

Audinews

The Newsletter of the International Society of Audiology

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(send news to the editor: seg49@comcast.net)

Again, we have a biography of one of our great scientists and scholars, Moe Bergman. You may recall that Prof. Bergman was president of the 1988 Congress, in Jerusalem, and we presented him with the Aram Glorig Award. His colleague at Tel Aviv University, Prof. Liat Kishon-Rabin (with several helpers) has provided the following.

Professor Moe Bergman, born in the United States, has been in audiology since the 1930s. He was one of the organizers of aural rehabilitation services in military hospitals during World War II, and returned to civilian life to initiate the first Veterans Administration Audiology Clinic, in New York City.

Prof. Bergman earned his doctorate from Columbia University and directed the speech and hearing program at Hunter College of the City University of New York. Subsequently, he was elected to be the first executive officer of the Ph.D. program in speech and hearing sciences at the Graduate School of City University.

Moe published his first article in 1950, and was one of the teaching faculty at the First International Course in Audiology, in Stockholm. There he met six otolaryngologists from Israel, which eventually made an impact on his life as well as on a newly-established nation. In 1953, Moe was invited to Tel-Hashomer Hospital, a visit that led to the hospital's first audiology clinic and then to other clinics including the first audiology center at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. Later (1967), he was the leading participant in the design of the curriculum of the Department of Communication Disorders at Tel Aviv University.

In 1956, Moe Bergman speculated that "the most important single development which has overcome the handicap of deafness has been modern hearing aids." Early on, he postulated that the peripheral auditory system is partially responsible for decrements in the understanding of degraded speech and that decline in speech perception with advancing age is in part related to changes in the central nervous system. He was fervent in his plea that in order to uncover age-related decline in speech understanding, we must use materials and test conditions that stress the auditory system so as to unravel the perceptual problems attending age-related hearing loss. In 1980, he wrote his seminal text "Aging and the Perception of Speech."

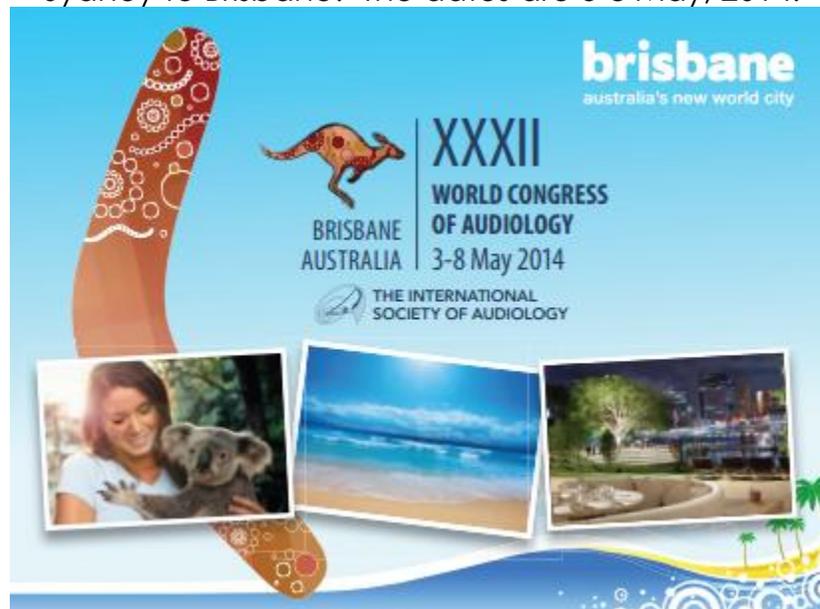
Upon his retirement from Hunter College, Mae and Hannah moved to Israel. For many years, he was a member of the senior faculty of the Department of Communication Disorders at Tel Aviv University. He also helped establish the

university's undergraduate program for teachers of the deaf, and he co-founded the Israeli Society for Auditory Research.

The U.S. National Academy of Sciences defines mentors as "...people with career experience willing to share their knowledge, providing moral and emotional encouragement, tutors who give specific feedback on one's performance, are role models in which their mentoring relationship is characterized by mutual respect, trust and understanding." Prof. Moe Bergman was, and (in his 90s) continues to be the mentor for thousands of students and professionals. His lifelong devotion to excellence in our profession as a visionary, founder, teacher, researcher, and statesman benefits all of us.

Society News

Note the location of the 2014 congress, in Australia, has been changed from Sydney to Brisbane. The dates are 3-8 May, 2014.



Past president of the society and of the recent congress, George Tavartkiladze has sent the following report about the Moscow meeting.

