

## The International Society of Addiction Medicine



### ISAM 2002 -2003: Out of the Toddler years!

As we complete our fourth year in operation, it is time to reflect on 2002 and take stock of our achievements as well as challenges. The mere fact that I am able to write about it is a tribute to a small but expanding group of individuals dedicated to sharing their medical expertise internationally and contributing to a better world.

#### A. Enhancing our membership benefits and products

##### I. **Our website is moving! Our new address will be [www.isamweb.org](http://www.isamweb.org)**

Dr. Mecziems who since our inception single-handedly maintained our website will no longer be able to pursue his commitment. Several of you have also corresponded with us that our acronym ISAM is shared by several other societies like the "International Society of Aerosol Medicine"! Dr. Mecziems is to be thanked for having the foresight to secure the new address for us.

We have been busy since Reykjavik contracting with a server to relocate our website to the ISAM office with the help of a small grant. Our website is our window on the e-world. By mid-February, we will be able to provide users access as well as update our site appropriately. We anticipate eagerly that Dr. W. Moran will assist our office as website Editor.

##### II. **International Addiction is joining International Addiction Info line**

After 3 editions originating from ISAM's office and the University of Calgary, the Board has appointed Dr. David Smith as the new editor of our publication, *International Addiction*.

Dr. Smith and his staff bring an extensive experience in e-communication through the Alcohol MD network. Combining the resources of International Addiction Infoline [[www.hafci.org/infoline](http://www.hafci.org/infoline)] with International Addiction should be able to sustain and strengthen our continuing education services at affordable costs.

##### III. **Organizing Annual Meetings**

###### Reykjavik 2002:

First and foremost, we want to thank Dr. Tyrfingsson and his team at SAA for organizing our annual meeting in Reykjavik this past October. Our annual scientific meetings now include some 100 diverse scientific presentations representing the breadth and depth of addiction medicine with an attendance ranging between 2 – 300 attendants. The book of abstracts is now available at:

<http://www.saa.is/saa/?Mlval=adalsida&pid=2099&toppage=198>

The feedback we receive is that the meetings have improved from year to year and are a catalyst for our networking efforts

I particularly want to thank the organizing committee for masterminding the attendance of the President of Iceland at our opening ceremony. The full text of President Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson's address will be on the new website. At a later hosting, he also bestowed Iceland's highest order "Knight of the Falcon" to our colleague Dr. Sheila Blume as well as Dr. Terence Gorski and Dr. John Wallace, who also presented at our conference. Congratulations to the recipients and perhaps a new tradition for other organizing committees to emulate!

#### Future annual meetings:

##### Amsterdam, Sept 25-28, 2003

The organizing committee led by Dr. W. van den Brink is busily setting up our next meeting in exciting Amsterdam. This event is to be co-sponsored by the Amsterdam Institute for Addiction Research. It will be a great opportunity for us to meet in this exciting city and review with colleagues some of the pioneering practices of addiction medicine in the Netherlands.

Please reserve these dates and plan to attend! An updated membership entitles you to a reduced registration fee.

##### Helsinki, Finland June 2-5, 2004

This organizing committee led by Dr. H. Alho is already way ahead in their scientific and social plans. We look forward to sampling the famed Finnish hospitality.

##### Buenos Aires, Argentina, Spring of 2005?

An enthusiastic group of colleagues from Argentina coordinated by Dr. M. Delgado is gathering support for an annual meeting in 2005. The "esprit de corps" of the group leave me no doubt that they will be able to overcome the current economic constraints.

##### Clarifying mutual expectations

With the experience gathered in meetings in Palm Springs 1999, Cairo 2000, Tel Aviv-Trieste and Ljubjana 2001, Buenos Aires and Reykjavik 2002, a set of guidelines for mutual expectations can now be established to help the local organizing committees as well as ISAM. They will be posted on the web. We are developing traditions and a sense of continuity in our meetings. ISAM's operational costs also require support from the meetings. We are also aware that each meeting has its unique national characteristics!

#### **IV. Organizing Regional Meetings**

##### Buenos Aires, 2002

I have already covered in the previous newsletter the very successful regional meeting held in April, organized in collaboration with the National Drug Agency (SEDRONAR) as well as the XVIII Meeting of the Argentinean Psychiatric Association. The positive experience gathered at this meeting should be a great asset for the annual meeting preparations in 2005.

Toronto, May 1, 2003

The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) is holding its annual meeting for the first time outside the US in Toronto. A longstanding engagement was that ISAM would hold a one-day meeting prior to the ASAM meeting.

