNAL .................................................................34

**CHAPTER 10:** REGIONAL MEETINGS..................................................38

**CHAPTER 11:** “EUPHORIA ET CACOPHORIA” AND THE FUTURE .................................................................48
The International Society of Dermatology was founded as The International Society of Tropical Dermatology by two visionaries, Aldo Castellani (1877-1971) and Frederick Reiss (1891-1981). Castellani, the world renowned master, and Reiss, his younger former student, were both veterans of international medicine with an emphasis on infectious diseases in general and mycology in particular. Both were trained as specialists in Dermatology and as such showed special interest in dermatologic diseases of tropical origin.

Professor Castellani first conceived the idea of founding an international society of doctors interested in tropical dermatology in 1929 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He was discouraged by his colleagues who ridiculed the idea. In spite of this Castellani never forgot his scheme and in 1939 he discussed it with Professor Gougerot in Paris who was very enthusiastic about the idea and immediately began to make plans with Castellani about the organization of such a society, with Gougerot as its first president.

Unfortunately a few months later war broke out and the international political turmoil and tragic events of World War II forced him to set aside his idea until 1954 when at the International Congress of Tropical Medicine and Malaria in Lisbon he renewed his acquaintance with Professor Frederick Reiss who shared a mutual dream of an international organization dedicated to the study of tropical dermatology.
He recruited the more than enthusiastic Fred Reiss to act as the catalyst in recruiting scientists throughout the world to join in the formation of such an organization and they agreed on naming it “The International Society of Tropical Dermatology.”

Fred Reiss spent the next six years tirelessly recruiting leaders not only in Dermatology but also in Mycology and Leprology and other fields of tropical medicine to join him and Professor Castellani in their efforts to form the society. An organizing committee was set up in 1959 and in January 1960 the first organizational meeting was held at the New York Academy of Medicine.

The organizing committee included Dr. George C. Andrews, Dr. Anthony C. Cipollaro and Dr. J. Lowrey Miller, three of the most influential dermatologists in the United States and New York. The constitution of the Society was drawn up and officers were elected. Dues were set at $5 annually!

Castellani became the first President and Reiss the Secretary General. There were about 800 charter members. The motto of the Society was, “Congregat ut Vincat Invidi Morbi Sagittas” (Gather to Conquer the Hateful Arrows of Disease).

On May 10, 1960 the inaugural meeting of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology was held in New York City at the Rockefeller Research Institute (now Rockefeller University) with 230 people in attendance, followed by the inaugural lecture given by the 82-year-old Professor Aldo Castellani himself at the New York Academy of Medicine.
Professor Reiss announced that there were 1,300 charter members representing more than 50 countries. This inaugural meeting was attended not only by the elite of the New York medical community but also by numerous international and national leaders in medicine and public health. Included were Dr. René Dubos, director of the Rockefeller Research Institute who gave the welcoming address, and representatives for Governor Nelson Rockefeller and for the Surgeons General of the United States Army, Navy and Air Force, the United States Public Health Service, and the National Institute of Health.

It was decided to hold world congresses every five years in addition to regional symposia and the establishment of a quarterly journal entitled, “Dermatologia Tropica” which was first published in April 1962. Thus, the future course of the Society was charted which for Castellani was a dream come true.

In 1986 the Society made a significant organizational decision to engage Dermatology Services Incorporated of the American Academy of Dermatology as professional managing agents for the Society. Prior to this time, since the inception of the Society, all business and management activities were carried out on a voluntary basis by officers and members of the Society in their own facilities primarily at their own expense.

The Society had finally achieved sufficient financial independence to enable it to engage more efficient professional administrative management and to profit from its attendant expertise and modern computer technology and rapid communication as well as access to legal and financial advice at reasonable cost. Professional management continues today through engagement of a private independent business manager working closely under direction of the officers of the Society.
The first World Congress was held in Naples, Italy in 1964 under the chairmanship of Professor Pietro Cerutti. It was attended by 700 members from 66 nations with a total attendance of 1,000 registrants. Two hundred and ten papers were presented. Present were both founders of the Society, President Aldo Castellani, who also acted as Honorary President of the Congress, and Secretary General, Frederick Reiss.

Unfortunately, this was the only Congress that the two founders were able to attend, both being of advanced age and too ill to attend the II World Congress held in Kyoto, Japan in 1969. At the I Congress in Naples, Professor Alfred Marchionini, renowned dermatologist from Munich and President of the German Society of Dermatology, was elected second President of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology. Unfortunately, he died prematurely and suddenly in April of 1965 only one year into office leaving the Society temporarily without a President. His Presidency was then filled by the very able José Gay Prieto of Barcelona, Spain.
Amongst those participating in the first Congress besides Professors Castellani, Reiss, Cerutti and Marchionini were such outstanding speakers as F. Flarer, F. Gianotti, A. Crosti, G. Radaeli, E. Panconesi, A. Baccaredda-Boy, M. Monacelli, all of the host country Italy; G. Stuttgen, O. Braun-Falco of Germany; A. Padilha Goncalves, R. Azulay, J. Ramos e Silva of Brazil; S. Browne of Nigeria and Great Britain; R. Harman of Great Britain; M. El Zawahry, A. H. El-Hafnawi, and A. M. El-Mofty of Egypt; F. Sagher of Israel; K. Ito of Japan; F. Kogoj of Yugoslavia; J. Belisario of Australia; W. Jadassohn of Switzerland; C. Groupper and R. Degos of France; S.C. Desai, B.N. Banerjee and K.C. Kandhari of India; O. Cañizares of Cuba and USA; V. Derbes of USA; P. Lavalle and F. Latapí of Mexico; L. Pierini of Argentina; J.G. Prieto of Spain; and R. Vanbreuseghem of Belgium.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRESIDENT ORGANIZING SECRETARY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naples, Italy</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Pietro Cerutti Pietro Santoianni</td>
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<td>Kyoto, Japan</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Shin-ichi Matsumoto Kasuke Ito</td>
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<td>Sao Paulo, Brazil</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Sebastiao A.P. Sampaio Raymundo M. Castro</td>
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<td>New Orleans, USA</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Henry W. Jolly, Jr. Sigfrid A. Muller</td>
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<td>Mexico City, Mexico</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Ramon Ruiz-Maldonado Lourdes Tamayo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Rubem Azulay Jarbas A. Porto</td>
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<td>New Delhi, India</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Lalit Bhutani R.K. Pandhi</td>
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<td>Cairo, Egypt</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Mohammed Amer</td>
</tr>
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<td>Beijing, China</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Hong Duo Chen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Jana Hercogová</td>
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The II World Congress was held in Kyoto, Japan in 1969 under the Presidency of Professor Shin-ichi Matsumoto. Professor Kasuke Ito was Organizing Secretary of the Congress. Sadly the two founders of the Society, Aldo Castellani and Fred Reiss, were unable to attend because of advanced age and illness but greetings from both were read by Dr. Robert Stolar, Treasurer General of the Society, and were received with much interest and respect.

