

32nd Congress of the Société Internationale d'Urologie (SIU 2012)

Congress organisers: President of the SIU (2011- 2012): Dr Mahesh Desai
General Secretary: Dr Simon Tanguay
Local Organizing Committee Chair: Prof Seiji Naito, Kyushu University
Overall co-ordination of the event: SIU Central Office with offices in Montreal, Canada
Number of delegates: 3,026 from 94 countries across six continents

Delegates were primarily urologists and urologists in training. The Fukuoka International Congress Centre hosted most congress sessions, including parallel plenaries, moderated posters, instructional courses etc. It also provided services to attendees such as Registration, Housing and Tours and the Speaker Preview Room. The Fukuoka Kokusai Centre was used for the Exhibit Hall, Internet Hub, iClinics surgical videos, Members' Lounge and Unmoderated Posters (E-Posters). Plenary sessions took place at the Fukuoka Sun Palace.

There were many scientific sessions and some world-renowned lecturers.

A number of new initiatives were held in the exhibit hall, including

local entertainment such as Japanese calligraphy, karate demonstration, Japanese drums and origami.

Twenty-one hotels were used with the largest room blocks at the Hilton Seahawk, the Hotel Nikko, the Grand Hyatt and the Hotel Hakata Place.

Highlights of the social programme included: President's Dinner at the Kyushu National Museum; the Opening Ceremonies at Sun Palace were one of the highlights because of the Crown Prince of Japan's presence and speech. There were also performances by the Color Guard

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Elementary School, martial arts kids' team and Noh and Kyogen. The Welcome Reception took place in the Exhibit Hall, Fukuoka Kokusai Center. SIU Night took place at the Nakasu Kawabata Shopping

Arcade and Kushida Shrine, a traditional area of downtown Fukuoka City. Nearly 2,000 people took part and this was another congress highlight - a night of fun, Japanese style. A Gala Banquet took place at the Grand Hyatt Fukuoka Ballroom.

Optional evening activities included: a dinner cruise in Hakata Bay (Mariera); an izakaya dinner and karaoke night at Fucci Restaurant and a cultural evening at the Othori Noh Theatre, with a Noh Performance and a backstage tour.

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have banners placed all over the city, with our Congress logo and dates.

"Our SIU Board of Chairmen had nothing but praise for the Fukuoka experience," said Dr Mahesh Desai.