Report from the 1st Congress of WFSLMS

The 1st Congress of the World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine and Surgery (WFSLMS) was held in Tokyo on September 7-10, 2005.

The schedule was as follows.

**September 6th (Tuesday)**
19:00 Welcome Reception for Organizing Members of WFSLMS  
   Beer and Sandwich Party  
   Master of Ceremonies: Prof. Narong Nimsakul  
   Welcome Remarks by Prof. Toshio Ohshiro (History of WFSLMS)  
   Toast by Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi

**September 7th (Wednesday)**
7:30 American Breakfast  
8:00 Opening Ceremony of WFSLMS  
   Master of Ceremonies: Prof. Narong Nimsakul  
   Opening Declaration of WFSLMS by Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi  
   Welcome Remarks by Prof. Toshio Ohshiro
8:30 Organization of WFSLMS (I)
   Chaired by Kazuhiko Atsumi
   I) Executive Committee of WFSLMS (*table 1)
   II) Standing Committees of WFSLMS (*table 2)
   III) Membership of WFSLMS (*table 3)
   IV) Financial Problems (*table 4)
9:30 Remarks of World Representatives (*table 5): Open to Public
   Chaired by Prof. Narong Nimsakul
13:00 Organization of WFSLMS (II)
   Chaired by Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi
   V) Education and Training (*table 6)
   VI) B-SAC Committee
   VII) Industrial Committee
   VIII) Activities in the Past 2 Years and Future Plans for the Next 4 Years
        (2 years x 2) (*table 7)
14:00 Meeting of “Society for Blood Saving”: Open to Public
   Chaired by Prof. Toshio Ohshiro

September 8th (Thursday)
12:00-13:00 Organization of WFSLMS (III)
   IX) Bylaw Committee (*table 8)
   Chaired by Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi

September 9th (Friday)
11:30-12:00 Tokyo Declaration Meeting
   Chaired by Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi

September 10th (Saturday)
11:30-12:00 Tokyo Declaration by Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi

Delivered materials of the 1st Congress of WFSLMS
At the Congress, the following materials were delivered to all of the attending Representatives of WFSLMS.

(*table 1) Executive Committee of WFSLMS
Honorary President: Prof. Isaac Kaplan
President: Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi
President Elect: Prof. Krishna Rau
Secretary- General: Prof. Toshio Ohshiro
Assistant Secretary-General: Prof. Narong Nimsakul
Treasurer: Prof. Vasant Oswal

(*table 2) Standing Committees of WFSLMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standing Committee</th>
<th>Chairperson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Membership Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Narong Nimusakul</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Bylaw Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Krishna Rau</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) Guideline Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Harubumi Kato</td>
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<tr>
<td>4) Education &amp; Training Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Leonardo Longo</td>
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<tr>
<td>5) B-SAC Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Toshio Ohshiro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Business Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Nic Nicolopoulos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) Financial Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Vasant Oswal</td>
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<tr>
<td>8) Industrial Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Gerald Glantz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9) Publication Committee</td>
<td>Prof. Frank Frank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof. Tsunenori Arai</td>
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<td>Prof. Tetsuya Okunaka</td>
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</tbody>
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(*table 3) Membership of WFSLMS

Open to:
1) One Representative from Societies and Associations for Laser Medicine and Surgery
2) One Representative from Supporting Members of NPO WFSLMS, Society for Blood Saving (SBS) and others
3) One Representative from Public Societies (WHO, OECD, FDA, Red Cross Society, Rotary Club, Lion’s Club, and others.)
4) One Representative from Supporting Societies of Medical Laser Industries

Organization:
1) The representative of each Member Society shall follow the admission procedure of The Federation, in writing to the Secretary-General.
2) A Membership card and a representative card shall be sent to the Member Society from the Secretary-General.
3) In the event that the Member Society representative shall not be either the President or the Secretary-General, the representative card may be sent to their member-designate.
4) The Member Society may resign from The Federation at any time, in writing to the Secretary-General.
5) If the event of any change in the contact address of a Member Society, the Member Society must write to the Secretary-General with the new address.

