



ISCB



2009



**30th Annual Conference
of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics
August 23rd – 27th, 2009 – University of Economics – Prague, Czech Republic**



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

INVITATION

Dear Colleagues,

In August 2009, the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB) will convene its 30th annual conference, thus reaching a significant milestone on its mission to becoming a leading international scientific forum for an exchange of ideas among biostatisticians, epidemiologists, clinical pharmacologists and medical researchers at large interested in applying statistical methodology in medicine, particularly in the field of clinical trials. On behalf of the Society as well as the Local Organising Committee, it is my privilege and great pleasure to cordially invite you to taking part at the 30th annual conference of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics, which will take place in the heart of Europe, in the city of Prague, Czech Republic, August 23rd – 27th, 2009. The Conference is jointly organised by the Czech National Group of the ISCB, Institute of Computer Science of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, v.v.i. and European Center for Medical Informatics, Statistics and Epidemiology (EuroMISE center), with much support from the conference organising agency Guarant International Ltd., who joined us to help transform this great occasion to a memorable event in the Society's history.

The Conference will be held in the premises of the University of Economics in Prague, conveniently located within reach of the historic city centre. The choice of this venue fits well a hot topic selected for the 2009 event, which will be Health Economics Evaluation. Another attractive feature of the Conference will represent the Thursday Symposium on Biomedical Informatics, which will nicely complement other more traditional conference themes. Social programme will also bring you a few treats revealing Prague's many attractive historic sites or a charm of Bohemian medieval castles located in Prague's vicinity. You can also enjoy trips of your own using Prague's public transportation system that provides convenient and easy access to virtually all significant and historic venues by metro (underground lines), bus or tram. And, should that not be enough, a drive through the historic city quarters in a carriage drawn by a pair of horses or a tour in an antique sightseeing car will provide a distinct perspective of the many city's historic enchantments.

We hope that at least some of the options laid out above were appealing to you and look forward very much to welcoming you in Prague in August of 2009.



Zdeněk Valenta

Chairman of the Local Organising Committee of ISCB30

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT:

GUARANT International / ISCB 2009

Opletalova 22
110 00 Prague
Czech Republic

Tel: +420 284 001 444
Fax: +420 284 001 448
Conference e-mail: iscb2009@guarant.cz
Conference website: <http://www.iscb2009.info>

ISCB

The International Society for Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB) was founded in 1978 to stimulate research into the principles and methodology used in the design and analysis of clinical research and to increase the relevance of statistical theory to the real world of clinical medicine. 30th annual conference of the Society to be held in Prague in 2009 will provide a scientific forum for international exchange of theory, methods and applications of biostatistics in medical research and practice among clinicians, statisticians and members of other disciplines, such as epidemiologists, clinical chemists and clinical pharmacologists, working or interested in the field of clinical biostatistics.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 15, 2008	Call for abstracts and registration
March 1, 2009	Final date for submission of abstracts and posters and Conference Awards applications
May 1, 2009	Notification of abstract acceptance
June 1, 2009	Final date for a low registration fee
August 23rd – 27th, 2009	Conference dates

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Zdeněk Valenta
Vice-chairman:	Marek Malý
Treasurer:	Věra Lánská
Secretary:	Jindra Reissigová
Members:	Jana Zvárová, Marek Brabec, Arnošt Komárek

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Geert Molenberghs (Belgium)
Members:	Andrew Briggs (UK) Marie Davidian (USA) Rolf Holle (Germany) Michal Kulich (Czech Republic) Cathérine Legrand (Belgium) Ulrich Mansmann (Germany) Robert O'Neill (USA) Rodolphe Thiébaud (France) Zdeněk Valenta (Czech Republic) Jana Zvárová (Czech Republic)

ISCB AWARDS

Student Conference Awards will be awarded to registered post-graduate students. Conference Awards for Scientists will be awarded to biostatisticians from ISCB's targeted countries. For both award schemes, application forms, and details of the selection process, please see <http://www.iscb2009.info>.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The President's invited speaker for the occasion of convening the Society's 30th annual conference will be Marc Buyse from Belgium. He will address the audience with his talk entitled "*On Trial Endpoints that Combine Clinical Relevance and Statistical Efficiency*".

