



Goodbye Lisbon. Hello Edinburgh and Vancouver

Karl Neumann, MD, FAAP

One of the more important take-away messages at the recently completed CISTM9 in Lisbon, Portugal is: if you're interested in travel medicine, start planning immediately to attend Edinburgh in June '06 and Vancouver in '07.

Yes, Lisbon was a total success educationally, socially, and culturally, likely, the best ISTM meeting ever. Yet, according to veteran ISTM meeting goers – of whom there are legions, many having attended virtually all past meetings – every successive meeting, somehow, is more fulfilling than the previous one. Apparently, even the best can be improved upon. Our Society, in its short 20-year history, has developed – to the envy of most other societies – the ability to orchestrate memorable conferences by blending exotic locations with travel medicine significance, state of the art conference facilities, able speakers, a large audience, and unforgettable social events.

CISTM9 Lisbon attracted more than 2,000 ISTM members, exhibitors, invited guests and other individuals from over 100 countries, both ISTM records. The opening get-together, this year's (as in previous years) "best ever", "never-to-be-forgotten", "never-to-be surpassed" gala, was

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A Message from Our Newly Inaugurated ISTM President, Prativa Pandey



Dear friends,

The 9th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine in Lisbon was a resounding success with a record number of attendees and an extremely high caliber of presentations. During the meeting of the membership, Bradley Connor handed the presidency of the society over to me. Brad has done an outstanding job the past two years, resolving a lot of business issues that will make it much easier to plan ISTM activities in the future. The stature of the ISTM grew over the past two years, and I take over at a very positive time thanks to his hard work. I feel very privileged to be in this position and look forward to serving the Society in the next two years.

I would also like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Frank Von Sonnenburg who served as secretary/treasurer these past eight years. Though his work will be difficult to replace, we are extremely fortunate that David Freedman has taken up the task, and should make the transition as seamless as possible.

The ISTM has grown from 287 members in 1991 to 1816 members representing 72 countries in 2005. The need for travel medicine will continue to grow as more people travel for an increasing number of reasons. I believe we need to address the problems faced not only by the traditional holiday and business traveler, but by a broad range of travelers who cross international borders for education, research, visiting friends and relatives, seeking jobs, or to escape war - as is happening in my own country of Nepal in the past few years. As we expand our field, the scope of what we do will also get broader, enabling us to more naturally include elements of post-travel illness in the traditional pre-travel focus of ISTM conferences.

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Changes in NewsShare

Hi ISTM Members:

Last year, when we surveyed you about how you prefer to receive NewsShare, more than 400 of you said you preferred to receive it by mail. Based on your input, we continued the mail edition, but we reduced the number of annual issues from six to four to keep costs reasonable. The printing, handling and mailing (especially internationally) of nearly 2,000 copies keeps increasing.

So we have revised our plans. And the news is good. Because there is so much ISTM news to report, we are returning to six issues a year. While you will receive NewsShare electronically only beginning with the next issue, our newly designed edition will be state-of-the-art: more news, an index, attractive and readable; and simple to download - the entire Newsletter or the section(s) you wish to read. An email will alert you that the Newsletter has been posted.

If you have any questions or wish to play a part in NewShare, please contact me at travhealth@aol.com

Karl Neumann, Editor

— “A Message from our Newly Inaugurated President,” continued from page 1 —

In the next two years, the educational focus of ISTM will see continued growth. Efforts will be made to hold continuing medical education (CME) courses and also to have a pre-examination course. The certificate of knowledge examination in travel health (CTH) will continue to be given every 2 years while we explore possibilities for giving the examination more often, or even via the web.

The world body of knowledge on travel medicine resides within the members and leadership of the ISTM. However, the society has not played a major role internationally in helping to establish guidelines and give advice when needed. One way of moving more in this direction will be by publishing travel medicine guidelines representing the best possible evidence-based opinions on key travel medicine topics. This is a complicated task that has to take into account national and regional differences in practice styles and opinions, but the effort to arrive at key opinions, and define international differences, will be worthwhile.

