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**NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS SLATED FOR
OSTEOARTHRITIS RESEARCH SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**

MOUNT LAUREL, NJ— At the 2007 World Congress on Osteoarthritis held recently in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, the Osteoarthritis Research Society International (OARSI) announced the newly elected board of directors for 2008.

Board officers remain the same including: President Steven Abramson from New York University School of Medicine; President Elect Francis Berenbaum of Hospital Saint-Antoine in Paris; Secretary General Linda Sandell from the Washington University School Of Medicine; and Treasurer Virginia Byers Kraus of Duke University Medical Center.

Standing members at large include: Thomas Aigner, Leipzig University; Francisco J Blanco, Complejo Hospitalario Universitario; Joseph Buckwalter, University of Iowa Hospital; Maxime Dougados, Hospital Cochin; Felix Eckstein, Paracelsus Private Medical University; Mary B. Goldring, Hospital for Special Surgery; Yves Henrotin, University of Liege; Marc Hochberg, University of Maryland; David Hunter, New England Baptist Hospital; Hiroshi Kawaguchi, University of Tokyo; John Loughlin, University of Oxford; Johanne Martel-Pelletier, University of Montreal Hospital Center; Anthony Robin Poole, McGill University; Leo van de Putte, University of Medical Centre Nijmegen. Roy Altman of University of California, Los Angeles remains the ex-officio member and editor-in-chief of *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage*.

OARSI's board of directors is comprised of leading scientific experts, and renowned individuals in the field. In fact, OARSI President Steve Abramson, who is the Chairman of Rheumatology at the NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases, also serves as Vice Dean for Education, Faculty, and Academic Affairs at New York University School of Medicine.

"OARSI has a wonderful group of dedicated individuals working to further education and awareness of OA and its treatments," said Steve Abramson, OARSI President. "We are lucky to have such a prominent group of international leaders representing a broad spectrum of fields in OA research and committed to advancing the field."

The 2007 World Congress was an overwhelming success, attracting more than 915 osteoarthritis professionals looking for the latest developments and research findings. Attendance was up a record 14 percent from the prior year. During the meeting, OARSI presented the OARSI Recommendations for the Management of Hip and Knee Osteoarthritis Part II: OARSI Evidence-based, Expert Consensus Guidelines, which will be published in *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage* in February. These guidelines are the result of two years of work by a multinational committee of OARSI members.

Joint diseases account for the majority of all chronic conditions in individuals 65 years and older. Osteoarthritis represents the single most prevalent age-related disease and with the increasing numbers of the elderly in both developed and developing countries, it is expected to have a profound impact on the health care and quality of life for senior citizens.

OARSI is a nonprofit, scientific organization that promotes and encourages fundamental and applied research, and disseminates the results in order to permit better knowledge of osteoarthritis and its treatment.

For more information on OARSI, its programs and services, contact OARSI at 15000 Commerce Parkway, Suite C, Mt. Laurel, NJ, 08054; phone: 856-439-1385; fax: 856-439-0525; email: oarsi@oarsi.org or visit the Web site at www.oarsi.org.

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