Leading the Way: Francisco Kerdel Reflects on Presidency

In This Issue

President’s Letter, 2013-2014 Meetings.................................................. 2
Secretary-General’s Letter, Members in the News .................................. 3
Interview with ISD President................................................................. 4-5
Countdown to XI ICD, 20th Maghrebian Congress .................................. 6
Interview with IJD Editor, Sister Society Meeting at EADV...................... 7-8
Interview with ISD Connection Co-Editors.............................................. 9
4th CCD.............................................................................................. 10
ISD Membership Application............................................................... 11
FROM THE PRESIDENT

The XI International Congress of Dermatology is just around the corner and it marks the beginning of a new set of leaders for the International Society of Dermatology. Over the past three years as president of the Society, I have enjoyed the privilege to work with an outstanding group of dermatologists and people on the executive committee. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize their contributions.

- **Vangee Handog**, our Secretary-General, has embraced the mission of ISD to make it her own. She has worked tirelessly to promote the Society by finding ways to sponsor new resident members, looking for mentorship opportunities for young dermatologists and speaking on behalf of the ISD.
- **Dedee Murrell** stepped into the role as Executive Vice-President and has contributed on the Board of Directors, at ISD Regional Meetings and Continental Congresses and as the chair of the Maria Duran Committee. She is enthusiastic enough to encourage her home dermatological society in Australia to bid on a future ICD.
- Our Assistant Secretary-General, **Luna Azulay-Abulafia**, has a long history of service to the ISD and has represented the ISD in Latin America for a number of years. She supported the ISD with a Sister Society meeting in Brazil and as a frequent speaker at ISD sponsored meetings.
- Having served as Treasurer for 15 years, I understand the responsibilities that **George Reizner** has accepted and has carried out in his usual thoughtful and thorough way. Under his leadership, the ISD has maintained a healthy bank account despite the worldwide recession.
- **Jana Hercogova** made the transition from President of the X ICD in 2009 to serving as the Communications Committee Chair overseeing the website and the *ISD Connection* newsletter. And she did all this while running for her current position as president of the EADV. Kudos to Jana!
- Last but not least, **Jean Bolognia** has served as the Membership Committee Chair and our membership remained high and steady throughout the years of recession. Not many societies can make that claim. She also brought to the executive committee her experience from years of dedicated service to the AAD.

Finally, I would like to thank Larry Gibson for his tenure as Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Dermatology*. It is a world class journal that we all can be proud to call our own.

To all the new incoming members of the executive committee, I wish all of you the very best in your new positions and thank you for volunteering to lead our great Society in the coming years. Your commitment to ISD is invaluable.

Sincerely,

Francisco “Pancho” Kerdel, MD
ISD President

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2013 - 14 Meetings Calendar

**December 2013**

**Wednesday, December 4 – Saturday, December 7, 2013**

**XIth International Congress of Dermatology**
New Delhi, India
The XI ICD is the official meeting of the ISD and held every 4 years. For more information: www.icddelhi2013.com

**March 2014**

**Monday, March 24, 2014, 5:30 PM**

**ISD Reception at the AAD**
Hyatt Regency Denver
Denver, Colorado, USA

**April 2014**

**Wednesday, April 9 – Friday, April 11, 2014**

**ISD Regional Meeting**
Euro-Asian Association of Dermatovenereologists (EAAD)
Jerusalem, Israel
Contact: knasim@ofakin.co.il

**May 2014**

**Friday, May 30 – Sunday, June 1, 2014**

**9th Maria M Duran Dermatology Course and ISD Regional Meeting**
Cali, Colombia
www.cdcderma.com.co

**October 2014**

**Wednesday, October 29 – Friday, October 31, 2014**

**International Congress of Dermatology, Cosmetic and Laser**
Center for Research & Training in Skin Diseases & Leprosy
Tehran University of Medical Sciences
Tehran, Iran
http://crtsdl.tums.ac.ir

