

# NEWS

# ISN

ISN NEWS 35 October 2010

## Celebrating women in nephrology: yesterday, today and tomorrow

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Advancing Nephrology around the World Celebrating 50 Years

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# EDITORIAL

## Setting an example across generations



Women take centre stage in this edition of ISN News. Over the last 50 years, they have played their part in developing the specialty of nephrology. Their innovative ideas, discoveries and dedication have paved the way for today's generation to continue improving research, clinical practice, education and healthcare as well as raise awareness about kidney disease. Today, we see many reasons to celebrate women's achievements and highlight the strong role they continue to play at ISN meetings and throughout the ISN Global Outreach Programs. As we mark 50 years of ISN, we also look at how ISN is an important vehicle for women involved in nephrology - from ISN leaders and Committee Members to doctors, specialists and other healthcare professionals worldwide.

As an Australian, Priscilla Kincaid-Smith, ISN's only female president, is the first name that springs to my mind when I think of women who have made a difference to nephrology. In the research area, she was able to demonstrate overwhelming evidence of the link between analgesic use and kidney damage in the early 1960s and campaigned strongly against its use. At its peak, analgesic nephropathy accounted for over 30% of people on dialysis in Australia. As a consequence of removing 'over the counter' sales of compound analgesics in 1970, it is now an extremely uncommon cause of end-stage kidney disease.

She also contributed to research on the links between high blood pressure and kidney disease, forging links with nephrology, pathology and other fields of science and medicine. Importantly, she demonstrated in the sixties and beyond, that it was possible to balance a venerable career in academia whilst maintaining a successful family life. She in turn influenced a generation of female nephrologists, including Judy Whitworth, who served as Australia's Chief Medical Officer and more recently as Chair of the World Health Organization's global advisory committee on health research. Both Priscilla and Judy served as significant role models in my career.

The application of physiological and scientific principles predictably underpin the practice of nephrology. Caring for patients with chronic kidney disease also requires a strong basis in general medicine and calls for competence in both acute medical emergencies and chronic medical conditions. These factors initially attracted me to choose nephrology as a subspecialty. However, the personal choice of an academic career was made after contemplating the careers of role models such as Priscilla and Judy. Clearly mentorship is a responsibility that needs to be taken seriously. I would suggest that women in nephrology have particular responsibilities. Training in medical school, specialist medical training in nephrology, scientific training and postdoctoral research are increasingly time consuming. We are often called upon to discuss the family, work and life balance, advise on career choices and yet we usually have only personal experience to draw upon.

This edition of ISN News highlights the success of several women in nephrology, continuing to inspire a new generation of leaders from the female ranks.

Professor Carol Pollock

### ISN News

Published by ISN  
Editor: Carol Pollock  
Staff Editor: Sally Horspool  
ISN Executive Director: Luca Segantini

*The contents of this publication are compiled in good faith. The publisher accepts no responsibility for omissions or errors.*

Design [www.landmarks.be](http://www.landmarks.be)

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# NEWS IN BRIEF

## SRC collaboration leads to successful pediatric transplants in Tunisia

In late June 2010, Anil Vaidya from the Oxford Kidney Unit and Mignon McCulloch from Guy's Children Hospital in the UK travelled to Sousse, Tunisia to help local clinicians carry out five pediatric living-related donor (LRD) transplants, with the support of the University of Ghent's Renal Division.

According to Sister Renal Center Program Chair Paul Harden, it is a major achievement for pediatric nephrology and transplantation in Tunisia. "I understand this trip will be followed by a second visit to undertake three more joint pediatric LRD kidney transplants in November 2010, with the same team," he says.

This is one of many examples revealing the effectiveness of ISN Global Outreach Programs and more importantly the contacts that are built through Sister Renal Center partnerships. In January 2010, the Nephrological Clinic, University of Medicine Sahloul, Tunisia and the Renal Division, University of Ghent Hospital, Belgium were granted Level B SRC status. This enabled them to become an active joint partnership.

"Since 2007, Anil Vaidya from Oxford helped me on three occasions in Minsk to establish an adult LRD Transplant Program. In 2009, he helped perform the first three pediatric kidney transplants in Belarus with the aim of training the local clinicians as part of the Minsk Oxford SRC Program. In fact, this center has subsequently performed a further four pediatric kidney transplants independently," Harden continues to explain.

Both the initiatives in Belarus and Tunisia have established a local pediatric kidney transplant program that did not previously exist. This would not have been possible without the logistical support of the ISN and the dedication and humanitarian enthusiasm of the clinical teams involved.



## Shire donates to ISN

Designing and constructing congress exhibition stands consumes a significant amount of time, money and materials. At this year's ERA-EDTA Congress in Munich, specialty biopharmaceutical company, Shire came up with another way of using the funds to better serve the broader renal community and take a greener approach.

