



# Newsletter

Dec 2013

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## Message from the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

We have concluded a very successful educational event in Kuala Lumpur with 500 delegates representing 51 countries. This was our first annual meeting in Asia and we hope to continue to reach out to our Asian colleagues with our 2014 meeting in Yokohama.

Appreciation must be expressed to the organizers of ISAM 2014 Kuala Lumpur for all their work and efforts in promoting ISAM as a society and the annual meeting. Appreciation is expressed to all speakers and delegates, without you the meeting would not be possible.

We have received several expressions of interest for future meetings which will be evaluated by the Board, however in moving forward I have the pleasure and honor of inviting you to attend the 2014 ISAM's 16th annual meeting, which will convene in Yokohama, Japan, on October 2-6, 2014, under the theme of "ADDICTION: Issues for the Next Decade." The congress president will be Professor Susumu Higichi.

The highlights for the 2014 annual meeting will offer a unique opportunity not only to participate in excellent scientific and clinical sessions, workshops, and plenaries, but also to engage in social interactions and networking among colleagues. The 16th ISAM's annual meeting offers a very special time to share and enjoy the beauty and hospitality of Japan.

This meeting will mark a new milestone as the first ISAM annual meeting to be held in Japan, and we hope that it will be a positive opportunity to connect with our colleagues in this corner of the globe.

Hannu Alho, ISAM President

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## ISAM COMMITTEES

In its continuing efforts to improve the ongoing running of ISAM, the ISAM Board of Directors established five committees to support the functions of the Society in key areas:

- Executive Committee (Chair H. Alho as President of ISAM with the President Elect and immediate Past-President)
- Education and Training Committee (Chair G. Welle-Strand)
- Membership Committee (Chair S. Higuchi)
- Public Relations Committee (Chair J. Reimer)
- Financial Committee (Chair K. Bardy)

These committees are now seeking active members, if you are interested please contact the Committee Chair or the ISAM office ([isam.mdorozio@gmail.com](mailto:isam.mdorozio@gmail.com)).

## FUTURE ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS

**ISAM 2015** Dundee, Scotland  
Oct 4-8, 2015  
[www.isamdundee2015.com](http://www.isamdundee2015.com)

**ISAM 2016** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
TBA

Anyone interested to host an ISAM Annual meeting is invited to inform the Head Office of their intention and be prepared to bring a brief presentation to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.

## INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION 2014

- ISAM Annual Meeting, Yokohama, Japan Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014
- CSAM [Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine] Annual Meeting, Ottawa, Canada Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Additional sittings may be available, depending on demand and a critical number of 8 applicants for the sitting
- All pertinent information and application form can be downloaded from the ISAM website: [www.isamweb.org](http://www.isamweb.org) under the tab *ISAM Products/International Certification*.

## ONLINE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION & RENEWAL

In order to make dues payments and renewals more accessible and easier - We are excited to announce that online payment for Membership dues and dues renewal is now available on the ISAM webpages: [www.isamweb.org](http://www.isamweb.org) with VISA or Mastercard. Multi-year registration for 3 or 5 years is also available.

# ONWARD TO ISAM 2014 Yokohama, Japan

## ADDICTION: Issues for the Next Decade

On behalf of the local organizing committee and the international program committee, we cordially invite you to the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM) World Congress in 2014 in Yokohama, Japan.

Alcohol and drug problems are serious health and social concerns across the globe. Likewise, problems arising from behavioral addictions have expanded and become major social threats globally.

When we look at the Asian region, alcohol consumption has been increasing steeply in major developing nations, such as China and India. Many countries in this region have faced long-standing battles against drug problems, as exemplified by the existence of the Golden Triangle. Because of the unique gambling culture, gambling problems are extraordinarily serious in Japan. Moreover, it is well known that Internet addiction has become a huge problem in East-Asian countries including Korea, China, and Japan.

Based on the aforementioned conditions, it is timely and meaningful to host the ISAM Congress in Japan with the main theme of "ADDICTION: Issues for the Next Decade". This is the second congress to be held in the Asian region in two consecutive years, and this has played a role in increasing the visibility of ISAM in this region.

This Congress will be co-hosted by the Japanese Society of Alcohol-Related Problems, the Science Council of Japan, and the National Hospital Organization Kurihama Medical and Addiction Center. The Congress will be jointly held by the three major scientific societies related to addiction in Japan.

We look forward to welcoming a large number of researchers and clinicians to Yokohama to contribute to the advancement of knowledge to reduce addiction problems. At the same time, we expect the involvement of many scientific societies to create a high-quality program for the Congress.

