



IFSSH Newsletter

November 2023

Message from the Secretary-General: David Warwick

Firstly, we are delighted to welcome the two newest members of the IFSSH - the Georgian Society for Surgery of the Hand and the Emirates Hand Surgery Society. These applications have just been formally approved by the IFSSH Executive Committee and IFSSH Delegates' Council when we met at the American Society for Surgery of the Hand congress in Toronto in October.

I am pleased to report on the continual progress being made by the IFSSH Officers, Members-at-Large, Delegates and Secretariat to improve the delivery of hand surgery around the world.

We have approved a plan to increase the revenue of IFSSH led by Drs Bain, Del Pinal and Clifton. We will be looking at improving and expanding the reach of our social media (@IFSSHHand) led by Jin Bo Tang, Aida Garcia and Belinda Smith.

We are honoured to announce that the Hand Surgery Resource (www.handsurgeryresource.org), prepared and delivered over many years by the extraordinary efforts of Dr Larry Hurst, will be transferred to IFSSH with Dr Hurst still supporting this project.

As the IFSSH expands, we are grateful to the work of the Members-at-Large: Greg Bain (Asia-Pacific) Jorge Clifton Correa (North and Central America), Aida Garcia Gomez (South America), and Paco del Pinal and David Shewring (Europe and Africa). Please liaise with the Member-at-Large for your region with any news and enquiries - you can find out which region at www.ifssh.info/regional_allocation.php.

One of the tasks of the IFSSH is to maintain and record our heritage. The history of each IFSSH member society is presented on the website (www.ifssh.info/member_nation-histories.php) and these are published regularly in the Ezine. If your history needs to be submitted or updated then please discuss this with your national Delegate (www.ifssh.info/member_nation.php) who will present this to the relevant regional Member-at-Large.

Finally we have two meetings to look forward to:

The Inaugural IFSSH Course in Ecuador (www.en.ecumano.org/) will prove to be a wonderful event in an extraordinary city thanks to the dedication of Dr Fidel Cayon (IFSSH Delegate, ECUMANO) and Dr Gabriel Alegria (ECUMANO President). Registration is available right now at just \$350 for specialists and \$250 for Residents, Fellows and Therapists. Please book your place now!

The IFSSH Triennial Congress in Washington, D.C. will be held in March 2025 (www.ifssh2025.org). This is evolving smoothly and will be a great credit to the organisers and an excellent resource for world hand surgery. There will be a call for abstracts soon....

As ever if you have any ideas please contact me in person +44 7887 651451 or davidwarwick@handsurgery.co.uk, or contact your Delegate or Member-at-Large.

With warm regards,

David

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Committee for Educational Sponsorship

Dr Raja Sabapathy, Chair of the Committee for Educational Sponsorship (CES) reported to the 2023 IFSSH Delegates' Council at the October meeting in Toronto.

The CES continues to share funding across a number of worthy projects and events and widely around the world. Recently this has included assisting trainees and low-middle income registrants to attend the 2023 APFSSH Congress in Singapore. Similar sponsorship was also provided to the 2023 World Symposium on Congenital Malformations of the Hand and Upper Limb, held in Minneapolis. Also this year, financial assistance was provided to a WALANT program in Kenya that provided exposure and training to many African surgeons.

Reports of projects, from both the recipient programme group and sponsored individuals, are available on the IFSSH website: www.ifssh.info/ifssh-sponsored-educational-projects.php. These demonstrate the enthusiasm of the organisers, teachers and mentors, and the gratitude of those learning. The commitment to education in hand surgery is acknowledged by the IFSSH and we thank all involved.

If your society has an upcoming project or event that could benefit from CES financial support, please review the guidelines and application requirements on the website: www.ifssh.info/educational_sponsorship.php. Questions and submissions can be forwarded to the secretariat (administration@ifssh.info).

Prof Jin Bo Tang also addressed the IFSSH Delegates' Council, just days after returning from Poland where he had undertaken the IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship. The Polish Society successfully applied to the CES for this guest professorship in 2022. A full report of the professorship will be submitted by the Polish Society and Prof Tang and shared in an upcoming Ezine. If your society is interested in applying for an IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor, please consider the program requirements: www.ifssh.info/pdf/IFSSH_Harold_Kleinert_Visiting_Professor.pdf

We look forward to receiving your applications.

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:

**1st IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery
Quito, Ecuador**
31st January - 3rd February, 2024



**XVIth IFSSH – XIIIth IFSHT Congress
Washington D.C., USA**
23rd - 28th March, 2025



**XVIIth IFSSH – IVth IFSHT Congress
Singapore**
23rd – 27th October, 2028



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