



## MINUTES

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

**11am UTC, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020 via Videoconference**

(London: 12 noon; Barcelona/Budapest: 1pm; Delhi: 4:30pm; Beijing: 7pm; Seoul: 8pm; Sydney: 9pm; Chicago: 6am)

Marc Garcia-Elias, IFSSH President, opened the meeting at 11:10am UTC, welcomed the delegates and guests, and requested that Goo Hyun Baek, IFSSH Secretary-General chair the meeting.

#### 1. Present

Marc Garcia-Elias	President
Daniel Nagle	President Elect
Goo Hyun Baek	Secretary General
Raja Sabapathy	Secretary General Elect
David Warwick	Historian
Jin Bo Tang	Member at Large
Zsolt Szabo	Immediate Past President
Belinda Smith	Administrative Secretary
Eduardo Zancolli	Argentina (Sociedad Argentina de Cirugia de la Mano)
Greg Bain	Australia (Australian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Rohit Arora	Austria (Austrian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
A.S.M. Monirul Alam	Bangladesh (Bangladesh Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Ilse Degreeef	Belgium (Belgium Hand Group)
Carlos Henrique Fernandes	Brazil (Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia Da Mao)
Jin Bo Tang (ExCo)	Chinese-Speaking (Association of Chinese-speaking Hand Surgeons United)
Elkin Lozano	Colombia (Asociacion Colombiana De Cirugia De La Mano); 2025 congress bid
Bohumil Zálešák	Czech (Czech Republic Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Luis Scheker	Dominican Republic (Dominican Republic Society)
Fidel Cayon	Ecuador (Ecuadorian Society of Hand Surgery)
Gero Meyer	France (Societe Francaise De Chirurgie De La Main)
Jörg van Schoonhoven	Germany (Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Handchirurgie)
Wing Lim Tse	Hong Kong (Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Zsolt Szabo (ExCo)	Hungary (Hungarian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Pankaj Ahire - Proxy	India (Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Shai Luria	Israel (Israel Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Pierluigi Tos	Italy (Societa Italiana Di Chirurgia Della Mano)
Ryosuke Kakinoki	Japan (Japanese Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Goo Hyun Baek (ExCo)	Korea (Korean Society for Surgery of the Hand)

J. Emmanuel Ruiz Aguilar	Mexico (Asociacion Mexicana De Cirugía De La Mano A.C.)
Gerardo Zárate	Mexico (Sociedad Mexicana De Cirugia De La Mano Y Microcirugia S.C.)
Johan Vehof	Netherlands (Netherlands Society for Hand Surgery)
Wolfgang Heiss-Dunlop	New Zealand (New Zealand Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Rasmus Thorkildsen	Norway (Norwegian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Nathaniel Orillaza	Philippines (Philippine Society for Surgery of the Hand)
José Alexandre Marques	Portugal (Portuguese Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Christian Foy	Puerto Rico (Sociedad de Cirugia de la Mano de Puerto Rico)
Alexandru Georgescu	Romania (Romanian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Jacqueline Tan	Singapore (Singapore Society for Hand Surgery)
Ajmal Ikram	South Africa (South African Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Joaquim Casñas - <i>Proxy</i>	Spain (Sociedad Espanola de Cirugia de la Mano)
Per Hessman	Sweden (Swedish Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Esther Voegelin	Switzerland (Switzerland Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Yu-Te Lin	Taiwan (Taiwan Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Levent Yalçın- <i>Proxy</i>	Turkey (Turkish Hand Society)
Jonathan Hobby	UK (British Society for Surgery of the Hand); 2022 IFSSH London
Natalia Cortabarría	Uruguay (Sociedad Cirugia de la Mano del Uruguay)
Peter Amadio	USA AAHS (American Association for Hand Surgery)
Don Lalonde	USA ASSH (American Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Jörg van Schoonhoven	2019 IFSSH Congress, Berlin
David Shewring	2022 IFSSH Congress, London
Raja Sabapathy (ExCo)	APFSSH
Jefferson Braga Silva	Latin American Federation of Hand Surgery
Nicola Goldsmith	IFSHT
Zong-Ming Li	Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI)

## 2. Apologies

Kalin Dimitrov	Bulgaria (Bulgarian Society for Surgery of the Hand)
Sebastian von Unger	Chile (Sociedad Chilena de Cirugía de la Mano)
Roberto Rosales	Spain (Sociedad Espanola de Cirugia de la Mano)
Nazım Karalezli	Turkey (Turkish Hand Society)

## 3. Confirmation of previous minutes – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019

***Motion: To accept the minutes as a true record of the 2019 Executive Committee Meeting***

Carried unanimously

## 4. President's Report (Marc Garcia-Elias)

Marc Garcia-Elias addressed the Council:

*Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen*

*When we left Berlin, we could not imagine what would be our situation today. We were expecting to meet you personally in San Antonio. Nobody was counting on how much tension and discouragement would be placed in our lives by this Covid-19 pandemic outbreak. Indeed, it has not been an easy year for most of us.*

*Yet instead of slowing down our work, the Executive Committee took the mandate of this Assembly very seriously and, regardless of all sorts of difficulties, we started working on a new set of bylaws necessary to face the future with optimism. We have spent hours and hours discussing, drafting and reviewing a new set of recommendations of our thoughts for the future of this federation, and answering the questions and comments from our delegates. Of course we needed the input of our legal counsel. The complexity and interrelationships of the various articles and sections is very significant. What you, the Delegates of all national societies, received some time ago was our best effort to achieve the goals that you asked us to do:*

- 1. to bring the bylaws into compliance with Illinois law and best not-for-profit practices;*
- 2. to increase member participation; and*
- 3. to preserve the institutional memory of the presidential line.*

*It is the best effort and a good step towards the future. There has been a lot of discussion since then. The Executive Committee knew this would be a lot for you to digest, but the Amended and Restated Bylaws needed to be presented as a single document for the Delegates to either accept or reject. Should the Delegates reject the proposed bylaws changes, we will at least have a very good starting point for future refinements. Our current bylaws are simply not adequate and must be revised. What we present at today's meeting is what was asked of us in Berlin:*

- to change the structure of the ExCo;*
- to allow for alterations to the administration of the IFSSH in the future;*
- to update the bylaws; and*
- to change the frequency of the congresses.*

*Everything has been discussed a lot recently and we know there will be further discussion.*

*Even with the worldwide difficulties we are facing, I am so proud of all involved in the IFSSH for their help, guidance and interaction - specifically I mention Daniel Nagle for*

*his work into the bylaws process; Goo Hyun Baek for his support and always answering our emails; and Belinda Smith for her continued running of the secretariat.*

## **5. Secretary-General's Report (Goo Hyun Baek)**

Dr Baek reported on updates to member societies:

*1. Indonesian Society: The Indonesian Society successfully hosted the 2012 APFSSH Congress. However, beyond this the society has not functioned - there have been no business meetings, no dues paid, etc. Erwin Ramawan is listed as the delegate but overall the society is inactive.*

*Dr. Teddy Prasetyono contacted me and Raja Sabapathy regarding IFSSH membership and suggested the creation of a new society. This would be subject to the IFSSH membership bylaws, needing a time period to pass following creation, permission from the existing society within the same country, etc.*

*The ExCo acknowledged that it would be a much easier solution to resurrect the old society and sent an e-mail to Dr. Prasetyono with IFSSH suggestions.*

*2. Chinese Society for Surgery of the Hand: Following a number of years of discussions, Prof Xu (President, CSSH) emailed in late 2019 to formally apply for IFSSH membership. The CSSH requires an MoU to be signed by the IFSSH. If the MOU is not signed by the IFSSH, the CSSH cannot apply for IFSSH membership.*

*It is stated in the MOU, that 'The IFSSH fully recognizes the One-China Principle, and fully recognizes CSSH's view upon Taiwan Issue in IFSSH. Among its members in IFSSH, under the heading of "China", CSSH is the national member representing Mainland China, while the societies from Hong Kong Special administrative Region (SAR) China, Macao SAR China and Taiwan China are regional members of China'.*

*The MoU also states that the Taiwan society cannot host an IFSSH Congress, nor can their delegates be ExCo members.*

*The ExCo acknowledged that Taiwan and Hong Kong are both existing societies within the IFSSH. The ExCo sent a carefully worded letter to the Taiwan and Hong Kong societies. The Taiwan Society for Surgery of the Hand officially answered that they disagree with the MoU in the CSSH application. The Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand (HKSSH) will sponsor the CSSH application for IFSSH membership; the MoU is not relevant to the application.*

*Thus, the outcome is that the MoU cannot be signed by the IFSSH. Therefore, the CSSH cannot apply for IFSSH membership.*

## 6. Finance Report (Goo Hyun Baek)

Dr Baek presented an overview of the IFSSH financial position, to accompany the summary table:

*The total balance of the Fidelity investment account was \$861,501.47 in April 2019, as reported to the Delegates' council meeting in Berlin. This increased to \$969,410.37 by the end of 2019. However, as of March 31st 2020, we lost about \$97,000 because of the pandemic shock. Fortunately there was a bounce back in the market. As of July 31st 2020, we have \$1,081,713.91, which is \$112,303.54 more than December 31st 2019.*

*In 2020, the total income (excluding the investment portfolio) was \$134,653.39 including \$130,533.39 of Berlin Congress profit share. During the same period, there were \$66,707.34 of expenditure including \$23,300 of grants (Berlin Congress assistance grants and the Kenyan project), \$11,732.55 for E-zine, and \$14,293.50 for bylaw advice and revision, which is \$67,946 increase of asset.*

*As of July 31st 2020, we have \$330,832.63 in Wells Fargo accounts.*

*In total, we have \$1,412,546.54 which is a \$120,893.11 positive balance when compared with that of December 2019. Because the 2020 annual dues of the member societies are not included in this report, total positive balance will be increased when these are received.*



