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## President's Address from the 23rd Annual Scientific Meeting/Chicago—Passing on the Baton!

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*For those of you who attended the Chicago meeting, it was great to see you all and to feel your support for the ISHRS's commitment to education and practice policies that promote high standards for patient care. At the request of the Forum editors, I am pleased to share the opening address I gave at the meeting. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the opportunity and honor of serving our Society as President. Finally, I wish to pledge my friendship and support for our new president, Dr. Kuniyoshi Yagyu from Japan. With the support of our members and the ISHRS Board of Governors, I know he will continue to promote the highest standards of safety and care for patients who seek hair restoration surgery.*

*The following is a copy of my president's address.*

Chicago is the third largest city in the United States and it holds special significance for the ISHRS as it is our corporate home and headquarters.

Many of the great landmark institutions here were created to serve the public interest—as was the ISHRS—so in my address today I will take you on a tour of Chicago's local landmarks, reviewing their origins, functions, or public initiatives, and compare their similarities with some of this year's important policy goals and initiatives of the ISHRS.

Let's begin our tour with the world famous Art Institute of Chicago. Over 130 years old, it was founded not only as a museum, but as an educational center for fine arts. Of nearly 300,000 works of art, many are renowned masterpieces. The ISHRS in comparison is only 23 years old, but was similarly founded in educational initiatives to achieve artistic excellence for patients. Notice, the magnificent bronze statue of a lion featured in this photo. Symbolically, this lion reminds me of the noble missions of the ISHRS.

John Steinbeck, in this quotation describes his pride as a writer:

**"I am impelled, not to squeak like a grateful and apologetic mouse, but to roar like a lion out of pride in my profession."**

I, too, feel a comparable pride as president of the ISHRS, and praise the courage and integrity of our Board of Governors (BOG) and recent past presidents who have voted on policies that bolster and support our Society's purpose:

- Advance the art and science of hair restoration surgery
- Encourage exchange of ideas, knowledge, experience; and promote the highest level of skills, artistry
- Encourage professional excellence
- Encourage continuing medical education (CME) in hair restoration surgery

In order to promote professional excellence and the highest level of skills, the Board of Governors, based on committee recommendations, has published a best practices standard that preserves quality of care and optimizes patient safety.

Continuing our tour, The Field Museum of Natural History built in 1893 explores the history of how the world came to be. Similarly, members of the ISHRS have been exploring the history and origins of hair restoration science.

This year the BOG unanimously voted to recognize the historic pioneering research achievements of Dr. Shoji Okuda from Japan. My esteemed colleague Dr. Francisco Jimenez will present an honorary lecture to pay tribute

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Art Institute of Chicago. Photography Choose Chicago



Bronze Lion outside the Art Institute of Chicago. Photography Choose Chicago



**Panama**  
ISHRS 24TH WORLD CONGRESS  
OCTOBER 19-22, 2016  
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF  
HAIR RESTORATION SURGERY  
THE WESTIN PLAYA BONITA HOTEL  
PANAMA CITY