

FIFTH ANNOUNCEMENT: XXVTH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR FLUORIDE RESEARCH

The XXVth World Conference of the International Society for Fluoride Research will be held at Knox College in Dunedin, New Zealand, January 21-24, 2003. The meeting will be hosted by Dr Bruce Spittle and the Department of Psychological Medicine, Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago. Programme details and the registration form are available in the Second Announcement (*Fluoride* 2002;35:5-11) and at <http://www.fluoride-journal.com>. As noted in the Second Announcement the Conference will close with a banquet on January 24, 2003, and accommodation for that evening is included to allow those attending to depart on the morning of Saturday January 25, 2003.

According to the 28 invited and submitted papers received, the conference has been divided into the following nine topical areas. Keynote speakers for the first six sessions and the last session are, respectively, Prof Anna Strunecká, Prof Paul Connert, Prof Hardy Limeback, Prof Niloufer Chinoy, Mr Andreas Schuld, Dr William Hirzy, and Dr Mark Diesendorf. These sessions as well as the seventh and eighth sessions will also have discussion leaders.

- **Aluminofluoride complexes**
- **Effects of fluoride on bone, collagen, and cartilage**
- **Fluoride and teeth**
- **Amelioration of fluoride toxicity**
- **Fluoride and thyroid function**
- **Environmental fluoride**
- **Biological effects of fluoride**
- **Fluoride analysis**
- **Ethics of fluoridation**

Titles and authors of the conference papers are listed in the Table of Contents of this issue of *Fluoride*. The abstracts appear on pages 244-263.

In the Second Announcement, information was provided about various touring and travel options in New Zealand. Those who are attending the conference are also invited to join our pre-conference tour of the southern part of New Zealand's South Island from Monday, January 13, 2003 until Tuesday, January 21, 2003. Details about this tour are given in the Third Announcement. At present close to 20 people will be on the tour.

There are still vacancies in the team presenting the case for water fluoridation in the debate in the evening of Wednesday, January 22, 2003. Members who would like to take part are invited to contact Bruce Spittle (E-mail: spittle@es.co.nz). Paul Connert and David Kennedy will present the case against water fluoridation. The ISFR takes no position as a Society on fluoridation, and the views expressed are those of the individual members.

A warm welcome will await all those who come to the conference whether they can participate in the pre-conference tour or not. At present the number attending the conference is about 50 representing over a dozen countries including Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, England, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, People's Republic of China, Poland, South Africa, and the United States. The calibre of the invited keynote speakers, the quality of the papers being presented, and the venue should provide a basis for the participants to confer with one another on fluoride research. The abstracts received by the closing date of October 1, 2002 are published in this issue of *Fluoride*. Offers of papers for oral presentation (15 minutes for the presentation — strictly adhered to — followed by 5 minutes for questions and discussion) or by poster are still welcome and will be published in *Fluoride* 36(1).

Conference and pre-tour costs

Costs of the pre-conference tour include travel, accommodation, meals, and admission to attractions.		Costs of the conference include registration, accommodation, and the banquet.	
Participants	United States \$ 945	Participants	United States \$ 530
Delegates	Japan ¥ 122,650	Delegates	Japan ¥ 68,920
Spouses	Britain £ 635		Britain £ 354.50
Guests	Euro 1065		Euro 601
Students	Australia \$ 1790		Australia \$ 1006
(One rate for all)	New Zealand \$ 2120		New Zealand \$ 1191
		Spouses	United States \$ 410
		Guests	Japan ¥ 53,420
		Students	Britain £ 274.50
			Euro 466
			Australia \$ 776
			New Zealand \$ 926

Payment of the Pre-conference tour and Conference fees: Payment may be made by cheque, bank transfer, Visa, or MasterCard. Cheques can be made out to the International Society for Fluoride Research and posted to Dr Bruce Spittle at the address below. Because of the difficulties experienced by some members and subscribers in transferring money due to high bank charges, we have arranged to receive payments also by Visa and MasterCard through PayPal, which enables money to be sent to anyone with an email address in a secure way. It is necessary for you to first register with PayPal at <http://paypal.com/>. The recipient email address to which the payment should be sent must be typed accurately and is spittle@es.co.nz. Bank transfers can be made to The Bank of New Zealand, New Lynn Branch, Cnr Todd and Totara Avenues, New Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand; phone 64 09 827 3065; fax 64 09 827 6806; website www.bnz.co.nz; Account name: International Society for Fluoride Research; Account number 02 0184 0333239 00; Swift BKNZ22A.

Further information: Dr Bruce Spittle, Convenor, XXVth ISFR Conference, 727 Brighton Road, Ocean View, Dunedin 9051, NZ. E-mail: spittle@es.co.nz

CONFERENCE ON NON-LINEAR LOW-DOSE RELATIONSHIPS

In response to the editorial on paradoxical dose-response effects of fluoride in our last issue of *Fluoride* (pages 143-147), we have been asked to announce that the 2nd Annual International Conference on Non-Linear Low-Dose Relationships in Biology, Toxicology, and Medicine will be held May 28-30, 2003, at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA. Professors Edward J Calabrese and Paul T Kostecki in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences at that institution will be in charge.

Researchers are invited to present platform or poster papers dealing with all aspects of non-linear low-dose response effects. Such phenomena embrace many different areas, including fluoride, of chemical and radiation toxicology, epidemiology, pharmacology, biological defense mechanisms, biostatistical models, mechanisms of low-dose effects, and policy implications.

A 300-word narrative abstract should be submitted on-line by Dec. 2, 2002, to dleonard@schoolph.umass.edu or mailed with a disc to Denise Leonard, Conference Coordinator, Environmental Health Sciences, N344 Morrill Science Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, USA (Phone: 413-545-1239).

Further information is available on the conference website where accepted abstracts will be posted: <http://www.belleonline.com/>

COMMENT ON EDITORIAL

In a letter commending my editorial in the last issue of *Fluoride* (pp. 143-147), Professor Lennart Krook of Cornell University kindly noted my incorrect translation (in the second paragraph of my reference note 1) of the Latin grade, *non sine laude approbatur*, for the doctoral dissertation of Svante Arrhenius in 1884 at the University of Uppsala. The correct translation is "approved not without praise", which is one step above from the lowest grade: *approbatur* or simply "approved". The next higher grades are: *cum laude approbatur* – "approved with praise"; *magna cum laude approbatur* – "approved with great praise"; and *summa cum laude approbatur* – "approved with highest praise".

Destined later to be awarded a Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Arrhenius received a *cum laude approbatur* for his defense of his dissertation, but the lower grade on the dissertation itself did not qualify him for a docentship. Commenting on this judgment, Professor Sven Otto Pettersson of Stockholm said this grade was "a very cautious but unfortunate choice....There are chapters in Arrhenius' thesis which alone are worth more or less all the faculty [at Uppsala] can offer in the way of marks." (*Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, Vol 1, p 297)

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