

Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum
Amicitiae Sacrum
Founded in 1926

General Secretary
Prof. Antti A. Mäkitie



Helsinki, December 17th, 2023

Dear Members and Friends of the Collegium ORL Amicitiae Sacrum

This is the CORLAS Annual Report, along with a warm greeting to all our members at the conclusion of a very eventful year. Shocking events happen all the time in the world, but CORLAS remains steadfast in its commitment to the core of its mission: free exchange of scientific research in our specialty.

Our Annual Meeting in Tokyo was a true success and the local Faculty under the leadership of the Congress President Tatsuya Yamasoba, and the Vice-President Koichi Omori had done everything for the success of the arrangements. We had the opportunity to experience what is described in Japanese with the word *omoiyari*. It means the compassion with which another person's needs and desires are wholeheartedly anticipated. The congress was built with Japanese precision and all the details worked precisely.

The congress was organized in the famous Hotel Chinzanso Tokyo, that was originally established as a garden restaurant for the leading figures from government, financial and bureaucratic circles. During the congress we had the opportunity to visit the hotel's magical garden with waterfalls, temples, ponds, monuments and fascinating trees and vegetation that was created by the Prince Aritomo during the late 1900th century. The name Chinzanso means literally 'Guest house on Camellia Hill'.

Throughout the past year, the Board conducted several remote meetings to facilitate communication and oversee the functions of our society. CORLAS is currently an officially registered society, and its home address is in Prague, Czech Republic, with GUARANT International providing association management services regarding secretarial and administrative tasks.

Within this report, you will find the Minutes of the Board Meeting and the General Assembly 2023, as well as our Financial Report. Notes regarding the Annual Meeting 2023 in Tokyo, the scientific meeting, social programme and postcongress tour are included.

BOARD MEETING

Location and time: Hotel Chinzanso, Tokyo, Aug. 26th, 2023 at 5:00 -7:00 PM

Present:

President **Tatsuya Yamasoba**
Vice President **Koichi Omori**
General Secretary **Antti Mäkitie**
Second Secretary **D. Bradley Welling**
Treasurer **Sandro Stöckli (via Zoom)**
Councillor **Kaoru Ogawa**
Councillor **Barbara Wollenberg**
Editorial Secretary **Matti Anniko**
Past President **Marcos Goycoolea (arrived later during the evening)**
Chair of the Credentials Committee: **Allen Ryan**
Apologies: Councillor **Hamlet Suárez**, President Elect **Wolf-Dieter Baumgartner**

Minutes

1. Introduction: General Secretary welcomed the Board.
2. The Annual Report 2022 was approved without changes.
3. Commemoration of deceased members: Kwan Taek Noh, Korea, Feb 4, 2023 and Nelson Y.S. Kiang, USA, March 19, 2023
4. Membership status 2023, in total 620 members: honorary 300, senior 149, regular 171.
5. New national Chairs: None
6. Recommendation for new members 2023. President of the Credentials Committee Allen Ryan presented the review work of the Jury regarding the received 16 membership applications: this proposal of 14 applicants was discussed as the new member candidates:
Sumit Agrawal, Canada
Farid Alzhrani, Saudi Arabia
Iain Bruce, UK
Jason Ying Kuen Chan, Hong Kong
Sharon Cushing, Canada
Ahmed Geneid, Finland
Ramon Jensen, Denmark
Yo Kishimoto, Japan
Daniel Polley, US
Diego Preciado, US
Maria Suurna, Estonia
Yukinori Takenaka, Japan
Tobias Todsén, Denmark
Arkadi Yakirevitch, Israel
The focus areas of the applicants include: otology 3, H&N 3, pediatric ORL 4, phoniatics 1, laryngology 1, sleep apnea 1, rhinology 1.
7. Status of Board Memberships: South American Councillor Hamlet Saurez ended his term and Mariela Torrente (Santiago, Chile) was elected as the new Councillor.
8. CORLAS Prizes. The Shambaugh Prize is conferred every other year by the CORLAS Board to a member who has accomplished a remarkable work in the field of Otology and related basic research. The 2nd Secretary D. Bradley Welling informed the Board that the Shambaugh Prize 2023 winner is prof. Karen Avraham (Tel-Aviv) (who was elected already 2022 but the Prize was now announced). She serves as the Dean of the Tel Aviv University's Faculty of Medicine and is the first woman to hold that position. Karen Avraham is an international leader in the study of

