Electrocardiography (ECG) was developed as a clinical tool about one hundred years ago. Since that time, the ECG has been the first and most important method for diagnosing cardiac diseases and for monitoring the status of the patient. The development of computers made it possible to create automatic diagnostic programs and thus considerably decrease the work needed for cardiac diagnosis. Computer models of the cardiac electric field and the development of the theory of bioelectromagnetism increase our possibilities to understand the activation sequence and its measurement process in more detail. The International Society of Electrocardiology had its beginnings over 40 years ago in Central Europe. Today the society has a lot of members in entire Europe, US, Japan and in many other countries.

As many of you know, we have concluded a long marathon of preparation, organization, and presentation of the 34th International Congress on Electrocardiology, and 48th International Symposium on Vectorcardiography in Istanbul, which was organized by International Society of Electrocardiology.

Over six hundred participants had the opportunity to attend twenty two scientific sessions, ten oral abstract sessions, five satellite symposia and one day ECG course which was supported by over one hundred and twenty distinguished faculty members. The new developments in basic, clinical electrocardiology and cardiac arrhythmias were discussed with details in those sessions. The scientific sessions of Istanbul meetings provided the highest quality teaching highlighting the current state and limitation of scientific knowledge and presenting a detailed analysis of the most recent developments. Very interesting content and the highest level of the scientific program of the congress were possible due to excellent contributions of
international faculty interacting with delegates. The program met committee’s goal of attracting worldwide participation and broad representation in all disciplines of electrocardiology and heart rhythm disorders.

A lot of abstracts were submitted for the congress. After very careful reviewing process, scientific committee agreed to accept over two hundred and ten abstracts for this meeting. The abstracts of the congress are published in Journal of Electrocardiology and the proceedings are published in Anatolian Journal of Cardiology. On behalf of the organization committee, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to editorial teams of Journal of Electrocardiology and Anatolian Journal of Cardiology for the great work they did.

The International Society of Electrocardiology has a tradition of the Kenichi Harumi Young Investigator Awards. Based on scientific merit, presentation during the congress, the jury selected three researchers as the winners of this competition.

The 35th International Congress on Electrocardiology, and 49th International Symposium on Vectorcardiography will be held in St Petersberg next year. However we look forward very much to welcoming you again in the future in Istanbul, the very fascinating and exotic city, which is one of the world’s great cities famous for its historical monuments and magnificent scenic beauties. It is the only city in the world, which spreads over two continents.

“There, the God and mankind, nature and art altogether have created such a magnificent place on earth that it is worth a visit,” says Lamartine to describe the Istanbul encompassing two continents, Asia with one arm and Europe with the other.

Kind regards,

Bülent Görenek
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