



MINUTES

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

12:30pm, Wednesday 8th June 2022
South Gallery Room 20-22, ExCeL, London

Marc Garcia-Elias opened the meeting at 12:40pm and welcomed the delegates. He requested that Raja Sabapathy chair the meeting.

1. Present

Marc Garcia-Elias - President
Daniel Nagle - President Elect
Zsolt Szabo - Immediate Past-President
Raja Sabapathy - Secretary-General
David Warwick - Historian
Jin Bo Tang - Member-at-Large; Association of Chinese-Speaking Hand Surgeons United
Belinda Smith - Administrative Secretary

Greg Bain - Australia
Ilse Degreef - Belgium
Jorge Terrazas - Bolivia
Milton B. Pignataro - Brazil
Barbara Jemec - Canada
Sebastian von Unger - Chile
Aida Garcia Gomez - Colombia
Robert Gvozdenovic - Denmark
Fidel Cayon - Ecuador
Nash Naam - Egypt
Pasi Paavilainen - Finland
Aram Gazarian - France
Jörg van Schoonhoven - Germany
Charalampos Ntinopoulos - Greece
Juan Ramon Bonfil - Guatemala
Margaret Fok - Hong Kong
Balazs Lenkei - Hungary
Praveen Bhardwaj - India
Shai Luria - Israel
Andrea Atzei - Italy
Yohan Lee - Korea
Martins Kapinckis - Latvia
Mohd Iskander Amin - Malaysia
Emmanuel Ruiz - Mexico (Association)
Jorge F. Clifton - Mexico (Society)

Anne JH Vochteloo - Netherlands
Bruce Peat - New Zealand
Rasmus Thorkildsen - Norway
Luis Naquira - Peru
John Hubert Pua - Philippines
Ireneusz Walaszek - Poland
José Alexandre Marquis - Portugal
Alexandru Georgescu - Romania
Mark Puhaindran - Singapore
Duncan McGuire - South Africa
Roberto S. Rosales - Spain
Martin Byström - Sweden
Esther Vögelin - Switzerland
Sunyarn Niempoor - Thailand
Gillian Smith - UK
Peter Amadio - USA (AAHS)
Julie Katarincic - USA (ASSH)
Rodolfo Contreras - Venezuela

Guests:

Daniel Herren - FESSH
Jefferson Braga Silva - FLACM
Zong-Ming Li - HWBI
Randy Bindra - Mid-Term Course bid - Australia
Vilma Barrezueta - Mid-Term Course bid - Ecuador
Carmen Meythaler - Mid-Term Course bid - Ecuador
Tulyapruet Tawonsawatruk - Mid-Term Course bid - Thailand
Chinnakart Boonyasirikool - Mid-Term Course bid - Thailand
Chao Chen - 2028 Congress bid - ACU (video link)
Sandeep Jacob Sebastin - 2028 Congress bid - Singapore
Dawn Chia Sinn Yii - 2028 Congress bid - Singapore
Rebecca Lim Qian Ru - 2028 Congress bid - Singapore
Piotr Czarnecki - Executive Committee elections
Leila Harhaus - Executive Committee elections
Carlos Henrique Fernandes - Nominating Committee elections

2. Apologies / Proxies

Eduardo Zancolli (Argentina)
Rohit Arora (Austria)
JC Suarez Lopez (Bolivia)
David Tang (Canada)
Anders Lorensten (Denmark)
J Carlos Gonzales (Guatemala)
Siu Cheong Jeffrey Justin KOO (Hong Kong)
Pankaj Ahire (India)
Teddy Prasetyono (Indonesia)
Babak Shojaie (Iran)
Goo Hyun Baek (Korea)
Sandeep Patel (New Zealand)

Mirko Tello Vences (Peru)
Nathaniel Orillaza (Philippines)
Per Hessman (Sweden)

3. Confirmation of previous minutes – 3rd July 2021

Motion: “To accept the minutes as a true record of the 3rd July 2021 Delegates’ Council Committee Meeting”

Proposed: Greg Bain
Seconded: Peter Amadio
Carried unanimously

4. Membership applications

The Latvian Association for Surgery of the Hand applied for IFSSH membership in March 2022. This submission was reviewed by the ExCo and complies with the requirements for membership, with its certificate of incorporation (established 2019) and statutes, list of membership, and letters of support from IFSSH societies.

