

ICE 2009 Wroclaw, Poland

Word of President

Dear Colleagues,

I feel greatly honored to invite you to attend 36th International Congress on Electrocardiology to be held in Wroclaw from 24th to 27th of June, 2009. Wroclaw is just a place that deserves a name of the cradle of meetings gathering scientists from all over the world dealt with electrocardiology . The 36th International Congress on Electrocardiology will be joint with the 50th International Symposium on Vectorcardiography. This will be a special event, because of the 50th anniversary of The First Symposium on Spatial Vectorcardiography, which was organized in Wroclaw in 1959 by Professors Hugon and Zofia Kowarzyk supported by Professor Pierre Rijlant from Belgium. This event initiated the successive meetings held annually till 1973 as Colloquia Vectorcardiographica, of which three took place in Poland (1960, 1962, 1969), alternatively with those organized in Czechoslovakia by Professor Ivan Ruttkay-Nedecky. In the next step, starting from 1974 on, the meetings were transformed to international congresses on electrocardiology.

The best manner to honor a memory of Professors Kowarzyks' is to quote the address directed to them by Professor Pierre Rijlant in 1969: "We are thankful for the efficient and devoted enthusiasm of both the Kowarzyks, who consider these meetings somewhat as their spiritual child and provide for them the most loving care".

The 36th International Congress on Electrocardiology 2009, following the previous meetings held under auspices of the International Society of Electrocardiology, will cover a broad range of electrocardiology issues, from basic cell processes, like ion channel kinetics, to clinical applications of the numerous fascinating faces of modern electrocardiology. Moreover, we will not also forget about prevention of cardiovascular disease and cardiac rehabilitation so that the entire spectrum of "heart problems" could be successfully discussed.

Scientific program of the ICE 2009 will be realized at keynote lectures, oral and poster sessions and special interest satellite symposia with a participation of many distinguished invited speakers. We are happy to offer also the special scientific program created under auspices of the International Society for Holter and Noninvasive Electrocardiology by our great friend, Professor Wojciech Zareba.

The other reason for attending the ICE 2009 is Wroclaw city, which is an excellent example of a multicultural metropolis situated at the interface of ethnically diverse areas. Especially in summer season, you can spend marvelous spare time learning magnificent monuments and joyful people, also during the social program. The guests are also encourage to use the around Congress tours to pearls of Lower Silesia province, as well to Cracow and Oswiecim.

I extend a very warm welcome in anticipation of attendance of all scientists, researchers, clinicians and students interested in up-date electrocardiology!

Małgorzata Sobieszkańska, MD PhD DSc

ICE 2009, President