ISG NEWS

Minutes of the General Body meeting of the ISG held at New Delhi November 21, 2000

01 Minutes of the last General Body meeting held at Kolkata November 18, 1999 were approved.
02 Members were informed about the action taken on the last minutes.
03 The auditor’s statement of accounts for the year 1999-2000 was approved.
04 The proposed budget for the year 2000-2001 was approved.
05 M/s Mehrotra and Mehrotra were appointed as auditors.
06 All the 73 valid nominations as new Life Members of the Society were approved.
07 The election results for the posts of President-elect and Governing Council member were as follows:
   President-elect  Dr Brijang Pratap
   Governing Council members  Dr TNL Mazumdar  Dr P Kar
08 The following ISG awards were approved:
   Hoehst Om Prakash Memorial Award  Dr BC Sharma
   Parke-Davis Oration  Dr DK Bhaisn
   Olympus Mitra Award  Dr V Singh
09 It was decided that the INASL and SGEI meetings should continue with the annual conference of the ISG. However, it was emphasized that the scientific program should be made in coordination between the secretaries of the three societies.
10 There were three proposals to hold the annual conference of the ISG in 2003, from Dr Sudhir Gupta, Nagpur; Dr P Advaitham, Madurai; and Dr KR Kalanikwami, Chennai. The decision was deferred till next year.
11 The General Body decided that nominations for the post of editor of the Indian Journal of Gastroenterology should be invited, so that the new editor can be selected by January 2002.
12 It was approved unanimously that, ideally, there should not be an endoscopy workshop immediately after the annual conference; however, if it has to be held at all, it should be for only one day. The duration of the CME conference and post-conference workshop should be as follows: 1+3+1 days, respectively. The Organizing Secretary of the workshop and the conference should be the same. No separate circular or letters would be issued for the workshop.
13 The members wanted that guidelines for the State Chapters should be published once more in the ISG Newsletter. A great need was felt to rejuvenate the State Chapters of the ISG. It was decided that the Hon. Secretary of the ISG, Dr YK Joshi, would write to all the State Chapters, wherever they are functional, to send their annual report. He would also initiate the process to form State Chapters in States where they are not operational, by writing to individual members. A separate one-hour session would be held at the annual conference to discuss the activities of the State Chapters.
14 It was decided that one-theme conferences should be encouraged, but it was emphasized that the scientific meetings by State Chapters or by other institutions should be organized at least three months prior to or three months after the annual conference.
15 The President of the ISG, Dr SK Sarin, was able to obtain funds for ISG Residents Training Fellowship. The fellowship will be awarded to a DM student who wishes to go to a center in another city for a period of 2-4 weeks during his DM training. A consolidated sum of Rs 7,50,000 has been committed by MA Fulford, providing Rs 15,00,000 per year.
16 The decision of the Governing Council to have a Scientific Committee to plan and organize the scientific activities of the ISG throughout the year was approved by the General Body. It was decided to have five Chairs in the Scientific Committee. These would include a Chair each for luminal, liver, pancreaticobiliary, basic sciences and pediatrics. The process for selection of the chairperson would be by nomination, strictly based on the publications by the individual. Dr SK Sarin, President of the ISG, was asked to initiate and set up the Scientific Committee for the year 2001-2002.
17 It was decided that the last date for submission of Abstracts for the annual conference of the ISG should continue to be July 15. No Abstract should be accepted by the Secretariat after this date.

42nd Annual Conference

This conference will be held in Lucknow November 24-28, 2001. Dr SR Naik, the Organizing Secretary, will send further information shortly. The last date for submission of Abstracts is July 15, 2001. Abstracts received after 5.00 p.m. July 15, 2001 will not be accepted.

43rd Annual Conference

This conference will be held in Cochin in 2002. Dr Philip Augustine will be the Organizing Secretary.

Mid-term meetings

The ISG provides a financial aid of Rs 20,000 each for two mid-term meetings every year. Those who are willing to organize these meetings should write to the Secretariat. The meetings should be held before July 2001.