(*table 4) Financial Matters
1) Reports on the financial statement of past 1 year by NPO WFSLMS
2) Future Plan to Get Funding for NPO WFSLMS
   - Business Plan
   - Donation Plan
3) Preparation of Funding for Next Meeting and Congress

(*table 5) Remarks of the World Representatives
(Alphabetical order)
1) Prof. Hayk Arakelyan  Pan-Armenian Association of Laser Therapy and Integrative Medicine (PAALTIM)
2) Prof. Yoshimi Asagai  Japan Laser Therapy Association (JaLTA)
3) Prof. Yoshimi Asagai International Phototherapy Association (IPTA)
4) Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi  Japan Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (JSLSM)
5) Prof. Sherif S. Awad  No society and association in Egypt
6) Prof. Abraham Baruchin  Israel Association for Laser Surgery and Medicine (IALSM)
7) Prof. David Baxter  International Association for Laser in Sport Medicine (IALSM)
8) Prof. Takehiko Fujisawa  Intl. YAG Laser Symposium
9) Prof. Gerald Glantz  American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery (ASLMS)
10) Prof. Mohamad Hammouche  No society and association in Syria
11) Prof. Kazuo Hanaoka  World Association for Laser Therapy (WALT)
12) Prof. Peter Hasan  Indonesian Society for Laser Medicine (ISLM)
13) Prof. Isao Ishikawa  International Society for Laser in Dentistry (ISLD)
14) Prof. Isao Ishikawa  Japan Society for Dental Laser (JSLD)
15) Prof. Ming-Chien Kao  Laser and Photonics Medical Society, ROC (LPMS, ROC)
16) Prof. Harubumi Kato  International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (ISLSM)
17) Prof. Harubumi Kato  International Photodynamic Association (IPA)
18) Prof. Harubumi Kato  Japan Photodynamic Association (JPA)
20) Prof. Junichiro Kubota  Japan Association for Laser in Sport Medicine (JALSM)
21) Prof. Jun-Heng Li  Chinese Society of Laser Surgery and Medicine (CSLSM)
22) Prof. Leonard Longo  International Academy of Laser Medical Science (IALMS)
23) Prof. Ma. Pilar L. Leuenberger  No society and association in Philippines
24) Prof. Nic Nicolopoulos  Greek Medical Laser Association (GMLA)
25) Prof. Vasant Oswal  British Medical Laser Association (BMLA)
26) Prof. Nguyen Thi Thanh Phuong  No society and association in Vietnam
27) Prof. Krishna Rau  Asian Pacific Association for Laser Medicine and Surgery (APALMS)
28) Prof. Krishna Rau  Indian Association of Laser Surgery and Medicine (IALSM)
29) Prof. Shimon Rochkind  Israeli Laser Medicine and Surgery (ILMS)
30) Prof. Fernando Soriano  Association Rosarina de Laser en Medicina y Cirugia (ARLMC)
31) Prof. Mario Trelles  European Medical Laser Association (EMLA)
32) Prof. Raphaela Waidelich  Detsche Gesellschaft für Lasermedizin (DGLM e.V.)

**Bold letters show the persons and Societies which gave us the Questionnaires.**

(*table 6) Education and Training
1) Spread the Guide-Lines of ISLSM
2) Education & Training
   (1) Founding of the Training Center
   (2) Seminar in conjunction with ISLSM, APALMS, EMLA, IALMS etc.
   (3) Traveling Team for Education and Training

(*table 7) Activities in the Past 2 Years and Future Plan in the Next 4 Years
(2 years x 2)
1) Assistance project for world wide academic societies
2) Laser B-SAC promotion project
3) Mobile laser treatment project
4) Training and Education project for laser medicine
5) Development project for the future types of laser treatments
6) License and authorization project
7) Development project of new laser devices

(*table 8) Bylaw Committee
will be reported in the NEWSLETTER 12 of WFSLMS

**Tokyo Declaration & Closing Ceremony of the 1st Congress of WFSLMS**

Soon after the Closing Ceremony of the 1st Congress of WFSLMS was carried out, President K. Atsumi delivered Tokyo Declaration. Prof. Isaac Kaplan, Prof. Krishna Rau, Prof. Narong Nimsakul, and Prof. Vasant Oswal (Executive Committee Members) gave their impressions of the 1st Congress of WFSLMS, finally Prof. Toshio Ohshiro, WFSLMS Secretary-General, closed the 1st Congress of the WFSLMS.

**THE OBJECTIVES OF WFSLMS**
1) To function as a liaison organization for various societies related to the application of laser in medicine.
2) To promote scientific meetings of various societies.
3) To promote educational activity regarding laser medicine.
4) To promote the safe use of lasers.
5) To save medical resources by using laser technology.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS (2005-2007)**
1) Blood saving project
2) Providing Laser systems to developing countries
3) Providing guidelines for safety in the applications of Laser
4) Encouraging the design and production of Laser systems to be cheap, maintenance free, user-friendly.
5) Compiling a faculty of experts for education regarding the clinical application of laser.
6) Compiling video library for training.

