

# News LETTER



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## Message from the President

As experience is the best teacher I am delighted to be writing this message now as a well oriented President of ISOPP having served one term as Acting-President. Thank you to Graham Sewell, Barry Goldspiel, and Helen McKinnon for your continuing support and advice. The Anaheim meeting (ISOPP XI combined with HOPA) is a memory but what a wonderful memory is found in these pages. In the middle of this meeting I realized attendees at this meeting had the opportunity to meet all the previous, current, and potentially future Helen McKinnon award recipients; or should I rephrase that to say this meeting created the opportunity to create your own personal global network with oncology pharmacy leaders. I reiterate my personal thank you to the Secretariat/Committee Chairs who served these past two years - we moved ISOPP forward in many ways that were witnessed in Anaheim (see the full General Meeting minutes on [www.isopp.org](http://www.isopp.org) in the section Secretariat News). We have a refreshed Constitution now moving through the German courts, the ISOPP XII



Symposium being planned for Prague in May 2010, and published ISOPP Standards of Practice 'Safe Handling of Cytotoxics' that are in wide distribution with translations into other languages becoming available in the near future. Anaheim also saw a new Secretariat/Committee Chairs taking on their roles with renewed energy and focus.

ISOPP has challenges of which the key is our financial sustainability and we have begun diversifying our base to include sponsorship opportunities. ISOPP has other opportunities such as our website development and education options to our members between the Symposium. Already we have issued a public RFP (Request for Proposal) seeking someone to upgrade our website

to expand our communication capabilities and member services. This RFP is open until 1 October 2008 and is posted on the ISOPP website. I sincerely thank current webmaster Jeff Barnett for his work but he is now moving on to new areas. If you know a web designer who might be interested please alert them to this opportunity. The Secretariat has also made the decision to move to an electronic newsletter after this final paper issue. This decision closes one door but opens other options which were not possible with a printed version. I encourage all of us to look to the opportunities as we deal with our current challenges. Back to the basics is a theme that we have adopted as we enter this next term. Each of us, as ISOPP members, can contribute to our strength and growth, and I look forward to you sharing with us your time and talents.

Carole R. Chambers

**ISOPP XII to be held in Prague in the Czech Republic. May 5 - 8, 2010 Put these dates in your diary now!**

Have a look at the updated ISOPP Strategic Plan and the revised Mission and Goals of ISOPP. Visit the website [www.isopp.org](http://www.isopp.org) and look under Secretariat News.

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## Editorial

Welcome to a very delayed ISOPP Newsletter (due June). Delayed in a large part because of the June ISOPP/HOPA meeting in Anaheim. This meeting was a great success with over 1000 delegates. This meeting was also very important as two motions were raised at the General Assembly ie to approve the revised ISOPP Constitution and to agree that the Secretariat has the authority to change the ISOPP Rules after due process has been followed. Both these motions were passed with a higher than 90% vote. These changes will enable our Society to move forward at a faster pace than in the past. Our new Secretariat was also announced. These ISOPP members who will lead our Society for the next two years come from all areas of the globe - fitting for our international Society. Congratulations to them all. Congratulations also to the newly announced Committee Chairs - it is the background voluntary work of our committees that enables many activities to take place and all members are beholden to them. Thank you to our past committee members and welcome to the new committee members. This issue of the newsletter is a milestone as it is the final paper published copy. In future, all newsletters will be electronic. You will receive an email when each issue is available on the website. Please ensure that you have submitted your current email address to ISOPP. If in doubt, contact Roslyn our Membership Chair [rsims@dmc.org](mailto:rsims@dmc.org). As always, if you wish to submit to the newsletter, please contact me at [jillian.davis@austin.org.au](mailto:jillian.davis@austin.org.au).

