



# ISD *Connection*

The official newsletter of the ISD global membership society

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## ISD Mentorship Program Enriches Professional Experience

For Dr. Jesse Adalbert Chua of Manila, Philippines, a four-week stay as a visiting fellow at the National Skin Centre (NSC) in Singapore proved to be a rewarding educational experience.

Under the direction of his mentor, Prof. CL Goh, Dr. Chua learned updates on modern treatment options and modern diagnostic approaches for different dermatological problems seen at the NSC. His mentorship month included rotations in general dermatology and sub-specialty clinics, including pediatric dermatology, hair disorders, immunology, phototherapy, contact dermatitis, skin cancer and drug eruptions.

Dr. Chua encourages young dermatologists, especially those starting their own practice, to take advantage of the ISD's Mentorship Program. He is grateful to the ISD and the Mentorship Committee for making this opportunity possible!



**Fellow Dr. Jesse Adalbert Chua (left) and his mentor, Prof. CL Goh (right).**

*"This experience as a visiting fellow is interesting and informative. It gave me a better perspective on dermatologic care and diagnosis of patients. It is something different from my daily practice as a private dermatologist in the Philippines."*

*– Dr. Jesse Adalbert Chua*

What started as an exciting three-month fellowship turned into a nearly five-month educational bonanza for ISD fellow Dr. Martin Kriz, a post-graduate student of the Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen, Charles University, Czech Republic.

Training with mentor Prof. Thomas Ruzicka and the oncologic team of Prof. Carola Berking at the Department of Dermatology and Allergology, Ludwig-Maximillan University in Munich, Germany, Dr. Kriz conducted research in his primary area of interest in medicine – new methods of examination in dermatology, particularly non-invasive examinations for non-melanoma skin cancer.

His scientific project completed during his fellowship, "Fluorescence diagnostics as a guide for biopsy of suspicious anal cancer," will be published in an upcoming issue of the *International Journal of Dermatology* (IJD). In the study, fluorescence diagnostics (FD) was used to identify the premalignant tissue prior to surgical intervention.

On the heels of this promising research, Dr. Kriz is now working in the Department of Dermatology in Augsburg, Germany.



**Mentor Prof. Thomas Ruzicka (left) and fellow Dr. Martin Kriz (right).**

*"I was very happy that I could spend a part of my studies at the most prestigious dermatology department in Europe. Everyday I learned something new, something that pushes me upwards. It was really an incredible experience."*

*– Dr. Martin Kriz*



**The ISD Board of Directors gathered for a meeting on March 5, 2010, at the AAD meeting in Miami Beach.**

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The International Society of Dermatology has always depended on volunteers, which is daunting when our intended reach is global. Throughout its history, ISD has managed to be both global in scope yet grassroots in action.



Over this past year, members from Brazil have provided key leadership and opportunities for the ISD. I am very pleased to announce that the Brazilian Society for Dermatologic Surgery (BSDS) will match any ISD Mentorship grant with an equal amount. Dr. Luis G. Castro serves on our Mentorship Committee and has garnered the support of Brazilian dermatologists to serve as mentors and championed this matching grant program.

Our Associate Secretary-General, Dr. Luna Afulafia-Azulay, and Board member Dr. Tania Cestari have volunteered their time and energy to organize ISD programs at the upcoming 65th Congress of the Brazilian Society of Dermatology and at the CILAD meeting in Cancun, Mexico. Needless to say, all of our meetings in 2010 stemmed from members like Dr. Rafael Falabella in Colombia, Dr. Ana Kaminsky and Dr. Ricardo Galimberti in Argentina, Dr. Rekha Sheth in India and Dr. Thada Piamphongsant in Thailand. The meetings

they organized, on behalf of the ISD, serve as a visible face of our organization and are invaluable in encouraging membership participation and growth.

Concerns on currency exchange issues have been raised and some of our members are facing difficulties in fulfilling their membership dues because of this. Quick to address the problem were members like Dr. Yahya Dowlati (Iran) and Dr. Vermen Verallo-Rowell (Philippines) who volunteered to collect membership dues and send a check or otherwise make payments on behalf of their fellow national members.