To stimulate research in travel medicine, research grants will be awarded every year. This reflects a change from the previous practice of once every 2 years, during each CISTM. The GeoSentinel surveillance network continues to play an increasingly valuable role in monitoring disease trends and outbreaks associated with travelers.

Several countries or regions have national or regional societies of travel medicine and ISTM will continue to reach out to these societies to forge common links and build relationships. Efforts will also be made to reach out to developing countries to enhance the membership base and to make ISTM more relevant to practitioners in these countries. The *Journal of Travel Medicine* will continue to reach more libraries around the world through our new publisher. The new publisher, Blackwell Publishing, takes over in January 2006.

We will continue to develop and foster relationships with international organizations like the World Health Organization and offer the services of the ISTM in areas where we have expertise. Relationships with the travel industry and the traveling public also need to be developed

and nurtured.

I am fortunate to be working with a highly talented and dedicated group of people on the Executive Board and committees of the Society. Ideas and suggestions from ISTM members scattered around the globe have helped tremendously in these

tasks in the past. We need to continue to build on this. Please communicate your ideas and suggestions to me. I'll always be glad to hear from you. My email address is: pandey@mos.com.np.

*With warm regards,
Prativa*

Introducing Prativa

David R. Shlim

On May 4, 2005 in Lisbon, Prativa Pandey became president of the International Society of Travel Medicine. This event represents a significant moment for the society, as Dr. Pandey is the first woman, and the first person from Asia, to serve as president. Many of you know that Prativa runs a travel medicine clinic in Kathmandu, Nepal, but know little else about her. As her partner in running the CIWEC Clinic for the past 13 years, I would like to introduce Prativa more personally to the society.

Prativa was born in Kathmandu at a time when only a handful of foreigners had ever visited the Kingdom. There were also hardly any cars in the country. Prativa comes from an intellectual family—her grandfather was the poet laureate of Nepal. Prativa finished secondary school at age 16, and went directly to New Delhi, India to start medical school. When she finished medical school, she was still quite young, but she managed to move to the United States, pass her exams, and obtain a residency in internal medicine. She became board certified in internal medicine in the United States, and worked at a busy medical center in Boston for 11 years, admitting to Beth Israel Hospital, and serving as a clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School.

In 1992, Prativa came back to visit a Nepal that had changed greatly since her youth. There were now over 3,000 foreigners living in the country, and 300,000 tourists a year, and so many cars in the capital that it was now difficult to get around by bicycle. Prativa's parents had aged, and she needed to move back to Nepal to be with them. While she was in Kathmandu, she came to visit me, and explored the possibility of working at the CIWEC Clinic Travel Medicine Center. I invited her to tag along with me as I saw some patients that day. This led to an extraordinary experience: even though I was seeing the patients and asking the questions, the patients would often turn to Prativa to answer. I sensed that she had some special charisma in this regard.

Prativa joined the clinic the following year, and we worked side by side for 5 years. When I left in 1998, she became the Medical Director. Running a Western-style medical clinic in Nepal is not a simple task—issues of visas, staffing, importation of supplies, evacuation of critically ill patients, billing, and currency are constant problems. It takes someone with a genuine commitment to not only be on call and willing to see patients 24 hours a day, but to face a constant string of hurdles to just stay in business. On top of that, Nepal was gradually descending into a civil war, with decreased tourism, uncertain internal travel, and regular interruptions by a series of strikes and curfews. Not only has Prativa steered a remarkably smooth course through all these obstacles, she has built CIWEC Clinic into the busiest GeoSentinel site in the world, and maintained our research program as well. On top of that, she has designed and built our first privately owned clinic building that will be completed this summer.

Prativa did not seek the presidency of the ISTM; the idea was proposed to her at an interim meeting in Shanghai. When she was to take over the running of CIWEC Clinic, she

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wondered if she had what it takes to solve all of the above problems. I had complete confidence in her. I was able to leave Nepal after 15 years knowing that the clinic work would carry on as before. Prativa also spent time wondering if she could be effective in running the ISTM. I have just as much confidence in her ability to serve ISTM as well as she has served the CIWEC Clinic.

