I am pleased to report the IFSSH continues to grow. We are now a Federation of 59 societies from 57 nations and we look forward to welcoming many more hand surgery societies into the IFSSH family.

The IFSSH is dedicated to promoting the dissemination of hand surgery knowledge around the world. The IFSSH is uniquely positioned to pursue this goal given the financial health of the organization and the breadth of its membership. One way the IFSSH can help educate hand surgeons is through the Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship. The IFSSH Committee on Educational Sponsorship (CES) has funds available to underwrite a visiting professorship to interested hand surgery units and is anxious to receive applications. This Professorship provides funding for hand surgery centers to bring a well-known hand surgeon to their unit. I strongly encourage our members to consider this opportunity. The IFSSH Committee for Educational Support (CES) also looks forward to receiving applications for financial support of other educational endeavors such as regional courses, outreach programs including education and medical missions, grants for fellowships and attendance at the IFSSH Triennial meetings. Full details are available on the IFSSH website - http://ifssh.info/fellowship-grants.html

Speaking of the website, we continue to work on the website upgrade. The upgrade will make the website more user friendly, increase its functionality and contain more IFSSH archival information. We will keep you informed as this upgrade process evolves.

This year the 2018 Delegates’ Council Meeting will be held in conjunction with the FESSH congress which will take place June 13-16 in Copenhagen. We will forward the full details of the IFSSH Delegates’ Meeting to all delegates in the near future.

I encourage the hand surgeons of our member societies to take the time to peruse the IFSSH Ezine. This quarterly communication is unique and serves as a conduit for the exchange of information within the world hand surgery community. The Ezine contains informative articles on clinical issues as well as updates on the many accomplishments of our member societies. We sincerely appreciate the member societies’ contributions and of course we are indebted to Professor Ulrich Mennen for his Editorship of the IFSSH Ezine. By the way, if you do not already receive the Ezine, please subscribe (free of charge) via the website - http://ifssh.info/ezine.html.

Once again, I encourage you to take advantage of the many educational program funding opportunities offered by the IFSSH.

On behalf of the IFSSH Executive Committee I wish you a Happy New Year.
Future Meetings

Triennial IFSSH Congresses

XIVth IFSSH – XIth IFSHT Congress – Berlin, Germany
17-21 June, 2019
www.ifssh-ifsht2019.com

XVth IFSSH – XIIth IFSHT Congress – London, United Kingdom
2022 (Dates to be confirmed)

National and Regional hand surgery meetings

Please see announcements in the Ezine and listed on the IFSSH website.