**November 2014**

**Tuesday, November 4 – Friday, November 7, 2014**

**4th Continental Congress of Dermatology & 37th Annual Convention of the Philippine Dermatological Society**
Edsa Shangri-La Hotel
Mandaueyong City, Philippines
www.pds.org.ph
FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

**MABUHAY!**


I salute the International Society of Dermatology’s leadership, specifically the Executive Committee with Dr. Francisco Kerdel at the helm. I acknowledge the chairs and members of the committees who did their best in performing their duties and responsibilities in spite of their very busy schedules. I thank the membership who believed in the goals of the society and kept faith that this society is worth joining and remaining with. Dr. Lawrence Gibson did a wonderful job with the *International Journal of Dermatology* for more than a decade – quite an accomplishment. We cannot help but credit him for the reason our members continue to belong; continuous education through this publication is invaluable. I recognize the hard work, positive ideas and multitasking efforts of our Executive Director, Ms. Cindy Froehlich. To all of you, my sincere gratitude. You have indeed made my task of being the Secretary-General inspiring and genteel.

This message comes with the enthusiasm and optimism that ISD will soar to greater heights and respect through its officers, board of directors, and committee members. May I take this opportunity to invite our members to participate in the activities of the Society. So we can serve you better, your input, suggestions, comments and observations are welcome.

The last activity for the year comes with a big celebration of academic and cultural enrichment for all of us. *SKINDIA - A GLOBAL PALETTE OF DERMATOLOGY* will be experienced by us during the XI International Congress of Dermatology in Delhi, India. Preparations for this event were not easy, but all roads lead now to India to appreciate what has been done in the last four years to more than satisfy our hunger for education and fellowship. See you all there.

*Mabuhay!*

Evangeline B. Handog, MD  
Secretary-General, International Society of Dermatology

P.S. A special thanks for the generous donation made by the ISD to aid the victims of Typhoon Haiyan that ravaged the people of the Philippines earlier this month. If you would like to help those who are still in great need, you can donate via the Philippine Dermatological Society website at http://www.pds.org.ph. Thank you.
With the much-anticipated XI ICD in New Delhi, India, only days away, the meeting also will mark the changing of the guard for the dedicated members of the ISD Executive Committee. During his three-year term as ISD President, Francisco “Pancho” Kerdel, MD (USA), has never hesitated to roll up his sleeves and work hard to make the Society stronger and more cohesive than ever.

Perhaps his friend and mentor, former ISD President Sigfrid Muller, MD (USA), said it best, “Pancho has done an excellent job as ISD president during an unsettled time. Being able to work well and get along with everyone, yet get things done, was much needed and will serve as an example to the new officers and committee members.”

One of his most notable accomplishments was implementing a new nominating process for leadership positions. By tasking the nominating committee – chaired by Suzanne Olbricht, MD (USA) – to open the nominating process up to the entire eligible membership and to use reasonable criteria for the selection of candidates, increased transparency was brought to a process in need of updating. Now, new candidates are encouraged to apply and the Society is benefiting from the fresh ideas that these members are bringing to the table.

Aside from his volunteer roles within the ISD, Dr. Kerdel is a nationally and internationally renowned dermatologist specializing in medical dermatology. In Dr. Muller’s opinion, “he is one of the best medical dermatologists/hospitalists in the United States.” Dr. Kerdel founded the Florida Academic Dermatology Centers at the University of Miami Hospital in Miami, Fla., and he treats patients referred to him from across the country, Latin America and the Caribbean.

He is also an active member of the Foundation for International Dermatologic Education (FIDE), where he served as Treasurer-General and is credited with helping revitalize FIDE by recruiting new board members and funding for the organization’s various activities.

Here, Dr. Kerdel takes a moment to reflect on his presidency and his plans for the future.

You have been involved with the ISD for more than 20 years and have seen the Society evolve into the world-class membership organization it is today. What are you most impressed with about the ISD?

The ISD is a society dedicated to furthering dermatological education for individuals around the world. In order to achieve this, we have engaged in educational programs in every continent and we publish one of the best clinical journals in dermatology. Over the past few years, we have improved all our educational projects while continuing to serve our individual members.

