

MASCC General Assembly
Thursday, June 26, 2008
12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. Central
Hilton Americas- Houston, TX USA

Jorn Herrstedt, President, called the MASCC General Assembly to order at 12:00 p.m. Central time, Thursday, June 26, 2008.

J Herrstedt moved that the minutes from the previous assembly be approved. The motion was seconded by D Warr and passed unanimously.

Presidents Report:

J Herrstedt welcomed the new Board members, Fred Spijkervet, Sebastiano Mercadante and Jude Lees and thanked those Board members who have stepped down; Matti Aapro, Petra Feyer, Ronald Feld, Mellar Davis and Carla Ripamonti. J Herrstedt reported that they elected new officers and the next Vice-President/President-Elect will be Dorothy Keefe, MD, Australia; Secretary Linda Elting, DrPH, USA, and Treasurer Steven Grunberg, MD, USA.

J Herrstedt honored Prof Senn who will be named the Founding Editor Emeritus of the Journal of Supportive Care in Cancer and thanked him for all of his contributions and the success of the Journal over the past sixteen years. Prof Senn has been Editor in Chief since 1993. J Herrstedt reported that Dr. Frederick Ashbury, Canada, will be the new Editor in Chief.

J Herrstedt reported that next year's symposium in June 2009 will be held in Rome at the Sheraton Roma Hotel and Conference Center. The 2010 symposium will be held in Vancouver and at yesterday's Board Meeting it was decided that Greece would hold the 2011 symposium.

J Herrstedt reported that many new initiatives were discussed at the Strategic Planning Meeting in March in Boston, MA. These initiatives include; increasing the infrastructure, focusing on country-specific supportive care groups, and development support for study groups. MASCC has hired a historian, Gerald Kuncio who is at the meeting interviewing six individuals and writing an article which will summarize the history of MASCC and be presented in the journal and on the website. MASCC is interviewing for a Director of Development and Marketing.

J Herrstedt thanked all of the MASCC staff Cindy Rittenberg, Executive Director; Judi Johnson, Associate Director; Beth Hollen, Web Editor; and Debbie Kurth, Meeting Planner. J Herrstedt also thanked the Past President, Paul Hesketh for all of his hard work and dedication to MASCC over the past two years. J Herrstedt remarked that Dr. Hesketh always delivered what was promised and followed through on every task asked of him. J Herrstedt and C Rittenberg presented Dr. Hesketh with a gift.

Executive Directors Report:

C Rittenberg welcomed everyone to the MASCC meeting. She reminded all of MASCC's mission: To Optimize supportive care in cancer patients worldwide; Stimulate multi-disciplinary research; Encourage international scientific exchange of information; Expand professional expertise in supportive care; Educate health care professionals worldwide in supportive care; Serve as a resource for patients, families, and caregivers.

She reported the refined definition of supportive as developed at the recent Strategic Planning meeting: "Supportive Care in cancer is the prevention and management of the adverse effects of cancer and its treatment.

- This includes management of physical and psychological symptoms and side effects across the continuum of the cancer experience from diagnosis through anticancer treatment to post-treatment

care. Enhancing rehabilitation, secondary cancer prevention, survivorship and end of life care are integral to Supportive Care.

- Supportive Care makes excellent cancer care possible (our new motto – now on stationery and official documents). It:
 - alleviates symptoms and complications of cancer
 - reduces or prevents toxicities of treatment
 - supports communication with patients about their disease and prognosis
 - allows patients to tolerate and benefit from active therapy more easily
 - eases emotional burden of patients and care givers
 - helps cancer survivors with psychological and social problems

The multinational, multidisciplinary nature of MASCC continues. Members come from 6 continents and as of June 11 represented 60 countries. Now it is at least 61. Active, paid membership by June 11 was 794 (742 at this time last year). (includes those whose dues expire April 30, 2008 or later and 45 scholarship members). Breakdown of members as of June 11: Number 794; Scholarship members 45.

