

International Congress of Audiology 2008

Start planning your Hong Kong adventure!

Lena Wong and Brad McPherson

Co-Chairs, 2008 International Congress of Audiology

Now is the time to plan your trip to Hong Kong for the XXIXth International Congress of Audiology. June 8 to 12 will be with us soon! Early bird registration closes March 31. However, even standard rate registration is significantly reduced for ISA members. The Program Committee is delighted to note the Keynote Speakers for our major themes—*Improving Outcomes with Hearing Prosthesis (Prof Ruth Bentler), Epidemiology & Genetics of Hearing Loss (Prof Adrian Davis) and Hearing Loss & Ageing (Prof Louise Hickson)*. Our Keynote Speakers have assembled a very impressive group of Panelists to support discussion of each of these themes. We are also pleased to note that over 200 oral and poster presentations have already been received for ICA2008. The rich diversity of our field is well represented in terms of both topics and presenters. Whatever your special area of interest, you are sure to find many 'must attend' papers on the

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International Society of Audiology Update

George Mencher

Assistant Secretary General
International Society of Audiology

As we approach the XXIX International Congress of Audiology to be held in Hong Kong, I thought it might be wise to update our members about the latest developments within ISA. Where to begin??

Our new website is now fully operational. Members can log on, change their own passwords, update their address and e-mail information as well as their basic enrollment data. Several new pages include ISA documents, past issues of the Audinews, contact information, etc. A direct link to our affiliated societies and to the Humanitarian Audiology Committee can also be found. Finally, it is now possible for members to directly link to the International Journal of Audiology through the Member's Only section and actually read all back issues of the journal and view articles which will appear in future issues. We are looking into a section for job advertisement as well as having a section where our affiliated societies can post

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A. Charles Holland Foundation
2009 SCHOLARSHIPS

Request for Applications

The A. Charles Holland Foundation invites applications for a Scholarship in the field of Audiology/Otology. The Scholarship is intended to support a training stage of 2-3 months at a specialized Department (different from current affiliation) for trainees in Audiology/Otology. Applications should include the object and duration of the training, including the Department where it could be undertaken (together with its written agreement), a CV describing specific fields of interest and previous experience, a list of publications if any and a letter of recommendation from the current Head of Department. Applications (in English) should be submitted by December 31st, 2008 and will be evaluated by three members of the Foundation Scientific Committee. The winners will be notified by March 31st, 2009 and the grant will be awarded by May 31st, 2009.

Eligibility requirements: 1) University degree from faculties related to audiological and/or otological fields (Medicine as well as Audiology), 2) age under 35 years.

Five Scholarships of 6.000 Euro each will be awarded.

For further information and application forms please call A. Charles Holland Foundation Secretariat: +39-02.57312361 or write to: A. Charles Holland Foundation Secretariat, Via Ripamonti, 133, 20141 Milan, Italy – Fax: +39-02-57312367 – e-mail: musatti@crsfoundation.org or crs@crsfoundation.org

A Special Message to Graduating Audiology Students

Robert W. Keith, Ph.D.

Chair, Committee on Student Membership

As you begin to think ahead to graduation and your professional future I urge you to plan to retain your membership in the International Society of Audiology. There are several ways that we demonstrate our professionalism after graduation. They include acquiring licensure and certification when it is available in your country and membership in professional organizations. In a shrinking world, membership in the ISA provides you opportunities of staying informed on what is happening in audiology in different places, maintains communication with your colleagues across the globe, and keeps you professionally informed on the latest news and research. You know that membership in the ISA includes many benefits including:

- a personal copy of the **International Journal of Audiology**.
- a copy of any issue of **Series in Audiology** when available.
- the **AUDINEWS** (ISA Newsletter) as well as the **Hearing International** newsletter
- reduced participation fee to future [congresses and meetings](#).
- participation in voting procedures of representatives to the ISA
- right of active participation in the general assembly of the ISA.
- Chance to voice your opinions on hearing impairment, audiology and audiological health care through the channels of the ISA worldwide.

