

Communications

This journal welcomes comments from all those involved in artificial organs as researchers, developers, or users. We would like to hear of your experiences. Please send all Communications to the Editorial Office.

Upcoming Meetings

Surfaces in Biomaterials '98

September 2-5, 1998, Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, Arizona, USA. Researchers from a variety of disciplines will convene to exchange information and ideas. The goal of the symposium is to explore interfacial structure property relationships in biomaterials. The information presented will provide attendees with a better understanding of preparation, modification, and characterization associated with biomaterials and biomedical and diagnostic devices. The symposium program will include lectures presented by invited experts. Technical sessions will focus on applied aspects of biomaterials and diagnostic devices with a strong emphasis on the following topics: surface modification, novel surface techniques, novel analytical, cardiovascular devices, protein-surface interaction, orthopedic and dental applications, cell surface interactions, device centered infections, biosensors and diagnostics, and histology and pathology. For more information, contact the Surfaces in Biomaterials Foundation, 6518 Walker Street, Suite 150, Minneapolis, MN 55426-4215, U.S.A. Fax: (612) 927-8127.

3rd International Congress on Lung Transplantation

September 10-11, 1998, Paris, France. Lecture and abstract sessions will be organized on the main topics of lung transplantation. Plenary sessions, abstract, and poster sessions will be organized on the following topics: Selection of candidates for lung transplantation: disease based guidelines; results of lung transplantation and methods of evaluation: survival, physiological aspects, quality of life, and cost; recipient management: immunosuppressive therapy and infection prevention; organ procurement: guidelines, preservation and marginally acceptable organs; experimental surgical models; lung volume reduction in emphysema; and zenotransplantation. For more information, contact Congress Office, Offshore—Lung Transplantation Congress, 57, avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92 200 Neuilly sur Seine, France. Fax: 33-01-47-22-00-20.

14th European Conference on Biomaterials

September 15-18, 1998, The Hague, The Netherlands. Scheduled conferences include Biomaterial Development and Evaluation, Biomaterials in Arthroplasty, Biomaterials in Spinal Surgery, Biomaterials in Plastic Surgery, and Biomaterials in Ophthalmology. For more information, contact Prof. Bronkhorstlaan, Conference Secretariat, 10 Bld. 57, 3723 MB Bilthoven, The Netherlands.

6th Vienna International Workshop on Functional Electrostimulation: Basics, Technology, Application

September 22-24, 1998, Vienna, Austria. Sponsored by the International Society for Artificial Organs, the Austrian

Society for Artificial Organs, Biomaterials and Medical Replacement Devices, the International FES Society, and the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Physics, University of Vienna. Topics include neuromuscular physiology, technology of external devices and implants, application, and product transfer to the clinic. For more information, contact Ch. Jancik, Secretary, Department of Biomedical Engineering and Physics, Waehringer Guertel 18-20/4L, A 1090 Vienna, Austria. Phone: 43-1-40400-1984. Fax: 43-1-40400-3988.

16th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Blood Purification

October 4-6, 1998, Newport, Rhode Island, U.S.A. The International Society of Blood Purification was founded in 1983. It focuses on the science and technology of therapies for end-stage renal disease (ESRD) and related formats of extracorporeal blood processing. Three main symposium will address important contemporary areas of ESRD therapy: pre-ESRD with emphasis upon treatment protocols during this phase of renal failure, the merits of the case for earlier initiation of dialytic therapy, and the possible future role of biopharmaceuticals in moderating the progression of renal disease; recent technical developments, including very high performance membranes and the therapy formats which they enable, the coming generations of CAPD solutions, hemodiafiltration, newer forms of access, and affinity membranes; and present and future trends in the management of ESRD with special focus on the patient consequences of vertical integration, managed care, and other changes in the traditional organization of dialysis delivery. The congress will also feature free communications and poster presentations including special recognition for the best abstracts. For more information contact ISBP '98, Box 2480, Providence, RI 02906, U.S.A. Tel: (401) 863-3943. Fax: (401) 863-1753.

The Croatian Society of Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantation of the Croatian Medical Association

October 21-25, 1998, Dubrovnik, Croatia. Topics include Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantation. For more information, contact Prim. S. Glavas-Boras, M.D., Ph.D., Congress Secretary, Dialysis Center, Urology Department, University Hospital Center Zagreb, 12, Kispaticeva, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia. Tel: 385-1-212-517. Fax: 385-1-216-088.

20th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society: Biomedical Engineering Toward the Year 2000 and Beyond

October 29-November 1, 1998, Hong Kong. The IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS) will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its annual international conference in Hong Kong in 1998, the first time that an

IEEE EMBS international conference will be held in Asia. The venue will be the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center located at Victoria Harbor. For more information, contact EMBS98 Conference Secretariat, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, NT, Hong Kong. Tel: 852-2609-8285 or 852-2609-8459. Fax: 852-2609-8459.

