# Governing Body (2013-2014)

#### President:

Prof Richard P Baum (Germany) richard.baum@zentralklinik.de

### Secretary:

Dr Emerita Barrenechea (Philippines) emieab@yahoo.com

#### Treasurer:

Dr P S Choudhary (India) pschoudhary@hotmail.com

## President Elect:

Dr S Srivastava (USA) suresh@bnl.gov

## Members:

Dr Patricia Bernal (Colombia)
Dr Luzmaria Castaneda (Dom. Republic)
Prof AH Elgazzar (Kuwait)
Dr Shazia Fatima (Pakistan)
Dr Gopinath Gnanasegaran (UK)
Dr Knut Liepe (Germany)
Prof Raihan Hussain (Bangladesh)
Dr Mai Trong Khoa (Vietnam)
Prof J Harvey Turner (Australia)
Prof Irene Virgolini (Austria)
Prof N Watanabe (Japan)
Dr Seyed Rasoul Zakavi (Iran)
Dr Sze Ting Lee (Australia)
Prof Cornelis Hoefnagel (Netherlands)

# Interim Address for Communication: Prof Richard P Baum (Germany) richard.baum@zentralklinik.de

31st October 2014

# To: All Members of WARMTH

# Dear Friends of WARMTH,

In the last few months since my last communiqué, we have seen continued activities in the field of radionuclide therapy, which has WARMTH firmly integrated as a supporting foundation for activities in this field.

Firstly, there was a very successful ICRT held in Cancun on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2014, which was in conjunction with the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine & Biology (WFNMB). It was an extremely well attended program for the day, and the room was packed, with standing room only at some parts of the program. Many thanks to Patricia Bernal, Emie Barrenechea, Sze Ting Lee and Harvey Turner for their invaluable assistance with the program. Special thanks go out to Patricia for overseeing the organization of this ICRT together with the organizing committee of the WFNMB, and also preparing a very touching video on Memories of Ajit, which is available on our website for those who were unable to make it. Video tribute to Ajit.

Following my suggestion, there was a "Remembrance Wall" established with numerous pictures of Ajit (coordinated by Emie as well).

Whilst in Cancun, those members of the Governing Body, who were present, attended a Governing Board Meeting, where numerous issues were discussed. Of special note is that of the revision of the constitution which will be sent out to all members for review and comments in the next few weeks for final ratification at the next Member's Assembly in 2015.

I was informed by our treasurer Partha Choudhary that all financial activities are controlled by the WARMTH bank account at HDFC bank in New Delhi. Let me tell you that we have obtained PAN (Permanent Account Number) of WARMTH and have submitted our application for registration in Income Tax department Government of India. In addition to this, last financial accounts have been audited which has covered most of the expenditure of ICRT 2013. We have cleared all outstanding balances of ICRT 2013 and ICRT 2014. We have supported about 45 participants in ICRT 2013 in Manila and 22 participants in ICRT 2014 in Cancun. The accounts of two previous financial years (after this account was opened) have also been audited and all taxes till date has been paid by WARMTH. This means now we are fully compliant as per the IT rules. Josh Mailman has taken over the whole responsibility of the payment gateway for facilitating credit card payment and as per his instructions the last set of documents has been submitted to the bank and hopefully it should be up soon.

Also of great importance is that one of Ajit's pet projects - Re-188 for localized liver therapy - continues to thrive in India, and this will be coordinated by his namesake, Ajit Shinto. As we want to standardize the

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treatment protocol for all centers which are interested in taking up this therapy as well as to retain this niche modality under the pervasive umbrella of WARMTH, we organized a meeting with all interested parties at the recent EANM Congress in Gothenburg (Sweden). This informal round table meeting was extremely useful. The main result of the meeting was the assurance of continuous, uninterrupted as well as cost-effective Re-188 generator supply by ITG (Munich, Germany) supplying a "WARMTH Re-188 Generator" at affordable cost. This was a prime concern as the generator used before in India was from POLATOM and they have discontinued their production unit. I personally have facilitated further collaborations with corporate entities willing to provide standardized kits to be used for therapy (in case supply from SNU runs out), e.g. by support from IRE (Belgium) with whom I also met at the EANM Congress.

A more extended description what has been achieved and on our website by clicking here.

There has also been progress on the development of the WARMTH THERANOSTICS ACADEMY (WTA) which will be formally launched at the ICRT 2015 in Innsbruck. The entry criteria and examination rules will be discussed for certification/fellowships. Under the leadership of Gopinath Gnanasegaran and Cornelis Hoefnagel our immediate plans include:

- 1. Edit and upload educational materials/lectures related to radionuclide therapy on our website.
- 2. Make videos of radionuclide therapy procedures, which will benefit both doctors and patients worldwide.
- 3. Produce a dedicated pocket book series on radionuclide therapies.

On behalf of WTA, the Congress President Irene Virgolini will be organizing a pre-congress workshop on science and practice of radionuclide therapy in Innsbruck 2015. WARMTH may offer support to 25 to 30 delegates keen on radionuclide therapy and we are hoping to get some sponsorship for this event. The applications will be available on our official website soon (so watch the space, and apply ASAP).

With the unwavering assistance of Josh Mailman, in conjunction with the permanent secretariat, there is a new website with unique features including links to the World Journal of Nuclear Medicine. Please visit the site <a href="https://www.warmth.org">www.warmth.org</a> for more information on this and other events of WARMTH. In particular, significant inroads are being made in making electronic payment gateways available for new and renewing members, as well as allowing e-voting for upcoming elections.

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I would like to bring to your attention the next ICRT, which is being expertly organized by Irene Virgolini and her organizing committee, and is scheduled to be held in Innsbruck, Austria from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2015. There will be an exciting week of lectures and presentations which embodies our mission to propagate research and education in therapeutic nuclear medicine and also to share the knowledge pool with participants from all over the world. Once again, we will attempt to organize lump sum packages and travel grants for members of WARMTH submitting abstracts.

<u>Click here</u> to downlod the invitation, or visit the conference website at <u>Warmth.org/icrt</u> where you can learn more about the conference and submit abstracts online.

I would also like to flag that the 11<sup>th</sup> ICRT in 2016 is scheduled to be held in Kerala (India) with Partha Choudhary as Congress President.

Further activities of WARMTH currently scheduled include participation (Harvey Turner) in the 13th Annual General Meeting of ARCCNM, November 5 to 6, 2014 in Osaka, co-sponsoring of a CME session at the SNMMI Mid-Winter meeting in San Antonio (Texas) on January 23, 2015, participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Balkan Congress of Nuclear Medicine to be held in Ohrid (Macedonia), September 3 to 6, 2015 and a one day symposium on radionuclide therapy at the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asia Oceania Federation of Nuclear Medicine & Biology (AOFNMB) which will be held from 31<sup>st</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in Jeju Island in South Korea.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Governing Body and the Permanent Secretariat, for their continued support and assistance in keeping WARMTH going. It is with one voice through WARMTH that we will be able to progress therapeutic nuclear medicine in this growing field of personalized medicine throughout the world.

I look forward to seeing you in the near future, but if not, at the next ICRT.

Kindest Regards.

Prof. Dr. Richard P. Baum President, WARMTH