

## A Message from the SIOMMMS President

**W**elcome to Pisa and to the premier symposium for bone and mineral science in Italy, the SIOMMMS VI Annual Meeting. This year's meeting offers a well orchestrated array of presentations.

Program Co-Chairs Ombretta Di Munno and Claudio Marcocci have done a wonderful job to develop an excellent scientific program, encompassing basic technology together with the latest research in diagnosis and treatment of bone and mineral disorders.

The Meeting opens on Wednesday 22 with a symposium jointly sponsored by the SIOMMMS, the Italian Society of Orthopaedic and Traumatology (SIOT), and the Italian Society of Rheumatology (SIR). With the same idea in mind another symposium will be co-sponsored by the SIOMMMS, the Italian Society of Endocrinology (SIE), and the Italian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (SIGO) on Saturday 25. These are excellent opportunities for the Societies to meet together and these sessions are aimed at providing a better interaction among these organizations. The multidisciplinary is the essence of our Society and it is necessary to foster its growth and dissemination.

To celebrate the 2006 IOF slogan, Bone Appétit, the Opening Ceremony will be followed by a lecture of Dr. R. Rizzoli on "Nutrition and Bone Growth". We are fortunate to have Dr. E. Schipani delivering a presentation "The Role of PTH Receptor in Bone Remodeling" on Thursday 23 at 10.30 a.m. We are pleased that Dr. J. Kanis will deliver on Friday 24 at 10.15 a.m. a lecture on "Targeting Treatment of Osteoporosis by Fracture Risk". Dr. Kanis is a well recognized leader in the area of osteoporosis risk assessment from The United Kingdom. We are excited to welcome Dr. D.M.Black to this year's Annual Meeting. Dr. Black's presentation "Building New Bone: a New Paradigm in Osteoporosis" is scheduled for Friday 24 at 1.15 p.m.

The seminar sessions will insure that several topics of interest in clinical practice will be discussed with experts in the field. The symposia will feature novel-

ties in both diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to metabolic bone disorders. We have also retained the popular Session "Bone Complications in Chronic Kidney Disorders" on Thursday 23 at 5.30 p.m.

We are proud to present this year the First Stroder/SIOMMMS Research Prize to be awarded on Friday 24 at 6.45 p.m.

Our Society is growing and we all need to work at the recognition of SIOMMMS as the foremost professional, scientific and medical Society for the promotion of bone and mineral research and the translation of that research into clinical practice.

In closing, I'd like to thank the members of the Board and of the Committees. They all have done an outstanding job during the year. The growth of the Society is due in large part to the work of our leaders and the dedication of our membership to the Society.

Please, let us know how we can better serve your needs. We welcome your inputs and respect your opinions.

I look forward to meeting you over the course of the Annual Meeting and I am delighted to be part of this organization!

Sincerely,

**Maria Luisa Brandi, M.D., Ph.D.**