Motion: “To accept the Latvian Association for Surgery of the Hand to IFSSH membership”

Proposed: David Warwick
Seconded: Fidel Cayon
Carried unanimously

Martin Kapickis joined the meeting as the LASH representative and thanked the delegates for their welcome

5. President’s Report

Marc Garcia-Elias provided his final Presidential address:

First of all, let me thank you for having placed your confidence in my abilities to preside the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) since June 2019. It has been a privilege that I will treasure all my life. I must say, however, that I am leaving this presidency with mixed feelings. Particularly these days, after seeing the dramatical effects of the most violent clashes between neighbouring countries in Eastern Europe. One wonders why those things happen and what should be our attitude in this regard. Should we take an active role and help our colleagues affected by the conflict? Should we take sides?

The IFSSH is a supranational organization where all members are welcome to bring their views, to discuss their positions, and to reach solutions that are meant to help all the membership. The IFSSH should never create borders, much less should build walls to keep friends apart. A border is a wound that needs to heal, and our job is to prevent permanent scars. A federation represents all member societies, and a society should never impose

one way of thinking to other member societies. Indeed, inclusiveness is an important factor in organizations like ours.

Another important aspect in our list of commitments is to remember and pay respect to the elderly. Traditionally, during the Opening Ceremony of our triennial congresses, we celebrate the life and the achievements of the so-called “pioneers” in hand surgery, those whose abnegated generosity was key in the promotion of hand society in their countries. They got up to the top of the pyramid and that, by itself, is to be acknowledged. What it is seldom recognized by the international community, however, is the important role played by to so-called “unknown hand surgeons”, those surgeons whose untimely death, and/or scarcely published work tend to be forgotten.

Many could have been chosen to represent that particular archetype of dedicated surgeon. This time, we decided to pay a special respect to Dr. Fernando Fonseca Máñez (1946-2014) from Caspe (Spain), an active surgeon, member of the Spanish Society for Surgery of the Hand, who did more than 3500 operations in Africa dedicated to the crippled children. When Fina Sensadan his widow, was asked why had he been so stubbornly inclined to such an unusual pathology, she told us what we later considered the most beautiful story of friendship between two children from different cultures and beliefs: the story of Fernando and Ali. When Ali passed away, out an infectious disease, Fernando solemnly swore that he would dedicate his entire life to save poor children who nobody wants to cure. Moved by that “apparently childish” tale, we promised to do our best for this “Fernando and Ali” story to be retold as widely and frequently as possible. A booklet telling that story was freely distributed to all the attendees of the London meeting.*

Best wishes!

Marc Garcia-Elias

President of the IFSSH

6. Secretary-General's Finance Report

Raja Sabapathy reported that the balance of the IFSSH treasury at April 30th 2022 was US\$1,644,059.51. The current balance is comprised of \$355,586.13 with Wells Fargo and \$1,356,479.60 in the Fidelity investment account.

The current report is consistent with that reported at the 2021 Delegates' Council Meeting - the balance then (as of June 30th 2021) was \$1,629,294.50.

The IFSSH continues to use the services of Wells Fargo bank and Fidelity Investments, via Mr Chris Crenshaw. These are all located in the US.



	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	December 31, 2020	December 31st, 2021	April 30th, 2022
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	323,085.39	365589.38
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	1781.75
Fidelity		479,003.40	307,683.67	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	1,192,104.66	1506800.10
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	68,593.98	120,873.01	11,862.94
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	132,104.31	90.35	0.00
Ezine		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	500.00
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	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	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	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	184,287.46	185,869.47	95,205.79	112,952.57	202,698.29	121,463.36	11,862.94
INCOME (US\$) - Wells Fargo #2																	
Ezine 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	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	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	108,327.51	0.00	0.00
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	1,976.87	759.00	325.52	0.00	0.00
Executive Expenses		31,375.61	21,457.35	29,762.91	22,975.79	36,104.22	25,096.00	23,667.25	18,230.19	21,926.69	19,879.93	36,218.45	30,662.49	21,070.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secretariat		Included in Executive Travel/Wages						11,744.20	13,630.72	12,693.33	11,988.21	15,960.10	13,280.64	13,289.62	17,000.00	15,000.00	7,500.00
Bursaries and Grants		0.00	15,000.00	0.00	2,850.00	15,000.00	40,999.99	15,050.00	19,350.00	35,000.00	9,500.00	26,000.00	30,900.00	34,100.00	28,300.00	24,254.00	22,322.83
Ezine		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	23,754.99	8,013.20
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	19,714.92	7,400.00	3,423.00
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	1,325.00	1,325.00	1,325.00
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	1,674.61	2,052.24	1,740.17	1,657.56	2,146.83	579.82
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	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	0.00	0.00
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	200,074.21	78,959.37	43,163.85
EXPENDITURE (US\$) - Wells Fargo #2																	
Editorial / layout set up fees		N/A - Opened 2011				16,526.00	0.00	0.00	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	156.00	159.00	144.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc (Incorrect deposit reversed)		N/A - Opened 2011				0.00	9,650.00	0.00	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	16,669.25	9,767.00	156.00	159.00	144.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS (US\$)																	
Transfer from Wells Fargo account		Records not available in secretariat office		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	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	-6,062.87	81,021.51	-10,188.73	205,379.96	233,321.29	328,139.60	-190,764.52
Advisor Fees				3,291.00	4,026.00	4,294.00	4,703.51	4,985.38	5,189.29	5,353.00	5,366.20	5,418.00	6,500.00	8,595.00	9,827.00	12,540.00	7,319.00
Transaction Costs & Charges				Within advisor fee						93.98	83.53	105.57	101.00	112.93	19.80	24.84	15.09
Taxes Withheld				Within advisor fee			248.86	686.34	889.26	721.71	916.68	561.02	624.40	710.32	780.20	879.32	712.20
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	222,694.29	314,695.44	-198,810.81
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	323,085.39	365,589.38	334,288.47
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	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	1,192,104.66	1,506,800.10	1,307,989.29
Fidelity \$ change from previous year			-171,319.73	94,077.25	24,573.47	-4,643.96	38,725.75	24,896.87	52,397.22	-9,355.12	-12,429.28	74,936.92	182,585.87	195,961.71	222,694.29	314,695.44	-198,810.81
Fidelity % change from previous year			-35.77	30.58	6.12	-1.09	9.18	5.41	10.80	-1.74	-2.35	14.52	30.90	25.34	22.97	26.40	-13.19
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	958,594.24	1,109,196.40	1,082,777.71	1,291,653.43	1,516,971.80	1,874,171.23	1,644,059.51

