



The President's Column

Prativa Pandey, MD,
President, ISTM



In spite of the continued threats of terrorism, war, and natural disasters, travel continues to be on the rise.

It has been a wonderful year for the ISTM. The regional conference in Edinburgh where ISTM partnered with nine other European societies was a resounding success. Regional conferences have a special appeal, with regional topics getting a fair share of the scientific program. The Edinburgh conference was no different in this regard. During this conference, ISTM held a very important meeting with the leaders of national societies in Europe to explore potential areas of collaboration in order to advance the field of travel medicine.

With Edinburgh behind us, we are gearing up for Vancouver in a big way. This Conference promises to be exciting, dealing with new frontiers and bringing to you what is new and changing in the field while keeping track of issues that are important in our day-to-day practice. The conference venue is superb and the city is beautiful and welcoming with very friendly people. Please mark your calendar for important dates regarding the conference.

We have been moving along in all areas of importance to the Society. The journal of Travel

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CISTM10 in Vancouver in May

Suni Boraston, MD

I hope we will have the great pleasure of welcoming you to 10th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine (CISTM10) in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, May 20-24, 2007. CISTM10 will undoubtedly be the travel medicine event of the year in one of the most spectacular settings to be found anywhere. It should not be missed!

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Highlights from the ISTM Executive Board Meetings

The ISTM Executive Board has held three major conferences in 2006. The first, a 90-minute teleconference on March 15; the second, a two-day "in-person" 16-hour marathon session in Scotland, immediately following the North European Conference on Travel Medicine. These two conferences are reported on here. A report on the third, a teleconference on September 17, will appear in the next issue.

Virtually all of the office holders and committee heads were in attendance.

- Prativa Pandey, President
- Frank von Sonnenburg, President-elect
- Kevin Kain, Counselor & Chair CISTM 10 Scientific Committee
- Eli Schwartz, Counselor
- Ron Behrens, Counselor
- Nancy Piper Jenks, Counselor
- David Freedman, Secretary/Treasurer & GeoSentinel
- Charles Ericsson, Chair, Publications Committee
- Brian Gushulak, Chair, Migrant Health Committee
- Louis Loutan, WHO Liaison
- Assunta Marcolongo, Chair, Host Country Committee
- Rebecca Acosta, MPH Chair Practice and Nursing Issues Committee
- Robert Steffen, Editor, *Journal of Travel Medicine*
- Karl Neumann, Editor, *NewsShare*
- Hans Dieter Nothdurft, Web site Editor
- Michele Barry, Chair, Professional Education Committee

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— “CISTM10 in Vancouver in May,” cont. from p. 1 —

The professional goal of our meeting is to share with our colleagues from all parts of the world the latest advances in the science and art of travel medicine. Educational formats will include plenaries and symposia, debates, workshops, original scientific presentations, meet the experts, case of the day and abstract presentations. Satellite programs and sponsored events will also be offered.

Nestled between mountains and ocean, Vancouver has something to offer every visitor. The Conference will be held downtown, on the waterfront, at the Trade and Convention Centre. Cruise ships dock here, right next to the conference location and you can spend hours just watching their coming and goings.

Like any multicultural city, Vancouver has numerous fine restaurants of many ethnicities. Recently fusion food has appeared – think Szechuan, Malaysian and Thai together - delicious! And just a short walk from the Convention Centre there are many excellent shops, guaranteed to please the most ardent shopaholic. Collections from all the major designers are available here, many in their own boutiques.

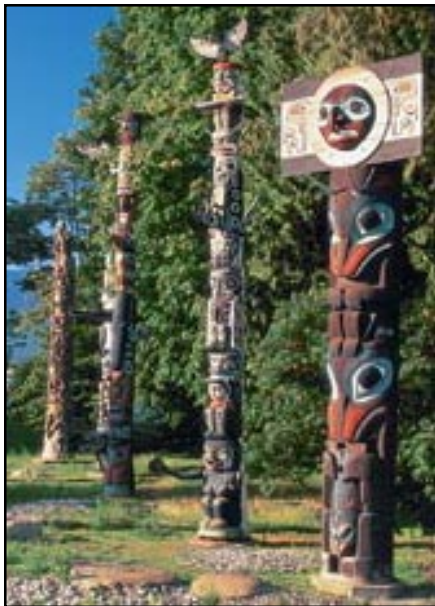
Across the harbour from the Convention Centre are the North Shore Mountains. Hikers will love the great walking and hiking to be found there and the fabulous mountain scenery. Others might simply want to ride the Grouse Mountain Tram to the top for breath-