A special lecture “in absentia” by Professor Castellani on his continuing research on elephantiasis nostras and elephantiasis tropica was ready by Dr. Stolar. The Congress was attended by 600 physicians from 67 countries. Prominent speakers at the Congress, in addition to the President José Gay Prieto of Spain, included Professors Stuttgen, Berlin; Sampiao, Sao Paulo; El Mofty, Cairo; Negroni, Buenos Aires; Behl, New Delhi; Basset, France; Cañizares, USA and Belisario, Australia (both future Presidents of the Society); Rees, London; Browne, London (the father of dermatology in Nigeria); Degos, Paris; El Zawahry, Cairo; Vanbreuseghem, Belgium; Rook, United Kingdom; Kandhari, India; Kogoj, Yugoslavia; Wilson, USA; Carion, USA; Patel, Kenya; Kerdel-Vegas, Venezuela (future President of the Society); and many others.

Professor Belisario was elected as new President of the Society and
Professor Robert Stolar, USA, as new Treasurer General. Sao Paulo, Brazil was chosen to be the site of the III World Congress with Professor Sebastiao A.P. Sampiao as President of the Congress in 1974.

There were numerous social events and excursions of Kyoto, and to Tokyo and Nara followed by a post Congress tour to Hong Kong and then to Hawaii for the North American participants returning home.

Professor Kasuke Ito, Secretary of the II World Congress in Kyoto, is still alive at the time of the writing of this 50th Anniversary history. He is the former Chairman of the Department of Dermatology at Gifu University, Gifu City, Japan. Professor Ito has had a particular devotion to the memory of Aldo Castellani and his professional and personal achievements and has published and spoken extensively on the life of Aldo Castellani and particularly as regards his foundation of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology and its development.

Professor Ito founded in his home country the Aldo Castellani Memorial Research Institute which published a unique series of journals entitled, “Euphoria et Cacophoria - Aldo Castellani Memorial Bulletin.” It is from these journals that much of the contents of this 50th Anniversary booklet is taken. The author and the Society are forever grateful to Professor Ito for his preservation of the history and the mission and spirit of the Society over these many years.

The III World Congress of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1974 under the Congress Presidency of Professor Sebastiao A.P. Sampiao affectionately known to many members of the Society as “Sam.” Unfortunately, the attendance at the Congress was reduced by 400 cancellations due to exaggerated media reports of an epidemic of meningitis in Brazil shortly before and at the time of the meeting.
The President of the Society himself John Belisario of Australia did not attend the Congress because he was advised by Australian Public Health officials that it would be dangerous to travel to Brazil. In spite of this almost 900 physicians from 46 countries registered and the full academic program was filled and the Congress was successfully carried out. A medal commemorating Professor Adolfho Lindenberg, the pioneer dermatologist of Sao Paulo, was presented to the Governor and to Professor Sampiao in the name of all the registrants at the Congress by Professor Lindenberg’s son.

The registration fee for the Congress was $60 U.S. for members of the Society and $80 U.S. for non-members. A double room at the Hilton Hotel cost $34 U.S. More modest good hotel rooms could be reserved for $15. These were the “good old days.”

Professor Arthur Rook of Great Britain was elected President of the Society and Bogotá, Colombia was chosen as the site of the next Congress. As plans were being made to organize the IV Congress in Colombia, the country was
struck with political unrest and economic uncertainty. Therefore the governing body of the Society elected to move the venue of the Congress to New Orleans, USA under the Congress Presidency of Henry W. Jolly, Jr. in 1979.

This was the first Congress to have commercial exhibits by the pharmaceutical industry and to be financially successful initiating a period of continuing financial growth for the Society. Orlando Cañizares was elected President of the Society and Mexico City was chosen as the site of the V Congress with Professor Ramon Ruiz Maldonado as President of the Congress and Lourdes Tamayo as Organizing Secretary.

The New Orleans Congress also led to an infusion of “young blood” into the directorship of the Society with the election of Sigfrid Muller as Secretary General, Vincent A. Cipollaro as Treasurer General and Coleman Jacobson as Executive Vice President, a young movement which was to endure in the leadership of the Society for several generations. It also began a very important and close association with the Mayo Clinic as a result of the close cooperation of the Mayo Clinic through offering the use of its great organizational support to our new Secretary General, Sigfrid Muller.