For the first time in the history of the International Society of Audiology, the ISA Congress was held in Moscow. At the 2006 meeting in Innsbruck, J.J. Madriz and I initiated the process to change the name of our Congress from International to World Congress. This was dictated by the development of audiological science and clinical practice and the increased reputation of our congresses, which were not only attracting an international audience but were representing audiology across the globe. However, we didn't succeed. At the next congress (2008), in Hong Kong, the ISA General Assembly voted to change the name of the International Congress of Audiology to "World Congress of Audiology". It was also determined that the numerical sequence should not change; accordingly, the meeting in Moscow was planned as the XXXI World

Congress of Audiology. We are proud that the very first “world” congress was held in Moscow – one of the world’s most beautiful cities with outstanding historical, cultural and scientific traditions.

The XXXI World Congress of Audiology was opened by a Russian boy with cochlear implants, who welcomed the participants in English and in Russian. The participants were welcomed also by Congress President George Tavartkiladze, ISA president José Juan Barajas de Prat, ISA general-secretary George Mencher, IFOS secretary-general Milan Profant, the president of the Russian ENT Society Yuri Yanov. President Barajas reviewed ISA’s history and made the main accent on the future development of the society’s future, emphasizing the main directions of our activities.

There were 467 participants from 59 countries registered for the congress. The scientific program consisted of three symposia, 98 free papers, three invited lectures, one keynote lecture, a special session, a round table and two poster sessions including 50 posters. The symposia were “Biological and Genetic Basis for Hearing Loss,” “Implantable Technologies in Rehabilitation of Hearing Loss,” and “Evidence Based Practice in Audiology.” The first invited lecture was “Effects of Long-term Moderate Noise Exposure on the Cortical Representation of Sound: Implications for Speech Perception.” It was presented by Jos Eggermont of Canada. The second invited lecture, presented by Giancarlo Cianfrone of Italy, was “Strategies for Early Detection of Psychological Comorbidity in Tinnitus Patients.” And the third was “Experimental Data on Protection against Inner Damage” by Gaetano Paludetti of Italy.

President Barajas opened the General Assembly, followed by the report of General-Secretary Mencher, information on the budget, and a review of the statutes and by-laws, and a report of congresses. The General Assembly approved the new executive board (see page 4).

The Aram Glorig award for lifelong dedication to audiology was presented to Prof. David Kemp, in recognition of his numerous and valuable achievements. Prof. Kemp presented the keynote lecture “Auditory Biophysics and Instrumentation – Important Pillars of Audiology.”

The ISA flag was transferred from Moscow to Australia, the site of the XXXII World Congress in 2014. The XXXIII congress will be held in Canada (Vancouver), and it was decided that the XXXIV congress will be held in Cape Town, South Africa.

Our society mourns the death of another of our most distinguished colleagues. Our British colleague, Adrian Davis, has written a memorial of Dafydd (Dai) Stephens:

Dai Stephens died on 2nd July, his 70th birthday. He was a major influence in audiology and a radical pioneer in everything he did – whether it was his



politics, clinical practice, or research. Dai was a friend to countless audiologists around the world and he was incredibly generous with his time in giving advice, criticism, and encouragement. His family – in particular his wife, Janig – have played a great part in welcoming the family of audiology whether at home or abroad. He understood the values of working internationally and across disciplines in support of those with hearing, tinnitus, or balance disorders. He was also one of the key people in establishing audiology, hearing therapy, and audiological medicine in the UK.

I knew Dai for some 34 years. Over those years, he patiently (and sometimes not so patiently!) mentored and explained to me what he thought I ought to know about audiology (God and the universe too!). He was a great teacher and clinician, and we collaborated on many projects. Many of the articles we (or I) wrote would not have seen the light of day without his energy and enthusiasm for the story we had to tell. As we progressed in discussion over the years – ranging from newborn hearing screening to deaf children's language to genetics and ethnology – I found that he had worked with the best in the field or somehow had a connection that would help us.

Dai (with Ross Coles) realized that tinnitus was as big, if not bigger, a burden on people's quality of life than hearing problems. They worked with several others to ensure that the epidemiology of tinnitus and the interventions that might improve quality of life were not forgotten.

Dai returned to Wales in 1968. He was director of the Welsh Hearing Institute (WHI), where he worked until his retirement in 2005. He had many collaborations with researchers and clinicians around the world from his base at WHI. It would take several volumes to describe the extent and depth of his contributions. He had many professional accomplishments, including serving a secretary-general of ISA.

Dai was a great speaker at national (including other areas of the UK) and international meetings, who enthralled audiences by his knowledge of the history of audiology and the diverse and positive influences that he brought to bear on solutions for people with hearing problems. He wrote several books and perhaps as many as 400 articles and chapters. He had wide interests outside audiology: languages, culture, natural history, bee keeping, jazz, and politics. He and Janig had three children (Morwena, Erwan, and Rhiannon).

