

PTCOG 43
December 10-14, 2005
Rinecker Proton Therapy Center
Munich, Germany

Steering Committee Report
Al Smith, Chairman

PTCOG Meetings

- **PTCOG 44:** Paul Scherrer Institute, Villigen, Switzerland, June 14-16, 2006. Education satellite meeting will be held June 12-13.
- **PTCOG 45:** M. D. Anderson Proton Therapy Center, Houston, Texas, USA, October 9-11, 2006
- **PTCOG 46:** Shandong Zibo Wanjie Hospital, June 2007. Dr. Li Jiamin - contact at wlijiamin@yahoo.com.cn

PTCOG Meetings

- **Beginning in 2007, PTCOG will meet only once per year. We are soliciting volunteers to host the 2008 meeting.**
- **We will decide at the PSI Steering Committee meeting where the 2008 PTCOG 47 meeting will be held.**

PTCOG Meetings

The University of Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, USA and the University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany have expressed interest in hosting PTCOG 47 in 2008. Other bids are welcome. All facilities who are interested in hosting a meeting must submit an application to Al Smith before the PSI meeting and give a presentation to the PSI Steering Committee in support of their application.

PTCOG Meetings

- **Beginning in 2007 we plan to hold a one-week education/training program once a year. The 2007 education program will be held in Wanjie, China in conjunction with the PTCOG 46 meeting.**
- **Alejandro Mazal is chairperson of a committee that is developing guidelines for education/training programs. He will submit a formal proposal for such programs at the PSI meeting.**

PTCOG Meetings

- **A subcommittee was formed to develop guidelines for scientific sessions at PTCOG meetings:**
 - Michael Goitein
 - Manfred Herbst
 - Yves Jongen
- **Subjects to be considered:**
 - abstract submission deadlines
 - full abstracts required for acceptance?
 - under what circumstances will parallel sessions will be held?
 - limit the number of presentations per person/institution?

PTCOG Meetings

Starting immediately, all PTCOG hosts are asked to use a link furnished on the PSI PTCOG website (<http://ptcog.web.psi.ch>) for meeting registrations.

This link (to the MPRI, Bloomington, Indiana server) will automatically update the PTCOG membership list with data from PTCOG meeting registrants. The MPRI database will be the official PTCOG membership list.

PTCOG Meetings

- **Drs. Ogino and Hauffe will share information gained as hosts of the PTCOG 42 - 43 meetings with Martin Jermann who is organizing the PTCOG 44 meeting.**
- **Martin will add his experiences gained while organizing the PSI meeting and produce a draft guideline that can be used by future PTCOG meeting hosts.**

PTCOG Funds

- 10% of registration fees from all PTCOG meetings will be placed in the PTCOG bank account.
- Approximately \$10 US per meeting registrant will be made available to the Particles editor to pay expenses associated with publishing Particles and maintaining the facility/patient database.
- Travel Fellows will be given a 50% discount in PTCOG meeting registration fees.
- MPRI was authorized to pay \$1160.00 for setting up and maintaining the website www.ptcog.com. Please go to this site to apply for or update your PTCOG membership.

Particles Editorship

Janet Sisterson, who has been the editor of Particles for many years, will edit the January 2006 issue of Particles after which she will pass the editorship to a new person.

PTCOG gives our deepest appreciation to Janet for her many years of excellent service to the organization. She has been diligent and tireless in her efforts to provide a first class Particles publication and an up-to-date database of particle facilities and patient statistics.

Particles Newsletter

After the January 2006 issue of Particles, Martin Jermann, PSI, will take over the editorship of Particles. He will maintain a web site that will have all back issues of Particles.

<http://ptcog.web.psi.ch/archive.html>

Martin will also be responsible for maintaining the database for particle facilities and particle treatment statistics. He will contact particle facilities for updates of their building programs or patient treatment numbers.

Particles Newsletter

- **Dr. Tsujii (NIRS, Chiba) will send a list of tumor sites to Martin Jermann who will use this information to develop a standard form to send to particle therapy sites to obtain data on patient statistics.**

Legal, Non-Profit Status for PTCOG

- **Martin Jermann at PSI will conduct a study of the feasibility of establishing PTCOG as a non-profit organization in Switzerland and, subsequently, establishing PTCOG as an international organization.**
- **The Steering Committee will evaluate Martin's report during the PSI meeting and make a decision about seeking a non-profit status in Switzerland.**

Legal, Non-Profit Status for PTCOG

When we achieve non-profit status, a PTCOG bank account will be established and all PTCOG funds, about \$39,000.00, will be transferred into that account.

If this happens in Switzerland, Martin Jermann will become the first Treasurer of PTCOG.

PTCOG Travel Fellowships

The Travel Fellowship program is currently sponsored by the following companies, to whom we are very grateful:

- ACCEL
- Schär Engineering
- IBA
- Siemens

PTCOG Travel Fellowships

A travel fellowship candidate is a person who:

- Is no more than 5 yrs beyond highest degree and has at least one-half yr, and at most 3 yrs, experience in particle therapy.**
- Is a member of, or affiliated with, an existing medical particle facility or a facility being built or is in an advance state of planning.**
- And, whose institution will undertake to cover any additional costs of a fellow's attendance at a PTCOG meeting.**

PTCOG Travel Fellowships

- **Fellowships will provide up to €1'000 for travel/meeting expenses and an additional €500 for travel between continents.**
- **The funds will be distributed to travel award recipients at the meeting when the fellow registers.**

PTCOG Travel Fellowships

- The Travel Fellowship fund had € 20'000 to spend this year.
- We funded 13 Fellowships for the Munich meeting and spent €17'000
- Application forms for the PSI meeting in Switzerland may be obtained from Michael Goitein by emailing:

Michael@goitein.ch
- Applications must be received at least 3 months before the specified meeting date.