This support has continued to this day through two terms of Secretary Generalship and one term of Presidency by Sigfrid Muller followed by assumption of the editorship of the *International Journal of Dermatology* by Lawrence Gibson, also of the Mayo Clinic.
The V Congress in Mexico City in 1984 continued to add to the growth of the Society especially with the enthusiastic support of its large Latin-American membership. There were 800 doctors in attendance from 60 countries. It was here that the name of the Society was changed after much argument and discussion to The International Society of Dermatology - Tropical, Geographic, and Ecologic. We will elaborate on the justifications for this change later in this
From Mount Vesuvius To Fuji-Yama

history. Professor Francisco Kerdel Vegas of Caracas, Venezuela was elected next President of the Society and Rio de Janeiro was chosen as the site of the next Congress.

The VI Congress under the Presidency of Professor Rubem Azulay was held in the spectacular setting of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1989. It was well attended by 2000 participants from all corners of the earth. The lecture halls were packed with interested attendees anxious to learn all they could from an outstanding international faculty.

The symposium on the epidemic of the recently discovered tragic viral disease, “Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome” was given by Dr. Alvin Friedman-Kien of New York City, co-discoverer of the still puzzling disease which at that time was catastrophic and universally fatal. The largest hall in the convention center was packed with “standing room only” participants desiring to learn all they could from the pioneering experience of Professor Friedman-Kien.

During the evenings we were entertained by our Brazilian host, as only Brazilians could entertain, with large banquets and spectacular musical reviews, a Brazilian night, and a Samba show. The Congress was closed with a day at the horse
races at the Hippodrome of Rio de Janeiro dedicated to our Congress with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place cups being named after the officers of the Society by the local Jockey Club. Financially, the Congress was the most successfully profitable Congress ever held by the Society to this day and did much to fill the coffers of our treasury.

Dr. Sigfrid Muller was elected next President of the Society and New Delhi, India was chosen as the venue of the next Congress. Post-Congress tours were enjoyed by many visitors who traveled to other areas of South America such as Lima, Cuzco, and Machu Picchu in Peru as well as Iguacu Falls, bordering Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay. There was also a pre-Congress tour to Buenos Aires.

The VII International Congress was held in 1994 in New Delhi, India, under the Congress presidency of Professor Lalit Bhutani. This was the first Congress to use the designation of “International” Congress rather than “World” Congress in accordance with an agreement made with the International League of Dermatological Societies in 1989 whereas the League wished to assume the title of “World” Congress rather than “International” Congress as it had in the past. This was the best attended Congress ever held by the society with approximately 2,000 attendees thanks to the very large number
of Indian participants. Both the scientific sessions and commercial exhibits were well attended and highly successful. There were pre-congress courses in dermatopathology, dermatologic surgery, and cosmetic dermatology. Major symposia were held on psoriasis, community dermatology, bullous dermatoses, lupus, mycology, pigmentary disorders, AIDS, skin cancer, infectious cutaneous diseases, especially leprosy, and numerous other topics, by many of the world’s leading experts. Amongst various awards given was one to Mother Teresa of Calcutta for her saintly work with the poor. Social highlights were the lavish inaugural ceremony at the Hauz Klas Village and cultural evening and bountiful dinner in the “Kiplingesque” setting of the vast gardens of the Maurya Sheraton.

The post-Congress tours to the Taj Mahal and Nepal were exciting and adventurous and tours to the major touristic centers of India lavished luxuries never experienced before upon the delighted participants. Among the special
social events enjoyed was the celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Farber of the U.S.A. held in the indescribably beautiful setting of the Lake Palace Hotel in the middle of Lake Udaipur followed by a dinner cruise on the lake on one of the colorful traditional boats. An unforgettable experience. Attendees at the Congress had the experience of participating in and helping to promote the emergence of India as a major power in international medicine. Dr. Terence Ryan was elected President of the Society for the next five years and Cairo, Egypt was chosen by the assembly to be the site of the next Congress under the leadership of Professor Mohammed Amer.

The VIII International Congress brought the Society to a new continent in 1989. Cairo uniquely bridged crossroads between North Africa, sub-equatorial Africa, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean with all of its diversity of culture and rich history. Recent acts of terrorism caused some fears of terroristic incidents, however the superb security offered by our Egyptian hosts made everyone comfortable and the Congress was held without incident.

The high quality of the scientific sessions was exceeded only by the hospitality of our host who treated us to all of the delights of an Egyptian bazaar, a banquet cruise on the Nile River and the unique experience of the opera “Aida” held in its natural setting of ancient Egypt. There were of course visits to the famous archaeological sites and the Sound and Light Show held under the stars at the Great Pyramids of Giza. The Congress was followed
by a riverboat cruise up the Nile, an experience always to be remembered.

Dr. Coleman Jacobson was elected next President of the Society, and Beijing, China, was chosen as the site of the next Congress.

The IX Congress brought us back to Asia in May 2004 under the Congress Presidency of Hong Duo Chen. The Congress in China enjoyed a very large attendance with over 1,400 registrants made up predominately of participants from the two most populous nations in the world, China and India, but also with large contingents from North America and Europe.
The Indian delegation received the benefit of travel grants made with profits saved from the New Delhi Congress. Grants from the Foundation for International Dermatologic Education also supported young dermatologists from Vietnam and Cambodia who never before had been able to attend an international meeting of any kind. Professor Ramon Ruiz Maldonado of Mexico was elected President of the Society and Prague, Czech Republic was chosen for the X International Congress to be held in 2009.

