



ISPN

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR
PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY

ISPN Executive Board Members 2015-2016

Newsletter, August, 2016

Audit

F. Salomao, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

I analyzed with attention the spreadsheets and I found both expenses and incomes accordingly. Therefore, in my judgment, the final report should be approved. Although the balance was significantly lower if compared to the two previous Meetings, respectively in Mainz and in Rio de Janeiro, the lower number of exhibitors and sponsors at Izmir may explain this difference. One should also consider the difficulties faced by the organizers due to the unexpected passing of their Chairman.

Education

Wan Tew Seow, Singapore

Federico Di Rocco, Lyon, France

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Two educational courses have been concluded up to now:

1. China

July 2, Quanzhou

Local organizer: Dr Ma Jie

Topics: Malignant brain tumours

ISPN Faculty: C Deopujari, M Handler, WT Seow, G Solanki

2. Mexico

July 7-9: Mexico

Local organizer: Tenoch Herrada and Jose Luiz Lozano

Topics: Spina bifida, Hydrocephalus, Posterior fossa tumors

ISPN Faculty: G. Zuccaro, W. Harkness, WT Seow, G. Tamburrini, JF Salomao, N. Zanon, J. Ramos, H. Matsushita

Forthcoming courses:

- Chile

August 4-6, 2016

Local organizer: Dr. Sergio Valenzuela

Topic: Pediatric Neuro-oncology

- India

1-4 October 2016 with Indspn

Local organizer: Dr Venkata Ramana

Topics: Epilepsy, Vascular and Tethered Cord

- Thailand

Oct 19-21, 2016.

Local organizer: Dr Siraruj Sakoolnamarka and Dr Sarun Nunta Aree

Topics : 1 congenital and development cranial and spinal disorders, 2. Neurooncology, 3 Pediatric Trauma, and emergency procedures.

- Myanmar

5-6th November 2016

Local organizer: Pr Win Myaing

Topics : 1. Hydrocephalus, 2. Pediatric brain tumours (Special focus on craniopharyngioma), 3. Pediatric head trauma, 4. Congenital anomalies

- Russia

24-25 November 2016 with RSPN

Local organizer: Pr Serge Gorelyshev

Topics: acute hydrocephalus, trauma, hemorrhage, spina bifida, trauma, infection

Liaison

Guirish Solanki, Birmingham, UK

First I would like to warmly welcome Professor Charlie Theo, to the Liaison Committee. He has very kindly agreed to join as continental Representative for Australasia. Thank you Charlie and we look forward to your active and robust support.

1. ISPN Membership Drive,

- a. Continental propagation of information about membership
- b. Reduced fee for attendance to annual meetings, support for ISPN Courses,
- c. Support to identify ISPN invited speakers for national and regional meetings,
- d. Liaise with paediatric units to collaborate in research, clinical trials, education

Our president's drive for increased membership particularly from the LMIC was our top priority, and the continental representatives worked assiduously to engage national societies. Prof. Zucarro's message was translated into a number of languages by the continental representatives (including, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Hindi, Bengali, Chinese, and Japanese, etc). The message was widely disseminated with a robust drive to encourage membership into the ISPN.

We are pleased to report that as a result of concerted efforts of the membership, communications and liaison

committees, there has already been 22 new members from the LMIC applying for registration. We hope that this figure will rise by the Kobe meeting, making this one of the biggest membership drives yet.

2. Global survey of paediatric unit facilities, with assessment of resources, manpower and extent of clinical practice

- a. In collaboration with the Communication Department of the ISPN
- b. With the support of the paediatric committee of the WFNS, and continental societies
- c. Evaluate extent of facilities, manpower, specialities provided, availability of instruments, and allied specialities (oncology, radiation therapy, neurology, neurophysiology, maxilla-facial, plastics, spinal, vascular, pathology, etc)
- d. Draw a world map with distribution of facilities and resources to make collaborative planning feasible between and within regions.

This important work is continuing.

