

Editorial

VII Brazilian Melanoma Conference

In this issue of the *Applied Cancer Research* readers will find the abstracts presented to the VII Brazilian Melanoma Conference, sponsored by the Brazilian Melanoma Group (GBM), held august 16th to 18th, 2007.

I am grateful to Dr. Benedito Mauro Rossi and the editorial board for this opportunity. Indeed, being able to publish the abstracts adds on scientific value to the Conference, and allows spreading knowledge in this growing field of interest. We also thank Dr. Gerson Junqueira and the organizing committee, for the enormous effort to settle this outstanding program as you will see in the next pages.

We acknowledge the presence of Merrick Ross (Houston/USA), Raymond Barnhill (Miami, USA) and Giovanni Pellacani (Modena, ITALY).

Pre-conference courses include dermatopathology, mostly conducted by Dr. Raymond Barnhill, world known pathologist from George Washington University (Miami, USA), who will present new insights on melanoma spreading and also about spitzoid lesions. Dermoscopy will have very interesting issues, and mention on advances in this area of diagnostic tools, with highlights given by Dr. Giovanni Pellacani (Modena, Italy). Sentinel lymph node will also be discussed in another session by Dr. Merrick Ross (MD Anderson, Houston – USA), renowned oncology surgeon, with large experience in this field.

In 1997, GBM was founded aiming to approach all of the professionals dealing with pigmented lesions and this has been its most powerful strength. This is the reason why in most of the program, you will see speeches from the best Brazilian team in different specialties.

Finally, it is my duty to thank, after a 4 year term as President of the GBM, all of my board of directors, the scientific and all other committees, as well as the group members, and not less important, the sponsors of the GBM. All that has been done would not have been possible without this support.

Gilles Landman, MD, PhD
Brazilian Melanoma Group President