Welcome to the 2016 ISMICS Scientific Meeting

On behalf of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery (ISMICS), I welcome you to our 19th Annual Scientific Meeting in the beautiful city of Montreal. This meeting is always a unique opportunity to discuss the exciting new developments in cardiac, vascular, and thoracic surgery. Since its early days, ISMICS has been committed to presenting the latest innovations in our field and the annual meeting provides a forum for the direct exchange of the technology, techniques, and new ideas.

We are grateful to the Program Committee, under the direction of Cardiac Chairs Dr. Nirav C. Patel and Dr. Malakh L. Shrestha, and Thoracic Chairs Dr. Hiran C. Fernando and Dr. Richard S. Lazzaro, for an outstanding program. The diversity of the scientific presentations and posters is impressive, and we have supplemented this with some very “out of the box” panel discussions and short speaker presentations. Once again, this year’s program will include live surgery, including simultaneous thoracic presentations from three international centers.

Our main plenary session will also have a new look – as we feature a more interactive setting with theatre in the round seating designed to immerse the audience in the presentations and discussion.

Don't miss the live issue of the ISMICS Insider, available on Friday, and the post meeting issue that will be available electronically. All issues will be available online: www.ismics.org

Montreal Welcomes the ISMICS Annual Meeting

The second largest French-speaking city after Paris, Montreal has long been known for its cultural diversity and its European flavor. Old Montreal’s cobblestone streets and 18th- and 19th-century stone buildings, the breathtaking Notre-Dame Basilica, and the Clock Tower are a few of the historical jewels in the city. Old Port Montreal, Saint Joseph’s Oratory and Pointe-a-Callière Museum also embrace the European atmosphere of the city. But just steps away is the geodesic Biosphere and the Underground Pedestrian Network that includes miles of shopping and entertainment. A thriving artistic community and an eclectic restaurant scene (it’s more than poutine) add to the diversity of Montreal and provide something for everyone to experience.

Major museums include Montreal Museum of Fine Arts; Musée d’art contemporain; and the Canadian Centre for Architecture. Diverse neighborhoods representing all cultures and attitudes, include Plateau Mont-Royal, Quartier International, Little Italy, the Latin Quarter, Outremont, Chinatown, Downtown, and the Golden Square Mile.
INDUSTRY Supported-SYMPOSIA

Thursday, 16 June – 11.45-13.15 (Luncheons)

In the Shadow of Transcatheter? MICS as a Proven, Safe, Reproducible and in-demand Procedure
Supported by Medtronic
Jolliet Room

A New 1st Line Therapy for Treatment of GERD
Supported by TORAX Medical Inc.
Duluth Room

Thursday, 16 June – 18.00-20.00 (Dinner)

How to Build and Maintain a Thriving Arrhythmia Practice: Innovations in Minimally Invasive Approaches and Practice Development Strategies
Supported by AtriCure
Le Grand Salon Room

Friday, 16 June – 12.20-13.50 (Luncheons)

Point/Counterpoint: State of the Heart Mitral Valve Treatment
Supported by Medtronic
Jolliet Room

Optimizing the Minimally Invasive Approach to Aortic Valve Replacement
Supported by LivaNova (Luncheon)
Duluth Room

ISMICS Members’ Annual Business Meeting

All ISMICS members are requested to attend the Members’ Business Meeting on Saturday morning, 08.30-09.00.
Welcome from the President (continued from page one)

All presenters are expected to prepare manuscripts of their presentations for submission to INNOVATIONS, our official Journal, which is indexed in MEDLINE. Manuscripts submitted in advance of the Montreal meeting are eligible for a cash prize “Best Manuscript” award. We will also offer a prize for the best manuscript submitted within 60 days after the meeting ends. I urge everyone to take advantage of these prizes while at the same time getting your work published in a timely fashion.