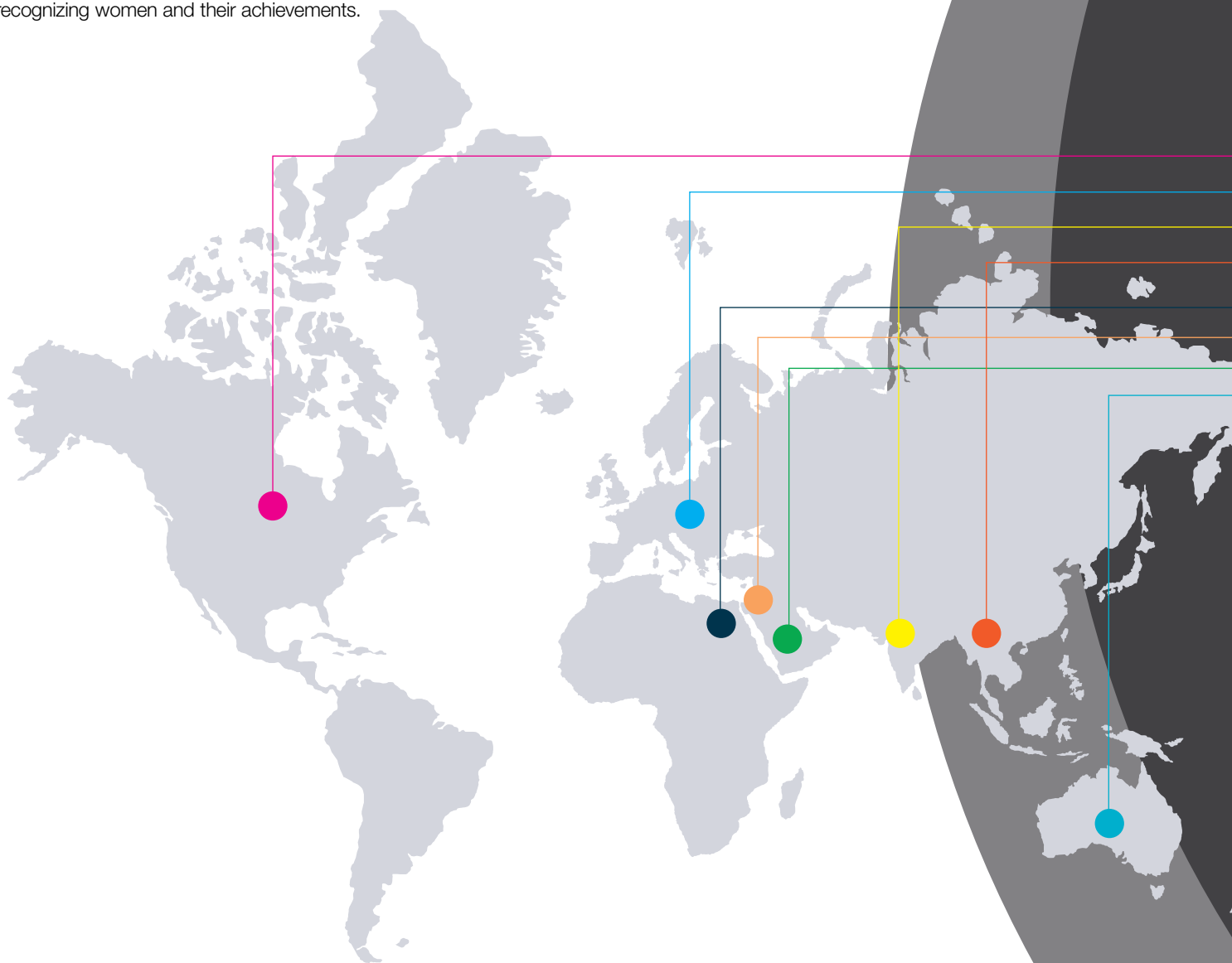
ISN is proud to be one of three non-profit organizations selected to receive some of these funds alongside the Fabry Foundation and KDIGO. During the event in June, visitors to Shire's stand assigned building blocks to the organizations they thought should benefit from the donation. ISN would like to congratulate Shire for this excellent initiative and hopes that more exhibitors to renal congresses will follow their example.

# The leading women of nephrology

Over the last 50 years, ISN has significantly helped women to communicate their ideas and fulfill their ambitions. At almost every level of the Society, women have actively contributed to the first 50 years of ISN, the history of nephrology and are continuing to advance the discipline worldwide.

**“Through world congress meetings, and other outreach programs, ISN has really helped to keep many of us in touch with colleagues around the world, so that we can collaborate on research, learn from each other and share experiences,”** says ISN Secretary General Adeera Levin who is leading this initiative.