Awards

Nominations for the various Awards should be sent to the Secretariat before July 15, 2001. This year, the nominations for Hoehst Om Prakash Memorial Award and Olympus Mitra Endoscopy Award will be received for the years 2001 and 2002. The nominations for the Knoll Oration for the year 2001 will be received till March 31, 2001, and for the year 2002 will be received till July 15, 2001. The details of the various Awards are as follows:

*Parke-Davis Oration (2002)*

The applicant should have done research in any branch of Gastroenterology, as evidenced by at least 20 publications in recognized journals. The publications should be full reports with references; summaries in conference proceedings or abstracts of presentations are not acceptable. The work should have been done in India as far as possible. If a suitable awardee is not found, the award may be given to a person whose work has significance for Indian conditions. Five sets of the application submitted by the proposer should each include the bio-data and reprints of the five best research papers of the applicant.

*Knoll Oration (2001 and 2002)*

This oration is in the field of parasitology / gastrointestinal infection or nutrition as related to gastroenterology. The applicant should have done research in these areas as evidenced
by at least 20 publications in the form of full reports with references; summaries in conference proceedings or abstracts of presentations are not acceptable. Five sets of the application submitted by the proposer should each include the biodata and reprints of the five best research papers of the applicant.

**Hoehst Om Prakash Memorial Award (2001 and 2002)**
This award will be given to a gastroenterologist member of the ISG who is below the age of 40 years. The award is based on the 10 best research papers published by the applicant. Five sets of the application should each include the biodata and reprints of the five best research papers of the applicant. The application may be submitted by the prospective awardee or by a proposer who should be a member of the Society.

**Olympus Mitra Endoscopy Award (2001 and 2002)**
This award, presented annually at the ISG Conference and awarded to a senior member of the Society who has made a distinguished contribution to the field of endoscopy. The awardee will be selected based on experience in endoscopy (as judged by review of the biodata and publications) and the centers proposed by him. The awardee will be selected from the best papers of the five best research papers of the applicant. The application may be submitted by the prospective awardee or by a proposer who should be a member of the Society.

**Dr P N Chattani Oration (2002)**
Any member of the Society can send nominations. Nominations, along with 10 sets of the biodata, should reach the Secretariat by July 15, 2001. The nominee should have a distinguished academic career and should have made outstanding contributions in Gastroenterology or related fields. The awardee will be selected based on the basis of the biodata. In case no nomination is received or no suitable awardee is found, the Scientific Committee along with a representative of the Trust will have the right to nominate any person who fulfills these criteria. The awardee will be provided airfare within India, and reimbursement for accommodation for three days during the Annual Conference.

**Pfizer Amir Chand Trophy (2001-2003)**
The Indian Society of Gastroenterology has established a trophy for the institution / center that has made the best contribution in the field of Gastroenterology. This will be assessed by a panel of eminent scientists, based on the basis of 10 best papers published from the institution. Five copies of each paper are to be submitted to the Hon. Secretary. The rotating trophy is to be retained by the institution that wins the Award for a period of 2 years, after which it will be returned to the Secretary during the Annual Conference.

**Other Awards**
- Young Investigator Award for best paper (age below 40 years). Two prizes of Rs 20,000 each will be given to the best papers in clinical and basic research.
- Award for best paper in Plenary Session. Two prizes of Rs 30,000 each will be given to the best papers in clinical and basic research.
- Please send five sets of full papers for both these Awards.
- Award for best posters: two prizes of Rs 10,000 each.

From the next academic year, the ISG will offer Travel Fellowship to DM students so that they can visit other departments for a period of one month during their training. Applications along with biodata will be invited soon.

The ISG website will be launched in the near future. All members will be informed individually, and also will be provided with e-mail addresses.

**Membership dues**
Ordinary members should send their annual dues to Dr Love Dalal, A-13 Silver Arch, Behind Town Hall, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad 380 006. The fees are as follows:
- Ordinary member: Rs 500
- Life member: Rs 5000
- SAARC member: Rs 7500
- Non-resident Indian (life membership): US $ 300

**Address and Membership Number**
If you are not aware of your membership number, please inquire with the Secretariat. Please write to me about any change or addition in your address. Please mention your membership number in all your correspondence.

With kind regards,
YK Joshi
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