What accomplishments are you most proud of during your tenure as ISD President?

When I assumed the presidency of the ISD, there were certain areas of uncertainty – which I am glad to say, have now been resolved. I leave the society strong, world recognized and with a very bright future.

The ISD is known for lively international camaraderie among its members. How would you describe the friendships you have made with ISD members over the years?

Over the years, I have been fortunate to meet a large number of individuals dedicated to dermatological education. Some of them have shown tremendous dedication on behalf of the society. We are a friendly and close knit group.

With all the international meetings and workshops held all over the world, you must have added many stamps to your passport over the years. Is there one meeting or trip that stands out in your mind as the most memorable?

The meetings that come to mind were India (New Delhi), 1994, where I assumed the role of treasurer of the society. Similarly, the last continental meeting in South Africa was very special.
Excitement has been building for a while now for the XI ICD in India. What do you anticipate for this meeting, and what changes have you seen in how the Congress has been organized or how the meeting program or activities have grown since the 1994 Congress was held there?

The 1994 congress was truly fantastic and for all these years, I have been looking forward very much to returning to India. I anticipate this meeting to be even better and to have great attendance.

What advice would you give to members who are considering a leadership role within the ISD?

Get involved! There is room for everybody and your work would be much appreciated by everyone. Remember, the most important asset of this society is the individual member.

Now that your presidency is coming to an end, do you have any other interests or professional plans you want to pursue? Do you plan to stay active within the ISD?

“I have been truly blessed and privileged to have served the ISD for this long of a period. In the early days as treasurer, we had to overcome a series of challenges, including financial difficulties. Our Society also did not have an impressive international presence. This has now dramatically changed as we are healthy financially and through our educational programs, our exposure has been tremendous. During my presidency, I have been very fortunate to have a strong executive committee who has worked impressively to improve the Society. To them I owe my deepest gratitude. The Society also owes our thanks to Larry Gibson, MD, who has served as editor of our journal. His work in improving the journal has been tremendous. Lastly, Cindy in our office has served as the mortar to hold all the bricks. Without her, we would all be lost. Again, my sincere thanks.”

– Dr. Francisco Kerdel

Dr. Sig Muller (right) presents a plaque to Dr. Kerdel (left) for his years of service as ISD Treasurer (from 1999 to 2009).
Countdown to XI ICD: Travel Tips and Meeting Reminders

More than 3,800 delegates will convene in New Delhi, India, for the XI International Congress of Dermatology (ICD), December 4-7, 2013. Those attending will be treated to a smorgasbord of plenary sessions, local sites, regional cuisine and social events.

While the meeting website (http://www.icddelhi2013.com) offers detailed information on everything from the scientific program to travel and accommodations, here are a few tips to keep in mind as you prepare for your trip:

- Remember to pack your passport and any important documents you will need for international travel.
- Temperatures in Delhi will range between 15-20° C (59-68° F) during the meeting. Light woollen clothes are recommended.
- Registration is mandatory for all participants. If you haven’t registered in advance, please note that checks will not be accepted on site – only cash or credit cards (see meeting website for more details).
- Complimentary official transport will be provided from the following hotels to the conference venue:
  - The Ashok
  - Samrat
  - Janpath
  - Hyatt Regency
  - Le-Meridien
  - The Park
- English is the official language for the Conference and commonly used in all business transactions.
- India is 5 ½ hours ahead of GMT, 4 ½ hours behind Australian Eastern Time and 10 ½ hours ahead of American Eastern Standard Time.
- A superfast airport express metrorail has been put in service to connect the airport with the central part of New Delhi. It is advisable to take a taxi from the airport to the hotel at night.

Foreign exchange services are located at various convenient locations across terminals. Some banks may charge a service fee for currency exchange. It is recommended that you carry your passport and necessary travel documents if you wish to change currency.

You are welcome to participate in the 42nd Annual Congress of Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists sessions on Wednesday, December 4, and Thursday, December 5, 2013, at no extra cost. All sessions will be in English.