Physicians:415-52%;Nurses:156-20%;Dentists:79-10%;PhD (NOS):32-4%;Pharmacists:30-4%; Industry:24-3%; Social workers:7-0.5%; Dental hygienists: 6-0.5%; Other*(dietician, health service researcher, librarian, microbiologist, pathologist, physician assistant, statistician, unknown): 45- 6%.

Financial Report -2007

Revenue: \$650,804; Expenses: \$ 636,998; Net Assets: 12/31/06-\$2,579,252; Net Assets 12/21/07-\$2,593,058. CR announced that a budget for 2008 was approved at the MASCC Board meeting. She encouraged donations for MASCC programs. To date in 2008, MASCC has received only \$1815 in donations.

She reported on Scholarship Programs: Scholarship Membership: 45 (\$ 4,500) (Springer will support up to 50 with free journals); Young Investigator Awards: 10 (\$12,300) Travel Scholarships: 20 (only 15 could come to the meeting): (\$39,000); Study Group Chair Awards (1) (\$600). Total: \$ 56,400.

Mrs. Rittenberg acknowledged and thanked MASCC Corporate Advisory Council members for 2008: Amgen, GlaxoSmithKline, and Merck & Co. She also thanked sponsors of this meeting. She congratulated Drs. Elting and Bruera and their scientific/program committee.

Next Mrs. Rittenberg recognized committee chairs: Awards, Linda Elting; Country Specific – Petra Feyer; Finance-Ron Feld, Governance-Dorothy Keefe; Guidelines-Dave Warr; Prof Liaison- Doug Peterson; Publications-Steve Grunberg.

She reported on some MASCC programs:

Strategic Planning – March, 2008 – Board members and a few other MASCC leaders met in Boston. Some highlights of short and long term goals and asked that attendees look at these on the website.

Progress has been made in attempts to create country specific supportive care organizations; Italy and France will be the first countries. Members now receive quarterly E-Newsletters – edited by Judi Johnson and CR, with art work and formatting by Beth Hollen.

Two surveys are being conducted at this meeting and we again ask you to participate. One is in all attendees' registration bags. it is sponsored by Novartis and concerns patients who develop arthralgias and/or myalgias after receiving aromatase inhibitors. The other is a questionnaire, sponsored by Helsinn, but designed by the Antiemetic Study Group, that can be completed at a stand in the exhibit area. The survey addresses nausea and vomiting among patients receiving minimal and low risk chemotherapeutic agents.

Mrs. Rittenberg commented on the continuing positive relationship with our publisher, Springer, noting that MASCC now receives royalty fees and up to 50 free subscriptions for scholarship members. Alerts are available for JSCC and other Springer publications. MASCC now has up to 4 Society pages allotted to each issue of the journal. We thank Rebecca Clark Snow for her work as editor of these pages and are happy to announce that Dr. Sneznana Bosnjak of Serbia and Dr. Petra Ortner of Germany will serve as co-editors. The first 25 people who enroll as new members at this meeting will receive a Springer book and current MASCC members will receive 15% off all Springer supportive care books.

Web: J Johnson reports constant updating of website; Resource centers were combined with study groups, virtual meeting of the 2007 symposium was posted as well as a picture gallery and testimonials (if interested contact Jude Lees, membership chair). A goal is to establish a member's only section.

Study groups: Dr. Judi Johnson as Associate Director reports 38 chairs and co-chairs volunteer to lead the 17 study groups. Some of the most active, with their projects, are: Antiemetic: secured funding for the electronic survey of management of low and minimal emetic risk groups. The group has begun planning for an April, 2009 update with ESMO of the guidelines. The antiemetic Guidelines (last updated March 2008) are on our website in 8 languages and the MASCC Antiemesis tool is there in 7 languages Validation article of MAT accepted by The Journal of Pain & Symptom Management. The Patient & Professional Education Study Group secured funding to create a clinical teaching tool for health care professionals to use when instructing patients receiving oral chemotherapeutic agents. Yesterday a Train the Trainer workshop took place with representation from 15 countries. The second Mucositis Research day took place Tuesday and the mucositis guidelines continue to attract attention. The oral care study group continues with its guideline development for management of 10 oral complications. The Palliative group launched a pain management center on the website. The pediatrics group spent many hours working on a proposed study, now on hold. The Skin Toxicity study group which brought in 21 experts (dermatologist, med and rad oncologists, nurses, qual of life expert, 3 from NCI, led by Dr. Mario Lacouture, to create a new skin toxicity grading scale specific to epidermal growth factor receptors.

