

IFSO Newsletter



From the executive director

Dear Colleagues,

The future of IFSO as discussed in my presidential address last year in Sydney is developing quickly. The professional secretariat is up and running with, as can be expected, some starting problems. However, a good deal of those problems were not caused by Medconnect but by the transition of the publisher of our official journal Obesity Surgery from the office of Mervyn Deitel to Springer.

At this moment we hope that all problems are solved and all our members that subscribe to Obesity Surgery did receive the copies of the last issues. Further details on Obesity Surgery are in a separate paragraph.

Our current president and the executive board are also working on a program for accreditation of bariatric surgeon and bariatric centres in analogy to what has been achieved already in the USA (A.S.B.S.). Our president will address this issue separately.

Furthermore, and maybe most important the discussion has been opened to change the name of IFSO. Realizing that bariatric surgery in fact is metabolic surgery, as we have been reporting in our yearly IFSO congresses, it has become clear that we have to promote this to our colleague surgeons and internists world wide.

A preliminary proposal has been discussed in the executive board and this will be presented to the general council meeting in San Diego (A.S.B.S.) to bring it to vote at the general council meeting in Porto. More on this in a paragraph by Nicola Scopinaro.

Jan Willem Greve, executive director

From the president:

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Surgery is now universally recognized as the only effective treatment for the morbidly obese patient with long-term sustained weight loss, while obesity comorbidities are either completely resolved or significantly improved postoperative following the significant excess weight loss.

However, this highly demanding and challenging surgical therapy necessitates the appropriate training and experience on the part of the surgeon. It is vital that the surgeon beyond the optimal theoretical knowledge also has the technical skills in both open and laparoscopic surgery, shows meticulous pre- and postoperative care, devotion and commitment to long-term patient follow-up.

Moreover, institutional commitment to the excellent multidisciplinary care of the morbidly and super-obese patient who run an exceptional surgical and anaesthetic risk, is essential to ensure the safe and effective performance of bariatric surgery. The necessary ancillary services, including specialized nursing staff, dieticians, psychologists, exercise advisors and a multidisciplinary bariatric medical team including surgeons, cardiologists, anaesthesiologists, ICU specialists and psychiatrists etc are of the utmost importance. Modern medical and surgical facilities such as operating room tables, instruments, furniture, radiology equipments etc capable to handle morbidly obese patients are of course essential tools for any institution that seeks to treat bariatric patients.

In an effort to improve the quality of service offered to bariatric patients worldwide, IFSO decided to form an international committee, with myself as the chairman, that will advise and endorse national and regional 'centres of excellence' programmes. The main task was the creation of guidelines that can be applied to different global areas and define the minimum acceptable surgeon's credentials and institutional requirements

IFSO

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IFSO Secretariat:
MedConnect (see
www.ifso.com)

Executive director:

Jan Willem Greve

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Editor of this issue:

☺ Jan Willem Greve

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From the president continued:

for safe and efficient management of morbidly obese patients.

The committee has prepared a guidelines proposal with three main objectives:

- To help new centers willing to begin bariatric surgery with an acceptable degree of safety and efficiency.
- To advise existing bariatric institutions the way to improve their services offered to morbidly obese patients.
- Finally to set the requirements for a Bariatric Institution to advance to Centre of Excellence level, thus optimising patients' outcome.

The proposal will be discussed at IFSO's executive board interim meeting in San Diego 11-16 June 2007 and then distributed to the National Societies for acknowledgement. The final approval will occur in Porto by voting at the council meeting.

John Melissas MD, MSc, PhD, FACS,
Professor of Surgery
President of IFSO

Latin American Chapter News

Second Latin American IFSO Congress of Obesity Surgery Cancún, México, April the 25th. To 28th., 2007

Blue sea, white beaches and the spectacular Great Melia Cancún Hotel were the scenery of the Second Latin American IFSO Congress of Obesity Surgery, held from April the 25th. To 27th., this year.

It is fair to say that all expectations were exceeded, we have the registration of 411 surgeons from 16 of the 19 Latin American countries, as well as colleagues from Portugal, Spain, Austria, France and Italy, and United States; we even had a surgeon from Cuba, who overcame serious difficulties to leave the island and attend the Congress.

