Jorn Herrstedt, President, called the MASCC General Assembly to order at 12:00 p.m. European time, Thursday, June 25, 2009.

D Warr moved that the minutes from the previous assembly be approved. The motion was seconded by L Einhorn and passed unanimously.

**Presidents Report:**
J Herrstedt made several announcements.
He thanked outgoing Board member, Agnes Glaus, RN, PhD whom he noted had served on the board since its inception. He welcomed the new Board members, Peter Stevenson-Moore and Richard Gralla and ex-officio Board members, Fredrick Ashbury as Journal Editor and Linda Barber as Web Editor. He recognized the activities of the study groups noting that 4 manuscripts arising from study group work were submitted and accepted by the MASCC journal, 3 pre and 1 post study group workshop, the MASCC Oral Agent Teaching Tool now on the website and translated into several languages. Dr. Herrstedt announced new study group chairs and co-chairs in the past year:

**New Study Group Chairs/Co-Chairs 2008-2009**
- **Education**
  - Regina Cunningham (chair)
  - Manon Lemonde
  - Paz Ortega Fernandez
- **Psychosocial**
  - Lea Bader
  - Tat Konishi
- **Neurological complications**
  - Charles Loprinzi (chair)
- **Pediatric**
  - Marianne Van de Wetering (chair)
- **Bone complications**
  - Cesar Migliorati
  - Petra Feyer
- **Hemostasis**
  - Rekha Parameswaran (chair)
  - Jakicia Tancabelic
- **Quality of Life**
  - Amy Abenerthy (chair)
  - Ziv Amir
- **Rehab and Survivorship**
  - Fiona Crump
- **Skin Toxicity**
  - Joel Epstein
- **Fatigue**
  - John Smyth
  - Karin Olson
Additionally, Dr. Herrstedt noted the major change in the website with a new provider and a members-only section; the smooth transition for the journal editors; the addition of Lisa Schulmeister as the journal society page editor; the history project of MASCC now underway; two special sessions—one on biosimilars and one conducted by the French Association of Supportive Care in Cancer in French.

President Herrstedt announced that as of this morning 888 were registered for the meeting—a new record and that attendees came from at least 60 countries.

J Herrstedt reported that next year’s symposium June 24-26, 2010 will be held in Vancouver, Canada at the Hyatt Regency Hotel with Dr. Peter Stevenson-Moore as chair. The 2011 symposium will be held June 23-25 in Athens, Greece at the Intercontinental Hotel. Chairs are Drs. Kostas Syrigos, Dimitrios Bafaloukos, and Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis.

J Herrstedt thanked the Executive Board, the full Board and the MASCC staff Cindy Rittenberg, Executive Director; Judi Johnson, Associate Director; Beth Hollen, Web Manager; and Debbie Kurth, Meeting Planner.

Executive Directors Report:
Cynthia Rittenberg welcomed all to the Rome meeting and to the General Assembly. She reminded all of the MASCC mission to optimize supportive care in cancer patients worldwide, stimulate multi-disciplinary research, encourage international scientific exchange of information, expand professional expertise in supportive care, educate health care professionals worldwide in supportive care, and serve as a resource for patients, families, and caregivers. She noted the MASCC motto “Supportive Care makes excellent cancer care possible” is on stationery and official documents. She reported that the multinational, multidisciplinary nature of MASCC continues with members from 6 continents and as of June 14 represented 61 countries. As of June 14 active membership was 819. (794 at this time last year and 742 the year before). The breakdown among professions: Physicians 406-50%; Nurses 180-22%; Dentists 88-11%; Pharmacists 28-3%; PhD (NOS) 25-3%; Industry 24-3%; Social workers 9-1%; Other (dietician, health service researcher, librarian, microbiologist, pathologist, physician assistant, statistician, chaplain, student, unknown) 45-6%.

