The International Stroke Conference 2008
New Orleans, LA

The International Stroke Conference 2008 took place February 19–22 in New Orleans, La. Professional attendance numbers for both the Stroke Conference (3,324) and State-of-the-Art Stroke Nursing Symposium (807) were the second highest in the Conference and Symposium’s history.

Once again the conference highlighted sessions that concentrated on neurosurgical and neurointerventional subject matter. Popular new sessions at ISC 2008 included the oral abstract sessions selected by the Category Chairs of the ISC Program Committee: “Chairs’ Choice I: High Profile Research That You Want to Know” and “Chairs’ Choice II: A Last Taste of Research at ISC 2008.” One of the highlights at the State-of-the-Art Stroke Nursing Symposium was the session “Nursing: A Journey to Improving the Nation’s Health.”

The conference highlighted the following awards:

1. The Thomas Willis Lecture is awarded to an individual who has made significant and sustained contributions in the field of stroke. The 2008 recipient was Pak H. Chan who presented a lecture titled “Reperfusion and Neurovascular Dysfunction in Stroke: From Basic Mechanisms to Potential Strategies for Neuroprotection.”

2. The William M. Feinberg Award for Excellence in Clinical Stroke is bestowed upon someone who has made significant contributions to clinical research in stroke. S. Claiborne Johnston was the recipient of this year’s ward and gave a talk titled “Prioritizing Research in Stroke.”

Also of note are the winners of the New Investigator Awards, Hans Worthmann and Pooja Khatri. Both of these awards are abstract driven and available for application online.

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the International Stroke Conference 2009 which will take place February 17–20 in San Diego, Ca.