It is truly inspiring to see how members – on a grassroots level – respond to help fellow members and the ISD. I sincerely thank all of our members who willingly volunteer their time and talent. They see a value in ISD membership and desire to pass along that value. If you have any ideas on how to help local dermatologists join ISD, please share them with us. You can email us at [info@intsocderm.org](mailto:info@intsocderm.org) or look for our new Discussion Forum on [www.intsocderm.org](http://www.intsocderm.org).

Sincerely,



Torello Lotti, MD (Italy)  
President, International Society of Dermatology

## FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

FIRSTS...

It is one year later but I clearly remember May 23, 2009, when the newly elected officers of the International Society of Dermatology took their oath of office during the Presidential Dinner at the Zofin Palace in Prague. I was told that it was the first time in ISD's 50-year existence that officers were sworn into office. The guests were witnesses to their full commitment to serve the Society.



In earnest, the Executive Committee and the various standing committees started working with dynamism and cooperation!

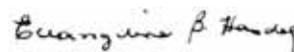
I am happy and proud to report to you the FIRSTS:

- Executive Committee conference calls were held quarterly to ensure that the plans/activities are successful. Timelines were coordinated smoothly and so were ideas.
- 1st time the officers will serve for four years instead of five.
- 1st Continental Congress in Cali, Colombia, organized by Prof. Rafael Falabella in June 2010 and the 2nd Continental Congress is planned for St. Petersburg, Russia, in July 2011.
- Two Climate Change conferences spearheaded by Dr. Sig Muller.
- Two Community Dermatology Task Force meetings organized by Dr. Terence Ryan.

- Membership grew to 1,921 members, the highest in over 15 years.
- Standing Committees met in Miami to discuss strategies regarding their respective mission.
- *ISD Connection* newsletter will be issued quarterly.
- 1st time Maria Duran medals were awarded to Asians: Profs. Inderjeet Kaur (India) and Preya Kullavanijaya (Thailand).
- XI International Congress of Dermatology (India 2013) is followed immediately by the XII International Congress of Dermatology (Argentina 2014).
- 1st themed ISD Reception at the AAD 2010 in Miami: "Growing and Glowing with ISD" was appreciated by members/guests.

The membership continues to diversify. ISD's leadership persists to cater to their needs to promote dermatology worldwide. Mabuhay!

Very sincerely yours,



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

## Reports from ISD Committees

### Report from the Regional Meeting Committee Chair – Uwe Wollina, MD

The Regional Meetings Committee is now accepting applications to support meetings being held in 2011-2012. The application must be submitted by a member of ISD on behalf of a regional or national dermatological meeting. The application process will evaluate the purpose of the meeting (must have a strong medical dermatology component), the curriculum, the budget and how the meeting will help promote ISD membership.

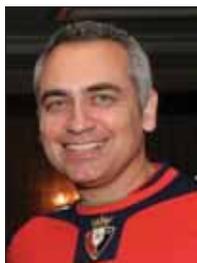
Based on the application, financial support up to \$5,000 may be given. In return for financial funding and marketing exposure provided by the ISD, we ask that the meeting organizers 1) actively promote ISD membership 2) advertise ISD programs and 3) welcome ISD members to their educational and cultural activities. To apply, you can download the application form at [www.intsocderm.org](http://www.intsocderm.org) under Calendar of Events (Meeting Support). If you have any questions, please contact me or the ISD office at [info@intsocderm.org](mailto:info@intsocderm.org) or go to the web site.

### Mentorship Program Equally Beneficial to Mentors and Fellows

The opportunity to teach and mentor young dermatologists from various corners of the globe has been quite exciting and rewarding. It is an honor to be entrusted with the mentees who arrive with great enthusiasm to learn and acquire more experience. It is not only the mentee who benefits, but it is an educational experience for the mentor as well. As a bonus, the cultural insights gained in spending time with the mentees have enhanced the medical treatment of my culturally diverse patients. It is with a sense of pride that I see the mentees complete the Fellowship and implement into their practices the skills I have shared in aesthetic dermatology and laser surgery.

