Dear Colleagues, Members and Friends:

The 2011 Wound Healing Society meeting will be held in Dallas, Texas, from April 12-14, 2011. For the fifth year it will be held together with the Symposium on Advanced Wound Care. This collaborative meeting reflects the best the field of Wound Healing, representing the integration of cutting edge science with evidence based clinical practice. On behalf of the WHS Program Committee, we invite you to participate in this year’s exciting meeting. The excitement stems from advances in the many areas of tissue repair and regeneration including progenitor and stem cells, tissue engineering, microbiome and new successes in clinical trials. This year’s program will feature many new speakers and provide a new look at many aspects of wound healing. The meeting syllabus will be posted on the WHS website in the 2011 meetings section under the Preliminary Program tab. Please check back for the initial posting and continuous updates.

Highlights of this year’s program include:

1. WHS tradition is to recognize the efforts and promote the advancement of young talented scientists in the Young Investigators Plenary Session. The top ranked abstracts by junior investigators will be presented by emerging scientists in our field. The session will be presided over by our leadership President, Luisa Di Pietro, by Immediate Past President, Patricia Hebdia and President Elect, Harriet Hopf. Awards will be given to the top four contestants. The top winner will attend and represent the WHS at the next European Tissue Repair Society (ETRS) meeting.

2. We are very proud to present The WHS Keynote Speaker this year: Angela M. Christiano, PhD a charismatic scientist and a world leader in the areas of skin genetics and biology who will discuss approaches to gene therapies for skin and hair diseases and their applications to wound healing and regenerative medicine.

3. General Plenary Session will cover the Hot Topics in Regenerative Medicine including successful translational applications and clinical trials using progenitor and stem cells for repair of various tissues such as eyes, bone and heart. We are very fortunate to have Michele DeLuca MD, Rocky S. Tuan PhD, and Ian MacNeice PhD as speakers in this session.

4. Six plenary sessions have been selected to explore emerging concepts in basic, translational and clinical science of wound healing. These new scientific advances will provide a fresh input on the topics so important to the field. Also, we will welcome the International Cell Stress Society in a joint session.

5. This year, the Program will, for the first time, feature a pre-conference session “Pre-clinical Models of Wound Healing”. This session is envisioned to discuss current use of animal and human models to study wound healing, with emphasis to the specific use: basic science and/or clinical & translational. The first part of this session will focus on review of the models whereas the second part of this session will be a panel discussion that will aim to define the limitations and practical use of each model. It is hoped that this open discussion format results in a white paper with WHS recommendations of the utilization of pre-clinical models of wound healing towards the specific purpose.

6. Meet the Mentors session will be back by popular demand and is designed to cultivate, encourage and build relationships with young scientists in the field.
7. Six Oral Abstract Sessions comprising the top 48 competitively judged abstracts placed at peak times during the day to give presenters maximum audience. We will continue a Poster Discussion Session, a new feature introduced at the last WHS Meeting. This session will present the next 48 ranked abstracts in a moderated and organized session in the poster hall at a specified time slot.

We hope you will find the meeting in Dallas of interest and will register to attend. To do so, please go to the Registration Tab in the 2011 Meetings section of our website. When registration opens, please take advantage of the meeting discount if you are a member of the society. If you are not yet a member, consider signing up, sharing in this discount and joining us for an excellent meeting. We look forward to seeing you in April in Dallas.

With best regards,

[Signature]

Marjana Tomic-Canic, PhD and George A. Perdrizet, MD, PhD, FACS
Co-Chairs, WHS 2011 Program Committee.