For our ISAM members planning to attend this year's ASAM meeting, we are planning a one-day at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health on May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will visit the Centre (site of the ex-Addiction Research Foundation) and are in the process of organizing a one-day seminar cosponsored by a number of Canadian organizations. **Anyone interested in presenting for 30 minutes including questions is to submit a half-page abstract [approx. 150 words] to me by January 24<sup>th</sup>. Sorry for the short notice.**

**V. A book Proposal: Addiction Medicine – International Practice Profiles**

As per prior correspondence, this project is ongoing. We now have the drafts of 4 chapters from Israel [by Elisha D, Gleser J & Reiter M], Canada [by N. el-Guebaly], India [by Dhawan A & Mohan D] and Germany Shafer I & Krausz M]. We are looking forward to the other remaining chapters.

**VI. Task Force Reports**

- Education and Curriculum – Chair: M. Galanter  
The Basic Medical Substance Abuse Curriculum already distributed is continuing to raise widespread interest. Dr. T. Gawad in Egypt is basing the development of a Course in Addiction Medicine on this document. Other countries may also follow suit.  
The committee is also proposing a new one-day course on the Basics of Addiction Medicine prior to our annual meetings. This proposal has been very successful prior to ASAM meetings. An independent registration fee will be required.
- Physician Health – Chairs: D. Talbott & M. Kaufmann  
Guidelines regarding the care of physicians and health professionals will soon be listed on our website. A one-day workshop will also be held at the annual meetings.
- Definitions – Chair: R. Hajela  
We need a common language and this group is pursuing its task to develop brief, simple, key words definitions.
- Pain and Addiction – Chair: D. Smith  
A position is being developed highlighting key components at the gray zone interfacing between Addiction Medicine and Pain.
- Youth and the family – Chair: Y. Kaminer  
Correspondence is starting to propose guidelines for this important aspect of practice.

**VII. ISAM's Newsletter**

Last but not least, the Newsletter is another way we can communicate with each other. In addition to our website, the newsletter serves as another reminder for our notices. I have faithfully drafted the various issues over the years. This is a reminder that I would welcome any contributions from members.

## **B. Adapting our organization to membership needs**

At our annual meeting in Reykjavik in October 2002, a number of important decisions were made for the next three years:

### **I. Board Renewal**

Five years ago, at an American Society of Addiction Medicine's meeting in New Orleans in 1998, some 25 colleagues were invited to lay the foundation for ISAM. Most formed the Founding Board in Palm Springs 1999. The prospect of our first major turnover in board membership was not an easy one. Sensitivity for the sense of accomplishment and pride shared by board members had to be matched by the needs for renewal as well as continuity. The Nominating Committee composed of Drs. D. Talbott, M. Delgado and G. Bjornsson spend many hours trying "to do the right thing for ISAM". Their recommendations received full support. Our new Board composition is as follows:

#### **ISAM BOARD MEMBERS:**

Dr. el-Guebaly, President [Canada]

Executive till elections of VP's in 2003:

Dr. Douglas Talbott, Vice-President [USA]

Dr. Jorge Gleser, Vice-President [Israel]

Dr. Flavio Poldrugo, Vice-President [Italy]

Dr. Maria Cristina Delgado-Pich, Secretary [Argentina]

Board Members:

Dr. Hannu Alho [Finland]

Dr. Colin Brewer [England]

Dr. C.N Chen [China]

Dr. Gabriele Fischer [Austria]

Dr. Marc Galanter [USA]

Dr. David Gastfriend [USA]

Dr. Tarek Gawad [Egypt]

Dr. Raju Hajela [Canada]

Dr. Daniel Martinez [Chile]

Dr. Davinder Mohan [India] - Interim

Dr. Alfredo Saavedra [Peru]

Dr. John Saunders [Australia]

Dr. Thorarinn Tyrfingsson [Iceland]

A few clarifying notes:

- The Board began its term of office at the completion of the 2002 Annual Meeting in Reykjavik and will complete its mandate at the end of the 2005 Annual Meeting.
- The membership, at the business meeting, extended a warm vote of thanks to the members leaving our Board, i.e., Drs. D. Smith, P. Mecziems, J. Carrilho, J.C. Dias da Silva, S. Alvarado, W. Moran, D. Mohan [interim], Prof. Z. Cai and M. Krausz.
- ISAM Certificates of Appreciation were forwarded to departing members on your behalf. It is to be noted that with Dr. Z. Cai replaced last year, this renewal amounted to 50% of the Board. The emerging correspondence from Dr. Alho, Martinez, Fischer, Hajela, Gastfriend and Saavedra confirm for our organization the wisdom of renewal.
- The matter of election of new Board members as part of our maturation process was widely debated at the Board meeting. The consensus was that because of the

need to maintain a broad geographical as well as expert constituency representation among our membership, the Board would pursue a nominating process. A record of dedication to ISAM's goals as well as name recognition in the field are the determining factors for nomination. We continue to strive for an eventual election by the active membership by e-mail as we further develop our global communication system.