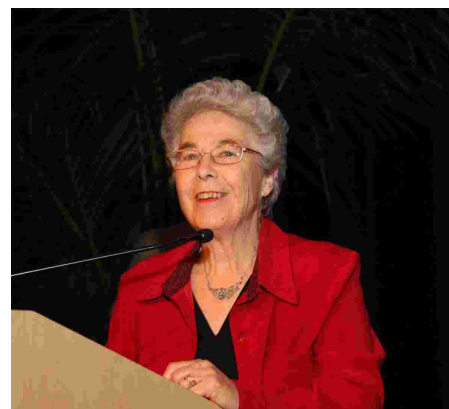


Jill Davis

## Graham Sewell (UK) is the 2008 recipient of the Helen McKinnon Award

In his acceptance speech, Graham thanked ISOPP for his nomination and related how much the award meant to him. Graham was particularly pleased to be able to receive the award in person from Helen McKinnon, whom he has come to regard as an excellent professional role model. In reflecting on the very first ISOPP meeting in 1988, held in Rotorua, New Zealand, Graham highlighted the achievement of Helen McKinnon in being responsible for the first international society in a pharmacy specialty, and commented that ISOPP is just as relevant today as it was then. ISOPP is not only a conduit for the exchange of information and ideas, but provides an excellent platform for international collaboration. He also noted that ISOPP had inspired a number of its members to establish national society's for oncology/haematology pharmacy in their own countries. In closing, Graham commended ISOPP to the audience and thanked his colleagues for their important contribution to his work in both the research and practice of oncology pharmacy.

*(Ed. Graham's full acceptance speech will be placed on the website)*



Helen McKinnon announcing the award



Helen presenting award to Graham Sewell



Graham giving his acceptance speech)

## New ISOPP Fellows

Congratulations to the two new ISOPP Fellows who can now proudly add FISOPP to their post-nominals.



John Wiernikowski (Canada) and Judith Smith (USA) accept their awards from President Carole Chambers

# New Secretariat Announced

At the General Assembly, Barry Goldspiel, on behalf of the Returning Officer Graham Sewell, announced the election results.

President - Elect:

Johan Vandenbroucke (Belgium)

Treasurer - Terry Maunsell (Australia)

Secretary - Judith Smith (USA)

Members:

- Sylvie Crauste-Manciet (France)

- Ruth Tramschek (New Zealand)

- Harbans Dhillon (Malaysia)

- Shereen Nabhani (Lebanon)

Assuming her role as President - Carole Chambers (Canada).

In accordance with the rotational policy approved by ISOPP, the Secretary and the two members with the highest votes will serve for three and the other officers for two years. Thus Judith Smith, Sylvie Crauste-Manciet and Ruth Tramschek have a three year term.

ISOPP thanks Hajime Fujii, Ph. D. Director, R & D Division, Amino Up Chemical Co., LTD Shin-ei 363-32, Kiyota-ku, Sapporo 004-0839, Japan for his donation of US\$1000 to ISOPP



From left: Carole Chambers, Sylvie Crauste-Manciet, Harbans Dhillon, Terry Maunsell, Ruth Tramschek, Shereen Nabhani, Johan Vandenbroucke, Judith Smith

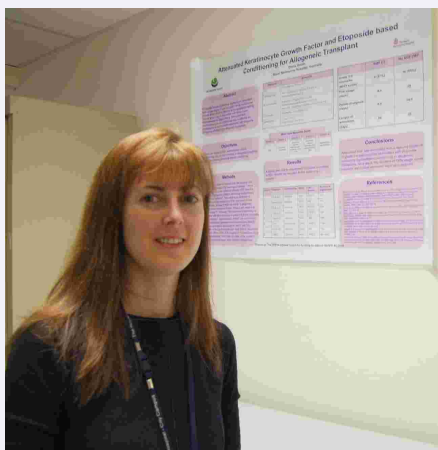
## Awards

During the General Assembly presentations for **JOPP Best Papers** were made. These went to Peter Gilbar and Christine Carrington (Australia) "The incidence of extravasation of vinca alkaloids supplied in syringes or minibags" Vol 12 no 2 Jun 06 and to Lamya Alnaim (Saudia Arabia) "Therapeutic drug monitoring of cancer chemotherapy" vol 13 no 4 Dec 07. Congratulations to the recipients.



Lamya receiving award from President Carole Chambers and JOPP editor Barry Goldspiel.