Wednesday features our Masters Day Program, kicked off by Point Counterpoint sessions for both the morning and afternoon sessions. There will be two Technical Challenges, Pitfalls and Disasters courses offered simultaneously this year. The Thoracic Technical Challenges will be chaired by Dr. Jens C. Rueckert and co-chaired by Dr. Harmik Soukiasian. The Cardiac Technical Challenges will be chaired by Dr. Valavanur A. Subramanian and co-chaired by Dr. Ramachandra Reddy.

Thursday highlights include the announcement of the criteria for the Subramanian Innovation Award, the Introduction of our New ISMICS Members, and my Presidential Address. Our International Fellows and Residents Luncheon will focus on “Trainees to Consultants.” In addition, we have another Exhibit Hall Reception and the first round of our interactive Poster Competition chaired by Dr. Rex Stanbridge.

Friday will include the Kit Arom Lecture given by Dr. Frank Litvack of Los Angeles, and the Keynote Address by Steven Kotler, author of “The Rise of Superman.” The Poster Competition finals will be on Friday afternoon and the evening ends with the Attendee Reception at Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

The meeting concludes on Saturday with a panel on “Doctors in Suits,” made up of our colleagues who are no longer practicing surgery and who have entered the industry and business worlds. A continuing popular tradition on Saturday is also the Thoracic Movie Day and rapid fire Cardiac Abstract Sessions.

On behalf of ISMICS welcome to Montreal for what will surely be an experience you will remember! I wish you the fullest value for your professional endeavors and the greatest appreciation of the beauty and charm of this great city.

Gregory P. Fontana, MD, President
2016 ISMICS EXHIBITORS

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EXHIBITION HALL HOURS

Wednesday 28 May 17.00 – 19.00 Welcome Reception
Thursday 29 May 07.00 – 11.30 & 13.30 – 18.30 (17.15 Reception)
Friday 30 May 07.00 – 11.00 & 13.30 – 15.30

MEALS & BREAKS

The Scientific Sessions have scheduled mid-morning and mid-afternoon beverage breaks. Continental breakfast is available in the Exhibition Hall on Thursday and Friday mornings.

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Getinge Group is a leading global provider of products and systems that contribute to quality enhancement and cost efficiency within healthcare and life sciences. We operate under the three brands of ArjoHuntleigh, Getinge and Maquet. ArjoHuntleigh focuses on patient mobility and wound management solutions. Getinge provides solutions for infection control within healthcare and contamination prevention within life sciences. Maquet specializes in solutions, therapies and products for surgical interventions, interventional cardiology and intensive care.

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Dr. Peter A. Knight, University of Rochester Medical Center

OVERVIEW: Cardiac surgeons believed that the structural heart arena would always be theirs. Ruminent of coronary revascularization, percutaneous access ASD and PFO closures by interventional cardiologists heralded another new era of non-surgical therapy. With the advent of TAVR, aortic valve surgery is at a critical juncture. For cardiac surgeons to remain relevant, less invasive surgery must be developed, and quickly. Surgeons must lead or accept obsolescence. Transcatheter aortic valve interventions will replace surgery, if surgery does not become substantially better. Patients demand and deserve more convenience, less pain and better outcomes. While TAVR data are encouraging for the first few years, by five years, supportive evidence is weak and less promising. Excellent truly minimally invasive surgery must offer myriad advantages beyond optimal durability: freedom from PVLs and low gradients; low risk of permanent pacemaker; sternum, cartilage and rib sparing access; reduced CPB and cross-clamp times; extubation in the OR; low risk for transfusion; rapid transition out of intensive care and the hospital; prompt return to normal activities and home even for the morbidly obese; all with minimal discomfort and excellent cosmesis. For a revolutionary surgical advance to become broadly disseminated and accepted, it must be teachable, reproducible and minimize the need for femoral access, while providing results even better than open surgery.

