Editorial

In September of 1991 an international conference on mesothelioma was held in Paris. A group of interested medical scientists from different countries met during that conference to discuss the formation of an International Mesothelioma Interest Group to improve communication and collaboration amongst workers interested in this disease. The decision to formulate the group was unanimous. The aims of the group are as follows:

1. To hold an international mesothelioma conference on alternate years, alternating between Europe and the USA, generally as a satellite to either the respiratory or cancer research meetings on either continent.

2. To improve collaboration by generating a list of available resources such as cell lines, monoclonal antibodies, probes etc. as well as making available a list of current research projects and other laboratory techniques that might facilitate collaboration.

3. To produce a newsletter for members on a regular basis.

4. To foster international interest groups to address specific issues of importance, e.g. early diagnosis, thoracoscopy, comparison of national mesothelioma registers etc.

A nominal membership fee of 100 FF was chosen to cover secretariat costs.

The second annual mesothelioma meeting will be held in 1993 on the weekend prior to the American Thoracic Society meeting in San Francisco.

It is hoped that the membership of the IMIG will support these initiatives by making available resources and expertise, by encouraging collaboration and by supporting the biennial international mesothelioma conference.
Malignant mesothelioma is, by virtue of its known aetiology and long incubation period, a fascinating disease scientifically. Mesothelioma is also, by virtue of its resistance to surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy and its dramatic increase in incidence over the past 20 or 30 years, a major health problem for which only continued active research and substantial collaboration are likely to improve diagnosis and therapy.

It is the dream of the organisers of this group that in years to come we will be able to look back on an era of rapid advance in understanding the biological basis for mesothelioma and the development of effective therapy.

Bruce Robinson

This first IMIG Letter has been created by some members of the Executive Committee and some of the registered members. We should like the second Letter to arise from a greater participation of the IMIG members to be more representative of and more informative concerning research on mesothelioma.

**Planned in the next issue:**
* Editorial.
* The effect(s) of the first IMIG Letter mailing.
* The point on mycoplasma testing.
* Results on call for Informal Interest Groups.
* Informations.

Do not hesitate to contact us!

Marie-Claude Jaurand
CONGRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

9th INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS ON
HISTOCHEMISTRY AND
CYTOCHEMISTRY
Maastricht, The Netherlands.
August 30 - September 5, 1992

Contact: Dr. P.C.S. Ramaekers,
Department of Cell Molecular Biology;
University of Limburg, P.O. Box 616,
6200 MD Maastricht, The Netherlands.
Tel. 314388642, FAX 3143437640.

WORKSHOP ON
BIOPERSISTENCE OF
RESPIRABLE SYNTHETIC FIBRES
AND MINERALS
Lyon, France
7-9 September 1992

Contact: IARC
150, cours Albert Thomas
F-69372 Lyon Cedex 08
Tel. 33 72 73 84 85, FAX 33 72 73 85 75.

ADVANCED TECHNIQUES IN
ANIMAL CELL CULTURES
Guildford, Surrey, UK,
20-25 September 1992

Contact: Mrs. M. Hodson, School of
Biological Sciences, University of Surrey,
Guildford, GU2 5XH.
Tel. (0483) 300800 Ext 2662.

24th INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS ON OCCUPATIONAL
HEALTH
Nice, France,
September 26 - October 1, 1992

Correspondence: Yveline LAGARDE
Les Miroirs, 18, avenue d'Alsace -
Cédex 27, 92096 Paris la Défense, France
Tél. : 33 1 47.62.33.70, Fax : 33 1 47.62.31.53
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR INTERFERON RESEARCH
Annual Meeting
Toronto, Canada,
September 28 - October 2, 1992

Congress Secretariat: Meeting
Coordinators,
4400 Emery Industrial Parkway,
Cleveland, Ohio 44128, USA
Tel.: (216) 464-2055, FAX: (216) 464-3884

FRANÇAISE, SOCIÉTÉ MAROCaine DES
MALADIES RESPIRATOIRES,
B.P. 1828 DERB GHALLAF,
CASABLANCA, MAROC
Tél.: (212 2) 22.23.55, Fax: (212 2) 26.14.53

Planed: CELLULAR AND
MOLECULAR EFFECTS OF
MINERAL DUSTS.
Paris, France
October 11-13, 1993

ONCOGENES AND TUMOR
SUPPRESSOR GENES IN
CANCER ETIOLOGY AND
MAMMALIAN DEVELOPMENT
Philadelphia, USA.
February 1 - 6, 1993

Correspondence: American Association for Cancer Research
Public Ledger Building
620 Chestnut Street, Suite 816
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3483
Tel.: 215-440-9300, FAX: 215-440-9313

TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY:
BASIC AND CLINICAL ASPECTS
San Diego, CA, USA,
November 7 - 11, 1993

Correspondence: American Association for Cancer Research
Public Ledger Building
620 Chestnut Street, Suite 816
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3483
Tel.: 215-440-9300, FAX: 215-440-9313

INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON CRITICAL
ASPECTS OF FREE RADICALS IN
CHEMISTRY, BIOCHEMISTRY
AND MEDICINE
Vienna, Austria,
February 14th - 17th, 1993