Finally, as I travel throughout the world for meetings, lectures and workshops, it is a great pleasure to not only see young dermatologists who rotated in my office, but also to incorporate them into the sessions as speakers! Serving as a mentor in the ISD International Mentorship Program has been one of the most gratifying experiences of my career.

— Martin Kassir, MD, FAAD



Martin Kassir,  
MD, FAAD

### Maria Duran Committee Announces 2010 Fellow and Lecturer

Dedee Murrell (Chair) and Tania Cestari (Co-Chair)

The Maria Duran Committee selected the 2010 Maria Duran Fellow and 2010 Maria Duran Lecturer. Both awards honor the memory of Maria M. Duran, MD, former ISD Secretary-General and Executive Vice-President.

The Maria Duran Fellowship specifically recognizes potential future female leaders in international dermatology with the award of a fellowship of up to US \$1500 to attend a regional meeting of the ISD where she will present a poster or oral presentation.

The committee was pleased at the number of excellent submissions and after much deliberation selected Dr. Juliana C. Boza from Brazil who will participate at the CILAD meeting later this year in Cancun, Mexico.

Each year, it is a privilege to select the Maria Duran Lecturer and Dr. Margarita Larralde from Argentina was invited to be the 2010 Maria Duran Lecturer. Dr. Larralde is recognized as a leader in neonatal skin disorders. The lecture will be presented at the ISD Sister Society Meeting in Cancun, Mexico, which is also being organized under the auspices of the Maria Duran Committee.

As mentioned in the message from the ISD Secretary-General, the two 2010 Maria Duran Medalists recently awarded were Prof. Inderjeet Kaur of India and Dr. Preya Kullavanijaya of Thailand.



The first face-to-face meeting in 2010 of the Maria Duran Committee was held at the recently concluded AAD in Miami. The 2009-2014 Maria Duran Committee members are (from left to right): Ma. Teresita Gabriel, MD (Philippines), Rekha Sheth, MD (India), Anthony Benedetto, MD (USA), Dedee Murrell, MD, Chair (Australia), Tania Cestari, MD, Co-Chair (Brazil), Antonella Tosti, MD (Italy), Rokea el-Azhary, MD (USA), and Regina Oliveria Carneiro, MD (Brazil). Members not shown: Mercedes Florez-White, MD (USA) and Suzanne Olbricht, MD (USA).

Jana Hercogova, MD  
(Czech Republic) Chair,  
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## ISD Shines at AAD 2010 Annual Meeting

During the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology in Miami Beach, Florida, the current ISD Board of Directors held its first meeting since the elections in 2009. Discussed were expansion plans on the educational programs the ISD has to offer: introduction of the annual ISD Continental Congresses, which will rotate geographically; improvement of communications within the ISD web site; meeting the challenge of climate change and skin health, as well as the challenges of providing care for underserved populations.

The Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Dermatology* (IJD) also convened at the same event. Another highly successful year was proclaimed, under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief Lawrence E. Gibson. The IJD impact factor and number of submissions have increased during the past five years, with the impact factor nearing 2.0. Much appreciation was accorded to Ms. Patty Winkels, editorial office manager, for her hard work and dedication to ISD.

Meetings of the different ISD committees (Maria Duran, Mentorship and Membership Committees) and the Community Dermatology Task Force focused on their 2010 programs. The ISD also took the great opportunity to welcome and recruit members at their booth at the AAD Exhibits.

Capping off the meetings, ISD members were invited to bring prospective members to a Monday evening reception, with the theme "Growing and Glowing with ISD." Dr. Evangeline Handog spearheaded the event together with her dermatology residents from the Philippines. More than 200 members and their guests who graced the event did glow and all enjoyed an evening of wonderful camaraderie.

Remembering Stephanie "Steffi" Canizares was an important part of the evening's affair. Members had the opportunity to hear Dr. Vincent Cipollaro pay tribute to "Steffi", wife of Dr. Orlando Canizares, one of the founders of ISD. In the early days of the

Society, Steffi gave invaluable assistance doing voluntary editorial and secretarial work, allowing her home to be the ISD headquarters.