The International Journal of Audiology alone is critically important to your continued professional growth after

ICA Hong Kong - 2008

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Congress program. We already have presenters from over thirty countries planning to attend ICA2008. The Congress will also host a superb exhibition hall that will give you the opportunity to learn of the latest trends in audiological equipment, hearing aids and associated products. Importantly, the Congress will allow delegates to interact with many of the most active professionals in the dynamic Asian region who serve those with hearing loss.

One of the joys of life in Hong Kong is the fast, safe and efficient public transport system. The Congress will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, which has easy access by bus, train or ferry to all the areas you are likely to stay at or to visit. Hong Kong also has easy airport to city connections. For most Congress visitors the Airport Express train will be the best option. The train will take you on a comfortable journey to downtown Hong Kong in twenty-five minutes. Local taxis are very reasonably priced if you prefer not to try the many buses and trams. Most transport services have signs in both Chinese and English, as do most shops and restaurants. Most Hong Kongers who work in service industries speak fluent English, as well as Cantonese and Mandarin—so language is no barrier. For many travelers Hong Kong equals shopping. June is likely to be a great time to do this for many overseas visitors. The Hong Kong dollar is tied to the US dollar and exchange rates are very favourable for our visitors these days.

The local organizing committee hopes that you are planning your visit to Hong Kong now. Go to www.ica2008.com for more information. See you in Hong Kong in June! ❖

The Research Minute

Mark Krumm, Ph.D

Associate Editor AudineWS

Hearing Handicap among the Homeless in America

James R. Steiger, PhD^a and Patricia Saccone, AuD^b

^aUniversity of Akron, Akron, Ohio ^b West Palm Beach Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Each day hundreds of thousands of people experience homelessness in American cities. The most visible form of homelessness consists of the chronic homeless who have adjusted to life on the streets and in shelters. However, there are also economically and situationally homeless who are likely to be high school graduates. These individuals are frequently employed, seeking employment or have been employed. Finding and maintaining employment is a persistent problem for these homeless persons, presumably including those with hearing loss. Government agencies and non profit organizations typically address homeless persons health needs only in response to crisis situations, resulting in short-term treatments with minimal follow up. Hearing health care needs are usually not addressed at all.

Little is known about hearing loss among homeless persons. This is despite the fact that homeless persons are exposed to risk factors for hearing loss including military and occupational noise exposure, the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis (TB), and hepatitis. In one study, 18.8% of homeless subjects reported hearing problems. However, the extent to which hearing loss might affect the employability of homeless adults is unknown.

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Message to Graduating Audiology Students – *continued from page 3*

graduation and will be an important part of your monthly professional reading. As you know, each issue features original clinical and review articles, time-saving abstracts that outline the relevance of a study to your practice, a book of the latest literature, a preliminary report on any groundbreaking new study, and news and conference information directly from the British Society of Audiology, the International Society of Audiology, and the Nordic Audiological Society.

There are several levels of membership, at affordable fees that are described on our website. If you have not reviewed the ISA website recently I encourage you to online at <http://www.isa-audiology.org/> to be reminded of the many activities and opportunities that accompany membership. ❖

ISA Update

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information about their activities. Members can suggest any ideas to Henry Trahan, our website manager. We want to make the website a living and active part of ISA.

Speaking of Henry Trahan, I am pleased to say that he has been appointed by the Executive Committee as our ISA website manager. He will work with Oceanbridge Communications (our website provider) to ensure that things are current and the site is active.

As you may know, Juan Madriz Alfaro has been editor of the Audinews for some time now. He has stepped down from that role, a loss we are sad to see. We thank him for his wonderful effort as he moved the Audinews into a nicer looking and more modern newsletter than it had been before. We wish him great success in his future plans. His replacement as Editor of the Audinews is Dennis Burrows. The issue you are reading is his first as Editor. Please join me in welcoming Dennis to his new role and Henry to his and please, help to make their work easier by submitting materials to them.

