



AudineWS

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Member News

Member news for this issue is not good. This new year has not been a good one for ISA. On the fifth of January, two of our past presidents died. We mourn for our immediate past-president, Iêda Russo of Brazil (below) and past-president (1994-96) Ronald Hinchcliffe of the UK. On the 3rd of February, Doris Nekahm-Heis (Austria) died at the age of 51. Below are some memorials for them.

Our President, José Barajas has written the following memorial:



One day, when Iêda was four years old and lived in Juiz de Fora, Minas Gerais, her mother struck up a conversation with an Italian fabric peddler. On noticing the black-eyed little girl, he said "Madam, this girl is not from here. She comes from far away. She was a princess of noble soul in ancient Egypt." Her mother did not mention this conversation to her until she was seven, when she had the first of a series of recurring dreams she would experience every seven years until a little before her wedding to Ricardo. In her last

dream, from which she awoke in tears and uttering unknown words, a male face showing the royal attributes of Egyptian pharaohs bid her farewell forever.

Iêda C. Pacheco Russo was born in Rio de Janeiro, the daughter of Cel Altair Chaves Pacheco, a military man, and D Edir Nascimento Chavez Pacheco, a poetess and painter. Granddaughter and niece of musicians, since her early childhood she felt an irresistible attraction for the notes that miraculously came out of the piano when somebody pressed its keys. With great talent and a sense for melody, she graduated as a piano teacher from the Drama and Music Conservatory of São Paulo. In the military circle of São Paulo, of which she had always been a member, she spent extraordinary soirées playing the piano with the best musicians of the moment.

In 1971, she graduated in Clinical Audiology from the Faculty of Phonoaudiology of the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo. From 1972 to 1979, she headed the Clinical Audiology Section of the Santa Casa of São Paulo. She obtained her doctoral degree in 1988 and the specialty of Clinical Audiology in 1996 from the Federal Council of Phonoaudiology.

At the time of her death, she was a professor at Clinical Phonoaudiology Department and the Post-graduate Program of the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo. Her academic interests went from children's behavioral responses to the global assessment of adult patients with hearing impairment. She had numerous publications and has been a regular lecturer at courses and international congresses.

As the founder of the *Sociedade Brasileira de Fonoaudióloga*, she contributed to the foundation of the *Academia Brasileira de Audiologia*.

In 1998, at the Congress of the International Society of Audiology held in Buenos Aires, she was elected Brazilian representative to the executive committee. President of the International Society of Audiology during the period 2008-2010, her last great contribution to the international community was the successful organization of the 30th International Congress of

Audiology that was celebrated, under her presidency, last year in São Paulo, of which most of us have fond memories.

It was during the International Congress of Audiology in Argentina, while she was looking at a photo of Pharaoh Tutankhamun announcing the 17th Congress of the International Federation of Otorhinolaryngological Societies (IFOS) in Cairo, when she had a premonition: "I don't know how, but I will be in that Congress." Actually, Iêda represented Brazilian Phonoaudiology at that congress in autumn 2002.

During the trip to Egypt, Iêda had the vivid impression that the tombs and palaces of Ancient Egypt were not only familiar to her, but also that she herself had been somehow connected to this land. The visit to the tomb of Ptah Hotep, a doctor and priest of the 5th dynasty (between 2500 and 2400 CE) provided her with the confirmation of a past life in the world of pharaohs and that the dream can come true (os sonhos podem ser realizados). From that moment, she overcame her fear of death, convinced, as she was, that our immortal souls survive our mortal remains.

Ron Hinchcliffe served our society more than admirably for many years. From 1971 through 1982, he was Assistant Editor of our journal, Audiology. He was Secretary-General from 1972 until 1990, and assumed the presidency in 1994, serving until 1996. Our colleagues Arthur Boothroyd and Dai Stephens have provided the following memorial for him.



Ronald Hinchcliffe (1926-2011), who has died aged 84 after a period of ill health, was a pioneer of audiovestibular medicine both in the UK and worldwide. He devoted his life to the scientific and clinical study of hearing and balance disorders and, together with Professor Ian Taylor, was responsible for the establishment of audiological medicine as a recognized medical specialty under the aegis of the Royal College of Physicians. He conducted the earliest systematic epidemiological studies in the field, and his work on age-related hearing loss, published in the late 1950s, remains the most cited of studies on this condition. This led to an interest on the effects of noise on hearing and its medicolegal aspects of which he wrote extensively and was the leading expert. He was also extremely supportive of young researchers and doctors who worked with him and who included David Kemp FRS and Professor Linda Luxon, and many of us are indebted to the support he gave us throughout our careers.

In his own career, the two most influential figures to whom he frequently alluded were Professor Archie Cochrane in Cardiff and Professor S.S. Stevens of the Psychoacoustics Laboratory at Harvard. From the former, he developed his interest and concern for the evidence base of medical practice, as well as conducting his pioneering epidemiological studies in Vale of Glamorgan, the Rhondda Valley and Annandale in Scotland. Working with Smitty

Stevens led to a life-long interest in scaling techniques, and he would argue that all aspects of hearing and balance could be measured and analyzed in detail. Some of us have strong memories of him, in Iowa City, running water at different temperatures into our ears and being asked how dizzy we became.