Bradley Connor, the president for the past two years, is also a close personal friend of mine. He has led the ISTM extremely effectively, identifying and finding solutions for a number of lingering problems that had kept the ISTM from living up to its potential. In this regard, I consider him a visionary. Thanks to his hard work these past two years, Prativa takes over the helm of a much more effective organization, poised to make a wider impact on travel-related health in the world. I'm very pleased to have worked so closely with her all these years.

Links & liaisons; Tourism & Health

Philip Pearce

The diversity of study areas in contemporary academic life sometimes results in linked and compatible topics being pursued in parallel. The health of tourists and tourist behavior represent two such areas of parallel inquiry. Travel medicine, for example, with its focus on tourist health provides sophisticated descriptive and medical accounts of the array of physical consequences of human mobility. Such studies are largely carried out in the clinical and professional disciplines associated with medicine.

The tourist behavior researchers, who largely exist in tourism departments and sociology schools, are more intent on understanding the meaning of travel and the business dimensions of tourism. A strong link and intersection lies in the culture contact and culture shock arena where both kinds of researchers have interests in topics such as visitor education, sexual behavior and risk taking. With a little imagination it is possible to see some new liaisons being forged. As an exemplar, at James Cook University researchers from tourism, medicine and nursing science have an occasional forum for sharing themes, references and ideas.

One topic to be pursued by the James Cook University group is the social-sexual behavior of backpackers. We know they are active sexually, we know their contacts are diverse and we know there are significant problems arising in sex tourism dominated destinations. What we do not know is how these forces and factors are interrelated and what can be done to manage the problems. It is anticipated that such problems of mutual interest may be served by cooperative disciplines working in concert. It is a link and liaison worth traveling at least across campus to explore.

We would be interested to hear from ISTM members with related interests or who are conducting similar research.

*Philip Pearce, PhD, Professor of Tourism (Email. philip.pearce@jcu.edu.au)
James Cook University, Townsville, Australia*

Brenda Bagwell Named ISTM Administrative Director

Prativa Pandey and David Freedman

Brenda Bagwell, familiar to most ISTM members since 1993 as the voice and face of the ISTM membership office, has been named ISTM Administrative Director. Due to the success and growth of the ISTM, the scope and responsibilities of the Atlanta office has increased significantly, and Brenda is the natural choice to supervise operations there.

Brenda will continue to be visible to all members, but now has an assistant, Brooke Gouge. Brooke will take over many of the daily membership support and renewal functions while Brenda will oversee overall maintenance and structure of the membership database. In addition, ISTM has engaged an outside accounting firm to prepare the monthly financial reports and analyses for the secretary-treasurer and the president. Brenda will continue to manage the day-to-day financial transactions.

Prior to joining ISTM Brenda served for 8 years as an administrator in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Emory University. Since joining ISTM Brenda has been available to ISTM officers and members alike on an almost 24/7 basis, an indispensable asset considering the international nature of our Society. Brenda has long served as the institutional memory of the ISTM and her meticulous record-keeping has served the Society well on all occasions.

In her new role Brenda will assist the chairs of the committees of the Society to assure coordination with the executive board and ongoing documentation and achievement of goals set by the executive board. She will work with the conference committee of the ISTM in coordinating the many activities and persons involved in initially choosing sites and then turning each biennial conference to reality. Brenda will continue to serve as executive secretary to the executive board and be responsible for coordinating, carrying out and documenting the outcomes of the board meetings.

We are very fortunate to have Brenda performing all these tasks and many more, making use of the knowledge and skills that she has acquired about the Society over all these years. Besides her professional skills, she is a very warm and caring person who brings a smile to most of our faces. We wish her success and continued professional growth as ISTM matures and grows in stature.

Welcome to New Board Members

The membership elected two new counselors to the ISTM Executive Board, Ron Behrens, United Kingdom, and Nancy Jenks, United States. Both have long and distinguished careers in travel medicine and related fields.