IFSSH Funds  
30th June 2006 - 31st July 2020

	PERIOD ENDING														
	June 30, 2006	December 31, 2007	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2019	July 31, 2020
OPENING BALANCE (US\$)															
Wells Fargo #1		178,469.94	207,934.27	271,238.34	320,018.21	378,457.80	403,121.69	383,725.79	437,624.90	416,992.11	347,723.23	440,886.62	516,551.86	307,547.30	320,461.31
Wells Fargo #2			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,955.75	1,188.75	2,120.75	1,961.75	1,817.75	1,781.75	1,781.75	1,781.75	1,781.75
Fidelity			479,003.40	307,683.67	401,760.92	426,334.49	421,690.43	460,416.18	485,313.05	537,710.27	528,355.15	515,925.87	590,862.79	773,448.66	969,410.37
INCOME (US\$) - Wells Fargo #1															
Membership dues		19,439.00	97,773.42	78,814.42	51,829.92	77,115.02	73,307.91	87,746.85	71,844.21	80,189.37	93,027.46	78,379.17	89,576.63	106,452.57	5,030.00
IFSSH Congress		44,919.04	0.00	0.00	100,300.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	14,221.57	0.00	89,960.00	106,490.30	0.00	0.00	130,533.39
Baine		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A - See Wells Fargo #2			1,635.00	2,600.00	1,300.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	6,500.00	2,000.00
Interest - Wells Fargo Bank		4,122.37	2,009.35	97.10	23.73	55.61	36.51	37.13	37.74	13.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Merchandise		100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc		4,913.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,629.16	0.00	0.00
Total		73,494.31	99,782.77	78,911.52	152,153.65	77,170.63	73,344.42	138,383.98	87,738.52	82,802.63	184,267.46	185,869.47	95,205.79	112,952.57	137,563.39
INCOME (US\$) - Wells Fargo #2															
Baine sponsorship			N/A - Opened 2011			17,975.00	0.00	1,088.00	N/A - see Wells Fargo #1						
Misc (incorrect acct for deposit)			N/A - Opened 2011			9,650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,625.00	0.00	1,088.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
EXPENDITURE (US\$) - Wells Fargo #1															
IFSSH Triennial Congress		7,596.33	0.00	0.00	67,285.90	0.00	5,283.15	17,410.00	40,000.00	54,889.96	5,053.60	7,080.82	1,242.00	5,053.40	58,327.51
IFSSH Annual ExCo/Council Meetings		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	897.91	0.00	1,490.22	0.00	1,975.87	759.00	0.00
Executive Expenses		31,375.51	21,457.35	29,752.91	22,975.79	36,104.22	25,096.00	23,667.25	18,230.15	21,926.69	19,879.93	36,218.45	30,662.49	21,070.67	0.00
Secretariat		Included in Executive Travel/Wages													
Bursaries and Grants		0.00	15,000.00	0.00	2,850.00	15,000.00	40,999.99	15,950.00	19,350.00	35,000.00	9,500.00	26,000.00	30,900.00	34,100.00	28,300.00
Baine		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	See Wells Fargo #2		6,000.00	12,459.00	11,729.98	11,025.29	22,511.48	19,784.44	19,777.11	20,589.70
Lawyer/Accountant Services		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	14,123.38	18,571.33	2,435.81	2,659.00	2,476.00	17,632.92
IT Services		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	1,660.00	960.00	960.00
Bank fees - Wells Fargo Bank		144.14	21.35	368.74	602.37	1213.52	2,086.49	2,107.67	3,132.51	2,412.86	2,129.30	1,674.51	2,052.24	1,740.17	738.13
Transfer to Investment Account		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	0.00	0.00
Misc		4,913.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	189.00	13,274.69	2,046.75	900.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	33.71
Total		44,029.98	36,478.70	30,131.65	93,714.06	52,506.74	92,740.32	84,484.87	108,371.31	152,071.51	91,124.07	110,204.23	304,210.35	100,038.56	128,973.82
EXPENDITURE (US\$) - Wells Fargo #2															
Editorial / layout set up fees			N/A - Opened 2011			15,526.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Fees - Wells Fargo Bank			N/A - Opened 2011			143.25	117.00	158.00	159.00	144.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc (incorrect deposit reversed)			N/A - Opened 2011			0.00	5,650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,669.25	5,767.00	156.00	159.00	144.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS (US\$)															
Transfer from Wells Fargo account					0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	0.00	0.00
Change in Investment Value					97,368.25	28,599.47	-349.96	43,678.12	30,568.59	58,475.77	-15,744.35	-5,062.87	81,021.51	-10,188.73	205,379.96
Advisor Fees					3,291.00	4,026.00	4,294.00	4,703.51	4,965.38	5,189.29	5,353.00	5,366.20	5,418.00	6,500.00	7,673.00
Transaction Costs & Charges											93.98	83.53	105.57	101.00	112.93
Taxes Withheld											721.71	915.58	551.02	624.40	710.32
Total Change					94,077.25	24,573.47	-4,643.96	38,725.75	24,896.87	52,397.22	-21,913.04	-12,429.28	74,936.92	182,585.87	195,961.71
CLOSING BALANCE (US\$)															
Wells Fargo #1		207,934.27	271,238.34	320,018.21	378,457.80	403,121.69	383,725.79	437,624.90	416,992.11	347,723.23	440,886.62	516,551.86	307,547.30	320,461.31	329,050.88
Wells Fargo #2		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,955.75	1,188.75	2,120.75	1,961.75	1,817.75	1,781.75	1,781.75	1,781.75	1,781.75	1,781.75
Fidelity Investments		479,003.40	307,683.67	401,760.92	426,334.39	421,690.43	460,416.18	485,313.05	537,710.27	528,355.15	515,925.87	590,862.79	773,448.66	969,410.37	1,081,713.91
Fidelity % change from previous year			-171,919.79	94,077.25	24,573.47	-4,643.96	38,725.75	24,896.87	52,397.22	-21,913.04	-12,429.28	74,936.92	182,585.87	195,961.71	112,303.54
Fidelity % change from previous year			-35.77	30.58	6.12	-1.09	9.18	5.41	10.80	-1.74	-2.35	14.50	30.00	25.34	11.58
Total Funds (US\$)	584,252.37	686,937.67	578,922.01	721,779.13	804,792.19	835,767.87	845,330.72	925,058.70	956,664.13	877,896.13	958,554.24	1,105,196.40	1,082,777.71	1,291,653.43	1,412,546.54

## **7. Committee for Educational Sponsorship Report (Daniel Nagle)**

Daniel Nagle, Chair of the Committee for Educational Sponsorship provided an overview of the activity since the Berlin 2019 meeting.

- Colombia/Venezuela combined congress in Cucuta, Colombia (2020): \$2500 awarded to assist. The meeting has been postponed but money remains allocated for this purpose when the congress is rescheduled.
- Hand surgery fellowship, Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi, Ghana: \$1450 x 3 years (paid annually) to cover administrative establishment/registration fees. This project has the joint support of the ASSH and AAHS, led by Dr Don Lalonde and Dr Scott Kozin.
- International Consortium for Healthcare Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM): \$5000. This is in addition to the \$10,000 provided in 2018. Dr Hovius is chairing the project related to Adult Hand Sets that this funding is directed towards within a much bigger organisation.
- Touching Hands / IFSSH workshop, Mount Kenya University, Nairobi, Kenya (January 24-25, 2020): \$3500 provided to cover local costs of meeting for 80 participants to attend. This was organised by Prof. Pankaj and Dr Don Lalonde.
- IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship - Professor Steven Moran: \$7500. This funded the first IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor, sponsored by the Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for the Hand (APFSSH) via Dr Tony Berger. Dr Moran visited multiple sites/meetings within Australia in March 2020.
- APFSSH 2020 Congress Developing Country Registration Grant: \$10,000 forwarded to the congress hosts to support the registrations of participants from developing countries to attend the 2020 APFSSH Congress in Melbourne (March 2020).

Daniel Nagle urged all delegates to inform their societies of the availability of grants. These guidelines and details of the application process is available on the IFSSH website - [https://ifssh.info/educational\\_sponsorship.php](https://ifssh.info/educational_sponsorship.php).

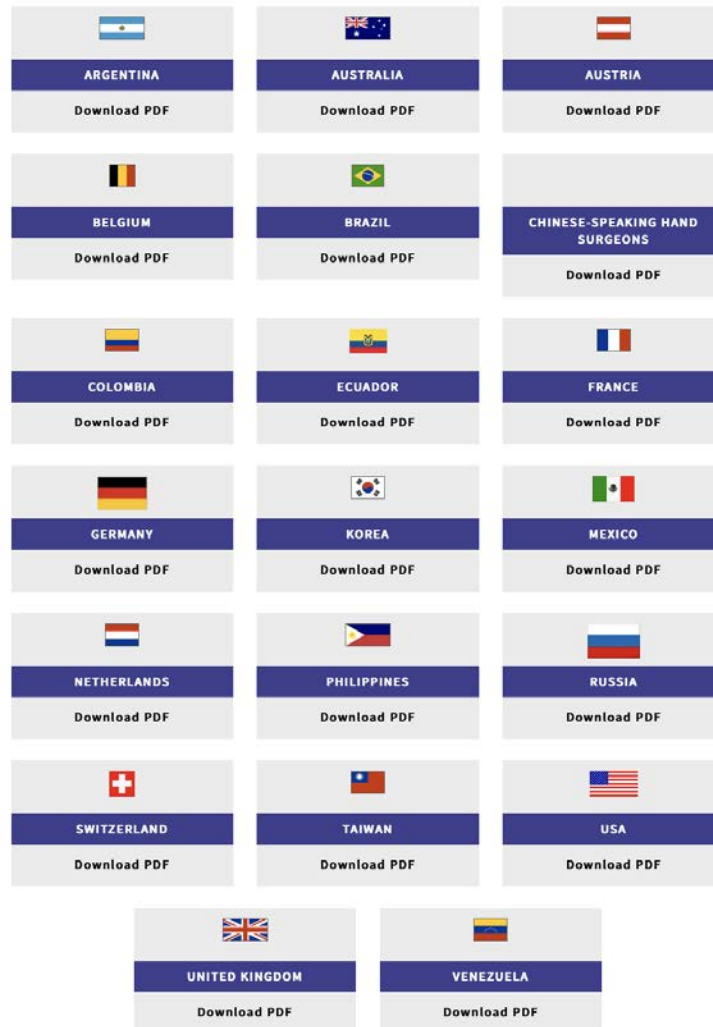
All sponsored projects are further detailed on the website, along with the reports provided - <https://ifssh.info/ifssh-sponsored-educational-projects.php>.