Everyone of course visited the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Ming Tombs and a large group enjoyed a post-Congress tour to Xi’an to visit the incredible army of 7,000 life size terra cotta warriors, and then to Guilin to cruise down the river Li surrounded by its timeless camelback mountains described by the Tang scholar Han Yu who wrote “The river is like a green silk belt, and the hills are like turquoise jade hairpins.” The tour ended in exciting modern Shanghai and some visited Tibet and Hong Kong before returning home. We now look forward to the X International Congress in Prague under the Congress Presidency of Professor Jana Hercogová in May 2009 as we approach the 50th anniversary of the Society.
THE SOCIETY CHANGES ITS NAME

Since its founding, the Society obviously emphasized that its primary interest was to bring together individual dermatologists who had a special interest in tropical dermatology. This seemed to limit the purpose of the organization and from the very beginning there were those who feared that the growth of the society would be limited because of its primary emphasis on tropical dermatology. It was feared that the word “tropical” implied a limitation to membership which would exclude “non-tropical dermatology” from the scope of the society. This was brought out by Professor José Gay-Prieto, then President of the Society, at the time of the II International Congress in Kyoto, Japan when he raised the following questions: first “was the original idea behind the Society’s foundation an exclusive dedication to tropical dermatology?” Second, “should the Society be made up preferably of dermatologists from tropical countries?”

Professor Frederick Reiss, co-founder of the Society, authoritatively clarified these concerns when in 1974 he wrote “we encourage by direction of our Constitution the investigation of geographic ecology of skin and venereal disease and basic research. This means global dermatology and venereology.” It is obvious that the study of tropical dermatology would not be possible without a knowledge of basic dermatology. In fact, the activities of the Society from its origin clearly show that the Society embraces the study of general dermatology while retaining a special concern for tropical dermatology and geographic and ecologic medicine. Thus in
order to correct any misunderstanding of the purposes of the Society the title of its journal was changed from "Dermatologia Tropicalis" to "International Journal of Dermatology" in 1970, and the name of the Society was changed to “International Society of Dermatology Tropical Geographic and Ecologic” at the V International Congress in Mexico City in 1984, and later to simply “The International Society of Dermatology” at the VIII International Congress in Cairo in 1999.
THE CASTELLANI-REISS MEDAL AND AWARD

RECIPIENTS OF THE CASTELLANI-REISS AWARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Field</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Mitchell, M.D.</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Botanical Dermatology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose Barba-Rubio, M.D.</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Leprosy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunnar Lomholt, M.D.</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Medical Missionary - Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francisco E. Rabello M.D.</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Environmental Dermatology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K.C. Kandhari, M.D.</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Tropical Dermatology Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henning Grossman, M.D.</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Medical Missionary - Africa</td>
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The establishment of the Castellani-Reiss Medal and Award was the brainchild of Professor Kasuke Ito, Organizing Secretary of the II International Congress in Kyoto, and Professor Hans Rieth of Hamburg who arranged for the first medal to be struck and paid for by Hermal-Chemie Pharmaceutical Company of Hamburg, Germany through the generosity of Mr. K. Herrmann, President of Hermal, and then underwrote the cost of subsequent gold medals himself and donated the next four medals up until the time of his death in 1994, without ever asking for any recognition. The $1,000.00 award was initially donated by industry and then for many years by Mrs. Clara Reiss, widow of Fred Reiss. The Medal and Award are now donated by the Society itself.
The Castellani-Reiss Medal and Award is the highest honor given by the Society in memory of its founders, Aldo Castellani and Frederick Reiss. It is awarded every five years at the time of the International Congresses to that individual who has demonstrated exceptional services to the advancement of the study of international dermatology and services to humanity as envisioned by our founders. The Medal is a gold medal bearing on one side the insignia of the Society. Above the insignia the motto of the Society is engraved in Latin. The other side of the Medal bears the profiles and names of Aldo Castellani and Frederick Reiss, surrounded by the Medal citation in Latin, which translated means “for outstanding research in tropical skin disease.”

The first Castellani-Reiss Medal and Award was conferred upon Dr. John Mitchell of the University of British Columbia in Canada at the III Congress in Sao Paulo. He had co-worked with Dr. Arthur Rook, future President of the Society, to produce a monumental work on botanical dermatology entitled “Irritant Allergic Plants.”

The second Medal and Award was conferred upon Professor José Barba-Rubio of Guadalajara, Mexico at the III Congress in New Orleans for his lifetime of work as a dedicated teacher of humane and compassionate dermatology, particularly in the field of leprology, and for his efforts towards the founding of the Instituto Dermatologico in his home city of Guadalajara where leprosy could be treated together with other skin diseases in an effort to remove the isolation and stigma which had always accompanied this dreaded disease.

The recipient of the third Medal and Award was Professor Gunnar Lomholt of Sweden at the V International Congress in Mexico City in 1984. It was given in recognition of his many years dedicated to teaching dermatology in tropical
Africa and his dedication to establishing a dermatology clinic in Malawi where he returned to teach and work at the Lilongwe School of Health Sciences even after his retirement.

The next recipient of the Castellani-Reiss Medal was Professor Francisco Rabello of Brazil who received the Award posthumously at the VI International Congress in Rio de Janeiro in recognition of his visionary work on environmental dermatology.

The Castellani-Reiss Medal was next awarded at the VII International Congress in New Delhi to Professor K. C. Kandhari for a lifetime of service to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and his many contributions to the study of leprosy. At the VIII International Congress in Cairo the Castellani-Reiss Medal was deservedly awarded to a European, Professor Hennig Grossman of Germany and Tanzania who has spent a great part of his life working tirelessly in Africa as a medical missionary dedicated to the relief of suffering of the poor of that great continent. Professor Grossman is the past Principal Director of the Regional Dermatology Training Centre associated with the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center in Moshi, Tanzania. He has taught and trained dozens of native African medical assistants and clinical officers, preparing them to render expert dermatologic care to approximately 12 million people of the 12 nations of the Commonwealth Regional Health Community of Eastern, Central and Southern Africa upon completion of their training. The International Society of Dermatology has been intimately committed to support the work of the Regional Dermatology Training Centre and has either conducted or participated in several regional meetings at the school and has contributed financial and material aid to the Centre as well as the services of volunteer faculty.

