



IFSSH Newsletter

October 2015

2015 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting

The annual IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting was held in Seattle on September 10th, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. 32 of the 55 member societies were represented at the meeting and we thank these delegates for their contribution.

At this meeting, the Delegates unanimously adopted the newly modified bylaws of the IFSSH, as well as the proposition by the Executive Committee of registering our organization as an international non-for-profit organization based in the State of Illinois, USA. The IFSSH Charter had been initially registered in 1990 in Puerto Rico by the late Dr Miguel Vargas. The need for reconsidering the location of that registration had been raised in previous Delegates' Council meetings to optimize our legal and financial status.

The Delegates' Council accepted the membership application of the Kuwait Society for Surgery of the Hand. We welcome this society into the Federation and look forward to inviting its delegate and members to participate in future activities.

Eduardo Zancolli reported on the progress of the IFSSH triennial congress, to be held in Buenos Aires, October 24th-28th 2016. The scientific and social programmes have been prepared and promise a stimulating and exciting congress. Registration opens on November 1st 2015. Detailed information is available on the new congress website - <http://www.ifssh-ifsht2016.com/>

The 2016 congress will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the IFSSH. We hope all members of the IFSSH societies will join us to celebrate this milestone.

IFSSH - South Asian Regional Course in Hand Surgery

The IFSSH recently provided a US\$20,000 grant to assist with the conduct of a regional hand surgery course in South Asia. The following report was submitted by Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy, the Course Chairman:

The IFSSH sponsored South Asian Regional Live Hand Surgery Workshop was held at Ganga Hospital auditorium, Coimbatore, India, from 3rd to 5th July, 2015. It had

prominent overseas faculty including the IFSSH President Dr. Michael Tonkin. Dr. Don Lalonde from Canada, Dr. Goo-Hyun Baek from South Korea, Dr.P.C. Ho from Hong Kong and Dr. Amit Gupta from USA were the overseas faculty and they were joined by the Ganga Hospital team of doctors.

293 delegates participated in the course and of them 37 were from overseas belonging to 18 nations. The conference was held in the comfortable Ganga Hospital auditorium. 24 live surgeries were demonstrated. It covered a wide range of procedures like cleft hand, syndactyly, brachial plexus nerve transfers, wrist arthroscopy, wide awake surgical demonstrations, tendon repair, tendon transfers and carpal injuries. At any one time two surgical procedures were demonstrated with the moderators helping the delegates to interact with the Surgeons. The demonstrations were so intensive that the hall was full till the very end. Every session started with 2 didactic presentations from the faculty and a total of 10 lectures were delivered.

It also had good social programmes. We had Banquet Dinners on the evening of 3rd and 4th July. On the evening of 4th July, Dr. P.C. Ho with his Harmonica and Dr. Amit Gupta with the Indian Drums (Tabla) entertained the people with the fusion of western and Indian music which provided an opportunity for the delegates to interact with the faculty.

The feedback that we got from the delegates were very complimentary both to the content of the course and the organization. Together it was a very rewarding experience to the delegates.



Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI) Awards

We are pleased to report that the HWBI, an allied organization of IFSSH, in their 9th symposium held in Milano, Italy, on June 16th-17th 2015, awarded four scholarships to encourage four investigators to pursue research in hand and wrist biomechanics. The scholarships were generously sponsored by the ISB, HWBI, and William H. Seitz, MD Research Fund. The award committee selected this year's winners based on the abstract submissions to that symposium. The award winners were Joseph N. Gabra (USA), Benjamin Goislard de Monsabert (France), Faes D. Kerkhof (Belgium), and Giovanni F. Solitro (USA). For more information about the HWBI and its events, please visit the website at www.hwbi.org.

Future Meetings

A detailed list of national and regional hand surgery meetings is available on the IFSSH website.

The triennial **IFSSH Congresses** are as follows:

XIIIth IFSSH – Xth IFSHT Congress – Buenos Aires, Argentina
October 24-28, 2016
www.ifssh-ifsht2016.com

XIVth IFSSH – XIth IFSHT Congress – Berlin, Germany
May, 2019



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