WFSLMS shall hold its congress every four years, in conjunction with International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (ISLSM).
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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honorary President</td>
<td>Isaac Kaplan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kazuhiko Atsumi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-elect</td>
<td>Krishna Rau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary-General</td>
<td>Toshio Ohshiro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Secretary General</td>
<td>Narong Nimsakul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Vasant Oswal</td>
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**Formal Formation of the IPTA**

**Professor Hayk Arakelyan MD PhD**  
UNESCO Chair in Life Sciences, Armenia

**IN ISSUE 9** of the WFSLMS Newsletter, sent out in March of this year (2005), I pointed out the strong irregularities which had marred the 5th WALT Congress, held in Brazil in November 2004, and therefore cast doubt on the ability of WALT itself to be a true and democratic representative of all engaged in all aspects of laser therapy and photobiomodulation. At that time, I had accepted the post of President-Elect of what I had termed the new International Laser Therapy Association (ILTA), and announced that the first ILTA meeting would be held in Armenia. Since then, I have become
heavily involved with an exciting world-wide health project, Cyber Doctor, which will eventually bring comprehensive robotic telediagnosis within the reach of everyone. This has taken up much more of my time than I had anticipated, and I have found myself more out of my office in Armenia than in it, so I have had to reconsider many commitments in order that they should all be fulfilled as fully as possible.

In the first place, in conjunction with many interested colleagues, we decided that the use of the name ILTA was not appropriate, as the original ILTA was one of the societies which merged to form the World Association for Laser Therapy (WALT), so ‘ILTA’ is legally speaking, actually part of ‘WALT’. Then we looked at the widespread use of therapeutic light sources, not only therapeutic lasers but also non-laser light sources, we arrived at the much broader term of ‘phototherapy’. It was then suggested, and unanimously agreed, that the new society should be called the International Phototherapy Association, under the acronym ‘IPTA’.

At the recent joint meeting of the International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (ISLSM) and World Federation of Societies for Lasers in Medicine and Surgery (WFSLMS) was held in Tokyo attended by a large contingent of Japanese and international interested parties, and the formation of the IPTA was carried out. In attendance (in alphabetical order) were:

Dr Hayk Arakelyan (Armenia), Dr Yoshimi Asagai (Japan), Dr Kazuhiko Atsumi (Japan), Dr Sherif S Awad (Egypt), Dr Mohammed Hammouche (Syria), Dr Ming-Chien Kao (Taiwan, ROC), Dr Isaac Kaplan (Israel), Dr Harubumi Kato (Japan), Dr Jin Wang Kim (Korea), Dr Jun-Heng Li (PRO China), Dr Leonardo Longo (Italy), Dr Pilar L Leuenberger (Philippines), Dr Narong Nimsakul (Thailand), Dr Toshio Ohshiro (Japan), Dr Vasant Oswald (UK), Dr Krishna Rau (India), and Dr Shimon Rochkind (Israel).

In addition, Dr Ohshiro held the written proxies of Dr G David Baxter (New Zealand), Dr Kevin C Moore (UK), Dr Mario Trelles (Spain), and Dr Ronald Wheeland (USA).

First IPTA Meeting, Japan, July 2006

Professor Hayk Arakelyan MD PhD
UNESCO Chair in Life Sciences, Armenia

Because I was unable to take on the responsibility for hosting the first meeting in Armenia, as I had earnestly hoped to do, because my world-wide commitments for
UNESCO and Cyber Doctor would not allow me to dedicate myself to the absolute success of the meeting, the first meeting of the IPTA was rescheduled for July 1st and 2nd, 2006, in Suwa City in the beautiful Japanese Alps of Nagano Prefecture, a recent host of the Winter Olympics. The President Elect was announced as Dr Yoshimi Asagai, of the Shinano Handicapped Children’s Hospital. Dr Asagai welcomed all present and encouraged them to attend this meeting, held in breath-taking scenic beauty, and amidst wonderful hot spring spas. A First Announcement and Call for Abstracts will be produced shortly. I heartily endorse the change of venue for the first IPTA meeting, and of course will give it as much support as I possible can, and urge you all to do likewise. This will be a society entirely devoted to phototherapy and photobiomodulation, run on proper and open democratic principles. The second meeting in 2008 has been tentatively set in the USA, but that has to be confirmed at a later date.