7. Committee for Educational Sponsorship (CES) Report

Daniel Nagle, Chair of the CES, emphasised the importance of educational sponsorship. It is a main reason for the IFSSH's existence and fulfils a major aim of spreading education and knowledge worldwide. Despite the Covid interruptions to national in person meetings and educational courses, the CES has continued to support a number of worthy applicants. Overall, the IFSSH has provided \$61247.83 in grants recently.

- Colombian Society: \$2500 to assist with the attendance of Venezuelan colleagues at the ASM - January 21- 22, 2022 (Cúcuta, Colombia). NB: This was approved prior to Covid disruptions, therefore honoured when the meeting occurred in 2022.
- Ghana Fellowship (endorsed by the ASSH): \$1450/year x 3 years to assist with the establishment and ongoing programme fees of a West African hand surgery training fellowship by the hand surgeons at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital. The 2021 grant was provided but waiting for a report. The 2022 grant has not yet been paid as waiting for confirmation of a subsequent fellow's enrolment.
- Kenya WALANT course series (endorsed by the Canadian SSH): This involves the same local convenors as earlier courses undertaken by Don Lalonde with the financial backing of the IFSSH. In 2022 \$10,000 was provided to cover three further workshops (Kisumu, Eldoret, Nakuru). The interest from local participants is high and sequelae has involved the establishment of WALANT theatres in a number of centres.
- IFSHT: The IFSHT requested US\$12,322.83 in financial support to cover the deficit of two award categories: Evelyn Mackin Award (\$9761.17) and Triennial Travel Award (\$2561.66). The IFSHT routinely request funding each triennium.
- Romanian attendees at Wrist Reconstruction Course: A request for \$19521 was approved to support seven Romanian Hand Surgeons to attend a two-day International Course on Complex Wrist Reconstruction, specifically organized by the Romanian Society for Surgery of the Hand (RSSH) together with the Oldenburg-Groningen Advanced Training Program in Reconstructive Microsurgery and hosted by The Anatomy Section in the Department of Neuroscience at the University of Medicine Groningen, The Netherlands. This was held 14th-15th October 2021. Travel to the Netherlands was the responsibility of the surgeons/local society. The training is not available locally; the seven surgeons were chosen from different regions of Romania to spread the new knowledge across the country.
- Current Practice of Hand Surgery Textbook: Jin Bo Tang has requested sponsorship of \$18,000 to pursue a major Hand Surgery textbook to be published by Elsevier. This will be an acknowledgement to the IFSSH. This CES request comprised \$10,000 Consulting editor stipends (\$5,000 x 2 editors), \$5,000 Figure and graphics editor, and \$3,000 Reference verification and miscellaneous admin.
- There has been a preliminary approach from the APFSSH for assistance to fund those from low-income areas to attend the next APFSSH Congress but an application has not yet been submitted.

Daniel Nagle reminded the Delegates' Council of the educational resources available on the IFSSH website, including the endorsement of the Hand Surgery Resource. This is a project led by Larry Hurst for a number of years with a wealth of information on hand surgery diseases, disorders and injuries affecting the human hand.

