



## MINUTES

### DELEGATES' COUNCIL MEETING INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES FOR SURGERY OF THE HAND

12:00pm, Thursday 19th June, 2014  
Room 242B, Palais des Congrès de la Porte Maillot  
Paris, France

*Meeting opened at 12:10*  
*Michael Tonkin, President, welcomed Delegates.*  
*Chair: Marc Garcia-Elias, Secretary-General*

#### 1. Present

*Executive Committee:*

Michael Tonkin (President)  
Zsolt Szabo (President Elect; Hungary delegate)  
Ulrich Mennen (Past President)  
Marc Garcia-Elias (Secretary-General)  
Daniel Nagle (Secretary-General Elect)  
Frank Burke (Historian)  
Belinda Smith (Administrative Secretary)

*Delegates/Representatives:*

Eduardo Zancolli (Argentina; Buenos Aires 2016 Chair)  
Anthony Berger (Australia)  
Werner Girsch (Austria)  
Jorg Bahm (Belgium)  
Nilton Mazzer (Brazil)  
Francisco Andrade (Chile)  
Enrique Vergara (Colombia)  
Ales Flbir (Czech Republic)  
Pernille Leicht (Denmark)  
Nash Naam (Egypt)  
Harry Goransson (Finland)  
Philippe Liverneaux (France)  
Riccardo Giunta (Germany)  
Konstantinos Malizos (Greece)  
Che Yuen Lo (Hong Kong)  
Raja Sabapathy (India; Delhi 2013 Chair)  
Amiram Sagi (Israel)  
Bruno Battiston (Italy)  
Moroe Beppu (Japan)  
Jihyeung Kim (Korea)  
Sharifah Roohi Ahmad (Malaysia)  
Michiel Zuidam (Netherlands)  
Karen Smith (New Zealand)

Jan-Ragnar Haugstvedt (Norway)  
Leszek Romanowski (Poland)  
Fernando Cruz (Portugal)  
Alexandru Georgescu (Romania)  
Timothy Sukhinin (Russia)  
Aymeric Lim (Singapore)  
Erich Mennen (South Africa)  
Roberto Rosales (Spain)  
Peter Axelsson (Sweden)  
Esther Voegelin (Switzerland)  
Tufan Kaleli (Turkey)  
David Shewring (UK)  
Peter Amadio (USA – AAHS)

*Invited guests / additional society representatives:*

Sarah Ewald (IFSHT)  
Naeimi Zahra (Austria)  
? Mann (USA)

## **2. Apologies / Proxies**

### **Apologies**

R Arora (Austria)  
A Alam (Bangladesh)  
A Lejuene (Belgium)  
K Dimitrov (Bulgaria)  
B Zalesak (Czech Republic)  
K Kroner (Denmark)  
H Herrand (Dominican Republic)  
E Waris (Finland)  
D Fontes (France)  
M Shavgulidze (Georgia)  
J van Schoonhoven (Germany)  
GH Baek (Korea)  
E Estrella (Philippines)  
A Chin (Singapore)  
J van der Westhuizen (South Africa)  
P Hessman (Sweden)  
S Ay (Turkey)  
J de Vecchi (Uruguay)  
K Chung (USA – ASSH)  
F del Pinal (IPRAS)

### **Proxy votes provided by absent societies**

Georgia  
Philippines  
American Society for Surgery of the Hand

### 3. Confirmation of previous minutes – March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013

***Motion: To accept the minutes as a true record of the 2013 Delegates' Council meeting.***

Proposed: N. Naam; seconded: P. Amadio.

### 4. Matters arising from previous minutes

#### a. IFSSH Registration / Bylaws

The Delegates' Council was reminded that, at the Delhi 2013 meeting, an update on the IFSSH registration was given. The Charter of 1990 was registered in Puerto Rico by Dr Vargas. However, it is now appropriate to reconsider the registration to seek optimal legal and financial outcomes.

Marc Garcia-Elias explained that similar organisations, including the IFSHT, have moved their registration to Switzerland as non-profit organisations and this is a preferred option of the IFSSH as it minimises taxes and legal implications associated with registration in other countries.

Advice has been received from Swiss lawyers. To undertake a move to Swiss registration requires the creation of a new Federation. All current member societies of the IFSSH become the "Founding Societies" or a new Federation. This process commenced with the ExCo, in conjunction with Swiss lawyers, preparing and discussing draft bylaws to comply with those of a non-profit organisation under Swiss law. These were sent to the Delegates 60 days in advance of this Council meeting. As no comments or suggestions have been received from the member societies, the ExCo propose that the draft is ready for voting at this Council meeting. To be approved, two-thirds of votes cast today must agree to the bylaws adoption.

***Motion: To accept the presented bylaws as those of a new Federation***

In a show of hands, 38 affirmative votes were received. No negative votes were cast. A further three affirmative proxies were provided prior to the commencement of the Council meeting. Therefore, the criteria for approval of the motion, being two thirds of membership present, were satisfied.

Voting forms were distributed. Thirty one forms were returned with affirmative responses, plus the three proxies. This also satisfied the criteria although six delegates did not return forms.

**Marc Garcia-Elias declared the draft bylaws approved.**

The Delegates' Council was informed of the work to date completed by Zsolt Szabo, including negotiations with Pentagram (Wealth management advisors), UBS bank and Swiss legal representatives. The ExCo wish to continue this work, with an appointed sub-committee to compare available options and continue negotiations. The ExCo and this sub-committee seek the approval of the Delegates' Council to continue the process on their behalf.

***Motion: That the Delegates' Council approves registration of the IFSSH in Switzerland and the transfer of the IFSSH financial arrangements to Switzerland, and authorises the ExCo to pursue options to achieve these ends.***

Proposed: Michael Tonkin; Seconded Frank Burke

The Delegates' Council members voiced no comments or concerns. The criteria for acceptance of the motion were met as more than 50 percent of delegates present voted in the affirmative. There were no votes in the negative.

