

Society Newsletter 2005

32nd ISPN Annual Meeting

The 32nd Annual Meeting de la International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery (ISPN). was held in Argentina between August 28th and September 2nd, 2004. It was preceded by the 3rd Argentinean Course on Pediatric Neurosurgery sponsored by the ISPN. One of the two previous was held in the Iguazu Falls, province of Misiones, in 2000, and the other one in Tafi del Valle, province of Tucuman, in 2002. The congress venue was the Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel & Convention Center and there was an active participation of colleagues coming from every corner of the world. The academic Sessions were carried through in a very cozy and friendly atmosphere. Most of the Meeting attendants shared the scientific activities with sightseeing tours. While some of them chose the so-called “vineyard route” at the feet of the Andean mountains in the province of Mendoza, others by their side preferred to visit the beautiful Iguazu Falls at the north east part of the country. Moreover, there were some who voted for lakes, glaciers and the mountain region at the South been able to enjoy the winter season that we had in Argentina at that time.

Anyway, there was still time to make some shopping at fashionable stores in the very cosmopolitan Buenos Aires while strolling its elegant streets and, as worthy as the former, to have a good asado (barbecue) or a big beef at any of the good restaurants in Recoleta, San Telmo or at modern riverside Puerto Madero.

Gala dinner was an excellent opportunity to enjoy of a relaxed gathering and have a good time with a spectacular Tango show. After short speeches addressed by Edgardo Schijman ([Fig 1](#)) and Hugo Pomata ([Fig 2](#)) -Meeting Secretary and President respectively-, it was the time for the so emotive Poncho ceremony. The ISPN President Jack Walker handed the traditional “salteno” Poncho (what means from the province of Salta, northwest of Argentina) to elected President Enrique Ventureyra (Figs [3](#), [4](#) and [5](#)). After Dr. Ventureyra’s talk ([Fig 6](#)), the deserts, more music and dancing ([Fig 7](#)) completed a really wonderful evening.

Finally, we shared an emotive Closing ceremony with the farewell speeches, the strong undertaking to gather together again in Vancouver in 2005 and, at the very end, a nostalgic tango music issued by a “bandoneon” was the way we chose to say the visitor: thank you for coming to Argentina, our home in the world.

Edgardo Schijman, M.D.
2004 ISPN Meeting Secretary