President’s Column

It is my pleasure to share several of the notable achievements of the International Society for Neurovascular Disease (ISNVD) this year. Firstly, our annual scientific congress moves to Naples, Italy in collaboration with Dr. Marcello Mancini. The venue is wonderful, the city and region are magnificent, the weather should be optimal and, of course, the program is dynamic. Among its highlights, the conference will have a dense focus upon etiologies, basic science, imaging and associations between neurovascular abnormalities and a broad range of neurologic disorders. Among the topics are neural microvasculature imaging, computational flow modeling, traumatic brain injury fundamental blood vessel function and the role of endothelial peptides and the glymphatic system in neurologic disease and, of course, therapeutic interventions. To me, this marks the natural evolution and maturation of the ISNVD toward a deep focus upon basic science, leading to its bedside applications. The meeting ends with an optional Advanced Cardiovascular MR Imaging course. Renowned speakers will join us from nearly every continent. Be sure to book your rooms for Naples soon. Recommendations for hotels are on the ISNVD website (www.isnvd.org).

The November print issue of the Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology contains our first societal position paper: “Recommendations for Multimodal Noninvasive and Invasive Screening for the Detection of Extracranial Venous Abnormalities Indicative of Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency: A Position Statement of the International Society for Neurovascular Disease.” Publishing this in a major journal, read worldwide, marks a defining step for the ISNVD. Through generous contributions, the article also appears open access, i.e. available to all, for free download, as well at www.jvir.org.

Finally, the ISNVD established a collaborative arrangement with the Annette Funicello Research Fund for Neurological Disease. Through its fundraising, the AFRFND has raised a quarter of a million dollars to support research. We developed a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a seed grant program for both basic science and clinical research, with a goal of both publications in peer-reviewed journals and feasibility work for larger funded projects. This major program is now accepting proposals, for a final deadline of Dec 15, 2014. I believe this will stand among our larger successes.

Suffice it to say that the Executive Committee has had a lot of activity this year. We thank all the members for their continued membership, support and voting in our recent elections. We are open to all ideas from the members and encourage participation in all aspects of the Society. I ask for your help in growing our reach, focus and membership. To that end, please also be sure to pay your ISNVD dues! Kelly Denz, our excellent administrative manager is reachable at either kdenz@isnvd.org or 716-859-3579 to help.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Ziv Haskal, President
International Society for Neurovascular Disease
The Executive Committee is pleased to announce the preliminary details of our 2015 Annual Meeting which will be held March 27th—29th, 2015 in beautiful and historic Naples, Italy.

The ISNVD Administrative Office is working in conjunction with Dr. Marcello Mancini’s Lab in Naples, Italy as well as MP Congressi to plan and facilitate this congress. The meeting venue will be the Congress Centre Federico II—Partenope which is located on the seafront of Naples in the central area, panoramic and close to the best hotels in town which are in walking distance to the meeting space. To note, our Congress Headquarters hotel will be the Hotel Royal Continental but it is a separate facility from the conference venue where the scientific meetings will be held. Additionally, there are several other very nice hotels for your use that are situated very close to the Congress Centre Federico II—Partenope that are mentioned on our website (www.isnvd.org).

Although the basic format of the meeting last year worked well, in 2015, we will have a different approach. The meeting will start with an Ultrasound course on Friday, March 27th at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, March 28th will include talks from all of our invited speakers as well as selected platform presentations. Invited talks on the program are 15 minutes in duration with an additional 5 minutes allowed for questions and answers. The meeting will conclude on Sunday, March 29th with an MRI course that will end at 12:00 p.m. We believe that this format will improve the educational impact of the meeting.

As always, on the opening evening of our meeting, we will be fortunate to listen to the talk of our keynote speaker that will be followed by a welcome reception at the Congress Centre Federico II—Partenope. This year’s keynote speaker will be Professor Mat Daemen from The University of Amsterdam. He will speak on the topic: “The Heart-brain Axis: An Overlooked Cause of Brain Aging.” This promises to be a most educational as well as intriguing lecture.

