

**Fifth International Conference on Tumor Microenvironment:
Progression, Therapy & Prevention
Versailles, France, October 20-24, 2009**

The Versailles conference was a truly multidisciplinary event in which the focal issue was approached and discussed thoroughly by specialists from a wide spectrum of biomedical sciences. The conference met the goal of the program committee, which was to affirm the significance of the tumor microenvironment in tumor progression as well as to create a friendly forum that promotes a critical review of novel basic findings and - innovative clinical studies pertaining to the cancer microenvironment.

Six hundred sixty six scientists from **43** countries participated in the conference being the largest tumor microenvironment meeting ever held, **31** plenary lectures in **8** Sessions, **149** symposium lectures in **16** sessions and **221** posters were presented.

Five posters were awarded with "best poster prizes". Two of these prizes were sponsored by the European Association for Cancer Research to **Dominique Arsenault** from Sherbrooke, QC, Canada and to **Andrei Bakin** from Buffalo, NY, USA. The other three were awarded to **Niels Halama** from Heidelberg, Germany, **Emily Paterson** from Adelaide, SA, Australia and **Jennifer Isaacs** from Charleston, SC, USA. Two citations were awarded to **Julien Cherfils-Vicini** from Paris, France and **Marie Tosolini**, from Paris, France

I take this opportunity to invite you to join ICMS. This can be done on line by visiting www.cancermicroenvironment.tau.ac.il/membership. I also invite all of you to submit original research articles, reviews and reports to Cancer Microenvironment (CAMI), the official journal of ICMS (<http://www.springer.com/biomed/cancer/journal/12307>). The website address for submitting articles is: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/cami/>.

In conclusion I wish to express my gratitude to all those who contributed to making the Versailles Conference a success. Above all, appreciation is due to our organizing partners, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the National Cancer Institute of France (INCa). I thank the sponsors of the conference for their generosity, the program committee for putting together an interesting and challenging program, the session chairs for their skills and leadership, the coordinator of the conference and her team for supervising and coordinating the scientific and social events, the conference secretariat for a highly efficient administration and the technical team of the Palais des Congres de Versailles for facilitating our various activities in this beautiful venue.

You are invited to view the photo album of the conference on this website.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Tumor Microenvironment Conference.

Warm greetings,
Isaac Witz