



# AHPBA<sup>2010</sup>

In conjunction with the

## IHPBA 9th World Congress, Buenos Aires, Argentina

April 18 - 22, 2010 - Hilton Buenos Aires Hotel



The 2010 AHPBA annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the IHPBA World Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina in April 2010—the first time in the history of our society that it is held outside the United States! As AHPBA President, I am honored and excited to preside over this particular meeting because of my fondness and deep appreciation for Latin and South American cultures and the many friends and colleagues that I have befriended throughout the region as an academic HPB surgeon. It is with great pleasure and fanfare that I invite all members of AHPBA, along with their families and friends, to participate in this historic assembly.

During the past year, the AHPBA has taken important steps to become a more globally inclusive organization. We have worked particularly hard to expand our contacts throughout the Americas and to strengthen and broaden our membership from HPB surgeons residing in our Southern Continent. This year, we created a combined AHPBA/IHPBA membership with the hope of enlisting many more South and Central American IHPBA surgeons to join our ranks and to make attendance at the IHPBA more affordable for all AHPBA members. The AHPBA will solicit corporate-sponsored scholarships to support the travel of 50 young HPB surgeons to attend the meeting.

Yet no outreach effort across the Americas by the AHPBA will be as important as the commitment by the AHPBA membership to participate in and attend the Argentinean-hosted IHPBA/AHPBA meeting in April of 2010. I therefore strongly encourage everyone to make travel arrangements now so that you can attend what will be a festive and exciting meeting in one of our hemisphere's loveliest cities. Our association's future success as a more globally integrated society with Northern, Southern, and Central American representation depends upon your attendance and participation. Although integrated with the IHPBA meeting, the AHPBA will have as many oral presentations, posters, DVDs, and symposia as are included in our typical annual meeting.

For those who have never attended an international surgical meeting, the 2010 Buenos Aires AHPBA meeting will open your eyes to advances in care from around the world not yet seen in practice in North America. For those who have never ventured to South America, attending the 2010 conference affords you a chance to experience one of the most exciting and beautiful countries in the world and to treat your family to a wonderful holiday. As one who has participated in numerous South American Surgical Congresses and having enjoyed the hospitality of Eduardo de Santibanes on many occasions, I promise you that you will have one of the most enjoyable times of your life. So come with me and taste the exhilarating pleasures that "The Paris of South America" has to offer you.

Scott Helton, MD  
AHPBA President 2009 – 2010