My View of the Last Year

Shock Society Colleagues:

To say it has been a privilege and honor to serve as president of our society over this last year would have to be one of the biggest understatements ever uttered. However, to say it has been the most humbling and at the same time rewarding experience of my life may be the closest I can get to my feelings about this last year. Humbling, as I have watched the unselfish work of our officers, our committees and their chairs, our past presidents, our journal editor, and our council members. Their time, effort, and energy commitment to take care of everyday business while striving to improve and make the Shock Society special, with innovative thoughts in every area from financial to web page issues, has been remarkable. Rewarding, as I have seen significant projects initiated, developed, and put into place as permanent components of the Shock Society and move us fully into the age of electronic communication and information delivery as exemplified by this Newsletter. These projects have included moving the society to a professional level of business and societal management instilling a sense of process permanency, as well as solidifying societal memory. I have never seen such a concentration of bright, talented, committed people in one place at one time working toward one goal – to make the Shock Society as good as it can possibly be - and that is pretty good. Even though each of these people is a strong leader in her/his own professional environment, they come together in the Shock Society to work as a highly functional, interactive team. Within this team there are many individual efforts that provide the framework for the overall productivity. One of those outstanding efforts was provided by Dr. Timothy Buchman as Chair of the program committee. Development of the program for each of our meetings begins 18 to 24 months before the meeting takes place and the 12 months prior to the meeting; it is practically a full time job. Tim has organized a superb meeting and I am sure this is obvious to those of you who have reviewed the program for the Baltimore meeting. Carl Hauser as Treasurer and Carol Miller-Graziano as Secretary have spent countless hours maintaining society business and financial affairs.

Supporting the activities of the team described above was another outstanding team comprised of Mary Schuerman, Meredith Crigler, and Bill Curreri. Over the last year I observed them helping us solve problems and support our efforts without fail over and over again. This occurred while they were in the process of setting up their office to accommodate Shock Society business needs and the contract signing was in progress. The most significant activities that occurred during my tenure as president and the ones most likely to have long-term effects were the signing of the contracts with Strategem to manage our societal business and to set-up and manage our web page. Even though the web page had been in place for a short period of time, the entire on-line abstract submission process was successful resulting in the acceptance of 265 abstracts which is the second highest number in our history.
Additionally, the meeting and hotel registrations have been accomplished on-line. We had 228 abstracts last year and 403 registrants; hopefully this ratio will hold up for our 2007 meeting in Baltimore.

Over the last year your Council supported and approved:

- co-sponsorship of the Resuscitation Science Symposium in association with the American Heart Association,
- provision of platform presentation positions for two young investigator winners of the Japan Shock Society
- an Alcohol and Trauma Satellite Symposium to be held immediately prior to the 2007 Shock Society meeting.

There have been several letters to the NIH promoting increased funding for Shock Society related interests, as well as a letter to congress supporting the formation of a National Trauma/Shock Institute within the National Institutes. The development of a “publish ahead of print” process is underway which will utilize e-mail to alert members of the North American, the Japan, and the European Shock Societies of the contents of the next issue of Shock prior to its release. This is under the management of our Shock editor, Dr Irshad Chaudry, and will be expanded soon to cover other societies.

There is one other project that is important to me personally and was to be the theme of my tenure as president before the reality of the society’s business set in. The formation of a Mentor Committee is underway. Basilia Zingarelli, MD, PhD and Brenda Smith, PhD have agreed to co-chair this committee. The committee will be comprised of all career levels and will be a mix of MDs and PhDs to represent all views regarding mentorship. We are currently filling out the membership of this committee. Two senior scientists (Richard Hotchkiss, MD & Al Ayala, PhD) and one young scientist (Robert Barber, PhD) have agreed to be members to date. Dr. Irshad Chaudry has consented to serve as one of the senior advisors to the committee. This committee will formalize and provide structure for the many young investigators’ activities that our society already has in place and will emphasize our commitment to young investigators. Using the existing activities to build upon, this committee will be asked to develop new ideas and out-of-the-box thinking regarding ways our society can aggressively support, facilitate, and promote the careers of the young investigators who are members of our society. It is our hope that this emphasis will attract new members who know that when they join the Shock Society, they will be entering an environment that is committed to their success and development of their careers. This committee will bring focus, emphasis, and recognition to our commitment.