Several key figures have inspired women to make their mark in renal research, education and care. On the year of its 50th anniversary, ISN is sending out a positive message about leadership, specifically recognizing women and their achievements.





### United States

An accomplished researcher and physician, **Josephine Briggs** is a former ISN councilor and former councilor and Secretary of ASN. She is the former director of the Division of Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), US National Institutes of Health (NIH), and was responsible for all NIH-funded renal research in the 1990s.

Today, she is Director of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. She maintains a lab at NIDDK, researching the renin-angiotensin system, diabetic nephropathy, circadian regulation of blood pressure, and the effect of antioxidants in kidney disease.



### Europe

**Rene Habib**, who passed away earlier this year, was a truly pioneering renal pathologist. She provided the first description of many renal diseases and worked with ISN founder Jean Hamburger to establish nephrology as a new discipline in Europe. Her contributions and energy were central to establishing pathology as an essential and integrated component of this new field worldwide.



### China

**HaiYan Wang** is the Editor of Kidney International China and has been an ISN and ASPN councilor and Executive Committee member as well as a member of the editorial boards of Chinese and international renal journals. She has published over 200 articles and books in Chinese and English.

She graduated from Beijing Medical University. After three years of internship, she became a nephrology fellow at the First Hospital Beijing Medical University. Since 1983, she moved on to Chief of Nephrology and later became Professor of the Department of Medicine at the First Hospital Beijing. She has been Chairman of the Chinese Society of Nephrology and is Vice President of the Chinese Medical Association. Her unit is the largest training site for nephrology fellows in China.



### India

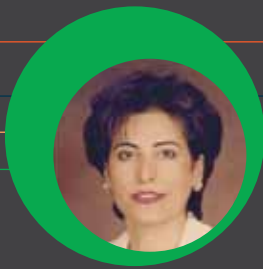
**Vidya N. Acharya** was the first woman nephrologist in India and trained some 150 internists in nephrology. For three decades, her research focused on Urinary Tract Infection. She was a consultant nephrologist at Gopalakrishna Piramal Memorial Hospital and director of the Piramal Institute for training in Dialysis Technology, Renal Nutrition and Preventive Nephrology in Mumbai. She received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Indian Society of Nephrology in 2007.



### Australia

After holding resident positions in medicine and surgery and as registrar in medicine at the Baragwanath Hospital in Johannesburg, **Priscilla Kincaid-Smith** was director and physician of Nephrology at Royal Melbourne Hospital and Professor of Medicine at University of Melbourne. She demonstrated overwhelming evidence of the link between headache powders and kidney damage and contributed to research on the links between high blood pressure and renal malfunction.

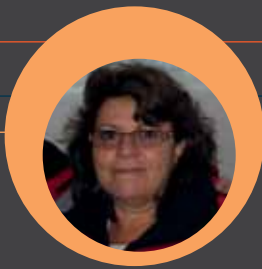
The only female ISN President so far, she was named Commander of the Order of the British Empire "for services to medicine", was awarded the David Hume Award from the National Kidney Foundation (USA) and became a Companion of the Order of Australia.



### United Arab Emirates

**Mona Alrukhaimi** is co-chair of the ISN GO Middle East Committee, and the leader of the KDIGO Implementation Task Force for the Middle East and African regions. She is also a Member of the Governing Board of the Arab Society of Nephrology and Renal Transplantation.

Since 2006, she has actively organized World Kidney Day activities in the United Arab Emirates and prepared the past four rounds of the ISN Update Course in Nephrology. Having played an active role in the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism, she contributes to serve on the custodian group and takes part in the Steering Committee for Women in Transplantation under The Transplantation Society.



### Israel

**Batya Kristal** is Professor of Medicine at the Technion Medical School, Haifa. She is the first woman to direct an academic nephrology department in Israel. At the Western Galilee Hospital, Nahariya, she leads a translational research project focusing on different aspects of oxidative stress and inflammation. She also heads a large clinical nephrology and dialysis program, which uniquely integrates staff and patients from the diverse ethnic population of the Galilee. Founder of the Israeli NKF, initiator and organizer of the traditional annual international conferences at Nahariya, she is truly an important role model for women in the country.



### South Africa

**Saraladevi Naicker** carried the weight of setting standards and provided the first training program for nephrologists in Africa over the last decade. Specializing in internal medicine, she trained in Durban and later helped set up a Transplant Unit in the Renal Unit at Addington Hospital. In 2001, she became Chief Specialist and Professor of Renal Medicine at University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg and in 2009 was appointed Chairman of Medicine at Wits.

She is proud that there are currently six postgraduate students from Africa studying for higher degrees in nephrology under her tutelage. Over the years, Naicker's unit has served as the main training site for young nephrologists from across Africa and many individuals trained by her are currently practicing in Africa. Naicker received the Phillip Tobias Distinguished Teaching Award in 2006, an honor which bears testimony to her teaching prowess.

