



Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease

www.somed.nu

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SOMED NEWSLETTER

Winter 2016 - 2017

SOMED President's Letter

Dear colleagues,

It is indeed a great honor and privilege for me to assume the role of President of SOMED.

I would like to thank all of you for your support and for giving me the opportunity to have this prominent role. Therefore, I commit to provide the leadership our Society requires in order to achieve its objectives and implement its strategies, and commit to listen and respond to your needs as members and work very closely with all members of the Board. Our Scientific Society plays a critical role in helping to resolve important scientific questions focusing specifically in the domain of the intestinal microbiota and food. However, any aspect of microbial ecology in health and disease is

considered for investigation. We have come a long way since the Society began and came into existence in the mid 70's by a group of American and European Scientists actively involved in the study of human intestinal flora which decided to found the Society for Intestinal Microbial Ecology and Disease (SIMED). The first meeting was organized at the States in 1976. I joined the Society 10 years later, as young PhD student from France at the San Antonio Congress and since then, I could say almost every year I participated to the Society activities and I had the opportunity to meet all these famous scientists which for me were ...just names for 'bibliographical citation'! After the first decade, the scope of the Society has broadened considerably. This reflects the expanding uses to which new acquired scientific capacity and technology is actually able to be deployed, the increasing diversity of new methods and skills now using this capacity, and the corresponding expansion in demands of the

Society members. Those who have steered the Society along this dynamic road have done so in a responsive and measured way, ensuring appropriate adjustment and continuity in Society affairs. Many people have contributed to this outcome, far too many people to mention here by name. I had the chance to meet Tore Midtvedt, Sydney Finegold, Andrew Onderdonk, Tracy Wilkins, Sherwood Gorbach, Peter Boriello and many other.... Moreover, I had the great fortune to work in their famous laboratories under their supervision and I was honored twice to organize the International Congresses of our Society in my country. Finally, the Society name turns to its current name SOMED (Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease) at the late 80's, as this change should better accommodate areas of microbial ecology in addition to intestinal ecology. I must recognize that through all the previous years, prominent colleagues on top of the Board performed excellent work and offered their expertise to organize huge size conference programs to build bridges across scientific disciplines and borders to make life healthier on this planet we all share. An important priority for us is to enhance our inclusivity so that we better respond to the individual needs of our Society members, specifically the young scientists by accommodating to the ideas of others and drawing people from different scientific orientations into our Society.

I believe the essence of what we do in the Society is helpful to create an enabling environment that enhances outcomes in Health and the Microbial Ecology environment. It is known that we are living in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world, our relationships with our physical world and the way we use our microenvironment are changing as we deploy technology to create new ways of interacting with each other. Unfortunately, the number of SOMED members seems to decrease during the last years. The financial downturn of the last few years has led to tough austerity measures in funding University scientific research and restructuring the life sciences industry.

Despite signs of enhancing crisis, the global economy remains fragile, and the future of science funding continues to be uncertain. The financial crisis could explain the limited participation at the Congresses from Transatlantic countries. We must attract more scientists from the States to the SOMED as it was at the previous times. We must attract as well Gold sponsors to support our Congresses and offers Grants to young students.

Last but not least, I would like to deeply thank Professor Shigeru Kamiya and Professor Tatsuo Ichinohe for co-hosting this year (June 7-10, 2017 – see details below) the *39th SOMED Congress of the Society of Microbial Ecology and Disease*, together with the *19th international Symposium on Gnotobiology* and the *50th Congress of the Japanese Association of Germ-free Life and Gnotobiology* in Tokyo, Japan.

I also would like to thank all former SOMED Board members for their duties well accomplished and I am looking forward to work with the new Board of our society, after the elections which will be organized in February. Thank you in advance to the active (paying) members for their support; all former members and our friends who want to join us are invited to access our website (Join SOMED) and fulfill the application form.

January 2017

Eugenia Bezirtzoglou,
President



Editor-in-chief:

Tore Midtvedt, Sweden

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Upcoming meetings: 2017, 2018

**The Joint Congress of The 19th International
Symposium on Gnotobiology (XIX ISG) &
The 50th Congress of Japanese Association
of Germfree Life and Gnotobiology (L JAGG) &
The 39th Congress of the Society for Microbial
Ecology and Disease (XXXIX SOMED)**

Tokyo Garden Palace, Ochanomizu, JAPAN, June 7-10, 2017

Early registration: February 28, 2017

Abstract deadline: February 28, 2017

<http://square.umin.ac.jp/JAGG/isgsomed2017>

MEETING VENUE: Tokyo Garden Palace, Ochanomizu

1-7-5, Yushima, Bunkyo-Ku, TOKYO, 113-0034, JAPAN

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Welcome address

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we warmly invite you to join us in Tokyo on 7th to 10th June 2017 at the Tokyo Garden Palace for the Joint Congress of the 19th International Symposium on Gnotobiology (XIX ISG), the 50th Congress of Japanese Association of Germfree Life and Gnotobiology (L JAGG) and the 39th Congress of the Society for Microbial Ecology and Disease (XXXIX SOMED).

Our four days of symposia, seminars and free papers will cover recent developments in gnotobiology, basic microbiological research and clinical studies mainly in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). It is our hope that the joint congress delivers the opportunity to develop our understanding of the complexity of microbial ecology and diseases, and to expand the knowledge from the bench to the

Tatsuo Ichinohe

Tatsuo Ichinohe, MD, PhD

Department of Hematology and Oncology,

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ISG Congress President

clinics for accurate diagnosis and better treatment. It provides a unique opportunity for each of us to exchange information, enter into dialogue and become better connected with other people across the world and the different fields of science.