## ISOPP Poster Award



ISOPP member Dianna Booth (Australia) was presented with a poster award for her submission "Attenuated keratinocyte growth factor and etoposide based conditioning for allogeneic transplant."

**ISOPP Travel Grant** was awarded to Annemeri Livinalli (Brazil). Annemeri received 500 euros to assist her in attending the ISOPP XI meeting in Anaheim, USA. Annemeri plans a meeting report for the next Newsletter edition.



Annemeri receiving her award from President Carole Chambers.

Claire Mach (USA) was awarded the **2008 Research Grant**.

Her research is titled "Evaluation of drug distribution in an ovarian mouse xenograft model"



Claire receiving the research award from President Carole Chambers and Research Committee chair Judith Smith.



# Report from the 2nd International Cancer Control Congress, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, November, 2007

John T. Wiernikowski, PharmD (Canada)

The 2nd International Cancer control congress took place in Rio De Janeiro Brazil in November of 2007. I had the pleasure to be one of a sizeable Canadian contingent attending and participating in this outstanding event. Over 500 delegates from around the globe gathered in this city of breathtaking beauty, and striking contrasts. As the burden of cancer approaches more than 12 million new cases annually (almost certainly higher, since in some very poor countries, patients will die having never been diagnosed) the burden often falls on nations with little health/human resource to deal with the issue. Indeed, the poorest 12 nations on this earth provide absolutely no treatment for their citizens diagnosed with cancer...a most sobering thought.

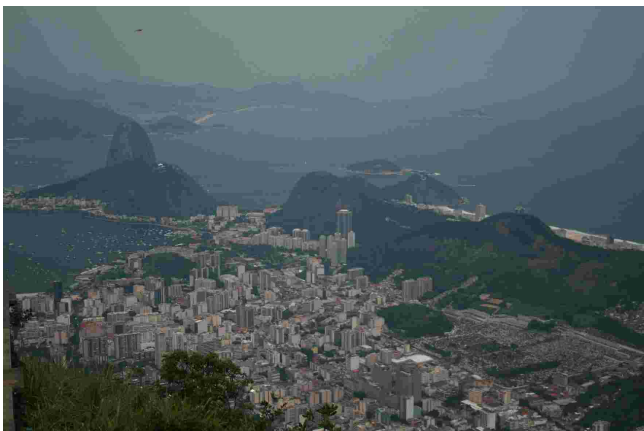
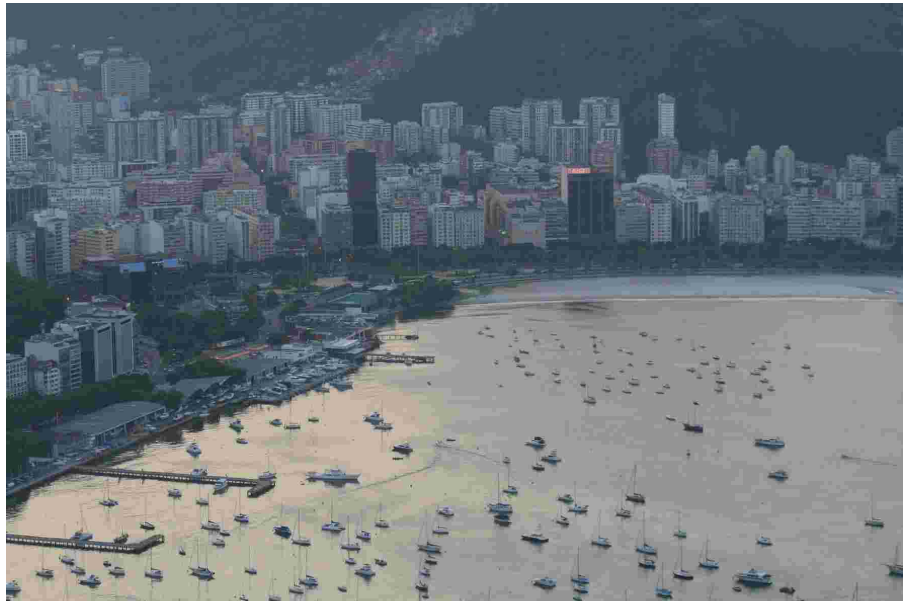
A highlight of the congress was the presentation of the about to be published CONCORD study by Dr. Michael Colman of the United Kingdom; this study showed compelling data on the differences in survival between "have" and "have not" nations with the best survival data being reported from the US, Canada, Cuba, and some European countries (UK, Germany) and lower rates for less affluent countries such as those in Latin and South America, and Africa. However, the study also looked at socio economic status within countries and the well to do, do well because they can access the best care, the poor do less well, and this was particularly evident within the US where access to health care for the poor remains a crucial issue; equally disturbing, the study