## **8. Historian's Report, including Communications (Website, Social Media, Newsletter, Ezine ) (David Warwick)**

David Warwick was unable to attend this section of the meeting but provided the enclosed report of progress:

## Historian work

- **More member Histories** Ecuador, Russia



### **Request**

Please can delegates send me their member histories so we can add them to the website.

I am trying to get permission from Journal of Hand Surgery to reproduce some articles.

- **Past Presidents tab** - working with Belinda to have a list and profile of them

2016 - 2019	ZSOLT SZABO	- Hungary	
2013 - 2016	MICHAEL TONKIN	- Australia	<a href="#">Profile</a>
2010 - 2013	ULRICH MENNEN	- South Africa	<a href="#">Profile</a>
2007 - 2010	JAMES R URBANIAK	- USA	<a href="#">Profile</a>
2004 - 2007	A PARDINI	- Brazil	<a href="#">Profile</a>
2001 - 2004	G FOUCHER	- France	
1998 - 2001	Y YAMAUCHI	- Japan	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1995 - 1998	GIORGIO A BRUNELLI	- Italy	<a href="#">Profile</a> <a href="#">Obituary</a>
1992 - 1995	ROBERT MALCOLM MCFARLANE	- Canada	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1989 - 1992	DOUGLAS W. LAMB	- United Kingdom	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1983 - 1989	ALFRED B. SWANSON	- United States Of America	<a href="#">Profile</a> <a href="#">Obituary</a>
1979 - 1983	BERNARD MCCARTHY O'BRIEN	- Australia	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1977 - 1979	H. GRAHAM STACK	- United Kingdom	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1975 - 1977	TATSUYA TAJIMA	- Japan	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1973 - 1975	DIETER BUCK - GRAMCKO	- Germany	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1971 - 1973	RAOUL TUBIANA	- France	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1969 - 1971	R G PULVERTAFT	- United Kingdom	<a href="#">Profile</a>
1968 - 1969	ERIK MOBERG	- Sweden	<a href="#">Profile</a>

- History of **grant recipients** added to website <https://ifssh.info/ifssh-sponsored-educational-projects.php>

2020 - SPECIFIC SPONSORSHIP : IFSSH HAROLD KLEINERT VISITING PROFESSORSHIP
<p><b>Dr Steven Moran : Australia, March 2020</b></p> <p>Dr Moran was proposed as a candidate for the IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship by the convenors of the Asian-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand Congress (Melbourne, March 2020). This congress is run in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Wrist Association, the Australian Hand Surgery Society, New Zealand Hand Surgery Society, and their respective hand therapy associations. Dr Moran's programme incorporates lectures at this congress as well as the teaching of orthopaedic and plastic trainees at the preceding 2020 Australian Hand Surgery Society Registrar Course. He will also travel to Sydney for teaching sessions with registrars and fellows and give further lectures and at the New South Wales Hand Surgery Association Clinical Meeting. The IFSSH has provided <b>US\$7000</b> towards travel reimbursement.</p>
2019 - GENERAL SPONSORSHIP
<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Surgery of the Spastic Upper Limb, Venice</b></p> <p>Following the successful meeting in 2017, the organisers proposed a second course to be held in Venice, April 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> 2019. Recognising the extent of international participation in the first symposium and the relevance of the specialty topic, the IFSSH provided <b>US \$7500</b> with a portion of this to be allocated to reducing registration costs for participants from developing nations.</p> <p>251 participants from 38 countries attended this meeting, learning from 48 faculty members from 15 countries. The IFSSH support allowed the organisers to afford a congress facility to accommodate this increased participation, to waive the registration fees of the faculty and support three speakers and, as requested, to sponsor the registration of six participants from low income countries.</p> <p><a href="#">READ THE FULL REPORT</a></p>
<p><b>APFSSH Congress, Melbourne, 2020: Developing Country Registration Grant</b></p> <p>The Asian-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand will conduct the 2020 meeting in Melbourne, Australia - March 11-14, 2020. The congress has established a scheme for fee-paying registrants to donate to a programme that will reduce registration rates for those from developing countries. Dr Tony Berger approached the IFSSH for additional funding to sponsor such registrants to attend. The IFSSH has approved a grant of <b>US\$10,000</b> to be allocated to this programme. Dr Berger will provide a report in 2020.</p>
<p><b>Hand Surgery Workshop, Kenya, 2020</b></p> <p>Dr Don Lalonde approached the CES with an application detailing a workshop to be run in Nairobi, Kenya in January 2020 - "Managing upper extremity surgery in and out of theater with surgeon provided tumescent local anaesthesia". This was organised in conjunction with Professor Pankaj Jani, the President of COSECSA (College of Surgeons of Eastern, Central, and South Africa), who facilitated invitations to the program directors and trainers from the 24 COSECSA accredited hospitals in Kenya. The application was endorsed by the American Society for Surgery of</p>

- **Giants of Hand Surgery Tab**

#### 18<sup>th</sup> Century

William Heberden	Roland Martin	Dominique J. Larrey	Sir Astley Paston Cooper
Abraham Colles	Sir Charles Bell	Baron Guillaume Dupuytren	Jacques Delpech

#### 19<sup>th</sup> Century

Ernest Weber	Guillaume B. A. Duchenne	George F. Stromeyer	F. Guermontprez
Charles P. Denonvilliers	William J. Little	William E. Horner	William Adams
Theodor Schwann	Filippo Pacini	Wenzel L. Gruber	Sir James Paget
Augustus Volney Waller	Carl Von Langer	P.C. Hughier	Alfred B. Garrod
Archibald E. Garrod	Alfred Poland	John R. Wolfe	Karl T. Thiersch
Johann F. A. Van Esmarch	Bernhard von Langenbeck	Henry A. Martin	Silas W. Mitchell
George Meissner	Richrd von Volkmann	Louis Xavier E. Ollier	Felix J.C. Guyon
Johann F. Horner	Friedrich A Von Recklinghausen	Maurice Raynaud	Louis A. Ranvier
John Cleland	Edward H. Bennett	Wilhelm H. Erb	Francesco Parona
Jacques L. Reverdin	Friedrich S. Merkel	Otto W. Madelung	Carl Nicoladoni
Otto Sprengel	Santiago Ramo´nyCajal	Eduard A. Albert	Pierre Marie
Charles E. Beevor	Henri Francois Secretan	Sir Robert Jones	Hugh Owen
Thomas Augusta Klumpe	Harold J. Stiles	Erich Lexer	

#### 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Eugene Apert	Fritz de Quervain	Harvey W. Cushing	Fritz Lange	O. Vulpius
Konrad Bielsalski	George C. Perthes	Robert Kienbock	Allen B. Kanavel	
Vladimir P. Filatov	William Darrach	Jules Froment	Arthur Steindler	
Martin Kirshner	Jules Tinel	Sterling Bunnell	Harold D. Gillies	Leon Mayo
Ricardo Finochietto	Archibald H. McIndoe	Herbert Seddon	Fenton Braithwaite	
Otto Hilgenfeldt	Frederick Wood-Jones	Sumner L. Koch	Michael L. Mason	
Harvey S. Allen	Henry C. Marble	Hugh Auchincloss	Condict W. Cutler Jr.	
Arthur Barsky	Emanuel B. Kaplan	Augusto Bonola	A.R. Wakefield	T. Skoog
R. Guy Pulvertaft				

- **2019 Pioneers book**

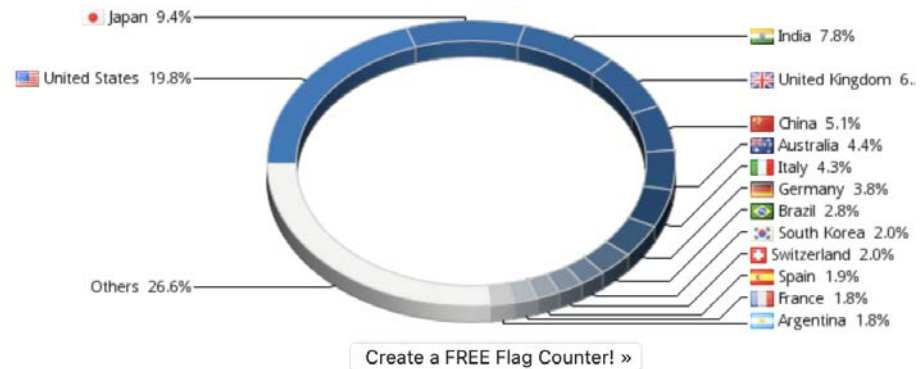


2019 Pioneer book

## Website work

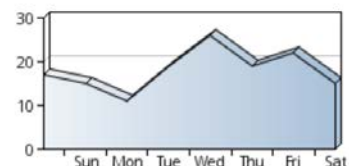
- **Visitors**

128 different countries have visited this site. 187 flags collected. [View all details »](#)



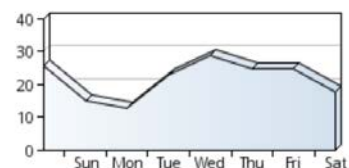
### Visitors

Yesterday: 15 ↓  
 30 day average: 18  
 Record: 77 on September 30, 2018  
[View history »](#)



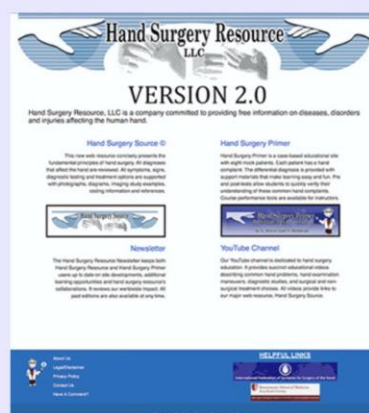
### Flag Counter Views

Yesterday: 18 ↓  
 30 day average: 25  
 Record: 156 on December 11, 2018  
[View history »](#)