# WORLD CONGRESS OF NEPHROLOGY 2011

## Sustainability and Diversity

**WCN 2011**, ISN's flagship biennial scientific and educational congress, will focus on ensuring that renal science and patient care are tailored to the unique and diverse needs of patients and clinicians around the world.

[www.wcn2011.org](http://www.wcn2011.org)

**8-12 April 2011**  
**Vancouver**  
**Canada**



*Photo courtesy of Tourism Vancouver*



Sustainability

Diversity

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# Sharing knowledge across borders

The Educational Ambassadors Program calls on volunteers to partake their experience with those who have not benefitted from the same opportunities.

As of January 2009, the ISN Educational Ambassadors Program replaced the Visiting Scholars Program. It was redeveloped to have a more immediate and tangible impact on renal health care services in emerging countries.

Centers in the developing world can request an expert to join them onsite to deliver high quality and relevant training for a period of one to four weeks. Helmut Renke, from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, United States, kicked started the program as the first ISN Educational Ambassador. He has now returned from his visit to the Clinica de los Riñones Menyidal in Ecuador, which took place in June.

The clinic's director, Cristobal Santacruz remarks how this program reveals the great solidarity of the international nephrology community towards the developing world. "With this program, we can complete the scientific deficiencies we have and use the knowledge and wisdom of the Educational Ambassadors to complete the knowledge that is missing in our local universities," he explains.

"My aim was not to teach pathologists but to show my approach in analyzing kidney biopsies," states Renke. Born and raised in Chile, he now works in the United States and decided to volunteer to help the renal community in South America. He believes that this initiative is complementary to the ISN Fellowship Program, influencing a broader group of nephrologists in the country.

The visit combined several daily meetings that included a mix of talks and questions. Local pathologists and nephrologists could also present their cases and discuss them with the group. "In Ecuador, there are no specialists in renal pathology. This was an excellent learning opportunity for nephrologists and pathologists alike," adds Santacruz.

The course revealed how pathologists and nephrologists should work together to fully analyze kidney tissue and provide patients with the most precise diagnosis. In developed countries, biopsies are carried out in three stages. Light and immunofluorescence microscopy are used to make 80 percent of the analysis. The last 20 percent is carried out by electro microscopy.

In Ecuador, not all of the techniques needed for assessing a renal biopsy are available, making the final diagnosis less precise for patients in this region. There is a strong need for the government to invest in the infrastructure to provide this equipment and train staff appropriately to use it.

According to Renke, to be a good Educational Ambassador: "you have to be willing to give what you have." Being approachable is essential and, in some countries, good language skills are vital to communicate in the best possible way. There is a lot of preparation to do beforehand. "However, thanks to the help of representatives from the clinic, we managed to shape a tailor-made course," adds Renke.



Find out how to become an Educational Ambassador or find out more about this ISN GO Program, visit: [www.isn-online.org](http://www.isn-online.org)

Read the interview with ISN's Educational Committee Chair Saraladevi Naicker on page 8.

# Getting the best education

**The ISN Education Committee is one example of putting energy into bridging gaps in renal education. A familiar face within ISN, Saraladevi Naicker chairs this committee. Her in-depth knowledge and experience of nephrology communities in developing countries has been valuable to respond to their needs and improve training programs worldwide.**



## **How did you first get involved with the ISN Education Committee? What were your hopes when you started chairing this group?**

Over the years, I have been involved in several ISN and ISN GO Committees in various capacities. As members of the Education Committee, we looked at various educational issues, including what should be the core curriculum for nephrology training.

When I became Chair at the end of 2007, I wished to establish educational and training programs that would complement existing ISN GO programs and assist centers in emerging countries.

Being involved in the various committees and training ISN Fellows at my institution, I became aware that many emerging centers would benefit from a visiting expert to assist them in establishing various nephrology programs. The previous Visiting Scholars Program did not have much uptake as it expected the expert to visit over six weeks to three months, a period that was much too long for most practicing nephrologists. On review, we decided that a shorter period such as two to four weeks would be more practical and would be extremely useful for the emerging center to receive hands-on assistance in establishing a necessary program.

## **What are the challenges and achievements so far?**

It is challenging working in and with emerging countries, where a lot of effort and individual commitment is required to establish basic programs that are accepted as the norm in developed regions of the world, due to a lack of human and material resources.

While still very new, the Education Ambassadors Program promises to be very successful, thanks to the enthusiasm of our volunteer Ambassadors who are keen to share their expertise and time. Another important achievement has been to define a core curriculum, that many countries use as a reference for their nephrology training programs.