- To ensure initial continuity, the Board saw fit to re-elect me for another and final 3-year term as President. I am energized by the confidence expressed but also wish to ensure a smooth transition at the end of my term. An important step will be the election of a slate of Executive Officers by the Board at the 2003 annual meeting, i.e., President-elect, 2 Vice-Presidents and a Secretary Treasurer.

## II. Membership Drive and Affiliation with medical societies

- We have been lax in our membership recruitment drive, some of it caused by the range of economic abilities among our members as well as diverse customs regarding membership in professional organizations. Nonetheless, a strong membership base is ESSENTIAL to ISAM's survival and is a prime concern of the Board. We need to recognize the exemplary work in this respect of Dr. M. Delgado and Dr. T. Gawad.
- Active membership:  
Appended to this newsletter is an application form for new members and a membership renewal form for current members. The membership year is the calendar year 2003. Please forward your active membership dues to our office as soon as possible.
- Affiliated Memberships:  
Our active membership committee led by Drs. Galanter and Gleser is now drafting guidelines to fine tune our membership categories as well as establishing the parameters for an affiliation agreement with national societies relevant to Addiction Medicine. The challenge is to establish a "value added" relationship beneficial to both ISAM and the affiliated societies adapted to their various stage of development. Dr. Galanter is also pursuing his efforts to develop a listing of related societies to be contacted.
- The other membership categories remain under discussion including the involvement of non-physicians who currently can join ISAM as Associate Members and participate in our activities but do not have voting privileges nor can hold an executive office.
- We also continue to debate guidelines for sponsoring role for industry. Our constitution remains flexible enough to adopt to membership needs as we mature.
- **Any suggestion from members on these topics is more than welcome!**

In conclusion, we are always mindful of the question: why should we join ISAM? Drafting this report of our activities helps me and hopefully each one of you demonstrate the current and potential opportunities for professional development offered by this organization. This is ever more important as there are many forces at work to undermine international collaborative efforts. So from our Executive Assistant, Ms D'Orozio and myself: **join us, stay and work with us!**

N el-Guebaly, MD  
President

# The International Society of Addiction Medicine

## MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to renew my ISAM membership. I have enclosed the amount according to the World Bank Economic Guidelines attached.

I will pay by: \_\_\_\_\_ cash \_\_\_\_\_ cheque \_\_\_\_\_ money order (payable to ISAM)

VISA: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorizing signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ADDICTION MEDICINE**  
**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
*(Please type or print legibly)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (MI)

**PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS:** Office  Home

Organization/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ E.mail \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

**UNDERGRADUATE** College or University \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION:** Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSIONAL** Medical/professional School \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION:** Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDICAL SPECIALTIE(S):** Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERNSHIP/RESIDENCY/FELLOWSHIP/OTHER GRADUATE TRAINING: (if any)**

Institution & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Subject area \_\_\_\_\_ Inclusive dates \_\_\_\_\_

Institution & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Subject area \_\_\_\_\_ Inclusive dates \_\_\_\_\_

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS: (Past & Present)**

University & Location	Title	Department	Date
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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRESENT CLINICAL PRACTICE SITE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**HOSPITAL and STAFF APPOINTMENTS: (Past & Present)**

Hospital & Location	Title	Department	Date
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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**YEARS IN PRACTICE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:** Circle all categories that apply and indicate percentage of time spent

Clinical Practice \_\_\_\_\_%    Administrative \_\_\_\_\_ %    Academic/teaching \_\_\_\_\_%

Research \_\_\_\_\_%    Other: \_\_\_\_\_% (specify \_\_\_\_\_)

**LICENSURE:** [Type, State/Prov., Country] \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**AREA(S) OF SPECIAL INTEREST IN ADDICTION MEDICINE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES:** List two members from ISAM or physicians in your country with addresses & telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
I agree to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the International Society of Addiction Medicine. I understand that the society may review my application and my references, and make inquiries about me. I will hold the Society, its members, examiners, officers, employees and agents free from all damage and complaint by reason of any action taken on this application or by reason of any subsequent action on membership. I pledge myself to high standards of ethical practice.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues schedule and country listing attached.