He came from a humble background in Bolton, and studied physiology and medicine at Manchester University. He received his degree in physiology in 1947 and qualified in medicine in 1950. After his house jobs (internships) in Manchester, he believed that there were opportunities for both research and travel, his two passions, in the RAF, where he ran the air force acoustics laboratory, attaining the level of squadron leader and working on hearing protectors. He served in the RAF from 1951 to 1955. Following marriage to Doreen, he left the RAF and went to work for the MRC Wernher research unit at Kings College, London. At this time, he had a Wernher traveling fellowship that enabled him to spend a year at the Psychoacoustics Laboratory at Harvard with Smitty Stevens, Josef Zwislocki, E.G. Boring, and Nobel laureate Georg von Békésy. He was at the Wernher unit from 1955 to 1959. At this time, as well as being imbued with the concept of magnitude estimation and other measurement techniques from Stevens, he established friendships with four long-time collaborators, Bertram Scharf and Dixon Ward from the USA, Pal Kapur from India (and later the USA), Jacob Sadé from Israel.

Returning to London, he actually spent much of his time in Wales and Scotland on epidemiological studies with Archie Cochrane, which established his international reputation. This work on normal-hearing adults provided the baseline for subsequent population studies in the UK and abroad that have been used to quantitatively assess the effects of noise on hearing. This is a field to which he returned frequently and he was involved in many of the earliest medicolegal cases for noise-induced hearing loss, continuing to write on this topic long after his retirement. To hone his skills in this respect, he also obtained appropriate legal qualifications.

In 1960, he was invited to the University of Iowa, a main center of American audiology, to establish a balance research laboratory in conjunction with the audiology laboratory run by Scott Reger. Much of his work there was concerned with Menière disorder, and

he was able to use his interest in human measurement to better delineate the condition and to establish the important psychological factors underlying it. This was another aspect of his work that recurred throughout his professional career, and applied particularly to improving our understanding of tinnitus with his studies in the 1980s.

He returned to London in 1963 as Consultant Neuro-otologist at the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, establishing a vestibular research laboratory. He was awarded a personal chair in audiological medicine in 1977, which later became an established chair. He was one of the founders of the British Society of Audiology - which actually happened in a bar in Mexico City- in order to accept an invitation from the International Society of Audiology to host the next congress. In 1980, he was one of the founders of the International Society of Physicians in Audiology (IAPA). He went on to chair both organizations.

Over the years, he was responsible for the education of many young doctors and scientists, from all over the world, in the field of hearing and balance and their disorders and was always very supportive of able and enthusiastic individuals throughout their careers. He was an invaluable source of information, even long after his retirement (1991), and will be sorely missed by all his friends and colleagues throughout the world.

Austrian colleagues Patrick Zorowka, Kurt Stephan, Viktor Koci, and Viktor Weichbold have submitted the following:

We are very sad to inform you that our dear colleague, and member of the society, Doris Nekahm-Heis, M.D. passed away on February 3, 2011. She has been working at the Department of Hearing, Speech and Voice Disorders of the Innsbruck Medical University, Innsbruck, Austria. Doris was aged 51 years, and had suffered from cancer. Her death occurred unexpectedly and rapidly.



Doris Nekahm-Heis held the position of vice director of the department. Between 1994 and 1996, during a vacancy of the director's chair, she was head of the department. Doris was highly engaged in the teaching of students and the training of colleagues. But most of all, she was devoted to Pediatric Audiology and the detection and habilitation of newborn and childhood hearing impairment. Her extensive knowledge and expertise, together with her warm heart and selflessness, made her a much sought after expert, to whom patients and families, as well as colleagues, trustfully turned to seek help or information.

Her death is a great loss to us, but the many good things she had done will always remain in our memory.

Society News

Our Secretary General, George Mencher, reports "It is with a great deal of sadness that I inform you on January 5, 2011, Dra. Iêda Russo passed away as the result of a serious pulmonary disorder." Your editor had the pleasure of spending several days with her last

August in Brazil. Not only was she a great scholar and clinician, she was a brilliant pianist and singer. What a remarkable and beautiful woman she was.

The Brazilian Society of Speech Pathology and Audiology has created a space where anyone can express their messages to Iêda's family. It is

[http://www.sbfa.org.br/portal/index.php?cd_idi= 2.](http://www.sbfa.org.br/portal/index.php?cd_idi=2)

Moreover, as reported above, we also lost Ron Hinchcliffe. He was a major factor in our society's history and development, having served as secretary-general and president. Then, after all this, Doris Neckham-Heis died. She was a major contributor to our 2004 congress in Innsbruck, Austria.