- **Hand Surgery Resource (Larry Hurst) added**

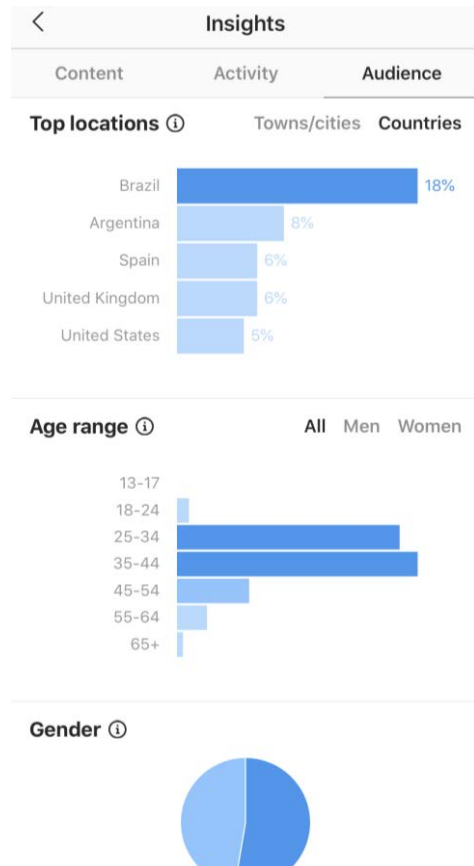
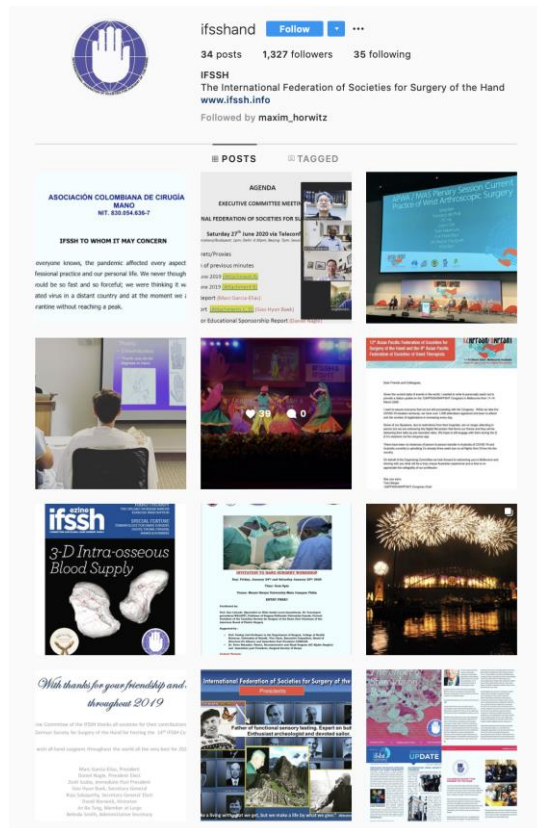
## New for the IFFSH Website: a Free and Comprehensive Hand Surgery Resource



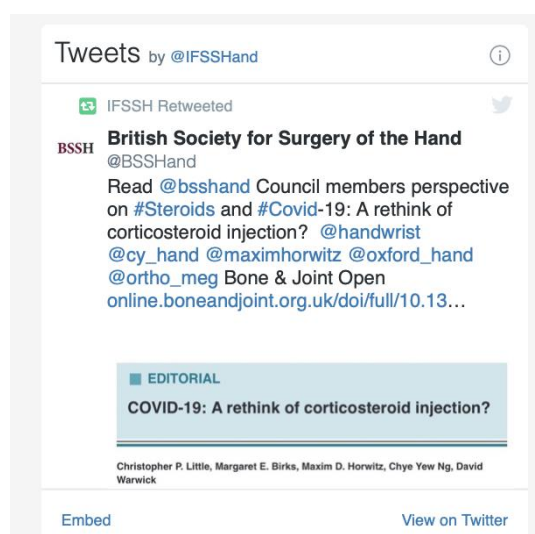
[Download Pdf](#)

## Social media work

- Instagram 1327 Followers (on 6<sup>th</sup> September)



- Twitter 1092 followers (at 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020)
- Twitter feed added to website



## 9. 14<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Congress - Berlin, 2019 (Jörg van Schoonhoven)

Dr van Schoonhoven provided the congress' final report. He reported that the German Society remains very grateful for being given the opportunity to host the 2019 IFSSH Congress. Given the current international changes, the DGH is thankful that this was hosted in 2019 rather than 2020.

The final statistics relating to the congress include:

- 4002 registrations from delegates (65% surgeons, 17% therapists, 10% industry, 8% guests) - 560 from Germany, followed by UK, Switzerland, Japan.
- 1812 abstract submissions
- 1503 oral presentations
- 95 industry supporters (37% Germany, 42% Europe, 21% worldwide)

The DGH was able to provide a final income share to the IFSSH of 115,300 euro.

Overall, the organising committee was very happy with the congress and pleased that the atmosphere of the meeting displayed that everyone felt welcome and had a good time.

## 10. 15<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Congress - London, 2022 (David Shewring)

David Shewring (Chair, Organising Committee) and Jonathan Hobby (Chair, Program Committee) delivered the London 2022 progress report.



*Preparations are continuing apace for the 2022 IFSSH congress in London. Most importantly, there has been a change of venue and also a change of date.*

Venue: *We learned last year that there was a possibility of the House of Lords decanting into the QEII centre (our booked venue for 2022) while extensive refurbishments are being carried out at Palace of Westminster. The move is planned for 2025 but the QEII will be commandeered for preparatory work from 2022. They were running behind schedule and the likelihood is that this will not happen, but it remained a possibility. When I (DS) first learned of this early last year, I provisionally booked an alternative venue at the ExCeL Centre, which is situated in the Docklands, East London. Despite the projected schedule delay, Mark Taylor, the CEO at QEII was not able to secure an assurance from government ministers that the QEII venue would be available for 2022. Our deadline for a decision was 31 January 2020. We could not afford to take the chance of being left without a venue and in addition, it became apparent that the facilities at QEII would be challenging and capacity limited. We therefore decided to move the Congress to the **ExCeL centre**.*

Date: This will entail a change of date to earlier in June. The venue is booked for 5th - 11th June 2022, with the Congress proper running **6th – 10th June**. Fortunately, this will not conflict with the proposed dates for EFFORT.

Advantages: ExCeL <https://www.excel.london> which is situated in London Docklands, was one of the venues for the 2012 London Olympics. It has several significant functional advantages.

- ExCeL has a more horizontal footprint than QEII and so will be much more easily navigable during the Congress. It is a much bigger venue with easily enough space to accommodate 4000 delegates, or more if necessary (QEII would have been capped at a maximum of 2500).
- Unlike QEII, it can provide a vast central space for industry.
- Accommodation for delegates in the vicinity of ExCeL is plentiful and will be less expensive than in central London. If delegates decide that they would prefer to stay in central London, then transport options from the centre to ExCeL are good. There is the Docklands Light Railway and also an underground tube connection, due to be completed next year. If people want to take a particularly scenic route then there are river boats departing from major London piers every 20 minutes <https://www.thamesclippers.com/route-time-table>.

All in all, we see all of this as a very positive development.

Asszisztencia: We have engaged the services of Asszisztencia, a company based in Budapest, to help us organise and run the Congress. I have had experience in dealing with Asszisztencia over the last few years during my time on FESSH Council and I have found them to be invariably extremely competent and efficient. They will be a great asset.

After the successful meeting in Berlin and with the Congress being held for a consecutive time in Europe, there will be an inevitable impact on FESSH. This Congress will therefore be a combined meeting with FESSH XXVII. We will be providing facilities for all of the requirements of FESSH, including the EBHS Diploma examination. We have also negotiated a financial arrangement based on attendance which will compensate them and at the same time incentivise them to encourage attendance.

Organising Committee: Meetings of the core organising committee have been proceeding regularly, initially face to face at BSSH meetings, more recently by Zoom. Representatives from BAHT have been included. The next meeting is scheduled for 30th September.

The core organising committee consists of the following:

David Shewring (Chair)

Jonathan Hobby (Chair of Programme Committee)

Dean Boyce (BSSH Treasurer)

Rupert Eckersley (Social events)  
Christy Fowler (BAHT)  
Sue Fullilove ((BSSH Vice President)  
Stephen Hodgson (Humanitarian)  
Wee Lam (Deputy Chair of Programme Committee)

*With anticipated specific roles arising, requests for expressions of interest were sent to the BSSH Membership, with an enthusiastic response. 32 applications from the membership and over 30 applications from trainees. These have been reviewed and many will be included in a variety of roles as speakers, session chairs, session organisers and to help with the general organisation of the meeting. Stephen Hodgson has joined the Organising Committee, and David Clark has joined the programme committee. Applications are being reviewed to help with the website, marketing and the social program.*

*Website:* *The website for IFSSH/IFSHT 2022 is up and running <https://www.ifssh-ifsht2022.co.uk>. It is constantly being developed and there are several pages yet to be written. Some of it still needs to be updated to reflect the move from QEII to ExCeL, but it should be a useful source of information.*

*Programme:* *The programme committee, led by Jonathan Hobby and co-chaired by Wee Lam, is meeting regularly by Zoom, and the programme is rapidly taking shape. We have sought suggestions from an International panel of 14 representatives from all of the world's continents. Their suggestions have been very helpful and will help us to shape the programme. We have also had helpful suggestions from the membership via the expressions of interest.*

*Instructional Course & Book:* *There will be a core series of plenary instructional lectures, the topic for which is Tendon Disorders of the Hand and Wrist. A publishing deal has been negotiated with Thieme to produce an accompanying book, which will be included in the registration fee for surgeons. The book will be edited by Grey Giddins, Dean Boyce and David Shewring. Invitations to chapter authors/speakers have been sent and all have been accepted (Appendix A)*

*Symposia:* *There are also a range of other instructional courses and symposia covering the whole range of hand surgery including: Arthritis; Biomechanics; Burns, infection and non-union; Brachial Plexus; Carpal Instability and carpal kinematics; Congenital surgery; Cost effectiveness and variations in practice; Dupuytren's disease; Fractures (distal radius, carpus and the hand); Hand surgery in low and middle income countries; Soft tissue cover and microsurgery; Nerve Repair; Outcome measurement in hand surgery; Psychological factors in hand surgery; Research networks and running large trials; Sham surgery and the placebo effect; Technology and hand surgery (telemedicine, AI, social media and robotics); Teaching and training in hand surgery.*

*Initial program meetings have been held by Zoom with a program committee including:  
Jonathan Hobby (Chair)*

Dean Boyce  
 Grainne Bourke  
 Matthew Brown (Outgoing BOTA President)  
 Helen Buchanan (BAHT)  
 David Clarke (ICSH Chair)  
 Grey Giddins (Co-Editor of Instructional Course Book)  
 Max Horowitz  
 Wee Lam (Deputy Chair Program Committee)  
 Zaf Naqui  
 Alex Nichols  
 CY Ng  
 Fiona Sandford (BAHT)  
 David Shewring (Meeting Chair)  
 Bridgitte Van Niederhoven (FESSH)  
 International Programme Committee  
     Australia/NZ: Tony Berger  
     Asia/China: Gus McGrouther, Jim Bo Tang, Wen Dong Xu,  
     India: Raja Sabapathy  
     North America: Amit Gupta, David Ring, Kevin Chung, Charles Goldfarb,  
     James Chang  
     South America: Eduardo Zancolli  
     FESSH: Steven Hovius, Michael Boekstyns, Eric Walbeem, Max Haerle  
     Africa Mike Solomons  
 We are liaising with BAHT, FESSH, IFSSH and IFSHT. We have also approached “YEHS” (Young European Hand Surgeons), BOTA, PLASTA, World Orthopaedic Concern and BFIRST for help and advice.