I want to thank you for permitting me to serve our society in this position and for the opportunity to be involved in the combined efforts of so many talented people. It has been the highlight of my professional life and has given me the opportunity to contribute in ways I never thought possible. I hope to see each of you in Baltimore.

p.s.

I encourage you to visit our web page regularly for updated information throughout the year. [http://www.shocksociety.org/](http://www.shocksociety.org/) and to register to attend the 2008 meeting in Cologne. The 6th Congress of the International Federation of Shock Societies (IFSS) will be held in association with the 31st Annual Conference on Shock of the North American Shock Society. Please see the invitation from Dr. Edmund Neugebauer to this international meeting in this Newsletter.
Greetings from the Internet
Alfred Ayala
Committee Chairman

In my year as Shock Society Internet Committee Chairman there have been a lot of changes to web-presence. First I echo President Brackett’s expression of thanks to Dr. Heinz Redl (who held this post before me & is a past-society councilor) and the EES for allowing us to share their site for the prior 6 years or so. The site today draws much from what it was before. Second - we need to thank our President, Secretary, and other officers and councilors who help shape/collect the information for the web site and provided over-sight for its development. And finally, thanks to our new Shock Society Administrative office for promptly implementing it and continuing to update it.

As you should all know by now the first pages for the new site (www.shocksociety.org/) went up on October 17th, 2007. Since then the site survived it’s first national meeting abstract call; announced/posted information on the Alcohol & Trauma 2007 SLB-Shock satellite meeting; posted and received application for the 2007 Shock-Novo Nordisk Fellowship, and in late March posted the ‘final Program for the SHOCK 2007 meeting’. New features to the site are not only a member restricted area, but a council/officers restricted area where information can be shared and communicated; online dues payment & meeting registration; a societal newsletter archive; along with many features that should make societal/meeting functions easier. However, as the society grows/develops so does what we need from our site. So as I am charged, as the internet committee chairperson to periodically reassess not only the information on the site but consider what new features or formats the site should consider including, I have two requests for you as members. First, please go to the site occasionally to make sure your information is up to date, so we don’t lose track of you (if it’s not correct contact: webmaster@shocksociety.org) and, second, let the committee know if there are issues/features that should be considered to improve the web-site going forward (AAyala@lifespan.org).

Thanks for the opportunity to serve in this role and I look forward to your input.

INVITATION
Edmund A. M. Neugebauer
Congress President

On behalf of the European Shock Society it is a great pleasure and honour to invite you to the 6th Congress of the International Federation of Shock Societies (IFSS) to Cologne. The 6th Congress will be held in association with the 31st Annual Conference on Shock of the US Shock Society. This is a novelty; for the first time the US conference will take place outside the United States.

The IFSS is a collaboration of six shock societies around the world including those from the US, Japan, Brazil, Indonesia, China and Europe, founded in 1993 with regular congresses every three or four years.

We are expecting approximately 1000 participants and experts from all over the world presenting cutting edge research in trauma, intensive care and sepsis. The keynote of the conference will be: Translational Research – From Bedside to Bench and Back

The congress is to close the gap between basic and clinical research for the benefit of our patients. This is only to be achieved through an intensive interdisciplinary cross talk between clinicians and basic scientists. The IFSS is a perfect platform to reach that goal. An extensive exchange will be achieved through symposia, plenary lectures, workshops and most importantly poster sessions that allow young investigators to present and discuss their recent results. For the translation of research into clinically useful strategies and tools, innovative industrial partners are essential. The meeting will therefore be accompanied by an industrial exhibition of the pharmaceutical and medical device industry.

The congress will be held at the Gürzenich Convention Centre in the city centre of Cologne, only a few minutes from the main railway station and twenty minutes from International Airport Cologne/Bonn. Cologne is a city with 2000 years of history that has remained young at heart. You will experience an energetic and welcoming city with out-going and warm-hearted people.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you in Cologne!
2006-2007
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