The most recent Castellani-Reiss Medal and Award was given at the IX International Congress in Beijing to the President of the Society and longtime member of the Executive Committee Dr. Coleman Jacobson for his decades of voluntary service to the Society and to global medicine as an international ambassador of dermatology.
THE MARIA DURAN AWARD

Maria Melida Duran, Professor of Dermatology of Javeriana University, Bogotá, Columbia, served as Secretary General of the Society from 1989 to 1999 and was Executive Vice President from 1999 until her untimely and premature death in 2000. Maria was also a member of the International League of Dermatological Societies; the Committee on International Affairs of the American Academy of Dermatology; and the Board of Directors of the Foundation for International Dermatologic Education. In her memory the Maria M. Duran Committee and Award of the International Society of Dermatology was formed for the purpose of recognizing the achievements of women in dermatology and to encourage the involvement of women in the activities of the International Society of Dermatology as is befitting their ever-increasing importance not only in the practice of dermatology but in roles of academic leadership. Maria in her modest but competent manner exemplified the future of women in legitimate dermatology.

Amongst the principal functions of the Maria M. Duran Committee are: providing travel grants for young women doctors to attend and participate in International Society of Dermatology regional meetings and Congresses; to provide developing countries with educational materials; to promote the study of dermatovenereological problems of women and children in developing countries.
and propose possible solutions; and to encourage the publication of position papers on these problems.

The Committee awards the Maria M. Duran Medal to prominent women in dermatology and sponsors the Maria M. Duran Lecture at regional meetings of the International Society of Dermatology and the Maria M. Duran Poster Award for the best poster during regional meetings.

Since 2003 the Maria M. Duran Medal has been awarded to the following prominent dermatovenereologists from all over the world: Mercedes Florez (colleague and close friend of Maria), Columbia; Luna Azulay Abulafia (successor to Maria as Executive Vice President of the I.S.D.), Brazil; Boni E. Elewski, U.S.A.; Stefania Jablonska, Poland; Darina Jarcusková, Slovak Republic; Anna Fadrhoncová, Czech Republic; Anna Kobza-Black, United Kingdom; Nerella Petrine, Italy; Diane Roseeuw, Belgium; Luitgard Wiest (Executive Vice President of the Society), Germany; Sheng Qing Ma, China; Marcia Ramos e Silva, Brazil; Ana Kaminsky, Argentina; Zenab El-Gothamy, Egypt; Antonella Tosti, Italy; Lourdes Tamayo, Mexico (awarded posthumously); Wilma Bergfeld, U.S.A.; and Rachel Birnbaum, Israel.

Mercedes Florez, the first recipient of the Maria Duran Medal, was a colleague and close friend of Maria, Luna Azulay Abulafia succeeded Maria as Executive Vice President of the I.S.D., Luitgard Wiest is the current Executive Vice President of the I.S.D. and Lourdes Tamayo was Organizing Secretary of the V International Congress.
Stefania Jablonska was a founding member of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology who initially was unable to join the society because government restrictions in Communist Poland prohibited her from exporting the $5 fee necessary for her to subscribe to the Society. To meet this difficulty the Society extended a sponsorship program to pay membership fees to enable candidates from countries behind the Iron Curtain to join the Society. The Polish authorities later gave Professor Jablonska and one other Polish mycologist permission to join the Society.

Fortunately the world has since changed and the Society now is enriched by membership of physicians from all of the former Eastern Bloc countries (the prime example of which is the staging of the present International Congress in Prague, formerly of Czechoslovakia, and the previous International Congress in Beijing, People’s Republic of China, both countries belonging to the previously politically restricted areas), as well as access to ISD membership for doctors from previously politically isolated Southeastern Asian countries. Dr. Jablonska was a pioneer in this effort.
THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is governed by an elected Board of Directors which includes the officers, up to 10 Vice Presidents, and 25 additional members of the Board of Directors who are chosen by an equitable geographic distribution. The officers make up the Executive Committee consisting of the President, the Executive Vice President (office created in 1974), the Secretary General, the Treasurer General, and the Archivist-Historian. In addition there is an Advisory Council consisting of appointees with a wide geographical representation.

The President and Vice President serve a term of 5 years from the International Congress at which they are elected to the next International Congress and are ineligible for reelection. The Secretary General and the Executive Vice President are eligible for reelection and serve a term of not more than 10 years. The Treasurer General is eligible for reelection without term limits and the Archivist-Historian holds office for a term of 10 years and is eligible for reelection.

The function of the Advisory Council is to promote Society activities in their geographical areas. The Society also appoints Honorary Presidents upon recommendation of the Executive Committee. The first Honorary President was Aldo Castellani upon completion of his term as first President of the Society.

President

Aldo Castellani – Italy – 1960-1964
Alfred Marchionini – Germany – 1964-1965*
José Gay-Prieto – Spain – 1965-1969
John Belisario – Australia – 1969-1974
Orlando Cañizares – Cuba, USA – 1979-1984
Francisco Kerdel-Vegas – Venezuela – 1984-1989
Sigfrid A. Muller – Panama, USA – 1989-1994
Coleman Jacobson – USA – 1999-2004
Ramon Ruiz-Maldonado – Mexico – 2004-2008**
Sigfrid A. Muller – USA – 2008-2009***

* Deceased in office
** Resigned
*** Interim President

Executive Vice President

Samuel Frank – USA – 1974-1979
Coleman Jacobson – USA – 1979-1989
Emiliano Panconesi – Italy – 1989-1999
Maria Duran – Colombia – 1999-2000*
Luna Azulay Abulafia – Brazil – 2000-2004