The sub-committee of the IFSSH ExCo will advise the Delegates' Council of progress on a regular basis.

## **b. Protocol updates**

### **i. Educational Sponsorship guidelines**

In Delhi, 2013, the Delegates' Council approved a proposal under which the ExCo may approve requests for educational sponsorship, on the recommendation of the Committee for Educational Sponsorship (CES) without having to wait for final endorsement of Council.

Updated guidelines which comply with the new bylaw will be placed on the IFSSH website.

Delegates were asked to remind the members of their societies that the IFSSH welcomes requests for financial sponsorship of educational projects. The provision of this assistance helps the IFSSH fulfil its goal to spread hand surgery education. Enquiries and submissions should be forwarded to the Secretary-General (email: [secretary@ifssh.info](mailto:secretary@ifssh.info)).

### **ii. Pioneer nomination guidelines**

The guidelines relating to the Pioneers and their nomination process have been updated. The new guidelines incorporate a list of criteria that societies should consider before proposing candidates for the award. These guidelines will apply for the nomination of Pioneers to be awarded at the 2016 Buenos Aires Congress.

The guidelines will be placed on the website and further information published in a future edition of the IFSSH ezine.

The Delegates' Council was reminded that the standard of nomination should be upheld. The guidelines specify that the nomination must come from the society, not from an individual member or executive officer. Each society must take responsibility of considering the exceptional contributors from their society and discuss these as a group, before submitting the society's nominations.

## **c. Membership applications**

The IFSSH currently has 55 societies. Of these, only three have not paid dues since 2007. In the past year, interest in membership has been displayed by China, Guatemala, Pakistan, and Peru.

### **i. Sister organisations**

The IFSSH website displays four "sister organisations" –the European Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH), the Asian-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand, the South American

Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand, and the International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT).

The ExCo has recommended that “Sister Organisations” become known as “Allied Organisations”. Groups awarded this status will have common interests of increasing hand surgery knowledge and education and participate in a mutually rewarding relationship.

The ExCo has approved an application from Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International, a group of hand and wrist biomechanical researchers, to become an Allied Organisation of the IFSSH.

Further details will be published in a future edition of the IFSSH ezine.

#### **ii. Societies accepted in 2013**

The Bolivian Hand Society and Russian Hand Surgery Society joined the IFSSH in 2013. In addition, the Scandinavian Society for Surgery of the Hand’s membership was converted to that of its four component societies (Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, Swedish). The Russian Society has been reminded that they need to provide a summary of their Charter in English to fulfill their membership.

#### **d. Rotation of Congress Hosts - 2022: ASSH correspondence**

According to the decision at the previous Delegates’ Council Meeting, the rotation of congress hosts was to be offered to North America in 2022, Europe in 2025, and the Asia Pacific region in 2028.

The two societies from USA - American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH) and American Association for Hand Surgery (AAHS) - have advised they wish to relinquish the 2022 opportunity. According to the Congress Host Guidelines, if no bids are received from the designated region, the proposals will come from the subsequent region instead (i.e. Europe’s 2025 rotation moves to 2022. The standard bid process applies – bids are considered at the 2016 Delegates’ Council meeting (after following guidelines re bid distribution to delegates, etc).

Peter Amadio confirmed that the ASSH and AAHS are not interested in hosting the 2022 congress.

Eduardo Zancolli suggested that Brazil and Mexico may be interested in submitting proposals for 2022. Nilton Mazzer (Brazil) confirmed that his society has expressed interest in this.

Michael Tonkin and Marc Garcia-Elias advised the Delegates’ Council that the ExCo has not received any expressions of interest from the Americas, and it is important that societies provide their intent so that the correct region can be invited with time to prepare submissions.

Michael Tonkin clarified the intent of the congress host rotation guidelines. Their purpose is to ensure a fair and equal distribution of venues amongst our societies and geographic regions. The formula takes into account the number of societies in the geographic regions and the number of members in each society. The application of the guidelines should avoid an unfair allocation of bids which may concentrate venues in one geographic area or favour some societies. The guidelines may be altered at the recommendation of the Ex Co or a society delegate with the agreement of the Delegates' Council.

## **5. President's Report**

Michael Tonkin delivered the following report:

*The IFSSH triennial congress in March 2013 was an outstanding success. The Indian Society is to be congratulated upon its efforts.*

*Since that meeting, the international hand surgery community has lost two of its most exceptional members – Raoul Tubiana from France and Harold Kleinert from the United States. So many have benefited from the contributions of these two remarkable hand surgeons. The IFSSH Executive Committee offers its condolences to their families and to the French and American societies.*

*The Executive Committee has spent the past 15 months considering its probable move from Puerto Rico to registration in Switzerland. The Delegates' Council will consider a new Charter on which the current member societies become the founder member societies of a new Federation, with registration in Switzerland. As President, I recognise the very significant work that has been done by our President-Elect, Zsolt Szabo, who will report on the progress of negotiations to this effect so that the Executive Committee can consider the next steps to be taken.*

*There have been a number of applications for financial assistance for educational purposes. This is encouraging as we all wish this to be a competitive process with an outcome which allows the IFSSH to direct funding towards worthy projects. Our Committee for Educational Sponsorship will make recommendations at the Paris Executive Committee meeting and inform the Delegates' Council. We have recognised that to allow a realistic time for assessment of applications, the decision for support will rest with the Executive Committee according to the recommendation of its Committee for Educational Sponsorship.*

*The guidelines for nomination of Pioneers have been altered so that this honour remains the pinnacle of achievement through recognition by the IFSSH. The IFSSH Nominating Committee has emphasised that these rewards should be restricted to those who have excelled exceptionally, beyond normal expectations. Nominations are to be approved by the nominating society and must be from that society and not from an individual.*

*And so we move towards Buenos Aires in 2016, along with our colleagues from FESSH, APFSSH, and the Americas, as well as with our colleagues from the IFSSH and the many other groups which represent specific interests within the general field of hand surgery. I join in supporting and encouraging Dr Eduardo Zancolli and his Argentinian Society. All member societies should encourage their individual members to attend and enjoy the scientific programme and vibrant culture of Argentina.*

## **6. Secretary-General's Report**

As covered by these minutes.

