



World Hellenic Biomedical Association

World Hellenic Biomedical News

A Brief History of the World Hellenic Biomedical Association



The Hellenic Diaspora is one of the most populous worldwide and though having significant heterogeneities and a wide geographical distribution, has retained a sense of identity and culture that has allowed a sense of internal cohesion and unity with itself and a connection with its origins.

In terms of Hellenes studying and practicing medicine, this was noted even from the 17th century, with scholars diligently pursuing knowledge at the newly formed medical centres and schools of continental Europe. This has continued not only unabated, but with increasing numbers in the 20th century and particularly the last few decades, with signifi-

cant concentrations in the United States of America and Australia. Though the factors leading to this are not clear, it is perhaps due to the increasing scholarly orientation of Hellenes born out of as well as within Greece.

Following synods in 1882 and 1887, the First Panhellenic Medical Conference took place May 1901, in Athens. Even at that time, when transportation was less facile, over a fifth of the participants were from outside the geographical bounds of Greece at the time, including mainland Europe.

Concurrently, the medical and budding biomedical research communities, also begun to self-organise in their local areas. One first such example is the Hellenic Medical Society of New York, which was formed in an early instantiation in 1920 and has continued to bring together

members to serve the needs of the community. These local societies had at first more of a social, fraternizing aim, but later developed a more specialised interest in the particular needs of this subgroup of the wider Hellenic community.

The World Hellenic Biomedical Association was formally brought into being during the First International Biomedical Conference of the Hellenic Diaspora held in Athens, May 1990. The contacts for societies and individuals worldwide were collected and compiled by the Hellenic Medical Society of the United Kingdom, jointly organising the conference with the Athens Medical Society, with participants across the globe. It has been repeated successfully biannually in Athens for the first 3 times and later in New York and Cyprus also.

This Newsletter is the official publication of the World Hellenic Biomedical Association. It is published 3 times a year and it includes all the latest news of the Association. We hope you find it useful and interesting. Any suggestions for future topics will be appreciated.

The Editorial Team

Reproduction of these contents without written approval by the Executive Board of the WHBA and the Editorial Board of the World Hellenic Biomedical News is prohibited

Over the last two decades, there has been a growth in the number of societies, as well as total membership, brought together under the umbrella of the World Hellenic Biomedical Association and a stronger presence internationally. This work is continued with the hope that the ethos of scholarship and community will be maintained along with the principles of co-operation and facilitation for the members.

Message from the President



Dear WHBA members,

It is with distinct pleasure and pride that I am sending this greeting to mark the first issue of our WHBA electronic newsletter. I would like to thank each one of you for offering your support and encouragement in continuing our mission to organize the Hellenic Biomedical diaspora by developing a cohesive network and a comprehensive agenda, enhancing

information exchange and collaborations amongst our members and strengthening our ties with our counterparts in Greece. The scope of our interests is wide, the tasks are daunting and the resources scarce but if we believe in and commit to our mission we will succeed. A new era has started for the WHBA forging closer ties between the participating organizations, moving its headquarters to New York and filing for non-profit

corporation status which will enable fundraising to support our expanding activities and projects. I would encourage you to send your comments, suggestions or proposals that will enable the WHBA to solidify its legacy of an open, powerful, democratic and diverse organization. Kind regards

George John Tsioulis, MD, PhD, FACS
New York

Inside this issue:

Society News	3 - 4
Symposium in Chicago	5

World Hellenic Biomedical News

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief

Evangelos Ntrivalas, MD, PhD

Associate Editors

Dimitra Chalkia, PhD

Loukia Parisiadou, PhD

Christos Sideras, MD

George Syros, MD

Ioannis Zervantonakis, MSc



World Hellenic Biomedical Association

<http://www.whba1990.org/>

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President - George Tsoulas, MD, PhD - Lenox Hill Hospital, USA

President-Elect - Konstantinos Drosatos, MSc, PhD - Columbia University, USA

Vice-president - Peter Karayiannis, PhD, FIBMS, FRCPath [Virology] - Imperial College, UK

Vice-president - E. Lia Amirali, MD - McGill University, Canada

Secretary - Dimitris Paschos, MD, MRCPsych - NHS Islington, London, UK

Deputy Secretary - Zois Vrettos, MD - Germany

Treasurer - Spyros Mezitis, MD, PhD - Lenox Hill Hospital, USA

ADVISORY BOARD

George Dangas, MD, PhD (chairman) • George Louis Bakris, MD, Hon D, FAHA, FASN
 • Nicandros Bouras, MD, PhD • Argiris Efstratiadis, MD, PhD • Fotis C. Kafatos, PhD,
 FoMeRS • Theodoros Mountokalakis, MD, PhD • Ari Patrinos, PhD • George Paxinos,
 PhD, AO FAA FASSA • P. Roy Vagelos, MD • Olga Sarantopoulou, MD (secretary)

