

**Below are some combined thoughts from ASSET
Members *John Basti* and *Jean O'Toole* who attended
"The 2nd ICSET" 2007 in Brazil.**

We all know, success does not just happen, it requires individuals to invest in a huge commitment, financially, professionally and personally. This investment accompanied with hard work and passion resulted in the glowing success of this meeting. It was a great group effort.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people, our Brazilian hosts, the Brazilian Shoulder Society, the Executive Board of ICSES, ICSES, the program Committee of ICSET, and ASSET, since they were pivotal in making this meeting a reality and a great success.

Foremost, I would like to thank the wonderful family of ASSET for allowing us to take on this project. Unfortunately many of you were unable to attend due to professional, financial and personal restraints. We do understand that. I can tell you with utmost certainty, we were very visible as a society and those of us who were present, did our very best to represent all of you. Without our Society this Brazil meeting, the preceding meeting in Washington D C and the upcoming meetings in Edinburgh in 2010 and Japan in 2013 would not be possible. We should all take pride in these accomplishments!

As with all meetings and their planning, certain people are "go to" people. Jean O'toole and Dave Ebaugh were those people. They worked very hard to develop the comprehensive clinical and scientific programs. At times it was very frustrating due to language and "communication blips" but they never lost a step with multiple revisions of the program along with the problem solving that had to be undertaken. Jean really kept it all together! Keep those e-mails coming!

Keep in mind that this was the first time that we had undertaken the role of organizing a program in a foreign country with a foreign language. I believe it was a worth while learning experience. It really came off without a hitch due to the combined efforts of the Brazilian contingent and their excellent organization of the logistics, audio/visuals and language translation. A job well done!

Mike Shaffer and Jean did a great job with the ASSET shirts. They came out great and the people we presented them to loved them.

The programming was done in four morning sessions from 7:30-1:00. Many people commented on the brilliant job that Dave Ebaugh did putting it together. Many ASSET members presented more than one paper. Brian Leggin topped the list by giving three talks. The topics covered a good scope of shoulder therapy.

Examples include:

Wendy presented her exciting work on stem cell research that is focused on trying to heal cuff tears.

Maureen and Sarah each presented on how total shoulders are managed in their geographical areas, and it was interesting to see the contrast. They organized it to be an open discussion which encouraged good audience participation.

Bryce presented the ASSET consensus guidelines for post operative management of anterior stabilization procedures.

Karen Ginn was a real trooper, presenting two papers, despite feeling under the weather.

We had a very talented translator whose name was Tony. George Davies and I had chatted a little about if Tony would be able to keep up with the speed of George's presentation style. When the time came, Tony was flawless. The media people were ever present and very attentive, so those two contributions went a long way in making this a successful meeting.

There were 14 members from ASSET who made the trip, but Bob Manske whose passport never arrived in time couldn't make it, but whose paper was presented by Kevin Laudner.

This is who was there from ASSET.

John Basti

Maureen Williams

Karen Ginn

Brian Leggin

Dorcas Beaton

Kevin Laudner

Wendy Burke

Yeda Belia

George Davies

Bryce Gaunt

Mike Shaffer

Sarah Jackins

Marty Kelley

Jean O'Toole

Paul Schmidt came also from the U.S. He is a therapist from Chicago. It was great to meet him and we hope he decides to become a member of ASSET.

Yeda was just a wonderful hostess and made us feel so welcome in her beautiful country. She went out of her way to help everyone out. There were 9 papers presented from our Brazilian colleagues, and one from Chile. There was a paper from Switzerland and one from Denmark. The U.K. was well represented as well with 4 presenters.

10 days before the conference, John Basti was contacted by one of the organizing physicians from the U.K., an Angus Wallace. He told John that they wanted to present an award to the therapist with the best paper. It is the Ian Kelly award that comes with a \$500 gift. It was to be done in memory of Ian Kelly who was a beloved and highly respected physician from the U.K. It was a wonderful offer and so of course, John said yes. We then realized that have no precedent for something like this, nor did we have a process. We felt it was important to do this in a way that was fair to everyone. So, it was the ever gracious, ever competent Tim Uhl who came to the rescue. He offered to score the abstracts if he could be blinded to the authors. Jean Evans blinded the entire file of abstracts in a very short time and off it went to Kentucky. Tim used a scoring tool that he has used many times before in his work. He then gave us the names of the top 7 papers along with a tool to score the oral presentation. Once in Brazil we asked 5 people to do that scoring and they all readily agreed to help. There were two judges from the U.K., one from the U.S., one from Australia, and one from Brazil. On Wednesday night, Dorcas Beaton was honored to receive the Ian Kelly award for her paper, "Predictors of disability in soft tissue disorders of the shoulder: A comparison of prognostic models when the dependent outcome is formatted in three different ways".

John Basti, who you know was chair for this meeting also responded to another request from the International Committee. This was to organize a group of therapist to comprise the International Board of Shoulder and Elbow Therapy. At this meeting we established an Executive Board which is comprised of invited multi-international individuals. We are going to undertake the development of bylaws and will function as a central advisory board for the development of future Congresses. There were two meetings of this group, and John worked really hard with Martin Scott from the U.K. on the preliminary details for the next International meeting which will be in Edinburgh Scotland on September 5th-8, 2010. The website for that meeting is www.ICES2010. This committee will serve as an advisory group for other international meetings and should provide for a well balanced representation of therapists to do that work. The group is just in its infancy, and you will be hearing more about it as things develop. John also had a lovely piece of stone made to serve as an obelisk. It is engraved with the Congress held in 2004 in D.C., as well as this one in Brazil. In front of a packed room of physicians, he handed it over to Martin Scott who is from Scotland. The idea is to continue to pass this along over the years as a symbol of goodwill and collegial partnership. After the meeting in Scotland, Martin will then pass it along for the 2013 meeting in Japan.

This meeting would not have been what it was without the strong presence of ASSET. Each and every one who made the trip, made a difference. It was a huge commitment in time and money for everyone who went. I know we were challenged last fall in Chicago wondering if we should do it, but it seemed like the right thing then and I hope that everyone who went is glad they made that choice. I know many others from ASSET wanted to go but could not, and that is totally understandable that we could not attend. ASSET is a special group of people and we knew you were with us in spirit. In closing, we continue to remain true to our vision and mission, reaching out, on a national and international basis encouraging professional growth through mentorship, fellowship and education. The well balanced content of the program, incorporating scientific and clinical presentations of highest quality is a statement of our commitment to sharing and exchanging information for the benefit of all our patients. I, as I hope you do, feel fortunate to part of this wonderful group of dedicated, talented professionals and caring individuals.

The next annual meeting is September of 08 in California and you will be hearing more from the ever capable Mike Shaffer about that. That should be a really good meeting.