demonstrated a significant difference in survival between white and African Americans.

The format of the congress included (thematic) plenary sessions each morning and after lunch and after each plenary, delegates would reconvene into smaller working groups and asked to problem solve around some difficult and pervasive problems of managing/controlling cancer on a global front. These workshops to this participant were a true strength of this congress, bringing together delegates from both affluent and poor regions of the globe to share their problems and quite often, very unique and ingenious solutions to such obstacles. This was an eye opening experience for me personally, having been involved in some aspects under discussion with my

pharmacy colleagues in South America. Particularly heartening were reports on improvements in childhood cancer outcomes in Brazil, largely through co-operative efforts between oncologists in urban centers, and physicians in rural/remote parts of Brazil. Children

diagnosed with cancer in Brazil have a prospect for cure approaching 60%; compared to ~80% in North America...but our Brazilian colleagues achieve this with less than 20% of the resources that we in North America have. Amazing! Another highlight presentation was from Dr. Jon Kerner of the NCI in the USA, on Mobilizing global communities of practice through international collaboration to bridge gaps and accelerate discovery and delivery; and introduced delegates to a new web portal designed by the NCI called P.L.A.N.E.T which stands for Planning, Linking, Acting, Networking using Evidence-based Tools. Why not check it out? No topic was taboo, we covered it all in Cancer Control, from Breast and Cervical cancer screening (and vaccination) programs, to ensuring access to basic pharmaceuticals, and radiation therapy; to establishing basic practice standards, and registries, it was all covered in this incredible event. As always our Brazilian colleagues were the consummate hosts ensuring that everyone had a good meeting, and a good time! As you can see from some of these photos, it's a city you simply must see at least once in your life. I'm hoping our colleagues in the Brazilian Society of Oncology Pharmacists (SOBRAFO) will put in a bid to host an ISOPP meeting there soon.



## Report from the 4th SOBRAFO oncology pharmacy congress

SOBRAFO held its 4th oncology pharmacy congress since our inaugural meeting in 2002. With each congress, the number of participating pharmacists has increased, this year we had more than 500 registered participants attending the meeting held in Salvador, Brazil. The program was diverse and offered more than 20 hours of high quality plenary lectures on topics ranging from pharmacotherapy of various diseases and complications of cancer treatment, compliance, drug resistance as well as safe handling of cytotoxic drugs. Presenters were predominantly pharmacists, with a few physicians. In addition, we had a number of full day pre-conference courses; one on Pharmacovigilance, the other on safe handling of cytotoxic agents.

The first session was dedicated to Paediatric oncology, with topics ranging from an update on Non-Hodgkins lymphoma in children; (Dra Nubia) transitioning from active to palliative care in the child with cancer, (Dr Joaquim) and an update on mechanisms of drug resistance to anti-neoplastics, and a session on the late complications of therapy in children surviving cancer. (both given by our colleague Dr. John Wiernikowski from Canada). One further session given the opening day was by Dra Leticia, on patient counseling of the cancer patient, and establishing a pharmacist - patient relationship.

These sessions were followed by the official opening of the SOBRAFO congress with the opening Plenary given by William Rotea (another Brazilian ISOPP member) on the evolution of technology in cancer care. This was followed by a very enjoyable opening reception with lots of good food, drink (Caipirinhas!) and networking opportunities for Congress participants.