* Deceased in office
**Secretary General**
Frederick Reiss – Hungary, USA – 1960-1974
Samuel Frank – USA – 1974*
Orlando Cañizares – Cuba, USA – 1974-1979
Sigfrid A. Muller – Panama, USA – 1979-1989
Maria Duran – Colombia – 1989-1999
Torello Lotti – Italy – 1999-2009

*Interim appointment*

**Treasurer General**
J. Lowrey Miller – USA – 1960-1965
Samuel Frank – USA – 1970-1974
Thomas Monks – Canada – 1975-1979
Vincent Cipollaro – USA – 1979-1994
Francisco Kerdel-Vegas – Venezuela, USA – 1994-2009

**Archivist-Historian**
George Popkin – USA – 1964-1974
J. Lowrey Miller – USA – 1974-1984
Vincent Cipollaro – USA – 1994-2004
Professor Orlando Cañizares, an icon of the ISD, was without a doubt the major figure in the continuing development and success of the Society after its founders Aldo Castellani and Frederick Reiss. He was the third editor of the journal, third Secretary General, and the sixth President. He had an uncanny ability to recruit young talent into the Society and guide them to become future leaders of the Society. He was unquestionably the most beloved ambassador of International Dermatology. He always “had an idea.”

Amongst his many ideas was the formation of FIDE, the Foundation for International Dermatologic Education. He established FIDE in 1972 and recruited loyal friends from the ISD, in particular Francisco Kerdel-Vegas, another future President of the Society, to support and carry out the activities of FIDE which are to provide educational grants and travel scholarships for young dermatologists from developing countries in Central and South America, Africa, and Asia to attend the annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology and to visit various departments of Dermatology in the USA.

Most of these grants have been funded by friends and members of the ISD and several hundred have been provided over the years. Most of the Officers and Directors of FIDE have held similar positions in the ISD and many of the recipients of the FIDE scholarships have gone on to become leaders of Dermatology in their countries and to become members and strong supporters of the ISD. Initially the formation of FIDE caused great concern to Fred Reiss, Secretary General of the Society, and to John Belisario, then President of the Society. They feared that FIDE would represent competition for The International Society of Tropical Dermatology and this led to some degree of mistrust on the part of Fred Reiss toward Orlando Cañizares. The truth showed
these fears to be unfounded as FIDE soon became a great ally and contributor to the continuing success of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology. While FIDE remains completely autonomous and independent of the ISD, there remains a very strong working relationship and mutual cooperation between the two organizations.

The Regional Dermatology Training Centre (RDTC) in Tanzania at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center was established by the International League of Dermatological Societies for the purpose of providing a high-quality school to train native students from African countries in Dermatology in order that they could return as medical officers to their own countries and render dermatologic care where none had previously existed. Medical assistants and clinical officers from the 12 nations of the Commonwealth Regional Health Community of Eastern, Central and Southern Africa serving a population of approximately 12 million people are housed and enrolled in a 2-year training program in basic dermatology.

Since its onset the RDTC has been closely supported by the ISD which has provided financial and material support as well as voluntary faculty service. The ISD has organized or participated in several

The Symposium on Dermatology will be held at the Regional Dermatology Training Center in Moshi, Tanzania

International Society of Dermatology Regional Meeting
regional meetings and seminars at the RDTC and continues to offer its full enthusiastic participation in these most successful projects of the International Foundation for Dermatology. The educational programs have, in addition, offered ISD members the exciting opportunity to enjoy the beauty and adventure of pre-or post-meeting East African safaris.
Shortly after the founding of the Society the Directors decided that a journal should be published by the Society in order to establish a forum for publication of scientific papers, not only by members of the Society but by any investigators interested in tropical, environmental, and geographic global dermatology, as well as to have an organ to promote and publicize the activities of the emerging Society.

The International Journal of Dermatology was born as “Dermatologia Tropica” in 1962. It should be noted that the title of the Journal had in small print “et ecologica, geographica,” reflecting the then unforeseen change in the name of the Society to The International Society of Dermatology, Tropical, Geographic and Ecologic. Initially the Journal was under the editorial guidance of Stefan Bogen of Schering Corporation with its kind financial support.

The Journal initially was published quarterly. It must be acknowledged with gratitude that without the dedicated and laborious efforts of Mr. Bogen, who lost his
life prematurely in an airplane crash, the birth of the Journal faced great jeopardy. A long delay in publication of the first issue of the Journal embarrassed and frustrated Castellani who in a surprising letter to Reiss in June of 1961 actually proposed his resignation as President of the Society! It took all of Reiss’ diplomacy and assurances to convince Castellani that the delays were in the interest of producing a quality journal which once initially published could continue to be published according to the projected schedule. Castellani, of course, withdrew his proposed resignation.
The annual membership dues of the Society at this time were $10 U.S. and this included subscription to the Journal. A generous bargain, as it is now.

In 1963 J.B. Lippincott Company assumed publication of the Journal under the guidance of Mr. John Wehner. The Journal grew to 6 issues a year until 1975 when publication expanded to 10 issues yearly and in 1991 became a monthly journal. In 1992 publication moved to Decker Periodicals of Hamilton, Ontario and in 1997 to Blackwell Science of Oxford, England under whose direction it has achieved its greatest success. In 1965 the name of the Journal was changed to “Dermatologia Internationalis” and finally in 1970 to its present name of “International Journal of Dermatology.”
Vincent J. Derbes of Tulane University New Orleans was the Chief Editor from 1962 to 1967 and is credited with creating a serious professional publication edited by many highly respected leaders of international Dermatology. Richard C. Gibbs became interim editor briefly from 1968 to 1969 followed by Orlando Cañizares from 1970 to 1974. In 1974 Raul Fleischmajer assumed the position of Chief Editor with Lawrence C. Parish as Executive Editor and Joseph Witkowski as Associate Editor. At this time the Journal was struggling financially and may owe its survival to the patient support of the J.B. Lippincott Company and Jack Wehner and to the dedication of its new editorial triumvirate all of whom worked many hours with no financial remuneration and a very limited editorial budget to make the International Journal of Dermatology one of the leading journals in the world of Dermatology.

