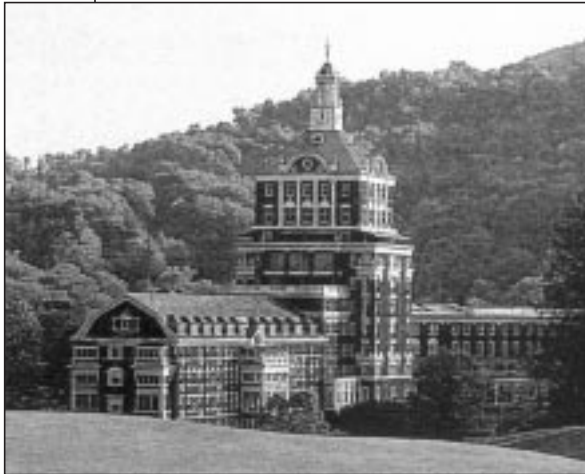


### THE HOMESTEAD TO BE SITE OF Y2K CONFERENCE



The Homestead, a premier resort located in the mountains of western Virginia, has been selected as the site for the Inflammation Research Association's 10th National Conference in 2000.

Back in November 1998, the IRA Board decided to seek an upscale site to mark our 10th biennial conference and celebrate the upcoming millennial year in style. After narrowing the choices and visiting five top resorts in the Eastern corridor from New York to South Carolina, the Hot Springs, VA facility was selected. The Conference, entitled "The Changing Face of Inflammation: Strategies for the New Millennium," will be held on September 24-28, 2000, an especially lovely time of year in the Virginia mountains.

The hotel literature offers a preview of what you can expect in this spectacular resort. "Since 1766, guests have come here to gaze at the glorious mountain beauty, to relax in the luxurious, yet comfortable, retreat that is The Homestead. Now, restored to its former splendor, The Homestead awaits your group, with a combination of state-of-the-art meeting facilities, exquisite accommodations and an unmatched array of activities. In short, The Homestead is the ideal setting for a meeting that will be both productive and pleasurable."

Recognized world wide for superb meeting facilities and service, The Homestead has every major meeting award to its credit. The Homestead is on Conde Nast's 1998 Gold List of the world's top hotels, resorts, and spas. There are more than 500 luxuriously appointed rooms and suites, superb dining, a wealth of activities (including golf, fishing, swimming, horseback riding, tennis, shooting sports, biking and hiking trails, canoeing, bowling, and a spa salon!), in addition to traditional Southern hospitality in a gracious atmosphere.

And, in addition to all that, the organizers are planning a topflight scientific program that you won't want to miss! The Main Symposia topics will include:

- Orphan Receptors: Novel Target Identification and Validation
- Matrix Metalloproteinases & Adamalysins
- Molecular Signaling & Gene Regulation
- New Drugs for Inflammatory, Allergic and Immunologic Diseases

Workshop and Poster Session Topics:

- Cartilage and Bone Remodeling
- Pulmonary Inflammation, Fibrosis and Disease
- Cardiovascular Inflammation
- Chemokines and Cytokines
- Bio/Surrogate Disease Markers
- Angiogenesis, Wound Repair and Cell Cycle Regulation



*cont'd on page 2*

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- Matrixins and Adamalysins
- Inflammatory Pain and Analgesia
- Signal Transduction in Regulation of Gene Expression
- New Drugs: Rational Design, Pharmacodynamics, and Pharmacokinetics
- Protein and Gene Therapeutic Approaches for Chronic and Acute Inflammatory Disease

The meeting format will include some new features. For the first time, a session will be sponsored by a guest society. The International Society for Rheumatic Therapy will organize a special session entitled "Recent therapeutic Experiences for Inflammatory Diseases." As at the previous conference, the Amersham Pharmacia Biotech Poster Award will be given to the top poster presentation. And the seventh biennial competition for the C. Gordon Van Arman Scholarship Awards for doctoral candidates and first year post-doctoral fellows will take place. So mark these key dates on your calendars and start making your plans to be in Hot Springs to attend the 10th National Conference of the Inflammation Research Association!