Humanitarian News

Solar Ear announces a Fellowship in honor of our late president, Iêda Russo. This grant is to enable a student who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a graduate program in audiology or speech-language pathology or communicative disorders to work on a humanitarian project of their choice in a developing country. Five highly-acclaimed professionals and friends of Iêda will act as judges: Dra. Bolajoko Olusanya (Nigeria), Dr. Monica Andrade Weinstein (Brazil), our president Dr. José Barajas (Spain), Dr. Jackie Clark (USA), and Dr. Christine Yoshinaga-Itano (USA).

Solar Ear will offer a US\$30,000 fellowship toward supporting the Iêda Russo Fellow's humanitarian project. This project must be sustainable and last anywhere from 14 to 24 months. Sustainability means that at the end of the project, it must be able to continue without the fellow's involvement. The first fellowship grant will be given during the first quarter of 2012, and the deadline to submit is the last quarter of 2011. The project must start no later than August 2012. Contact: <http://www.solarear.com.br/ieda/>

Clinical News

A study done at Kyoto University (Japan) found that a gel made from insulin-like factor 1 has been used successfully in 25 patients with sudden sensory-neural hearing loss. It was shown that

these treatments were at least as successful as hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

A report in the British Medical Journal stated that second-hand smoke may be linked to hearing loss. There have been earlier reports showing a connection between hearing loss and smoking, but this is the first to note such a finding in second-hand smoke.

Research News

A recent report from the United States' National Institutes of Health reports that researchers "were able to eliminate tinnitus in a group of rats by stimulating a nerve in the neck while simultaneously playing a variety of sound tones over an extended period of time..." We trust that this turns out to be good news for humans.

Affiliates' News

We hear from Joanna Lam of the Hong Kong Society of Audiology that, since 2008, they have had a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program. It aims to enhance audiologists' professional knowledge and also to encourage audiologists upgrade their professional techniques. The society has organized several seminars and workshops, and these are not only for its own members.

We have heard also from the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) that they will co-host our 2016 ISA congress with the Canadian Association of Audiologists. Also, CASLPA has released a new position paper on Universal Newborn Hearing Screening. CASLPA is seeking to ensure equal access to screening to all babies born in Canada.

We have an invitation from Prof. Henryk Skarzynski, president of the EFAS 2011, inviting us to the 2011 meeting in Warsaw, Poland (see calendar below). A special feature of this meeting will be the congress of young scientists and students.

ASALFA (our Argentine affiliate) reports that their next congress will be co-hosted by the Argentinian Health Ministry.

BIAP is currently inviting applications for the following course: Public Health Planning for Hearing Impairment. The course will be

July 11-15, 2011 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

EFAS reminds us that the deadline for submitting abstracts for 10th Congress (see calendar below) is February 28th. Submit them to www.efas2011.org. A current issue to be addressed at the Congress is a focus on European hearing screening programs for children beginning school.

Meetings

March 1-4, 2011. New Zealand Audiological Society, 12th Annual Asia-Oceania ORL-HNS Congress, Auckland. Contact: <http://www.asia-oceania2011.org/about/>.

March 10-13. German Society of Audiology, Jena. Contact: <http://www.uzh.ch/orl/dga2011/index.html>
<http://www.uzh.ch/orl/dga2011/index.html>

April 6-9, 2011. American Academy of Audiology, Chicago. Contact: www.audiologyNOW.org.

April 15-16, 2011. Spanish Association of Audiology (AEDA), Badajoz, Extremadura. Contact: congresos@aedaweb.com.

April 17-20, 2011. 26th International Meeting in Audiology of the Brazilian Academy of Audiology, Maceió. Contact: aba@audiologiabrasil.com.br.

April 27-30. Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA), Montreal.

April 27 – May 1, 2011. BIAP 46th Convention. Vravrona, Attica, Greece. Contact: leboechat@terra.com.br
Contact: <http://www.caslpa.ca/Events/conference.asp>

May 12-15, 2011. The 10th European Symposium on Pediatric Cochlear Implantation, Athens, Greece. Contact: www.espci2011.com/en/.

June 22-25, 2011. EFAS is the European Federation of Audiology Societies. The 10th EFAS Congress, Warsaw, Poland,. Contact: <http://www.efas2011.org/>

June 26-30, 2011. The 22nd Biennial Symposium of the International Electric Response Audiometry Study Group, Moscow, Russia. Contact: <http://www.ierasg2011.ru/>

July 2-4, 2011. 1st Congress of the Confederation of the European ORL-HNS, Barcelona, Spain. Contact: <http://www.Ceorlhnsbarcelona3011.org/>

July 11-15, 2011. Public Health Planning for Hearing Impairment, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Contact: <http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/short/hearing.health.html>

July 14-16, 2011. The 13th International Symposium on Cochlear Implants in Children, Chicago, IL, Contact: www.ci2011usa/

Sept. 7-9, 2011. British Society of Audiology Annual conference 2011, Nottingham, UK. Contact: <http://www.Thebsa.org.uk/>

Nov. 17-19, 2011. American Speech-Language-Hearing Assn., convention, San Diego, CA. Contact: <http://asha.org/events/convention>.

April 29 –May 3, 2012. The XXXI World Congress of Audiology, Moscow, Russia, Contact: www.ICA2012.ru.

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