First Summer Meeting, Brazilian Society of Dermatology, Salvador da Bahia, December 9–11, 2010

This initial annual event, adroitly led with aplomb by Congress President Professor Paulo Cunha, commenced in the historic first capital of Brazil, Salvador da Bahia, on December 9, 2010 (Figs 1–3). With the support of Sociedade Brasileira de Dermatologia (SBD) President and Honorary Congress President Omar Lupi, Congress Scientific Coordinator, SBD Vice President and incoming SBD President Bogdana Kadunc, and Anais Brasileiros de Dermatologia Scientific Editor Izelda Carvalho, this first summer meeting of the world’s second largest dermatology society in the 4th largest country on earth proved a resounding success, the inception of a great tradition.

The program was opened with a superb lecture by Omar Lupi on frontiers in the study of basal cell carcinoma. Highlights included stellar presentations by Paulo Cunha on endemic pemphigus foliaceus, Alberto Gianetti (Italy) on gene therapy in dermatology, Percy Lehmann (Germany) on rosacea, Carlos Machiedo on surgical approaches to vitiligo, Bogdana Kadunc on surgical approaches to acne, Steven P. Stone (USA) on therapeutic pearls, Uladzimir P. Adashevich (Bialorus) on erythroderma, Hana Zelenkova (Slovakia) on surgical fillers, Roderick J. Hay (UK) on emerging tropical diseases, Aldo Morrone (Italy) on dermatologic challenges in Ethiopia, Stephen K. Tyring (USA) on vaccines, Sergio Chimienti (Italy) on mycosis fungoides, Omar Sangueza on histological challenges with melanoma, Antônio Picoto (Lisbon) on his most challenging dermatologic surgery cases, and Klaus Wolff (Austria) on dermatology “Quo Vadis.” Robert A. Schwartz (USA) dedicated his lecture to the memory of Raymundo Martins Castro (1927–1993), the eminent professor and head of dermatology at the Escola Paulista de Medicina in São Paulo. A special session was held in remembrance of the life of Jean-Claude Bystryn (1938–2010), an esteemed colleague and friend of Brazil.

Pivotal knowledge was imparted in an efficient manner to an ardent audience. Translation was first-rate. Roderick J. Hay (UK) covered mycetoma, an entity often impossible to treat. He explained that “grains” form by the “onion skin effect” and that many fungi produce melanin, which binds antifungal drugs except voriconazole. Gerson Penna provided leprosy data in Brazil. Its incidence is increasing with new cases every year. The abrupt drop reported was an administrative error. Brazil is now self-sufficient in leprosy medications. Aldo Morrone (Italy) delineated podoconiosis, a non-filarial lymphedema linked with silica in soil, producing cutaneous and pulmonary disease in both Africa and South America, including Brazil. The pyoderma occurring commonly with scabies may be associated with post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis and rheumatic fever. Stephen K. Tyring (USA) recommended vaccination for herpes zoster in persons over 60 years of age to prevent herpes zoster and postherpetic neuralgia, noting it may be covered by medical insurance. Rut Lellis demonstrated use of ex vivo...
dermatoscopy, synchronous evaluation between dermatologist and dermatopathologist, to determine where sections of histologic specimens should be optimally obtained. Riccardo Romiti detailed nail changes in psoriasis, pointing out that enthesitis is associated with nail root damage since the nail is intimately linked to entheses, with the extension tendon of the distal interphalangeal joint sending fibers from bone that envelop the nail root. Sergio Chimenti (Italy) delineated mycosis fungoides and the 20 variants that should be recognized, including

Figure 2 Larger group under guidance of Congress President Paulo Cunha

Figure 3 Intrepid travelers explore the Pelourinho District of historic old Salvador
dyshidrosiform MF, MF with eruptive cysts and comedones, follicular (acneiform) MF, and perioral dermatitis-like MF. Omar Sangueza (USA) explained that ulceration, a histologic criteria for assessing melanoma, implies necrosis from a lack of blood due to rapid tumor growth. Klaus Wolff provided the final overview. It has been estimated that the cost to eliminate leprosy worldwide would be only $450 million. In the world today we have leprosy in 2.2 million, malaria in 500 million, schistosomiasis in 200 million, and scabies in 300 million people. Three
grants for young physicians to attend the upcoming World Congress in Korea were bestowed for scientific investigations on HTLV-1 dermatitis in Bahia. Roberto Amorim, President of the upcoming SBD Congress and its Scientific Coordinator, Jesus Santamaria, helped present awards to participate in their event in Florianópolis, September 3–6, 2011. All were urged to attend.

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Brazilian Society of Dermatology Amazonas
Combined Meeting with the Brazilian Allergy
and Immunopathology Association Amazonas
and the Academy of Medicine of the
Amazonas, Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil,
December 13, 2010

The Sociedade Brasileira de Dermatologia Regional Amazonas, Associação Brasileira de Alergia e Imunopatologia Regional Amazonas, and the Academia Amazonense de Medicina convened a joint meeting on December 13, 2010. This event was held at the Universidade do Estado do Amazonas School of Medicine in Manaus, the capital of the Brazilian state of Amazonas, once a center of great wealth from rubber, now famous for its extraordinarily opulent opera house, Teatro Amazonas, and palatial mansions of the rubber barons. Academy President Cláudio Chaves, and Society Presidents Professor Simão Arão Pecher, MD and Valeska Francesconi, MD opened the meeting with the awarding of International Corresponding Membership of the Academia Amazonense de Medicina to Robert A. Schwartz (USA) (Fig. 1). He lauded Prof. Simão A. Pecher for his many academic accomplishments, including serving as Visiting Professor of Dermatology at the New Jersey Medical School on July 19, 1984, and awarded him Honorary Membership in Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, New Jersey Medical School Chapter. Dr Schwartz provided two hours of lectures on vascular sarcomas and atopic dermatitis, dedicated to the memory of world renowned Professor of Dermatology Jean-Claude Bystryn, to enthusiastic attendees, including faculty, residents and medical students of the University of the State of Amazonas School of Medicine and the Federal University of Amazonas School of Medicine. The galley proof of the upcoming article on lobomycosis by Valeska and Fabio Francesconi in the New England Journal of Medicine was admired, recalling the splendid work on this subject done years earlier by Professor Simão A. Pecher.

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Figure 1 Award ceremony, Academia Amazonense de Medicina medal and honorary membership

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