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor: I am very interested in watching the developments in pharmacist involvement in travel vaccinations. In my current practice I use my knowledge to counsel patients and advise on insect repellents, travel gear, water safety, vaccination information and other information-based services. Every day I see people who are traveling and it is amazing how many of them have not sought out professional advice, especially those who are traveling to their country of origin. They assume they are immune to many of the risks to travelers because of their previous exposure. I am hoping to sit for the CTH exam in Vancouver, and if successful am considering licensing in Virginia where pharmacists have a broader scope of practice in this field.

Patricia Nguyen, RPh, Seattle, Washington, USA



“CISTM10 in Vancouver in May,”
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taking views. Or head to Whistler just 2 hours drive north of Vancouver along the Sea-to-Sky Highway for a true mountain experience. This world-renowned ski resort will host the 2010 Winter Olympic Games and offers numerous summer activities as well.

And treat yourself to a day or two after the conference to get to know the areas beyond the City. If golf is your style, you will enjoy the fine courses available in Greater Vancouver, with many other courses both in Whistler and on the way there. Bowen Island, a 20-minute ferry ride from Horseshoe Bay in West Vancouver, has a brand new, very affordable 9-hole golf course. Come experience a little bit of island living that is so cherished here on the West Coast. Many artists reside on the islands and there are numerous art studios, shops and cafes to discover.

British Columbia has strong English roots and nowhere is that more evident than in Victoria on Vancouver Island. Go over by ferry or, if your budget permits, via an unforgettable floatplane ride directly to Victoria's inner harbour. Touching down you will be greeted by the façade of the magnificent Empress Hotel. Make sure you have afternoon tea there to experience why Victoria is described as “more English than England”.

We will have more for you about the scientific program as the various sessions are finalized. Stay in touch. See you in Vancouver.

*Suni Boraston, Chair,
Local Organizing Committee*



The President's Column *cont. from p. 1*

Medicine (JTM) is reaching libraries across the world. The ISI impact factor has gone up from 0.766 in 2004 to 1.329 in 2005, placing us among many respected journals that were established long before JTM. Our thanks go to the journal editors, publication committee and those of you who have sent quality research papers. Please continue to do so. I am also thrilled to report that all back issues have been digitized and can be accessed electronically by members and others thanks to our publisher, Blackwell Publishing.

Our partnership with WHO is also moving along nicely. ISTM had been asked to write chapters on *Travel by Sea* and *Migrant Health* for inclusion in the WHO's International Travel and Health publication, also known as the “Green Book”. Some of our dedicated members with expertise in the field have written the chapters. We look forward to ISTM getting due recognition for this collaborative effort.

In response to the ongoing requests from membership to hold preparatory courses for the ISTM certificate of knowledge examination in Travel Medicine (CTH), such courses will be held in the US and UK in February 2007. Much effort has gone into these courses. I hope that our members and non-members who are sit-

ting for the examination will make use of them. The CTH examination will be held in Vancouver prior to the start of the conference.

I would like to remind everyone that ISTM is giving out research grant awards once per year starting this year. This award program is publicized on our website and in NewsShare. Please make use of this excellent opportunity to obtain funding for research in travel medicine, including migrant health issues.

The Executive Board officers and committees of the Society have been very active in dealing with issues that are important to members. The time has come for choosing new Society officers for the vacant positions created by outgoing members. I would like to urge you to get involved and participate in the process. Please fill out and send the ballot papers back to our office in Atlanta. And take a moment and send an email to me if you have any ideas to share or suggestions to improve our Society. My email address is pandey@mos.com.np.

Hope you had a nice summer and I look forward to seeing you in Vancouver.