The World Bank classifies countries into four income groups. These are set each year on July 1. The latest World Bank GNI of 1st July 2016 is out and Economies were divided according to 2016 GNI per capita using the following ranges of income:

	<i>GNI per capita Income in US\$</i>	<i>Number of States</i>	<i>Total LMIC & HI</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Low income countries</i>	<i>\$1025 or less.</i>	<i>31</i>		
<i>Lower middle income countries</i>	<i>\$1026 and \$4035.</i>	<i>52</i>		
<i>Upper middle income countries</i>	<i>\$4036 and \$12475.</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>63.6</i>
<i>High income countries</i>	<i>> \$12476.</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>36.4</i>
<i>Total</i>			<i>217</i>	

**GNI= Gross National Income*

** While there are 195 countries the total of 217 reflects how the World Bank lists states and areas some of which are part of a country.*

There are currently 138 countries listed as Low & Middle Income countries. A number of other factors play a significant role in considering the stage of development of a country including its size (small states), fragility and conflict situations(FCS), Highly Indebted Poor countries(HIPC), Least Developed Countries(LDC). Indeed, a total of 66 out of the 138 countries (47.8%) fall under one or more of these categories and these countries account for 30.4% of the world.

	<i>Number of States</i>	<i>Total LMIC/World</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Fragility and Conflict Situations (FCS)</i>	<i>35</i>		
<i>Highly Indebted Poor countries (HIPC)</i>	<i>39</i>		

<i>Least Developed Countries (LDC)</i>	48	138	47.8
<i>Individual Country (in one or more groups)</i>	66	217	30.4

In the future, we hope to engage further with the FLANC (The Latin-American Federation of Neurosurgical Societies), with the Continental Association of African Neurosurgical Societies and the Asian-Australasian Congress of Neurosurgical societies to define better resources in each continent.

3. Guideline Task Group:

- a. The Initial meeting of a task group to look at existing Guidelines and critically appraise them was held at Izmir and was followed by a presentation by Tony Figaji detailing intent in streamlining guidelines and making them relevant to geographical regions with limited facilities and resources as well.
- b. The committee hopes to look and evaluate the possibility of members setting up a group tasked with evaluating national and international guidelines and how best to homogenise these. Further details will become available later.

This piece of work is being led by Tony Figaji.

Following a further discussion, it was agreed to proceed to the first stage of evidence collection on a specific topic. The initial round of review requests has been made on the topic of Chiari Malformations. We are working to raise some funds to hold a preliminary meeting with section editors by the Kobe Meeting.

4. Projects currently underway include the following:

1. List of Liaison contacts to national, regional and continental neurosurgical societies in every continent.
2. Collaboration with SIOP (International Society of Paediatric Oncology) / SIOP-E Brain Tumour Group (BTG) and Collaboration with ISPNO

We are continuing with this work. The List of Liaison contacts to national, regional and continental neurosurgical societies in every continent has been expanded and contact details forwarded to the membership committee as well as to Kenes to help with the membership drive.

The collaboration with SIOP International and the SIOP-E Brain Tumour Group remains robust. We already highlighted in the last report, the whole day neuro-oncology scientific session, and the “Wrap-up Session” held with Stefan Rutkowski and Frank Saran from SIOP-E BTG along with several neurosurgical colleagues. Later that month we held the 3rd International Education Day and Hands-On Cadaveric Workshops in Cape Town South Africa along with the SIOP meeting.

As part of the ongoing collaboration, we supported the local host Prof. Mami Yamasaki with details of several

oncology colleagues willing to participate in our annual meeting. This year the ISPN has invited Prof Stefan Pfister from SIOP-E BTG, to talk on Biological advances in Oncology during the annual meeting in Kobe, amongst others.

We are working to see if we can hold a neurosurgery education activity along with the SIOP meeting in Dublin (October 19-22, 2016), but there is a serious timing clash (as this meeting immediately precedes the ISPN and it may not be possible).

Collaboration with ISPNO:

This year the ISPNO Meeting was held in Liverpool, 12-15th June 2016 and contained a strong neurosurgery programme with Conor Malluci and Barry Pizer as local hosts. A number of ISPN members actively participated including Prof. J. Wisoff, Prof. F. Boop, Prof. C. Theo, Prof. T Figaji, Prof. F. Sala, amongst others.

On the 12th June, Benedeta Pettorini organised a Neurophysiology Neuro-monitoring Workshop within ISPNO. There was also an ISPNO Education Day which was fully organised by the local hosts and ISPN was not involved.

We warmly congratulate Mr Conor Malluci, Ms Benedetta Pettorini and Prof. Barry Pizer, for a very successful meeting and for their hard work in ensuring that the ISPNO reflected a strong neurosurgery presence and hope that in future years, a similar “neurosurgical space” will become the norm.

5. Invitation to participate:

The Liaison Committee would welcome more volunteers, to assist with its several activities and objectives. Please let us know if you are interested.