The Steering Committee for the setting up of the IPTA and the Organizing Executive for the first IPTA meeting will consist of Dr Asagai as President, Prof David Baxter as Secretary-General, Prof Toshio Ohshiro as Treasurer, Prof Ronald Wheeland as President Elect and Profs Arakelyan and Shimon Rochkind as International Coordinators.

Laser Therapy: A Phenix from the Ashes

Professor Hayk Arakelyan MD PhD
UNESCO Chair in Life Sciences, Armenia

Also in Issue 9 of this Newsletter, I was proud to announce that the journal Laser Therapy was to rise again, with myself as the Editor-in-Chief. Once more, my work has interceded, and I cannot bring the absolute commitment to this post which is necessary to ensure the success of the journal. Accordingly, Prof Toshio Ohshiro stepped in to the breach as interim Editor-in-Chief, very appropriate as Dr Ohshiro was of course the Founding Editor of the journal back in 1988. As his regional Co-Editors, Dr Ohshiro is assisted by Prof David Baxter (New Zealand) for Australasia and Western Europe; Prof Ronald Wheeland (Arizona, USA) for the Americas; and myself for Eastern Europe and Asia.

We are pleased and very proud to announce that Issues 1 and 2 of Volume 14 of the journal have been printed and are available now, and Volume 14:3 is due out on time at the end of this month (September 2005). From the very start, we intend to ensure timely publication of the journal. Please see the journal web site (http://www.lasertherapy-journal.com) for details of subscription, instructions for
submission, addresses of the Editors and so on. The IPTA web site will be up and running by the middle of October. Please watch the Laser Therapy web site for further information.

I hope you will all join with me in giving your active support to the IPTA, and its first meeting in July of next year, and that you will think of Laser Therapy first when considering where to send your clinical or experimental papers on any aspect of phototherapy at all.

**WFSLMS video library**

We requested your cooperation for compiling a video library for training as a part of WFSLMS activities this month after the Tokyo Congress. We have already got some videos from members since then. Here is the list of the videos.

We look forward to cooperation from more members.

1) Low reactive Level Laser Treatment (LLLT) for The Disable Children with Dioxin
2) Safety for Laser Medicine  Fundamental
3) Safety for Laser Medicine  Equipment
4) Safety for Laser Medicine  Clinical Application vol.1
5) Safety for Laser Medicine  Clinical Application vol.2
6) LLLT for Cerebral Palsy
7) Laser Blepharoplasty

- 1) donated by Dr. Nguyen Thi Thanh Phuong (Thanh Xuan Peace Village, Vietnam)
- 2)-4) donated by Prof. Koichi Kobayashi, Keio Medical Laser Association(KMLA)
- 6) donated by Prof. Yoshimi Asagai (Japan Laser Therapy Association)
- 7) donated by Prof. Jin Wang Kim (Korean Laser Medicine and Surgery Association)

**WFSLMS Questionnaire**

We have already sent you this Questionnaire to gather information regarding medical laser societies and associations world-wide. We will summarize all of the information, and utilize the data to formulate the future plans of the WFSLMS. If you have already answered some of them, please fill out the parts you didn’t complete last time. Not only positive but also negative data is welcome.

Attached please find the questionnaire about your MLS in your country/region. As we hope to report the summary of the Questionnaire on the next Vol.12 Newsletter, would you please send us the answer of the Questionnaire by the end of October.
We would like to thank you for handing in completed QUESTIONNAIRES:
Prof. Yoshimi Asagai (JaLTA), Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi (JSLSM), Prof. Sherif S. Awad (No society), Prof. Mohamad Hammouche (No society), Prof. Peter Hasan (ISLM), Prof. Ming-Chien Kao (LPMS, ROC), Prof. Kazuo Hanaoka (WALT), Prof. Harubumi Kato(ISLSM, IPA& JPA), Prof. Jin Wang Kim(KLMS), Prof. Junichiro Kubota(JSLSM), Prof .Ma. Pilar L. Leuenberger (No society), Prof. Nguyen Thi Thanh Phuong, Prof. Krishna Rau (APALMS&ISLSM), Prof. Shimon Rochkind (ILMS) and Prof. Raphaela Waidelich (DGLM e.V.).
Please refer to *table 5 for details.