Welcome to the July Issue of the MASCC Society News

Message from the Editor, Toni Clark

This month, we are pleased to bring you a greeting from MASCC's new President, Ian Olver. We also feature Matti Aapro, the recipient of this year's Distinguished Service Award, MASCC's highest honor. We announce returning and new members of MASCC's Board of Directors for the 2016 to 2018 term. We note upcoming meetings of interest and highlight an article by Paz Fernandez-Ortega, Judy Phillips, Manon Lemonde, and Massey Nematollahi on strategies to promote better cancer care for underserved populations. A warm welcome to 32 new members who joined us in April!

As always, you can find the current and older issues of the MASCC Society News online at www.mascc.org/newsletters or in the back pages of our journal, Supportive Care in Cancer.

Announcing MASCC’s New President, Ian Olver

Ian Olver, MD, took office as MASCC’s new President at the MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting in Adelaide in June. Ian is Director of the Sansom Institute for Health Research, Professor of Translational Cancer Research and Dean of Research Strategy in the Division of Health Sciences at University of South Australia. A medical oncologist, bioethicist and researcher, he serves on the Council of the National Health and Medical Research Council, chairs the Australian Health Ethics Committee, and is a former Chair of the Medical Oncology Group of Australia. Ian's expertise and research interests include cancer chemotherapy, symptom control, bioethics, and psycho-oncology. He is the author of more than 200 journal articles and numerous book chapters, and is author or editor of several books, including *The Cancer Prevention Manual* (with Fred Stephens) and *The MASCC Textbook of Cancer Supportive Care and Survivorship* (a new edition is in progress).

A member of MASCC's Executive Committee, Ian has chaired the Publications Committee for 6 years, and with Dorothy Keefe, chaired the 2016 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting in Adelaide. He is a member of the Antiemetics, Palliative Care, and Psychosocial Study Groups.

Ian received the Cancer Achievement Award from the Medical Oncology Group of Australia, which is awarded to a scientist, clinician, or healthcare professional who has made an outstanding contribution to the control of cancer in Australia. In 2011 he was appointed to the Order of Australia for service to medical oncology as a clinician, researcher, administrator, and mentor, and to the community through leadership roles with cancer control organizations.

Executive Director Åge Schultz has commented that Ian brings to MASCC superb skills in leadership and diplomacy, as well as a broad knowledge of supportive care.

A Message from Ian Olver

I am honored to serve as President of MASCC. Some Presidents get to choose the theme of their term, but mine has been defined for me. This is a time of renewal. Our Executive Director, Åge Schultz, will retire at the end of the year. We are all proud of the robust organization that MASCC has become under his tenure. Study Group Coordinator Anne Young will also retire at the end of this year. Anne has consistently promoted the growth and achievement of our Study Groups, which are the lifeblood of MASCC. Our new Board of Directors includes several new faces, and many longstanding and dedicated Board members have reached the end of their terms. I acknowledge and thank them for their great service to MASCC. I am also grateful to immediate Past President David Warr for providing a strong foundation on which to build, and I will rely on his continued support. This time of renewal provides many opportunities for growth and new directions, and I am excited for the opportunity to lead the changes necessary in the 21st century. Continued on page 2.
Message from Ian Olver, continued. If there is one area that I would like to promote, it is growth in our membership, which translates to growth in the strength and influence of MASCC. The Adelaide meeting was about encouraging greater participation in regions beyond Europe and the USA and this was successful. However, we need to retain current members and attract new members by showing what value and opportunities MASCC membership has for those interested in supportive care. We want our members to fully engage in MASCC activities through Study Groups, whether by means of research, education, or guideline development. I have already been delighted by the response of MASCC members to updating the MASCC textbook. I encourage all members to participate in MASCC’s ongoing activities, to help identify new opportunities, and to promote MASCC’s message of the importance of supportive care in cancer through research and practice. And I invite you all to promote MASCC membership to your colleagues. I look forward to receiving your ideas on how we can continue to build MASCC together!

