

# Second World Parkinson Congress

*Conference details:* 28 September-1 October, 2010; Glasgow, UK. Ted Dawson, MD, PhD – WPC 2010 Program Chair.

PREVIEW

The second World Parkinson Congress, also known as the WPC 2010, is expected to once again unite the global Parkinson's community in September in Glasgow offering a unique experience for researchers, clinicians, allied health professionals, people with Parkinson's, carers, and policy makers. Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Stanley Fahn and Andrew Lees, the 77 Congress committee members from 17 countries are helping the WPC take shape as the hottest meeting to attend this year for people interested in Parkinson's disease.

The WPC 2010 follows the success of the first WPC which took place in 2006 in Washington, DC. Based on the success of that meeting, along with the feedback we are receiving from the community and current registration numbers, we expect more than 3,000 delegates from over 50 countries to participate in this high-level, inspirational meeting. A variety of sessions ranging from plenary talks that bring members across the spectrum of Parkinson's together in large settings as well as medium sized lecture halls and workshops offered in small settings are designed to allow for cross-pollination of the audience and better exchange of ideas.

The programme has been carefully put together over the past year by 38 people representing academia, the clinical management of Parkinson's and those who experience the reality of living with this condition. The aim has been to profile and highlight the latest and seminal issues in Parkinson's today. Topics on gene and cellular therapy will run alongside sessions on neuroprotection, clinical trials, physical therapy, and care delivery to name a few. The provisional programme can be viewed and downloaded on the WPC website at [www.worldpdcongress.org](http://www.worldpdcongress.org).

WPC 2010 is one of the only global conferences in all fields of health that actually brings the full range of people, including those living with the illness, together. This provides a unique opportunity for a global exchange of ideas between all the stakeholders.

A European researcher attending the WPC 2006 said that he brought a number of his junior researchers along with him to the meeting and that it was the first time many of them had actually met a person living with Parkinson's. He said it was a meaningful experience for his staff and something they would carry home long afterward. For researchers, the value of seeing, hearing and talking to people living with Parkinson's is too often underestimated and many feel the interaction generates a sense of focus, renewed passion and often new ideas.

The WPC 2010 currently has 132 Organisational Partners from 36 countries



which helps ensure the delegate body is diverse and representative of the global Parkinson's community. These partners represent professional and patient organisations and within the UK alone include such groups as our lead partner: Parkinson's UK, British Geriatrics Society Movement Disorders Section, AGILE: Chartered Physiotherapists Working with Older People, The Cure Parkinson's Trust, British and Irish Neurologists' Movement Disorders Group, British Association of Neuroscience Nurses, and the Parkinson's Disease Nurse Specialist Association.

The exhibit hall will offer a chance to meet with representatives of companies and patient voluntary organisations from around the world. This time the poster display will not simply extend to highlighting the science of Parkinson's. There will also be a section for posters from those who experience life with Parkinson's and to illustrate the ways they have faced up to it. Many people with Parkinson's do not want to be perceived as merely "patients" but as a resource in their own right, whether this be in helping others with the condition or contributing to the research agenda itself. The posters will be a way of making some truly inspiring initiatives more conspicuous so that they can be used by others.

A selected number of outstanding poster presenters will be invited to speak about their work each morning to a large audience. This opportunity will open the door for junior researchers or those working on late-breaking research to take centre stage in front of some of the most influential neuroscientists and renowned Parkinson's authorities on the plan-

et. Submission deadline for both scientific and living with Parkinson's posters is Monday 12 April 2010.

The Renewal Room at the Congress is designed to demonstrate activities that can be done to help alleviate the challenges of living with Parkinson's and will include short programs such as yoga, dance, laughter therapy, clay therapy, singing and more. In addition to this room, the WPC 2010 will introduce a new space for delegates called the Rest & Regeneration Room. This room will offer a quiet space for delegates to rest, relax, rehydrate and even get a short massage. The WPC 2010 is a high-level meeting with a programme that can exhaust even the most experienced conference attendee. We aim to keep everyone healthy and fit while they are learning about Parkinson's!

A person with Parkinson's who attended the WPC 2006 told us afterward that the meeting gave him his first experience to meet and interact with scientists who were working on finding a cure. He said this interaction gave him hope knowing that there were such smart people dedicating their lives to curing Parkinson's, something he had lived with for a number of years.

The aim of WPC 2010 is to bring the world of Parkinson's together in one place. What better way to kick-start dialogue, innovation and partnership? The cure for Parkinson's will ultimately be accelerated through working together as a team. WPC 2010 brings that team together. The whole team!

This meeting is one that should not be missed! We hope you will join us in Glasgow in September. ♦

# 1st Oxford Integrated Neurology Course (OINC)

**Conference details:** 30 June-2 July, 2010; Oxford University, Oxford, UK.

PREVIEW

We would like to announce the first 'Oxford Integrated Neurology' Course. This is a new course, running from 30 June-2 July 2010, and this year St Anne's College will host us, with a formal dinner at Trinity College. It is aimed at neurology trainees and consultants and will offer three days of talks, covering a wide range of topics. You may ask yourself if there really is a need for another neurology course, but we hope that we have something a bit different to offer. The aim of the course is to combine talks about everyday clinical scenarios with more neuroscience related topics and their integration into clinical life. We will address 'old chestnuts', such as whether 'vertebro-basilar insufficiency' really exists, and we will fuse common clinical dilemmas (what does it really take to make a diagnosis of motor neuron disease?), with related neuroscience updates (what are the genetics of motor neuron disease?). Some of these topics may not have a right or wrong answer, but we hope that this will encourage a lively exchange between speakers and delegates. We certainly have been able to attract a



number of highly acclaimed speakers and to encourage discussion, we are limiting places to 50 (first come, first served).

We hope that the course will offer trainees the opportunity to hear inspirational experts speak, and to get a variety of views on a range of neurological topics. For consultants, we hope that the course will offer an update, refresher and discussion forum. In addition to hearing about

current neurology, we also hope that delegates will enjoy the historic atmosphere of Oxford, once home to Thomas Willis, William Osler and Charles Sherrington among others. You will live and dine in College, and there will be a "cultural extra" on the Friday afternoon after the course – as well as the opportunity to pursue some typical Oxford summer activities, such as punting.

We hope that this course will offer a unique combination of clinical neurology and neuroscience. We are already looking forward to this event and hope you will join us. ♦

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## The first Oxford Integrated Neurology Course (OINC)

30 June – 2 July 2010



This is a new course, aimed at neurology trainees and consultants. We are offering a series of talks over three days, covering a wide range of neurological topics, from practical issues to more neuroscience based topics. We have been successful in attracting a number of highly acclaimed speakers, and look forward to a few days of stimulating presentations and lively discussion. In addition, delegates will be able to soak up the unique atmosphere of an Oxford Summer: live and dine in College, walk in the footsteps of Thomas Willis, who originally coined the term "neurology", and perhaps go for a round of punting. We hope you will join us for this event.

For further information, please contact Anne Taylor.  
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