It was Raul Fleischmajer who chose the color orange for the Journal, leading to its popularly becoming known as “The Orange Journal.” He led the Journal as Chief Editor until 1980 when Larry Parish was promoted to Chief Editor and Joe Witkowski was joined by Larry Millikan as Associate Editors, positions which they famously held until the year 2000. Under them and a dedicated Editorial Board the Journal expanded to monthly issues and prospered as a major voice of international Dermatology of high quality.

During this time the Journal lost J.B. Lippincott as publisher in 1991 and was published by Decker Periodicals from 1992 to 1996. In 1997 Blackwell Science Limited of Oxford, England was engaged as the Journal’s new publisher and continues to publish the Journal to this day as “Wiley-Blackwell.” Under
Blackwell the Journal grew in size, cosmetic appearance, and quality, and most importantly became a financial success for the first time. During this time Lawrence Gibson of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota was named Chief Editor in 2001 upon the termination of Larry Parish’s long tenure of editorial responsibility.

Under Dr. Gibson’s leadership the quality of publication in the Journal has continuously improved and the Journal today can boast that it is one of the finest scientific medical publications available both in hard copy and electronic formats. For much of this success the Society remains indebted to the support that the Chief Editor and his staff continues to receive from the Mayo Clinic.
REGIONAL MEETINGS

One of the most important missions of the ISD is to organize, support, and participate in regional dermatologic meetings several times a year in between international Congresses. These meetings are held in all corners of the world with an emphasis, however, on promoting dermatologic education in emerging or developing countries and regions. They may be on a local, national or multinational regional level and are usually organized by the host with participation of the ISD in the form of financial and/or technical support of local faculty and participants, or by underwriting the invitation of international faculty and students or young physicians who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend such meetings. The entire meeting may be an official ISD educational event or it may be primarily a local event with ISD participation.

In the early formative years of The International Society of Tropical Dermatology, meetings were held infrequently and have gradually increased in number and size over the years to the point of sponsorship of several or more meetings every year. Often meetings are organized as satellites to larger unaffiliated national or international Congresses, and exciting pre-or post-tours are offered as extensions to the scientific program. Transactions of many of the meetings are reported in the *International Journal of Dermatology* and papers may be published in the *International Journal of Dermatology* or elsewhere.

In addition, the Society has been a major participant in and supporter of numerous meetings throughout Latin America and in all of the Pan African Conferences of Dermatology and in the meetings of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology, as well as a major supporter of the Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Tanzania.
THE ISD HAS SPONSORED OR PARTICIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

1962 - The Fourth All-India Conference of Dermatologists and Venereologists with the first meeting of the Asian Chapter of ISTD - Bombay, India under the direction of Dr. Sharat Desai. Dr. Reiss spoke.

1962 - General Meeting of ISTD; Washington, D.C. during the XII International Congress of Dermatology.

1966 - III International Symposium on Mycology; Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.

1970 - Tenth Anniversary Meeting. Celebrated at Rockefeller University in New York City.

1973 - International Symposium on Mycology; Bucharest, Romania.

1975 - Seminar in Microbiology for Dermatologists; Guadalajara, Mexico.

1976 - Climate and Ecology in Skin Disease; Las Palmas, Canary Islands, and Madrid, Spain.

1976 - Symposium on Pigmentary Disorders; New Delhi, India. Inaugurated by the President of India, Shri Ali Ahmed.

1978 - Climate and Ecology in Skin Diseases; Israel and London.
1978 - III Southeast Asian Regional Conference of Dermatology; Bali, Indonesia.

1980 - Regional Symposium featuring seminars in Copenhagen, Helsinborg and Lund, Oslo and Bergen.


1982 – 5th Regional Conference of Dermatology, Asian-Australasian; Manila, Philippines. Followed by attendance at the XVI International Congress of Dermatology, Tokyo, and a Post Congress tour to China.

1983 – Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

1984 – 3rd Zagazig International Conference of Dermatology with 2nd Pan African Conference of Dermatology; Cairo, Egypt.

1985 – Vienna, Austria; Budapest, Hungary. Tribute to Frederick Reiss. The meeting in Budapest was one of the first international meetings of dermatology behind the “Iron Curtain.” Participants had the honor of signing the Great Book at Semmelweiss Medical School.

1986 – 3rd Pan African Conference of Dermatology; Lagos, Nigeria.
1986 – Trevi, Italy, directed by Maurizio Binazzi, University of Perugia; and Athens, Greece, directed by John Stratigos, University of Athens. The meeting in Trevi was followed by two dinners of Pantagruelic proportions and marathon duration in the medieval settings of the Vecchio Molino (old mill) at Trevi, and the Abbazia di S. Pietro in Assisi, both restored 13th century monuments of the Italian Renaissance.

1987 – American College of Clinical Pharmacology and the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Philadelphia, USA.

1987 – 1st International Conference on the use of phenytoin in dermatology; Guadalajara, Mexico. Held at the world’s most modern institute dedicated entirely to dermatology, directed by José Barba Rubio.

1987 – Bled on beautiful Lake Bled and Dubrovnic, Yugoslavia.

1988 – VIII Congreso Bolivariano y XVII Congreso Colombiano de Dermatología; Bogotá, Colombia.


1988 – Dermatology in the Developing World; Oxford, Great Britain, with the International Society of Dermatopathology. Special awards were given to P. Roy Vagelos, President and CEO of Merck and Company for their contribution towards the eradication of river blindness; and to Ma Hai-the (Doctor George Hatem) for his direction of efforts to control communicable diseases in the People’s Republic of China. Given at the dinner reception at Blenheim Palace.
1990 – XVII Congreso Centroamericano De Dermatologia and IV Symposium Internacional De Dermatologia; Guatemala City.