the genetics of hearing loss and is considered one of the world's foremost authorities on this topic. The James B. Snow Jr. MD Tinnitus Research Award winner is prof. Tobias Kleinjung (Zürich). His collaborative approach to the establishment of international standards for tinnitus clinical trials, and the development of tools for methodically conducting these trials have been highly impactful. CORLAS Editorial Secretary Matti Anniko informed the Board that the Acta Prize recipient is prof. Lars Olaf Cardell (Stockholm). Lars Olaf Cardell has the most outstanding ORL – H&N Surgery position in modern time Sweden and has recently been awarded the largest research grant ever given in our field by the Swedish National Scientific Council. His research focuses on immunologic responses in neck lymph nodes in allergy and tumour spread.

9. The Annual Meeting 2023 was discussed. Total attendance 234, 132 attending members. The programme includes 110 abstracts (77 oral, 33 posters). Fourteen new members as presenters and 18 guests. Ten oral sessions, 4 poster tours, 2 symposia, 4 seminars, 1 keynote lecture.
10. Treasurer Sandro Stöckli presented the Financial Report for 2023 via Zoom (see the attachment). The annual membership fee was suggested to remain at 100 Euros.
11. The plans for the Annual Meeting 2024 (Vienna, Austria) were discussed. President of the congress will be Prof. Wolf-Dieter Baumgartner (Vienna). Vice-President will be Prof. Peter Franz (Vienna).
12. Plans for the future Annual Meetings were discussed: for the 2025 Annual Meeting one BID has been received from Stockholm, Sweden. The 100th anniversary Annual Meeting will be organized in Groningen. 2027 will be outside Europe.
13. Editor-in-Chief of Acta Oto-Laryngologica prof. Matti Anniko informed the Board that the D-line for papers from the Annual Meeting 2023 is December 1st.
14. Other items: the Board discussed about a possible 100th Anniversary publication that would include highlights of the CORLAS research.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (CORLAS Business Meeting)

Location and time: TSUBAKI 1 Hall, Hotel Chinzanso, Tokyo, Aug. 28, 2023 at 4:50 PM

Present: 85 members

Minutes:

1. Secretary General welcomed all members.
2. Deceased members were commemorated (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
3. Annual Report 2022 was approved.
4. The membership status was presented (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
5. The list from the Credentials Committee and the Board regarding the 14 new CORLAS members was presented and approved by the General Assembly (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
6. New national Chairs: none
7. Status of Board Member Positions: for the period 2023-2024 Wolf-Dieter Baumgartner (Vienna) will serve as the CORLAS President and Peter Franz (Vienna) as the Vice-President. Mariela Torrente (Santiago de Chile) will start her term as a new Councillor.
8. Chairs of the national groups are invited to contact the General Secretary regarding proposals for new member candidates by mid-May 2024 at the latest.
9. Secretary General informed the GA about the Secretarial Assistance by GUARANT International (Prague, Czech Republic). The annual fees are now collected successfully on-line. Still a considerable number of members do not pay their fees.
10. The Secretary General presented the Financial Report for 2022-2023 (see the attachment).
11. The financial report was approved by the General Assembly. The Board was granted discharge. The annual fee for members remains at 100 Euros.