In addition, Marc Garcia-Elias reminded delegates that copies of Hand Surgery Worldwide are available for purchase – contact the secretariat ([administration@ifssh.info](mailto:administration@ifssh.info)).

## 7. Treasurer's Report

Marc Garcia-Elias delivered the following report:

*FINANCE SUMMARY (2006-2014)*

### PERIOD ENDING

June 30, 2006	March, 2007	December 31, 2007	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2010	December 31st, 2011	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2013	May 31, 2014
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### OPENING BALANCE (US\$)

<i>Wells Fargo - Main</i>			178,469.94	207,934.27	271,238.34	320,018.21	378,457.80	403,121.69	383,725.79	437,624.90
<i>Wells Fargo - #2 (Ezine)</i>				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,955.75	1,188.75	2,120.75
<i>Fidelity</i>				479,003.40	307,683.67	401,760.92	426,334.49	421,690.43	460,416.18	485,313.05

### INCOME (US\$)

Member Nation fees paid			19,439.00	97,773.42	78,814.42	51,829.92	77,115.02	73,307.91	87,746.85	37,285.00
IFSSH Congress			44,919.04	0.00	0.00	100,300.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	14,221.57
Ezine			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<i>N/A - Separate bank account</i>			900.00
Interest - Wells Fargo Bank			4,122.37	2,009.35	97.10	23.73	55.61	36.51	37.13	15.75
Merchandise			100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00
Misc			4,913.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>73,494.31</b>	<b>99,782.77</b>	<b>78,911.52</b>	<b>152,153.65</b>	<b>77,170.63</b>	<b>73,344.42</b>	<b>138,383.98</b>	<b>52,422.32</b>

### EXPENDITURE (US\$)

IFSSH Congress			7,596.33	0.00	0.00	67,285.90	0.00	5,283.15	17,410.00	40,000.00
Executive Travel/Wages			31,375.61	21,457.35	29,762.91	22,975.79	36,104.22	25,096.00	23,667.25	0.00
Secretariat			<i>Included in Executive Travel/Wages</i>						11,744.20	5,000.00
Bursaries and Grants			0.00	15,000.00	0.00	2,850.00	15,000.00	40,999.99	15,050.00	0.00
Ezine			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<i>N/A - Separate bank account</i>			12,459.00
Bank fees - Wells Fargo Bank			144.14	21.35	368.74	602.37	1213.52	2,086.49	2,107.67	1,064.30
Misc			4,913.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	189.00	19,274.69	2,046.75	0.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>44,029.98</b>	<b>36,478.70</b>	<b>30,131.65</b>	<b>93,714.06</b>	<b>52,506.74</b>	<b>92,740.32</b>	<b>84,484.87</b>	<b>50,064.28</b>

<b>CLOSING BALANCE (US\$)</b>										
<b>Wells Fargo - Main</b>			<b>207,934.27</b>	<b>271,238.34</b>	<b>320,018.21</b>	<b>378,457.80</b>	<b>403,121.69</b>	<b>383,725.79</b>	<b>437,624.90</b>	<b>439,982.94</b>
<b>Wells Fargo - #2 (Ezine)</b>			<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10,955.75</b>	<b>1,188.75</b>	<b>2,120.75</b>	<b>2,058.25</b>
<b>Fidelity Investments</b>			<b>479,003.40</b>	<b>307,683.67</b>	<b>401,760.92</b>	<b>426,334.39</b>	<b>421,690.43</b>	<b>460,416.18</b>	<b>485,313.05</b>	<b>500,639.22</b>
<b>Total Funds (US\$)</b>	<b>584,252.37</b>	<b>602,381.55</b>	<b>686,937.67</b>	<b>578,922.01</b>	<b>721,779.13</b>	<b>804,792.19</b>	<b>835,767.87</b>	<b>845,330.72</b>	<b>925,058.70</b>	<b>942,680.41</b>

*The overall finances of IFSSH are in good shape, and in my opinion, in good hands. – see attached financial spreadsheets. Even though we paid US\$40,000 as seed money for the Argentina 2016 congress, our total funds have risen since December 31st, 2012 from \$845,330.72 to \$942,680.41, an increase of about 11.5%. Of this total amount, half million US dollars are invested in holdings supervised by Fidelity Investments, from Durham, North Carolina. According to the last report, the value of our invested money has grown from approximately \$485.000 in December 2013 to approximately \$500.000, a gain of dividends of 3.1% in less than 5 months (not to bad in spite of the economic crisis we've just gone through)*

*Concerning expenditures, most items are, in my opinion, reasonable. The only expense that I felt a bit superfluous was the \$8,236 paid for the Scientific Committee reports booklet. I believe there is no justification for it, particularly when these reports may be advertised more efficiently via Ezine.*

*With regards payment of their dues, 3 members have not paid their dues since 2007; 15 societies have not paid yet their 2013 obligations, while only 13 members have already paid their 2014 dues.*

*I wouldn't like to finish this report without noting the great job done by our Secretary Belinda in all areas she takes care of, and particularly in the most important, and yet tedious, and often discouraging: getting the member societies to pay their dues on time. She's great at that, and this is a good moment to say THANK YOU in capital letters.*

Marc Garcia-Elias noted that financial advisors had reviewed the IFSSH treasury documents.

**Motion: To accept the financial statements.**

Unanimously agreed.

Riccardo Giunta (Germany) requested clarification of the Delhi congress finances and the process of obtaining funds from the IFSSH to support the 2019 triennial congress in Berlin. Raja Sabapathy will present the finances in his report at this meeting. A seed payment of US\$100,000 can be provided to assist with congress preparations. This is to be repaid prior to the congress. Further details can be obtained from the secretariat.