## **What makes the committee particularly responsive to the needs of male and female nephrologists?**

Our membership has representatives of many regions and both genders, including young nephrologists. We welcome input from everyone, within and outside our committee.

## **Tell us more about the role of this committee in the future.**

The Committee is looking at how it could work towards the ISN mission of advancing nephrology worldwide. We are looking at promoting education in nephrology in various spheres, including reviewing the nephrology curriculum for medical students, using web-based education, and are collaborating with other groups in this effort.

To find out more about the first Educational Ambassador visit, turn to the article on page 7.



# A program that responds to every fellow's need

**Every year, ISN Fellows gain new knowledge and skills – a valuable experience they waste no time sharing with others back home.**

ISN Fellowships have helped some 500 Fellows from 80 emerging countries receive hands-on training in advanced host institutions. They have acquired state-of-the-art knowledge in basic and clinical nephrology, dialysis, transplantation, epidemiology and educational methods.

A successful training experience starts with a good relationship between fellow, host and home mentors. Matching the three parties is a long process. Applicants are advised to make their request for ISN to locate a host institution at least a three months before the application deadline.

Under the supervision of Ravindra L. Mehta, Etienne Macedo built up her career as a clinical researcher: "I gained invaluable experience developing research, from the process of forming the clinical question to designing the details of the protocol. I furthered my knowledge in acute kidney injury, from physiopathology to treatment, thanks to research meetings and experts conferences."

Above all, Etienne was able to bring back a new level of expertise and assisted in raising the standards of clinical research at her institution. She adds that: "because the University of Sao Paulo is responsible for educating nephrologists from all parts of Brazil, adopting these standards will influence research standards throughout the country."

Thanks to the ISN Fellowship Program, Glendah Kalunga, from the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia, was formally trained as a nephrologist. She is currently in her second year of PhD studies in nephrology and is focusing on elucidating the genetics of HIV-associated nephropathy.

In her home country of Zambia, there is currently only one nephrologist in the Public Sector and two in the Private Sector: "I will be the second nephrologist in the Public Sector and I intend to encourage more doctors to train as nephrologists, particularly in pediatrics, where we have none. I will also help teach and train physicians and registrars with an interest in nephrology, helping them acquire some of the skills they will need to manage uncomplicated renal patients particularly in a rural setting where there are few doctors."



Glenda Kalunga, Zambia



Etienne Macedo, Brazil and USA

## **Before and after I become an ISN Fellow, what do I need to remember?**

The application deadlines for the ISN GO Fellowship Program have now changed. You can now apply before December 15 and June 15 every year (instead of January 31 and July 31).

- To be eligible for the ISN GO Fellowship Program, all applications and enclosures must be submitted in English.
- The home and host mentors must be members of ISN.
- All parties involved in renal transplantation fellowships (the fellow and both mentors) should adhere to the Istanbul Declaration.
- After your ISN GO Fellowship, you must guarantee you will return home for a period of at least three years. A letter from the home institution director agreeing to your re-employment at the end of your training period must be included in your application.
- You should return to your home country within three months after you finish your fellowship. Otherwise, you will not receive benefits including ISN membership, a WCN travel grant and a certificate of achievement.

# Global Outreach success story

## Spreading the word on the effects of hypertension in low-income countries



In May, ISN GO Programs collaborated with the International and European Societies of Hypertension as well as the International Forum for Hypertension Control and Prevention in Africa to support a Continuous Medical Education (CME) course in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. The outcome revealed a need to communicate on the risks and effects of hypertension in Africa and was successful in building stronger ties with the World Health Organization (WHO) on this issue.

Some 300 participants from the Democratic Republic of Congo joined participants from several other African countries to find out more about topics surrounding hypertension. Two ISN GO speakers, Gérard London and Norbert Lameire, shared their knowledge with other professionals in the field.

The meeting was divided into two parts: the International Society of Hypertension (ISH) seminar and the International Forum for Hypertension Control and Prevention in Africa. Official speakers from the hypertension societies were joined by special guests from the WHO in Geneva.

This meeting was valuable in developing relations between ISN and the WHO to work together in combating cardiovascular diseases in the developing world. For the WHO, these are considered as the main non-communicable diseases. Paper strips to test proteinuria and glucosuria levels have been included in the WHO work package. However, screening for creatinine is not a first line concern and is only included in a second level work package.

Norbert Lameire was struck by the high level of obesity, diabetes and the huge prevalence of hypertension across the country. From discussions with local nephrologists, he maintains there are only up to six nephrologists in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Most of them are located in Kinshasa. Apparently, there are some private hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis services available for acute kidney patients.

Gérard London lectured on cardiovascular complications caused by hypertension in Africa. He described strategies for diagnosing and managing hypertension in low-income countries, talked about vascular damage after hypertensive complications and cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in early-stage renal disease patients.

