Dear Friends and Colleagues,

By collaborating with the World Allergy Organization’s member societies, WAO provides direct educational outreach programs, symposia and lectureships to members in nearly 100 countries. WAO also sponsors scientific symposia in developing areas and jointly sponsors postgraduate programs on allergy and clinical immunology.

These education initiatives allow WAO to remain influential in the field of asthma, allergy and clinical immunology by engaging directly with the leaders and future leaders of the specialty. More importantly, this global reach allows WAO to educate the physicians who in turn benefit the lives of our patients.

One of the most exciting and successful educational initiatives of WAO is the Collaborative on Severe Asthma (COSA). This multi-pronged approach to education includes a number of live and online initiatives, many of which are available on the COSA website (www.worldallergy.org/severe-asthma/). Among the new materials include: an online learning module on Linking Upper and Lower Airways, a video recording of a symposium on Recent Understanding for New Mechanisms of Allergy and Airway Inflammation and a review article on Eosinophilic Bioactivities in Severe Asthma. I encourage you to access these important learning tools.

Another learning opportunity that is important for our members in emerging countries is the WAO Emerging Societies Program’s World Allergy Training School (WATS). I was recently honored to speak at our WATS in Saint Petersburg, Russia from 2-3 July. The WATS program is a collaboration between WAO and the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (ACAAI) and this partnership has allowed our organizations to spread education to physicians who don’t have easy access to these educational opportunities. I’d like to personally thank Prof. Revaz Sepiashvili and his colleagues for their hospitality and congratulate them on their successful meeting. Dr. Dana Wallace, Prof. Ignacio Ansotegui, and I were excited to be joined by Dr. Bryan Martin and Dr. Sami Bahna who represented ACAAI.

Lastly, as the deadline for submitting abstracts approaches, I encourage all eligible Junior Members to apply for a travel grant to the WAO International Scientific Conference (WISC)
2016 from 6-9 December 2016 in Jerusalem. Travel grant applications are due by the Early Registration deadline of 31 July and I encourage all Junior Members to consider submitting an abstract (http://www.worldallergy.org/wisc2016/scientific-program/abstract-submission.php) and applying for a travel grant (http://www.worldallergy.org/wisc2016/scientific-program/travel-grant.php).

See you in Jerusalem!

Sincerely yours,

Mario Sánchez Borges, MD
President, World Allergy Organization

*******************************************************************************************

Save the date for WISC 2016: 6-9 December 2016

Keep track of all WAO activities at:
www.worldallergy.org and www.waojournal.org
@worldallergy on Twitter
WorldAllergyOrg on Facebook
TheWAOChannel on YouTube
Join the WISC LinkedIn group (Click the Join Group button)