## 8. Historian's Report

Frank Burke reported that the retrospective collection of documents into the archives has progressed over the past year. All available documents are now contained in an electronic Dropbox system, which does require some further housekeeping to place documents into the most appropriate folders. Genevieve Swanson still holds some archive boxes that she has offered to post to Frank Burke for his perusal.

An appeal via the ezine for any further historical information received no replies. Frank Burke requested again that delegates forward any old IFSSH Council minutes or documents of historical significance that might be held by members of their society.

Frank Burke advised that the Historian would keep the small number of "hard copy" items deemed to be essential (original minutes, signed Charter, seal, etc) and pass them to the next Historian with each change of term.

The ExCo has agreed that the Historian should now discontinue the search for further retrospective documents and concentrate instead on adding material prospectively.

## 9. Committee for Educational Sponsorship Report

Dan Nagle, Chair of the CES, presented the report on behalf of his committee members, Eduardo Zancolli and Moroe Beppu.

The CES reported a pleasing increase in the number of applications in the past year, following grants in 2012 to the IFSHT and in 2013 to Dr Czarnecki (Poland).

Dan Nagle announced the decision to financially assist a hand surgery mission to Cambodia. This application was submitted by the Australian Hand Surgery Society and details a well established hand surgery teaching mission to Phnom Penh, organised by Dr Graham Gumley (Australia) and comprising Australian and American hand surgeons and therapists. The next trip will occur in August 2014 and, on the recommendation of the CES, the IFSSH ExCo has agreed to support this year's programme with \$US19,350.

An application to host a regional education programme has been submitted by the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand, under the guidance of Dr Raja Sabapathy. The proposal details a South Asian Regional Course in Hand Surgery aimed at reviewing current trends in the management of common hand conditions, to be held in Coimbatore, India, July 3-5 2015. The CES has assessed this application and, pending clarification of some details, will provide a recommendation to the ExCo.

Michael Tonkin asked delegates to remind their society members that the IFSSH ExCo and CES welcome applications for a variety of educational projects. There is a balance between funding worthy applications and ensuring the financial status of the IFSSH remains stable. The process is competitive and applications must come from societies rather than individuals. Guidelines are on the website and submissions should be forwarded to the Secretary-General ([secretary@ifssh.info](mailto:secretary@ifssh.info)).

Dan Nagle also announced the establishment of the **IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship**. The ExCo has recommended the development of this fellowship to honour Dr Kleinert and his dedication to distribute hand surgery knowledge throughout the world. 1200 fellows trained under Dr Kleinert's tuition and these fellows subsequently taught many others.

The IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship will provide the means to appoint of a Professor to an educational programme of a member society (or region). A society may apply to the IFSSH CES, detailing their educational programme and nominating up to three appropriate Professors. This will be a competitive process, with the CES evaluating the programme and, if successful, recommending the preferred Professor to be appointed and providing an honorarium. The ExCo and CES are finalising the guidelines for the application process. These will be published in the ezine and on the website.

Roberto Rosales (Spain) reiterated the effect that Dr Kleinert's teaching has had on spread of hand surgery knowledge and commented that many of his fellows are now amongst the Delegates' Council.

## **10. 12<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Congress – New Delhi, 2013**

Raja Sabapathy submitted the final report of the 2013 triennial congress – see Appendix A.

He reported of a final 1382 registrations from 63 countries, including 965 surgeons, 259 therapists and 160 accompanying people. 40 trade sponsors participated.

423 scientific papers were presented. 20 masterclasses were held, as a response to a survey of Indian surgeons, and 32 symposia. As the conference venue was spacious, 238 posters were presented in printed form.

The invited lecturers included Wayne Morrison (Swanson Lecturer) and Swami... (Presidential Lecture), along with a panel to present “Reflections of the Giants”.

Social events included the Presidential dinner, held in the grounds of the congress venue and opened to all registrants. The banquet evening was attended by 465 participants (one third of registrants).

The Indian Society organised the “Magic of Hands” painting competition for school children aged 11-15. This had an overwhelming response with entries from across India in a very short time frame. The winning students/schools have received their prizes. Paintings were sold at the congress and the top 50 entries have been published in a book, also sold at the congress.

The conference resulted in a profit, of which approximately US\$17,000 was presented to the IFSSH.

## **11. 13<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Congress – Buenos Aires, 2016**

Eduardo Zancolli presented an update of planning for the Buenos Aires Congress.

The confirmed dates of the Congress are 24-28 October 2014. Originally the congress was planned for two weeks earlier, however this clashed with Yom Kippur. Contracts with the Hilton have been changed and all societies have been notified.

An Organising Committee of 12 past presidents of the Argentinian Society has been selected and this committee is working on the programme.

Registrations will open in July 2015, with the call for free papers in October 2015.

The social programme is being developed and will include six museums of exhibits related to the hand, and evenings of tango and at the Colon Theatre.

The congress has the support of the Argentine President – declaring this a congress of national interest.

The congress organisers have attended many congresses with promotional material and currently have a stand at the FESSH congress.

The first sponsor of the congress has been secured – Airports of Argentina. They will provide VIP treatment at the airport (immigration assistance, lounges, etc) for a select group of IFSSH attendees (e.g. the Presidents/delegates of national societies).

The Organising Committee are working with local therapists and the IFSHT to ensure an optimal combined programme.

