Preface

On March 9–11, 2010, the Third International Conference on Intracerebral Hemorrhage was held at the exquisite Rancho Las Palmas Resort in Rancho Mirage, California. No one could have asked for a better venue – beautiful weather, lush gardens, and a location city that attracts millions of people from all over the world each year, i.e., the world-renowned city of Palm Springs.

Surrounded by the snow-capped mountains and the peaceful sounds of circulating swimming pools, this year’s conference was home to the largest gathering of intracerebral hemorrhage researchers from all over the world. For two full and productive days, a total of 66 invited oral presentations accompanied by 56 posters presented themes ranging from Predisposed Factors, Experimental Models, Inflammation and Immune Systems, Hematoma Clearance, Oxidative Stress, Neuroprotection, Vascular Responses, AVM Hemorrhage, Hemorrhage Transformation, Subarachnoid Hemorrhage, Neonatal Brain Injury, Surgical Brain Injury, Clinical Trials, Clinical Treatment, Surgical Management, and Neuro-ICU, just to name a few.

Looking back, the Third International Conference on Intracerebral Hemorrhage was historic for several reasons. First and foremost, this was the first independent conference on intracerebral hemorrhage, distinct from the first two international conferences on intracerebral hemorrhage that were satellite symposiums, part of an established neuroscience conference. Second, this conference was by far the largest meeting dedicated to intracerebral hemorrhage research, with more than 100 researchers and clinicians in attendance to exchange ideas and to discuss recent advances in basic science research and clinical practice. Third, the largest volume of presentations by far were submitted to this year’s conference, including well over 122 oral and poster papers, compared with 21 at the First International Conference on Intracerebral Hemorrhage held in Ann Arbor, MI, on June 4, 2005, and 45 papers at the Second International Conference on Intracerebral Hemorrhage, which was held in Shanghai on November 10–11, 2007. Fourth, a total of 22 clinical and basic science experts served as session chairs as well as on the International Advisory Board this year, compared with 10 members who served on the International Advisory Board at the First International Conference and 17 members at the Second International Conference. And finally, one of the greatest successes of this conference was the broad coverage of topics presented – with a total of 17 themes focusing on secondary brain injuries, animal modeling, and clinical manifestations, just to name a few, compared with two themes of human and animal studies at the First International Conference and five themes at the Second International Conference, respectively. What all these points tell us is that there is growing interest in cerebral hemorrhage research and strong support for researchers in this field of academic activities.

One of the highlights of the Third International Conference on Intracerebral Hemorrhage was the award ceremony held on March 10th where this year’s recipients of the coveted Julian T. Hoff Fellowship were announced. The three young researchers who received the honorable Hoff Fellowship in Intracerebral Hemorrhage Research were: Dr. Zheng Chen, a neurosurgeon from Fudan University in China, Dr. Anatol Manaenko, a neurobiologist from Loma Linda
University in California, and Dr. Paul R. Gigante, a neurosurgeon from Columbia University in New York. Toward the latter half of the ceremony, Dr. David Mendelow presented the audience with some exciting news about next year’s conference. He announced next year’s plan to host the Fourth International Intracerebral Hemorrhage Conference jointly with both the Vascular and Neurotrauma EANS annual meeting on May 2–5, 2011 in the beautiful city of Newcastle upon Tyne in England. This was definitely some exciting news.

Many of the attendees of the Third International Conference on Intracerebral Hemorrhage submitted papers of their presentations to be published in the special issue of Acta Neurochirurgica, which has been named “Intracerebral Hemorrhage Research: From Bench to Bedside.” A total of 75 papers were divided into Animal Models, Pathophysiology of Cerebral Hemorrhage, Experimental Treatment for Cerebral Hemorrhage, Cerebral Hemorrhage, Clinical Manifestations, Prognosis of Cerebral Hemorrhage, and Clinical Management. These articles represent the recent advances in hemorrhagic brain injury research presented by highly respected laboratories around the world.

Lastly, we would like to thank our administrative personnel: Annette Brock, Kimberly Zaugg, and Stacia Christiansen, who did a remarkable job taking care of all the meeting affairs. Finally, we would like to thank Professor Hans-Jakob Steiger, the associate editor for special issues of Acta Neurochirurgica, for supporting the publication of this volume of recent advances in intracerebral hemorrhage research.

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