Contact Registrar Joan Chapdelaine for more information (Fax: 570-585-2383, Email: joan.chapdelaine@chrysalisintl.com) and visit The Homestead website ([www.thehomestead.com](http://www.thehomestead.com)).

## KEY DATES

**December 1999**

Call for Abstracts and Registration Mailing

**April 1, 2000**

Deadline for Submission of Abstracts

**June 1, 2000**

Deadline for Early Registration

### Editor's Corner

As you will read in this issue, the IRA is planning a terrific 10th National Conference for the upcoming millennial year! Session chairs are being recruited, and suggestions for specific speakers are being accepted. Any input from our members will be welcomed by Program chairman Dick Dyer by contacting him by email at [richard.dyer@wl.com](mailto:richard.dyer@wl.com).

The announcement for the Y2K Conference contains some new and important points: 1) The designation of the IRA 10th Conference has been changed from "International" to "National" by agreement with the IAIS, who requested that, since their Congresses were intended to be the international venue for all the inflammation societies under their umbrella, the local societies not use that term. 2) The abstract deadline for this 10th National Conference will be considerably earlier than the usual date around July 1. This is occurring since the Conference has been moved back to September from late October or November and, for the first time, the abstracts will be published by Birkhauser in *Inflammation Research* prior to the meeting. This will necessitate a longer lead-time for printing, and will also eliminate any late abstracts from being accepted.

So reserve the dates of September 24-28 on your 2000 calendar NOW to be sure you will be a part of this event!

—Marcia L. Bliven



## PARIS IN JUNE

### THE 4TH WORLD CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INFLAMMATION SOCIETIES, PARIS 27TH TO 30TH JUNE 1999



Steve Gilman, co-chair of the IRA sponsored session on cytokines



Paris definitely has an attractive charm, to which even scientists are not immune. This was evident from the fact that more than 1000 participants converged on the French capital, making the fourth in this series of congresses the largest so far. North American participants were particularly well represented.

The programme was very full, kicking off on the Saturday evening with a welcome cocktail party at which the excellent French wine secured a relaxed start to the congress. The North American influence was also detectable in the fact that Sunday was a full working day, not something most Europeans are used to. Each day

there were four parallel sessions to attend and most of the chairmen did a good job in keeping the programme synchronized. The only problem, as usual, was trying to decide which of the many presentations was most important. Moving between the presentations required some walking because of the limited space available due to renovation work on the huge Palais des Congress. With the posters in the corridor, at least the poster presenters had a constant stream of potential discussants.

Each day began with a plenary lecture, with Peter Barnes on the last day definitely gaining the honours as the most polished performer with his lecture on the molecular mechanisms of action of corticosteroids. Prominent topics at this Congress were the role of adhesion proteins and chemokines in the regulation of leukocyte movement, cytokine release and actions, and signal transduction. On Monday and Wednesday evenings there were also sponsored satellite meetings on COX-2 inhibitors and TNF $\alpha$  inhibitors for those who had not had enough science during the day or who weren't seduced by the idea of an evening in a Paris bistro. (For the first few days the weather was unseasonably cool and wet, so sightseeing wasn't quite the distraction it might otherwise have been. Parisian shopping has become expensive, too).

In one of the first sessions, the mechanisms of migration of leukocytes through the endothelial layer during inflammation were



Inflammation '99 poster session



A tour boat on the Seine



The Louvre



Giorgio Trinchieri, co-chair of the IRA sponsored session, and final speaker, IB McInnes



Familiar Paris landmarks



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Caricaturist and his silhouette of Tom Carty (Pfizer)



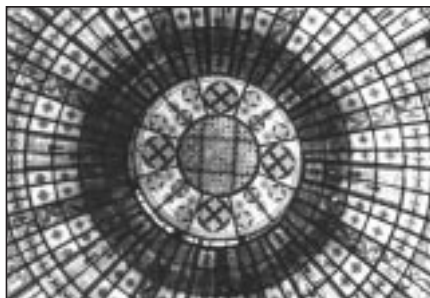
Dick Carlson, IAIS Secretary, Alan Lewis, former IAIS President, and Giampaolo Velo, Italian Inflammation Society, renew old friendships