We are all excited about the upcoming Congress in Hong Kong. Lena Wong and Brad McPherson have been working very hard to ensure that we have a top quality scientific and social programme. Hong Kong is such a wonderful city that I am sure we will be greeted with awesome sights, fantastic food, and the warmth and charm of one of the most famous places in the world. Please be sure to register early.

I recently met with the Brazilian Academy of Audiology and they are now planning for the 2010 ICA in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The dates are tentatively set for the end of March.

We will be hearing a lot more from them at the meeting in Hong Kong. Please put March, 2010 on your calendar and Sao Paulo as the place to be!

At the Hong Kong meeting we will lose two members of the Executive Committee as Juan Madriz and Bill Noble finish their terms as Representative of the General Assembly (Juan) and Immediate Past President (Bill). We will miss them and want to thank them for a combined 12 years of dedication and hard work on behalf of ISA. We hope that leaving the Executive Board will not mean the end of their

contribution. We hope to see them back again in some capacity and we certainly hope to see them working within the Society. Thank you to Bill and Juan! Hans Verschuure will also be leaving the Executive Committee as he has finished more than two terms as General Secretary (meaning he has served for nearly 16 years in that capacity). Hans has recently been ill and has decided that in the best interests of his health it would be wise to give up the mantle. We cannot say enough about what a fantastic job he has done and how we will miss him. We hope to pay tribute to him and the others in Hong Kong.

The three spaces opening up on the Executive Committee mean that three new folks need to be elected. That job falls to you, the members. Look for nomination forms, election ballots and requests for volunteers to appear in your e-mail soon.

We will be presenting annual reports and financial statements to the members in Hong Kong. Suffice it to say for now, that ISA is healthy, growing, dynamic, and making a strong contribution on the world scene. We want to continue to grow and continue to do what needs to be done for hearing, the hearing impaired, audiology, and our members. We can only accomplish that goal if you, our members, tell us what needs to be done, work on your committees, help to write ISA position papers and documents, and serve as officers in your organization. Please let us hear from you! ❖



The 5th Pan American Congress of Audiology & 2nd Latin American Congress on Cochlear Implants was held in Bogota, Columbia in November of 2007. Editors note: It looks like a fun group – at least the lone male (with the big smile) in the picture appears to be having fun.



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A little about Hong Kong

Hong Kong was a dependent territory of the United Kingdom from 1842 until the transfer of its sovereignty to the People's Republic of China in 1997. The Sino-British Joint Declaration and the Basic Law of Hong Kong stipulate that Hong Kong operate with a high degree of autonomy until at least 2047, fifty years after the transfer. Under the policy of "one country, two systems", the Central People's Government is responsible for the territory's defense and foreign affairs, while the Government of Hong Kong is responsible for its own legal system, police force, monetary system, customs policy, immigration policy, and delegates to international organizations and events. ❖

Hearing Handicap among the Homeless

In 2007, the authors described the outcome of a project in which economic and situational homeless persons were provided hearing screening services as part of a comprehensive health care program at an urban homeless shelter¹. Services provided to these individuals included otoscopy, immittance and pure tone testing. Of the 132 homeless adults described in this study, 83 (63%) were men and 49 (37%) women. Subject ages ranged from 18 to 69 years. All subjects were either employed or actively seeking employment at the time of their hearing screening.

Hearing test results indicated that 47 subjects (35.6% of the total subjects studied) exhibited hearing loss if their bilateral high frequency pure tone averages were calculated at 1 Khz, 2 Khz and 4 Khz. Of these 47 subjects with hearing loss, 17 subjects exhibited mild high-frequency hearing loss (25–29 dB HL bilateral PTA), 16 subjects exhibited mild to moderate high-frequency hearing loss (30-44 dBHL bilateral PTA) and 14 subjects exhibited moderate hearing loss or worse (> 44 dBHL bilateral PTA). The presence of bilateral high frequency hearing loss in this group should not be underestimated; bilateral high-frequency hearing loss and hearing handicap appear linked². Consequently, the authors estimate that 10.6% of 47 subjects experienced sufficient hearing handicap to require hearing aids use.