Please complete [type or print] and return with check **made payable to ISAM** [if in North America] or money order in US funds [if outside North America] to or fax with VISA authorization and number:

**Dr. N. el-Guebaly, President, ISAM  
Addiction Centre – Foothills Hospital  
1403 – 29 Street NW  
Calgary AB T2N 2T9 CANADA**

**Phone: (403) 944-2350    Fax: (403) 944-2056    E.mail: nady.el-guebaly@calgaryhealthregion.ca**

**I authorize payment of due to ISAM through my VISA credit card:**

**VISA # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*\*Please note: funds will be processed through the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM) and taken out in CANADIAN funds**

**We apologize that we cannot take Mastercard or American Express at this time.**

**DUES CATEGORIES & FEES: (World Bank Economic Categories, for 2002)**

a) Full Members \$90 US	b) Associate Members: non-voting/non-office holding. \$60 US	\$30US	\$15 US	
Andorra	Am. Samoa	Albania	Afghanistan	Viet Nam
Aruba	Antigua & Barbuda	Algeria	Angola	Yemen
Australia	Argentina	Belarus	Armenia	Zaire
Austria	Bahrain	Belize	Azerbaijan	Zambia
Bahamas	Barbados	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Zimbabwe
Belgium	Botswana	Bosnia Herzegovina	Benin	
Bermuda	Brazil	Bulgaria	Bhutan	
Brunei	Chile	Capa Verde	Burkina Faso	
Canada	Croatia	Colombia	Burundi	
Cayman	Czech Republic	Costa Rica	Cambodia	
Channel Islands	Estonia	Cuba	Cameroon	
Cyprus	Gabon	Djibouti	Cent. Afr. Rep.	
Denmark	Grenada	Dominica	Chad	
Faeroe Islands	Hungary	Dominican Rep	China	
Finland	Isle of Man	Ecuador	Comoros	
France	Korea, Rep of	Egypt	Congo	
French Polynesia	Lebanon	El Salvador	Cote d'Ivoire	
Germany	Libya	Equat. Guinea	Eritrea	
Greece	Malaysia	Fiji	Ethiopia	
Greenland	Mauritius	Georgia	Gambia	
Guam	Mayotte	Guatemala	Ghana	
Hong Kong	Mexico	Guyana	Guinea	
Iceland	Oman	Iran	Guinea-Bissau	
Ireland	Palau	Iraq	Haiti	
Israel	Panama	Jamaica	Honduras	
Italy	Poland	Jordan	India	
Japan	Puerto Rico	Kazakhstan	Indonesia	
Kuwait	Saudi Arabia	Kiribati	Kenya	
Liechtenstein	Slovak Republic	Latvia	Korea, Dem.	
Luxembourg	Seychelles	Lithuania	Kyrgyz Rep/	
Macao	St. Kitts & Nevis	Macedonia	Lao PDR	
Malta	St. Lucia	Maldives	Lesotho	
Monaco	Taiwan	Marshall Islands	Liberia	
Netherlands	Trinidad & Tobago	Micronesia	Madagascar	
Neth. Antilles	Turkey	Morocco	Malawi	
New Caledonia	Uruguay	Namibia	Mali	
New Zealand	Venezuela	Papua New Guinea	Mauritania	
Northern Mariana Is.		Paraguay	Moldova	
Norway		Peru	Mongolia	
Portugal		Philippines	Mozambique	
Qatar		Romania	Myanmar	
Singapore		Russian Federation	Nepal	
Slovenia		Samoa	Nicaragua	
Spain		South Africa	Niger	
Sweden		Sri Lanka	Nigeria	
Switzerland		St. Vincent	Pakistan	
United Arab Emirates		Surinam	Rwanda	
United Kingdom		Swaziland	Sao Tome & Principe	
United States		Syria	Senegal	
Virgin Is (US)		Thailand	Sierra Leone	
		Tonga	Solomon Isl.	
		Tunisia	Somalia	
		Ukraine	Sudan	
		Uzbekistan	Tajikistan	
		West Bank/Gaza	Tanzania	
		Yugoslavia: Serbia/ Montenegro	Togo	
			Turkmenistan	
			Uganda	