Humanitarian News

World leaders in hearing health gathered for the 3rd Coalition for Global Hearing Health Conference in Pretoria, South Africa. Attendees from 15 countries engaged in lively discussions and shared the common challenges encountered in developing countries. Specific actions suggested at the conference included a more interactive web site for the Coalition, an information forum that multiple disciplines can access, finding ways to enhance and promote educational opportunities for those living in underserved regions, empowering families and communities, encourage the use of technology to help reach those in remote areas, and also encourage best practices.

Clinical News

Finnish colleagues compared tympanograms with pneumatic otoscopy in 514 children. They report that "Any peaked tympanogram was related to a healthy middle ear in 67% of exams."

A recent study from Detroit found that insomnia can aggravate the effects of tinnitus. Patients with insomnia report greater emotional distress than other tinnitus patients.

The United States' National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders reports that the sound level of a typical fireworks display is 140 dB. ASHA advises staying at least 1000 feet away.

A recent study from Harvard University (in *Infectious Diseases in Children*) finds that decreases in antibiotic prescriptions for otitis media have tapered off over the years.

The August issue of the *Berkeley Wellness Letter* claims that a telecoil loop in the home can improve effectiveness of hearing aids.

Dutch scientists found that behavioral therapy was effective in reducing affective consequences of tinnitus.

Research News

We humans cover our ears when we find ourselves in high ambient noise. But what do whales do, given how much noise there is the oceans? A group at the University of Hawaii has found that whales have developed a mechanism for protecting their hearing, but they haven't yet discovered how.

British colleagues (at the University of Leicester) have found a cellular mechanism that may underlie the onset of tinnitus after noise exposure. Some neurons in the dorsal cochlear nuclei fire erratically and this may lead to tinnitus. Work proceeds to find drugs that could regulate such erratic firing and restoring those cells to a normal state.

Affiliates News

The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) now has a link to its journal. One can access it by going to www.caslpa.ca/englishresources/cjslpa_home.asp.

The Hong Kong Society of Audiology has appointed Sandy Lai to be its representative to ISA. This past April, HKSA celebrated its 20th anniversary. Since its inception in 1992 with 20 members, the society now has 90 members serving a population of some seven-million. Some milestones have included publishing HKSA newsletters, implementation of a series of discussion forums, and publication of Standardized Audiometric Symbols in Hong Kong, as well as the first edition of a Chinese-English Glossary of Audiological Terms. A website has been launched and a series of pamphlets to increase public awareness has been published. Two international meetings have come to Hong Kong: the Pediatric Congress in 2004 and the International Congress of Audiology in 2008. Also in 2008, the Continual Professional Development Program was inaugurated. Now, HKSA is taking the challenging task of Statutory Registration in Hong Kong, with the aim of achieving government regulations of the profession to ensure the quality of services provided.

There is a rare craniofacial anomaly called auriculo-condylar syndrome. A recent paper in the *American Journal of Human Genetics* reports the discovery of two genes that cause this disorder. They are called PLCB4 and GNAI3. These were identified in five children by exome sequencing.

Congratulations to our colleagues in Poland who have established the World Hearing Center, near Warsaw. It opened just this past May 10th. It is a modern clinical, research, and educational unit of the Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, directed by Prof. Henryk Skarżyński.

Meetings

October 4-7, 2012. 6th National Congress of Audiology and Speech Pathology, Istanbul, Turkey. Contact: www.istanbulodyoloji2012.org.

November 1, 2012. London Evening Meeting, British Society of Audiology. Contact: bsa@thebsa.org.uk.

Nov. 8-10, 2012. Academy of Doctors of Audiology convention, Phoenix, AZ. Contact: www.audiologist.org.

Nov. 12-13, 2012. British Academy of Audiology, annual conference, Manchester. Contact: www.baaudiology.org.

May 3-4, 2013. 4th International Conference of the Coalition for Global Hearing Health. Nashville, TN (USA). Contact: <http://cfghh.squarespace.com/>

April 3-6, 2013, American Academy of Audiology convention, Anaheim, CA. Contact: www.audiology.org.

June 9-13, 2013. International Electrical Response Audiometry Study Group, 23rd meeting, New Orleans, LA. Contact: cgfowler@wisc.edu.

March 26-29, 2014. American Academy of Audiology convention, Orlando, FL. Contact: www.audiology.org.

May 3-8, 2014. XXXII World Congress of Audiology, Brisbane, Australia. Contact: www.isa-audiology.org.

ISA EXECUTIVE

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President-elect: Linda Hood (USA)

Past-president: José Juan Barajas de Prat (Spain)

Secretary-general: George Tavartkiladze (Russia)

Asst. secretary-general: George Mencher (Canada)

Representing affiliated societies: DeWet Swanepoel (South Africa)

Representing the General Assembly: Lena Wong (Hong Kong)

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H DEFINITION HEARING

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HIGH DEFINITION HEARING