## 12. International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT) Report

Sarah Ewald, IFSHT President, delivered the following report:

### IFSHT TRIENNIAL MEETINGS

- *10th IFSHT Triennial Congress / 13th IFSSH Triennial Congress. Buenos Aires, Argentina October 24-28, 2016. (<http://www.ifssh-ifsht2016.com/>)*
  - *Therapist program planning ongoing. 4-day program; general sessions in the morning, breakout sessions in the afternoon.*
  - *2 mornings combined with surgeon program.*
  - *All sessions in the same venue and open to all attendees.*
  - *International Therapist Program committee. Birgitta Rosen (Sweden) and Sarah Ewald (Switzerland) are the therapist program co-chairs. They will work closely with IFSSH and the local organizing committee chairs Beatriz Piso, Therapists Eduardo Zancolli, Surgeons to facilitate joint planning.*
- *11th IFSHT Triennial Congress / 14th IFSSH Triennial Congress. Berlin, Germany 2019*
  - *Letter of agreement with between IFSHT and the German Hand Therapy society DAHTH and the German Hand Surgery Society DGH has been drafted.*
  - *Plan to have final agreement in place by December, 2014. Current Membership: 33 full members, 9 corresponding members, 3 commercial members, 4 liaison organizations*

### COMMUNICATION

- *Executive committee:*
  - *Face-to-face (2010-13) meeting in Zurich, January 2014.*
  - *Ongoing Skype-call meetings: Every 6 to 8 weeks*
  - *Use of a virtual office has improved communication, project management and document sharing.*
- *Delegate communication:*
  - *IFSHT Update: Published 4 x annually in the US and the British Journals of Hand Therapy and distributed to all member countries. Also available on the IFSHT website.*
  - *IFSHT website ([www.ifsht.org](http://www.ifsht.org)): ongoing development of new features and content. Electronic voting established. PayPal function has been implemented.*
  - *IFSHT Hand Therapy Connections E-Newsletter: sent out 2 x per year. Currently, 1960 subscribers.*

### SPONSORSHIP ACTIVITIES:

- *IFSHT-IFSSH International Hand Therapy Teaching Awards (@\$1000 each): 6 awards. Available for therapists traveling and teaching (clinical or academic) in areas of the world with limited hand therapy access. Application available on IFSHT website. IFSHT thanks IFSSH for contributing to this program.*
- *Dynamometers (donated to IFSHT): ~110 dynamometers available. Available to therapists or surgeons traveling and teaching / consulting in hand therapy in a developing country.*
- *Silent Auction Funds (funds raised at 2013 triennial congress): Supports international hand therapist faculty to attend Argentina, 2016.*
- *Evelyn Mackin Award: Sponsorship of several therapists from a developing country (GNI < \$6000) to attend triennial congress. In India, 5 Therapists (Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China) were fully sponsored.*
- *Membership Fee Donations (as available): To sponsor developing country membership fees.*
- *International Therapist Triennial Meeting Sponsorship Funds (as available): assists international therapists to attend the IFSHT triennial congress. In India 23 therapists received partial sponsorship to attend the congress. IFSHT gratefully acknowledges the IFSSH contribution of 4500.00\$ to this fund.*

Sarah Ewald thanked Dr Sabapathy for the Indian combined triennial congress.

She noted that after discussions with the ExCo earlier in the week, the IFSSH is now liaison member of IFSHT, and the IFSHT is an allied organisation of IFSSH.

Sarah Ewald requested delegates encourage local therapists to apply for IFSHT funding, and/or joint surgeon-therapist projects be submitted.

### **13. Asia-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH) Report**

Moroe Beppu represented the APFSSH:

The current Executive is Moroe Beppu (President), Yuan Kun Tu (President Elect) and Goo Hyun Baek (Secretary General)

The APFSSH is considering the creation of a new Charter.

A delegation of the APFSSH (including Moroe Beppu, Raja Sabapathy, Goo Hyun Baek and Masaharu Tobe) travelled to the 12<sup>th</sup> Ho Chi Minh City Hand Society Meeting in Vietnam in March to present a series of educational lectures.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Congress of Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – October 2-4, 2014. Roohi Ahmad is the Organising Chairperson. Further details are on the website – [www.apfssh2014.org](http://www.apfssh2014.org)

The Philippines have applied to host the 11<sup>th</sup> APFSSH Congress in Cebu City, February 21-27 2017.

The International Society for Sport Traumatology of the Hand will meet in conjunction with the World Congress in Sports and Exercise Medicine in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – August 26-27, 2014.

The APFSSH publishes three issues per year of *Hand Surgery*. The Editorial Board plan to increase this to four issues per year, however need the financial support of increased subscriptions. Moroe Beppu asked delegates to consider subscribing to the journal.

### **14. Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH) Report**

Zsolt Szabo thanked the Delegates for attending the Paris FESSH Congress. He noted this is the largest congress in the history of FESSH, with 1900 registrants. He welcomed the delegates to attend the General Assembly on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to acknowledge the past Secretary-Generals and FESSH officials.

120 candidates enrolled in the 2014 European Examination – 76 proceeded to the written examination and over 50 to the oral examination. Again, this is the greatest number in the history of FESSH and is a reflection of the emphasis on education.

FESSH have accepted the IFSSH status of “Allied Organisation” and will continue to work together.

### **15. South American Federation Report**

Eduardo Zancolli advised that the South American Federation meet every two years. In August 2015, at the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Sudamericano de Cirugía de la Mano in Chile, discussion is to take place regarding the name and composition of this Federation. With a number of Spanish countries being involved, a “Latin Federation” may be established.

### **16. La Federación de Mano Report**

The IFSSH ExCo has been advised that this Federation is not active.

### **17. IPRAS Report**

F Pinal (IPRAS delegate to IFSSH) forwarded his apologies and submitted the following news:

The 18th IPRAS World Congress will be held on July 6-10 2015 in Vienna, Austria.

IPRAS have announced the next IFSSH meeting in Buenos Aires, although with the old dates. These will be changed as soon as possible.

## **18. IFSSH Scientific Committees**

Michael Tonkin explained that the Scientific Committee system was changed in 2012, during Ulrich Mennen's Presidency. The emphasis is now placed on a committee producing a report, rather than operating for the foreseeable future. The IFSSH President, assisted by the President-Elect, invite a chairperson who then forms a committee and chooses a specific topic within the broad category allocated by the President. When the report is produced, the committee disbands and a new chairperson is invited.

This system has resulted in an improvement in the Scientific Committee output with 18 reports received in the past two years – 12 have been published in the ezine and 6 await publication. A number of reports are in progress.