Matti Aapro Awarded MASCC’s Distinguished Service Award

Matti Aapro, MD, has been selected as the recipient of MASCC’s 2016 Distinguished Service Award. The Award recognizes meritorious achievement and outstanding contributions to the Society and its mission. Candidates are nominated by their peers in recognition of exemplary leadership and accomplishments in support of the Society’s mission. Currently Dean of the Multidisciplinary Oncology Institute, Genolier, Switzerland, Matti Aapro is widely recognized for his achievements in numerous areas of oncology and supportive cancer care. His expertise and energetic leadership have significantly furthered the aims of MASCC around the world.

SERVICE to MASCC - Matti served as President of MASCC from 2004 to 2006 and has served several terms on MASCC’s Board of Directors, including the last three consecutive two-year terms, from 2010 to 2016. He also served as Chair of MASCC’s 2005 Annual Meeting in Geneva. Matti has been very active in and supportive of MASCC Study Groups. He is currently Chair of the Antiemetics Study Group, to which he has contributed many years of service. He also led the Study Group’s recent initiative to revise the MASCC Antiemetic Guidelines. In addition to his expertise in antiemetics, Matti has broad knowledge in other areas of supportive care, such as anemia, neutropenia, osteoporosis, and geriatrics, and has been involved in developing guidelines on several topics. He has been instrumental in the organization of several MASCC Study Groups, with major input in the Antiemetics, Geriatrics, and Nutrition & Cachexia Groups.

MASCC has greatly benefitted from Matti’s international activities and his many global contacts. He has been an enthusiastic ambassador for supportive care, as well as for MASCC, around the world and has facilitated links with ESMO and SIOG that have resulted in joint conference sessions. Matti is President of Honour of the French-speaking Supportive Care Association (AFSOS), which, along with Moïse Namer, he helped to create. Recently, Matti helped to develop the upcoming (and first ever) Regional Education Meeting on Supportive Care in Cancer Patients for Eastern European and Balkan Region, which will take place in Belgrade, Serbia, in early December. He has also fostered working relationships with supportive care networks in China and Japan, where he has been appointed to the Board of the Japanese Association of Supportive Care in Cancer.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES - Matti received his medical degree from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva, Switzerland, and was a fellow at the Arizona Cancer Center in Tucson, Arizona, US. He is the founding Chair of the Medical and Radiation Therapy Department at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan. A past Board member of the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) and a past member of the Board of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), Matti is now an Executive Board member of the International Society for Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) and a member of the Board of ECCO (European CanCer Organisation). He also is on the Board and coordinates the Sharing Progress in Cancer Care Programme of the European School of Oncology (ESO). Matti has chaired the scientific and organizing committees of the International Union Against Cancer’s (UICC) World Cancer Congress in Geneva (2008) and in Shenzhen, China (2010) and, as a member of the Supportive Care Faculty of the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), he leads the Supportive and Palliative Care track of the forthcoming ESMO 2017 meeting.

Matti is Editor-in-Chief of Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology, Editor-in-Chief of the Quality of Life in Oncology Resource centre, past Associate Editor of Annals of Oncology and of the European Journal of Cancer, and Associate Editor for the Geriatric Section of The Oncologist. He is a Founding Editor of the Journal of Geriatric Oncology, an Editorial Board member of Annals of Oncology, Current Opinions in Oncology, Journal of Supportive Care in Cancer, Oncologie and Oncology, and a past Editorial Board member of the Journal of Clinical Oncology (breast section).

In addition to supportive care, Matti’s main research interests include new drug development, breast cancer, and cancer in the elderly. He has authored more than 350 peer-reviewed publications in professional medical journals and over 350 scientific abstracts. Matti is Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Tampere (2013), and he received the 2010 Acta Oncologica Award and the 2012 ASCO B.J. Kennedy prize.

All of us at MASCC extend hearty congratulations and deep gratitude to Matti for his years of dedication to the Society.
Educational Challenges: Supportive Cancer Care for Underserved Populations

For its Spring 2016 issue, EONS Magazine* partnered with MASCC for a special section on symptom management and quality of life for cancer patients. The issue includes a guest editorial by MASCC President David Warr and articles by several MASCC members. This month, we include a summary of the article by Paz Fernandez-Ortega, Judy Phillips, Manon Lemonde, and Massey Nematollahi, titled “Educational Challenges: Some Strategies to Provide Better Cancer Care in Underserved Populations.”