20th Maghrebian Congress of Dermatology and Venereology Draws World-Renown Speakers

More than 200 registrants from Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Senegal and Palestine attended the 20th Maghrebian Congress of Dermatology and Venereology in Hammamet, Tunisia, September 5-8, 2013.

The high-level scientific program included the participation of noted speakers, including Drs. J. Shapiro (Canada), O. Chosidow (France), M. Beylot (France), Fatimata Ly (Senegal), R. Machaal (Palestine), and other speakers from North Africa countries. In addition, 311 scientific posters were on display.

Thanks to the support of the ISD, it was possible to arrange the travel of J. Shapiro and to provide 20 new subscriptions for the International Journal of Dermatology for young dermatologists from several countries.

The forthcoming Maghrebian Congress will be held in Casablanca, Morocco, in October 2014.
To say that the International Journal of Dermatology (IJD) has grown by leaps and bounds during Dr. Lawrence Gibson’s (USA) 13 years serving as editor would be an understatement. For starters, the Journal experienced explosive growth in submissions from all regions of the world. From a modest 648 submissions in 2001, the Journal received 2,472 submissions in 2012 and the increase in submissions from around the world, including Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa, has been unprecedented.

This tremendous growth is due in large part to Dr. Gibson’s implementation of an online submission and review process that streamlined and hastened the entire editorial process. Now, the editorial board – comprised of 61 members representing 30 countries – can easily access a comprehensive database containing a record of submissions, reviews and other critical information. A far cry from the old log book with handwritten entries used to track submissions.

As Dr. Gibson prepares to retire from his role as IJD editor, he leaves incoming editor Dr. Rokea A. El-Azhary with a thriving global publication that has climbed to number 7 in total citations among dermatology journals. In this interview, Dr. Gibson looks back on his years and tenure as IJD editor and his hopes for the future of the Journal.

As the editor of the International Journal of Dermatology (IJD) for the past 13 years, you have transformed the Journal into a premier medical publication for dermatologists around the world. What changes are you most proud of?

At the time we took over, the Journal was a completely manual process of intake and review and communication was by fax or letter. We had a hard time keeping track of all of the manuscripts and the reviewers, and there was certainly less than global participation in that whole process. We took the Journal into the digital age in all respects and were able to greatly widen the geographic participation since those early days.

Describe your greatest challenges – both internal and external – that you faced over the years.

At times overseeing the Journal must have seemed like a full-time job. How did you find time to balance this volunteer position with your work as a dermatologist?

In the first few years, I would try to set aside specified times to work on the Journal but as we became more global and more electronically based, I found it better to just work on it every day, several times per day: before work, during breaks, lunch time, weekends, etc. It is challenging to keep up as the Journal is always moving and changing, and it is so easy to get behind!

On average, how much time a month would you say that you devoted to editing the Journal?

Since I work on it throughout the day, it is hard to say for sure but I would estimate no less than two to three hours per day and sometimes more.

Has serving as editor of the IJD all these years been a highlight of your professional career?

Yes, for sure. It has exceeded all of my expectations in that I have been part of so many people’s professional lives. It is so interesting to think about where the manuscript originated, what it must be like working in that area, what it takes to put together a study and to formulate a
manuscript. By far most of the letters I receive are of a positive nature and those far outweigh any negativity expected from a job where you must “reject” potential contributions. It has been a growth experience in many ways and a vehicle to meet and interact with colleagues worldwide. I feel very privileged.

Now that your tenure as editor is coming to a close, what do you envision for the Journal under the direction of incoming editor Dr. Rokea A. El-Azhary? Any advice you would offer her?

I am very happy for her and pleased that she will have this opportunity. She has discussed several anticipated changes and is already at work on most of them. The challenges will continue mainly in the area of matching resources, including “people power” with the needs of what has become a sizable journal now. The expectations for the Journal are higher now and meeting them will require creative thinking and constant movement. I am not sure I can give her advice beyond her own wisdom – but for sure, reaching out to others and keeping an eye and ear out for new and emerging talent will be one key to success. She already knows this, but I wish I could adequately express my gratitude to all of those who come along on this journey. This includes the authors, reviewers, editorial board, leadership of the ISD, our editorial staff, Patty Winkels and Melissa Malley and of course, the new editor herself! It is truly a team effort. She has my full support.