12. It was decided that we will add a note in the annual fee invoice where the member can allow her/his name and address to be added in list of members on our website.
13. The plans and arrangements for the Annual Meeting 2024 (Vienna) were presented by Prof. Wold-Dieter Baumgartner. The scientific meeting will take place during Aug 26-28, 2024. The Family Tour will be on Sunday Aug 25. The Postcongress Tour will take place during Aug 29-Aug 31-Sept 1. Please, visit the congress webpage www.corlas2024.com for further information.
14. The plans regarding the future Annual Meetings were discussed (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting). The only BID for the Annual Meeting 2025 was received from Stockholm. Lars Olaf Cardell presented the plans for the local arrangements. The GA approved Stockholm as the city for the Annual Meeting 2025. The dates for the scientific meeting are Aug 25-27. Family Tour will be on Sunday Aug 24. Postcongress Tour will be during Aug 28-30, 2025.
15. The members were informed about the submission D-line (Dec 1) to the CORLAS Supplement of Acta Oto-Laryngologica.
16. Closure of the General Assembly.



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The scientific programme comprised 110 abstracts (77 oral and 33 poster presentations) that were presented by 92 members (including 14 new members) and 18 guests. There were 10 scientific sessions (Audiology, H&N 1&2, Hearing Implant, Neurotology, Rhinology, Oropharynx and Larynx, Inner Ear Basic Research 1&2, Otology 2), 1 keynote presentation (Aging and Reverse Aging), 2 symposia (Aging, Regeneration and Reconstruction), 4 seminars (CI, Hearing Implants, Rhinosinusitis, Tinnitus) and 4 poster tours (Otology 1, HL & Tinnitus, Otology Basic Research, Oropharynx and H&N).

Monday (Aug. 28th) In the Opening Ceremony, after the welcoming words presented by the General Secretary Antti Mäkitie and the President Tatsuya Yamasoba, three CORLAS Prizes were delivered. The 2nd Secretary D. Bradley Welling introduced the Shambaugh Prize recipient prof. Karen B. Avraham (Tel

Aviv) and the James B. Snow Jr. MD Tinnitus Research Award recipient prof. Tobias Kleinjung (Zurich). The Editorial Secretary Matti Anniko introduced the Acta Prize Recipient prof. Lars Olaf Cardell (Stockholm).

After the Opening Ceremony we enjoyed listening to two Japanese Opening Lectures: Emer. Prof. Kimitaka Kaga (Tokyo) presented about the Japanese archipelago, global warming affecting the surrounding sea, the earthquakes in Japan, and about the volcanic activity of Mt. Fuji. Emer. Prof. Shin-ichi Usami (Matsumoto) presented interesting research performed on the deafness genes and the origin of the Japanese population.

The 1st Scientific Session on Audiology was started by the Shambaugh Prize recipient prof. Karen Avraham (Tel Aviv) with her research on implementing precision medicine in the field of hearing loss and translating it into clinic. The session covered both genetic factors contributing to hearing impairment and research on various rehabilitation aspects.

The 1st Scientific Poster Tour (Otology 1) included presentations on cochlear implantation and other surgical otology topics and the 2nd Scientific Poster Tour (Hearing Loss and Tinnitus) focused on both genetic aspects and clinical manifestations.

In the afternoon the Congress President Tatsuya Yamasoba chaired the Seminar 1 presentation given by prof. Seung-Ha Oh (Seoul) on “Development of Auxiliary Technology to Facilitate the Benefit of Cochlear Implant and Hearing Aids”. The presentation described the research on a prototype middle ear microphone using cutting-edge audio-processing technology. Tragically this excellent scientific contribution remained his last at the CORLAS meetings because in November we received the sad news that prof. Seung-Ha Oh had passed away.

The Head and Neck Session 1 included four presentations on oropharyngeal cancer research and five talks on various other research and surgical questions.

Tuesday (Aug. 29th) programme started with the scientific session titled ‘Hearing Implant’ and it included six presentations on cochlear implantation (long-term follow-up, early implantation, intraoperative electrical measurements, robotic insertion, inner ear drug delivery) and one on a middle ear implant.