PARTICIPATING SOCIETIES

USA

Hellenic Medical Society of New York
 Hellenic Bioscientific Association in the USA
 New England Hellenic Medical & Dental Society
 Hellenic Medical Society of Philadelphia
 Federation of Hellenic Medical Societies of North America
 Hellenic American Psychiatric Association

CANADA

Hellenic Medical Society of Montreal, Quebec

SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil: Individual contacts
 Chile: Individual contacts

AUSTRALIA

Individual contacts

EUROPE

Hellenic Medical Society of the UK
 Hellenic Medical Society of Austria
 Hellenic Scientific Society of Renania-Westphalia
 Society of Greek Scientists of Switzerland
 Italy: Individual contacts
 Hungary: Individual contacts
 Czech Republic: Individual contacts
 Finland: Individual contacts
 Netherlands: Individual contacts

AFRICA

Egypt: Hospital of the Greek community in Cairo

ASIA

Russia: Hellenic Medical & Bioscientific Society of Rostov-on-Don.
 Saudi Arabia: Individual contacts
 Israel: Individual contacts

Hellenic Medical Society of Philadelphia



Volume 1, Issue 1

Society News

PAST EVENTS

- **HMS Philadelphia Spring Social** (in conjunction with Greek American Chamber of Commerce, Hellenic University Club and American Hellenic Lawyers Association) June 2010. Held at the Waterworks restaurant and over 50 Greek professionals in attendance. Wonderful opportunity to meet other members of the society as well as other active Greek professionals. Please FRIEND us on FACEBOOK and check our photos.
- **HMS Philadelphia Membership Drive:** Due to the diligent work of the board and membership committee members, our society has reached over 120 members and growing. To ensure your full ability to participate in the society (ie: your listing in the online directory and website, ability to hold office, support the scholarship initiative) please return the enclosed form via email or fax. Please tell your Greek colleague of the society
- **HMS Philadelphia Fall Social:** September 21 2010 at KUZINA BY SOFIA, Route 70 West, Cherry Hill, New Jersey. In conjunction with Greek American Chamber of Commerce and American Hellenic Lawyers Association, a Greek wine tasting and Greek meze was held from 6 to 8 pm.



FUTURE EVENTS

- **Community Service Initiative of Hellenic Medical Society of Philadelphia:** Working with the Daughters of Penelope to provide medical information during a Susan G Koman Breast Cancer awareness event during the St Thomas Agora, **October 7 to 10th**. Two hour shifts are proposed and medical guidelines available. Please participate in great community event. For more information, contact the HMS at HMSPHL@gmail.com

ONGOING PROJECTS

HMS Philadelphia explores Health Care Symposium: Fall 2010. Currently in discussion phases with GACC and AHLA, a ½ day symposium discussing the impact of the current health care reform from many perspectives: Legislative, Medical, Law and Insurance. More to Follow.

HMS Philadelphia Supports Global Hellenic Medical and Biomedical Conference December 3-4th New York City, Lenox Hill Hospital. The HMS has participated on the organizing committee of this very exciting meeting. Agenda for conference to include Cancer, Cardiology, hypertension, Orthopedics and various topics by noted Greek experts. Members wishing to present their medical specialty as well as those wishing to provide sponsorship support/Vendor support should contact the Society for further details.

Our **BP screening and health information fair** at St George Media, PA to be arranged September or October 2010 to be held after Church services. Members interested in helping out in this event, please let us know at HMSPHL@gmail.com.

Hellenic Medical Society of Philadelphia Board of Director nominations and elections: Members of the Society who are interested in running for the board must 1) be paid members of the Society and 2) inform the Society Secretary by October 1st of their intention to be placed on the ballot. Please let the society know if you are interested at HMSPHL@gmail.com.

HMS Medical Student and HMS Allied Health Student Scholarship

The Hellenic Medical Society of Philadelphia is proud to introduce our medical student and allied health student scholarship program. Students of Hellenic descent and matriculated at medical (MD, DO, DMD, DC, DPM) or allied health schools (RPh, RN, PT, RT..) are encouraged to apply. Deadline for submission are October 31 with scholarship recipients to receive awards at the Hellenic Medical Societies Fall General Assembly in November. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the society at the above email or the president directly at 856.342.2619.