The IFSSH has also been approached by the group behind Wrist BaseCamp. This is a programme led by Christophe Mathoulin, already involving Websurg, IRCAD-IWC, IWAS, APWA. This initiative provides free online access to wrist surgery/arthroscopy educational videos. The organisers did not request any financial support but would like in-principle support of their programme. This will be placed on the IFSSH website with an endorsement, similar to the process used for Hand Surgery Resource, Evidence Based Hand Surgery and the OMT Classification App.

Daniel Nagle thanked all societies who have encouraged their membership to submit applications. Each application must have the endorsement of an IFSSH member society. There is no total cap on IFSSH CES funding per year; it varies upon the performance of the investment fund and the ExCo's decisions of suitable money available to spend.

8. Historian's Report, including Website / Social Media

David Warwick, IFSSH Historian, reported that the Ezine continues to provide a wealth of information to the IFSSH membership and beyond. This is distributed every 3 months, free of charge, and the IFSSH thanks Ulrich Mennen for continuing to undertake the role of Editor. All issues are stored on the IFSSH website for easy access.

The website has expanded over the past 6 years. Santhosh Kumar, the webmaster, has developed a platform that contains a huge amount of information. The IFSSH history (Hand Surgery Worldwide), member society histories, delegates, past Council minutes, Ezine, Evidence Based Hand Surgery and Hand Surgery Resource systems and much more are all publicly available.

Social media continues to be used through Instagram and Twitter. The followers of each have grown and a lot of information was able to be shared in the lead up to the London congress.

During the Covid lockdown, web based communications transformed the IFSSH with ExCo and Council Meetings held online, electronic voting, and other initiatives used. Many of these will continue to be utilised in the future even with the return to in-person meetings.

David Warwick noted that this will be the final report of the IFSSH Historian. With the age of paper archives now over and a move into the digital world, the role will officially change to IFSSH Communications Director at this meeting.

9. Newsletter / Ezine

Raja Sabapathy confirmed that the IFSSH Secretary-General continues to produce four newsletter per year. These are placed on the website and shared by the JHS(Am) and (AP) in print, plus on the JHS(Eu) website.

10. IFSSH Pioneers

Zsolt Szabo, Chair of the IFSSH Nominating Committee, explained that the role of the Nominating Committee is to oversee the IFSSH election processes and Pioneer nominations. For this to occur optimally, it is important that the members of the Nominating Committee know the structure and goals of the IFSSH, and that they have no conflicts of interest.

The Pioneer process for London was very smooth and Zsolt Szabo thanked the delegates from the respective societies for following the guidelines and providing appropriate nominations and submissions. This makes the Nominating Committee's job much easier.

28 Pioneers from 17 societies were awarded this status of IFSSH Pioneer of Hand Surgery at the Opening Ceremony on Monday, in recognition of the devotion that they have given to Hand Surgery.

11. 15th IFSSH Congress - London, 2022

David Shewring, Chair of the London 2022 Congress, welcomed the Delegates' Council to London. He noted that it has been a long journey for the organising committee over the past 6 years and through the pandemic. The Queen has made the last stretch a delight, with the opening of the Elizabeth tube line last week which has dramatically reduced the previous 1.5 hour commute from Heathrow to the congress centre.

There are currently 3363 registrations comprised of 40% surgeons, 14% therapists, 15% online and travelling fellows, trainees, scientists/engineers, trade, and guests. The registrants are from 89 countries (approximate geographic proportions are Europe 43%, UK 28%, Asia-Pacific 15%, Americas 14%) and over 3000 are participating in the London face-to-face option.

The committee is grateful to the industry who have invested GBP 630,000 in sponsorship.

As there was no separate meeting for FESSH this year, or in 2019 when the IFSSH was in Berlin and affected in between by the pandemic, the London organising committee agreed to provide a minimum of 80,000 euro to this group.

1826 abstracts were submitted, all going through a two-stage process that including the submission of a video presentation. 1508 were accepted (963 oral, 545 poster). This is in addition to 730 invited talks that link with the Instructional Course Book on Tendon Disorders of the Hand and Wrist. The book has 33 chapters, contributed by 40 authors, and is published by Thieme. It will be available to those registered in the surgical component of the joint congress, and then be for sale after the congress.