**Evangeline Handog, MD (Philippines) fills the room with excitement in announcing the winning bids for the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> ICDS.**

The highlight of the evening was the announcements made by Dr. Handog for the host countries of the next International Congresses of Dermatology. The bid for the 2013 International Congress of Dermatology was awarded to India, with Dr. Vinod K. Sharma being congratulated with confetti and cheers. Also, the bid from Argentina was awarded for the 2014 International Congress of Dermatology, with Dr. Richardo Galimberti being met with much congratulations. Everyone is looking forward to these meetings with much anticipation!



**From left to right: Alberto Giannetti (Italy), Jana Hercogova (Czech Republic), Torello Lotti (Italy), Dan Siegel, president-elect of the American Academy of Dermatology (USA), ISD guest, and Gino Vena, president-elect of the Italian Society of Dermatology (Italy).**



**Good fun and good cheer enjoyed by all.**



**Dr. Orlando Canizares and his wife, Stephanie, who recently passed away.**



**Dr. Vinod Sharma (India) wins the bid to host the XI International Congress of Dermatology in India in 2013.**

**Below: Dr. George Reizner thanks volunteers, all senior residents from the Department of Dermatology, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in the Philippines, for their tremendous help assisting Dr. Vangee Handog in organizing the ISD reception at the AAD. First row, from left to right: Drs. Mica David, Alto Bautista and Che Co. Back row, from left to right: Dr. George Reizner and Dr. Gina Gulfan.**



**From left to right: Susan Weinkle, MD (USA), Lynn Drake, MD (USA), Wilma Bergfeld, MD (USA), and Dedee Murrell, MD (Australia).**



**From left to right: Jana Hercogova, MD (Czech Republic), Aisha Sethi, MD (USA), Torello Lotti, MD (Italy), and Evangeline Handog, MD (Philippines).**



**Revelers enjoy the festive atmosphere of the ISD reception.**

## Dr. Shyam Verma Combines Private Practice with Community Dermatology in India

**What is the name of your clinic and can you describe the physical characteristics of your clinics?**

“Nirvana”, my first clinic, started in 1991 and is now an example of a low technology clinic bustling with activity. It has two rooms, one being occupied by me where I see patients and the other a waiting room from where patients come to me one by one. It caters predominantly to middle and low income groups. My second clinic is in an upmarket locality in Vadodara, Gujarat, India, and caters predominantly to the high income groups. The difference is stark between these two places for obvious reasons.

**What kind of conditions/skin disorders do you see on a daily basis?**

The most common reasons for consultation in my clinics are acne, eczemas as a group, pigmentary disorders, dermatophytoses, pyodermas, warts, molluscum contagiosum, inflammatory diseases and blistering disorders. I see leprosy regularly, which is considered eliminated in this part of the country. Patients in this clinic often come with very advanced forms of dermatoses, often ignored, treated with home remedies (by homeopaths and Ayurveda practitioners) and hence vitiated. They are challenging. As expected, the second clinic in the upmarket locality attracts many people with cosmetic – and often for various trivial – dermatological concerns. I have a plastic surgeon who works for me two to three days a week.



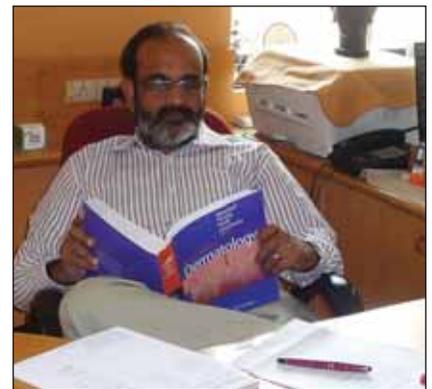
**Dr. Verma examines patients in a “skin camp” at an urban construction site.**