25th Congress of the European Society for Artificial Organs (ESAO)

November 11–13, 1998, Italy. For more information, contact Prof. S. Stefoni, Congress President, Department of Clinical Medicine and Applied Biotechnology, St. Orsola University Hospital, Bologna, Italy. Fax: 39-51-34-08-71.

2nd International Congress of the International Society for Apheresis

April 15–18, 1999, Saarbrücken, Germany. The successful application of different apheresis modalities are more and more recognized in many different fields of medicine, especially for the treatment of severe and refractory diseases. New technological developments as well as medical insights have also contributed to progressive expansion of therapeutic and donor apheresis. The present congress aims at providing state of the art knowledge by international recognized experts as well as encouraging scientific discussion on open problems and new approaches. With this, the organizers provide a forum for interdisciplinary discussion with physicians, basic scientists, and technical experts. The deadline for submission of abstracts is November 1, 1998. Sponsored by the International Society for Artificial Organs, the International Faculty for Artificial Organs, the World Apheresis Association, and the European Society for Artificial Organs. For more information, contact Congress Secretariat, ISFA 1999, Mrs. C. Nieder/Priv. Doz. Dr. Rolf Bambauer, Ringstrasse 7, 66424 Homburg/Saar, Germany. Tel: 06841-2081 or 2082. Fax: 06841-61183.

American Society for Artificial Internal Organs (ASAIO) 45th Annual Conference

June 3–5, 1999, San Diego, California, U.S.A. The meeting will be held at the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina.

For more information, contact ASAIO Headquarters Office, P.O. Box C, Boca Raton, Florida 33429-0468, U.S.A. Tel: (561) 391-8589. Fax: (561) 368-9153.

12th World Congress of the International Society for Artificial Organs and the 26th Congress of the European Society for Artificial Organs

August 3–6, 1999, Edinburgh, Scotland. In accordance with tradition, the biennial ISAO World Congress returns to Europe in 1999. As in previous years when the ISAO World Congress has been located in Europe, the Congress will be held in conjunction with the annual congress of the ESAO. The joint meeting will take place in the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, which is among the most modern available and will be an outstanding venue for the joint meeting. Within a format of keynote addresses, panel discussions, symposiums, free communications, and posters, the program will cover the current and potential state of artificial organs in terms of the relevance of organ transplantation, the role of modern technology, and the use of biotechnology and cellular engineering. The program will represent a balanced view of the clinical status, procedures, biomaterials, and technology relevant to the application of artificial organs. Topics will range from those with relevance to traditional artificial organs, such as the kidney, heart, and lung, to those for novel therapies based on improved procedures and materials or the enhanced utilization of artificial and cultured cells. For more information, contact Prof. J.M. Courtney, University of Strathclyde, Bioengineering Unit, 106 Rottenrow, Glasgow G4 0NW, U.K. Fax: +44(0)131-226-5333.

7th Congress of the International Society for Rotary Blood Pumps

August 26–27, 1999, Tokyo, Japan. The 7th Congress of the International Society for Rotary Blood Pumps will be held at the Hotel Nikko, Tokyo, Japan. The deadline for abstract submission is March 30, 1999. For more information, contact Prof. Y. Sezai, The 2nd Dept. of Surgery, Nihon University School of Medicine, 30-1, Oyaguchi, Kami-machi, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 173-8610, Japan. Tel: 03-3972-8111 (Ext. 2462-2464). Fax: 03-3955-9818. E-mail: sezai@med.nihon-u.ac.jp.

Abstracts from the 3rd Brno Implantologic Days, Brno, Czech Republic

November 13–15, 1997, the traditional stomatologic symposium, the 3rd Brno Implantologic Days with International Participation took place in Brno, Czech Republic. The main organizers had been the 2nd Stomatologic Clinic, medical faculty of Masaryk University, and the University Hospital of St. Anna in Brno. The symposium was arranged in the conference hall of the Hotel Continental.

At the opening, the representatives of Brno, the medical faculty of Masaryk University, the University Hospital of St. Anna, and representatives of foreign companies met including Prof. I. Satko, M.D.,

Chairman of the Slovakia Stomatologic Society and Prof. R. Streel, M.D., President of the European Union of Clinicians in Implant Dentistry from Belgium. The lecturers were from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, and Belgium. The lectures were focused on problems of augmentations of the jawbone; treatment and repair of inborn malformation of the facial skeleton; traumatically or pathologically originated defects of the jaw bone; alveoli; and problems of controlled tissue regeneration using autografts, allografts, and xenografts to the natural or synthetic biomaterials.