Boris Vargafitg, GREMI President, and David Howat, BIRAs Chairman



Rodger McMillan, IAIS President



The magnificent stained glass dome, built in 1923, in the famous Paris department store, Au Printemps

discussed. E. Dejana (Milan, Italy) described the role of a novel inter-endothelial adhesion molecule, JAM, which regulates leukocyte migration between endothelial cell junctions. An antibody to JAM, BD11, inhibited cytokine-induced migration of neutrophils in vivo and thereby reduced inflammation. C.W. Smith (Houston, Texas) described the ability of neutrophils to adhere to endothelium very close to the borders where at least three endothelial cells meet. This occurred in close association with the distribution of the adhesion molecule P selectin. It appears that these neutrophils must be trapped in the valleys between endothelial cells in order to migrate.

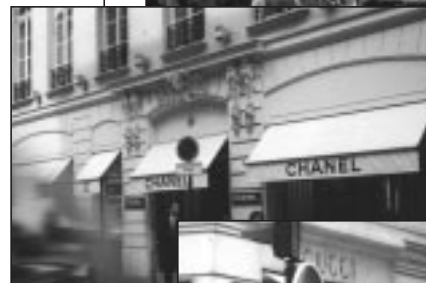
A number of recent studies indicate that non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs are able to inhibit leukocyte migration independently of their effects on prostaglandin synthesis. K. Williams (Sydney, Australia) showed that the R-isomer of flurbiprofen, which does not inhibit prostaglandin synthesis, was able to inhibit leukocyte adhesion, suggesting that this may be a mechanism of the anti-inflammatory action of this NSAID.

An adhesion molecule pair which regulates lymphocyte movement is the VLA-4/VCAM-1 interaction. AstraZeneca have developed a cyclic peptide inhibitor of this adhesion molecule interaction, ZD7349, which inhibits delayed type hypersensitivity reactions and also collagen type 2-induced arthritis in mice. The compound is under development as a controlled-release formulation with potential for the treatment of inflammatory conditions (D. Hayworth, England).

A full session on chemokines reviewed various aspects of this rapidly developing field. T. J. Williams (London) described the studies leading to the isolation of the eosinophil specific chemokine, eotaxin, and its action on the specific eosinophil receptor, CCR3. An interesting new development which he described is that synthetic eotaxin only attracts eosinophils into the vascular lumen, while the natural glycosylated eotaxin, but not the synthetic form, is able to stimulate migration of eosinophils from the extravascular space into the vascular lumen. It would



A fashion show in Café Flo at Au Printemps



Rue du Faubourg St.-Honore, the famed fashion street of Paris

cont'd on page 5

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appear that glycosylation may be important for facilitating transfer of proteins across the vascular membrane.

G. J. Larosa (Leukosite, USA) described studies carried out with Parke-Davis on the development of a specific small molecule antagonist of CCR2 chemokine receptors which are present on monocytes, basophils and activated memory T-cells. The lead compound, PD172084, was an inhibitor of CCR2 binding of the chemokine MCP1 at less than 1 mM, and is being considered for use in the treatment of monocyte-dominated inflammatory responses.

The cytokines IL-12 and IL-18 ( $\gamma$ -interferon inducing factor) received attention in a number of presentations. IL-18, like IL-1 $\beta$ , is produced by the activity of caspase 1 and acts to enhance immunoinflammatory responses mainly by stimulating the production of  $\gamma$ -interferon. It acts synergistically in several models with IL-12.

Eosinophils are an essential component of the development of allergic inflammatory responses and are stimulated to develop from the bone marrow by the cytokine IL-5. Janssen are developing a synthetic compound which is an orally active inhibitor of IL-5 production and IL-5 mRNA expression (Van Wauwe, Beerse, Belgium). The compound, R146225, an azoracil, inhibits IL-5 production in mice *in vivo* and bronchoconstriction in ovalbumen-sensitized mice. The compound has an excessively long half-life and is, therefore, only a prototype.