Inequalities in health care delivery have numerous and interacting causes, including income disparities, older age, ethnic discrimination, and cultural and educational differences. These variables have important effects on quality of care, levels of support, and patient satisfaction across the cancer continuum. The article focuses on disparities across Europe, especially between east vs. west, and north vs. south. But of course, inequalities in the extent and quality of health care are global issues.

In many low-income European nations, services for screening, diagnosis, and treatment are inadequate and in some, there is little awareness that cancer is treatable. Even in middle-income countries, early detection programs are poor and cancer control programs inadequate. The authors note that education is key — education of patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals. New and evolving solutions to address disparities include portable diagnostic equipment, geriatric assessments, legislation on opiates and opioids, increased availability of crucial medications, and palliative care coverage.

People who are elderly or poorly educated face many barriers beyond strictly economic ones. They may have misconceptions about cancer, fewer transportation options, less effective caregivers, and increased dependence on relatives for help. Low health literacy also contributes substantially to poor quality and high costs of health care, and this is an area in which health care providers can make a significant difference. The authors review numerous ways that providers can be more attuned to patients’ communication needs and facilitate more satisfactory interactions. They conclude with a call for advocacy groups, peer groups, community collaborations, and other activity groups that can work together to promote awareness, understanding, and ultimately improve cancer outcomes.

The EONS Magazine brings the latest news about the European Oncology Nursing Society to its members. The EONS is a pan-European organization dedicated to the support and development of cancer nurses. Society programs help nurses develop skills, network with one another, and raise the profile of cancer nursing across Europe.

2016-2018
MASCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MASCC is pleased to announce and welcome its new Board of Directors for the 2016 to 2018 term. Fausto Roila chaired the Nominating Committee. Election by membership vote concluded in April and the new term commenced in June. Congratulations to all the new and returning members! And thank you to the following outgoing members for their generous service: Matti Aapro, Rebecca Clark-Snow, Mellar P. Davis, Richard J. Grailla, Paul Hesketh, Sultan Kav, Cynthia Rittenberg.

- Debra Barton, RN, PhD, AOCN, FAAN
- Anna Boltong, PhD
- Alex Chan, PharmD, MPH, BCPS, BCP
- Andrew Davies, MD
- Joel Epstein, DMD, MSD, FRCD(C), FRCSEd
- Rachel Gibson, BHS(Hons), PhD
- Rajesh Lalla, DDS, PhD, CCRP, DABOM
- Charles Loprinizi, MD
- Alex Molassiotis, RN, MSc, PhD
- Karin Olson, RN, PhD
- Ian Olver, MD
- Bernardo Rapoport, MD
- Carla Ripamonti, MD
- Fausto Rola, MD
- Penelope Schofield, PhD
- Declan Walsh, MSc, FACP, FRCP
- David Warr, MD, PhD
- Li Zhang, MD

Ex Officio
- Fred Ashbury, PhD
- Jean Klastersky, MD
- Age Schultz, DVM, PhD
- Anne Young, MBA

*The EONS Magazine brings the latest news about the European Oncology Nursing Society to its members. The EONS is a pan-European organization dedicated to the support and development of cancer nurses. Society programs help nurses develop skills, network with one another, and raise the profile of cancer nursing across Europe.
First Congress on Head & Neck Cancer and the 5th Day of Oral Oncology

The First Congress on Head & Neck Cancer will be presented by the Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Cancer (HeSHNCA) from 30 September to 2 October, 2016, in Athens, Greece, at the Divani Acropolis Hotel. The 5th Day of Oral Oncology of the Hellenic Society of Oral Oncology (HSOO) will be held on 1 October, in conjunction with the Congress. Both events are endorsed by MASCC and ISOO. Meeting topics include clinical trial networks, the multidisciplinary management of head and neck cancer, MASCC/ISOO collaboration with ASCO on the development of guidelines for oral health, and the role of oral oncology at the ASCO 2016 Palliative Care Meeting. Among the speakers are MASCC members Douglas E. Peterson and Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis. Doug will present an update on MASCC/ISOO collaboration with ASCO toward the development of practice guidelines for oral health. Ourania will address the role of oral oncology in cancer care excellence. She will also participate in a multidisciplinary educational session on the management and support of head and neck cancer. Other subjects, to be presented by HSOO members, will include early diagnosis of oral cancer, oral mucositis related to targeted therapies, and osteonecrosis. There is no cost to attend the meeting. See the registration information at the HeSHNCA website: [http://headneckcancer.gr/](http://headneckcancer.gr/).