A special component of this meeting is the Travelling Fellowship. This is the first time such a programme has been attempted. 32 fellows were selected from over 200 applicants. They represent 5 continents and are split across 18 UK hand surgery centres

for two weeks. All came to London for the weekend preceding the congress, joining together for educational and social events. This programme cost in excess of GBP 120,000. Those from the high income countries paid for their own flights but received registration, local travel and gala dinner (budgeted GBP 3000-4000 each), whereas those from LMIC also received travel assistance. The IFSSH contributed the US\$20,000 that is usually set aside for disadvantaged registrants. These Fellows have had an experience that they will always remember and forged friendships for their careers, through the social and scientific programmes of the Fellowship and the congress.

David Shewring thanked all for their support of the social programmes, with the Congress Dinner yet to come at Old Billingsgate tonight.

The BSSH is proud of the congress they have delivered. It is expected that the congress will end with a profit to make contributions to the IFSSH and FESSH.

On behalf of the Delegates' Council, Raja Sabapathy thanked David Shewring and all involved in the preparations for this wonderful congress.

12. 16th IFSSH Congress – Washington D.C., 2025

James Chang and John Lubahn, representing the ASSH and AAHS respectively, addressed the Delegates' Council.

James Chang explained that this is a jointly hosted congress and will reflect the overall "Hand Surgery in America" rather than a meeting hosted by the AAHS or ASSH alone. The organisational structure will involve the ASSH taking the lead role for the meeting arrangements and finance. The ASSH and AAHS will be joined by their therapy colleagues, the ASHT, to deliver a joint congress. The organising chairs from each group are currently constructing their sub-committees and are delighted to be in London to participate and learn from this successful event.

The congress will be held from March 23rd-28th 2025 in Washington D.C.. This timing coincides with the cherry blossom festival. The Marriott Marquis will be the site, chosen for its large space for 3500 attendees and convenient location to the city's sights. Accommodation will be available to suit all budgets and transportation options are numerous/easy.

A video presentation followed.

13. 17th IFSSH Congress, 2028 - host selection

The submissions of the two bidding societies were provided in advance, as per the Congress Guidelines, to all Delegates.

Raja Sabapathy invited a representative from each group to present their bid.

Chao Chen presented the bid of the Association of Chinese Speaking Hand Surgeons United (ACU) through a pre-recorded video, followed by Mark Puhaindran with the bid of the Singapore Hand Surgery Society (SHSS).

An anonymous, confidential vote was undertaken with each eligible society and ExCo member receiving the opportunity to submit one vote each.

Daniel Nagle announced that the **Singapore Hand Surgery Society** (SHSS) had received the majority of the votes and would be awarded the hosting rights of the 2028 IFSSH Congress.

14. IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery

Raja Sabapathy introduced the IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery, explaining that this is a new concept designed to give more societies the opportunity to host an IFSSH event whilst increasing the educational exposure worldwide.

Similar to the IFSSH Triennial Congress, the Mid-Term Course will also be held once every three years. It will be mid-way between the IFSSH Congresses and may be hosted by a society in the geographic regions not involved in the preceding or subsequent IFSSH Congress. For example, the 2022 Congress is in London (European/African region), the 2025 Congress is in Washington, D.C. (North/Central American region). Therefore the bids for the host of the IFSSH Mid-Term Course to be held in 2023/2024 are to come from the South American and Asian-Pacific Regions.

Raja Sabapathy clarified that this is a course, not a congress, and the concept is to provide lectures and symposia to trainees but also to all levels of surgeons. Whilst the bids are based on geographical regions, the course will be open to all regions of the world.

This is the first course and ideas and concepts will develop throughout the planning. The rationale developed when the IFSSH ExCo presented the proposal to move from triennial to biennial congresses, which was defeated by the Council, and then this model was suggested to provide interim educational and hosting opportunities.

Bids have been received, and distributed to all Delegates, from:

- The Australian Hand Surgery Society (AHSS)
- The Bolivian Hand Surgery Society (ABOCIMA)
- The Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society (ECUMANO)
- The Thai Society for Surgery of the Hand (TSSH)

The bids were presented in the above order by Randy Bindra, Jorge Terrazas Callisperis, Fidel Cayon and Tulyapruek Tawonsawatruk respectively.

Daniel Nagle explained that voting would occur until one society reached an outright majority.

Round 1: No outright majority, Australia removed as the society with the least votes

Round 2: No outright majority, Bolivia removed as the society with the least votes

Round 3: **The Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society** was awarded the hosting rights of the 2023/24 IFSSH Mid-Term Course after receiving the majority of votes.

15. 2022 Executive and Nominating Committees

Zsolt Szabo, Chair of the IFSSH Nominating Committee, reminded the Delegates' Council that this is the first use of the 2020 bylaws regarding the expansion and alteration of the IFSSH Executive Committee and Nominating committee. This is a great advance for the IFSSH, with the intent to increase transparency and have more opportunities for involvement in the committees, as well as ensuring that there is regional representation. As with any advance, this has required a lot of work behind the scenes and patience from the Delegates, and the current ExCo is appreciative of the support.