Ron Behren's path to be an ISTM counselor started at birth. He was born, brought up, and schooled in Zambia and Zimbabwe (then Northern & Southern Rhodesia). At an early age he developed an interest in natural history – an interest which is still with him today – and helped found the Zambian Ornithological Society.

He received his undergraduate medical training at the University of Zambia in Lusaka and trained in hospitals around that country, in the years before the HIV epidemic. After qualifying in Zambia, he had varied medical experiences, finally ending up training in gastroenterology and tropical nutrition at the Dunn Nutrition unit at Cambridge University. While there, he undertook a research scholarship which took him back to Africa, this time to Gambia. Additional research activity has included clinical studies in Bangladesh, Tanzania and Indonesia.

In the UK and throughout Europe, Ron has contributed substantially to public health and to furthering travel medicine. He helped create and is on the steering committee of the National Travel Health Centre and Network, based at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, London, and is on the steering group of TropNetEurop where he is active in their disease surveillance and in policy development. He is the director of the Hospital for Tropical Diseases Travel Clinic, a post he has held for the past 15 years and, since 1985, has been a senior Lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students.

In the ISTM, Ron has been chairman of the educational and training committee from 1993-1995, has sat on the editorial board of the Journal of Travel Medicine (JTM) where he has been a reviewer since its creation, has served on the scientific committee of most of the large ISTM meetings, and has presented scientific papers at all meetings since 1993.

Ron's research in travel medicine has been aimed at improving the implementation of

advice and reducing the morbidity of non-vaccine related diseases. He has published extensively on health economics and the willingness of travelers to pay for services, traveler's behavior and their knowledge of health issues. Recently he has focused on the travel-related problems of ethnic travelers and VFRs (travelers visiting friends and relatives.) He has contributed more than 10 original publications to the JTM.

As far as his thoughts about ISTM: "I feel that our Society needs to focus on ensuring that the practice of travel medicine is evidence based, especially in areas of advice (to individuals and policy makers) and behavior change. We need to encourage research funding in this area, as benefits to travelers are likely to be significant. I feel that there is a bias to research on topics where sponsorship and funding are accessible but not necessary priority health issues. There are many unchallenged assumptions and practices we undertake daily without supporting evidence. The scientific basis of the practice of travel medicine is still in its infancy and dealing with uncertainty in our practice needs further attention. I strongly feel that we should be more questioning to what we do in every day practice and look to ways to improve. I would like to carry this philosophy onto the executive board of the Society. I have personal views on commercial independence, transparency of interests through proper disclosure and improving individual and corporate accountability to the ISTM membership."

Nancy Jenks is a board certified family nurse practitioner (FNP) who has worked in the field of travel medicine for 20 years, has spent time on four continents, holding travel medicine-related positions in the USA, Nepal and Belgium. Currently she is the director of immigrant and travel health at the Hudson River Community Health Center in Peekskill, New York, a semi-rural area north of New York City.

After graduating from university with a major in French literature, Nancy served for 3 years as a United States Peace Corps

volunteer in Senegal. Back in the United States she completed two years of a pre-med curriculum and then returned to graduate school for a master's degree in science and FNP training. In 1983 she joined a family practice in a medically underserved area of New York City, and also served as a faculty member at the Institute of Urban Health residency program to train FNPs and family physicians. In 1986, she moved to Kathmandu, Nepal where she worked for two years with David Shlim at the CIWEC Clinic, a major health facility serving the expatriate and tourist communities.

After returning from Nepal, Nancy co-founded and served as the president of a nurse practitioner-run travel medicine practice in Westchester, New York and continued family practice at a community health center. In the mid-1990's, she moved to Belgium where she worked for two years with Pierre Van Damme at the University of Antwerp's Center for the Evaluation of Vaccination. In 1997 she returned to her practice at the community health center in the Hudson Valley, where her practice includes the care of new migrants, mostly from South America.

In 2001, Nancy became the first nursing professional to be appointed as a full site director of GeoSentinel. She is co-author of several publications in the peer-reviewed indexed literature and is the first author on a review on hepatitis E in travelers, published in the Journal of Travel Medicine. With her Belgian colleagues, she co-authored a chapter in the Steffen/DuPont Textbook of Travel Medicine. Her upcoming JTM publication focuses on the risk of Lyme disease in the migrant population in New York.