We are also in contact with the DGH (German Hand Society) and ASSH the organisers of the last and next meetings.

Keynote Speakers: We have approached Professor Tim Davis as our proposal to IFSSH for the Swanson Lecture on his life’s work on scaphoid fractures. We intend to ask Professor Duncan McGrouther to give the Presidential guest lecture on “Infection in the hand, new challenges in an antibiotic resistant world”. We have approached Nicki Moffat, the first woman to achieve the rank of Brigadier in the British Army to give a lecture on diversity.

Budget: Asszisztencia have prepared a preliminary budget with a planned break-even attendance of 2,500. We are aiming to keep the registration fees at the same level as Berlin 2019. We are hoping to support applicants from low income countries with some sponsored places. Options are being explored to safeguard the society from losses from a COVID type cancellation.

IFSSH have provided the \$100,000 pump priming grant, to be held by Asszisztencia, who will hold the contracts with the ExCel centre.

Social Programme:

*Opening Ceremony: Ideas are being developed with help from Assisztencia and the Excel centre.*

*IFSSH Presidential Dinner: The Barber Surgeon's Hall has been reserved for this. There is seating capacity for 120. £43.50-49.50 for food. Drinks may be chosen from wine list which is at "cost price" and would represent a substantial cost saving. It was noted that number limitation would have to be strict.*

*Gala Dinner: We have approached the Old Billingsgate Market as a potential site for this. Maximum seating 1800.*

*Other ideas include: a pop-up nightclub at the ExCeL and an organised tour of some quintessentially British hostelrys in the City and West End.*

*Site Visit: Finally, we were due to carry out a detailed site visit to ExCeL in mid-May, but with the advent of COVID-19 this has been delayed. It is now planned for late November, in conjunction with Assisztencia. The venues for the social events will also be visited if open.*

Jonathan Hobby then addressed the Delegates with a proposal for fellowships that would occur around the 2020 IFSSH meeting. These would be for 2-3 week periods in a travelling fellowship programme. The organising committee has recommended two parallel programmes: one for trainees from Europe, America and Asia, and a second programme for those from low income/resource countries. FESSH has been approached for support with the trainee fellowships. The BSSH/organising committee now wish to ask for funding from the IFSSH to support those from the low income countries. This group may not otherwise have the resources to get to the IFSSH congress and this support may assist travel costs, waive registration fees and provide the opportunity for the participants to visit UK centres and maximise the benefit from travelling to the meeting. The BSSH and industry would also be involved in providing support. Estimated costs are available from similar programmes organised by other British groups (e.g. BFirst). These are suggested as \$3000-4000 for each fellowship.

The organising committee was advised to forward a formal proposal as per the guidelines to the CES (via the secretariat).

## **11. Business arising**

### **a. Review of bylaws, including ExCo composition and congress rotations (Daniel Nagle)**

Daniel Nagle presented a detailed explanation of the Amended and Restated IFSSH Bylaws:

*The motivation to undertake this review came from the delegates. In Berlin there were requests for greater access to governance and greater opportunity to host International Congress. In parallel, the ExCo was concerned about the protection of the presidential line and institutional memory.*

*The ExCo reviewed the old bylaws to determine the extent of the changes that may be necessary to achieve these requests. It was noted that the existing bylaws are now not compliant with the Illinois not-for-profit law, they were imprecise, and they contained extraneous material. With these findings, the ExCo agreed to revise the entire bylaws document rather than update specific articles.*

*The drafting process was a joint endeavour of the attorney specializing in Illinois not-for-profit medical association law (Jed Mandel, Chicago Law Partners) and the Executive Committee. Multiple drafts were constructed, based on old bylaws. Deficiencies were corrected and standard practices for not-for-profit organizations were followed. This process took 1 year.*

*The final draft, with the existing deficiencies now corrected, is compliant with Illinois law. It increases member participation in IFSSH governance through two methods: it increases Members-at-large from 1 to 5; and it adds two non-ExCo members to the Nominating Committee. In addition, it further increases opportunities to serve on the ExCo as the ExCo terms are decreased to two years. This is accomplished enhanced by changes to the ExCo composition which in turn eliminate the Sec Gen-elect (2022) and Pres-elect (2025) positions.*

*The final draft increases the opportunity to host the International Congress and protects IFSSH institutional memory carried by the presidential line.*

*The ratification process was based on the following:*

- Bylaws are typically created by the executive committee or subcommittee of the executive committee, as is standard in not-for-profit organisations.*
- Bylaws are complex legal documents that do not lend themselves to drafting by a large group.*
- The Executive Committee acting as the elected representative of the Delegates in cooperation with legal counsel, endeavoured to create a document that corrected the shortcomings present in the old bylaw.*
- The complexity of the document and the interdependent nature of the articles and sections of the amended and restated bylaws required that the new bylaws be presented as a complete, single document to be considered as a whole .*

*The document presented to the Delegates for their consideration was thought to effectively address the shortcomings identified in the old bylaws.*

*The Delegates were asked to carefully review the Amended and Restated bylaws and either ratify them or reject them via a vote (undertaken via electronic means - ElectionBuddy).*

*To achieve the quorum, we needed to comply with “ARTICLE VIII – Voting procedure A”: “A quorum, consisting of more than half the number of delegates, or their appointed representative, shall be required for the transaction of Federation business.”*

*At the time of voting, there were 61 eligible voters. 43 cast votes. **43/61 = 70%**, therefore a quorum was achieved and business could proceed.*

*For ratification, “ARTICLE IX – Amendments” had to be followed: “These Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the members of the Council present.”*

*The voting results consisted of:*

- 1 abstention (the abstention is considered in the calculation of the quorum but not in the calculation of the ratification)
- **34 YES      34/42 = 81% (>66%)**
- 8 NO          8/42 = 19%

*Therefore the bylaws were ratified.*

*There were a number of articles to undergo major changes.*

**Article V: International Congress** - Section 1 Schedule: *“The Federation shall conduct an International Congress periodically according to such schedule as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.” This DOES NOT mandate a biennial congress. However, biennial terms are implicated in Article VII (Officers), Article IX (Executive Committee) and Article X (Committees). These are essentially based on biennial terms and therefore the biennial congress option is interwoven throughout the document.*

*We are aware that some delegates have questioned the move to biennial terms. The basis of this is to increase member participation in IFSSH governance and increase opportunity to host International Congress (e.g. South America hosted the 2016 congress but the next hosting option under the current triennial system is not until 2040; this would move to 2029 under the proposed biennial rotation).*

**ARTICLE VII Officers and ARTICLE IX Executive Committee:** *These articles contain the majority of the significant changes and can be considered together. These articles:*

1. *Preserve the presidential line institutional memory (the personal recollections and experiences that provide an understanding of an organization’s history, culture and the reasons behind its decisions and procedures).*

*The old bylaws permitted replacement of the entire presidential line (except the past president) every three years. This means that every three years 80% of the presidential line / institutional memory could be lost and this would be devastating to the function of the Federation. Bylaws that permit such a possibility are considered flawed and not consistent with best practices for organizations such as the IFSSH. The bylaws of major medical associations provide for the automatic rise through the presidential line once a person is elected to the bottom rung of the presidential line (Vice President or in the case of the IFSSH the Secretary General-elect.)*

*Under the new bylaws, the entry point into the presidential line will be the Secretary General position. The Delegates will have the opportunity to elect the Secretary General starting in 2025 (rather than electing the Secretary-General Elect). The progression within the presidential line is automatic once elected to the SG office. Current officers will automatically progress through the presidential line.*

*There is an option to remove any ExCo member from office through Article VII Section 10; Article IX Section 9): “Any member of the ExCo can be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the ExCo but can only be removed from the ExCo by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates Council.”*

## *2. Reduce the size of the presidential line (increases access to presidential line)*

*Under the old bylaws, ascension from Sec Gen elect to Past President took  $\geq 15$  years. This required significant personal time commitment and consequentially there was limited access to the presidential line.*

*Within the new bylaws, the Secretary General elect sunsets in 2022 and the President elect in 2025. From 2027, the Presidential line will consist of only the Secretary General, President and Immediate Past President - therefore ascension through presidential line takes 6 years and in turn this increases access to the presidential line.*

## *3. Reduce Terms*

*All terms will be for two years and this increases the opportunity to serve on the ExCo.*

## *4. Increase Members-at-large*

*The M-a-L will increase from 1 to 5 in 2022. This will be through staggered terms and to commence this process the IFSSH will need to hold elections annually beginning 2023.*

*The M-a-L positions will provide regional representation. The Asian-Pacific region contains 16 societies of approx. 2700 members and will have one M-a-*

*L representative. Europe contains 28 societies of approx. 4300 members and will have two M-a-L positions. North America and South America each contain 8 societies (6300 and 1000 members respectively) and will have one M-a-L position each.*

