

International Forum for the Study of Itch (IFSI)

IFSI, c/o University of Heidelberg, Thibautstr. 3, 69115 Heidelberg, Germany



NEWSLETTER October 2016

Dear IFSI Members,

We are pleased to provide an update on IFSI activities, and especially the new journal *Itch*, which launched recently.

ITCH journal

As most of you know by now, *Itch*, the new official journal of IFSI, was launched in July of this year and is now accepting article submissions. Ethan Lerner is the Editor-in-Chief and many editorial board members are also members of IFSI. Information about the journal can be found here:

<http://www.editorialmanager.com/itch/default.aspx>

Importantly, we want to encourage IFSI members to submit their work to *Itch*. *Itch* is an open-access journal of the publishing house Wolters Kluwer. *Itch* has an article processing fee of \$1,000 USD. This fee is among the lowest of any open-access journal. As an added incentive, *Itch* is offering 10 waivers of the article processing fee for papers that are accepted in 2016. IFSI members are especially invited to submit papers. Please consider submitting your research studies, reviews, case reports and other articles to *Itch*. We all need to contribute in order for our new journal to succeed.

Acta Dermato Venereologica

With the advent of *Itch*, *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* is now no longer the official journal of IFSI. However, *Acta* and IFSI mutually agree to continue our excellent working relationship, and *Acta* is now listed as "affiliated with IFSI". The itch section of *Acta* is receiving an increasing number of article submissions, which has contributed to the increasing impact factor of *Acta* (4.24 in 2013). Elke Weisshaar and Tasuku Akiyama currently serve as section editors.

International Day, American Academy of Dermatology 2017

IFSI has agreed to participate again in International Day which will take place on March 2, 2017, the day before the start of the annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD). International Day provides the opportunity for international associations to present a symposium and showcase their work. The IFSI symposium will again highlight advances in mechanisms and treatment of itch. IFSI participated in International Day at the 2015 AAD meeting in Washington, and the symposium on itch was very

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well-received. Our main goal for next year's symposium is to attract more attendees through more aggressive advance advertising. If you plan to attend AAD next year, please come a day early and attend the IFSI itch symposium. Please also distribute this information to your national colleagues who will attend the AAD 2017 and encourage them to participate in this session (no separate registration fee for the International Day necessary). The list of internationally known speakers will be sure to provide an interesting and informative overview of the exciting progress in the field.

World Congress on Itch WCI 2017

Our next World Congress on Itch will take place October 15-17, 2017, in Wroclaw Poland. Jacek Szepietowski is the Congress President and Adam Reich the Congress Secretary. Please visit the official WCI website for more information: <http://itch2017.syskonf.pl/>

The WCI is always an excellent meeting combining clinical and basic research on itch, and the 2017 WCI can be expected to be outstanding. Wroclaw is a beautiful venue for the congress and we strongly encourage all IFSI members to attend. **The deadline for abstract submission is May 31st 2017.**

Society for Neuroscience Meeting- Itch Social

Earl and Mirela Carstens will host the first-ever itch social at this year's annual Society for Neuroscience (SfN) meeting in San Diego on Sunday, Nov. 13, 6:45-8:45 PM. If you are attending the meeting, please meet us at the itch social. If any of your colleagues plan to attend the neuroscience meeting, please let them know about the itch social. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues interested in itch.

Website of IFSI

Finally, be sure to check out the new features at our website, www.itchforum.net.

Best regards,

Earl Carstens	Elke Weisshaar	Alan Fleischer	Toshiya Ebata
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