The **Pre-Congress Course on Total Patient Care** had an impressive attendance, because it was necessary to open some walls in the room in order to accommodate over 200 physicians, psychologists, nutritionists, physical therapists and so on. Mrs. Elisabete Shiraga organized and coordinated the Course which stressed the importance of multidisciplinary group handling of obese individuals; the ultimate goal should be the creation of **Centers of Excellence** all over Latin America.

At the opening of the Congress, a **Plenary Session on Obesity: "Obesity, the Epidemic of the XXI Century"** was held with the presence of Dr. Luis Gerardo Castellanos, member of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), Dr. Pablo Kuri Morales, Director of the Epidemiology from the Mexican Health Secretary, Dr. Arthur Garrido Jr., Past President IFSO, and Dr. Natan Zundel, President of the Latin American Association of Laparoscopic Surgery (ALACE); they showed the magnitude of the problem: in terms of sickness, associated diseases and costs of attention, obesity is more important than under nutrition in the Latin American region; besides, they stressed the role of bariatric surgeons not only as skillful specialists, but also as promoters of health habits among the population.

Other **Plenary Session** was devoted to "**Future of Obesity Management**", in which Dr. Miguel Herrera showed his research on **vagus nerve stimulation/blockage**, Dr. Roberto Rumbaut presented **robotic bariatric surgery**, Dr. Jesús Ojeda Valdés showed his experience in **Endoscopic Surgery**, and Dr. Gerardo Jiménez Sánchez, Director of the National Institute of Genomic Medicine, talked about the possibilities of **Genomic Medicine in Obesity**.

Four Lectures were given: Dr. J. Joaquín Resa lecture on **Obesity from Pre history to XXI Century**, Dr. Alberto Salinas on **From open to laparoscopic bariatric surgery**, Dr. Antonio Cascardo on **Bariatric attention on 360 degrees**, and Dr. Rafael Capella on **My experience on 400 bariatric procedures**.

[Continued on page 4...](#)

IFSO Regional Chapter Meetings

3rd European
Chapter meeting,
2008, Capri, Italy

The International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity was initiated in 1995 (Stockholm). The first official IFSO congress and founding meeting took place in Prague, Czech Republic 1996.

Nicola Scopinaro honoured by the American College of Surgeons (ACS)

Annually, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) bestows Honorary Fellowships on a limited number of world renowned surgeons of eminence, who are not citizens of the United States. This distinction is based on the recommendation of a Committee of senior, prominent members of the ACS. The list of nominees for this recognition is long, and only a select finite number are chosen to be so honored. To be selected the individual must be an acknowledged leader in his field, an outstanding clinician and technical surgeon, and a contributor to lasting knowledge by original research. An Honorary Fellowship is one of the highest awards made by the College.

At the Fall Clinical Congress of the College in October, 2007, the ACS will induct Dr. Nicola Scopinaro into Honorary Fellowship. Dr. Scopinaro - bariatric surgery pioneer, basic investigator, outstanding clinical surgeon, and the undisputed spirit of IFSO - is an Italian renaissance man of the 20th-21st centuries. He was born in Castagneto Carducci, Italy, on March 6, 1945, in the aftermath of World War II. When young Scopinaro was 13 to 14 years old, he took pleasure in debating with his father, who was Professor of Medicine at the University of Genoa. Dr. Scopinaro's academic career subsequently was also centered at the University of Genoa, from whose Medical School he graduated in 1969; he rose through the ranks to become Professor of Surgery in 1992. For most of his professional life, his career has been centered on the surgical therapy of morbid obesity.

After brief and very disappointing experience with the jejunoileal bypass, Scopinaro conceived the biliopancreatic diversion (BPD) procedure in 1973, and after two years of experimental physiologic studies in dogs on the various anatomic and functional as-

pects of the gastrointestinal tract, he performed the first BPD in humans on May 12, 1976. In April of 2000, he performed the first laparoscopic BPD. He has also performed and studied the Roux-en-Y gastric bypass procedure as a possible alternative, in certain situations, to the BPD.

