The 14th scientific meeting of the Inter-American Society of Hypertension (IASH) was held in Santiago, Chile, March 25–29, 2001. This meeting brought together basic and clinical investigators in hypertension and related areas from countries of South, Central, and North America, and also included many participants from countries outside of the Americas. The meeting was very successful. There were 234 oral and poster presentations given, from which 93 manuscripts were submitted for publication. As noted previously, the quality of scientific communications at the IASH meetings has risen steadily since the first meeting, reflecting an increased interest in the activities of the IASH. Both the scientific and social programs were well organized and very enjoyable. This success was due in large part to the outstanding leadership of Dr Gloria Valdés, President of the Organizing Committee; Dr Jaime Herrera-Acosta, President of the IASH; and Dr Jorge Jalil, Chairman of the Scientific Program Committee; and the members of the respective committees. Our special thanks go to all who contributed to the success of the meeting.

We congratulate Dr Hector Croxatto for receiving the Distinguished Scientist Award and Dr J. Carlos Romero for receiving the IASH Lifetime Achievement Award. We also congratulate Drs Flavia L. David, Xavier F. Figueroa, and Laura G. Sanchez-Lozada for receiving the first-, second-, and third-place Merck Sharp and Dohme Young Investigator awards. These outstanding young scientists were selected from 15 nominees. IASH was also able to provide 5 travel awards. The names of the awardees are listed below.

My difficult task as guest editor was to subject all the submitted manuscripts to rigorous peer review in a timely manner. This effort was greatly facilitated by the efficient assistance of outstanding guest associate editors and a hard-working guest editorial board. Nevertheless, because of very tight page constraints, the choices were difficult, and many fine papers could not be published.

We are grateful to the editor-in-chief of Hypertension, Edward D. Frohlich, MD, and his efficient editorial staff, which includes Debby K. Smith and Irene S. Hebert. Debby was responsible for bringing the proceedings to fruition, and she did an outstanding job.

On behalf of the editors and guest editors of Hypertension, I extend sincere appreciation to all of the authors and especially to the referees. Because of the combined efforts of the authors, referees, and editorial staff of Hypertension, we were able to publish manuscripts within 6 months of the IASH meeting.

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**Merck Sharp and Dohme Young Investigator Nominees**

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**Inter-American Society of Hypertension Travel Awardees**

Barbara Alexander, Maria de Lourdes Junqueira, Alexandre C. Pereira, Vera de Moura Azvedo Farah, Antonio J. Leon Delgado
Guest Editor's Letter
L. Gabriel Navar, Joey P. Granger, Jaime Herrera-Acosta, Ernesto L. Schiffrin and Gloria Valdés

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