A Message from the President

Dear ISTU Community:

I hope that this message finds everyone healthy and staying safe during these unprecedented times. The board met virtually on May 22, and I would like to provide you with an update of the status of ISTU and our future plans. As you all know, we unfortunately had to postpone ISTU 2020 in Gyeongju, Korea and we have rescheduled the symposium for April 25-28, 2021 at the same venue in Gyeongju. Given the uncertainty of future travel restrictions, we are preparing for an option to attend the meeting virtually.

The board also approved future meeting venues and dates as follows:

- ISTU 2022 – Toronto, April 24-27, 2022
- ISTU 2023 – Lyon, April 17-20, 2023

With the global COVID-19 pandemic we are having to evolve how we interact and function as a society. I personally believe that ISTU will become an even stronger society with greater member benefits with a more diversified platform to promote education and research in therapeutic ultrasound. The first step that we will be taking is to launch our webinar series. We will also be providing an option for virtual attendance to our annual scientific symposiums. In addition, we are exploring changes to our membership structure to provide greater member benefits such as access to recorded webinars and presentations from past ISTU symposia, ePosters, and past programs and abstracts.

Frederic Lizzi Early Career Award Winners

One of the major disappointments of not holding the annual symposium was the inability to recognize and congratulate the Frederic Lizzi Early Career Award winners. This year the Lizzi Award committee, headed by Jean-Francois Aubry, selected Drs. Hong Chen and Meaghan O’Reilly to receive the Lizzi Award.

We congratulate Hong and Meaghan for their accomplishments to date and look forward to the impact that they will have in advancing the field of therapeutic ultrasound. We will host a webinar on June 25th where the Lizzi Awards will be presented, and we will have presentations from each of the awardees.

Webinar Series Begins June 25th

Since we were unable to hold an annual symposium this year, we have decided to create ISTU On-Air - a series of monthly webinars. The inaugural webinar will be on June 25th featuring the Lizzi Award winners. A committee led by Kim Butts Pauly and Cyril Lafon are actively working on the programming for the webinar series.

The topics of the first webinar are:

- Hong Chen, Ph.D. presenting "Focused Ultrasound-Enabled Liquid Biopsy for Noninvasive Diagnosis of Brain Cancer"
Meaghan O'Reilly, Ph.D. presenting "Ultrasound-Mediated Drug Delivery to the Spinal Cord"

This webinar will be held live on June 25th at the following local times:

- 8:00 – 9:00 PST (West Coast, USA)
- 11:00 – 12:00 EST (East Coast, USA)
- 16:00 – 17:00 (UK)
- 17:00 – 18:00 (Continental Europe)
- 23:00 – 24:00 (China)
- 24:00 – 1:00 (Japan and Korea)

Confirmation of your registration and the Zoom Conference Link Info will be emailed to all registered attendees. Additional details and registration information for future seminars will be provided in the very near future.

Register for June 25th Webinar

Annual Election Update

We were able to hold on-line elections and had record participation in the election process. I would like to congratulate the newly elected board members:

- Cyril Lafon – President-elect
- Gil Dubernard – Clinical representative
- Richard Price – Academic representative
- Kyle Morrison – Industry representative
- Suzanne LeBlang – At-large representative

I would like to thank the following board members who have completed their 3-year terms on the board for their service to ISTU:

- Ayache Bouakaz
- Olivier LeBaron
- Yoshihiro Muragaki
- Zhen Xu

It has been a pleasure working with those of you who are rotating off of the board and hope that all of you continue to remain active in ISTU.

President's Award
Remembering Professor Cain

Lastly, I am sad to report that Charles Cain recently passed away. As most of you know, Professor Cain was a pioneer in the field of therapeutic ultrasound. Zhen Xu has written a beautiful remembrance of Professor Cain that is available on our website. View Remembrance. The ISTU board will be giving out the President’s Award at the FUS Foundation meeting in November to commemorate his work in the field.

I wish everyone good health during these challenging times, and I’m looking forward to the day that we can all meet again in person. In the meantime, please plan to join us on June 25th for our inaugural webinar featuring the Lizzi Award winners.

Sincerely,
Joo Ha Hwang
President, ISTU