The reports received prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2012 have been published in triennial congress books for the Korean and Indian Congresses. However, this has been expensive and is duplicated work as these reports are also now routinely published in the ezine and placed on the website. For the 2016 Congress and beyond, it was suggested that a list of committee reports received in the triennium be placed in the congress programme booklet, with acknowledgement to committee chair and members.

Committee reports are placed on the website upon receipt, grouped by year.

## **19. IFSSH Website / Newsletter / Ezine**

Marc Garcia-Elias reported on the continued help of Santhosh Rajan, the IFSSH webmaster, with updating the website and solving website/email problems. He asked the delegates to continue to forward information for inclusion.

Three newsletters are published by Hand Surgery (Asia Pacific) each year – one in each of their issues. Four newsletters per year are published by the American Journal of Hand Surgery.

Ulrich Mennen explained the ezine was created as a medium for international communication – for the members, by the members. Regrettably too much of the publication is prepared by a very small group. Instead, members should provide contributions more regularly. Each society is asked to contribute news once per year. There are four issues published per year. Ulrich Mennen asked delegates to forward their society activities, reflections, conference reports, etc.

Marc Garcia-Elias described the high-quality publication and congratulated Ulrich Mennen on his efforts.

## **20. Business Arising from Executive Committee Meeting**

Covered within earlier agenda items

## **21. New business**

Nil

## **22. Next meeting of the Delegates' Council**

2015 – ASSH: Sept 10-12, Seattle

Future meetings:

2016 – IFSSH Triennial Congress: Oct 24-28, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2019 - IFSSH Triennial Congress: May (TBC), Berlin, Germany

**Meeting closed: 1:30pm.**

# 12<sup>th</sup> Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH)

*and*

# 9<sup>th</sup> Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT)

**4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March, New Delhi**

## Report



**'...so much thought and energy, preparation and planning and it is over in a few days, but worth every minute of it. A great achievement.....'**

- Roland Hicks, Australia.  
Congress Chairman, Sydney IFSSH  
on our meeting

## Organizing Committee:



**Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy**  
Organizing Chairman.



**Dr. Rakesh Khazanchi**  
Local Org. Secretary.



**Dr. Santosh Rath**  
Chair, Scientific Committee.



**Dr. G. Balakrishnan**  
Managing Trustee, ISSH.

## International Co-ordinators :



**Professor. Joe Dias**  
UK



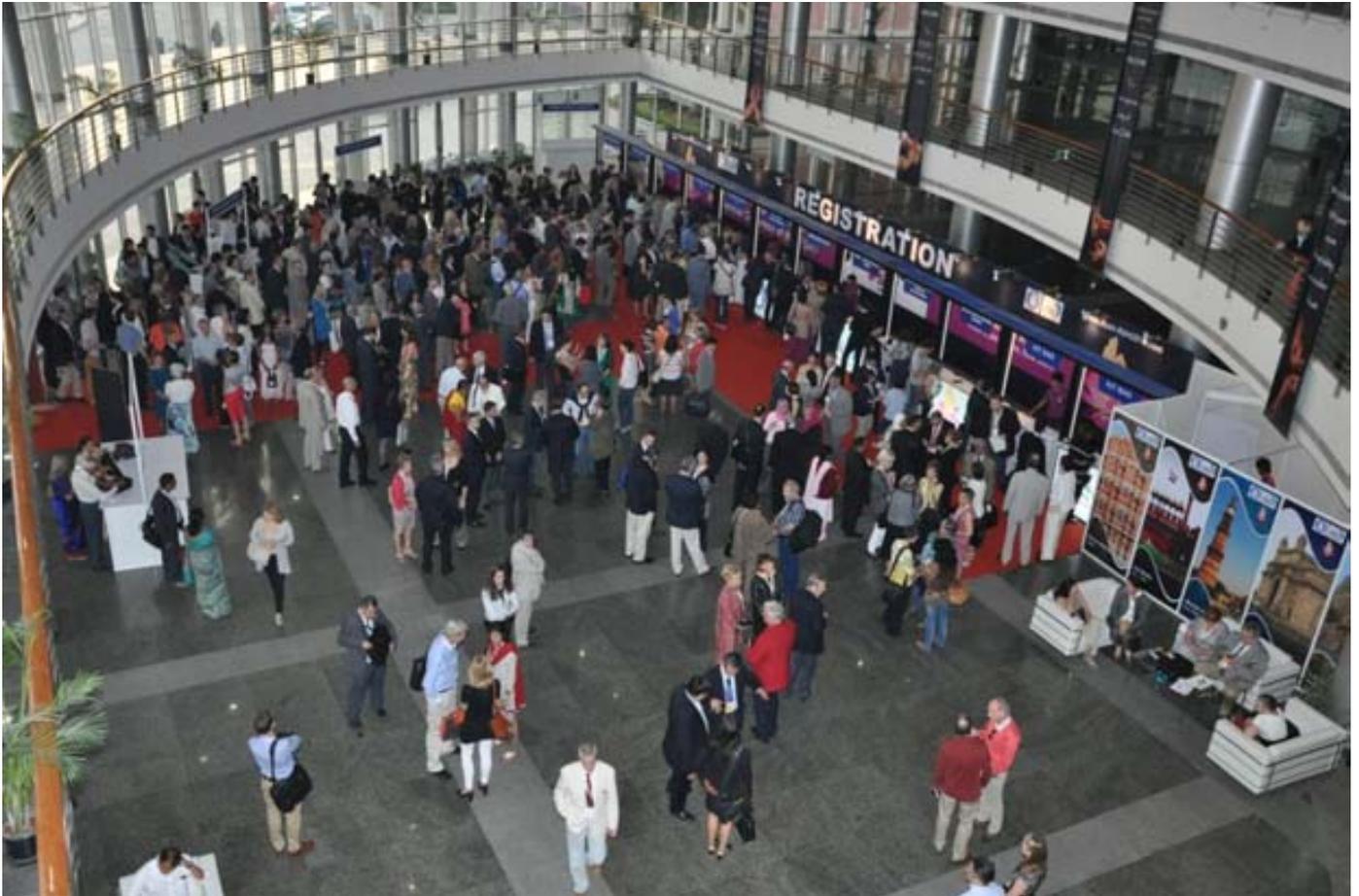
**Dr. Amit Gupta**  
USA



**Dr. Sandeep Sebastin**  
Singapore

## Registration :

-



**Total registered delegates – 1382 – 63 countries.**

**(Surgeons + Therapists + Accompanying Persons Country wise)**

	<u>Country</u>	<u>Surgeons</u>	<u>Trainees</u>	<u>Therapist</u>	<u>Accompanying Person</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Afghanistan	1				1
2	Argentina	6		4		10
3	Australia	19	6	34	13	72