Throughout this time period, Scopinaro continued in his physiologic studies of the gastrointestinal tract and has published extensively his theories on the relative metabolism of lean body mass, fat and viscera, and their individual influence on caloric consumption, weight loss, and weight stabilization. His clinical and investigative publications number more than 400. He is an ambassador for the BPD, and he is a frequently invited international speaker. He has maintained the largest series of BPD cases (nearly 3,000), and has published the longest-term results for this procedure.

Scopinaro has been well recognized for his work in bariatric surgery. He was Chairman of the First International Symposium on Obesity Surgery, held in Genoa in 1980, and of the nine subsequent annual meetings of this symposium. When the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity was created in Stockholm in 1995, Scopinaro, a founding member, was elected its first President. After two years, Scopinaro left this office and was elected Honorary President of the Federation. He is also President of the European Chapter of IFSO, constituted in 2005.

The Honorary Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons demonstrates not only the international influence of Nicola Scopinaro but is a tribute to the field of bariatric surgery - the discipline to which Dr. Scopinaro has dedicated his life.

Henry Buchwald

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Payment of membership fees and subscriptions for Obesity Surgery need to be made directly to the member association of your country. Your local secretariat will forward the fees and your

personal details to the IFSO secretariat (MedConnect, see www.ifso.com). To guarantee continuation of your Obesity Surgery subscription early payment is crucial.

Who is Member of IFSO

Individual Members are those Surgeons or Allied Health Practitioners who are members of IFSO national societies and their dues of \$US20 have been paid to the IFSO Treasurer either through their society or individually. This is done automatically by most IFSO Societies e.g. Brazil, ASBS, Austria so if you are a financial member of these societies you are a member of IFSO.

Affiliated Individual Members are those from countries who do not have their own Societies at this time, such as Lithuania, South Africa, or Honduras and these

members pay their dues directly to IFSO.

The big advantage of IFSO Membership is reduced registration at IFSO sponsored meetings (much more than \$20) and a significant reduction in subscriptions to the Obesity Surgery Journal (for **IFSO members \$80 US when paid directly to IFSO**, also see www.obesitysurgery.com). ASBS members also receive the journal SOARD as part of their dues. Another advantage in the near future will be listing on the new IFSO website.

Latin American Chapter News continued

157 papers were presented by the attendants, as well as four Symposia: one on **Canabinoids** and its role on obesity and metabolic problems, another on **Gastric Sleeve**, one on **Gastric Band and Gastric Balloon**, and the last on **Metabolic Surgery**, mainly related to diabetes and its control by bariatric techniques.

The Mexican College of Obesity Surgery held its Assembly and the new Board of Directors was elected; it was decided to change the name of the College to **Mexican College of Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Diseases A.C.**

Likewise, the **Latin American IFSO Chapter** held its Assembly and Dr. Arthur Garrido Jr. was elected President for the term 2007-2009; it was decided to hold the next Latin American Congress in **Chile, 2009**.

In summary, the Congress was a great success, the lectures, symposia, papers, etc, showed that Latin America has a great development on bariatric procedures, our Latin American colleagues are creative and hard working, and IFSO has in this region a great presence.

Rafael Alvarez Cordero

IFSO Scholarships 2007

For the 2007 world congress IFSO will again provide a number of Scholarships to facilitate IFSO members to attend the congress in Porto, Portugal. Application for the scholarship can be send to Dr Harry Frydenburg, treasurer or Prof Jan Willem Greve, executive

Interdisciplinary European Guidelines for Surgery of Severe (Morbid) Obesity.

Martin Fried

Recently, Clinical Guidelines for treating severe obesity with bariatric surgery were simultaneously published in the Obesity Surgery and International Journal of Obesity.

It is for the first time in European history, that a group of key opinion leaders in the field of obesity, the Bariatric Scientific Collaborative Group (BSCG), was appointed by the major European scientific societies. Societies that lead this initiative were the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity - European Chapter (IFSO-EC) and European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO). The European Childhood Obesity Group (ECOG) participated in Guidelines creation as well.

Composition of the Scientific group was balanced with the presence of key opinion leaders in many specialties and from many European countries, and this allowed the coverage of key disciplines in comprehensive obesity management, as well as reflecting European geographical and ethnic diversity.

This joint BSCG Expert panel convened several meetings which were entirely focused on guidelines creation, during the past two years. There was a specific effort to develop clinical guidelines which will reflect current knowledge, expertise and evidence based data on morbid obesity treatment.