Nancy's husband, Bruce Jenks, is an Assistant Secretary General at the United Nations Development Program. They have two teenage boys: Andrew is studying film at New York University and Matthew is a sophomore in high school. Nancy's many outside interests include oil painting, sailing and classical guitar.

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“Welcome to New Board Members,” continued from page 4

“During my term as ISTM counselor I intend to work to further the development of educational and training opportunities in travel medicine and make these opportunities easily accessible to our members,” says Nancy. “These initiatives will support the organization’s goal of adopting evidence-based guidelines for consensus opinions in travel medicine. I am

very enthusiastic about the contributions of nurses in this pursuit.

“I also believe that ISTM should significantly support our members who are working with the VFR (visiting friends and relatives) and migrant communities. It is essential that we as an organization focus on these populations as they grow in number and importance.

“I strongly support the Practice and Nursing Issues Committee in incorporating many new and exciting initiatives into ISTM’s strategic planning. These initiatives include promoting national and international networking among ISTM nurses and support of nursing research.”

2005 Examination Committee Report

Phyllis Kozarsky

The second ISTM Certificate of Knowledge in Travel Medicine Examination was administered on May 1 in Lisbon, Portugal. In all, 254 applied to take the exam (16 did not take it) and 238 sat for the exam. The demographic breakdown of the applicants was as follows:

EXAM STATS: 254	AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRACTICE: 7	Ghana – 1	Peru – 1
PROFESSION:	COUNTRY BREAKDOWN:	Hong Kong – 1	Poland – 1
Physician – 162	Argentina – 1	Israel – 2	Portugal – 2
Nurse – 67	Australia – 10	Italy – 13	Singapore – 1
Nurse Practitioner – 10	Austria – 1	Japan – 12	Slovenia – 3
Pharmacist – 6	Belgium – 9	Laos – 1	South Africa – 6
Physician’s Assistant – 6	Brazil – 4	Luxembourg – 1	South Korea – 1
Biologist – 1	Canada – 32	Mauritius – 1	Spain – 14
Nurse Midwife – 1	Chile – 1	Mexico – 1	Sweden – 3
Radiology Technician – 1	France – 1	Mozambique – 1	Switzerland – 8
GENDER:	Germany – 1	Curacao – 1	Thailand – 1
Male – 122, Female – 132		New Zealand – 2	United Kingdom – 13
		Norway – 5	USA – 98

Examinees will receive their scores by July. As previously done in 2003 following the first exam, a statistical analysis of every question has already been performed by Knapp and Associates International, Inc., our professional testing firm. We are told that the test questions performed very well, which is critical to the validity of the process. Those examinees that pass the exam will receive a letter saying they have passed, along with a Certificate in Travel Health (CTH). In addition, they will be recognized in the next ISTM newsletter (unless we hear that they wish their name not to be listed). If he or she works in a travel clinic, an asterisk will also be placed beside their names in the online clinic register.

Those examinees who do not pass will receive a letter telling them of their score and a performance analysis of areas where they need improvement so that they may consider studying the topics of weakness and sitting for the next examination.

After the results are disseminated to those who sat for the exam, the Exam Committee will then be reconfigured. Some members will be thanked and retired, and others from the pool of those who passed the exam will be asked to join the Committee. Geographic and practice pattern factors are taken into consideration when asking new members to participate so that there is a diversity of individuals from the Society represented. It is anticipated that with time the value of the Certificate of Knowledge will increase both within the ISTM and outside the Society as well. The Exam Committee is thus attempting to obtain a baseline of information from members as well as ISTM conference participants regarding their thoughts about the exam process. The Committee, in conjunction with the Executive Board, is considering a variety of options for making the exam more available in the future. One consideration is administering the exam annually, including during the regional confer-

ences; another idea for future consideration is administration at various testing sites and/or electronic testing.