Discussions were lively and to the point: "I was impressed by the quality of the questions reflecting not only great interest but also adequate knowledge of the literature," explains Norbert Lameire who gave presentations on the interactions between hypertension and the kidney, hypertension in pregnancy and renovascular disease.

The integration and interaction between colleagues, hypertension experts and the nephrologists was excellent and Lameire believes that further cooperation between ISN and the Hypertension Societies should be highly encouraged.

"All in all, it was an exciting experience and I believe the ISN has made a very favorable impression in a country that will need our help very much in the future," he concluded. The ISN speakers were very grateful for the efforts made by the hypertension societies, their hospitality and will to collaborate with the ISN.

**"All in all, it was an exciting experience and I believe the ISN has made a very favorable impression in a country that will need our help very much in the future."**

N. Lameire,  
ISN GO speaker



# PROFILE

## Returning ISN Fellow

**ISN GO Programs identify educational and clinical needs and reach out to countries with limited exposure to renal science and modern kidney patient care. Charlotte Osafo tells how her ISN Fellowship led to an SRC partnership and the first kidney transplant in Ghana.**

In 1994, as an elective medical student, I knew from my first visit to Birmingham that the healthcare system was more sophisticated and thorough than the way medicine was practiced in my own country. Through the ISN Fellowship Program, I hoped to get a better understanding of medicine and general nephrology.

I was looking forward to meeting world-renowned nephrologists and learn how nephrology was practiced in the developed world. More importantly, I wanted to acquire knowledge and skills in other forms of renal replacement therapy like peritoneal dialysis and kidney transplantation, which were not available in my home country.

ISN Fellowships are different from other kinds of fellowships. Apart from equipping you with skills and knowledge, you are not left alone after the training. You are supported through the ISN GO Programs and the Sister Renal Centers (SRC) Program to take one step at a time until you can stand on your own two feet and make a mark in your country. The whole ISN community is also there to support you with travel grants to attend international conferences, helping your knowledge and experience to grow.

The ISN Fellowship provided me with study materials like books and free access to first class nephrology journals. This kept me up to date with the latest research but also gave me resources to teach undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Networking is also crucial to improving treatments and patient care. ISN GO meetings linked me up with several people in Africa and other developed countries, to share experiences and discuss challenges. It was through one meeting that I realized the need to collect data. We came to the conclusion that if we did not start our own transplant program, sooner or later our dialysis program would not be able to cope with the increasing number of patients.

The SRC partnership between the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, Ghana and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, UK made this possible. It provided surgeons, nephrologists and other supporting staff who worked closely with me to bring transplantation to our institution and our country.

Now, the future looks bright. We hope to achieve level A status soon so that other people from developing countries can learn from us and we can also accept trainees from the developing world. We look forward to becoming one of the best renal centers in the sub-region, offering post graduate training in nephrology and transplantation to West Africa and other developing regions.

Managing complex renal cases was made easier through the knowledge we shared. Discussing difficult cases with colleagues in Birmingham directly helped save lives. With commitment and determination from both sides, the seemingly impossible became possible.

**“With commitment and determination from both sides, the seemingly impossible was made possible.”**

Charlotte Osafo, Ghana and the United Kingdom

Charlotte Osafo





# Giving voice to the silent disease

**Every second Thursday of March, World Kidney Day supporters host events around the world which are focused on spreading the word about prevention and early detection of kidney disease. The upcoming campaign is no exception.**

The instance of chronic kidney disease is growing at epidemic proportions, but unlike other global plagues such as asthma or obesity, kidney disease often goes unrecognized. Labeled as the silent disease, many people do not know they have the disease until it is in its advanced stage. They may not also have the resources to get treatment or have access to people who can help.

On Thursday March 10, 2011, nephrologists and kidney health advocates around the world will be shining the spotlight on the often-overlooked relationship between cardiovascular disease and kidney disease. This year, the slogan is 'Protect your kidneys, Save your Heart'! As always, prevention is better than a cure so there will be a strong push on key healthy lifestyle practices such as maintaining a healthy diet and exercising regularly which go a long way to preventing both diseases.

Action at local level is essential to bring about real change. Thanks to all the local actions and events, World Kidney Day (WKD) is now celebrated in more than 100 countries around the world. If you have never organized a WKD event, make March 10, 2011 your first annual celebration.

Whatever the activity you undertake, it will serve to bring kidney health to the centre stage on this important day. If you need inspiration, visit the 'Ideas for Action' page on the WKD website or read the past events page to see what others have done before. Allow your celebration to energize others by submitting details and photos to the WKD website. The 2011 Toolkit is also now available at [www.worldkidneyday.org](http://www.worldkidneyday.org)

What are you doing this year? check the WKD website: [www.worldkidneyday.org](http://www.worldkidneyday.org)



**Suzanne Watnick – going beyond the call of duty**

"WKD is an opportunity to bring the efforts of all societies together to spread a common message about kidney health and recognize the importance of supporting kidney patients by securing access to the right treatment for them," explains Suzanne Watnick, a nephrologist from the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, Oregon (USA) who advocated for the needs of kidney patients at last year's WKD event in Washington DC.