Moreover the BSCG clearly demonstrated and promoted advantages of close collaboration between obesity specialists and bariatric surgeons. BSCG developed „Interdisciplinary Guidelines on Surgery of Severe Obesity“ in order to provide physicians and surgeons with essential evidence-based data about bariatric surgery including information on indications, contraindications, pre-operative examinations, surgical techniques and long-term postsurgical fol-

MedConnect / IFSO secretariat

The official secretariat of IFSO is up and running. There have been some difficulties in getting Obesity Surgery send to the subscribing members. However the secretariat was not to blame. The problem was the transition of the administration of Obesity Surgery from the office of dr Deitel to Springer. By now we have over 500 subscribers to OS directly through IFSO taking advantage of the very low fee of \$80 US annually. The website is kept up to date and further functionality will be added as soon as possible. Important in this respect will be further steps towards accreditation!

**Jan Willem Greve,
executive director**

low-up. A need for interdisciplinary approach and collaboration in preoperative examination and indication as well as in the long-term follow-up is emphasized. All of the Guidelines statements are matched with the best available literature evidence.

The BSCG report a set of interdisciplinary guidelines that they hope will improve the care of severely obese patients, and will set up and stress both the need and advantages of interdisciplinary approach to this serious disease of morbid obesity.

Porto, September 5,8 2007



Dear Colleagues,

Since time immemorial Europe has prided itself on its artists, philosophers, scholars, explorers and scientists. From Hippocrates to Galen and Odysseus to Prince Henry the Navigator and Vasco da Gama, sciences as far apart as astronomy and medicine had their origin in the depths of time on this continent. It is therefore only fitting that today, international experts in the field of bariatric surgery will meet in Europe to discuss morbid obesity, one of the epidemics affecting modern man and explore the medical solutions.

It is my honour and pleasure to invite you to the 12th World Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity in Porto.

The International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity (IFSO) organizes an international annual congress at which world-renowned experts present their valuable experience in morbidly obese patient management techniques, patient selection criteria, established and modern laparoscopic procedures and the refinement of the better-known anti-obesity procedures. It is also a sound scientific forum for discussion and debate encouraging experts and the audience to interact and share experiences and opinions in the field of surgical treatment of obesity.

One of the greatest challenges our discipline faces today is consistently updating our knowledge on the recent developments, exchanging ideas and steadfastly seeking to provide the highest level of care and the best possible quality of life for our patients.

Many issues will be addressed during the annual conference in Porto, including the homogenization of the surgical training and experience, the technical requirements for the setting up of safe, effective bariatric surgery facilities and the preparation of common practice guidelines.

Obesity currently afflicts 150.000.000 people all over Europe, is enormously expensive and worst of all, proves fatal for over 1.000.000 patients annually. In the search for a golden standard amongst the available treatments, bariatric surgery is currently rated as the only available treatment for the morbidly obese patients by the World Health Organization. There is an encouraging increase in the number of surgeons who have a major role to play in treating the victims of this extremely serious and life-threatening ailment.

Portugal, a spectacular country with modern facilities and traditional Mediterranean hospitality offers a myriad of opportunities to those wishing to combine science, training and education with the excitement of exploring this beautiful country.

We look forward to welcoming you to Porto!

Yours sincerely,

Professor John Melissas

President of IFSO



IFSO Website

WANTED IFSO MEMBER WITH JOURNALISTIC TALENT

We need an enthusiastic surgeon to work with the Communications Committee and the Executive Director to edit this electronic newsletter and enhance communication within this international society.

For details contact Prof Dr JW Greve: J.Greve@AH.unimaas.nl

Invitation IFSO World Congress Porto



Dear Colleagues,

It's a great privilege and honour to welcome you at the "XII World Congress of IFSO" which will take place, from the 5th up to 8th September 2007, at Porto (Portugal), a World an Heritage City.

This event will be held at the Old Custom house, which is located inside the historical center of the city, facing the northern bank of the river Douro.