**Do you set aside days or weeks on a regular basis where you operate as a free clinic for patients in need?**

Community Dermatology has been one of my interests, but it is a tough balance to keep when you are a private practitioner who has to earn well to live well! I have various ways of doing community work and free work. I have been active in a Roman Catholic missionary hospital called Our Lady of Pillar Hospital and another trust hospital run by a Hindu religious order where I work for a token honorarium. My clinic also has ties with three villages and two urban slum communities where the needy patients are referred on a regular basis and are treated free. Physician samples are given and often these people receive funding from some industries or charitable institutions to buy drugs if the problem is severe or chronic. I also have regular ‘skin camps’ in various parts of our state with help from local authorities and the erstwhile ‘royalty’ of the area. Senior ISD members like Prof. Terence Ryan, Prof. Rod Sincliar, Aldo Morrone, and others have joined me in many of these activities. We are now gradually trying to create a second rung of care for common disorders like scabies where we teach the community people to deal with common problems like scabies, pyodermas and dermatophytoses. I very much remain a private practitioner who essentially practices clinical dermatology.

**Would you like trainees from abroad to come and do a rotation with you under your mentorship? Would you welcome volunteer medical professionals to help serve your patients?**

Yes, of course! I have been hosting people from all over the world for the past 14 years now. Prime examples are senior ISD functionaries like Terence Ryan and Uwe Wollina who visit almost every year and are family members! Over two dozen well known figures have visited my clinics for short periods of time. Residents from well known US departments have come and spent many weeks here! Everybody feels it is a very fruitful activity that gives them a chance to see contrasts, from a relatively plush clinic with few patients to a basic one with a new patient being seen every five minutes for hours! A huge diversity in clinical dermatology and an unforgettable cultural experience is guaranteed! Indian dermatology should be experienced by all dermatologists around the world. Nirvana clinic has an open doors policy, welcome! And of course, welcome to the ICD in 2013! You will see Indian dermatology in its full glory!



**Dr. Shyam Verma in his office.**

## Meetings Calendar

**June 25, 2010**

**ISD Sister Society Meeting  
Climate Change Conference at the Sociedad  
Argentina de Dermatologia  
Buenos Aires, Argentina**

[www.sad.org.ar](http://www.sad.org.ar)

**September 4-7, 2010**

**ISD Sister Society Meeting  
65th Congress of the Brazilian Society of  
Dermatology  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

<http://www.dermato2010.com.br/index.php>

**September 17-19, 2010**

**ISD Regional Meeting:  
Dealing with Dark Skin  
Mumbai, India**

[www.cosdermindia.in](http://www.cosdermindia.in)

**October 6, 2010**

**ISD Sister Society Meeting at the EADV  
Global Dermatology: Community Dermatology  
and Climate Change Update  
Gotenburg, Sweden**

[www.intsocderm.org](http://www.intsocderm.org)

**November 9, 2010**

**Sister Society Meeting of the ISD at CILAD  
Cancun, Mexico**

[www.cilad-cancun.com](http://www.cilad-cancun.com)



**ISD Mentorship Committee from left to right: Yahya Dowlati (Iran), Sandra Read (USA), Martin Kassir (USA), and Luis G. Castro (Brazil). Not in the photo: Rashmi Sarkar, Vladimir Vasku and Thomas Ruzicka.**



**Maria Duran Committee past and present chairs (from left to right): Jean Bolognia, MD (USA), Evangeline Handog, MD (Philippines), Dedee Murrell, MD (Australia), and Jana Hercogova, MD (Czech Republic).**



## Become an ISD Member Today!

*Join online at [www.intsocderm.org](http://www.intsocderm.org)*

If you're a dermatologist, health professional, researcher, physician from a developing country or resident looking to exchange information among dermatologists on a global basis, then consider joining the only individual member dermatologic association focused on the global issues in dermatology – the International Society of Dermatology (ISD).

The ISD offers three classes of membership and countless benefits, including a subscription to the print and online versions of the *International Journal of Dermatology* and the *ISD Connection* newsletter, a 25% discount off of Wiley published books, and a variety of international educational opportunities.

To join ISD, go to [www.intsocderm.org](http://www.intsocderm.org) and click on the orange box. Applications can also be downloaded and mailed or faxed with payment to the ISD.

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