In my practice at the University of Rochester Medical Center, all isolated AVR patients are booked as Mini’s. This presentation will provide insight into how we built this program, designed the operation and offer the lessons learned along the way. Video guided mini-thoracotomy AVRs are now our routine. This platform works well for other procedures, such as annular enlargement and subaortic membrane resection. Customized innovations for cardiac surgery offer even more reason for excitement, as is illustrated in our recent First-In-Man use of automated, single squeeze RAM® technology for annular suturing. The future of heart surgery is indeed bright for surgeons willing and able to provide the very best outcomes for their patients.
**Moderated Poster Competition: Thursday and Friday**

The Best Moderated Poster Competition is a peer-review session conducted in two rounds. The first round will be held on Thursday at 17.15. First round presentations are divided into topic groups, with several groups presenting concurrently. Topic groups include: Aortic & Endovascular Therapies; Arrhythmia; Congenital & Pediatric; Revascularization Procedures- Strategies and Outcomes; Thoracic 1: Oesophagus & Mediastinum; Thoracic 2: Pain, Pleura and Port Approaches; Valve- Minimally Invasive Approaches: Mitral; Valve- Minimally Invasive Approaches: Aortic; Valve- Transcatheter Therapies.

The highest scoring posters in each group become the semi-finalists and compete in the Final Round on Friday at 16.30. The semi-finalists make their presentations to the entire audience in LeGrand Salon. Topic moderators score the semi-finalists to select the Best Moderated Poster.

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**ISMICS Research and Education Fund Awards**

**ISMICS Chitwood Educational Travel Awards**

ISMICS and the ISMICS Research and Education Fund, will again award two “Chitwood Educational Travel Awards.” These awards are provided through the ISMICS Research and Education Fund, via a contribution from former ISMICS President, Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood, Jr. Each winner will receive $1,000, complimentary Annual Meeting registration, and a year’s complimentary Candidate membership in ISMICS, which includes a subscription to the ISMICS journal, INNOVATIONS. All Residents and Fellows attending the 2016 ISMICS Annual Meeting were eligible to submit for consideration.

The Winners will be announced on Thursday, immediately after the introduction of the New Members during the Morning Plenary Session.

**Subramanian Innovation Award**

ISMICS is extremely grateful to Dr. Valavanur “Mani” Subramanian for his generous donation to the ISMICS’ Research and Education Fund in support of the Subramanian Innovation Award.

Please watch your email and the ISMICS website (www.ismics.org) for further details on how you can apply!
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ISMICS 2016
WINTER WORKSHOP
October 28 [Fri.] - 29 [Sat.]

[Venue]
The Westin Miyako Kyoto, Japan

[Chairman]
Tohru Asai, MD
Shiga University of Medical Science

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E-mail: ismics_kyoto@heartorg.gr.jp
Don’t miss the ATTENDEE RECEPTION on FRIDAY, 18.30 at the MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

ISMICS Annual Meeting attendees are invited to the Attendee Reception on Friday evening at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Don’t miss the opportunity to gather with your friends and colleagues for a festive evening to celebrate the annual meeting and to enjoy the Museum’s many unique and fascinating displays, including the exceptional Pompeii Exhibit, the largest every presented in Quebec.

Soak up the splendour and opulence of Pompeii in a spectacular exhibition that features over 220 archaeological artifacts in a unique multisensory environment. Mosaics, frescoes, bronze and marble statues, decorative art objects, as well as utensils and personal accessories.

The Montreal presentation of Pompeii is a unique multisensory experience that immerses visitors in the daily life of this Roman town before the cataclysmic eruption of Mount Vesuvius on August 24, 79 A.D. This original exhibition design incorporates archaeological artifacts from Pompeii within the market place, the home and garden, environments that have been re-created using state-of-the-art visual effects and soundscapes. The exhibition culminates with a multimedia re-creation of the volcanic eruption that buried Pompeii under metres of ash for centuries.