All through this event, we will be able to attend pre-meeting courses and symposia - as the Allied Health Science - as well as lectures, round tables, papers and videos selected for plenary sessions. I hope this will offer you a wonderful opportunity to renew knowledge and to debate on recent and traditional methods. Posters will be permanently exhibited throughout the congress, to be discussed individually. As usual, the two best will be awarded. By September in Portugal, the weather is typically fine, which is ideally suited for travelling. As a result of all these factors, I am convinced that all attendee at the XII World Congress of IFSO will enjoy an unforgettable and memorable stay.

Social activities are planned to allow old and new friends to join and chat in a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere. Enjoy this meeting.

Sincerely

António Sérgio, President of Congress

The program is currently under construction, but we expect some activities like:

THREE PRE MEETING COURSES:

1. **Bariatric surgery basic course and Allied Health (5/6 September)**- This course provides an overview of the fundamentals of bariatric surgical practice management, covering a variety of topics related to the pre- and post-operative care of the bariatric surgical patient and although it is applied to allied health care professionals, it is useful as an update in management practice for the physician, for surgeons new to the field and a very good review for the experienced bariatric surgeon. Are expected 34 free papers to point out the fundamentals of a good practice, psychological, nutritional problems and the importance of multidisciplinary team.
2. **Advanced bariatric course** - This course is applied primarily to bariatric surgeons that are already on the field, it encompasses a broad spectrum of topics regarding the surgical techniques and care of the bariatric patient. The problems that worry all about the best technique, how the best way to do it and solve their problems, and to whom they should be applied will be discussed. Free to whom make the subscription of the Plenary Session.

3. **Basic Statistics: Course Outline**

FACULTY:

Course Director and Lecturer-George S. Cowan, Jr., MD, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Surgery, University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, TN

DATE: Wednesday, September 5, 2007

TIME: 8am through noon

AUDIENCE: International audience, consisting primarily of bariatric surgeons, physicians, nurses, nutritionists, mental health, and other allied health personnel who may or may not have had some prior exposure to statistics but have either forgotten it, never properly grasped its concepts or just feel the need for a "refresher course" in the subject.

Why Take This Course?

With the increasing importance of data, databases as an everyday fact of life within bariatric centers

around the world, every person working within any one of them needs to possess at least some basic intuitive understanding of statistics concepts

An Overview of Statistics Through Critical Review of the Bariatric Surgery Literature

Why Take This Course?

With bariatric surgery increasingly on the verge of unlocking important facts about the obese state and its co-morbidities, understanding the basics that underlie, and help separate the good from the lesser, scientific work, a working knowledge of statistics has never been so important. By taking this course, the attendee is expected to become more able to critically review the bariatric surgery, and other, literature.

Plenary Session

This session incorporates participants, oral papers with discussion, invited lectures covering the wide range of disciplines involved in bariatric surgery, round tables about the major problems that nowadays worry us about. There will be **four round tables** on this session:

- The first one on 06/09 managing the **surgical treatment of metabolic Syndrome**, where will be discussed diabetes, the advantages of surgical treatment and the novel surgical techniques.
- The second round table will take place at 07/09 consists about **endoluminal surgery on the treatment of obesity**, where all the new techniques of endoluminal treatment of obesity will be rolled.
- The third round table will be also on 07/09 consisting about **redo surgery**.
- The fourth round table will be held at 08/09 and consists about the **results at long term (consolidation of results)** of the several techniques used on treating severe obesity

FREE PAPERS:

We expect to have the opportunity to present about 32 free papers of 10 mns each with 2 mns for discussion and 23 of 7 mns with 2 mns for discussion orally. Many further abstracts will be select for poster presentation and the two best posters will be awarded.

LECTURES:

During the sessions several lectures will be made , about the key techniques in Roux en Y gastric bypass, in Bilio Pancreatic Diversion, in Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding, newest research in neuropeptides, novel metabolic surgery

VIDEO PRESENTATION:

We expect to have the opportunity to show about 40 videos, where we can see the best way how to do surgery and how to solve complications. The session will be on 07 of September during all day.