The International Society of Dermatology (ISD) held its Sister Society meeting in conjunction with the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) on October 2, 2013, in Istanbul. The program’s theme – “Bridging East and West” – emphasized the important geographic role of this historic city. Dr. Shyam Verma (India) and Dr. George Reizner (USA) moderated the session that opened with Dr. Evangeline Handog (Philippines) welcoming the audience while also informing them of the many educational programs, upcoming meetings and services provided to ISD members. This was followed by an update on the XI International Congress of Dermatology to be held in New Delhi December 4-7, 2013, by Congress President Dr. Vinod Sharma (India). His update described the exciting educational content and social activities planned, as well as the impressive attendance numbers to date (nearly 3,700 registrants have already made plans to attend, including almost 180 international participants).

Dr. Yahya Dowlati (Iran) then introduced Mohamed Ahmed Al-Kamel (Yemen) who gave a heartfelt report of his ISD sponsored mentorship under Dr. Dowlati’s direction. His personal account reinforced the value of this program for young dermatologists.

Dr. Shyam Verma described various oral pathologies from chewing beetle nuts, and Dr. Jerry Tan (Canada) identified the need for global unification of acne grading. Dr. Aldo Morrone (Italy) eloquently reflected on his career in caring for underserved mobile populations and his international efforts to better understand the problem. The session concluded with Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Al-Kamel reporting his campaign to heighten awareness of leishmaniasis in Yemen and his work to better coordinate treatment.

The program was well attended and concluded with a renewed understanding of the regional work being done by several ISD members and the historic influence of the silk route.
Behind the Scenes: An Interview with *ISD Connection* Co-Editors

Each issue of the *ISD Connection* quarterly newsletter is produced under the guidance and leadership of two dedicated co-editors based thousands of miles apart – Dr. Aisha Sethi (US) and Dr. Maria Juliet E. Macarayo (Philippines). Together, they help plan the content by recommending features and sharing news about ISD members and events. Once the content is written, they meticulously review each and every article, caption, letter and meeting notice to ensure the information is accurate and of interest to members.

In this article, the ISD recognizes the efforts of co-editors Dr. Sethi and Dr. Macarayo as they describe their work on the newsletter and their wish list for future issues.

What do you enjoy most about your position as co-editor of the *ISD Connection*?

Juliet: The photos – express a thousand and one words. The articles – reveal much about the authors and the people they serve. The deadlines – always beaten by the great e-interaction of the people in ISD.

Aisha: I enjoy going through the features and content of the newsletter highlighting the various members and activities of the ISD. Plus it’s a sincere pleasure to work alongside Karen, Cindy, Juliet, Jana and Vangee and get everyone’s input on fine tuning each edition.

Do you have a favorite feature that you enjoy editing?

Juliet: Global Dermatology: Think Global…Act Local.

Aisha: Yes! I started the global dermatology section (think global act local!) in the newsletter a couple of years ago. It’s wonderful to go through that section and be inspired by the work of various ISD members globally in their communities.

The newsletter has grown over the years and is now a quarterly publication with regular features and important meeting updates. Is there anything else you would want to add if space was unlimited?

Juliet: A quarterly report by each member nation, so that their achievements will be made known to all. A Photo Art Corner where any member can submit original artistic photos that they themselves took. Members’ opinions on how to deal with certain diseases.

Aisha: I would like to add a clinical pearls section or highlight volunteerism by ISD members.

How would you like to see more members contribute to the newsletter?

Juliet: That is a “HIT” goal of every newsletter – to encourage more participation from its members! Articles or experiences with ISD by its members across the nations would be great.

Aisha: I would encourage members to share their clinical pearls, volunteerism work and news-making features with us so that we can highlight their activities.

Your role as co-editor of the newsletter is a volunteer position. Tell us about your “day” job as a dermatologist.