With best wishes,

Prativa

“ISTM News - Higher Impact Factor for Journal of Travel Medicine,” cont. from p. 3

Brad Connor, Past President, Chairman, Membership Committee

Lin Chen, Chair, Pre-exam course, USA

David Hill, Chair, Pre-exam course, UK

Brenda Bagwell, Administrative Director

Brooke Gouge, Administrative Assistant

Here are some of the highlights of these EB meetings:

Annual Report from the ISTM Secretary Treasurer

David Freedman, M.D.

I am pleased to report on our current financial status and on our budget plans for the coming year. A financial report for the 2006 fiscal year, July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006, prepared by our outside accountant, Heritage Accounting, is included with this mailing, but does not appear in this Newsletter.

On July 1, 2005 ISTM officially began this new fiscal year structure in order to allow robust budgeting and allocation in coordination with the annual Executive Board meeting which occurs each year in May or June. An additional complete review of our finances is being carried out by our tax preparation firm, Fulton, Kozak, LLP of Atlanta. They will shortly file our tax return with the United States Internal Revenue Service. As a non-profit organization we need not pay taxes, but must undergo careful, yearly scrutiny for any possible small anomalies that would jeopardize our tax-exempt status.

Our total assets stand at \$1.37 million dollars, the most ever for ISTM. This represents the peak of our typical four year cycle: the receipt of revenue from our biennial meeting in Lisbon and prior to necessary up-front investment in the next biennial meeting in Vancouver. But note that North American meetings tend to earn less revenue for ISTM than ones elsewhere so we need to hold funds in reserve to last up to 4 years. During 2006 we operated in the black and added money to our reserves. Also due to the transition to the new publisher for JTM, we paid no subscription fees from July through December 2005 to our old publisher, and none until the end of the fiscal year, June 2006, to our new publisher. Therefore we are scheduled to pay \$100,000 deferred payment to the new publisher this month.

The new publishing contract with Blackwell, which began January 1, 2006, gives ISTM much more favorable terms than our contract

with our previous publisher, ending large subsidies to the journal that ISTM had been providing. The money saved will provide funding for future ISTM initiatives. Nevertheless the JTM remains a small net expense for ISTM. We hope that this will soon become a small net surplus as a result of continuing increases in advertising, reprints, and supplement revenues.

For the 2007 fiscal year, the Executive Board passed a balanced budget at its annual meeting in June. A formal budget application process for ISTM committees and initiatives requesting funding for the year worked well in 2006 and continued for the 2007 budget. The Executive Board remains as the final arbiter of which activities will receive priority for funding.

The 2007 budget included monies to be added to the long term reserves. Our investments continue very conservative but with guaranteed steady income. Our reserves are mandated to be such that we could survive the complete failure of a CISTM meeting and continue operating through to the next meeting. We are well in excess of this amount. Our investments were recently moved to RBC Dain Rauscher, the 10th largest investment firm in the US, a subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Canada, one of the world's largest financial firms. The ISTM Finance Committee has recently made the decision to hold up to 25% of our long-term reserves in conservative fixed-income Euro investments in order to represent the global nature of our membership and to safeguard against further deterioration in the US dollar. This may also help us in the future in terms of necessary advances for CISTMs in Europe which must be paid in Euros.

It is a privilege to serve as your Secretary-Treasurer. Please contact me at istm@istm.org if you have any concerns or questions.

David

Pre-exam Courses

Michel Barry, Lin Chen and David Hill reviewed the concept behind the pre-exam courses to prepare candidates to take the ISTM CTH[®] Review & Travel Medicine Update courses to be held in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas, USA and Liverpool, United Kingdom, February 9-11, 2007. Discussion points included publicizing possibilities such as various journals, websites and conferences, CME/CNE accreditation requirements, and the timeline

of the course. The U.K. course is being jointly sponsored by National Travel Health Network and Centre. Nancy Jenks secured CME credits for the course in the U.S. The point was raised that the ISTM should not be competing with national travel medicine societies or with individual ISTM members in offering short training courses in travel medicine and that if the ISTM was to offer a CTH review course it should be promoted only as such and not as a general training course. There was agreement that this was a significant philosophical and policy decision for ISTM and that it would be discussed at a later time.