FIND US : www.ifso2007.com and get all the information you need

International Federation for the Surgical treatment of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders

THE REASONS WHY IFSO SHOULD CHANGE ITS NAME

Nicola Scopinaro, MD, FACS (Hon), Professor of Surgery

There is a right time for everything, and this also applies to the metabolic consequences of bariatric operations. Walter Pories and myself started almost 15 years ago describing and publishing the amazing specific effects, independent of weight changes, of gastric bypass on type 2 diabetes mellitus and of biliopancreatic diversion on all the major components of what is called today the metabolic syndrome. Simply, it was not the right time yet. We still had problems in having the concept of surgical treatment for morbid obesity accepted by our medical colleagues, so let us imagine if any endocrinologist could have even listen to anybody talking about surgical therapy of diabetes.

In the last years, mainly thanks to the enormous impulse given to obesity surgery by the introduction of adjustable silicone gastric banding, which made obesity surgery, especially in Europe, widely acceptable for hundreds of surgeons and thousands of patients who otherwise would have never considered it, also our medical counterpart started becoming interested to this field. Therefore, today the time is mature for a further big step forward.

We had the first timid meeting on the topic of the specific effects of bariatric operations on type 2 diabetes mellitus in Strasbourg on June 2006, thanks to the initiative of Francesco Rubino. He was soon joined by David Cummings, Lee Kaplan and Philip Schauer, with whom he organized a second, more official meeting in Boston on October of the same year. On that occasion, it was decided a big international meeting to be held on March 2007 in Strasbourg, which was eventually changed with Rome, where for the first time we dared to use the term Diabetes Surgery Summit.

On last December, 2006, I had the honor of being invited at the superb Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society for Obesity Surgery, and on that occasion I realized how much and how rapidly the more or less conscious desire for a new discipline was growing in many people's minds. I had the feeling that in less than one year, much more than surgery for obesity we would have talked about surgery for type 2 diabetes in particular, and metabolic syndrome in general.

I talked with Arthur Garrido, and we imagined that in a relatively short time a great number of "metabolic surgeons" would have searched for a house, and that, not finding any, they would have built a new one for themselves. We thought that that was the right time for our Federation to change name, in order to offer a house to those newly born surgeons, thus preventing them to get together without the long experience of the old good obesity surgeons, thus probably going to make the same long series of mistakes that we started forty years ago with obesity surgery.

As soon as I was back to Genoa I wrote the IFSO Executive Council Members suggesting this change and explaining the reasons for this. As I expected, I did not encountered any resistance, with the exception of Henry Buchwald, who, with the usual wisdom that characterizes him, wanted to think a while about it, and is today even more convinced than myself.

There was obviously a thick discussion about the new name, but it did not take a long time to reach a general agreement on "[International Federation for the Surgical treatment of Obesity and metabolic disorders](#)". This would allow us to put the necessary emphasis on the new topic, still keeping our old logo, which should never be changed.

On the occasion of the Rome Diabetes Surgery Summit it was also proposed to set up a new Committee for the "Metabolic Surgery", and to call up Francesco Rubino, the official originator of this new discipline, to chair this Committee. These are the two proposals that the IFSO General Council in Porto will be asked to approve.

Sooner or later someone will possibly try to create an autonomous international society for metabolic surgery, and this will certainly be his right. What is important is that this fascinating but still weak and not fully oriented discipline have its difficult times of childhood and adolescence spent under the old, good, wise, big umbrella of IFSO.

IFSO Executive Board

The executive board of IFSO for 2005-2006 is as follows:

President:	John Melissas (Greece)
President-elect:	Rafael Alvarez Cordero (Mexico)
Junior Past-President:	Jan Willem Greve (Netherlands)
Senior Past President:	Arthur Garrido (Brazil)
Secretary-Treasurer:	Harry Frydenberg (Australia)
Executive-Director:	Jan Willem Greve (Netherlands)
2007 congress organiser:	Antonio Sergion (Portugal)
Chair Board of Trustees	Henry Buchwald (USA)
Honorary President:	Nicola Scopinaro (Italy)



Chapter Representatives:

Europe: Martin Fried (Czech Republic) American Society (ASBS): MAL Fobi (USA)
Latin America: Arthur Garido (Brazil)

Upcoming IFSO meetings

5-8 September, Porto, Portugal
(www.ifso2007.com)

2008: October 1-4, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2009: August 26-29, Paris, France

2010: USA

2011: to be decided

XIII World Congress IFSO 2008

Sociedad Argentina de Cirugía de la Obesidad

The "Argentine Society for the Surgery of Obesity" Sociedad Argentina de Cirugía de la Obesidad (SACO), organize in the name of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity (IFSO), the XIII World Congress. It is a great pleasure and honour to welcome you to Buenos Aires for IFSO 2008.

