

International Society of Magnetic Resonance

Statement of the President

It has become the tradition for the incoming president of ISMAR to write a short "State of the Union" message at this time. Some years ago there was concern about the very viability of the Society, but it is now clear that we are experiencing a period of renaissance and can look forward to a vigorous new-style ISMAR that will attract magnetic resonance spectroscopists world-wide. Much of the credit is due to the past Presidents, Raymond Andrew and Charlie Slichter, who worked tirelessly to make ISMAR a truly international organization. A contributing factor was the formation of the active new Division of Biology and Medicine, chaired initially by Oleg Jardetzky and now by John Markley. Finally we should thank our retiring Treasurer, Charles P. Poole, who has carried out this onerous task for the last six years. We welcome Gitte Vold as our new Treasurer.

The new ISMAR image was much in evidence at the excellent Morzine meeting in July of last year. The venue was idyllic and the local arrangements impeccable. Pierre Servoz-Gavin is to be congratulated on the immense organizational effort and his imaginative innovations. It was a particular joy to welcome some of the early pioneers of magnetic resonance, Professors Erwin Hahn, Robert Pound and Warren Proctor, as guests of the Society. Judging by comments received by Charlie Slichter, the scientific program was of the highest standard and there was a general feeling that the Society was on the right track again. There were over 500 participants from 29 countries, and they presented a total of 96 papers and 268 posters. It was possible to make grants to 41 young scientists who would otherwise have been unable to attend. During the meeting the ISMAR Prize was awarded to Professor John Waugh of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for his seminal contributions to magnetic resonance over many years. The final day was devoted to a colloquium of the Division of Biology and Medicine.

Delegates from China, Australia and Canada made proposals for hosting the XIth ISMAR meeting to be held in 1992. A postal ballot of the ISMAR Council settled on the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. Canada as the venue,

and the meeting will be organized by Professor Colin Fyfe of the Chemistry Department, U.B.C. The conference will be held July 18 - 24th 1992. Vancouver is a beautiful city and is readily accessible from most parts of the world. We hope to see you there in 1992.

Finally it is my sad duty to report that Professor Vladimir Bystrov passed away on August 13th 1990. Professor Bystrov was Deputy Director of the She-myakin Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Moscow, and a member of the ISMAR Council. Many of us knew him well, and he will be sadly missed as a devoted scientist and good friend.

Ray Freeman