Buses will leave from the hotel lobby beginning at 18.00 or you may enjoy the less than 1 mile walk to the Museum. Take a left out of the hotel. Turn right onto Rue Mansfield. Turn left onto Rue Sherbrooke. The Museum will be on your left, 1380 Sherbrooke Street West.
A Message From Your ISMICS Executive Director

I am delighted to welcome you all to the beautiful city of Montreal, for our 2016 ISMICS Annual Meeting. This year’s meeting is a first for ISMICS, marking the first time our Society has met in Canada. The lovely Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth Hotel, an elegant longtime Montreal landmark, is our host hotel. We experience something of the “end of an era” this week, as the day after the ISMICS Meeting concludes, the Queen Elizabeth will close her doors for a year-long renovation designed to restore even more of her past glory. Our Fairmont hosts have assured us that there should be no impact on hotel services while we are here, but if you do experience any issues or have any concerns, please bring them immediately to our staff at the ISMICS Registration Desk, so we can address these with our Customer Service Team here at the Fairmont.

ISMICS President Dr. Greg Fontana has been incredibly engaged throughout the entire year working on behalf of our Society. He worked tirelessly with his Program Co-Chairs to help bring the ISMICS Scientific Program to its next level. The plenary session will feature a new design for seating and challenge the traditional concept of a head table. Featured speakers will be miked so they can move freely. The Doctors in Suits Panel exemplifies the best of ISMICS – how the future leadership of innovation in the surgical specialty works in partnership with industry to shape how patients will be treated using less invasive and technology driven tools tomorrow. ISMICS members who have moved from the OR to the Boardroom will offer their personal perspectives and insight, offering a refreshing approach to surgeon-industry partnership in the ever-increasing atmosphere of regulation.

For the second year in a row, ISMICS will feature live surgery, with the Thoracic Track taking center stage and offering three separate live broadcasts from Shanghai, Ottawa and Montreal. Thanks to our Thoracic Chairs and the Thoracic Track leaders for their vision of incorporating these into the Meeting day in a seamless fashion. The Thoracic program continues to expand for ISMICS, this year including a focused luncheon symposium for Thoracic attendees on Thursday.

ISMICS has enjoyed registration figures of over 500 professional attendees for the past several years, and we anticipate that this year will be no exception. At press time we had pre-registration of 400 professionals, which does not include guests, press or our industry partners. ISMICS continues to see its members expand, with ever-increasing international numbers as we continue our global outreach. Please be sure to congratulate new ISMICS members following their induction on Thursday morning during the Presidential Plenary Session.

Once again the Program Chairs on the Cardiac and Thoracic side, along with the members of the Program Committee, conducted a thoughtful review of the abstracts and have crafted 2 and a half days of diverse and thought-provoking sessions. ISMICS continues its mix of full and mini oral presentations, creatively grouped to ensure robust discussion, or to allow rapid fire questioning. We also retain the original 2-day Poster Competition conceived by Dr. Rex Stanbridge, which many other societies have emulated, but which began with ISMICS and which remains the finest example of simultaneous poster presentation. The electronic posters also give all attendees the opportunity to review both the competition an display posters at their leisure; remember that all ISMICS posters are permanently archived and viewable via our meeting archives webpage, where you can not only view the posters, but offer comments. ISMICS posters live on after the meeting ends, and we hope you find them a useful resource.

Our hands on opportunities presented by “Sim City” will be in the middle of things this year as attendees move between the scientific sessions and exhibition hall in our main foyer – be sure and stop by to test drive the latest, work on a technique, or simply meet with ISMICS industry partners and find out how you can take a few moments and improve your skills. No ISMICS meeting would be complete without the ever-popular “Technical Challenges: Pitfalls and Disasters” session on Wednesday evening, a session which is frequently called one of the most honest and illuminating in all of cardiothoracic and cardiovascular education.