Just like last year, day two will consist of a full day with our invited speakers as well as accepted platform and poster presentations followed by an evening Gala dinner event. The Gala dinner will take place at the Historic Complesso Monumentale San Lorenzo Maggiore Sala Sisto V located in the heart of Naples. Complimentary shuttle service will be available to transport you from your hotel to the Gala dinner. As last year’s Gala dinner was such a huge success, we are planning on another night of entertainment and cuisine.

2015 ISNVD Annual Meeting Schedule: (see next column)

Call for Abstracts: www.isnvd.org
Abstract submission due date is December 1st, 2014.

Registration Information:
For ISNVD Convention:
Web site: www.isnvd.org
Email: info@isnvd.org
Phone: 1-716-859-3579

For Satellite Courses:
MPCongressi
Website: www.mpcongressi.it
Email: mpcongressi@gmail.com
Phone: +39 081 575 3432
Administrative Issues:

Annual Dues Renewal Reminder
The Executive Committee would like to remind everyone who has not done so already to please pay your annual membership dues. The Society uses these funds to pay for administrative expenses as well as to support research. Without you, our Society could not operate.

To pay your 2014 Annual membership dues, please go to the website at www.isnvd.org. In the upper right corner, please click on the “Members” tab.

The site will ask you for your log-on ID as well as password. Enter these two items and the site will guide you to making a credit card payment. If you do not know your log-in or password, please e-mail us at info@isnvd.org and we will send them to you.

Additionally, you can always mail a check in the amount of $200 USD to the ISNVD Administration office at 100 High Street, D-2, Buffalo, NY 14203; USA. Please mark it attention to Robert Zivadinov, Treasurer.

Becoming a Member
We have heard many positive things that came out of our 2014 conference and had a lot of excellent feedback.

If you are interested in becoming an ISNVD member or know of someone who may be interested, please go to our website at www.isnvd.org for details or contact our Buffalo, New York office at (716) 859-3579. The process is quite simple and only involves filling in a brief on-line form as well as uploading your CV for the Executive Committee to review and approve. Once you are accepted and are a paid member, you will receive your own ISNVD official membership certificate mailed to. You can also e-mail info@isnvd.org for more information.

Position Paper:

Anyone who is interested in running for future open positions can send an e-mail to the ISNVD Administrative office at info@isnvd.org and we will note this for future reference.

Announcement: Quarterly Board Member Conference Call
Attention all Board Members. We will be having a conference call inclusive of all Board Members soon. If you are a current board member, a separate e-mail blast will be sent out to you in the very near future providing call-in details from the Administrative Office.

Position Paper:

On September 22nd of this year, The ISNVD Executive Committee, together with several of our Members was successful in having published our first position statement paper. The title of the article is called, "Recommendations for Multimodal Noninvasive and Invasive Screening for Detection of Extracranial Venous Abnormalities Indicative of Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency: A Position Statement of the International Society for Neurovascular Disease" and was published in the Journal for Vascular Interventional Radiology.

The Society is very proud of this important achievement. The full article can be found in PubMed under number 10.1016/j.jvir.2014.07.024. Listed below is a copy of the Abstract for your perusal.

Abstract:
Under the auspices of the International Society for Neurovascular Disease (ISNVD), four expert panel committees were created from the ISNVD membership between 2011 and 2012 to determine and standardize noninvasive and invasive imaging protocols for the detection of extracranial venous abnormalities indicative of chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency (CCSVI). The committees created working groups on color Doppler ultrasound (US), magnetic resonance (MR) imaging, catheter venography (CV) and intravascular US. Each group organized a workshop focused on its assigned imaging modality. Non-ISNVD members from other societies were invited to contribute to the various workshops. More than 60 neurology, radiology, vascular surgery and interventional radiology experts participated in these workshops and contributed to the development of standardized noninvasive and invasive imaging protocols for the detection of extracranial venous abnormalities indicative of CCSVI. This ISNVD position statement presents the MR imaging and intravascular US protocols for the first time and describes refined color Doppler US and CV protocols. It also emphasizes the need for the use of for noninvasive and invasive multimodal imaging to diagnose adequately and monitor extracranial venous abnormalities indicative of CCSVI for open-label or double-blinded, randomized, controlled studies.