As a kidney doctor, she believes in the importance of getting the profession involved in awareness-building events like WKD. "WKD helps to keep this matter on the politician's mind. As a care giver, I want to do anything I can to represent patients and help them get the best treatment and access to help," she adds.

## **WKD 2010 backing from famous female faces worldwide**

- This year, world number one female **golfer Lorena Ochoa from Mexico** communicated her support for the cause with an online video message. **Federica Pellegrini, Italy's Olympic and world champion swimmer** also emphasized the need for regular testing as one person out of 10 suffers from some kind of kidney disorder.
- **Quentin Bryce, Australia's Governor-General and Kidney Health Australia's Patron in Chief**, launched Kidney Health Week 2010 at Admiralty House in Sydney this May. She presented the Kincaid-Smith Medal to Judith Whitworth for her outstanding contributions to the knowledge of kidney disease and high blood pressure in Australia.
- In March 2010, the Kidney Awareness Monitoring & Prevention Society (KAMPS) in Bangladesh organized a rally. **Actress and Member of Parliament Tarana Halim** joined KAMPS members and students for this colorful activity.
- During the 2010 campaign, **French Health Minister Roselyne Bachelot** opened a fundraising event and debate on kidney complications for patients with diabetes.

# The Young Nephrologists' Corner

## Thinking about the future of nephrology



"It is now well recognized that on a local and international level there is an inadequate amount of renal physicians to care for a growing number of kidney disease patients.

Recruiting nephrology trainees is getting more difficult and nephrologists are working shorter hours often due to lifestyle choices, with some female physicians preferring to work more flexible hours. The current workload is a

considerable concern to this group, and there is a need to develop strategies to cope with this in the future. Generating support from government, hospital and health funding authorities to recognize this workload, will allow for more positions to open up in training and nephrology.

Today, the Young Nephrologists Committee has 11 members, spanning different geographical regions. We set out to evaluate and understand the needs of young physicians and scientists to develop education, research, collaborative networks and mentoring initiatives to promote the mission of the ISN. Young nephrologists are enthusiastic role models for medical residents and basic trainees. By supporting and inspiring the younger generation, we hope to increase their involvement and encourage other trainees. We recognize that we represent the ISN leaders of tomorrow who will carry on and expand the Society's many programs to improve renal health care worldwide.

Young nephrologists can play an important role in education particularly through ISN. Providing this group with education resources and research opportunities, we set out to improve patient care and boost the careers of young professionals in developing and developed countries. Julie Lin and I recently helped launch a mentorship initiative for nephrologists looking to be mentored as well as looking to mentor others in either clinical medicine or research.

Through an online survey, we received several dozen requests and have now matched as many mentors and mentees as possible based on reported interests. We hope this program will continue to grow and provide more collaboration opportunities within the international nephrology community."

You can find out more about this group by following their activities on **Facebook**.

## Hear what the YNC members have to say!

**"For many, the YNC is the opportunity to find a voice at national level and interact with nephrologists worldwide.**

The YNC has given me an opportunity to interact with my peers from other countries around the world and learn about the problems and challenges they face. It helps in promoting organizational skills in the younger generation and in training them as future leaders."



**"For me, the ISN-YNc is an important leadership opportunity, locally in my renal division as well as in the international nephrology community.**

I very much enjoy my interactions with members from different countries, learning about their challenges and goals for their colleagues and patients. As future leaders and mentors, young nephrologists must establish mentoring and network connections early. Adequate representation of women nephrologists in leadership roles, including as conference speakers and committee members, also provides important models for both men and women in training."



# ISN Membership What you Give

*"As we enter ISN's Membership Renewal Season, we first of all would like to thank you for your valuable support towards ISN during this past year.*

*Being part of ISN is not just about what you receive as a member but also what you give. Your involvement contributes to the Society's philanthropic and humanitarian activities which greatly influence kidney disease diagnosis and treatment around the world.*

*Thanks to the experience, knowledge and contribution from ISN members, kidney specialists, doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals are learning cutting-edge techniques and discovering the latest research in prevention and diagnosis. Renal centers across the world are building long-lasting partnerships that are transforming the level of care in the developing world.*

*In one way or another, every member gives back to the field of nephrology and responds to patients in need. Sharing experience and expertise, means the ISN community will exchange more knowledge to improve kidney care in underserved parts of the world and ultimately contribute to reducing the impact of kidney disease worldwide.*