Some positions are retained by automatic succession. Zsolt Szabo announced that:

- Marc Garcia-Elias moves from President to Past President;
- Daniel Nagle moves from President Elect to President; and
- Raja Sabapathy moves from Secretary-General to President Elect.

All other positions are to be appointed by election, subject to the criteria described for each position in the application process. Submissions were approved by the IFSSH Nominating Committee and provided to the IFSSH Delegates prior to the meeting through the website's "Delegate Area".

One valid submission was received for the position of IFSSH Secretary-General: David Warwick.

One valid submission was received for the position of IFSSH Communications Direction: Jin Bo Tang.

Zsolt Szabo announced the Executive Committee to this point would be comprised of:

- **Past President – Marc Garcia-Elias**
- **President - Daniel Nagle**
- **President Elect - Raja Sabapathy**
- **Secretary-General – David Warwick**
- **Communications Director – Jin Bo Tang**

He requested that this be accepted by the Delegates' Council membership.
Carried unanimously.

Voting processes need to occur for all further positions, with multiple candidates for each. Daniel Nagle explained that this would follow the same format as the voting for the Mid-Term Course, with an outright majority being required for election.

Zsolt Szabo announced that five (5) Executive Committee Members-at-Large would be elected, based on the IFSSH geographic regions.

The candidates for the Asian-Pacific region were announced:

- Gregory Bain and Ryosuke Kakinoki

- Gregory Bain was named as Executive Committee Member-at-Large (Asia-Pacific) with the majority vote.

The candidates for the North/Central American region were announced:

- Juan Ramon Bonfil Ojeda and Jorge Clifton Correa
- Jorge Clifton Correa was named as Executive Committee Member-at-Large (North/Central America) with the majority vote.

The candidates for the South American region were announced:

- Henriques de Barros Pinto Netto and Aida Garcia Gomez
- Aida Garcia Gomez was named as Executive Committee Member-at-Large (South America) with the majority vote.

The candidates for the European/African region were announced:

- Piotr Czarnecki, Francisco del Pinal, Leila Harhaus, David Shewring and Pierluigi Tos
- Round 1: no outright majority, Pierluigi Tos removed
- Round 2: no outright majority, Piotr Czarnecki and Leila Harhaus removed with tied votes
- Francisco del Pinal and David Shewring were named as Executive Committee Member-at-Large (Europe/Africa).

Zsolt Szabo announced the 2022 incoming Executive Committee is:

- **Past President – Marc Garcia-Elias**
- **President - Daniel Nagle**
- **President Elect - Raja Sabapathy**
- **Secretary-General – David Warwick**
- **Communications Director – Jin Bo Tang**
- **Executive Committee Member-at-Large (Asia-Pacific) - Gregory Bain**
- **Executive Committee Member-at-Large (North/Central America) - Jorge Clifton Correa**
- **Executive Committee Member-at-Large (South America) - Aida Garcia Gomez**
- **Executive Committee Member-at-Large (Europe/Africa) - Francisco del Pinal**
- **Executive Committee Member-at-Large (Europe/Africa) - David Shewring**

The IFSSH Nominating Committee will also include new membership of two (2) Members-at-Large. These positions are not within the Executive Committee. Zsolt Szabo announced the candidates:

- Peter Amadio, Andrew Chin, Ilse Degreef, Carlos Henrique Fernandes
- Round 1: no outright majority, Carlos Henrique Fernandes removed
- Round 2: no outright majority, Andrew Chin removed
- Peter Amadio and Ilse Degreef were named as Nominating Committee Members-at-Large.

Zsolt Szabo announced the full membership of the 2022 incoming IFSSH Nominating Committee is now:

- **Past President – Marc Garcia-Elias (Chair)**
- **Previous Past President – Zsolt Szabo**
- **President - Daniel Nagle**

- **Nominating Committee Member-at-Large: Peter Amadio**
- **Nominating Committee Member-at-Large: Ilse Degreef**

The Delegates' Council congratulated all on their appointments.

16. Business arising from Executive Committee Meeting

Daniel Nagle explained to the Delegates that the Executive Committee has reviewed the position of the IFSSH following the 2020 bylaws that introduced the biennial structures of the Executive Committee appointments. As these were intended to complement the proposed biennial congress structure, but that latter proposal was defeated, the IFSSH is now in a position in which the committee terms and congresses do not align. This will be further reviewed and discussed with the Delegates' Council again in the near future, most likely with a proposal to return to the triennial committee structure.