HeSHNCA, which works in close collaboration with HSOO, is a professional society dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge on precancerous oral lesions and head and neck cancers. Its multidisciplinary membership includes ENT doctors, maxillofacial surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, oral oncologists, and other oncology healthcare professionals. The Society greatly values the international roles of MASCC and ISOO in pursuit of cancer care excellence.

The main goals of the HeSHNCA are the development of research activities, the promotion of practice guidelines, and the education of medical healthcare professionals, as well as patients, on all aspects of head and neck cancer, including diagnosis, management, and supportive care. HeSHNCA works to develop and promote the use of guidelines for the maintenance of oral health, in collaboration with the HSOO and MASCC/ISOO Study Groups, such as the Mucositis Study Group, the Bone Study Group, and others. Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis is among the five members of the Society's Governing Board. She is also the founder of the Hellenic Society of Oral Oncology, the current President of ISOO, Chair of the MASCC's Bone Study Group, and a member of MASCC'S Study Groups on Oral Care and Mucositis. Ourania is Professor & Head, Clinic of Hospital Dentistry & Dental Oncology Unit, Dental School, University of Athens.

Hellenic Societies Collaborate on Oral Cancer Education

On April 16-17, 2016, the members of HeSHNCA and HSOO collaborated with physicians from the Hellenic Society of Ear, Nose, and Throat in an educational event for the public: “Oral Cancer: The Six Steps in Examination of the Mouth.” The main goal of the event was to raise public awareness of oral cancer. Event organizers, Amanda Psyrri (far left) and Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis (second from left) are shown here with young doctors from the three societies.

Early Registration Reminder: Guildford Supportive Care in Cancer Course

The Early Registration Deadline for the 2nd Annual Guildford Supportive Care in Cancer Course is July 4th. £100 Discount for MASCC members! See the June Society News for more information or email rsc-tr.SPCT-Courses@nhs.net.
11th Conference of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners: “The Centre of Care”

The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) will hold its annual meeting from August 30 to September 2 in Alice Springs, Australia. This year’s theme is “The Centre of Care,” with a focus on the patient. The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners is a leading national organization that promotes nursing practice and access to health care for all Australians. The annual national conference provides an opportunity for nurse practitioners, nurse practitioner candidates, advanced practice nurses, academics, researchers, policy makers and leaders to share their knowledge with the goal of improved patient care. The meeting program will include a range of topics in clinical practice, policy, education, research, and leadership. For program and registration, go to the ACNP Conference website: [http://www.dcconferences.com.au/acnp2016/home](http://www.dcconferences.com.au/acnp2016/home).

New MASCC Members

Suleimman Alsweedan, Saudi Arabia  
Maura Barry, United States  
Alice Bergin, Australia  
Mark Chambers, United States  
Kate Fennell, Australia  
Jonathan Grunfeld, Israel  
Katherine Hauser, Australia  
Sarah Heward, Australia  
Rasmus Hytting-Andreasen, Denmark  
Randy Jones, United States  
Mi Sook Jung, Republic of Korea  
Alexander Kerr, United States  
Ganessan Kichenadasse, Australia  
Monika Krzyzanowska, Canada  
Misato Muro, Japan  
Terry Ng, Canada  
John Oakley, Australia  
Subhas Pandit, Nepal  
Hye Yoon Park, Republic of Korea  
Shirley Roberts, Australia  
Favi Singh, Australia  
Emily Stowe, United Kingdom  
Shawgi Sukumaran, Australia  
Hidenori Takahashi, Japan  
Takao Takahashi, Japan  
Anne Taylor, Australia  
Ronwyn Irene van Eeden, South Africa  
Hayley Whitford, Australia  
Anthony Wignell, Australia  
Kym Wittholz, Australia  
Won Sup Yoon, Republic of Korea

MASCC welcomes the following new members who joined us in April.

Have any news items to share?

Please send contributions for the MASCC News to MASCCnews@mascc.org or to Toni Clark, Editor at tclark@mascc.org

For more information please contact: Age Schultz, MASCC Executive Director: aschultz@mascc.org