Finally, Mrs. Rittenberg thanked the board, executive board, and MASCC personnel, including Judi Johnson, Assoc Director, who adds a new dimension to the growth of MASCC. Beth Hollen and Debbie Kurth remains committed to the success of MASCC, its website, Symposia and other meetings; and Drs. Linda Elting and Eduardo Bruera who have been amazing and while not MASCC personnel, want to acknowledge Patricia Cunningham and Katja Sullivan who have been an immense help in planning this meeting.

ISOO Update:

J Epstein reported that it is the 10th anniversary of the MASCC/ISOO alliance and this has been renewed until 2011. The elections were completed and the current President is Deborah McGuire, Vice-President, Inger von Bultzingsloewen. They are in the process of reviewing the by-laws and standardizing the operating procedures with goals of harmonization with those of MASCC. He thanked Dr. Douglas Peterson for his leadership role in both organizations and attributed the success of the liaison to all of his efforts. New initiatives include the newsletter, website development; oral mucositis study section and continuing education and annual program for 2008/2009; oral care study section; and developing relationships with other organizations through the professional liaison committee.

Old Business:

2009 meeting in Rome was deferred since Chairs were unable to attend. Chair of the 2011 meeting in Vancouver, Dr. Peter Stephenson-Moore, was introduced by J Herrstedt.

Publications:

S Grunberg reported that the major effort of the publications committee in 2007-2008 was the organization and conduct of the Editor search for the Journal of Supportive Care in Cancer. This process resulted in selection of Dr. Frederick Ashbury as the next Editor of the journal. Dr. Ashbury will officially begin serving in this role on January 1st, 2009 for a five-year term. Drs. Ashbury and Prof Senn are now working together to foster a smooth transition. Prof Senn will be named Founding Editor Emeritus of the Journal. S Grunberg

asked everyone to applaud Prof Senn and Agnes Glaus for all of their contributions to the journal over the past 16 years.

New Business:

J Herrstedt called the names of all of the recipients of the travel scholarship and young investigator awards



Young Investigator Awards 2008 Supported by:
Merck and Co., Inc.

Young Investigator of the Year: Wael Lasheen, MD, United States

Young Investigator Awards

- Elenir Avritscher, MD, United States
- Joanne Bowen, PhD, Australia
- Winson Cheung, MD, Canada
- Karine Ferreira, PhD, Brazil
- Sergejs Kuznecovs, MD, Latvia
- Sonya Lowe, MD, Canada
- Oxana Palesh, PhD, United States
- Henrique Parsons, MD, United States
- Shannon Westin, MD, United States



Travel Scholarship Recipients 2008 Supported by:
Lance Armstrong Foundation,
MSD Denmark, and Biovitrum

Zipporah Vunoro Ali, MD, Kenya	Pramod Sankpal, RN, India
Aneta Dimitrovska, MD, Macedonia	Shantanu Sharma, MD, India
Fathelrahman Hassan, MD, Sudan	Ivana Bozovic Spasojevic, MD, Serbia
Geana Paula Kurita, RN, Brazil	Stefanel Vlad, MD, Romania
Galina Kuznecova, RN, Latvia	Pamela Were, RN, Kenya
Cristina Marinela Oprean, MD, Romania	John Weru, MD, Kenya
Ritwik Pandey, MD, India	Patricia Wienandts, DDS, Brazil
Vandana Pandey, MD, India	Boris Zaidner, MD, Russia

C Rittenberg presented all of the awardees with their certificate.
The meeting Adjourned at 12:45 p.m. Central.