The second day of the Congress, featured talks on Pharmaceutical legislation, Updates on supportive care in cancer, Acute leukemias,

Pharmacoeconomics and a plenary on the Evaluation of toxicity and Effectiveness of chemotherapy in the pre-clinical and clinical settings. In addition, a poster session was held on the Saturday, with authors present. It was tremendously exciting to have more than 80 posters presented at this years Congress, on topics ranging from Pharmaceutical care, to safe medication handling, pharmacoeconomics, and some pre-clinical, basic science, and drug discovery; show casing the incredibly hard work of our members. As is the tradition with ISOPP meetings, the best posters were selected for oral presentation by the authors the following day, with the best oral presentation receiving the 2nd Dendrix Prize. The additional highlight of the day was the presentation of the SOBRAFO guidelines for reporting of adverse drug reactions in oncology; work that had begun at the 2006 meeting in Belo Horizonte and was designed to encourage pharmacists to be more active in Pharmacovigilance.

That evening we were entertained by our Bahian natives with their traditional music and dance (ginga de capoeira). The show put on by our “bahianas” was simply spectacular.

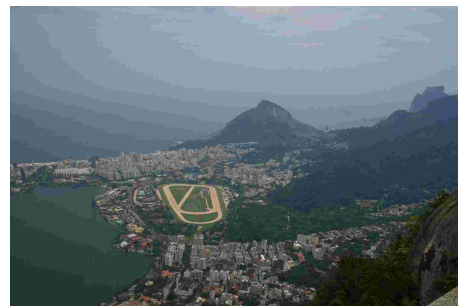
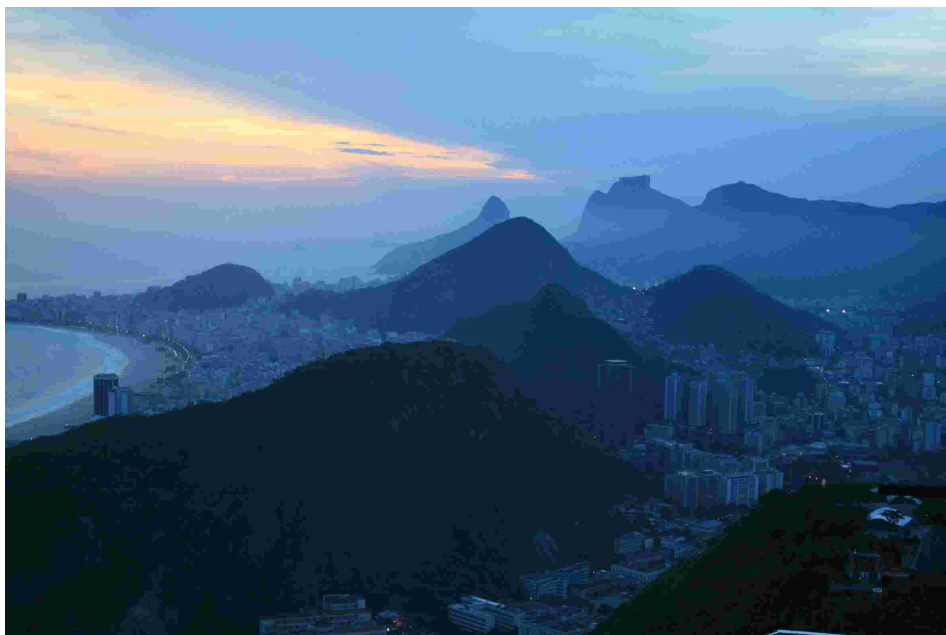
The Sunday scientific program included a variety of interesting topics to pharmacists including a session on chemotherapy errors and how they can be avoided. This day, we were also

honoured to have Professor Graham Sewell from ISOPP talk to us about oral chemotherapy agents, incompatibilities and important interactions in oncology and Stability of IV Products. There were also sessions providing updates on advances in breast, colorectal and renal cell carcinoma

In conclusion, we had an extremely enjoyable and productive congress with all participants able to take back something to improve their practice and to optimize the treatment outcomes of the patients that we take care.

Our next congress will be in 2010, but equally important is the ISOPP meeting in 2012....perhaps it is time for SOBRAFO to work with ISOPP and bring the 2012 meeting to Brazil. In June I will attend my first ISOPP meeting in Anaheim where we will discuss this idea a little more. Looking forward to ISOPP, and hope to see you in Brazil soon.