17. New business

Nil raised.

18. IFSSH Allied Organisations

Each of the five IFSSH Allied Organisations were invited to submit written reports for inclusion in the minutes:

- International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT) – Appendix A
- Asia-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH)
- Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH)
- Latin American Federation for Hand Surgery (FLACM) – Appendix B
- Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI)

19. Next meeting of the IFSSH Delegates' Council

2023 - within ASSH: October 5-7, Toronto, Canada

2024 - within FESSH: June 26 - 29, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2025 - IFSSH: March 23-28, Washington D.C., USA

Meeting closed 2:45pm

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019 - 2022

President,	<u>Nicola Goldsmith</u> (U.K.)
President-Elect,	<u>Peggy Boineau</u> (U.S.)
Secretary General,	<u>Maureen Hardy</u> (U.S.)
Treasurer,	<u>Stacey Doyon</u> (U.S.)
Information Officer,	<u>Susan De Klerk</u> (South Africa)
Past President,	<u>Anne Wajon</u> (Australia)

We have been working hard to meet the goals and priorities that were set for the three-year period. Owing to the world pandemic, the IFSHT president has been unable to attend congresses around the world as would be standard practice. Several countries have invited Nicola to give a presentation or message for their virtual conferences helping IFSHT stay in touch with members.

MAIN GOALS 2019-2022

- Work with and support the British Association of Hand Therapists (BAHT) towards the next IFSHT Congress in London 2022
 - See below
- Initiate the mentorship programme from full member countries to associate and corresponding members
 - This is now active and many of the mentor countries and mentee countries are regularly in touch with each other helping the emerging countries to grow their hand therapy infrastructure.
- Launch new publication (R.E.A.C.H)
 - Four editions of R.E.A.C.H have now been published. All past editions can be found on the IFSHT website following this link. <https://ifsht.org/publications/>
 - Ezine, the IFSHT contribution to the IFSSH magazine continues. There are some super articles https://www.ifssh.info/ifssh_ezine.php.
- Rethink the Commercial membership category and replace with sponsorship options
 - This is ready for re-launch in 2022
- Commission, design and implement a new website
 - The new website is up and running.
- Review all grants and awards
 - See below
- Develop Publications Committee
 - The new publications committee is thriving. Mia Erickson, Daniel Harte, Toni Rippey, Tsitsi Morove and Corey McGee are producing R.E.A.C.H and Ezine four times a year
- Develop a “procedures manual” for each of the roles in the IFSHT ExCo for future post-holders

IFSHT MEMBERSHIP

Full members x 37

Associate members x 7

Total = 56

Corresponding member x 12



FULL

New members 2019 - 2022:

- Fiji (Corresponding)
- Nigeria (Corresponding)
- Ethiopia (Corresponding)
- Poland (Full)



ASSOCIATE

Potential new members moving forwards to 2022 - 2025:

- Romania
- Chinese speaking countries
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Egypt
- Rwanda
- Russia
- Pakistan



CORRESPONDING

ANNUAL DELEGATES MEETING INITIATED

In June 2021 we hosted the first annual delegates meeting online and had exceptional representation from our member countries. This will become an annual event to keep our members in touch with the Executive Committee and IFSHT activities.

TRIENNIAL CONGRESSES

Congress 2022: London from June 6th – 10th

Special thanks go to Fiona Sandford and Helen Buchanan for the exceptional therapy scientific programme truly representing the world of hand therapy and to Christy Fowler for heading up the organisational committee.

Congress 2025: Washington DC from March 29th – April 3rd

Scientific co-chair from ASHT, Aviva Wolff. IFSHT co-chair to be identified end 2022/early 2023

Congress 2028:

- Liaison with surgeons leading the bids for Singapore and the Chinese-speaking countries
- OPTIONS:
 - 1. Joint congress with the surgeons in Singapore (if they choose Singapore)
 - 2. Therapy only congress in South Africa

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- **Evelyn Mackin Grant.** This year we have sponsored five therapists to attend the triennial congress from Kuwait, Bulgaria, Ghana, Fiji and Bhutan. The ability to support these therapists depends on the monies from the Silent Auction, IFSSH and individual donations.
- **Triennial Congress Travel Grant.** This year we have partially supported ten therapists to attend the congress. Supported therapists come from Mexico, Bangladesh, USA, Argentina, New Zealand, India, Ethiopia and South Africa.