The 3rd Scientific Poster Tour (Otology Basic Research) included presentations on cochlear implant research (3D-printed cochlear electrodes, dexamethasone-loaded CIs, film coating of CI biomaterials, local drug delivery, neural plasticity), immune-related plasma biomarkers in vestibular schwannoma patients, cochlear cell transplantation, OCT imaging of endolymphatic hydrops, numerical analysis of vestibular 3D data, and intratympanic nanoparticle-conjugated gentamicin injection.

The 4th Scientific Oral Session (Neurotology) covered presentations on vestibular implants, hydropic MR imaging, BPPV assessment with vHIT and caloric test, small vestibular schwannoma management, and familial and sporadic Ménière disease genetics.

After the lunch emer. prof. Shin-ichi Usami chaired the Seminar 2 presentation given by prof. Wolf-Dieter Baumgartner on ‘Future Perspectives of Hearing Implants’.

The 5th Scientific Oral Session (Rhinology) included one translational and three clinical research presentations.

The 4th Scientific Poster Tour (Oropharynx and Head and Neck) included nine presentations on miscellaneous topics. The poster tours clearly attracted stimulating discussions and the received feedback supported to continue these and trying to arrange the tours in auditorium circumstances.

Prof. Shigeharu Fujieda chaired the Seminar 3 presentation given by prof. Kenji Kondo (Tokyo) on 'Eosinophilic Chronic Rhinosinusitis: Clinical and Research Progress in Japan'.

Our Congress President prof. Tatsuya Yamasoba and prof. P. Ashley Wackym chaired the interesting Keynote Lecture given by Emer. Prof. Kazuo Tsubota (Tokyo) on 'Aging and Reverse Aging' where he focused on endoplasmic reticulum stress as one of the important processes in aging.

This Keynote was followed by the Symposium 1 titled 'Aging' focusing on age and hearing, speech perception, speech control and head and neck cancer.

Wednesday (Aug. 30th) started with the Scientific Session 6 (Oropharynx and Larynx) where miscellaneous research on upper airway clinical and translational projects were presented and discussed.

The following two Scientific Sessions 7 & 8 included 11 presentations focusing on Inner Ear Basic Research.

The Seminar 4 was chaired by prof. Tatsuya Yamasoba. Prof. Sho Kanzaki (Tokyo) presented 'Prognostic Factors (SNPs) of Tinnitus Patients and its Treatment'.

Symposium 2 was titled 'Regeneration and Reconstruction' and discussed cell sheet transplantation for middle ear mucosal regeneration, reconstruction of saddle nose deformity, tissue engineering for airway organs, and algorithms for mandibular reconstruction.

Scientific Session 9 (Head and Neck 2) discussed various therapeutical implications of research trials and translational research results on head and neck cancer.

Scientific Session 10 (Otology 2) presented results on Eustachian tube dysfunction, endoscopic ear surgery, use of endoscope in lateral skull base surgery, transconchal access to the mastoid and watchful waiting for acute otitis media.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The social programme was carefully designed to introduce participants to the Japanese culture and its attractions. The practical arrangements were carried out admirably to the last detail. On Sunday August 27th the Family Tour headed to the Kamakura "Little Kyoto" which is located one hour from Tokyo and was once the seat of a feudal government established in 1192 as the first of its kind in Japan. It is now noted for its historic sites and seaside bathing beach. During the congress days there were various complimentary tours available for the members and accompanying persons to visit for example the Meiji Shrine, teamLab Planets museum, where one walks in water through beautiful and artistic gardens, Tokyo river cruise and Asakusa (world's tallest free-standing broadcasting tower). Also, the organizers offered courses to experience how to do origami or calligraphy (with the famous Japanese calligrapher Naka Tomoka as the teacher!).

On **Monday Aug 28th** the Cultural Evening took us to Hotel Gajoen, that is widely believed to be the model for the setting of Miyazaki Hayao's Oscar-winning animation, "Spirited Away". Originally this hotel was built by the founder Hosokawa Rikizo to offer a museum-like setting wherein visitors could enjoy food and a bath. Japanese style reception room was covered with Tatami, the Japanese style of mat. We enjoyed beautiful Japanese music and Japanese menu (8 dishes), and again, the General Secretary introduced a new Japanese word for everyone to learn and to think of: '*Arigatōgozaimasu*' (Thank you)! We were so thankful for our hosts.