4	Austria	4	3	1	10	18
5	Bangladesh	15	1	3	5	24
6	Belgium	14		1	1	16
7	Bhutan	1		1		2
8	Berlin	1				1
9	Bolivia	1				1
10	Brazil	2		3		5
11	Cambodia	1		1		2
12	Canada	6		12	4	22
13	Chile	5			1	6
14	China	19	4	1	1	25
15	Denmark	2	2	2	2	8
16	Egypt	11	1	-	2	14
17	Estonia	2		-		2
18	Finland	7		3	2	12
19	France	8	4	5	1	18
20	Germany	16	4	2	3	25
21	Ghana		2			2
22	Greece	1				1
23	Hong Kong	7	2	5		14
24	Hungary	10			18	28
25	India	252	38	48	35	373
26	Indonesia	4				4
27	Iran	6		1		7
28	Ireland	2		3		5
29	Israel	5		1		6
30	Italy	15		1	2	18
31	Japan	69	8	7	7	91
32	Kenya	2	2			4
33	Korea	20	2			22
34	Latvia	5		-		5
35	Lebanon	1			1	2
36	Malaysia	7		1	1	9
37	Mexico	3				3
38	Nepal	3	5	2		10
39	Netherland	4	4	12		20
40	New Zealand	2		1	2	5
41	Nigeria		4	1		5
42	Norway	20	4	5	2	31
43	Pakistan	3	1			4
44	Philippines	3				3
45	Poland	5		1		6
46	Portugal	2		3		5
47	Romania	1			1	2
48	Russia	9	5		3	17
49	Scotland	1				1

50	Serbia	1				1
51	Singapore	16	5	1	1	23
52	South Africa	14	3	14	3	34
53	Spain	7	1	1	1	10
54	Sri Lanka	2	4	1		7
55	Sweden	12		10	3	25
56	Switzerland	15		13	3	31
57	Taiwan	7	2	1		10
58	Thailand	12		-		12
59	Turkey	10		1	2	13
60	UAE	4		5		9
61	UK	38	22	17	7	84
62	USA	74	2	30	23	129
63	Myanmar		7	-	-	7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>1382</b>

List of Sponsored Delegates (IFSSH) : 18

List of Sponsored Delegates (IFSHT) : 23

### Registration Fee Concession

We offered registration fees concession (trainee rate for surgeons and half of that for trainees ) for India and extended it to all developing countries in South Asia and Africa. For all the IFSSH sponsored candidates also we accepted trainee status registration fees only so that more delegates could come. Approximately one third of registrations belonged to this category.

## Inauguration: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013



Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy  
Organising Chairman-IFSSH