Once again, welcome to Yokohama, a beautiful port city and the city with the second largest population in Japan

Dr. Susumu Higuchi  
Congress President

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**DATES:** October 2-6, 2014

**VENUE:** Pacifico Yokohama Conference Center

**CALL FOR SYMPOSIUM:** Deadline March 31, 2014

**CONFERENCE INFORMATION:** [www.congre.co.jp/isam2014](http://www.congre.co.jp/isam2014)

**CONTACT EMAIL:** [ISAM2014@congre.co.jp](mailto:ISAM2014@congre.co.jp)

# ISAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICE

President & Chair, Executive Committee	Dr. Hannu Alho (Finland)	<a href="mailto:hannu.alho@thl.fi">hannu.alho@thl.fi</a>
President-Elect	Dr. Gregory Bunt (USA)	<a href="mailto:gbunt@daytop.org">gbunt@daytop.org</a>
Past President	Dr. Tarek el-Gawad (Egypt)	<a href="mailto:tarekgawad@me.com">tarekgawad@me.com</a>
Secretary-Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair	Dr. Kathleen Brady (USA)	<a href="mailto:bradyk@musc.edu">bradyk@musc.edu</a>
Education & Training Committee Chair	Dr. Gabrielle Welle-Strand (Norway)	<a href="mailto:Gabrielle.Katrine.Welle-Strand@helsedir.no">Gabrielle.Katrine.Welle-Strand@helsedir.no</a>
Membership Promotion Committee Chair	Dr. Susumu Higuchi (Japan)	<a href="mailto:h-susumu@db3.so-net.ne.jp">h-susumu@db3.so-net.ne.jp</a>
Public Relations Committee Chair & WebMaster	Dr. Jens Reimer (Germany)	<a href="mailto:reimer@uke.de">reimer@uke.de</a>

## Ex-Officio Positions

Chief Examiner	Dr. Nady el-Guebaly (Canada)	<a href="mailto:nady.el-guebaly@albertahealthservices.ca">nady.el-guebaly@albertahealthservices.ca</a>
Chief Editor	Dr. Marc Galanter (USA)	<a href="mailto:marcgalanter@nyu.edu">marcgalanter@nyu.edu</a>
Office Administration	Mrs. Marilyn Dorozio	<a href="mailto:ISAM.mdorozio@gmail.com">ISAM.mdorozio@gmail.com</a>

## BOARD VACANCY 2014

Elections for a vacancy on the Board as the Chair of the Education and Training Committee, will be conducted in Yokohama. ISAM strives for a balanced representation of all continents and gender. Terms are for 3 years, renewable once. The open position will be for the Education and Training Officer, who chairs the Education & Training committee. The application time will be declared the beginning of 2014.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Have medical qualification and currently registered with their respective national professional registration board
- Active ISAM member or member of ISAM Active affiliated societies
- Working in the field of addiction e.g. research, teaching, clinician or administration
- Preference given to those who are committee members and/or previously attended/presented at ISAM conferences
- Able financially to support own travel to ISAM Annual/Regional meeting.
- Able to support & execute ISAM mission & objectives
- Able to sign the ISAM Conflict of Interest and Disclosure declaration

### **NOMINATION PROCESS: the ISAM Office will collect all documentation, letters of interest, etc.**

ISAM office will circulate a notice to all ISAM members & Affiliated societies seeking nomination of candidates according to eligibility criteria and announce the opening on the ISAM webpages

- A Nomination Committee composed of the ISAM Executive (President, President-Elect and Past President) will pre-screen the candidates for presentation to the Board
- Final election is done by the Board
- If interested to pursue running for a Board position, please submit the following documentation by the deadline of August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 by email to ISAM Office.
  - Two reference letters from Active ISAM members
  - Recent CV
  - Potential contributions to ISAM activities
  - Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

## DUTIES OF A BOARD MEMBER

- Clear commitment and willingness to work on ISAM's mission and goals, i.e., goodwill Ambassadors
- Representing a define constituency: specialty area, major addiction, geographical organization, etc.
- Agreement to attend each ISAM annual meeting at own expense (two consecutive absences is considered resignation) and participate in program (presentation, Chairing or sessions, etc).
- Take part in discussions and decisions by email throughout year
- Actively recruit members and encourage National Society affiliations
- Chair/Participate in committees and ad hoc Task Forces
- Assist in communication related tasks, i.e., brochure distribution, newsletter articles, articles for publication, etc.

## COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITY

An invitation to participate in an opportunity for collaboration on ICD-11 is available.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) is looking to identify sites/centers in under-developed countries
- Funding and materials for project would be provided by WHO

For more details or to express interest, please contact Dr. Tarek Gawad: [tarekgawad@me.com](mailto:tarekgawad@me.com)

## JOURNAL UPDATE

ISAM is pleased to announce that as well as continuing with their collaboration with the Journal Substance Abuse, in 2014 ISAM will enter into a 1-year contract with DAD – Drug and Alcohol Dependence for potential publication of the ISAM Annual meeting abstracts.

Journal of Substance Abuse has an opening for an Associate Editor and any interested ISAM member can contact Dr. Marc Galanter: [marcgalanter@nyu.edu](mailto:marcgalanter@nyu.edu)