*5. Sunset Historian position*

*The historian position will sunset in 2022*

*6. Establish Communications Director position*

*The Communications Director will begin in 2022. This ExCo member will enhance the Federation's media presence, foster communication among members, and maintain the Federation's electronic/internet presence.*

**Article X: COMMITTEES (Nominating Committee):** *This composition has been altered to now consist of Penultimate Past President, Immediate Past President and President plus 2 non-ExCo members elected by the Delegates Council. This is for increased transparency and creates an odd number of people for voting principles.*

*Whilst those are the major changes within the bylaws, it is also timely to recap the IFSSH Policies and Procedures. These will be separated from the bylaws on the basis that bylaws are meant to be high level and long lasting capturing the essence of the organization whilst Policies and Procedures (Protocols) deal with details and can be updated as needed. For example, the IFSSH has policies regarding International Congresses, granting of financial support, definition of regions, nominating processes, the Swanson lecture, Pioneers and Federation registration.*

*Finally, the **Congress Rotation**. This decision is outside of the bylaws but with numerous implications, as discussed earlier.*

*Currently the triennial rotation system suggests:*

*2022 - Europe (London)  
2025 - Americas (Washington DC)  
2028 - Asia  
2013 - Europe  
2034 - Asia  
2037 - Europe*

*The biennial system, designed to rotate in turn through Asia Pacific, South America, Europe and North America, could fall as:*

*2027 - Asia Pacific (minor change as 2028 under triennial congress)*

*2029 - South America (increases opportunity as next opportunity under triennial congress is a minimum of 2040)*

*2031 - Europe (same as triennial congress schedule)*

*2033 - North America (increases opportunity as next opportunity under triennial congress is a minimum of 2040)*

*2035 - Asia Pacific (minor change as 2034 under triennial congress)*

*2037 - South America (increases further opportunity)*

*2039 - Europe (minor change as 2037 under triennial congress)*

*2041 - North America (increases further opportunity)*

*Rotation rules remain and include:*

- Bidding is limited to societies from the designated region*
- If no takers, bids will be accepted from next region in the rotation*
- A society can host only one Congress unless there are no other willing bidders in the designated region*

Daniel Nagle thanked all delegates for their participation in the voting process.

Don Lalonde was invited to provide a response on behalf of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand who had previously voiced concerns regarding the change in congress frequency:

*I realize that the majority of us have already voted to replace a meeting every 3 years to a meeting every 2 years. Our IFSSH executive is to be congratulated for finally changing our outdated bylaws that force some of us to serve up to 15 years in our leadership. Drs Garcia -Elias, Baek, Nagle, Sabapathy, Tang, Warwick, and Szabo are all really smart, good people who feel they are doing the right thing by moving from Q3 year to Q2 year meetings. Their intentions are good. On first glance, it seems all good. More IFSSH meetings fits in with the new succession schedule. More societies get to host the IFSSH meeting. There is more revenue for IFSSH. What is there not to love?*

*The ASSH supported the rest of the bylaw changes that 34 of us voted to support, but we could not support the vote on changing 3 year meetings to 2 year meetings so we were one of the 8 societies who voted against the bylaws changes because the vote was set up to say yes or no to the whole package. ASSH sent our objections to the IFSSH executive. The executive has been kind to allow me a couple of minutes to share with you with the objections that ASSH sent to the FSSH executive. Here they are and here is our possible solution.*

*IPRAS used to be the very strong international federation of Plastic surgery societies. It used to meet every 4 years. I was then totally in favor of moving those meetings from every 4 years to every 2 years back then when we did that for the first time in 2009 in India. I began to discover we were wrong in supporting the 2 year meeting*

*when I became chairman of the IPRAS organizing committee for the IPRAS meeting we held in Vancouver 2 years later 2011 in the second of the every 2 year meetings. Believe it or not, it was very hard to get delegates and big name speakers to come to a beautiful safe city like Vancouver because delegates and speakers were "international IPRAS meeting fatigued". We were having too many meetings. The last IPRAS meeting was 2 years later in Chile in 2013 and was very poorly attended. The IPRAS organization died after that. It was not the only factor that killed IPRAS, but it was an important one.*

*I also witnessed the death of The Canadian society for surgery of the hand in 2013. You would think that Canada would have a robust hand society. Right? Why did we die for 3 years before we came back to life in 2016? One of the main reasons was: too many hand surgery society meetings in North America and Europe. ASSH, AAHS, FESSH, our national plastic and orthopedic meetings all provided great education. It was almost impossible for the Canadian hand surgery society to compete and survive. This only occurs now by piggy-backing on to other meetings.*

*I predict that IFSSH will have similar problems. Big name speaker fatigue: they will not want to go speak at our meetings all over the world or on Zoom every 2 years. Attendee fatigue: attendance at IFSSH meetings will dwindle. Surgeons are changing. We already have way too many hand surgery meetings all over the world. IFSSH will lose its "special status" as THE international meeting and just become another meeting. How will small Asian national society meetings be able to compete with APFSSH alternating with IFSSH meetings every year? Right now they are both every 3 years. I feel this move will only make it more difficult for small national hand surgery societies to survive.*

*According to the new bylaws, our first biennial meeting will occur in 2027, 2 years after Washington in 2025. IFSSH will not have 7 years to assess the effects of Covid and possibly change our mind on this issue. ASSH had to decide in 2018 that it wanted to bid in 2019 for the 2025 Washington meeting. Countries that bid for the 2027 meeting will have to bid in London in June of 2022. Bidding countries will have to decide in 2021 that they want to make the bid. You will therefore have to decide one year from now if you want to bid for the 2027 meeting, not 7 years from now. IFSSH therefore only has only one year to reverse this decision if we all have second thoughts. Once your country makes a bid, you have contracts to honor with convention centers and hotels which are difficult and costly to reverse. It will be hard for small societies in small countries to make money and survive these bids and more poorly attended meetings. It is our small national hand surgery societies that will be at financial risk, not the IFSSH.*

*We were asked to vote on this important issue by September 10th, 2 days ago, without the delegates having any discussion on this very serious matter. It is not our normal practice to have a vote without a discussion. I am sure that many of you were not aware of the unintended possible consequences of moving to a 2 year meeting schedule. The Australian Society for Surgery of the Hand, independently from the*

*American Society, also expressed its concern to all of you in an email this week. It is not an emergency to move to a Q2 year meeting, especially in this crazy Covid time when no one is going anywhere. We feel that it is certainly possible to have all the good changes in the bylaws without going to a meeting every 2 years.*

A number of delegates spoke in agreement and with various modifications, including:

- Ilse Degreef (Belgium) - the same concerns exist. The Belgian Society agreed that many components of the bylaw change were positive and necessary, but voted no because of the congress frequency alteration. FESSH expressed concerns as well. There is the impression that putting it all into one vote it is possible that some may have overlooked this component when submitting their society's vote.

- Greg Bain (Australia) - the same discussions occurred in the Australian Hand Surgery Society's executive in which it was unanimous that the AHSS executive did not support the current congress recommendations. All of the IFSSH Executive are respected and thanked for the hard work, but the information provided by Daniel Nagle today would have been very helpful, along with a discussion, prior to the voting. Further discussion may also have been helpful about the Presidential line and the comments from delegates could have enhanced the document. Having an understanding will help make the IFSSH an optimal organisation for all hand surgeons; the reports presented today are great and demonstrate the excellent work being undertaken. The majority of the recommendations should go through but a further discussion would be ideal before final decisions are confirmed.

- Peter Amadio (USA - American Association for Hand Surgery) - This discussion and potential further changes to the congress frequency and rotation can be accomplished without needing a change to the bylaws. As Dan Nagle has described, the officer election schedule is within the bylaws but the congress frequency is not. The only reason to have a biennial congress is for every President to preside over and international congress. This really is for the benefit of that one person rather than the members and perhaps there could be consideration of other scenarios - e.g. major meetings more infrequently (4 or 6 years) and smaller meetings piggy backing on to others in the interim (2 years). This could be considered whilst maintaining that the officers still change every two years. Daniel Nagle responded that one factor within this proposal was to allow more societies to host meetings. Peter Amadio suggested this is still possible with a bigger multi-day congress and smaller congresses in between. It should complement rather than displace the bigger existing meetings - competition for meeting space in the calendar would be detrimental to all.

Further to the voiced discussions, the zoom chatboard was used by many, including Carlos Fernandes (Brazil), Gero Meyer (France), Jacqueline Tan (Singapore), Esther Voegelin (Switzerland), Ajmal Ikram (South Africa), Emmanuel Riaz (Mexico), Pierluigi Tos (Italy), Fidel Cayon (Ecuador), Eduardo Zancolli (Argentina), Pankaj Ahire

(India), Kim Casnas (Spain), Ryosuke Kakinoki (Japan), Alexandru Georgescu (Romania) and Natalia Cortabarría (Uruguay) - all expressed similar comments and opinions to those spoken by others.

Nicola Goldsmith (IFSHT President) submitted her opinion on behalf of the IFSHT: "One of the greatest developments over the past 4-5 meetings has been the increased collaboration, co-operation and cross professional learning between surgeons and therapists. Therapists will struggle to afford to attend every two years. The IFSSH/IFSHT congress is the jewel in our crown and it would be a shame to risk its status and success.

Marc Garcia-Elias reminded delegates that the IFSSH is a Federation but all examples are at society levels. All delegates represent a society in itself and in the Federation we need to follow the rule that discussion is essential, but the delegates are the bridge to their societies who are our members. A meeting of the IFSSH is different to a society meeting and brings opportunities to those who may not otherwise be able to compete with e.g. the ASSH. In agreement with Peter Amadio, we now have a programme that allows us to be flexible with our choice of congress frequency and rotation and it should not be a competition against individual societies.

Raja Sabapathy expressed his reasons for the two year rotation, including that smaller societies would be given opportunities that are otherwise not possible. For India, a large country but with a small society of specialised hand surgeons, the value of hosting the meeting brings a whole new standard of enthusiasm and achieves an improvement in the hand surgery services of that country. He described that while IPRAS may not have achieved success with more frequent meetings, other international groups have done so and it is interdependent upon the management of the group. The related questions on the Presidential line are also improved by more frequent turnover - allowing for those who achieve these positions to be of a younger age. It is possible to try this system from 2027 and it can always be reassessed without changing the bylaws, but to progress we must try new things.