Several sessions covered inflammation from an organ-based standpoint, including sessions on respiratory, renal, hepatic and gastrointestinal inflammation. The general impression was that this was a good Congress with an interesting programme and plenty of people to contact. Perhaps a weak point was the limited number of areas to meet or to sit and drink coffee; if you missed someone during the poster sessions it was difficult to find an opportunity to meet elsewhere. The official dinner, with an excellent menu and a caricaturist who entertained guests at each table by creating silhouettes with his scissors, made some amends and was spiced by a Scottish flavour at the end, as Rodger McMillan and the British Inflammation Research Association invited us all to Edinburgh in two years time. The Congress after that will be in Vancouver, with later Congresses being considered in Sydney and Copenhagen. The IAIS is clearly alive and kicking!

- Michael J. Parnham  
Pliva



*A cafe on the Champs-Elysees*



*Bookstalls along the Left Bank*



*Bagpiper heralding the next IAIS Congress in Edinburgh - Inflammation '01*

## IAIS NEWS

A business meeting of the International Association of Inflammation Societies was held on June 30, 1999 in Paris during the IAIS Congress Inflammation '99.

Michel Chignard, chairman of the GREMI organizing committee for Inflammation '99, reported that 1033 scientists had registered for the Congress with 41 countries represented. The countries with the highest number of participants at the meeting were France (288), US (179), UK (166), Japan (79) and Sweden (36). It was truly an International Meeting with exchange of ideas on inflammation research and friendship

David Howat (BIRAs President) gave an update on the Inflammation '01 (Sept. 22-26) in Edinburgh, with an excellent overview of the scientific program, accommodations, registration costs, and entertainment. He noted that Clan Festival activities, which will also occur in Edinburgh in 2001, will be an added attraction. Kay Dorelli (Triangle 3), London, will be the conference administrator; she did a wonderful job in cooperation with the BIRAs committee in organizing the very successful Inflammation '95 Meeting in Brighton, England. The new Edinburgh International Conference Centre will have state of the art lecture halls, auditorium and exhibition area. At this meeting for the first time, the three top young investigators out of the approximately 25 selected for travel grants through a process of minipaper review and poster presentation will receive substantial financial monetary prizes. In addition, the finalists will present their novel research in a 20 min presentation at a plenary session, and Derek Willoughby (a godfather of inflammation research) will be the honorary presenter of these awards.

Jim Winkler (IRA Board Member, Committee member of Vancouver venue) presented an excellent overview of the Vancouver venue, comparing it to the San Francisco venue. After his presentation, the Steering Committee voted unanimously in favor of Vancouver as the host city for Inflammation '03 (Aug 3-6). Vancouver is beautifully located on a large bay in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies in British Columbia. Jim emphasized the economical aspects of the meeting regarding hotel accommodations, meals and entertainment, pointing out that the Canadian dollar equals about 0.68 of the US dollar. Also, the IRA Vancouver committee chairperson, Lisa Marshall (President of the IRA), with Gordon Letts, Jim Winkler and Richard Carlson (representing the IAIS), has a very well organized staff to work with the Vancouver Convention Center (viz. state of the art facility). The IRA committee has selected a very competent local planner as the central organizer to raise funds and keep everything on target, such as the introductory brochure, arranging air fares and maintaining a moderate budget throughout, with good financial planning and record keeping. The Canadian



*IAIS business meeting attended by representatives of inflammation societies throughout the world*

Inflammation Society (Waldemar Pruzanski, Director of the CIS, and Peter Vadas, Deputy Director) will assist the IRA in planning the scientific program and other events at Inflammation '03.

Ian Ahnfelt-Ronne (EIS Committee member) and Richard Day (Secretary of the Australian Society, SCIL) gave excellent presentations regarding the potential venue for the host city for the Inflammation '05 Meeting. Ian's (Copenhagen) Richard's (Sydney) presentations showed extensive preparation with local planners and attractive visuals to dazzle the audience, making it difficult to decide on the best venue and international site for the '05 Congress. A secret ballot was sent to the attending Steering Committee Members (Paris) about 3 weeks after the Paris business meeting and the committee was given an additional three weeks to finalize their decision. The final vote was 16-9 in favor of Sydney as the venue for '05. Copenhagen will be considered again for Inflammation '07.