Invited sessions (with organisers):

Health Economics Evaluation (Opening Plenary Session)
(Andrew Briggs and Rolf Holle)

Biomedical Informatics
(Ulrich Mansmann and Jana Zvárová)

Joint Modeling of Longitudinal and Survival Data
(Marie Davidian, Rodolphe Thiébaud, and Cathérine Legrand)

Regulatory Affairs
(Robert O'Neill)

Incomplete Data
(Geert Molenberghs)

Statistical Methods in HIV/AIDS Research
(Michal Kulich)

SHORT COURSES

Course 1 (full day):
Analysis of Incomplete Data
James Carpenter (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK)

Course 2 (full day):
Clinical Trial Methodology
Stephen Senn (University of Glasgow, UK)

Course 3 (half day):
Longitudinal Data Analysis
Garrett Fitzmaurice (Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA, US)

Course 4 (half day):
Bioinformatics
Dharmika Amaratunga (Johnson & Johnson, Pharmaceutical Research and Development, US)

MINI-SYMPOSIUM

Last day of the conference (Thursday) will be devoted to a symposium on **Biomedical Informatics** (organisers Jana Zvárová and Ulrich Mansmann). The symposium will help elucidate close relationship between *Biomedical Informatics* and *Biostatistics* on issues from molecular medicine.

THEMES FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

- Health economics evaluation
- Longitudinal data
- Regulatory affairs
- Survival analysis
- Incomplete data
- Biomedical informatics
- Surrogate marker evaluation
- Screening methodology
- Diagnostic methodology
- Statistical genetics of complex disorders
- Dynamic treatment regimens
- Modelling and simulation in drug development
- New developments in clinical trials
- Statistics in biomarker discovery
- Statistics in systems biology
- Advancements in statistical methods for clinical epidemiology

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRAVEL

Czech Airlines, the official carrier of ISCB30, provide connections to all major European destinations and most major destinations worldwide. Connections to the city centre are available by taxi and public transportation bus lines.

Prague boasts an extensive and modern public transportation system, which includes three metro (underground) lines complemented with numerous bus and tram lines. Number of smaller Prague railways have also been incorporated in the system. Two international railway stations located in central Prague connect the city with neighbouring European capitals.

VISAS

The Czech Republic is a member of the European Union. Visitors from most of the European countries, USA and Canada do not need visa to enter the Czech Republic. Current information about Czech visa requirements can be found on the official web page of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs (<http://www.mzv.cz>).

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be arranged in different hotel categories including 5-star hotels for those who require high-quality services and university student dormitories for those who prefer good quality at a reasonable price.

CONFERENCE VENUE

Campus of the University of Economics in Prague is located within 15 minutes walking distance from the historic city centre of Prague (University website: <http://www.vse.cz>).

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The Conference dinner will be served in the historic premises of Keiserštejn Palace located in Prague's Lesser Town. It is a real treasure trove of architectural elements and details that was founded in 15th century. The Petzold Building, today known as Keiserštejn Palace, has been restored in 1970s. It preserves objects of history of art and valuable furnishings and collections. Keiserštejn Palace's unique position, and, its great historic atmosphere in particular, render the Palace a unique place for meeting your colleagues in a relaxed atmosphere.

CZECH REPUBLIC



Those wishing to get acquainted with some of the most beautiful places in Europe should not miss the Czech Republic, an attractive country situated in its very heart.

The Czech Republic has much to offer to its visitors, especially thanks to the wealth, diversity and accessibility of cultural, historical and natural places of interest, which are all concentrated in a relatively small area that boasts high quality accommodation and dining facilities.



PRAGUE



Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, is a beautiful city rich in history and architecture. Due to its location in the middle of Europe, Prague had become an important crossroad of trade and culture in the Middle Ages as well as a city of science with the Charles University founded as early as in 1348. In the course of its thousand-year history, Prague has always maintained its role of a political, cultural and business centre of the country. Often being called "the golden city" or "the city of a hundred spires", Prague belongs to a group of architecturally unique European cities and has turned into one of the most popular destinations.