Elias Iliadis MD
President HMS

Dennis Hadjiliadis MD
Treasurer HMS

Catherine Nicolaidis MD
HMS Scholarship Committee

Hellenic Medical Association of Quebec - Canada

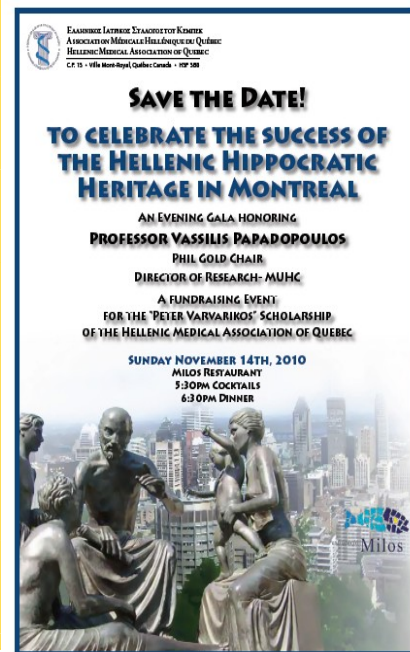
PAST EVENTS

Presentation and Dinner: “Acne and psoriasis treatment in 2010” by Dr. Chemir Mamode, M.D. Dermatologist. September 29 2010, 18:30 Registration, 19:00 Presentation and Dinner at Restaurant Crescendo, 5150 boul. LaSallee, Verdun. Educational objectives of conference: 1) Establish diagnosis of acne grade, 2) Get acquainted with the guidelines for acne treatment, 3) Choose a treatment according to acne treatment, 4) Establish specific and accurate diagnosis for psoriasis.

FUTURE EVENTS

Presentation and Dinner: “Review of the new treatments in osteoporosis” by Dr. Andrew Karaplis, Endocrinologist at the Jewish General Hospital and Professor at McGill. October 26 2010, 18:00 Reception, 18:30 Presentation, 19:30 Dinner at Ristorante Da Emma, 777 de la commune Quest, Montreal. Please RSVP to Lesley-Ann Judge, 514.678.2334. lesley-ann.judge@vitdeotron.ca

Fundraiser and Evening Gala: To celebrate the success of the Hellenic Hippocratic heritage in Montreal, an evening gala honoring Professor Vassilis Papadopoulos, Phil Gold Chair, Director of Research – MUHC. A fundraising event for the “Peter Varvarikos” Scholarship of the Hellenic Medical Association of Quebec. November 14th 2010, 17:30 Cocktails, 18:30 Dinner at Milos Restaurant.



Hellenic Medical Society in the United Kingdom

The Hellenic Medical Society in the United Kingdom will be celebrating their 25th Year Anniversary, at the Royal Society of Medicine in London, Saturday the 9th of October 2010.

The programme includes keynote lectures by Professor Gabriel Panayi from King's College London, Professor Argiris Efstratiadis from Columbia University and Lord David Owen. During the course of event the Papanikolaou Prize will also be

awarded for work submitted by junior investigators. With an international discussant panel, Professor Nick Bouras from King's College London will chair a session on “Future Perspectives in Biological Sciences and Clinical Medicine”, joined by Dr Konstantinos Drosatos and Dr George Dargas from Columbia University, Dr Pavlos Kymissis from New York Medical College, Dr Dimitrios Kardamakis and Dr Gregory

Sivolapenko from Patras University Medical School.

This looks to be an exciting programme and the society is welcoming all to attend.



Further details can be found at the society's website:

<http://www.hellenicmedicalsocietyuk.org/>

Those wishing to book for the dinner celebrations may use the following contacts:

Fax: +44 207 486 4254

E-mail: secretary@hellenicmedicalsocietyuk.org

Contemporary Concepts in Cardiology

November 13, 2010

4:00 pm - 7:30 pm

The Gleacher Center, Chicago, IL



CME Provider: The University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine

Co-organizer: World Hellenic Biomedical Association

Moderators

Stephen L. Archer, M.D. – University of Chicago, IL

George D. Dangas, M.D., Ph.D. – Mt Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY

Session I

Emerging clinical and translational concepts in cardiology

4-4:30 **Christie M. Ballantyne, M.D.** – Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
Treatment targets for Hyperlipidemia and Inflammation

4:30-5:00 **George L. Bakris, M.D.** – University of Chicago, IL
Kidney Disease, Hypertension and Cardiovascular risk

5-5:30 **Evangelos D. Michelakis, M.D.** – University of Alberta, Canada
Pulmonary Hypertension and Right Ventricular Failure

5:30-5:45 **Break**

Session II

Molecular cardiology: from the bench to the bedside

5:45-6:15 **Litsa Kranias, Ph.D.** – University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, OH
“Calcium cycling circuits in cardiac function and disease”

6:15-6:45 **Walter J. Koch, Ph.D.** - Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
“GRK2 Inhibition as a Treatment for Heart Failure: Moving from bench to Bedside”

6:45-7:15 **Nikolaos G. Frangogiannis, M.D.** - Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx NY
“Mechanisms of repair following myocardial injury”

Comment & Questions to the speakers: Dennis Caralis, MD, Rush University, Chicago, IL