Without the financial help of IFSSH, these grants would not have been possible. The IFSHT executive thank IFSSH very much for the incredible help they give us to perform our mission.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award.** This award is for hand therapists who have contributed to the world of hand therapy and gives IFSHT an opportunity to recognize our hand therapy greats.
 - **Ten therapists will be awarded this accolade in 2022**
- **Cristina Alegri Innovation Award.** This award was launched in 2019 at Berlin. For London 2022 we had four excellent applications demonstrating the creativity and imagination of hand therapists from around the world. The winner will be announced in the Therapy Opening Ceremony on Tuesday 7th June.

SILENT AUCTION

The silent auction will take place at London 2022 on Thursday 9th June. This is the one fund-raising activity carried out by IFSHT each triennial congress and will provide funds to assist therapists who otherwise would not be able to attend IFSHT 2025 in Washington.

This year, for the first time, we are using an app, Galabid, to list donated items. This will enable therapists and surgeons who are attending in person and virtually. Additionally, by going digital and virtual on Galabid, we are able to offer both physical items and promises.



WEBSITE

The IFSHT website has been completely renewed during this triennium. Aubergine 262, UK were appointed web designers and they continue to provide back-up services. The new website provides new functionality including applications for awards, grants and IFSHT committee posts online, a payment portal using Stripe (credit card capability) and a more visually pleasing and modern layout.

TRAVEL

Owing to the world Covid-19 pandemic, presidential travel has been severely affected. The only meeting attended by the president was the superb Asia Pacific meeting in Melbourne in March 2020 just as the pandemic hit. The president has also been to Bulgaria to teach in the year they have founded the hand therapy association and will hopefully make the delayed Polish meeting.

Nicola Goldsmith, President, 2019-2022

Appendix B: FLACM Report

REPORT FROM

THE LATIN AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR HAND SURGERY

By Jefferson **BRAGA SILVA**: Delegate

From December 9th to 11th, 2021, the 18th Congress of Latin America Federation for Hand Surgery (Federación Latinoamericana de Cirugía de la Mano) took place in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. There were more than 500 delegates from Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Chile. During this Congress, the General Assembly approved the ATA (*General Assembly decided to accept the challenge, changing the name of the Federation and the consequent bylaws to LATIN AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR SURGERY OF THE HAND, and incorporate Central American countries (Spanish speaking language) into the existing Federation*) which was discussed at the 17th Congress of the South American Federation, August 2019 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. The Guatemalan and Costa Rica Hand Surgery Associations were accepted and welcome to the *LATIN AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR HAND SURGERY*, following unanimous approval. During that same General Assembly, the doctors Alejandro **ESPINOSA GUTIERREZ** (espinosaalejandro@gmail.com) and Jose Gerardo **ZARATE RAMIREZ** (dr.zarate.cirugiademano@gmail.com) from Mexico assumed as President and General Secretary, respectively, of *FLACM* for the period 2022-2023. With a commitment to hold a monthly webinar in order to give the opportunity to a greater number of Societies to participate and

collaborate actively and programmed that the Annual Course of the Federation will take place in Panama (20 - 22 October 2022) and another Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico, (15 - 18 November 2023). We will also design an Itinerant Latin-American Fellowship to support the development of young hand surgeons by attending qualified training centers to complement their training and, with the main objective of expanding Hand Surgery in Latin America.



JORNADA DE LA FEDERACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA
DE CIRUGÍA DE LA MANO



Lesiones escafolunares estáticas reductibles. Visión actual.



Guillermo Maujo
COORDINADOR
Mesa Redonda 1

WEBINAR

12 de mayo de 2022
20:00 hrs.
(Horario de Argentina)
Transmitido por







Enrique Pereira



Pablo De Carli



Ezequiel Zaidenberg



Martín Pastrana



Gustavo Gómez


www.aacmyrms.org


[aacmyrms](https://www.youtube.com/aacmyrms)


[@aacm_arg](https://www.instagram.com/aacm_arg)


[/cirugiamano](https://www.facebook.com/cirugiamano)

During that same General Assembly, Sergio **DARODA** (sergiodaroda@gmail.com) and Fernando **MENVIELLE** (fernandomenvielle@gmail.com) from Argentina, were elected

respectively, President and Secretary General of FLACM for the period 2024-2025 and Jefferson **BRAGA SILVA** was elected as a FLACM Delegate for the IFSSH.

The *FLACM* will work hard to develop and strengthen hand surgery as a medical specialty, assisting in scientific exchange and integration of Societies and their member hand surgeons.

Jose Gerardo ZARATE RAMIREZ	Alejandro ESPINOSA GUTIERREZ
General Secretary of FLACM	President of FLACM
(2022-2023)	(2022-2023)

Fernando MENVIELLE	Sergio DARODA
General Secretary of FLACM	President of FLACM
(2024-2025)	(2024-2025)

Jefferson **BRAGA SILVA**
Delegate of FLACM for the IFSSH.