WHO Liaison Louis Loutan reported that the World Health Organization has requested that the ISTM contribute two new chapters, *Sea Travel* and *Visiting Friends and Relatives*, for the WHO “Green Book”. Robert Steffen will produce *Sea Travel* and Louis Loutan, *Visiting Friends and Relatives*. There may be additional collaborative initiatives between ISTM and WHO in the future.

Publications Committee

There has been progress on the Evidence Base for Clinical Practice monograph. Vernon Ansdell will chair the first writing panel for evidence base. It was decided to change the task force policy so as to not require board approval for the chair of each writing panel, but allow the Publications Committee to elect the chair and inform the board of its decision.

The transition from the old publisher, Decker, to the current publisher, Blackwell, created fewer problems than anticipated and were overcome without any outstanding issues. There have been many positive comments about the new cover. Manuscript Central is working well. There have been 60 submissions to Manuscript Central with just a few problems. The average time lag from submission of manuscripts to acceptance has been reduced from 180 days to 124 days, and the goal is to bring this figure down even further. The publications committee makes every effort to see that reviewers of manuscripts submitted to the JTM have no conflicts of interest.

The Professional Education committee, JTM editor, and Blackwell are studying the feasibility of having an electronic cumulative travel medicine bibliography at an appropriate place on the ISTM web site. A report is expected in six months.

Sheri Frank from Blackwell Publishing agreed

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“Highlights from the ISTM Executive Board Meetings,” cont. from p. 4

that JTM's new online manuscript submission site (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jtm>) is running smoothly. Authors who need help submitting their manuscripts may use the system's "Get Help Now" feature, which includes a list of FAQs and an email address to request additional information. JTM is now sold as part of Blackwell's library consortia sales package, making the Journal available online at more than 3,082 consortia sites worldwide. This additional exposure should lead to more citations, and subsequently, a higher impact factor. There is a new home page for JTM on the Blackwell web site.

The online version of JTM is going well. Online usage has risen since the beginning of the year. At the end of May there were 14,504 total views and the number is likely to rise.

Print distribution is lagging a bit in Europe, due to each country's postal system. The entire JTM is available online approximately one week ahead of print release. Immediate release of articles on an article-by-article basis will be implemented later this year. Marketing efforts are being focused on increasing line readership, raising the profile of JTM, attracting new authors, establishing JTM as the expert resource in travel medicine, and increasing worldwide circulation. Types of promotions include conferences, electronic online branding of ISTM and JTM, advertisement in other journals, flyers, and postcards.

NewsShare

Currently there are six issues of NewsShare a year, published electronically, with the October/November issue also sent by regular mail. The feedback from members about the newsletter has been very positive. Many members have requested that a printed version of the newsletter should be available but, at present, the costs of production and mailing make such a venture prohibitively expensive. One possibility is to mail a printed edition only to those who request it. Some members have complained that it is difficult to download the electronic version.

Web Editor

The transition from Decker to Blackwell had a few problems, but these have been overcome. All committees now have their own web page. Expert Opinion will, for now, remain in the members' only section of the website rather than on the public website. A committee consisting of the President, Secretary/Treasurer,

Administrative Director, Development Committee Chair, Publications Committee Chair, and the Web Editor will consider placing more information on the front page of the website, possibly putting major initiatives there on a rotating basis.

Exam Committee

Discussions are underway regarding the possibility of translating the examination into other languages.

Host Country

The committee is working on three projects:

- A statement concerning child sex tourism;
- The feasibility of funding travel medicine professionals in poor countries to attend ISTM conferences, how the program would be funded (offering travel grants, having members donate frequent flyer miles, for example), and how to select grantees; and
- The possibility of posting Responsible Traveler documents in various languages on the ISTM website.

Membership Committee

The committee is in contact with various travel medicine societies in Europe to explore avenues of communication and cooperation. Discussions included the practicalities of translating courses and exams from English into other languages.

Professional Education Committee

Slide set sales have already surpassed \$16,000. More "issue"-specific sets are being developed. Viewing of the *Expert Opinion* on the ISTM web site has been lower than anticipated and the site may need more publicity. A monograph on "How to Start a Travel Clinic" is being prepared.