Ms Rittenberg announced the Financial Report (cash assets of 5/31/09) and noted the 2009 budget was approved by the full board at their meeting June 24, 2009.

Revenue $845,682
Expenses 833,680
Net Assets 12/31/08 2,605,060
Net Assets 12/31/07 2,593,058

Next, Ms Rittenberg commented on the donations to MASCC: 2009 to Date - $2455 (1 board member, 1 staff, and 1 volunteer staff) - of this $1760 is dedicated to Travel Scholarship Fund. This is compared to 2008 Total - $ 5100; 2007 Total - $1825 (2 board members, 2 staff). She announced the Scholarship Program results.

Scholarship Membership: 46 $4,600.00
(Springer will support up to 50 with free journals)

Young Investigator Awards: 7 (covered by grants) 9700.00

Travel Scholarships: 25 (partly covered by grants) 46,800.00

Study Group Chair Awards (7 awarded; 6 used) 6,300.00

Total $67,400.00
She thanked this year’s Corporate Advisory Council Members: Amgen, GlaxoSmithKline, Helsinn, and Merck & Co. and sponsors of this meeting.

Committee chairs were recognized: Awards, Linda Elting; Finance-Steve Grunberg, Governance-Dorothy Keefe; Guidelines-Dave Warr; Prof Liaison- Doug Peterson; Publications-Steve Grunberg.

Ms. Rittenberg reported on goals and accomplishments since the Strategic Planning meeting in March, 2008. Of short term goals:

*Increase infrastructure*: done with a half time development director and greater use of secretaries

*Develop country specific associated supportive care groups*: the French group was given its certificate and is holding a parallel session in French Thursday.

*Study Group development*: a larger number of our study groups have become active.

Of long term goals:

*Increase international outreach, specifically Africa and Asia*: MASCC supported MASCC speakers in Thailand, India, Turkey, Balkan countries, Israel and Judi Johnson hosted a dinner for 13 members in Kenya

*Develop membership programs and services*: members only section on web site, needs assessment for educational needs – new web host just started, opening up a members’ only section

*Create Educational products and services*: A year away

*New educational content*: in development

*Collaborate with other like professional organizations*: developing strategic links

*Create multi-year scholarships and mentorships, Work with developed country organizations for joint symposia, Develop a grant process to support supportive care development - especially in economically deprived countries/localities; Regional educational events, Curriculum in supportive care for specialties; Define best practices, Advocate for supportive care initiatives – access to care, opioid analgesics, etc*: have yet to meet these goals

Other programs reported by Ms. Rittenberg and her comments:

Journal: The transition of editors went extremely smoothly from Prof Hans Jorg Senn to Dr. Fredrick Ashbury, thanks to the both of them and their respective offices, plus Springer. Lisa Schulmeister RN, MN, FAAN became the Society page editor for the journal. Journal business side: We continue with an extremely positive relationship with Springer: Up to 50 free subscriptions for scholarship members. We began receiving royalty payments in 2008 for royalties in 2007. Each year that amount has increased. Springer has a booth at meetings including this one and will offer MASCC members discounts on various books. Members can sign up for table of contents alerts for our journals and for any other Springer journal. Additionally, we are working with Springer on supplements, on-line advertizing, and a Turkish edition of our journal. Through the consortia, 5554institutions have exposure to our journal. And, with Lisa Schulmeister as the new society page editor, we are back up to our full complement of 4 pages given to us by Springer. The first 20 who enroll as new 2 year members will receive the Dr. Ganz book.
Springer is giving a 55% discount on those books. Present MASCC members will receive 40% off the Ganz book and 15% off all other Springer books.

MASCC Book: Prof Ian Olver, MD, CEO Cancer Council Australia was selected and agreed to edit a MASCC book: *MASCC Handbook of Supportive Care and Survivorship* to be published by Springer early next year. All chapters have editors, editors represent many disciplines and many countries, and chapters (41) are due from mid-October to December.