In summary, the authors found that over 35% of homeless subjects experienced some degree of hearing handicap, and over 10 % of the subjects exhibited hearing handicap sufficient to require the use of hearing aids. These findings suggest hearing loss could hamper the efforts of homeless individuals with finding and maintaining employment. The authors therefore urge vocational counselor training to include information on the psychosocial ramifications of hearing handicap. Vocational counselors should also understand that special accommodations may be needed, such as hearing aids or other prosthetic devices. Finally, vocational counselors should understand how to employ compensatory strategies for effective communication with their hearing handicapped clients.

1. Saccone, P.A., Steiger, J.R. (2007). Hearing handicap among residents of an urban homeless shelter. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. 18(1), 161-172.

2. Stewart M, Pankiw R, Lehman ME, et al. Hearing loss and hearing handicap in users of recreational firearms. *J Am Acad Audiol*. 2002 Mar;13(3):160–8. ❖

**SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ON
MANAGEMENT OF THE
TINNITUS PATIENT**

Thursday – Saturday
September 18-20, 2008

FOR PATIENTS AND PROFESSIONALS

SPONSORED BY:

**Department of Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery
Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology
The University of Iowa**

Intended Audience & Purpose: This conference is intended for otologists, audiologists, psychologists, and nurses who provide clinical management services for patients with tinnitus. *The conference will also provide information to patients who have tinnitus, their family and friends, but it will NOT include individual diagnosis and treatment.* The purpose of this conference is to provide a review of current evaluation and management strategies for the treatment of tinnitus. Upon completion of the program, the participant will be able to discuss the management of tinnitus and the tinnitus patient.

Course director: Contact Richard Tyler: E-mail rich-tyler@uiowa.edu Tel: 319-356-2471 For further information please contact Gareth Smith, gareth-smith@uiowa.edu

Guests of Honor:

David Baguley PhD, MBA

Consultant Audiological Scientist, Head of Audiology, Cambridge University Hospitals

“Hyperacusis: Mechanisms and Treatment”

Anne Mette Mohr MA, (Clinical Psychology)

Psychologist, Denmark

“Tinnitus: Person Centered Therapy”

Special Guest Faculty

Anthony Cacace, PhD

Professor, Wayne State University

“Imaging of Tinnitus”

Special Guest Faculty

Michael Block, PhD

Starkey Laboratories., Inc.

Ed Desporte, MA

General Hearing Instruments, New Orleans, LA

Jack Springer

Neuromonics, Pty Ltd

University of Iowa Faculty

Matthew Howard, MD Professor of Neurosurgery

“Electrical Stimulation of the Brain”

Marlan Hansen, M.D., Neurotologist

Rich Tyler, Ph.D., Audiologist

Paul Abbas Ph.D., Physiologist

Claudia Coelho Ph.D., Otologist

Catherine Woodman, M.D., Psychiatrist

Anne Gehringer, M.A., Audiologist

Stephanie Gogel, M.A., Audiologist



Message from the Editor

Dennis L. Burrows, Ph.D.

Editor, Audinews (doctordb@chartermi.net)

Volunteering

Oops, the newsletter is late!

I recall with fondness the advise of my father as I prepared to go off to the US Army during my youth. His advise has been given to many young men over the years by their fathers and is a piece of advise, while wise, is often ignored. That is, "never volunteer". My long history of volunteering began when I agreed in the 5th grade to stay after school and help clean the blackboards. I didn't realize that this was often an after school punishment. I just knew I liked the teacher and enjoyed talking with her and learning from her. This reasoning seems to still hold today. That is, I enjoy the camaraderie of my professional colleagues and I always learn from them as well.