Migrant Health Committee

Brian Gushulak is stepping down as chair. Ron Behrens is replacing him. Migration health slide series are available on the committee's web page. A publication focused on VFR travel will soon be completed. A VFR section for the WHO "Green Book" is underway. Proposals on migrant health issues were submitted to CISTM10 (Vancouver, May 2007) for consideration. Ways to include migrant health within ISTM as well as the JTM were discussed.

GeoSentinel

The CDC has approved a five-year renewal for CDC, with an increase in the base line funding. Currently there are 32 sites. There is a need for a new site in Africa as the site director there has moved out of the country. A recent article in the *New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)* 2006;354:119-130) about Geo Sentinel has resulted in very positive publicity.

CISTM 11

With CISTM 10 set for Vancouver in May 2007, several cities in Eastern Europe have been visited and are under consideration for CISTM11 to be held in May of 2009. Budapest is presently a top choice.

Regional Meeting in Australia

Plans are well advanced – but have not been finalized – to hold an ISTM regional meeting in Australia, probably in Melbourne, in February 2008. Still to be studied are the financial oversight of the meeting by ISTM and appropriate ISTM representation on the organization and scientific committees.

NECTM

The recently concluded Northern Europe Conference on Travel Medicine was a huge success attracting more than 1000 attendees from more than 40 countries. As a consequence of this successful meeting, the societies involved are now planning to hold a joint conference (NECTM-2) in Helsinki at a date to be announced. Fiona Genasi, the conference coordinator, noted that the financial books should be closed soon and that each involved society will receive a small profit from the meeting. She also suggested that future meeting organizers should get a professional conference organizer on board early and have an organizing committee that works well together.

ISTM Logo

A major pharmaceutical company has approached ISTM for permission to use the ISTM logo for a joint travel medicine "educational" campaign. Though the proposed program was not product-specific, the ISTM publication committee felt ISTM should not be associated with such a program. The committee noted that the use of the ISTM logo should be guided by the following:

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“Highlights from the ISTM Executive Board Meetings,” cont. from p. 5

- a) The logo can be used to promote the missions of the ISTM, including conferences and educational material;
- b) The logo should not be used to promote a specific product or financial interests of ISTM members or commercial entities; and
- c) The ISTM logo can be used in collaboration and identification with industry when the objective of the material (e.g., print, website and video) is educational and does not promote specific branded commercial product(s).

The material must be: 1) peer reviewed to guarantee authoritative educational content, and 2) presented in a way (e.g., when it is part of an advertising campaign or accompanied by other promotional material) that reflects well on the integrity of the ISTM and does not imply endorsement of product based on proximity to product-specific material.

Nominating Committee

Dr. Frank von Sonnenburg, President-elect of ISTM, is chair of the nominating committee. Members of the committee consist of the two outgoing counselors and five to seven additional members. Dr. von Sonnenburg proposes the following for membership on this temporary committee: Dr. Kevin Kain, Dr. Eli Schwartz, Dr. Santanu Chatterjee, Ms. Fiona Genasi, Dr. Pal Voltersvik, Dr. Mary Wilson, and Dr. Eric Weiss. Nominating committee and nominations forms will be posted on the website.

Other ISTM News

Blackwell Publishing has completed the digitization of all issues of JTM back to Volume 1, Issue 1, 1994. Members can now access the full text of all thirteen volumes by logging onto Member Services and selecting “Journal of Travel Medicine Online” from the Member Resources section.

The ISTM “Body of Knowledge” has recently been updated and is now available on the web page under the “Travel Medicine Exam” tab. This updated version of the Body of Knowledge will be the basis for the 2007 Certificate of Knowledge Exam to be held immediately prior to CISTM10. This document can be downloaded to your computer.

The detailed topic and faculty list for the U.S. pre-exam course is now available by clicking on the pre-exam course poster in the middle of the home page and scrolling down to the section entitled “Details on the Dallas/Ft.

Worth Course. Further details on the U.K. pre-exam course can be found by clicking on the poster and then choosing the registration page for the U.K. site. Early registration for this 2-day course is October 31.

Please contact the secretariat’s office (istm@istm.org) if you need your username and/or password to access the Member Services section of the web page.

Please contact the ISTM Secretariat if you have questions.