1991 – I Congreso Panameno De Dermatologia; Panama City, Panama. Directed by Arturo Tapia, a beloved Latino leader of the ISD.

1991 – Curso De Actualizacion Para Dermatologos; Bogotá, Colombia, directed by Maria Duran.

1991 – 7th Zagazig International Conference; Cairo.

1991 – V Congreso Venezolano De Dermatologia; Caracas, Venezuela.

1992 – Colegio Ibero Latino Americano De Dermatologia; Bogotá, Colombia.


1993 – VI Pan African Conference of Dermatology; Tunis, Tunisia.

1993 – Sociedad Colombiana De Dermatologia – Colegio Ibero Latino Americano De Dermatologia; Bogotá, Colombia.
1993 – III Congreso Panamena De Dermatologia; Panama City, Panama.

1993 – Update in Tropical Dermatology; Bangkok and Chiang Mai, Thailand. Followed by a tour to Singapore. With the participation of Leon Goldman, the father of dermatologic laser therapy.

1994 – XIX Central American Congress of Dermatology with the III Congreso Nacional De Dermatologia De Honduras; Tegucigalpa, Honduras. With the happily safe emergency landing of our airline flight in El Salvador.

1994 – XX Colombian Congress of Dermatology; Cali, Colombia.

1995 – Izmir and Istanbul, Turkey. With a tour of the historic ancient coast of Turkey.

1998 – IV Prague Dermatological Meeting. 650th Anniversary of The Charles University; Prague, Czech Republic.

1998 – The Renaissance of Dermatology; Montecatini Terme, Italy.

1999 – Puerto Rico Dermatologic Society. Onboard the SS Nordic Empress during a three day Caribbean cruise. With the participation of the International Society of Dermatopathology.

2000 – Corso Di Educazione Medica Continua in Dermatologia; Cortina d’Ampezzo, Italy.

2001 – Venice, Italy

2001 – Prague Dermatology Symposium; Prague, Czech Republic.


2001 – ISD Meeting at the American Academy of Dermatology; Washington, DC; donation of two lasers to the Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Tanzania by DEKA M.E.L.A. Company.

2001 – Continuing Medical Education in Dermatology and Dermatological Alpine Conference; Cortina d’Ampezzo, Italy.

2001 – Italian Society of Dermatology and Venereology; Sorrento, Italy.

2001 – The 6th Congress of What’s New in Dermatology; the Iranian Society of Dermatology; Esfahan, Iran.

2002 – Prague Dermatological Days; Prague, Czech Republic.

2002 – Portuguese Society of Dermatology; Porto, Portugal. Followed by attendance at the XX World Congress of Dermatology in Paris, France.

2003 – 39th Triangular Reunion of Dermatology, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Minas Geraais, Brazil.
2003 – 1st European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology International Spring Symposium; Malta.

2003 – 9th Alpe-Adria-Danube Congress on Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Infections of the Skin, and 9th Prague Dermatology Symposium; Prague, Czech Republic.

2003 – Therapeutic Innovations in Dermatology and Dermato-Cosmetology; Bangkok, Thailand.

2004 – 10th Prague Dermatology Symposium; Prague, Czech Republic.

2004 – II Update Course in Dermatology Maria M. Duran; Cali, Colombia.

2004 – International Dermatology Symposium Dresden-Prague-Wroclaw Regional Meeting of ISD; Dresden, Germany.

2005 – XV Ibero Latino Americano Congreso De Dermatologia; Cartagena, Colombia.

2006 – International Symposium on Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases; Dresden, Germany.

2007 – 7th Las Vegas Dermatology Seminar; Las Vegas, USA.
2007 – Munich International Summer Academy of Practical Dermatology; Munich, Germany.

2007 – International Meeting of the Egyptian Women’s Dermatologic Society and the ISD; Cairo, Egypt.


2007 – ISD Symposium at the Twenty-First World Congress of Dermatology; Buenos Aires, Argentina.

2008 – Winter Academy of Dermatology; St. Moritz and Pontresina, Switzerland.

2008 – Congress of Global Dermatology; Genoa, Italy.

2008 – 8th International Congress of the Iranian Society of Dermatology; Tehran, Iran.

2008 – XXVII Congreso Colombiano de Dermatologia and “Maria M. Duran” Regional Meeting of the ISD; Cali, Colombia.

2008 – 9th Las Vegas, Nevada Dermatology Seminar.

2008 – 32nd Philippine Dermatological Society Annual Convention in Cooperation with the ISD; Pasay City, Philippines.
Aldo Castellani in his autobiography “A Doctor in Many Lands” coined the phrase “euphoria et cacophoria” to describe his feelings experienced during his many years of working and living in tropical lands. Euphoria, because of the joy he felt through the satisfaction he acquired from his work in new frontiers of medicine, and cacophoria because of the frequent malaise suffered as the unavoidable effect of frequent acquisition of tropical illnesses while living in these lands. While researching the archives of our Society for the writing of this 50th anniversary commemorative, I have likened the evolution and growing pains and accomplishments of the International Society of Dermatology to the euphoria and cacophoria experienced by our founder. It has not been easy, there have been many tribulations, but the fruits of our labors have been sweet, and the Society has grown and matured and finally prospered. It now finds itself in a position to carry on the aspirations of our founders and elders at heights never envisioned by even the most confident of the 800 original charter members of the Society at its founding. I am confident that the future holds even more successes than even we today can imagine, and for each of us our lives and the lives touched by the International Society of Dermatology have been enriched and will continue to be so.

Congregat ut Vincat Invidi Morbi Sagittas.

Vincent A. Cipollaro, M.D.