Alan Blackham (BIRAs) was approved as Chairman of the Charter Committee, along with members Richard Dyer (IRA) and Wim van den Berg (IAIS Vice President), to update the IAIS Charter regarding the organization's new aims and duties and terms of office for the elected officers. A revised Charter will be presented at the IRA Homestead Meeting in September 2000 for review and comments by the Steering Committee.

Overall, the Paris meeting was very successful, as shown by worldwide attendance, and the scientific program workshops and posters which presented cutting edge science. The IAIS Steering Committee salutes GREMI and the Organizing Committee for their effort and dedication in organizing the Inflammation '99 Meeting in grand style. The cocktail party and gala banquet at the "Pavillon d'Armenonville," located in the Bois de Boulogne, was a beautiful gourmet event to celebrate the success

of the Congress. Boris Vargaftig (GREMI President) gave an elegant short review of the Paris meeting with a hearty greeting and words of appreciation to the attendees. This was followed by a short speech by Rodger McMillan (IAIS President) who introduced David Howat (BIRAs Chairman) as Head of the Edinburgh Inflammation '01 Committee, as an authentic bagpiper, complete with clan kilt, filled the air with a Scottish tune.

We'll see you all next in Edinburgh in '01.

– Richard P. Carlson  
Secretary, IAIS

**BY POPULAR DEMAND,  
DR. JAMES LOUIE TO SPEAK AT  
IRA 10TH NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE BANQUET**



Dr. James Louie will once again be the after-dinner speaker at the closing banquet of the 10th National Conference. His lecture on Renoir and his arthritis was received with such enthusiasm and interest in 1998 that he was invited to join us for a return engagement to present another lecture, entitled "Art and Inflammatory Disease." This new presentation will highlight other artists and their arthritic afflictions, including Rubens and gout, Dufy and the treatment of RA, Klee and his lack of treatment for scleroderma, and Grandma Moses and her home remedies for OA. He will illustrate the point that different arthritic conditions have different pathogenetic mechanisms, and that the most effective therapies come from the best knowledge of disease mechanisms.

Dr. Louie has lectured on several artists, including Renoir, Rubens, Dufy, Klee, Toulouse Lautrec, and Grandma Moses in venues in Europe, Australia, South America and Asia, as well as the United States.

Dr. Louie is a Fellow of both the American College of Rheumatology and the American College of Physicians. Among his many professional activities are committee service for the ACR, the Arthritis and Lupus Foundations, as well as reviewing manuscripts for several national rheumatology journals. He has been honored with awards for teaching and achievements in education, and is listed in "Best Doctors in America: Pacific Region."

Don't miss meeting this charming and entertaining speaker at the 10th National Conference at The Homestead. So make sure that you are in Hot Springs on September 27, 2000 to hear Dr. Louie's lecture after the banquet on Wednesday evening!

**FLASH!**

*The IAIS has accepted the IRA proposal to organize the  
6th World Congress on Inflammation in  
Vancouver in August 2003*

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

**5th WORLD CONGRESS ON INFLAMMATION**



Organized by the  
**British Inflammation Research Association (BIRAs)**  
under the auspices of the  
**International Association of the Inflammation Societies (IAIS)**

**Edinburgh, Scotland  
22-26 September 2001**

**KEY DATES**

**1 December 2000**  
*Call for abstracts and preliminary program*

**1 May 2001**  
*Deadline for abstract submission*

**1 June 2001**  
*Deadline for advance registration and advance hotel booking*



**For information contact:**  
**Email: Triangle3@immunology.org,**  
**Tel: +44 181 875 2400, Fax: +44 181 875 2421**

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

### August 16-19, 1999

IBC Drug Discovery Technology '99

Contact: Kristen Langevin - IBC USA Conferences, Inc.  
225 Turnpike Road - Southborough, MA 01772-1749  
Tel: 508-481-6400, ext. 257

Boston, MA

### September 15-18, 1999

4th World Congress of the Osteoarthritis Research Society International "OARSI '99"

