We are in the midst of very exciting and challenging times. Our specialty continues to change and grow with advancing minimally invasive technologies and ISMICS remains at the forefront for innovation in cardiothoracic surgery.

Our Annual Scientific Meeting, scheduled for 23-26 June, 2004 in London England, promises to be the most exciting ever. Our scientific program is rapidly becoming the key forum for new techniques and technology for minimally invasive procedures in cardiothoracic surgery. Not only will we present and discuss the exciting new developments, but we will also provide the opportunity to develop and practice these skills through hands-on sessions in connectors, stabilizers, endoscopic conduit harvesting, and atrial fibrillation. Some of the topics scheduled to be discussed are: Off Pump and Minimal Access; Robotic Cardiac Surgery; and Cell Transplantation and Gene Therapy. For the first time we are introducing the topic of New Thoracic Surgical Techniques.

In addition to the wealth of scientific advancements being presented, our Program Chairs, Drs. James Fonger, John Puskas, and Rex Stanbridge, have arranged a superb social program to take advantage of this royal location. We are honored to host our Gala Reception at The Orangery at the magnificent Kensington Palace, once home to Diana, Princess of Wales.

(continued on page 3)
Hilton London Metropole Hotel & Conference Centre
2004 Annual Meeting Highlights

HANDS-ON TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITS
OFF-PUMP AND MINIMAL ACCESS
FACILITATED ANASTOMOSES
AFib. ABLATION
ROBOTIC CARDIAC SURGERY
NEW THORACIC SURGICAL TECHNIQUES
CELL TRANSPLANTATION AND GENE THERAPY
CORONARY IMAGING TECHNOLOGIES
PLUS A GALA RECEPTION IN THE ORANGERY AT KENSINGTON PALACE

Abstract Deadline: 19 December 2003
* VIDEO SUBMISSIONS
Podium-moderated poster sessions
Moderated poster sessions in display area

New for 2004!

A text abstract submission is required although it may be as few as 50 words. Text should include the key ideas from the video, using all required section headings. It is critical that your text abstract is linked to your actual video or CD-ROM. Be sure to label your tape or CD-ROM with the number electronically assigned to your text submission.

Video submissions may feature only one technique or tip, and no brand promotion of devices or products allowed.

Duration of video should be 5-7 minutes, not to exceed 10 minutes. Accepted videos must be personally moderated at the podium during the Scientific Session.

Disclosure must indicate any industry involvement in production or funding of video.

CD-ROM format preferred, PAL or VHS formats allowed. CD-ROM must be formatted in MPEG, AVI, or Quicktime. Tapes/CD-ROMs must be labeled with the title of the abstract, the primary author, and the number assigned by the electronic submission website. Two (2) copies are required. No tapes or CD-ROMs will be returned. Please include a hard copy of the abstract text as generated by the submission site. Send tapes/CD-ROMs to: Pamela B. Wilson, ISMICS, 900 Cummings Center, Suite 221-U, Beverly, MA 01915 USA.
Kensington Palace has been a Royal residence since 1689. Of great historical importance, Kensington Palace was once a favoured home of some of Britain’s most famous kings and queens and the setting for many great events and dramas in royal history. Originally a private country house, the building was acquired by William III and Mary II in 1689 and was adapted for royal residence by Sir Christopher Wren. For the next 70 years the palace was at the centre of the life and government of the kingdom and played host to the courts of William and Mary, Queen Anne, George I and George II. In the 19th century Kensington was the birthplace and childhood home of Princess Victoria (later Queen Victoria).

Kensington’s best known resident in recent years was Diana, Princess of Wales (1961-97) who occupied apartments in the northwest part of the palace from 1981 to 1997.

The Orangery

Built for Queen Anne in 1704-5 to a design by Nicholas Hawksmoor, the Orangery was used in the summer months for court entertainments. Situated within its own private grounds in the heart of Kensington Gardens, the Orangery combines the privilege of access to a royal palace with a serene rural ambience in the centre of the capital. The graceful interior of the building with its imposing yet elegant architecture lends itself to formal dinners and provides an enjoyable and memorable venue for summer dining.
From the 2003 Annual Meeting, San Francisco
2003 Annual Awards

BEST MODERATED POSTER
Robotic Sutured LIMA Grafts – Intraoperative Quality Control Using Graft Angiography
Johannes Bonatti, M.D.
Innsbruck University Hospital Innsbruck, Austria

YOUNG INVESTIGATORS AWARDS
Clinical Study on the Efficacy of a Newly Developed Tool for Automated One-Step Proximal Anastomoses in CABG Surgery
Hendrik Treede, M.D.
University Hospital Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany

A Complete Cox-Maze Procedure Performed on the Beating Heart with Bipolar Radiofrequency Energy: Operative Techniques and Early Results
Sydney L. Gaynor, M.D.
Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri

Avoidance of Cardiopulmonary Bypass Improves Early Survival in Multi-Vessel Coronary Artery Bypass Patients with Poor Ventricular Function
Todd M. Dewey, M.D.
Cardiopulmonary Research Science and Technology Institute, Dallas, Texas

Off-Pump Coronary Artery Bypass with Exclusive Use of Skeletonized In-Situ Arterial Grafts
Tohru Asai, M.D.
Shiga University of Medical Science, Otsu, Japan

BEST USE OF AUDIO VISUAL AIDS
Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting in the Awake Setting
Tanya Angoseva, M.D.
Center For Cardiosurgery Filip II, Skopje, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

HONORABLE MENTION – BEST ORAL ABSTRACT IN BASIC SCIENCE
Fetal Robotic Cardiac Manipulation: The Potential to Heal Before Birth
Michael D. Black, M.D.
Stanford University, Stanford, California

HONORABLE MENTION – BEST ORAL ABSTRACT IN CLINICAL SCIENCE
Transmyocardial Revascularization versus Medical Therapy: Five-Year Follow-up of a Prospective Randomized Trial
Keith B. Allen, M.D.
St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana

BEST ORAL ABSTRACT
Bipolar Radiofrequency Clamp for Surgical Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation
Marc Gillinov, M.D.
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio

Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting in the Awake Setting
Tanya Angoseva, M.D.
Center For Cardiosurgery Filip II, Skopje, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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