Tokyo is a capital of Japan and known as a city with many tourist spots, historical atmosphere and traditional/modern Japanese cultures.

Tokyo Garden Palace, the venue of the Congress, is located in Ochanomizu, which is an academic area with many universities and institutions in Tokyo.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Tokyo in June 2017 for the ISG/JAGG/SOMED joint congress.

Shigeru Kamiya

Shigeru Kamiya, MD, PhD

Department of Infectious Diseases,

Kyorin University School of Medicine

JAGG, SOMED Congress President

Organizing committee

President (ISG) Tatsuo ICHINOHE
President (SOMED) Shigeru KAMIYA
President (JAGG) Shigeru KAMIYA
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Schedule overview (tentative)

Program of XIX ISG / L JAGG / XXXIX SOMED 2017

	7-Jun	8-Jun	9-Jun	10-Jun
Room	3F Hakuhou	2F Takachiho B	2F Takachiho A	3F Heian
8:30		Registration 8:30 - 16:00	Registration 8:30 -17:00	Registration 8:30 -11:00
9:00		Opening Remarks 9:00 - 9:10	Free Paper 2 9:00 - 10:00	Free Paper 3 9:00 - 10:00
		Free Paper 1 9:10 - 10:10		
10:00		break	break	break
		Symposium 1 10:30 - 12:00	Symposium 3 10:10 - 11:40	Symposium 5 10:20 - 11:50
11:00			Photo session 11:40 - 12:00	Closing Remarks 11:50 - 12:00
12:00		Lancheon Seminar 1 12:00 - 13:00	Lancheon Seminar 2 12:00 - 13:00	
13:00		Symposium 2 13:00 - 14:30	Memorial Lecture for late Professor Shogo Sasaki 13:00 - 13:30	
			Presidential Lectures 13:30 - 14:10	
14:00		break	break	
		break	Symposium 4 14:30 - 16:30	
15:00		Registration 15:00 - 18:00	JAGG Session 14:50 - 15:50	
		Board Meeting 1 (JAGG) 15:00 - 16:00 (3F Tachibana)	break	
16:00		Board Meeting 2 (JAGG) 16:00 - 16:30	Poster Viewing 16:00 - 17:00 (3F Hakuhou)	
		Board Meeting (IAG) 16:30 - 17:00	General Meeting (IAG/SOMED/JAGG) 17:00- 17:30	
17:00	Board Meeting (SOMED) 17:00 - 17:30			
18:00	Reception (Tokyo Garden Palace) 18:00 - 19:30		Congress Dinner (Meiji-Kinenkan) 18:30 - 20:30	
19:00				
20:00				

Registration Fee (in Japanese Yen)

(JYE)

	Membership	Early on-line	Standard on-line	On-site
		Before Jan 29	Jan 30 till April 20	June 7-10
International participants	Member (IAG, SOMED)	20,000	25,000	30,000
	Non-member	30,000	35,000	40,000
Japanese participants	Member (JAGG)	20,000	25,000	30,000
	Supporting Societies (JSB, JSHCT)	25,000	30,000	35,000
	Non-member	30,000	35,000	40,000
All participants	Congress Dinner (Additional cost)	10,000	10,000	10,000

IAG: International Association for Gnotobiology;
 JAGG: Japanese Association of Germfree Life and Gnotobiology;
 JSHCT: Japan Society for Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation;
 Japanese Society for Bacteriology;
 SOMED: Society for Microbial Ecology & Disease

***Registration fee for STUDENT is a half-price for each category. For this registration, a recommendation letter from a supervisor is needed.**

Secretary General, Joint Congress of the 19th

International Symposium on Gnotobiology (XIX ISG) & the 50th Congress of Japanese Association of Germfree Life and Gnotobiology (L JAGG) & the 39th Congress of the Society for Microbial Ecology & Disease (39th SOMED)

Dr. Takako Osaki, Dept. of Inf. Diseases, Kyorin

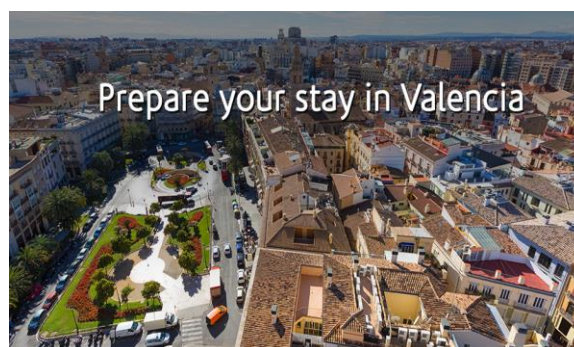
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<http://square.umin.ac.jp/JAGG>



<http://www.fems-microbiology2017.kenes.com/>



The 14th Biennial Congress of the Anaerobe Society of the Americas will take place July 9-12, 2018 at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas, NV.

Call for Session Proposals - Submit by Jan.31, 2017.

Send proposals to asa@anaerobe.org

Further details, on the website: www.anaerobe.org

*For all SOMED members and friends,
we wish you a very happy and successful New Year 2017!*



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SOMED Newsletter is an electronic, periodic publication of the Society of Microbial Ecology and Disease (www.somed.nu/newsletters.htm), open to contributions from members and colleagues on the Society's related matters. Information on future meetings, courses and topics of interest in the field of microbial ecology will be well received and included in the next issues of the SOMED Newsletter. Contributions can be e-mailed to the SOMED President (empezirt@hahoo.com) and/or to the SOMED Secretary (in charge).

Contributors to this issue:

Eugenia Bezirtzoglou, SOMED President;

Veronica Lazar (former secretary),

Yiannis Kourkoutas, Treasurer,

Shigeru Kamiya, JAGG & SOMED Joint Meeting 2017 President.