Contact: OARSI - 1200 19th St., NW - Suite 300 - Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202-857-5323 - FAX: 202-857-1115 - email: OARSI@dc.sba.com

Vienna, Austria

### September 16-17, 1999

IBC's "Novel Targets in the Treatment of Pain"

Contact: IBC USA Conferences, Inc. - Tel: 508-481-6400 - Fax: 508-481-7911  
Email: inq@ibcusa.com - Website: www.ibcusa.com/2387

Washington, DC

### September 23-24, 1999

IRA "Gene Regulation in Joint Inflammation and Bone Erosion"

Contact: Richard Dyer - FAX: 734-622-1355 or email: richard.dyer@wl.com

La Jolla, CA

### October 14, 1999

IRA "Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Molecular Mechanisms and Potential Therapeutics"

Contact: Richard Dyer - FAX: 734-622-1355 or email: richard.dyer@wl.com

New York, NY

### October 18-20, 1999

William Harvey Research Conferences "The Potential of Specific Cox-2 Inhibition"

Contact: Dr. Jenny Maclagan - Tel: 0171-982-6181 - Fax: 0171-982-6084  
Email: whconferences.mds.gmw.ac.uk - Website: www.whconferences.demon.co.uk

Lisbon, Portugal

### October 21, 1999

BIRAs "New Technologies and their Application to Inflammation Research

(What's New in Genetics, Genomics, and Proteomics)"

Hatfield, UK

### November 4-5, 1999

IRA Southeast Conference "Osteoarthritis: Recent Progress in Biomarkers and Genetics" -

Contact: Richard Dyer - FAX: 734-622-1355 or email: richard.dyer@wl.com

Hot Springs, VA

### November 13-17, 1999

ACR National Meeting

Contact: American College of Rheumatology  
1800 Century Place - Suite 250 - Atlanta, GA 30345-4300

Boston, MA

### December 3, 1999

BIRAs & The British Society for Immunology "The Endothelium & Inflammation"

Contact: Congress 99, BSI, Triangle House - Tel: 020 8875 2400 - Fax: 0181 875 2424  
Email: meetings@immunology.org - www: immunology.org/meetings/cong99.htm

Harrogate, UK

### December 5-9, 1999

International Cytokine Society 7th Annual Conference

Contact: Tel: 706-722-7511 - Fax: 706-722-7515 - Email: maps@csrnet.com

Hilton Head Island, SC

### December 8-10, 1999

IBC's "Apoptosis"

Contact: IBC USA Conferences, Inc. - Tel: 508-481-6400 - Fax: 508-481-7911  
Email: inq@ibcusa.com - Website: www.ibcusa.com/2443

Washington, DC

### April 27-29, 2000

3rd Symposium of the International Cartilage Repair Society (ICRS) "Cartilage and Cartilage Repair in the New Millennium"

Contact: ICRS Secretariat - Fax: +41 31 934 10 16 - Website: www.cartilage.org

Gothenburg, Sweden

### May 3-6, 2000

International Congress: Advances in Immunology and Allergy on the Threshold of the XXI Century"

Contact: Congress Secretariat - Tel: (+7 095) 336-5000, (+7 095) 429-9620  
Fax: : (+7 095) 336-5000 - Email: immunreh@ibch.siobc.ras.ru

Eilat, Israel

### July 15-20, 2000

VII World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics of IUPHAR-Division of Clinical Pharmacology and 4th Congress of the European Association for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics

Contact: CPT 2000 - Tel: +39-045581111 - Email: gpvelo@farma.univr.it

Florence, Italy

### September 24-28, 2000

IRA 10th National Conference

"The Changing Face of Inflammation: Strategies for the New Millennium"

Contact: Registrar Joan Chapdelaine - Fax: 570-585-2383 - Email: joan.chapdelaine@chrysalisintl.com

Hot Springs, VA

### December 5-8, 2000

OARSI 2000 Workshop

Contact: OARSI - Email: oarsi@dc.sba.com - Website: www.oarsi.neology.com/oarsi

Barcelona, Spain

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Vice-President	Richard Dyer
Secretary	Stephen Stimpson
Treasurer	Dennis Roland

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