Annemeri Livinalli



## ISOPP Standards of Practice: Safe Handling of Cytotoxics officially endorsed in Spain



Dr Daniel Almenar Cubells (head of medical oncology department); Dr. Ansuncion Albert Mari, university hospital dr Peset, Valencia - Spain - ISOPP member and member standards committee;

Johan Vandenbroucke, ISOPP Standards Committee Co-chair and President-Elect; Prof. Dr. N. Victor Jimenez Torres, Professor of bio pharmacy and pharmacokinetics, faculty of pharmacy, university of Valencia, Spain - ISOPP member and member standards committee.

In the interests of transparency, ISOPP has published the Executive Minutes taken from meetings held at Anaheim during ISOPP XI. Please visit [www.isopp.org](http://www.isopp.org) and check these out under the Secretariat News section.

### Mentor Programme starting

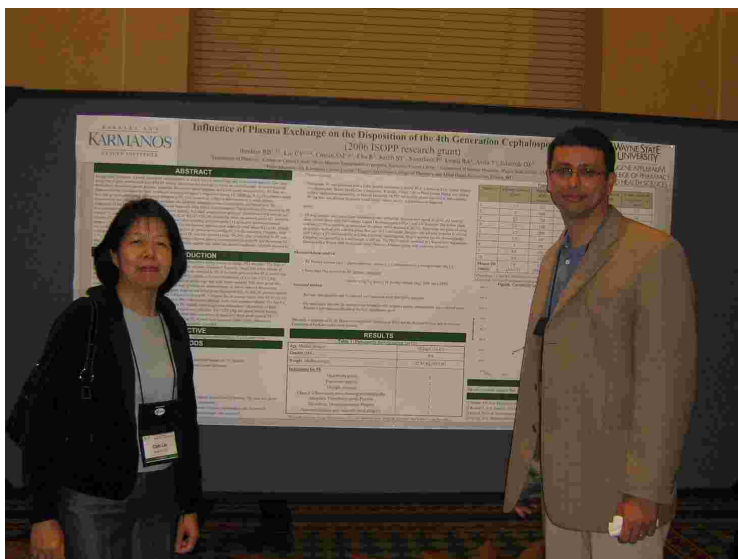
The Membership Committee is starting a mentor program for members that may be new to oncology pharmacy.

Being a mentor simply means being a contact person that your mentee can call or email if they have a pressing question or need some advice.

We will try to put people together that are in the same country or region when we can.

If you would like to volunteer as a mentor please contact Rosalyn Sims-McCallum Chair of the Membership Committee at [rsims@dmc.org](mailto:rsims@dmc.org).

## ISOPP Research Award 2006 poster presented at ISOPP XI



Rami B Ibrahim (principal investigator) and Chin Liu (co-investigator) in front of the poster produced from work undertaken following the awarding of the ISOPP Research Grant in 2006. Other collaborators are Steven T. Smith, Simon M. Cronin, Tomoco Avila, Raymond Cha, David J. Edwards, Paul Swerdlow, and Richard Lewis.

### SURVEY

An ISOPP membership survey will be placed on the website in September. Please complete this survey so that ISOPP can better fulfil your needs.

### Announcement of Committee Chairs for 2008-2010

Research - Kellie Jones (USA)

Standards - James Jorgenson (USA)

Publications - Felice Musicco (Italy)

Newsletter Editor - Jill Davis (Australia)

Education - Co-Chairs: Franca Goffredo (Italy) (Plan 2010 Symposium) and Lynne Nakashima (Canada)

Membership - Rosalyn Sims-McCallum (USA)

Finance - Nagwa Ibrahim (Saudia Arabia)

### Upcoming meetings

**BOPA 17-19 October 2008, Liverpool UK**

[www.bopawebsite.org](http://www.bopawebsite.org)

**NOPS 17-19 October 2008, Calgary Canada**

<http://www.capho.org/nops/2008/index.html>

**NZW 23-25 January 2009, Hamburg Germany**

**Australasian ISOPP 28-30 August 2009, Melbourne, Australia.**

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