Goo Hyun Baek commented that the IFSSH has the opportunity to enhance its meetings with the online options that have recently become more available/standard. The IFSSH could have hybrid meetings - online components that appeal for cost and time reasons, and in person meetings that allow for the full experience but this could then utilise a smaller venue as some participation is occurring remotely.

Jonathan Hobby (UK) questioned the bylaw method described for the removal of the President, as well as the Secretary-General's prior IFSSH experience under the new election system - without an "Elect" position, this could be sub-optimal. He proposed an idea to have a line of Secretary-General Elect, Secretary-General and President (rather than Secretary-General, President and Past-President). Dan Nagle explained that the ExCo can remove the President (or any officer) from their office but they still remain on the ExCo - and then the Delegates' Council remove the

person from the ExCo. The Secretary-General's background can be further defined within the Policies and Procedures e.g. stipulating that the nominees must have served as Communications Director, Member-at-Large, Society delegate - this is all for further discussion but does not need to be within the bylaws.

Jorg van Schoonhoven suggested that the bylaws discussion and congress rotation discussion need to be separated - the chat/comments are about biennial vs triennial congresses which are not needing a bylaw change. We need to honour the change of bylaws has occurred and move forward to find a congress rotation system that works with further discussion.

Goo Hyun Baek and Marc Garcia-Elias confirmed that the vote has determined the bylaws have changed to those proposed. We now have a document to work with and we have been approved so far to "set sail" and see what problems are faced that need further refinement.

Don Lalonde advised that the ASSH submits the following amended motion:

**The American Society for Surgery of the Hand moves that the IFSSH executive poll the delegates to see how many support the q2 year vs. the q3 year meeting.**

**Proposed: Don Lalonde (ASSH)**

**Seconded: Greg Bain (Australia), Jonathan Hobby (UK)**

A poll will be conducted, based on the ASSH motion and discussions, relating only to the biennial vs triennial congress. Eduardo Zancolli and Pierluigi Tos commented that, with today's knowledge, delegates need time to further discuss these options with their own societies before voting.

**Action: Belinda to organise an online vote - documentation and voting invites will be sent out in the near future.**

## **b. Scientific Committees (Jin Bo Tang)**

Jin Bo Tang briefly explained the scientific committees and their planned association to a 2022 issue of the JHS(Eu). The scientific committees have been changing structures in the history of the IFSSH. It has evolved through bigger and smaller groups with different tasks over time.

Prior to the London 2022 meeting, the JHS(Eu) plan to publish a special issue to honour the relationship with the IFSSH and also to publicise the London meeting. This will be approx. 6 months prior to the meeting. The issue will typically have 10-14 full length articles that will be commissioned by the Editor to the IFSSH leading experts. These invites will be sent worldwide to accomplish this very important landmark work and to promote the mission of the IFSSH.

Jin Bo Tang encouraged delegates to participate if invited. If not invited on this particular occasion, future committee work will be needed and all are welcome to contribute.

## **12. IFSSH Allied Organisations**

The IFSSH Allied Organisations were invited to submit reports for inclusion in minutes:

- a. International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT) - Appendix B
- b. Asia-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH) - Appendix C
- c. Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH)
- d. South American Federation - Appendix D
- e. Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International - Appendix E

## **13. Future meetings of the Delegates' Council**

The Delegates' Council options for 2021 include to meet within the FESSH Congress (June 16-19, Rotterdam, The Netherlands) or the ASSH Congress (September 30-October 2, San Francisco, California, USA). A number of ExCo members preferred the FESSH option for logistical/timing reasons and this will be recommended to the Delegates.

***Recommendation: FESSH Congress, June 16-19, Rotterdam, The Netherlands***

In closing, Marc Garcia-Elias thanked all for their participation and assistance to progress the IFSSH.

***Meeting closed 12:45pm UTC***

Tendon Disorders of the Hand and Wrist

Editors:  
Dean Boyce  
Grey Giddins  
David Shewring

***Introduction***

***Contributors***

***Section I*** Basic Science

1. Epidemiology:  
Dominic Furniss
2. Anatomy and Biomechanics of the extensor tendon system:  
Donald Sammut
3. Anatomy and Biomechanics of the flexor system:  
Gus McGrouther
4. Tendon Healing (Jason Wong)

***Section II*** Traumatic Injuries to the Extensor Tendons:

5. Injuries at the Distal Interphalangeal Joint  
Ryan Trickett
6. Injuries at the Proximal Interphalangeal Joint  
(to include central slip injuries/Boutonniere)  
W Merritt
7. Injuries to the Sagittal Bands  
Nina Suh
8. Injuries at the Metacarpophalangeal Joint including “fight bites”  
David Shewring
9. Sharp Injury and Repair  
Don Lalonde
10. Composite loss  
Yu Te Lin
11. Rehabilitation after Extensor tendon Repair  
Nick Gape Sarah Turner

### ***Section III*** Traumatic Injuries to the Flexor Tendons:

#### 12. Injuries in Zone I

Dean Boyce

#### 13. Injuries in Zone II

- a. History (Rob Savage)
- b. Approaches, treatment of the sheath and tendon retrieval (JinBo Tang)
- c. Suture Techniques (Mike Sandow)  
How I do it.. (Rob Savage/Jin Bo Tang/Mike Sandow)
- d. Post-operative management regimes (Karen Redvers-Chubb)
- e. Outcomes (Joy MacDermid)

#### 14. Injuries in Zone III, IV and V

(to include Spaghetti Wrist)

Mike Solomons

#### 15. Injuries to the Flexor Pollicis Longus

Maurizio Calcagni

#### 16. Pulley problems

Prof Andreas Schweizer

#### 17. Closed ruptures of the flexor mechanism

(including inflammatory disease & plates)

Alain Azzi (tbc)

#### 18. Late reconstruction and salvage

(include tenolysis)

Mark Pickford

#### **Section IV** Enthesopathies, infection & inflammatory problems

19. Trigger digits  
Sara Ahmad
20. The “Swan Neck” deformity  
Paige Fox
21. De Quervains & Intersection syndrome  
Greg Bain  
Margaret Fok
22. Rheumatoid problems at the metacarpophalangeal joints  
Jagdeep Nanchahal
23. Rheumatoid Digits  
Grey Giddins
24. The elderly “Clasped Hand”  
Peter Rhee
25. Infection of the flexor tendon sheaths  
Kevin Chung  
Matthew Florczynski

#### **Section V** Paediatric Problems:

26. Trigger thumb and finger  
Wee Lam
27. Tendon injuries in children  
Prof Daniel Weber

***Section VI*** Tendon and nerve transfer:

- 28. Principles of tendon transfer  
Neil Jones
- 29. Radial nerve palsy  
Eric Walbheem
- 30. Ulnar nerve palsy  
Raja Sabapathy  
Praveen Bhardwaj
- 31. Median nerve palsy  
Sandeep Sebastin
- 32. Nerve vs tendon transfer in radial, median and ulnar nerve injury  
Jayme Bertelli
- 33. Tetraplegia  
Jan Friden

***Index***

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the IFSHT Congress in Berlin, the delegates from our member countries voted in the next executive officers. President, Nicola Goldsmith (U.K.); President-Elect, Peggy Boineau (U.S.); Secretary General, Maureen Hardy (U.S.); Treasurer, Stacey Doyon (U.S.); Information Officer, Susan de Klerk (South Africa) and Past President, Anne Wajon (Australia). These six hand therapists will lead IFSHT from 2019-2022. All meetings are virtual apart from one at the Triennial Congress and one in between. All six descended on London in February 2020 for a hard working three days (thankfully just before Covid-19 hit) and the goals and priorities were set for the three-year period.

## MAIN GOALS 2019-2022

- Work with and support the British Association of Hand Therapists (BAHT) towards the next IFSHT Congress in London 2022
- Initiate the Member-to-Member mentorship programme
- Launch new newsletter publication (R.E.A.C.H)
- Replace the Commercial Membership category and develop a sponsorship process, options and recognition
- Commission, design and implement a new website
- Review all grants and awards
- Develop Publications Committee

## NEXT IFSHT TRIENNIAL CONGRESS

The two scientific co-chairs are always nominated one by the host society, BAHT and one nominated by IFSHT. Dr Fiona Sandford, Consultant Hand Therapist, St Thomas' Hospital NHS Trust, London and Dr Helen Buchanan, Associate Professor, University of Cape Town, South Africa have taken these vital roles and we thank them in advance for all the hard work they are already putting in.

These two amazing leaders in the world of hand therapy are already working hard with The British Society for Surgery of the Hand (BSSH) to ensure the congress has broad and applicable content and a large component of combined surgeons and therapists' sessions. They have built an international scientific committee and doing the same now for an abstract committee. Currently, the plan is for combined sessions on extensor and flexor tendons, sports injuries, outcome measures, hand surgery and hand therapy partnerships around the world and prevention of hand injuries. There will also be surgeons participating in the therapy sessions on tendinopathies and the musician's hand. The UK is proud to have close collaborative working of the surgeons and therapists and the intention is to showcase this partnership throughout.

## IFSHT MEMBERSHIP

IFSHT now has 36 full members. All individual members of the full member societies are automatically members of IFSHT and therefore IFSHT represents approximately 10,000 hand therapists worldwide. We also have seven associate members and eleven corresponding members, including the welcome addition of Ethiopia and Nigeria in this last year. We are very much looking forward to working with these countries to support the development of our specialty in their countries.

Council voted to dissolve the category of membership "Commercial Membership" and have the relationships with our supporting commercial companies on hold. We are exploring a range of sponsorship options in return for a spectrum of exposure opportunities. IFSHT aims to have this model complete by the end of 2020.

## COMMUNICATION

IFSHT is making major changes to our communication channels in the next six months. Until now, we have been sending out the:

- Update - A quarterly newsletter with information on member countries, major events and IFSHT activities published on our website and in the ASSH and BAHT journals
- Connections - A newsletter sent by e-mail to those signed up to receive it.

These two newsletters are being replaced by a new combined quarterly publication called “**R.E.A.C.H.**”. REACH stands for research, education, achievements and clinical/clinicians (working) in hand and upper extremity. A new committee has been set up to support this venture.