Prof. Ulrich Mennen  
President – IFSSH



Miss Lynne Feehan  
President - IFSHT

## Pioneers in Hand Surgery :



## Cultural programme on the inauguration day



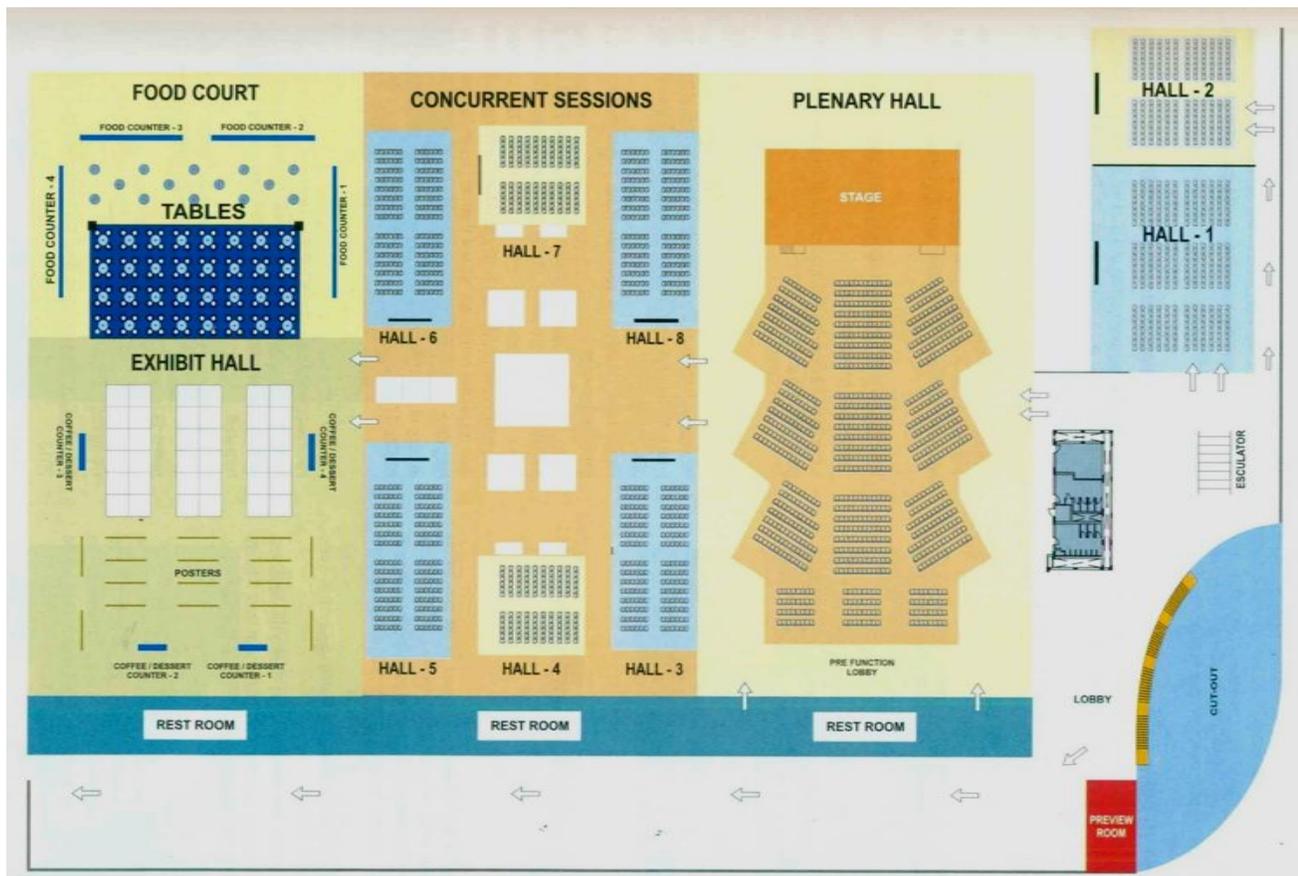
## Scientific Sessions

Inauguration , Plenary sessions and Banquet in the Plenary Halls

Total Halls : 8

For IFSSH : 5 ( Hall 1,3,5,6 & 8)

For IFSHT : 3 (Hall 2, 4 & 7)



**Lay out plan.** - All scientific session halls , trade exhibition, food counters were in the same floor. Made possible by the construction of these halls exclusively for the congress in a trade exhibition centre. Profit of the congress drastically reduced because of this, but we consider this as one of the main plus points of the congress.

## No. of Presentations :

### IFSSH

Free Papers Presented	:	423
Master Classes	:	20
How I do it Sessions	:	20
Symposia	:	32

### IFSHT

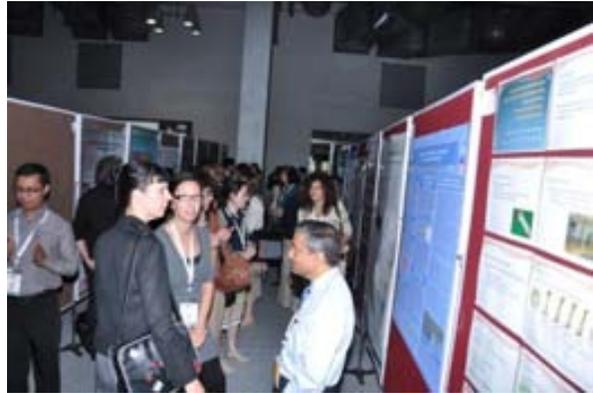
Plenary Sessions	:	5
Concurrent Sessions	:	9
Tips and Tricks workshops	:	6
Free Papers	:	31
Invited presentations	:	65



**No. of Posters**

IFSSH : 238

IFSHT : 62



**Trade Participation:**

Premium Stalls : 5

Standard Stalls : 35



**Social Events :**

**Welcome Dinner – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 (included in registration)**



**Presidential Dinner - 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013 (included in registration)**



## Banquet (by subscription)

Participation	Surgeons	:	304
	Trainees	:	17
	Therapists	:	104
	Trade Participants	:	40
		-----	
	Total		465
		=====	



## Special Events :

### Reflection of the Giants



The unique event held in the IFSSH 2013 gave us the opportunity to listen to the Doyens Prof. James Urbaniak, Prof R Venkataswami, Prof. Fu Chan Wei, Prof. Simo k Vilki, and Ms. Evelyn Mackin reflecting on their lives

## Presidential Lecture :



### Swami Atmapriyananda

#### Title

Science and Religion will meet and shake hands  
Poetry and Philosophy will become friends

## Swanson Lecture

Prof Wayne Morrison

Title: Milestones in Reconstructive Hand Surgery



## Silent auction of IFSHT



## **'Magic of Hands' – paint the hands that you see ....**

### **A painting competition for School Children**

Children aged between 11 and 15 throughout India were asked to paint on a theme of hands. We received 4250 entries from 512 schools and the first 50 ranked paintings were awarded Rs 10000 each. In addition the schools to which the joint first prize winners belonged were given Rs 250,000 to start a arts library.

The paintings adorned the walls of the Congress. A book of the winning paintings was published as a book.

Dr Raja Sabapathy presented the prize to school in Kerala and Dr Rakesh Khazanchi presented the award in Delhi.

### **Paintings :**



**2.5 lakhs was distributed Azhikode school, Kerala**



**Show of hands after a simple talk on our Hands to the school children**



**Presenting the award to the Principal, with the student Midhun in the background.**

## **Travel**

All the registered delegates were received and dropped at the airport during the congress. Complimentary airport transfers were provided by the organizers. The complimentary airport pick up and drop were provided from 3<sup>rd</sup> and extended up to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

## **Accommodation:**

Number of rooms taken up in various congress hotels - 418.

5 star hotel rooms            255

3 star and budget rooms 163

## **Finance in a Nutshell**

### **In Indian Rupees**

<b>Collection through Registration</b>	<b>41,235,256.44</b>
<b>Collection through Trade</b>	<b>17,038,008.65</b>
<b>Profit paid to IFSSH</b>	<b>891,111.00</b>
<b>Profit paid to IFSHT</b>	<b>515,571.00</b>
<b>Profit paid to ISSH</b>	<b>802,000.00</b>

Closing ceremony :



The Organizing Committee thanks Dr Ulrich Mennen, Dr Michael Tonkin and Dr Zolt Szabo and Ms Lynne Feehan for all the support and encouragement.