Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are just a few weeks away from the 3rd WAO International Scientific Conference (WISC 2014) and XLI Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Association of Allergy and Immunology (ASBAI), and we are looking forward to hosting all of you in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. There is still time to register if you haven’t had the chance yet, and all of the information you need is available at www.worldallergy.org/wisc2014.

WISC 2014 will offer over 60 sessions, including keynote lectures, symposia, plenaries, postgraduate courses, and many other programs delivered by a faculty of over 150 experts. More than 400 abstracts were accepted, and over 30 travel grants have been awarded. Posters will be presented throughout the Conference when no other sessions are taking place in order to emphasize the importance of this new research. Please make sure to join us during the last Plenary Session on 9 December at 13:30 when the Outstanding Abstract Awards will be presented.

Attend the hosted WISC 2014 Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception! WISC 2014 is also delighted to provide you with the opportunity to network with your colleagues, WAO and ASBAI Board Members, and other meeting attendees during the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception on Saturday, 6 December 2014 at the Sul América starting at 18:00.

The program will highlight the local culture and hospitality of Rio de Janeiro and Brazil – it is not to be missed!

Mark your Calendars — World Allergy Congress 2015!

WAO warmly invites you to gather in Seoul, Korea, 14 – 17 October 2015 to participate in the XXIII World Allergy Congress, the biennial Congress of the World Allergy Organization (WAO). As a global alliance of national and regional allergy, asthma and clinical immunology societies, WAO is proud to partner with the Korean Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Immunology (KAAACI), and their mutual collaborating partner, the Asia Pacific Association of Pediatric Allergy, Respirology and Immunology (APAPARI), to host WAC 2015.

As with every World Allergy Congress, WAC 2015 in Seoul will provide a forum for the most useful combination of latest research, review of current theory and practice, and hands-on, problem-based learning. Our aim is that participants gain insight into the most effective advances in the treatment and prevention of allergic and immunologic diseases. Let us gather in Seoul, Korea, 14 – 17 October 2015 and continue to expand the science and practice of allergy.

Visit www.worldallergy.org/WAC2015 for updates regarding the Congress.
International Consensus on Chronic Rhinosinusitis (ICON: Chronic Rhinosinusitis)

Recognizing a lack of consensus-driven information and general recommendations, four allergy/immunology professional organizations joined forces to in the International Collaboration in Asthma Allergy and Immunology (iCAALL). Participating in iCAALL are the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI), the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (ACAAI), the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) and the World Allergy Organization (WAO).

iCAALL is designed to collect and disseminate consensus-driven information about allergies, asthma and immunological diseases. Communicating this knowledge can positively impact diagnosis and treatment, as well as cost containment and policy decisions. A major focus of this initiative is the production of a series of International Consensus (ICON) reports. These documents offer general recommendations based on global challenges in caring for patients with allergic and immunologic diseases.

WAO has coordinated the most recent Consensus report on Chronic Rhinosinusitis. The document, led by Claus Bachert and Ruby Pawankar, includes the following:

- Addresses Chronic Rhinosinusitis (CRS) as a significant global public health issue.
- Discusses its definition, relevance, pharmacoeconomics, and pathophysiology, and heterogeneous nature leading to identification of phenotypes and endotypes.
- Discusses genetics and risk factors, natural history and co-morbidities, clinical manifestations, and current as well as future treatment strategies.
- Collates the key messages from existing guidelines on CRS and serves as a concise reference.
- Highlights the unmet needs that should be addressed through future research.

This document has been published in the WAO Journal and can be accessed at www.waojournal.org.

I look forward to seeing you all in Rio!

Sincerely yours,

Lanny J. Rosenwasser
President, World Allergy Organization

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