

PTCOG 44 STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT
Zurich and Villigen PSI, Switzerland
June 12 – 16, 2006

Submitted by Al Smith, Chairman: alsmith@mdanderson.org

PTCOG was hosted by the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) at Villigen PSI, Switzerland. The Steering Committee wishes to express appreciation to the PSI staff for the organization of this very successful meeting.

Scheduled PTCOG Meetings

The Steering Committee has approved the following meeting sites:

- **PTCOG 45** - Host: M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston (MDACC), Houston, Texas
 - October 7 – 8, 2006: Educational Programs, MDACC
 - October 9 – 11, 2006: Scientific Program, Houston Marriott Medical Center
- **PTCOG 46** – Host: Shandong Province, Zibo city, Wanjie Hospital, China
 - June 10 – 12, 2007

Future PTCOG Meetings

The following proposals have been received:

- PTCOG 47 in 2008
 - Jacksonville, Florida, USA
 - Heidelberg, Germany
 - Italy? An Italian project has expressed interest in hosting a meeting. The Steering Committee needs a formal request from the interested party.
- PTCOG 48 in 2009
 - Essen, Germany

Facilities proposing to host a PTCOG meeting are asked to submit a one-page proposal to the Steering Committee. The proposal should contain: 1) The status and schedule for the particle therapy facility; and, 2) Where the meeting will be held and the date for the meeting. The site for the PTCOG 47 meeting in 2008 will be determined at the PTCOG 45 meeting in Houston.

Future PTCOG hosts are asked to coordinate a training program with Alejandro Mazal, the PTCOG Training Committee Chairman.

Scientific Sessions at PTCOG meetings

The following guidelines were approved by the Steering Committee:

- Parallel scientific sessions are highly discouraged.
- A PTCOG Scientific Sub-Committee will provide guidelines for scientific sessions and will be available to review abstracts for host institutions.

- Commercial talks and facility status reports should be given the lowest priority for oral presentation. It is recommended that these topics be presented in poster sessions.
- Two-minute poster presentations are encouraged.

PTCOG Reports

It was suggested that PTCOG issue reports on topics of general interest to the particle therapy community that are not generally addressed by scientific organizations. These reports might contain techniques and procedures particular for particle therapy or be training manuals, either technical or clinical in nature. We would be happy to receive comments on this issue.

Reorganization of PTCOG

- We will be seeking the status of a non-profit organization in Switzerland. This can be done at no cost and the non-profit organization would not be subject to taxes.
- Martin Jermann has established a PTCOG bank account in Switzerland and PTCOG funds (about 50,000 €) will be consolidated into that account. Martin will be the interim PTCOG Treasurer and will manage all PTCOG funds.
- The draft articles of the organization have been developed by Martin Jermann and will be placed on the PTCOG web site for comment.

Membership Database

It was suggested that we consolidate the PTCOG membership database and link it to the PTCOG web site. This will be discussed further in Houston. You can update your membership information on the PTCOG web site.

PTCOG Travel Fellowship Program

Contributions for 2006 were received from:

- Schär Engineering AG (5'000 €)
- IBA SA (5'000 €)
- Siemens AG (5'000 €)
- ACCEL Instruments GmbH (5'000 €)
- Varian (5'000 \$)

Our sincere thanks to all companies for these contributions. The status of our funds is:

- **€ 28'500.- available**
- **€ 14'500.- spent for 12 travel fellows of PTCOG 44**
- **€ 14'000.- left for PTCOG 45 and PTCOG 46**

We expect about the same contributions from industry for 2007 as we received for 2006.

The recipients of travel awards for the PTCOG 44 meeting were:

- Dirk Geismar, Rinecker Proton Therapy Center, Munich, Germany
- Sameer Keole, Florida Proton Therapy Institute, Jacksonville, Florida
- Markus Wilms, Rinecker Proton Therapy Center, Munich Germany

- Myonggeun Yoon, NCC, Korea
- Marta Mumot, JINR, Dubna, Russia
- Marco Cianchetti, ATreP, Trento, Italy
- Madelon Pijls-Johannesma, MAASTRO, Netherlands
- Oksana Geithner, GSI, Germany
- Caroline Devalckenaere, Orsay, France
- Michael Epps, Hampton University, USA
- Torunn Yock, MGH, Boston
- Simona Giordanego, INFN, Torino, Italy