- Website – We have commissioned a new website from a UK developer. This will provide a modern look, enhanced functionality and increased interaction. New functionality includes the ability to manage our invoicing and payments for fees from member countries automatically. We would be delighted to share this information and our in-house expertise with IFSSH and recommend our developers should IFSSH be contemplating a new website. Cross-site links would help both websites reach their audience.
- Ezine. Susan de Klerk is doing a superb job of recruiting articles for EZINE and working with Ulrich Mennen. IFSHT value this publication for instilling a close working relationships between the two professions.

## GRANTS

**Evelyn Mackin Grant:** Sponsorship of a therapist/s from a developing country to attend the triennial congress. IFSHT will be looking to reach out for applicants during 2021. IFSSH has many member countries who do not have IFSHT membership. Perhaps the IFSSH delegates from those countries might have therapists to recommend?

**IFSSH/IFSHT Triennial Congress Grant:** We will be opening applications for this in 2021 and hope to support a similar number, or more, therapists to attend London 2022. Eighteen were supported in 2019. Thank you to IFSSH for your contribution to this grant.

**IFSHT-IFSSH International Hand Therapy Teaching Grants:** Three teaching grants were awarded in the past year:

- Debs Stanton, UK, travelled to Malawi to teach in July 2019
- Shrikant Chinchalkar, Canada, travelled to Sri Lanka to teach in February 2019
- Pascale Smith, UK who had planned to travel to teach in Sierra Leone in June 2020 but plans were disrupted by the pandemic

## MEMBER-TO-MEMBER MENTORING SCHEME

Owing to the outbreak of Covid-19, we have delayed the announcements to all member countries about the mentoring scheme. Each full member has been allocated either a corresponding or associate country to support in their development of hand therapy. We will be writing to each participating country with an outline of intent and the pairings soon. We are hopeful that this will help our developing countries move forwards with the growth of hand therapy in their country.

In the interim, many of our member countries sent information about how they are coping with Covid-19 to us and we have posted this on our website. Do check it out. It is fascinating.  
<https://ifsht.org/page/hand-therapy-and-covid-19>

**REPORT OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN PACIFIC FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES FOR SURGERY OF THE HAND (APFSSH) AND 8<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN PACIFIC FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OF HAND THERAPISTS (APFSHT)**

The year 2020 has been a very active year for Asia Pacific in spite of the pandemic. The 12<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSS) and the 8<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Federation of Societies of Hand Therapists (APFSHT) was held in Melbourne from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 with Dr. Anthony Berger as the Organizing Chairman. In spite of the travel restrictions and the ban of flights from many important countries of the Asian Continent there were 911 registrants to the conference. This was a record attendance and the conference was conducted in an extremely nice manner. Prof. Wayne Morrison delivered the “Tajima Oration” on the title "Replantation, transplantation and beyond- experience and observations". On the similar lines of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) and the American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH) a new lecture termed President’s Invitation Lecture was introduced at the APFSSH and Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy delivered the Guest Lecture on the title “ Building an Institution and Beyond”. Dr Stevan Moran, the **Inaugural Harold Kleinert Professor of the IFSSH** participated in the APFSSH at Melbourne as part of the IFSSH commitment.

When the APFSSH meeting concluded, the delegates just had time to get back to their countries. Perhaps the Melbourne APFSSH was the last of the major in person Hand Surgery congress in the world before the Covid pandemic made academic meetings virtual and we look forward to the conclusion of the pandemic

The Executive Council and delegates Meeting were held at that time and many important decisions were taken based the resolutions that were passed at the Cebu Conference of the APFSSH in November, 2017. The main issue was the deciding on the location of an Headquarters for the APFSSH. After considerable deliberations, Singapore was chosen. For the purposes of registration of the APFSSH as a non profit body and to adhere to the laws of the land a new constitution was drafted and was adopted unanimously. This facilitated the registration of the APFSSH and the

opening of the Bank Account for APFSSH. The Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand (HKSSH) was kind enough to transfer US \$ 20000 out of the savings over the conduct of the conference at Hong Kong. Establishment of the Head Quarters and starting of the bank account will help in the efforts to take care of many educational initiatives of the association. The following are the members of the Executive Council for the period

President	-	Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy, India
President Elect	-	Dr. Anthony Berger, Australia
Immediate Past President-		Dr. Goo Hyun Baek, South Korea
Secretary General	-	Dr. Fuminori Kanaya, Japan
Treasurer	-	Dr. Alphonsus Chong, Singapore

#### **Members at Large:**

Dr. Sandeep Sebastin, Singapore

Dr. Michael Boland, New Zealand

Dr. Norimasa Iwasaki, Japan

To ensure more participation, we decided to have a maximum of 5 members at large and the 2 more to be co-opted in the coming year. At present 13 countries of the Asia Pacific region are members of the association.

The next meeting of the APFSSH will be held at Singapore from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2023.

Dr S Raja Sabapathy  
President

Dr Fuminori Kanaya  
Secertary-General

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# South American Federation

Prof. Dr. Jefferson Braga Silva, MD, PhD



DE CIRURGIA DA MÃO "JOSÉ MARIA ROTELLA"

WEBINAR  
**TREATMENT OF  
OSTEOARTICULAR SEQUELAE  
AT THE HAND AND WRIST**

TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 29TH, 20 PM  
TIMEZONE: BRAZIL

COORDINATOR:  
Jolo Baptista Gomes dos Santos

SPEAKERS:  
Jolo Bosco Rezende Panattoni Filho  
Luciano Elias Bierbohn  
Wilton Bernardino Pignatari  
Nilton Mazzer  
Victor Cesar Junior



DE CIRURGIA DA MÃO "JOSÉ MARIA ROTELLA"

WEBINAR  
**THE DUPLICATED  
THUMB TO ABSENCE**

WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 14TH, 20 PM  
TIMEZONE: BRAZIL

COORDINATOR:  
Henrique de Barros Pinto Netto

SPEAKERS:  
Guana Sílveira Gostri  
Andersson Vieira Montello  
Edgard de Noves França Bisneto



DE CIRURGIA DA MÃO "JOSÉ MARIA ROTELLA"

WEBINAR  
**MICROSURGICAL  
RECONSTRUCTION OF  
THE UPPER EXTREMITY**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29TH  
20 PM  
TIMEZONE: BRAZIL

COORDINATOR:  
Jefferson Braga Silva

SPEAKERS:  
Marcelo Rosa Rezende  
Antonio Carlos Costa  
Luis Nakachima  
Rui Ferreira  
Pedro Bijes



#### NOVEMBRO / DEZEMBRO 2020

- Colapso para mano y dedos (Chile)
- Lesiones ligamentares del carpo (Chile)
- Mano traumática: tratamiento inicial / reimplantes (Chile)
- Tumores a nivel de la mano (Bolívia e Ecuador)

#### MARÇO / ABRIL 2021

- Traumas de la falange distal (Colômbia)
- Síndromes compresivas miembro superior (Colômbia)
- Nervio Periférico (México)
- Lesiones de la articulación radiocubital (México)

#### MAIO/JUNHO 2021

- Lesiones tendinosas: Extensores / Flexores (Peru (coordenador) / Paraguai /Uruguai)
- Fracturas de Falanges / Metacarpos (Venezuela (coordenador) / Bolívia /Ecuador)
- Rizarthrosis (Paraguai)
- Teno sinovitis (Peru)
- Dupuytren (Uruguai)

OS DETALHES SERÃO DIVULGADOS NO SITE E NAS REDES SOCIAIS DA SBCH. FIQUEM ATENTOS!



## Appendix E

September 14, 2020

### Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI)

[www.hwbi.org](http://www.hwbi.org)



The hand and wrist represent one of the most challenging structures in the study of biomechanics, as well as in the evaluation of many biomechanical principles. Hand and wrist biomechanics has been somewhat under developed in comparison to mainstream biomechanics research over the past century. While numerous biomechanical studies have been initiated by surgeons and engineers, collaborative efforts among scientists and clinicians are required in order for continuing progression in research and further improvement of treatment modalities and outcomes.

For 28 years, the International Symposia on Hand and Wrist Biomechanics have provided the opportunity for global scientific exchange and mutual encouragement among basic science and clinical investigators. In 2012, the International Advisory Board decided to form Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI) to further enhance the development of hand and wrist biomechanics and its clinical applications. It is our hope that through the structured organization of HWBI, research activities related to hand and wrist biomechanics will be elevated and clinical translation will be improved. Currently, HWBI has 81 members from 23 countries. We invite those who are interested in hand and wrist biomechanics to join HWBI membership by filling out the online form (<https://www.hwbi.org/membership>). HWBI membership is free.

HWBI is affiliated with International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) and the International Society of Biomechanics (ISB). With these affiliations, the HWBI benefits from IFSSH's and ISB's established excellence as premier international organizations and their vast umbrella networks in promoting basic science and clinical applications. In turn, the HWBI contributes its specialty knowledge to the broad fields of hand surgery and biomechanics. HWBI regularly organizes symposia in conjunction with IFSSH and ISB congresses.

Due to COVID-19, the Organizing Committee decided to hold off the *20th Annual New Technology in Upper Extremity Surgery: The Cutting Edge With Advancing Translational Research and Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI) Symposium* during June 14-17, 2020 in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. This same event is rescheduled to take place during May 2-5, 2021 in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Invited faculty speakers and free paper presenters committed to the 2020 meeting are expected to join us in 2021. See the enclosed flyer and website (<https://www.hwbi.org/symposium/2021>) for more information.

As an Allied Organization of IFSSH, HWBI has contributed to previous triennial congresses by organizing biomechanics symposia/sessions. HWBI will continue to participate in IFSSH 2022 to assist with the biomechanics topic and program.

**20th Annual New Technology in Upper  
Extremity Surgery: The Cutting Edge With  
Advancing Translational Research  
&  
Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International  
(HWBI) Symposium**

**Cleveland, Ohio, USA  
May 2-5, 2021**

[www.hwbi.org/symposium/2021](http://www.hwbi.org/symposium/2021)



**Hindsight-Foresight 20-20  
For Surgeons-Therapists-Researchers  
Invited Faculty Speakers (25+)  
Free Paper Submission  
Awards  
Workshops  
Cleveland Attractions  
& More**