We therefore ask that all of you take the time to fill out the attached exam survey, which will aid us in determining future priorities. Please fax the completed survey to (01)1-770-736-6732 or send it by postal mail to: ISTM Administrative Director, PO Box 871089, Stone Mountain, GA 30087-0028 USA. Unfortunately, the survey cannot be completed and sent electronically. If you already filled out the survey in Lisbon, there is no need to do so again and we appreciate your time and effort. In addition, please feel free at any time to communicate with anyone on the Committee, with Brenda, Janet or me with regard to questions or suggestions so that we can improve this important initiative.

Phyllis Kozarsky
for the Examination Committee

View from Stone Mountain

Brenda Bagwell

Greetings from Stone Mountain where summer is firmly in place and the air conditioners are never in the "off" position!

It was wonderful to see so many of you in Lisbon at CISTM-9 – thank you to all who took a moment to stop and chat. I had the grandest time "catching up" with each of you. I do hope that everyone had an enjoyable time and took a minute or two for a bit of sightseeing. For those of you who could not make the journey – please know that you were missed and I do hope to see you at a conference in the very near future. Perhaps Edinburgh next June for the NECTM or in Vancouver at CISTM-10 in May 2007. It is never too early to begin making your plans!

I wanted to let the membership know of a few changes we have recently made in the ISTM secretariat office. I was recently named the Administrative Director of the ISTM (see page 3) – a position for which I am most grateful and am nervous about at the same time. We have also hired Brooke Gouge as my Administrative Assistant. Brooke is now the main point of contact for any membership issues that you may have. All emails concerning membership should be sent to her at: istm@istm.org. If you need to email me, please make a note of my new email address: admindir@istm.org. I know that you all are going to enjoy working with Brooke as she is just like me - only a younger version! If you get a moment, please send her a note welcoming her to the world of travel medicine.

As a reminder, we still have membership lapel pins available for a fee of \$5.00 USD. We also have the Responsible Traveler/ 10 Tips for Healthy Travel bookmarks available at 1000 bookmarks for \$125 USD. Please email us if you would be interested in any of these materials.

Until next time, remember that no matter how small, no act of kindness is ever wasted.

*With warmest regards,
Brenda*

Report from the 8th International Symposium on Maritime Health

Nebojša Nikolaić

More than 300 participants from 39 countries attended the four-day, 8th International Symposium on Maritime Health (ISMH) held in Rijeka, Croatia this past May. The meeting was organized by various Croatian medical societies under the chairmanship of Dr. Nebojša Nikolaić, and was supported by important international organizations: the International Labour Organization, International Maritime Organization, World Health Organization, International Transport Workers' Federation, and International Organization for Migration, with members of these organizations participating. Several distinguished ISTM members – Prof. Robert Steffen, Dr. Santanu Chatterjee, and Dr. Albie de Frey were also part of the program.

The theme of the meeting was "Maritime Medicine: A Global Challenge." Two hundred thirty one papers on topics of interest to the health and welfare of seafarers were presented: international cooperation in maritime health, inequalities in multiethnic crews (globalisation or neo-colonialism?), injuries and diseases, medical care aboard ship and in ports, behaviour and lifestyle (smoking and overweight issues), the impact of a ship's electromagnetic field on health, toxic chemicals exposure, HIV/AIDS, seafarers knowledge of sexual behaviour, fatigue problems, hygiene, hyperbaric medicine, psychological issues, telemedicine, and the challenges of being a modern ship physician. One aim of the organizing committee was to introduce travel medicine in the program - vaccinations and malaria prevention, for example - as previous conferences were dominated by occupational health subjects. Lively discussions showed differences of opinions in many subjects among different maritime countries, a need for more consensus, especially within Europe, and that such goals require much more research.

During the opening ceremony the draft of the new "International Medical Guide for Ships" was given to Dr. Gerry Eijkemans of the Occupational and Environmental Health Programme, World Health Organization. The Guide is expected to be available before the end of 2006. The discussions of the Guide brought into focus the varying international opinions regarding defibrillators on board merchant ships, medical training and education of ship's officers, and the very different criteria used to assess fitness for maritime service. To address these issues, an IMHA working group was formed several years ago under the leadership of Dr. Tim Carter. The group is studying means to unify the fitness standards and to further develop ILO/WHO guidelines.

