Dear Colleagues

The World Congress of Gastroenterology 2005 held in September in Montreal-Canada was a landmark event for the global gastroenterology community! Over 6,500 delegates attended, from over 120 different countries. During the General Assembly in Montreal, the membership applications of five new countries were approved, thus bringing our national membership up to 98.

We are delighted to welcome the following new member societies:

**West Indies**: The Association of West Indian Gastroenterologists  
**Egypt**: The Egyptian Society of Hepatology, Gastroenterology and Endoscopy  
**Spain**: Asociación Espanola de Gastroenterología (AEG)  
**Ivory Coast**: Société Ivoirienne de Gastro-Entérologie et d’Endoscopie Digestive (SIGED)  
**Senegal**: Société Sénégalaise de Gastro-Entérologie et d’Hépatologie (SOSEGH)

I invite you to catch up with recent activities of the organisation highlighted in this newsletter and on the official WGO-OMGE website: [www.worldgastroenterology.org](http://www.worldgastroenterology.org)

Yours sincerely,
Henry Cohen  
WGO-OMGE Secretary-General
A Great Moment for Gastroenterology

The recent award of the Nobel Prize to J. Robin Warren and Barry J. Marshall for their work on Helicobacter pylori will be warmly welcomed by gastroenterologists throughout the world. The identification of the organism and the delineation of its role in gastritis, peptic ulcer disease and gastric malignancies represented a triumph, at times against considerable odds, for clinical medicine and clinical microbiology. WGO-OMGE pays special tribute to these two exceptional researchers.

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WCOG 2005 – Highlights Online

In September 2005, Montreal Canada and the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology were host to the most current, innovative and dynamic scientific meeting of the WGO-OMGE/OMED. The meeting was a resounding success!

Located on the WGO-OMGE website is the full report from WCOG President Richard Fedorak. Over 60 specially selected sessions are available through simultaneous audio and video feeds. For all those who did not manage to travel to Montreal, this is an ideal way to catch up on the data and major themes presented by a world-renowned faculty. Full access to all published abstracts is also available.

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ASGE, OMED and WGO-OMGE join forces in South America

WGO-OMGE, OMED, ASGE have agreed to collaborate closely on training centres, with particular emphasis on providing extended support to those centers in South America which are already hosting trainees at both advanced and basic training centers. The collaboration will include exchange of international faculty, provision of training materials and the potential for live transmission of courses via the internet in the near future. WGO-OMGE and OMED currently promote 7 centers in South Africa, Chile, Bolivia, Pakistan, Egypt, Thailand and Morocco.

» Read More about Training Centers

UpToDate Winners

In collaboration with UpToDate, WGO-OMGE recently awarded a number of free subscriptions for the highly acclaimed UpToDate service to gastroenterologists from resource-poor regions of the world. In addition, all WGO-OMGE training centers were supplied with a year’s subscription. A list of successful candidates can be viewed on the WGO-OMGE website. WGO-OMGE thanks UpToDate for their generous support of this programme.

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**Train the Trainers 2006**

Train the Trainers 2006 will take place in Port Elizabeth, South Africa from August 1 – 4, 2006. This will mark the 5th year of this highly successful workshop which has trained over 256 leading gastroenterologists from 55 countries in essential aspects of adult education. The faculty of this workshop comprises expert educators. Applications must be made through national member societies who are limited to 2 participants per country. Applicants should be responsible for training and teaching within their region in order to disseminate the knowledge and skills gained from attending this workshop.

» Read more

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**5th AMAGE Congress**

The 5th International Congress of AMAGE - The African Middle East Association of Gastroenterology will take place in Sharjah, The United Arab Emirates, from February 24-26, 2006. AMAGE represents the fourth zone of WGO-OMGE and comprises 36 member societies from Africa and the Middle East.

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This e-newsletter promotes the activities of the WGO-OMGE.

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