

January 2012

MARCH 15-16, 2012: SAVE THE DATE

To: Members of the Israel Society for Vision & Eye Research (ISVER)

Dear Friends,

Subject: Call to Submit Abstracts for ISVER's 32nd Annual Conference

Date and Location:

The Annual Conference will take place on Thursday and Friday, **March 15-16, 2012** in City Tower at the Leonardo Building in Ramat-Gan, near the Savidor Center railway station. The location was chosen to accommodate those traveling via public transport.

Registration:

This year SP Group Ltd. will be assisting with organization of the Annual Conference, as well as the administrative management of ISVER. They will be handling the registration process, and registration forms will be made available later this month. We hope that this will improve and facilitate the process.

Early registration will be until **March 1st, 2012**: Registration fees have not changed: **250 NIS** for specialists and researchers, **150 NIS** for students, residents and retirees. **After March 1, 2012, the prices will go up by 50 NIS.**

Registration costs include a one year membership to ISVER for 2012, attendance at the Annual Conference, the booklet of abstracts presented at the Conference, refreshments during the two-day meeting, and lunch on Thursday.

Abstract Submission – due by January 22nd, 2012:

Abstracts will only be accepted via the internet at www.isver.org.il. We have updated our website and our abstract submission system. The system requires you to register online and then follow the instructions in order to submit an abstract. This is a brand new system and we hope that there will be as few glitches as possible – we welcome your feedback. If you do encounter any problems with the submission process, please contact isver.org.il@gmail.com. We intend to introduce further changes to our website during the coming year, hoping to turn it into a continuously updated resource for investigators and clinicians involved in eye research. Studies published by ISVER members and other Israeli researchers in this field will be highlighted, positions advertised etc. In this area as well, your feedback and suggestions for improvement are more than welcome.

The system will be open to accept abstracts from January 2nd to 22nd, 2012. We apologize for the tight schedule.

Only research (basic or clinical) abstracts on the subject of eye research and ophthalmology will be accepted for presentation at the Conference. Case studies and descriptions of surgical procedures will not be accepted. There is no limit to the number of abstracts a researcher can

submit, and the same researcher can present all accepted abstracts. In light of what happened at the last ISVER conference, in which abstracts were submitted by authors who did not register or attend the conference, we are adopting the practice of ARVO from this year on. Authors of an accepted abstract must register for the conference, and must attend. Should the author be unable to attend, the abstract must be withdrawn as soon as possible. If the author does not appear at the conference and did not make an attempt to withdraw the paper, the author will be banned from presenting abstracts at the next ISVER conference.

The abstract must be written in English in 12 point font with a limit 350 words (2500 characters, including spaces). The abstract heading should include the subject of abstract, underneath are the names of the researchers, without academic titles, and their institutions. The body of the abstract should be divided according to Purpose, Methods, Results and Conclusions. Please adhere to the instructions, so that the abstract can be published in the conference book without editing.

You can indicate a preference to present as a lecture or a poster:

The organizers will try to take author preference into account. However, as in previous years, we cannot always accommodate all preferences and it is possible that you will be asked to present your abstract as a poster, even if you requested to present the abstract as a lecture. There is the option to state a preference to present only as a lecture and under no circumstances as a poster. However, take into account that these abstracts may be rejected if they cannot be scheduled as lectures. Notice regarding abstract status will be sent out until the middle of February.

We are interested in increasing the number of posters at the conference. They will be presented during the two days of the conference in the same hall as the coffee breaks. In addition, there will be dedicated "rapid fire" sessions during which one slide will be shown and a summary of the poster will be presented by the author for two minutes, in order to arouse interest and encourage the audience to go view the posters.

All posters and all slides for the oral presentations must be in English. The oral presentations themselves can be delivered in Hebrew or in English, according to the preference of the speaker. For our foreign attendees, please note that usually, the majority of these oral presentations are given in Hebrew

The conference program will be posted on the ISVER website in early March 2012

Selection of Outstanding Abstracts

As in previous years, outstanding abstracts by young researchers will be selected for prizes. Nominees, who must present the work, need to meet one of the following criteria:

1. Student pursuing a first, second or third degree of study, as well as post-doctoral students.
2. A doctor in training or specialist, up to three years after completing their degree.
3. Other researchers under the age of 40.

Please note that researchers who have won the award in the past two years are not eligible.

In order that the paper will be judged, please send an email to the Society (isver.org.il@gmail.com) with the name of the nominee (presenter) as the subject line. In the conference book, all eligible papers will be noted.

This year the "Lir'ot" ("To See") association significantly increased its' support of the outstanding abstracts program. A total of six prize winners will receive 8,000 NIS each to pay for their travel to the 2013 ARVO Annual Meeting in order to present their work. It is important to note that this award is contingent upon the winner attending the 2013 ARVO Annual Meeting. Should the winner be unable to attend the ARVO Annual Meeting, the prize will be awarded to the next nominee in line. We would like to thank the non-profit "Lir'ot" association for encouraging the participation of young researchers in this field, and we call upon students, specialists and young researchers to submit their work for evaluation.

During the conference we will have a members meeting in which the financial report will be given, and prizes will be awarded to the outstanding papers that were presented in the previous conference. We would like to congratulate those winners:

1st prize: research talk: SAFURI SHADI (Technion)
BESTROPHIN MODULATES PHAGOCYTOSIS OF PHOTORECEPTORS OUTER SEGMENTS BY RETINAL PIGMENT EPITHELIAL CELLS
2nd prize: research poster: GUETA KEREN (Tel-Aviv University)
THE ROLE OF LIM-DOMAIN BINDING PROTEINS IN RETINAL DEVELOPMENT
3rd prize: clinical talk: WUSSUKU-LIOR ORLY (Assaf Harofeh Hospital)
HEMATOLOGIC BIOMARKERS IN CHILDHOOD CATARACTS
4th prize: clinical poster: ACHAR-ZIPORI ANAT (Rambam Hospital)
HYPERGLYCEMIA INDUCES MICROPARTICLES FORMATION AND AFFECTS THEIR ANTIGENIC EXPRESSION AND THROMBOGENICITY

Elections to the Board and for Chair of the Society

At the upcoming Conference, elections will be held for two new board members, and for a new chair of the society. The bylaws state that every member of the society at the level of senior lecturer or above (in academic or clinical track) is eligible to be a candidate for board member. The length of term is 6 years, with an option of stepping down after 3 years. The chair can be selected from among current board members, or from previous board members who served during the last ten years. The chair is elected for a term of 3 years. Members interested in running for board or for chair, please inform Eyal Banin at banine@cc.huji.ac.il. Elections will take place in a secretive manner during the conference.

We would be happy to expand the participation of basic science researchers involved in the study of the visual system and would appreciate your assistance in bringing this information to the knowledge of your colleagues.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Conference in March 2012!

Best wishes,

The Board of the Israeli Society for Vision & Eye Research