*We hope your membership to ISN has been beneficial to you. We know for a fact that your membership has had a life-changing impact on many people around the world. Please do renew your membership now. Your membership not only supports ISN's philanthropic and humanitarian activities but you also receive many valuable benefits.*

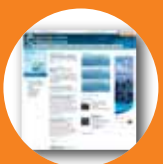
*We look forward to your continued support."*

Adeera Levin  
ISN Secretary General



**ISN Membership  
Renewal Season:  
October 1, 2010 –  
January 31, 2011**

# and What you Get



## Member benefits:

- 1** Exclusive eligibility for **ISN capacity building programs** (Fellowship, Research & Prevention, Sister Renal Center, Continuing Medical Education, Educational Ambassadors, Travel Grants, Scholarships for Visiting Professors, Institutional Library Enhancements)
- 2** Subscription to **Kidney International** (bi-monthly journal) including online access to articles, current issues, and archives (a value of USD 1,150 to USD 2,300 depending on where you are located)
- 3** Subscription to **Nature Reviews Nephrology** online journal including access to articles and archives
- 4** Reduced registration fees to **ISN events** (World Congress of Nephrology, Forefronts and Nexus Symposia, plus other ISN training programs)
- 5** Unrestricted access to the **ISN Nephrology Gateway** (the Society's official website)
- 6** Exclusive access to **ISN Membership Directory** online
- 7** Receive the quarterly **ISN News** (the Society's official newsletter)
- 8** **E-mail notifications** (e-Update) on nephrology news, journal content, unique member services and upcoming ISN events
- 9** **Voting rights** and eligibility to serve on ISN committees
- 10** And last but not least, actively participating, through **ISN's Global Outreach (GO) and capacity building programs**, in making a significant difference in parts of the world that have little or no formal renal care, education or access to knowledge.

If you have any questions or need help with renewing your membership, please e-mail:  
**membership@isn-online.org**

## There are three easy ways to renew your membership to ISN:

- 1** Online (credit card only): please go to the online renewal page at <https://portal.isn-online.org/Login.aspx>
- 2** By fax (credit card and wire transfer): please visit [www.isn-online.org](http://www.isn-online.org) and click on **ISN / Membership / Renewal** and download the renewal form. Fax to +1 703 435 4390.
- 3** By mail (credit card, wire transfer and check): please visit [www.isn-online.org](http://www.isn-online.org) and click on **ISN / Membership / Renewal** and download the renewal form. Mail to: **ISN Membership, 12100 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 130, Reston, VA 20190, USA.**

# ASN/ISN Symposium: Towards Global Kidney Health

As part of ISN's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the Society is joining forces with the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) for a symposium on improving education and care for kidney doctors and patients worldwide. ISN leaders will also take part in several talks during ASN Renal Week.

On November 20, 2010, the two-hour session aims to help participants discuss the challenges they face when providing training and care for nephrologists and kidney disease patients worldwide.

Talks will be moderated by **Rashad S. Barsoum** and **M. K. Mani** and will include lectures on the following topics:

2.30 pm to 3 pm  
**Norberto Perico, MD:**  
**Early Detection and  
Prevention of Chronic  
Kidney Disease  
in Resource Poor  
Regions**

2 pm to 2.30 pm  
**Vivekanand Jha: Economics  
of ESRD in Developing  
Countries**

3 pm to 3.30 pm  
**Saraladevi Naicker: the  
Challenge of Managing  
Chronic Kidney Disease  
in Sub-Saharan Africa**

3.30 pm to 4 pm  
**William G. Couser:**  
**Partnerships between  
Academic Centers in  
Developed and Developing  
Countries: ISN Sister Center  
and Fellowship**

To pencil this session into your diary,  
visit: [www.asn-online.org](http://www.asn-online.org)

Aside from this symposium, an ISN exhibition stand will be set up during Renal Week 2010 so visitors can find out more about the 50th anniversary celebrations, meet with ISN leaders and KI editors and watch the ISN 50 Years movie. There will also be prizes up for grabs, a chance to renew ISN membership and register for WCN 2011 at the early bird rate. Come and meet us and catch up on what is taking place at ISN. You will find us on stand 734-738 at the Colorado Convention Center, Denver from November 16 to 21, 2010.

## More about ASN Renal Week 2010

The mile high city has been chosen as this year's location for ASN's annual meeting and scientific exposition taking place from November 16 to 21, 2010.

This time around, the theme will focus on advancing science and medicine to improve kidney health. There will be plenty of opportunities to network with nephrology colleagues from across the globe. The program has been designed to cover major areas in basic, translational, and clinical sciences that will appeal to all Renal Week participants.

To view the full program, visit:

[www.asn-online.org/education\\_and\\_meetings/  
renal\\_week/](http://www.asn-online.org/education_and_meetings/renal_week/)