Juliet: I am a full-time clinician-dermatologist in Pampanga, a province in the Philippines. Added to this, I serve as the current Secretary of our specialty society (Philippine Dermatological Society), attending to the needs of its 962 members to date. In between, I deliver lectures on various dermatological topics in our country.

Aisha: I am an academic dermatologist and faculty at the University of Chicago so am seeing patients most days of the week with dermatology residents and teaching them in clinic and outside along with medical students. My interests within global health (I have set up a dermatology elective program in Malawi) also have me interacting with colleagues in Africa and Pakistan.

Do you think your position has helped you become more involved in ISD?

Juliet: I do think so. It has helped me understand what ISD is all about.

Aisha: Yes absolutely! I have got to know a lot more about the membership and have met some members who have taken on the role as my mentors which I am very grateful for.

What would you say to a colleague or someone who is interested in becoming a member of ISD?

Juliet: BE A MEMBER OF ISD. BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER. ISD is more than a congregation of dermatologists from different nations. ISD has a soul: “Into Service for Dermatology”.

Aisha: Become a member and become involved! If possible, become a sponsoring member and share your news and work with us.

Don’t forget to renew your membership for 2014!
4th Continental Congress of Dermatology & 37th Annual Convention of the Philippine Dermatological Society

ADVANCES IN DERMATOLOGY
A JOURNEY ACROSS NATIONS

NOV. 4 - 7, 2014
EDSA SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
ORTIGAS CENTRE, MANDALUYONG CITY 1650 PHILIPPINES

For inquiries please email: pds_org@pltdasl.net
International Society of Dermatology
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
Join online at www.intsocderm.org

(Please print or type clearly)

Name
________________________________________
(Last/Family) (First/Given) (Middle)

Institution
________________________________________

Address
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(Street) (Apt. or Suite No.)
(City) (State/Region) (Postal Code) (Country)

Telephone __________________________ Fax _______________________
(Country/City Code) (Area Code) (Number) (Country/City Code) (Area Code) (Number)

E-mail __________________________________ Birthdate _______________________

Scientific Degree (e.g., M.D., M.B.B.S., Ph.D., M.S., B.S., etc.) ________________________ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

1. I wish to join the ISD membership in the following category (please check only one):

Membership Categories:

☐ Regular Member ........................................ US $100.00
This is the regular and usual membership of the Society. Annual dues of US $100.00 include a subscription to the International Journal of Dermatology. May hold elective office and vote.

☐ Associate Member ..................................... US $65.00
This category is suggested for residents/medical students of any country, or dermatologists currently staying in developing countries (designated by OECD). Annual dues of US $65.00 include a subscription to the International Journal of Dermatology. Associates cannot hold elected office or vote on Society matters.

☐ Individual Sponsoring Member ................. US $250.00
This category is for individuals who want to sponsor members from developing countries or trainees (residents) from any country. In addition to the privileges and benefit of the Regular Membership, the sponsor will receive an Individual Sponsoring Member certificate. The annual dues of US $250.00 sponsor up to 2 Associate Members in addition to the sponsor’s membership.

Sponsoring Members may select 1 or 2 eligible members to support or allow ISD to select from a list of eligible candidates.

☐ Let ISD select the sponsored members

☐ I would like to sponsor the following dermatologists and/or dermatologists in training. The names are listed below.

Sponsored Member Name: __________________________ Email: __________________________

Sponsored Member Name: __________________________ Email: __________________________

2. Payment is to be made in U.S. Dollars.
Indicate method of payment:

☐ Check payable in US $ to:
International Society of Dermatology

☐ Credit Card (preferable for applications made outside the U.S.; please complete the adjacent box)

3. Send completed application with payment by fax or mail to:
8074 EAGLE WAY
CHICAGO, IL 60678-1080 USA
Phone: +1 386-437-4405 Fax: +1 386-437-4427
E-mail: info@intsocderm.org
Web site: www.intsocderm.org

Print clearly. Please check card type:

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________________________________________ Expiration Date

________________________________________ Cardholder’s Name

________________________________________ Signature
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