

## THE IFSI

The **International Forum for the Study of Itch** (IFSI) was founded in 2005 and is a multidisciplinary international association of clinical practitioners, researchers and scientists dedicated to improving our understanding and treatment of itch for the benefit of suffering patients worldwide.

Our mission is to advance itch-related research and education and to promote treatment and clinical efforts to help alleviate this debilitating symptom.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is governed by a committee of 12 members. The officers of the committee are the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and other members including the local organizer of the corresponding World Congress on Itch (WCI). The board members are elected for a period of 2 years at the General Assembly.

## IFSI BOARD

Earl Carstens, USA	(President)
Elke Weisshaar, Germany	(Vice-President)
Alan Fleischer, USA	(Treasurer)
Toshiya Ebata, Japan	(Secretary)
Ethan Lerner, USA	(WCI Organizer 2013)
Ichiro Katayama, Japan	(WCI Organizer 2015)
Jeffrey D. Bernhard, USA	
Jacek Szepletowski, Poland	
Martin Schmelz, Germany	
Thomas Mettang, Germany	
Sonja Ständer, Germany	
Kenji Takamori, Japan	
Gil Yosipovitch, USA	

## SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

The World Congress on Itch (WCI), IFSI's biennial meeting, is international and multidisciplinary. It is the premier itch meeting in the world. It is open to all professionals involved in itch research. Announcement of the meetings can be found on the webpage [www.itchforum.net](http://www.itchforum.net)

The plenary and poster sessions comprise presentations and discussions on pruritus research covering different topics

## ITCH and ACTA DERMATO-VENEREOLOGICA

The IFSI has a new official journal, Itch. Itch is Open-Access. IFSI members can receive a waiver of publication fees for articles accepted by Itch.

The Journal Acta Dermato-Venereologica has an itch section that is officially affiliated with IFSI. This journal offers Open Access. Members of IFSI are currently entitled to a reduction of publication fees of 25% per year (for first and corresponding authors).

## AWARDS

IFSI awards the **Hermann Handwerker Award for the best poster presentation** for young investigators at the biennial meetings. Travel grants are given to attend the WCI.

## WEBSITE:

[www.itchforum.net](http://www.itchforum.net)

## International Forum for the Study of Itch (IFSI)



## INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

**International Forum for the Study of Itch  
(IFSI)**

**Application for Membership**

\_\_\_ Dr. \_\_\_ Prof. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ZIP-CODE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LIST YOUR CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND  
INTERESTS IN ITCH: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CLINICAL AND/OR RESEARCH SPECIALTY  
and SUBSPECIALTY:

\_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

\_\_\_ Regular \_\_\_ Regular – Developing or  
Currency Restricted

\_\_\_ Trainee \_\_\_ Contributing

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL or fax to:**

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Germany  
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**MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Regular Member:</b>	\$100.00
<b>Regular Member from Developing Country:*</b>	\$60.00
<b>Trainee Member:</b>	\$60.00
<b>Contributing Member:</b>	\$1,000.-

Trainee member applicants must submit a statement giving duration of training period. Upon receipt by the Secretariat, applications will be submitted to the Committee on Membership for review and final approval. Dues payment must accompany application.

We offer payment via secure online payment system, cheque or bank transfer.

Further details will be provided after application. Cheques may be sent together with application

**\*See definition under:**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Developing\\_country#  
List\\_of\\_emerging\\_and\\_developing\\_economies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Developing_country#List_of_emerging_and_developing_economies)