Apart from sharing information and experience in the decade where the surgical treatment of morbid obesity is accepted all over the world, we would like you to know that at the southern end of America there is an extensive nation that offers visitors natural and cultural wonders: traditions, cuisine, ways of life that can be as wonderful as the scenery to be visited.

A well known expression assures that "All the world can be found in Argentina".

Welcome to the beauty of South America

Prof. Carlos A. Casalnuovo, MD, FACS
SACO President



XIII World Congress IFSO

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR THE SURGERY OF OBESITY

IFSO 2008

XIII World Congress

24th - 27th September 2008 - Buenos Aires Argentina



Please note

IFSO 2008 Buenos Ai-

IFSO Member Associations



ARGENTINA
Sociedad Argentina de Cirugia de la Obesidad (SACO)

AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND
Obesity Surgery Society of Australia and New Zealand (OSSANZ)

AUSTRIA
Österreichische Gesellschaft für Adipositaschirurgie

BELGIUM - NETHERLANDS - LUXEMBOURG
BeNeLux Association of Bariatric Surgeons (BABS)

BRAZIL
Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia Bariátrica (SBCB)

CHILE
Departamento Cirugia Bariátrica Chile

CZECH REPUBLIC
Czech Obesity Society (COS)

EGYPT
Egyptian Society for Bariatric Surgery (ESBS)

FRANCE
la Société Française de Chirurgie de l'Obésité (SOFCO)

GERMANY
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Chirurgie der Adipositas

GREECE
Greek Society for Bariatric Surgery

HUNGARY
Hungarian Bariatric Surgery Foundation

INDIA
Obesity Surgery Society of India (OSSI)

ISRAEL
Israeli Association for Obesity Surgery (ILA)

ITALY
Società Italiana di Chirurgia dell'Obesità (SICOB)

JAPAN
Japanese Society for the Study of Obesity/Malnutrition (JSSOM)

KUWAIT
Kuwaiti Society for Bariatric Surgery (KSBS)

MEXICO
Sociedad Mexicana de Cirugia de la Obesidad, A.C. (SMCO)

PANAMA
Asociación Panamena de Cirugia Bariátrica (APCB)

PARAGUAY
Sociedad Paraguaya de Cirugia de la Obesidad (SPCO)

PERU
Surgical Association of Obesity in Peru

POLAND
Polish Association for Prevention and Treatment of Obesity

PORTUGAL
Portuguese Obesity Surgery Society

ROMANIA
Romanian Association of Bariatric Surgeons

RUSSIA
Russian Society of Bariatric Surgeons

SPAIN
Sociedad Española de Cirugia de la Obesidad (SECO)

SWITZERLAND
Swiss Study Group for Morbid Obesity

TURKEY
Turkish Obesity Surgery Society (TOSS)

UKRAINE
Ukrainian Association of Bariatric Surgery (UABS)

UNITED KINGDOM
British Obesity Surgery Society (BOSS)

USA/CANADA
American Society for Bariatric Surgery (ASBS)

YUGOSLAVIA
Yugoslav Obesity Surgery Society (YOSS)



Palais des Congrès de Paris



In 2005, the "Palais des Congrès de Paris" received the IAPCO National Supplier Award (International Association of Professional Congress Organisers)

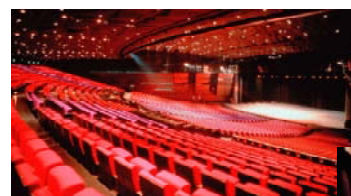
IFSO 2009
Paris, France
August 26-27-28-29



Paris IFSO 2009
Congress
August 26 - 27 - 28 - 29



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IFSO Executive Board

Executive Director And Immediate Past-President Jan Willem Greve	e-mail: j.greve@ah.unimaas.nl Department of Surgery PO Box 5800, AZ Maastricht, 6202 AZ Maastricht, The Netherlands Tel :31.43.3875492
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