With very best regards,



Guirish A Solanki
Chair Liaison Committee

Continental Representatives:

<i>Adrian Caceres</i>	<i>Costa Rica – Central America</i>	<i>Desiderio Rodrigues</i>	<i>UK- Europe</i>
<i>Ahmed Ammar</i>	<i>Saudi Arabia – Middle East</i>	<i>Matthieu Vinchon</i>	<i>France - Europe</i>
<i>Anthony Figaji</i>	<i>South Africa - Africa</i>	<i>Robert Chan</i>	<i>Taiwan - Asia</i>

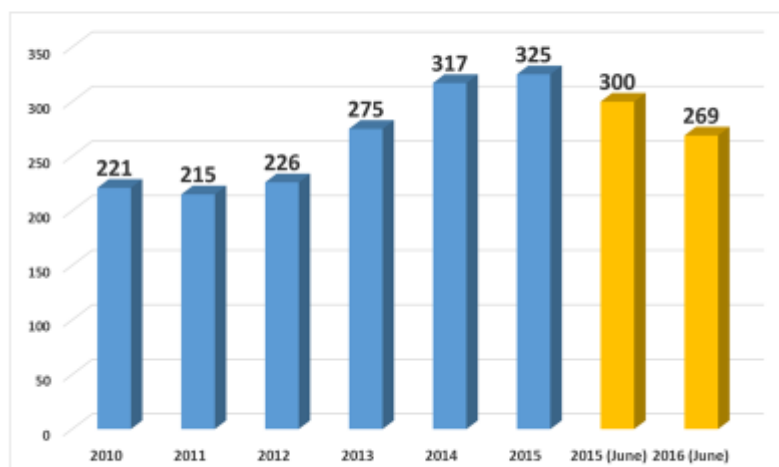
<i>Artur da Cunha</i>	<i>Brazil - Latin America</i>	<i>Sandip Chaterjee</i>	<i>India - Asia</i>
<i>Charlie Theo</i>	<i>Australia - Australasia</i>	<i>Zulma Tovar Spinosa</i>	<i>USA – North America</i>

Membership

Reizo Shirane, Sendai, Japan and Louise Gorringe (Kenes Group)