IMHA had its 5th General Meeting and board elections during the meeting. A new board was elected: Dr. Tim Carter – president, Dr. Nebojša Nikolaić – vice president, Dr. Bas Riiken – secretary. Also elected to the board were Dr. Ulle Lahe, Dr. Suresh Idinani, Dr. Pedro De Guzman, and Dr. Michael Lund Nielsen.

The attendees overwhelmingly judged the meeting a total success professionally and socially, in large part to the efforts of the organizing committee and its chairperson, Dr. Nebojša Nikolaić. Part of the meeting was held aboard a Croatian cruise ship, the rest on shore, in Rijeka and Dubrovnik.

The 9th International Symposium on Maritime Health will be held in Esbjerg, Denmark, 3-6 June 2007.

Calendar: Travel Medicine Conferences, Courses, Educational Travel

(Note: This calendar is a service for the travel medicine community. The listings come from reputable individuals within the community but are not checked or necessarily endorsed by ISTM.)

Conferences, 2005

The Westchester Course: Travel Health Care Training. Hawthorne, NY (near New York City). June 9-11. Unique learning experience for nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician's assistants. Prepares participants to deliver quality care and prepare for the ISTM Certificate of Knowledge examination. 18.0 contact hours. Will include latebreakers from ISTM Lisbon meeting. Director: Gail Rosselot, NP, MPH COHN-S. Email: garosselot@AOL.com

XVth International Congress for Tropical Medicine and Malaria. September 11-15. Marseilles, France. Overview of recent advances in understanding and management of tropical diseases and of challenges ahead. Information: J.M. Milleliri Tel: 04 91 15 01 44 Fax: 04 61 15 01 46 E-mail: imtssa.asmt@wanadoo.fr

First World Congress on High Altitude Medicine and Physiology: The Effects of Chronic Hypoxia on Diseases at High Altitude. Oct 1 - 8, 2005. La Paz, Bolivia. Organizers: High Altitude Pathology Institute, Clinica IPPA and Zubieta University. Discussions include Chronic Mountain Sickness, Carotid Body Function at High Altitude, Disease at High Altitude, Diving and Other Sports at High Altitude, Genes and Hypoxia. Friendly, relaxed scientific and culture gathering. Visits to medical centers in the "World Capital of Hypoxia" and to pre-Inca ruins, museums, the city of the rich silver mines and Lake Titicaca. Information: Email: zubieta@altitudeclinic.com

Intensive Update Course in Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health. October 4-5, 2005. San Francisco, California. Two-day meeting for physicians and other health care providers. Information: American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. www.astmh.org. Email: astmh@astmh.org. ASTMH, 60 Revere Drive, Suite 500, Northbrook, IL 60062 USA, phone 847.480.9592, fax 847.480.9282.

Canadian Arctic Medical Meeting. October 6-10, 2005. Churchill, Manitoba. Discussions of topics relevant to people liv-

ing in the Canadian circumpolar environment and in other Arctic climes: animal attacks (including rabies); hypothermia; depression (seasonal affective disorders, SAD); and the effects of pollution in the far north; for example. Guest speaker: James Wilkinson, MD, author of the classic textbook, "Medicine for Mountaineers." Meeting date coincides with polar bear sightings around Churchill. Information: www.skylarkmedicine.com Tel: 1.204.4539107

1st International Conference of the Journal of Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease. November 10-11. London, U.K. Organized by Elsevier Publishing in association with Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease Journal. Conference will bring together leading experts for a comprehensive and topical programme focusing on the latest research and policy in travel medicine and infectious disease. Website: www.travelmedicine.elsevier.com Secretariat: Sophie Peters, Conference Secretariat, Elsevier, The Boulevard, Langford Lane, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GB, UK Tel: +44 (0) 1865 843643 Fax: +44 (0) 1865 843958 Email: s.peters@elsevier.com

Anti-Malaria Chemoprophylaxis. December 10-11, 2005. Washington, DC. For clinicians and travel medicine practitioners. Overview of usage of drugs in special populations, resistance patterns, CDC recommendations, and adverse event profiles of approved drugs. Course immediately precedes meeting of American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. Information: web site: www.astmh.org. Email: astmh@astmh.org. ASTMH, 60 Revere Drive, Suite 500, Northbrook, IL 60062 USA. Phone 847.480.9592. Fax: 847.480.9282.