Any comments can be e-mailed to: info@isnvd.org

Election Results:
At this time, The ISNVD Executive Committee would like to announce the results of our fall 2014 election results for board members. A big congratulation goes out to the following people:

President Elect: Dr. Salvatore Sclafani
Vice-President: Dr. Steve Alexander
Annual Meeting Planning Committee Board Seat: Dr. Noam Alperin

Public Relations Committee Board Seat: Ms. Carol Schumacher

Safety Committee Board Seat: Dr. Adnan Siddiqui

We would like to welcome these members into their new roles within The ISNVD and will do our utmost to support their valuable efforts.

The ISNVD Executive Committee is grateful to these Members for volunteering their efforts and time to such a worthy cause. The Committee also would like to thank the Membership for your efforts in voting.
Annette Funicello RFP

Annette Funicello Grant RFP

The International Society for Neurovascular Disease (ISNVD) is working in collaboration with the Annette Funicello Research Fund for Neurological Diseases (AFRFND) to administer this new funding opportunity. There will be multiple grants awarded to support basic and translational research efforts to advance the diagnosis, understanding and therapy of neurovascular disease with particular focus upon the role of venous vasculature.

The AFRFND has dedicated up to $250,000 to support proposals granted in this award cycle. Grants will be awarded in the amounts of $10,000 - $50,000 each to be used as “seed money” to provide preliminary information for larger research projects in the future. Applications with collaborations that partner with academic, industry and interdisciplinary investigator groups are highly encouraged. The AFRFND is interested in high payoff studies that will lead to subsequent study and peer-reviewed publication in respected journals. The funding will serve as seed money for larger-scale bench to bedside research that is yet to come.

Letters of intent are due to the Foundation by October 15th, 2015. Final full proposals are due to the Foundation by December 15, 2014. Any questions can be directed to: annettefund@annetteconnection.com

For more detailed information and to read the full request for proposal, visit our website at www.isnvd.org and it is on the front of the home page.

Thank You

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Members who have renewed their membership already this year through the ISNVD office in Buffalo, New York, USA as well as voted in our fall 2014 election. Your support is greatly appreciated and put to good use! A special thank you also goes out to all who helped to contribute to our new position paper that was successfully published! We hope to see you in Naples in 2015!

Very truly yours,

The ISNVD Executive Committee

President: Ziv J. Haskal
President Elect: Salvatore Sclafani
Vice President: (pending)
Immediate Past President: Michael Dake
Secretary: Salvatore Sclafani
Treasurer/Executive Director: Robert Zivadinov
Chair, Annual Meeting Program Committee: Marcello Mancini
Chairperson: J. Steven Alexander
Chairperson: Hector Ferral
Chairperson: Paolo Zamboni

Committee Chairpersons:

Finance Committee: David Hubbard/Robert Zivadinov
Nominating Committee: Salvatore Sclafani/Paul Thibault
Annual Meeting Chairs: Mark Haacke/Chih-Ping Chung/Noam Alperin
Awards Committee: Marian Simka/Alireza Minagar
Publications Committee: E. Mark Haacke/Clive Beggs
Education Committee: Karen L. Marr/Adnan Siddiqui/ Marcello Mancini
Governance Committee: Marian Simka/Joseph Hewett
Section and Affiliations Committee: Zahid Latif/Nikolaos Liasis
Safety Committee: Bulent Arslan/Adnan Siddiqui
Public Relations Committee: Sandy McDonald/Carol Schumacher