I have a long history of volunteering that includes many professional organization duties including President of the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association and, most recently, Vice President for Standards and Ethics in Audiology for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. And, in between I served on numerous professional committees, councils, boards, and task forces. Of course, let's not forget the local school board, church committees, Kiwanis Club, and many other community volunteer activities. I have enjoyed and learned from each and everyone of those opportunities and know that I will do the same as Audinews Editor. In fact, I have already learned two valuable lessons from my new duty as Audinews Editor. First, lie about the article submission due date – everyone is very busy and like me puts things off until it **HAS** to be done; and second, NEVER UPGRADE SOFTWARE in the middle of preparing a newsletter – I upgraded the publishing software only to find out the myriad of incompatibilities between Adobe InDesign CS3 and Windows Vista. I am typing this newsletter on my "old" Windows XP laptop at my kitchen counter using MS Word. So, please excuse the tardiness and the different look. JJ Madriz did a wonderful job of designing a great looking newsletter but, unfortunately, the frequent crashes and the pages that look like code did not allow me to use his template. I will promise to try to make the conversion back to the original design once I find the time to work my way through that "thing" called Adobe Technical Support.

Throughout this newsletter there are calls to volunteer and become part of the International Society of Audiology whether you are a student or seasoned veteran. We would be foolish to not understand that the "world is shrinking". The ease and relative inexpense of travel makes the opportunities for international collaboration a reality. The internet and e-mail allows for quick communication and the discovery of information from all over the world. Business and even politics are global and it is only logical that Audiology will also be global. The International Society of Audiology promises to be one of the vehicles to take the profession of Audiology in that direction and I encourage all professionals with an interest in hearing loss and the treatment of hearing loss to join the ISA as we move further into the millennium. The discovery of why we lose our hearing and the treatment of hearing loss promises to be exciting and quick paced and ISA is an opportunity to experience these changes from a global perspective.

See you in Hong Kong!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being sought for the following International Society of Audiology leadership positions:

Secretary General (SG)

President -Elect

An election to choose our next Secretary General and President will take place during the Hong Kong Congress (June 8-12, 2008). Please send-in your nomination for Secretary General and President-Elect, by e-mail, before April 30th, 2008. These nominations can be sent to: George T. Mencher (Assistant Secretary General) at gtisa@yahoo.com, or to Juan J Madriz (Chairman Nominations Committee) at j13madriz@yahoo.com

UPCOMING AUDIOLOGY EVENTS

XXIX International Congress of Audiology
Hong Kong, China
June 8th – 12th, 2008
Contact: www.ica2008.com

NHS2008 Conference: Beyond Newborn Hearing Screening: Infant and
Childhood Hearing in Science and Clinical Practice.
June 19th – 21th, 2008
Cernobbio (Como Lake), ITALY
Contact: nhs@polimi.it or www.nhs2008.polimi.it

9th Congress of the International Commission of Biological Effects of Noise
(ICBEN): Noise as a Public Health Problem
Mashantucket, Conneticut, USA
July 21st – 15th, 2008
Contact: www.icben.org

2008 ASHA Convention
Chicago, Illinois, USA
November 20th – 22nd, 2008
Contact: www.asha.org

9th EFAS Congress
Tenerife, Canary Islands, SPAIN
June 21st – 24th, 2009
Contact: www.efas2009.org

International Society of Audiology Executive Board

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International Society
of Audiology

香港聽力學會
HONG KONG SOCIETY OF AUDIOLOGY

ICA 2008

XXIXth International Congress of Audiology
Hong Kong



CALL FOR PAPERS

International Congress of Audiology, Hong Kong

Date: 8 - 12 June 2008
Venue: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Address: 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong

THEME

LATEST TECHNOLOGIES
NEW PRACTICES
FUTURE DIRECTIONS

ROUNDTABLE TOPICS

- ▶ IMPROVING OUTCOMES OF HEARING PROSTHESES
- ▶ EPIDEMIOLOGY & GENETICS OF HEARING LOSS
- ▶ HEARING LOSS & AGEING

IMPORTANT DATES

FIRST CALL FOR ABSTRACTS	1 MAY 2007
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS	31 JANUARY 2008
NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF ABSTRACTS	29 FEBRUARY 2008

The abstract (no more than 200 words) should be submitted electronically via www.ica2008.com

For more information, please visit www.ica2008.com