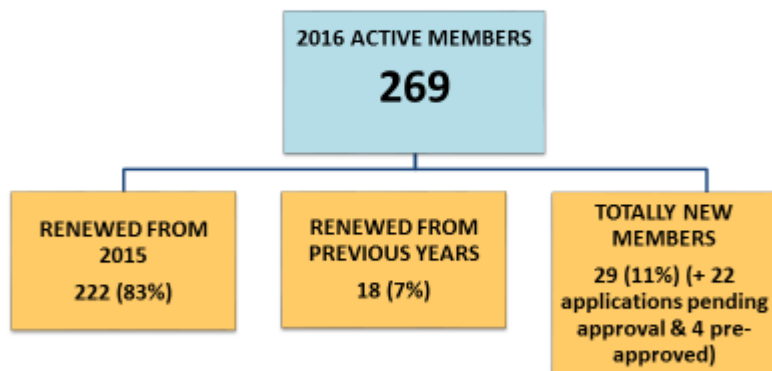
1. Membership Growth 2010-2016



* Members who have paid for particular year

** According to the data received

2. Membership applications and renewals



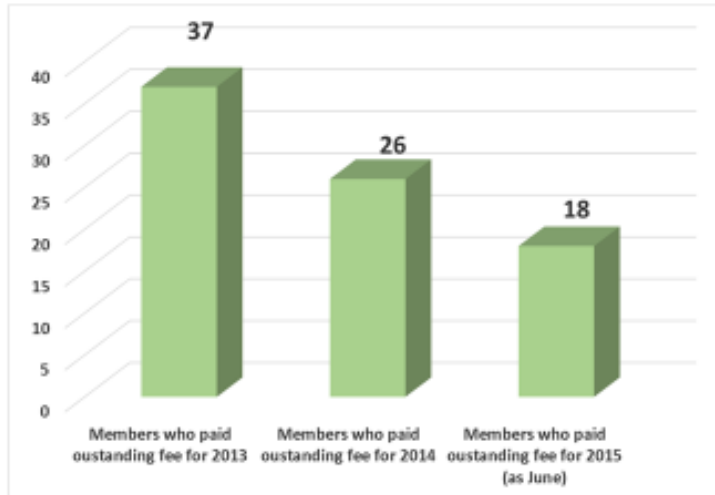
*68.30% of 2015 members renewed in 2016

3. New members and applicants: country

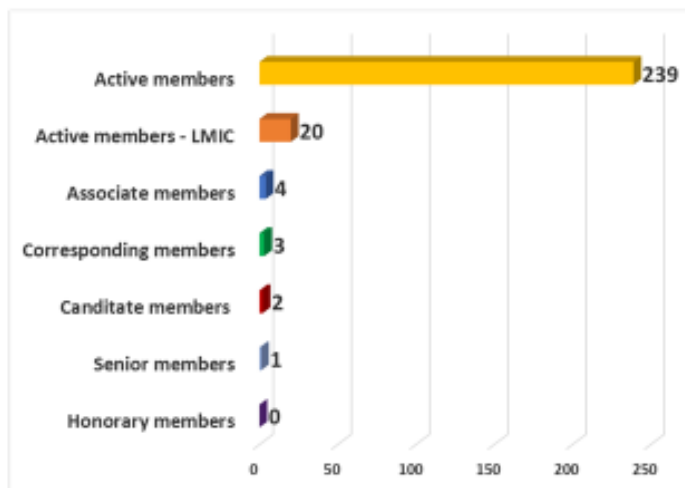
Country	applicants
Japan	12
United States of America	8
Brazil	7
Egypt	3
Turkey	3
United Kingdom	3
Saudi Arabia	2
Chile	2
Germany	2
Iran	2
South Africa	1

Country	applicants
Ukraine	1
India	1
Austria	1
Nigeria	1
Korea, South	1
Netherlands	1
Portugal	1
Finland	1
Colombia	1
Ghana	1

4. Payments for outstanding years



5. Membership distribution

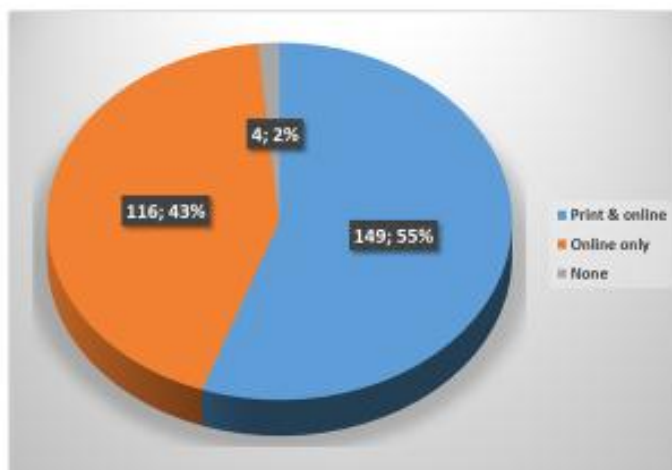


6. LMIC Members

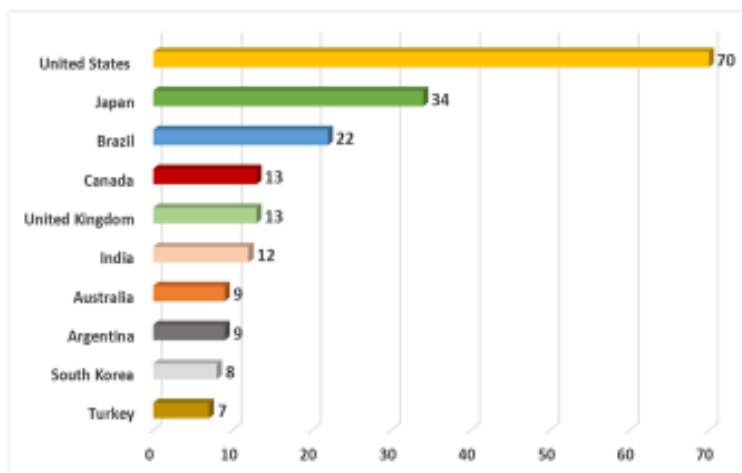
- In order to support neurosurgeons from low and lower-middle income countries a new lower rate membership category has been introduced in 2016. **The membership fee is \$100 and includes online access to the journal.**
- **Important:** members/applicants from upper middle income countries (as Brazil) cannot benefit from this rate.