For the second year the INNOVATIONS abstract issue is online, available for free to all ISMICS members. All abstracts are also available full-text through the ISMICS Meeting App, which features session programming by day, exhibit hall diagrams, a listing of our industry supporters, session building, and a Twitter feed for those who would like to Tweet about the meeting. This issue of the ISMICSInsider, along with its 2 following counterparts, will be offered electronically as well and will be permanently archived on ISMICS website. This issue is our advance copy for registrants as they arrive in Montreal, and we will be offering a live version onsite on Friday, as well as a post-meeting electronic only issue following the conclusion of the meeting. The insider is written real-time, so please be sure to check out the next two issues as they will feature the highlights of what really happened at our meeting!

Don’t forget – ISMICS offers complimentary wi-fi access for our attendees, available in all session rooms. We hope that this enhances your meeting experience and allows you easier access to both the App and the abstracts.

Each year as I write this I am struck with the realization that for a society now almost 20 years old, ISMICS retains the particular interest of its President in a hugely significant way. This year, the criteria for the Subramanian Award will be formally announced to the membership during the Plenary Session. Dr. Mani Subramanian has gifted ISMICS with a sizable grant which will support INNOVATION Awards for the next 5 years. Drs. Jim Fonger and Paul Grundeman have worked on an application process which will begin in January of 2017 and culminate at the 2017 Annual Meeting in Rome, with 3 finalists actually making live presentations to the audience – the winner of which will receive a $5000 Innovation Award. Joining Dr. Subramanian as a supporter of the Education and Research Fund are Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood, for his grant in support of the Chitwood Travel Awards offered to Residents and Fellows attending the Annual Meeting, and Dr. Naresh Trehan for his support of the Young Investigators. Dr. Ralph Damiano serves as Editor in Chief for our journal, INNOVATIONS (ably aided by Managing Editor Carol Blasing!). ISMICS Past Presidents continue to attend the Annual Meetings, to Chair Consensus Conferences, and participate in programming whether as participants or moderators. In many societies, Presidents serve admirably but then move on – ISMICS is unique in the way its past leaders remain active on so many levels.

Dr. Fontana worked closely this year on the newest ISMICS Joint Meeting – Co-Chairing the Re-Evolution Summit held at Methodist Debakey alongside ISMICS Member Dr. Mahesh Ramchandani. While ISMICS had previously co-sponsored the course, this year it was a joint endeavor and enjoyed record attendance. Last August, ISMICS Member Dr. Andy Kiser organized the first UNC/ISMICS Heart Team Summit in North Carolina, a highly successful focused program which will be repeated again this August. In a time of increasing competition among societies for time, members and loyalty, ISMICS envisions positive collaboration and outreach to enhance educational opportunities for surgeons worldwide. This has always been evidenced by the Winter Workshops – with last year’s Istanbul workshop providing education for Turkish Surgeons and yielding many new members from Turkey. We have several future Workshops already planned – with Kyoto, Japan scheduled in October of 2016, and subsequent workshops in Abu Dhabi and Athens, Greece, to be held in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Finally, ISMICS continues to co-sponsor courses for which ISMICS member faculty are involved, including WSCITS in Edinburgh last year.

I have had the distinct honor of serving ISMICS for 15 years – and have seen the growth, the membership growth, the birth of a journal and its expansion to become the Winter Workshops, the expansion of satellite educational courses, and the development of an Education and Research Fund tailored to support the future of innovation and young surgeons in the specialty. What makes ISMICS unique is the passion and commitment of its members and its leadership, and the Society’s very special synergy with industry. In an era where many organizations are bowing to pressure and keeping industry at arms’ length, ISMICS leadership realize that things can be done in a very transparent way while still maintaining the relationships with industry that drive innovation in the future of cardiac, thoracic and cardiovascular surgery. The Society remains vibrant, welcoming and inclusive.

The ISMICS Team onsite in Montreal will consist of myself, Stan, Elizabeth, EJ, Olivia, Yvonne and Lorraine. We look forward to seeing you all here in Montreal! Aurelie
ISMICS wishes to express a special Thank You to these companies for their additional support of the Society; and for their commitment to developing minimally invasive surgery techniques and technologies:

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