Correspondence: Conference Secretariat and Registration
Vienna Medical Academy of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research
Alser Str.4; A-1090 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 (1) 42 13 83 - 0, 42 13 84 - 0, 42 71 65 - 0
Fax: +43 (1) 42 13 83 23

WORLD CONGRESS ON
ALTERNATIVES & ANIMAL
USE IN THE LIFE SCIENCES:
EDUCATION RESEARCH
TESTING
Baltimore, Maryland, USA.
November 14-19, 1993

Correspondence: World Congress - Office of Continuing Education.
Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions,
720 Rutland Avenue, Turner 20,
Baltimore, Maryland 21205-2195 USA
Tel.: (410) 955-2959 FAX: (410) 955-0807

CONGRES INTERNATIONAL DE
PNEUMOLOGIE DE LANGUE
FRANCAISE 1993
Palais des Congrès, Marrakech, Maroc,
21-24 Juin 1993

Correspondence: Secretariat, Congrès International de Pneumologie de Langue

XVI INTERNATIONAL CANCER
CONGRESS - UICC
New Delhi, India, 30 October - 5
November 1994

Congress Secretariat: XVI International,
Cancer Congress, Tata Memorial Centre,
Parel, Bombay 400 012; India
Tel.: 412-9750, Tlx: 011-73649 TMC IN
FAX: 022-412-9937
ANTIBODIES:
Some participants have addressed the question of where it is possible to obtain antibodies such as ME1 and OV632. The following addresses are provided:

ME1: AFFINITY BIO REAGENTS
PO Box 240, Neshanic Station
NJ 08853-0240, U.S.A.
Tel.: 908-369-3799
FAX: 908-369-8894

OV632: SANBIO B.V.
Postbox 540
5400 AM Uden
The Netherlands
Tel.: 31 413251115
FAX: 413266605

CELL LINES
Several researchers have written to ask how to obtain mesothelial cell lines. Entry of cell lines is sometimes limited by the requirements of the customs district for every country. If the exchange of mesothelioma cell lines is easy because of the cell immortalization, the exchange of primary cultures or normal cell strains is more difficult because of the limited lifespan of the cells which can be used only for a short period of time. However, exchange programs exist for limited stays of researchers in foreign countries; they could be a helpful to carry out specific experiments.

CELL LINES AND ANTIBODIES AVAILABLE:
Pr. Donna would provide polyclonal antibody raised against mesothelial cells as well as mesothelioma cell lines.
Contact: Pr. A. Donna, Regione Piemonte, USSL 70, Via Venezia 18, Ospedale Civile, Servizio di Anatomato Patologica, 15100 Alessandria.
Tel.: 131 306205
FAX: 131 23 6433

INTERNATIONAL INTEREST GROUPS
Several persons have suggested to organize informal Interest Groups to discuss on different topics. A correspondent should be

find in different countries. So far, the following is planned:

Improvement of early diagnosis of mesothelioma. Contact: J. Bignon

Mesothelioma register in different countries. Contact: P. Brochard

Immunodiagnosis of mesothelioma. Contact: F. Galateau; CHU Côte de Nacre 14033 Caen CEDEX, France

Addresses of the Members of the Executive Committee

Jaurand Marie-Claude
Cell and Molecular Toxicology
INSERM U139 CHU Henri Mondor
94010 Créteil CEDEX
FRANCE
Tel-(33) 1 49 81 36 66; Fax-(33) 1 49 81 35 33

Robertson Bruce W.S.
UDM, QE II Medical Centre,
University of Western Australia
Nedlands 6009, W. A
AUSTRALIA
Tel-(61) 9 389 2098 Fax-(61) 9 389 2816

Barrett Carl
Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis
N.I.E.H.S. PO Box 12233
Research Triangle Park,
NC 27709
U.S.A.
Tel-(1) 919 541 2992; Fax-(1) 919 541 7784

Bignon Jean
Centre Hospitalier Intercommunal
40, Avenue de Verdun
94010 Créteil CEDEX
FRANCE
Tel-(33) 1 48 98 77 35; Fax-(33) 1 48 99 70 68

Brandeley Maud
Institut Roussell UCLAF
102, 111 Route de Noisy, B.P. N°9
93230 Romainville
FRANCE
Tel-(33) 1 48 91 48 91, Fax-(33) 1 48 91 48 00

Brochard Patrick
Centre Hospitalier Intercommunal
40, Avenue de Verdun
94010 Créteil CEDEX
FRANCE
Tel-(33) 1 48 98 77 34; Fax-(33) 1 48 99 70 68
International Mesothe11oma Interest Group

IMIG Registration Form

NAME, Title

Address

Research area

☐ Epidemiology  ☐ Pathology
☐ Cell Biology  ☐ Cytogenetics
☐ Experimental  ☐ Immunology
☐ Other (indicate)

Phone number

Teledocie number

Present address: M.C. Jaurand, INSERM U 139, CHU Henri Mondor
94010 Créteil CEDEX FRANCE

Please, address registration fees [FF 100] by check to the above address.
Check should be labelled to ARMÉ