ISTM Research Committee Report, June 2006

Winner 2006 Grant Award Competition:

Comparison of Tuberculin Skin Testing and the gamma-interferon in Refugee Screening for Tuberculosis. Submitted by William Stauffer MD; Dean Tsukayama MD, Charles Cartwright PhD, David Boulware MD.

Research Grant Awards

The ISTM research committee fosters research in travel medicine, in keeping with the mission and goals of the society. The committee provides moderate grants (usually \$5000-\$10,000 maximum) through a peer-reviewed process. These grants are designed to stimulate travel medicine research by supporting comprehensive research projects or, for larger projects, providing support for pilot studies to enable researchers to collect data/test hypotheses so that they can then apply to other agencies for more substantive research grants. The next deadline for applications for funding will be 1 February 2007, with plans to announce successful applicants at the CISTM in Vancouver, May 2007.

Clinical Trials Network completes multicenter, multinational study.

Charlie Ericsson has successfully completed his survey on prevention of travelers’ diarrhea, entitled *Travelers’ Preferences for the Management of Diarrhea*. The study was designed to engage members of the Clinical Trials Network to participate in a multinational study. Results will be announced soon.

I would like to thank the members of the Research Committee and the Clinical Trials Network for their outstanding commitment to fostering research activities by ISTM members.

Clinical Trials Network: Charles Ericsson, USA, Tomas Jelinek, Germany, Anne McCarthy, Canada

Main Research Committee

Anne McCarthy, Canada, Chair
Irmgard Bauer, Australia, Co-Chair
Pat Schlagenhauf, Switzerland
Annelies Wilder-Smith, Singapore
Susan McLellan, USA
Pamela Rendi-Wagner, Austria
Christie Reed, USA
Lin Chen, USA
Elizabeth Talbot, USA
Christopher Sanford, USA (New Member)

Respectfully submitted by: Anne E McCarthy, MD, MSc, FRCPC, DTM&H, Chair, ISTM Research Committee

ISTM Health of Migrants and Refugees Committee

Report to the Executive Committee, June 2006, Overview and Summary of the Committee

The Health of Migrants and Refugees Committee, having recognized and accepted the limited area of interest within the ISTM as a whole, has attempted to focus on a small number of specific issues and activities.

Global attention to the health aspects of migrant travelers is steadily increasing. During the past year avian influenza and travel to visit friends and relatives (VFR Travel) have been prominent issues for both public health officials and health care workers. The volume of medical literature dealing with immigrants, refugees and other mobile populations continues to increase, as does the number of journals focusing on the topic.

In spite of the increasing importance and awareness of the issue, defining and strengthening the links between migration and refugee health and the ISTM continues to be a challenge for the Committee. Several experienced Committee members, subject to the professional demands of their positions, are often over-tasked by situations such as avian influenza. However, the academic and scientific productivity of Committee members remains high and this cadre continues to represent a large and significant component of the global “brain trust” of migration health.

Committee Activities during the Past Year

- Migration Health Slide Series. The on-line curriculum of instructional and support material for migration health, a series of PowerPoint presentations, is now located

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on the Committee’s Web Page.

- State of the Art Meeting on VFR Travel. As previously reported, this meeting, which took place in January, was deemed by the Committee to have been very successful. The Committee is now working on a publication about this issue. Once again, the professional demands of Committee members take their toll on the amount of time available for this work.
- Preparation of a VFR Section for the World Health Organization publication *International Travel and Health*. This work is underway with an expected completion date of mid-summer.
- Proposals for CISTM 10 in Vancouver. The Committee submitted a robust list of workshop and plenary proposals dealing with health, travel and migration to the CISTM Organizing Committee.

Upcoming Activities

1. A small ad hoc Committee meeting was held in Edinburgh. Four of the Committee members were able to attend this meeting.
2. The next full Committee meeting will be held in Vancouver at CISTM 10.

Conclusions

- Defining the relevance of health and migration issues for the Society remains challenging, as does the marketing of the ISTM’s role in the issue.
- Focusing on a defined number of issues, such as VFR Travel, has allowed for some the development momentum.