On **Tuesday Aug 29th** at the Members' Dinner the General Secretary first welcomed everyone and highlighted the Amicitiae Sacrum, the importance of the global scientific network, and also forwarded regards from our member Oleg Borysenko (Kiev) who could not attend the Annual Meeting. Prof. Lars Olaf Cardell (Stockholm) – recipient of the Acta Prize – then presented a short summary of his current research. The strategy of his research is centered around characterization of the cellular architecture and immunological function of Tumour-Draining Lymph Nodes (TDLNs) in Head and Neck squamous cell carcinoma. Furthermore, the aim is to describe how the different cancer immunotherapeutic interventions change the architecture and immunology of TDLNs.

Fourteen new members and five new members from the previous years were welcomed to the podium and they had a chance to introduce themselves and received a personal copy of the CORLAS History Book "Vivat Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amicitiae Sacrum 1926-2001". Our community is fortunate and happy to annually receive a large number of new distinguished members.

At the same time, participants of the Accompanying Persons' Dinner, organized at the same venue, around 70 accompanying persons enjoyed a luxurious dinner in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Keiko Yamasoba warmly welcomed everyone to the dinner, which turned out to be not only a delicious meal but an artistic set up of beautiful, decorated dishes. Lively discussion and smiling faces indicated that such a special gathering was greatly valued. Outi Mäkitie thanked in her speech Keiko Yamasoba and Fujiko Omori for providing the participants such a wonderful possibility to get together, to make new friends and to refresh existing connections.

On **Wednesday Aug 30th** after three congress days and 110 highly interesting scientific presentations, we gathered at a Gala Dinner at the Hotel Chinzanso Ballroom, and first listened the welcoming address given by the President Tatsuya Yamasoba. We also watched a highly skillful traditional Japanese dance and magic show ('Tezuma'), in which our member prof. Ashley Wackym also took part as an assistant. Tezuma has a long 300-year history where the forms called the "Kata" and "Mitate" present Japanese way of thinking that puts a high value on the beauty of form.

During the dinner the General Secretary thanked the organizing faculty for their dedicated efforts for this meeting. Our President Tatsuya Yamasoba and Keiko Yamasoba and our Vice-President Koichi Omori and Fujiko Omori received gifts as a token for our gratitude. The 2nd Secretary D. Bradley Welling announced the Benjamin Prize recipient for the best presentation of the year, which is delivered to a young researcher. This prize is funded by a donation from the Dutch group, and the jury consists of the President of the congress, the Vice-President, and the Corlas General Secretary. This year the recipient was Dr. Ayako Maruyama (Tokyo) who presented as a guest and the title of her communication was 'Cisplatin-Induced Hair Cell Damage in Mouse Cochlea Largely Depends on the Presence of Sensory Mechanoelectrical Transduction Channels Both *Ex Vivo* and *In Vivo*'. At the end of the Dinner the President of the forthcoming year and next Annual Meeting prof. Wolf-Dieter Baumgartner and Alexandra Jappel thanked Tatsuya and Keiko Yamasoba and welcomed us all to Vienna in August 2024.

POSTCONGRESS TOUR

The postcongress tour took us to the Mt. Fuji and Hakone Hot Spring area. The first stop of the Tour was the Narusawa Ice Cave (temperature between 0-4 degrees Celsius). The Fuji Five Lakes area and Hakone form a famous summer resort, and we had a chance to enjoy hot springs and at the same time the stunning views of Mt Fuji. The possibility to spend one night at the Hotel Kaneyamaen in a Japanese-style room was a real pleasure (please, check the photos via the links below). During the 2nd Day, we were taken halfway up the World Heritage-registered Mt. Fuji (5th Station Observatory) and experienced the surrounding majestic nature with mountains, lakes, and volcanic activity. The history of the Shogun era was presented to us. Some of us visited the truly amazing Okada Museum of Art.

