

## RSSA/ICIS cancer imaging course

Feedback from delegates to the groundbreaking satellite cancer imaging course, jointly presented by the Radiological Society of South Africa (RSSA) and the International Cancer Imaging Society (ICIS), which took place last month at the beautiful Spier Estate near Stellenbosch, has been that the course was 'an overwhelming success' and 'met its objectives in every respect'. The venue compares favourably with the best in the world: an exquisite hotel in verdant surroundings, with a comfortable and modern conference centre and outstanding social amenities, encouraging relaxed intermingling and exchange between delegates and faculty.

The course was arranged by the RSSA and ICIS to discuss advancing imaging techniques in the multidisciplinary management of cancer patients by promoting continuous education in oncological imaging and stimulating research in human tumour behaviour. The faculty comprised 12 ICIS Fellows (from the USA, UK, Austria and Singapore), a Canadian neuro-radiologist, and a South African skull base surgeon.

Over 40 state-of-the-art lectures on imaging in a wide variety of cancers were presented to an audience of close to 250. The pro-



All lectures were put onto CD, so that delegates were not distracted by note-taking.

gramme was well-balanced and appropriate for local practitioners. An exciting topic was the growth of diffusion MRI as an alternative to the huge expense of PET-CT. All lectures were transcribed onto CD – an educational standard set for future meetings. Positive feedback from the attentive and appreciative audience confirmed that this was a programme that met a local need. Particularly gratifying was the number of

young radiologists.

All aspects of the organisation, under the enthusiastic direction of congress chairman Professor Leon Janse van Rensburg, were run with precision and efficiency and rated by the faculty as ideal. Professor van Rensburg is to be congratulated on initiating and organising this short but comprehensive conference. The ICIS was grateful to be given the opportunity of combining with the RSSA, and hopes that it is the first of many future such 'satellite' ventures.



Some members of the international faculty. From left to right: Leon Janse van Rensburg (RSSA), Hans Kauczor (Germany), Wolfgang Schima (Austria and ICIS President), Jay P Heiken (USA), Richard Gore (USA), Vincent Chong (Singapore).

## Rewards of the Travel Award

Dr Salomine Theron was the joint winner of the RSSA Travel Award; she reports below on how she put it to good purpose.

'I was privileged to attend the course entitled Multimodality Approach to the Detection and Diagnosis of Occult Breast Cancer, conducted by Professor László Tabár, from 24 - 27 September 2008 in Bologna, Italy. The course was attended by 305 delegates from 40 countries, with most attendees, however, being Italian. I was the only delegate from South Africa. The same course was held in Cape Town a little over a year ago, and I had some proud moments when Professor Tabár showed numerous photos of Cape

Town, calling it "one of the most beautiful places in the world". The conference venue was the Zan Hotel in Centregross, which is 8 km from the Bologna city centre.

'Professor Tabár's enthusiasm for mammography is infectious! His systematic approach to the evaluation of a mammo-gram provides structure to a difficult topic. Normal breast patterns, anatomical variances and various abnormalities/pathologies found on mammograms were discussed in depth, with emphasis on pitfalls. He was assisted by Dr Anthony Stavros, a radiologist from Greenwood, Colorado, USA, who is a breast imaging specialist with a special interest in breast ultrasound, and Professor Vincenzo

Eusebi, a local pathologist from Bologna. Each mammography topic was followed by a short ultrasound lecture, correlating the findings. I found the course extremely useful for my everyday work.

'I wish to express my gratitude to the Radiological Society of South Africa for presenting me with the CPD award and giving me the opportunity to attend this course.'

*Dr Salomine Theron*

## Fellowship appointment

We are pleased to announce that Dr Jaishree Naidoo has accepted the Harry Crossley

Fellowship in Paediatric Radiology at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, with effect from 1 March 2009. He writes:

'I am currently a senior consultant at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital. I was offered a fellowship at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia, but withdrew as I felt that, as my intention was to come back to South Africa, the Fellowship would be more suitable for me and also that it is more relevant to the African context. So I look forward to the year ahead and hope that more radiologists take an interest in subspecialty training.'

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