



IFSSH Newsletter

March 2015

Dear friends:

As the organisation of another annual Delegates' Council meeting commences, it is timely to list opportunities that your society might be interested in pursuing. Please consider these, discuss with your society's executive and members, and contact the IFSSH secretariat if you require more information.

We look forward to receiving applications and meeting again in Seattle.

2015 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting

This year's annual IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting will be conducted in Seattle in September, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. Further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

IFSSH Membership

The IFSSH currently consists of 55 member societies. We welcome applications from hand surgery societies to join the IFSSH.

The requirements for membership are:

1. The applying society must be a bona fide organization whose individual members have a major interest in surgery of the hand,
2. The applicant society shall have been in existence for at least two years,
3. The society shall submit a list of officers and members, its constitution (or Bylaws) and the requirements for admission of members,
4. Each applicant society shall be sponsored by three Council delegates.

Applications are considered by the IFSSH Executive Committee and Delegates' Council at the annual meeting. In 2015, this meeting will be held in Seattle in September. Societies interested in applying for membership should contact the IFSSH secretariat: administration@ifssh.info.

2022 IFSSH Congress Host Society

The IFSSH Executive Committee has recommended that member societies from the European region* be invited to host the 2022 triennial congress. This main scientific event of the IFSSH will be celebrated every three years in a member society country that is in good standing with the IFSSH, including payment of their annual dues.

The society hosting the event will be selected from applications six years before at the annual Delegates' Council meeting. Those societies from countries which also have a hand therapy association/society should discuss the possibility of hosting a combined meeting. The societies which are applicants must submit a formal petition to the Secretary General at least three months ahead of the Council meeting. The same documentation should be sent to each member country delegate and IFSSH representative for evaluation at least three months before the Council Meeting.

Therefore, any European member society that is interested in hosting the 2022 IFSSH Congress should inform the IFSSH Executive of their intentions and ensure that the full bid is forwarded, as detailed in the instructions above, by July 24th 2016, for consideration at the Buenos Aires meeting.

Information regarding the application process is on the IFSSH website: <http://ifssh.info/guidelines.html>

**The IFSSH member societies have been geographically grouped according to United Nations data. The IFSSH "European" region consists of: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom*

For the purposes of the IFSSH congress rotation system, the two IFSSH member nations that lie within the African region - Egypt and South Africa - have been aligned with the European region and are therefore also able to bid for the 2022 Congress.

Pioneers of Hand Surgery

The IFSSH awards "Pioneer of Hand Surgery" status to a person who excels exceptionally, beyond what is normally expected, in the field of hand surgery. These honours are awarded at each IFSSH triennial congress.

A call for nominations will be sent to the delegate of each IFSSH society in January 2016.

The nomination must come from a member society, not an individual, and should be reserved for those with outstanding achievements. Details of the criteria and nomination process are available on the IFSSH website: <http://ifssh.info/pioneers.html>

The deadline for submitting nominations for the Buenos Aires congress is April 24th, 2016.

Educational Sponsorship / IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor

The IFSSH invites applications for funding assistance of educational projects. These may be worthy education projects of any description and are awarded funding on a competitive basis, after assessment by the IFSSH Committee for Educational Sponsorship.

In addition to the general funding available, specific grants are also available to:

- provide financial assistance to the organisation of Hand Surgery **regional education courses**;
- assist hand surgeons from poor or developing communities to attend an IFSSH triennial Congress through the provision of **IFSSH Congress Assistance Grants**; and
- promote the international exchange of hand surgery knowledge by sponsoring an **IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor** to an appropriate hand surgery education programme.

General applications can be submitted for assessment at any time throughout the year, but should be received at least three months in advance of when the funding is required. Full details of the application process, and further information regarding the specific grant categories, are on the IFSSH website: <http://ifssh.info/fellowship-grants.html>

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

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



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