We were all very impressed by the great experiences of the trip. In addition, we had learned small details about some simple Japanese philosophies, that can be incredibly grounding (such as '*omoiyari*' mentioned in the introduction of this report). One impression included in this category is the term '*mottainai*' that expresses a thoughtful compassion and sense of regret over waste in the actions of daily Japanese life. This certainly got our sympathies and hopefully made a long-term impact on our own activities. Further, the role of a postcongress tour was deepened in our minds when we had a chance to interact with each other and relax for three days in this spectacular environment. For example, the Prince Hotel at the Hakone Lake Ashinoko with the last dinner of the tour and evening spent together was a superb retreat. The 3rd Day included a Hakone Ropeway tour and Hakone Pirate Boat trip and a visit to the Hakone-jinja shrine.

PHOTOS

The photos of the Annual Scientific Meeting and the Social Programme are provided by the congress organizers and can be viewed through the links below:

Family_Tour

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/GfDv3sBd7as5Bxfx5>

Day_1

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/buvYyz9EVvxmRgY76>

Day_2

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/hMNK8EgZCHCaq2m39>

Day_3

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/11topyZT7pm91N9k6>

Post_Congress_Tour

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/bFwEdU2gJ5u3udy26>

Day_Tour

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/q6WpwwB9AnWkaKp58>

IMPORTANT DATES

Chairmen of the national groups are invited to contact the General Secretary **by mid-May 2024**, at the latest, to propose new member candidates. These individuals will then be officially invited to send their applications to the Jury by mid-June 2024 at the latest.

Annual Meeting 2024 will take place in Vienna, Austria during Aug 26-28, 2024. Family Tour on Aug 25. Postcongress Tour will take place during Aug 29–Aug 31–Sept 1. Please, visit the congress website www.corlas2024.com for further information.

Outi and I would like to wish you and your loved ones a wonderful Holiday Season. May the New Year bring peace, hope and happiness to all of us.

We look forward to seeing you all in Vienna in August 2024.

Helsinki, December 17th, 2023



Antti Mäkitie
General Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT (by prof. Sandro Stöckli 8/2023)

CORLAS

Income Statement

For the Period July 2022 to July 2023
Currency: Euro

Revenue	2022	2023
Sales accessories		
Membership fee	632	30'115
Financial revenue dividend		
Financial revenue performance		
Interest revenue		
Other		
Total Revenues	632	30'115
Expenses		
Expenses Annual Meeting	1'683	15'000
Purchase accessories		
Commissions Six Payment	338	117
Commission Raiffeisen CHF Account	-	
Commissions Raiffeisen Euro Account	568	
Bank Fees		560
Guarant Office	1'759	10'925
Equipment		
Web hosting and domains	360	1'451
Other	1'161	2'129
Total Expenses	5'869	30'182
Net Income Before Taxes	(5'237)	(67)
Income tax expense		
Income from Continuing Operations	(5'237)	(67)
Below-the-Line Items		
Income from discontinued operations		
Effect of accounting changes		
Extraordinary items		
Net Income	(5'237)	(67)

CORLAS

Balance Sheet

Date: 01.08.2023
Currency: Euro

Assets	2022	2023
Current Assets		
Cash Euro Account	142'312	
Cash Bank account Guarant Prague		147'391
Cash CHF Account		
Accounts receivable		
Inventory Accessories Ties	2'000	
Other		-
Total current assets	144'312	147'391
Fixed (Long-Term) Assets		
Long-term investments		
Other		
Total fixed assets		
Other Assets		
Other		
Total Other Assets	-	-
Total Assets	144'312	147'391
Liabilities and Equity		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	-	-
Total current liabilities	-	-
Long-Term Liabilities		
Long-Term Liabilities	-	-
Total long-term liabilities	-	-
Equity		
Equity	37'587	132'378
Profit	106'725	15'013
Total equity	144'312	147'391
Total Liabilities and Equity	144'312	147'391