Anti-Malaria Chemoprophylaxis. December 10-11, 2005. Washington, DC. For clinicians and travel medicine practitioners. Overview of usage of drugs in special populations, resistance patterns, CDC recommendations, and adverse event profiles of approved drugs. Course immediately precedes meeting of American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hy-

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54th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. December 11- 15. Washington, DC. Details about registration and abstract submission will be posted in early 2005. Contact: ASTMH, 60 Revere Drive, Suite 500 Northbrook, Illinois 60062. Tel: (847) 480-9592; Fax: (847) 480-9282. E-mail: astmh@astmh.org. Web site: www.astmh.org

International Travel Health and Complementary Medicine Conference. December 10-11, 2005. Taipei, Taiwan. Focus on traditional Chinese medicine approaches to travel-related conditions including herbal medicines, acupuncture, energy therapies, mind-body interventions, and spa and relaxation techniques. Information: clarejchw@yahoo.com.tw

Conferences, 2006

5th European Conference on Travel Medicine: Globalization and Health. March 23-25, 2006. Venice, Italy. With large numbers of people traveling internationally most health issues are no longer limited to a single country. All health care workers must be familiar with infectious diseases, food safety, vaccination issues, bioterrorism, and numerous other subjects. Information: www.ectm5.org

North European Conference on Travel Medicine. June 7-10 2006. Edinburgh. A collaborative conference organised by the International Society of Travel Medicine and the travel medicine societies and organisations of Northern Europe. Website: www.nectm.com. Information: In Conference Ltd., 10B Broughton Lane, Edinburgh EH1 3LY, Scotland, UK. Tel: +44 131 556 9245. Fax: +44 131 556 9638. E-mail: NECTM@in-conference.org.uk.

Courses/Educational Travel can be found on the ISTM website.

— "Goodbye Lisbon. Hello Edinburgh
and Vancouver," cont. from page 1

held at the ancient Castelo de São Jorge, called the "Crown of Lisbon", located on a dominant hilltop overlooking the city, its harbor and the River Tagus. Here you can gaze down on the area where, over the centuries, the Portuguese helped develop the science of navigation, enabling their ships and their crews to set sail to travel and play a prominent role in discovering and exploring the world.

The conference itself took place at an efficient and roomy convention facility on the shores of the river Tagus, a busy waterway with large oceangoing ships coming from or heading out to ports everywhere. This facility is, literally, in the shadow of the great bridge that spans the river, one of the longest suspension bridges in the world.

But true to ISTM conference tradition, and a credit to the diligence and character of our members, neither perfect weather, nor the historic sights in the old town, nor the sidewalk cafes, nor the museums and the art galleries, were able to entice our attendees to stray from the sessions. They came to Lisbon to learn travel medicine, and so they did. Many a member stayed a few extra days to "do" the City, or made plans to return to see the sights that they had to pass up.

At the conference, attendees selected from the usual smorgasbord of plenary sessions, symposia, free communications, poster viewings, debates, local history lectures, electronic interactive workshops, meet the professor gatherings, satellite sessions, and industry exhibits, and all the other accouterments that are now standard fare at successful assemblages.

If historical precedence and tradition continue, and all indications are that they will, Edinburgh and Vancouver will only further raise the bar of ISTM meeting excellence. Already, our Scottish friends have engaged the venerable Royal Museum of Scotland for their opening get-together, a "best ever", "never-to-be-forgotten", "never to-be surpassed" social event. And that is just the beginning. Watch this space in the upcoming months for details...

NewsShare

the Quarterly Newsletter of the International Society of Travel Medicine

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