Committee Membership

Elizabeth Barnett – USA
 Ron Behrens - UK – Co Chair
 Francesco Castelli – Italy
 Martin Cetron - USA
 Hassan I. Ghaznawi - Saudi Arabia
 Tony Gherardin - Australia
 Danielle Grondin - Switzerland
 Brian Gushulak - Austria - Chair
 Christophe Hatz - Switzerland
 Alison Holmes - UK
 Rogelio Lopez-Velez - Spain
 Louis C. Loutan - Switzerland
 Douglas MacPherson – Canada
 Ziad Memish - Saudi Arabia



View from Stone Mountain

Dear Friends,

It is amazing to me how fast 2006 has flown by. Before we can blink all 8,760 hours of it will be gone and I am not really sure where all those hours went! I just know that each year seems to go by faster and faster, but then I was warned that this phenomenon would happen the more birthdays that passed – I just refused to believe it!!

Speaking of hours, as I sit and write this article in late August – there are approximately 6,288 hours until the start of **CISTM10** in Vancouver. Now while that may seem like a long time to some of you, it is an incredibly short amount of time when it comes to making plans to attend the meeting which I am sure you all are intending to do! Don’t forget that early registration closes on December 31. Further conference details, including registration and housing information, are available on the website. Please submit any additional questions you may have to cistm10@istm.org.

By the way, if you are planning to take the ISTM Exam just prior to the meeting and find yourself in need of a refresher course, we have just what you need. Over the past few years, many of you have requested a **Pre-Exam Review Course**. We are pleased to announce that Drs. Lin Chen and David Hill have been working diligently in putting just such courses together – one on either side of the ‘pond’. Each course will be held during the weekend of February 9-11, 2007 – one in the Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas area and the other in the Liverpool, U.K. area. Registration materials and course information can be found on the ISTM website. Please note that registration to sit for the ISTM Exam is NOT a pre-requisite to take either of these courses.

Concerning the Exam – the **Body of Knowledge for the Practice of Travel Medicine** has been updated and can be found under the ‘Exam’ tab on the ISTM website as can the latest edition of *The Journal of Travel Medicine*. If you are planning to sit for the **ISTM Certificate of Knowledge Exam**, you will want to review the new “BOK” for any updated topics – the Pre-Exam Courses will be utilizing this updated version in their syllabus. Finally, please be sure to get your Exam registration materials in early and make certain you have correctly completed the application form. Registration for the Exam must be done prior to April 16, 2007 – onsite registrations are not allowed.

Don’t forget to renew your ISTM membership for 2007 in a timely fashion. This will ensure that you receive all ISTM member benefits, including discounted registration fees to the various activities already mentioned. Anyone not renewed by early March will have all of his or her ISTM benefits suspended. This includes the JTM, TravelMed access, and Travel Clinic Directory listing as well as the discounted registration fees. Why not spend a few moments and take care of that now – then you can mark it off your “to do” list and you will not have to worry about it later. Remember that the easiest and quickest way to take care of your renewal is online – just let us know if you need your username and password.

Please be sure to let either myself or Brooke know if you have questions regarding membership or any other ISTM activities – we are always happy to hear from you!

Until next time, remember that ‘practice makes perfect – so be careful what you practice!’

Take care,
 Brenda and Brooke



The Way it Was

Recommendations for items to take on trips to the tropics in the mid 19th century:

A flannel belt. In view of the prevalence of diarrhea and dysentery it is very important that the abdominal organs be especially protected by a flannel belt surrounding the body, and worn day and night.

Commerbund. This is a useful article of clothing, especially for men in the evening. It does away for the need of a waistcoat, which often proves hot and uncomfortable, and yet provides the necessary safeguard against chill to the abdominal regions.

Pith-helmet. The well fitting, ventilated pith-helmet, which forms such an effective guard against the mid-day sun, does not equally protect the side of the head and neck and the back of the neck from the sun's horizontal rays at morn or eve; at such times, therefore, a light curtain of sufficient length should be attached to the rim of the helmet. This curtain at other times can be folded up and attached to the rim of the helmet.

- from *Take a Spare Truss – Tips for Nineteenth Century Travelers*. Compiled by Simon Brent. Elm Tree Books. London. 1983.

NewsShare

the Newsletter of the International Society of Travel Medicine

ISTM EXECUTIVE BOARD

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