Country	N° of Members
India	12
Egypt	4
Indonesia	2
Ghana	1
Sudan	1

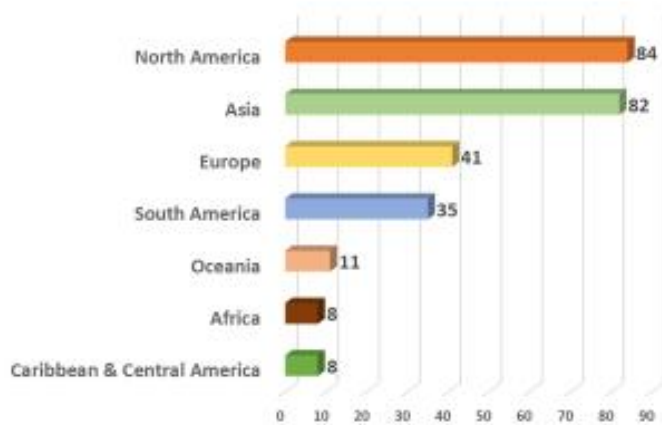
7. Journal



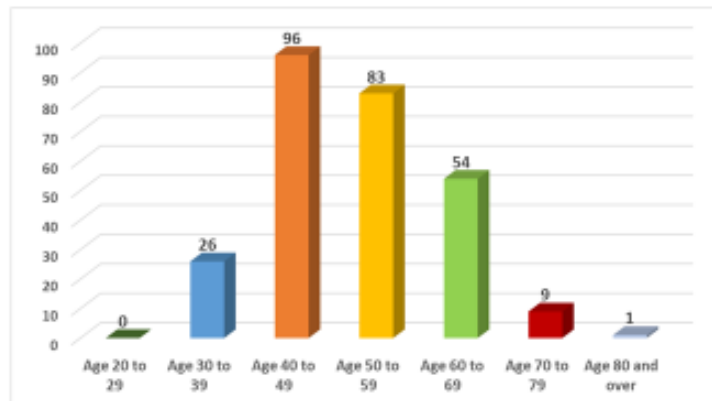
8. Top 10 leading countries



9. Members per region



10. Member age distribution (out of 268)



Age average 52 years old

11. Recommendations

- Link membership with the congress
 - Encourage members to renew/apply through offering reduced fee
 - Promote membership on congress website and in congress mailings
 - Promote membership at the congress with the option to apply and renew at the meeting
- Promote the new "Developing Countries" membership category
 - Communicate to partner societies in these countries
 - Via the website and email communication
- Increase the visibility of membership on the website
- Member get member activity – encourage existing members to bring one new member to the society
- Recruit new members at the congress
 - Have an ISPN booth
 - Promote membership through leaflets and other promotional material
 - Professionalize membership leaflets

Communication

Wolfgang Wagner, Mainz, Germany

Adrian Caceres, Costa Rica

Since several new attempts to re-establish a full cooperation with the MoonBrand company to manage and modernize the website failed, it was finally decided to move the management, development, update etc. of the ISPN website (excluding the Guide) to Kenes. The Kenes contract proposal is under final evaluation by the Executive Board. If finally approved, over the next weeks and months, the website content will be transferred and a modernized and state-of-the-art website will be established. It is scheduled to have done at least part of this work until the ISPN meeting 2016 in Kobe.

Scientific

Graham Fieggen, Cape-Town, South Africa

More than 500 abstracts were received. Of these 96 were accepted for full platform presentation, 134 for flash presentations and 213 for posters.

An extremely dense programme has been finalized with the first day , Monday dedicated to Spine | Craniofacial | Epilepsy & Functional Neurosurgery , parallel to the Nursing Symposium; Tueasday will have as central topics Trauma, Vascular and a further parallel session on spine; Wednesday will be centered on Oncology and Thursday on Hydrocephalus, Education and Omics (proteomics, metabolomics etc.)

Ways & Means

Conor Mallucci, Liverpool, UK

1. 2000 USD dollar award for Kobe meeting

- 13 direct applications were received via ISPN website
 - 11 awards have been proposed to the Executive Board to be approved
 - 1 application has been rejected as the applicant already had received the award

International travelling fellowships

- 5 enquiries
- 3 recommended awards
 - 3 month fellowship for minimally invasive and skull base fellowship with Mark Souwedaine Cornell, NY, due to start Oct – Dec 2016 (Greek and UK trainee) - - I would recommend an award of 5000 USD
 - 3 month fellowship with Shlomi Constantini in Tel Aviv for (Dutch trainee) late 2015 – I would recommend an award retrospectively of the 3800 euros requested
 - 6 months fellowship In Rome to start November 2016 – I have received confirmation of support from Gianpiero Tamburrini and recommend \$5000 award

Further requests

- A second 6 months fellowship has been required by a further applicant for a fellowship at Catholic University in Rome, an ISPN member again supported from Gianpiero Tamburrini , fellowship programme to start in November (to be discussed for

approval). The request is for a 5000 USD amount

- 1 vague enquiry – will need more specifics - I will contact them for more details