MASCC History Project: Retained services of Gerry Kuncio began conducting oral interviews of selected founding members in Houston. This May he submitted an article for publication; it needs some work and review. The process of transcribing the tapes he made is going on still.

MASCC Study Group project highlights:

Antiemetics: Several projects but the most prominent is the just held MASCC/ESMO Antiemetic Guideline Update Meeting in Perugia June 20-22. 25 experts and almost as many non-participating observers were present. What is significant is that ESMO approached MASCC to join as a sponsor and facilitator of the meeting. ESMO appreciates the quality of expertise and work of the MASCC group. Both groups will submit articles to their respective journals.

Fatigue: Hosted a workshop

Mucositis: Held their 3rd annual Research Day

Nutrition: Participated in an ESMO sponsored meeting, but submitted articles from that meeting to our journal for a supplement.

Oral Care: Hosted a successful workshop.

Education: Continues progress with the MASCC Oral Agent Teaching Tool with workshops given in 15 countries. Article submitted and accepted to our journal

Palliative Medicine: Hosting a workshop immediately at the close of this meeting.

Quality of Life: Filming a presentation at their study group meeting

Skin Toxicities: Submitted an article to our journal. Soon to be placing slides on our website with the new toxicity grading scale specific for epidermal growth factor receptors inhibitors. Multiple requests for future projects.

Web: New web host and new home page. It took 9 months to switch to a new web host which will allow further growth of the site. Most immediately, we now have a Members only section when members can access the journal, a directory, virtual meeting the 1st 6 months after it is up (then it opens up to all), book discounts, and member profile.

Partnerships: Most significant remains our partnership with ISOO.

Ms Rittenberg closed her report by thanking the Executive Board, full Board, MASCC staff, and the chairs of the Rome meeting.

**ISOO Update:**

J Epstein reported that many MASCC/ISOO members were involved in an NIH meeting in April with hope of publications in the MASCC journal to follow. The oral care study group remains active. The ISOO Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws are being revised. The ISOO CE session will take place Saturday as parallel sessions. He closed by saying that ISOO remained happy to be in an alliance with MASCC – now for 11 years.
Old Business:
Dr. Fausto Roila, Chair of the 2009 meeting, welcomed all. He announced that this meeting had the endorsement of national organizations of ESMO and ASCO, along with the Italian organizations of AIOM and SIFO.

New Business:
J Herrstedt called the names of all of the recipients of the Best Young Investigator, Anna Ugalde, along with other winners of young investigator awards. He announced next winners of Travel Scholarships. C Rittenberg presented all of the awardees with their certificates. Winners include:

Young Investigator Awards 2009
Supported by: MSD Oncology

Young Investigator of the Year: Anna Ugalde, BA, Australia

Young Investigator Awards:
Melissa Carpentier, PhD, United States
Rony Dev, DO, United States
Alysa Fairchild, MD, Canada
Heather McCarty, MD, Canada
Oxana Palesh, PhD, MD, United States
Chantal Quinten, MSc, Belgium
Maxine de la Cruz, MD, United States

Travel Scholarship Recipients 2009
Supported by: Amgen GmbH, the Lance Armstrong Foundation, Biovitrum AB, Travel Scholarship Fund, and MASCC
Ahmad Abdulla Al Khateib, RN, PhD, Jordan
Kanokporn Bhalang, DDS Thailand
Natalia Carafizi, MD, Republic of Moldova
Jing Chen, RN, China
Eugeny Demin, MD, Russia
Aneta Dimitrovskova, MD, Macedonia
Aparna Gangopadhyay, MD, India
Silvia Mihaela Ilie, MD, Romania
Galina Kuznecova, RN, Latvia
Ivans Kuznecovs, Social Worker, Latvia
Sergejs Kuznecovs, MD, Latvia
Shyam Lamsal, RN, Nepal
David Makumi Kinyanjui, RN, Kenya

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 European time.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Rittenberg