



IFSSH Newsletter

July 2022

Message from the Outgoing Secretary-General: S. Raja Sabapathy

Performing the role of the Secretary-General in an International organization can be a great experience. For me it was enjoyable as I was working with a great team led by President Marc Garcia-Elias and our administrative secretary, Belinda, who is extraordinarily efficient. It was eventful as we made a good overhaul of the By-laws governing the IFSSH to make it more vibrant. It was satisfying as we introduced the concept of the Mid-term Course in Hand Surgery which will also help to make the IFSSH more visible. Most importantly, many countries came out of their travel restrictions of the pandemic, and we had a wonderful in-person IFSSH congress in London. On a personal note, it was a pleasure to work with the local organizing committee led by David Shewring, Jonathan Hobby and Wee Lam and congress organizers Asszisztencia.

I hand over the baton to David Warwick who I am sure will help steer the IFSSH to greater heights in its quest to promote Hand surgery worldwide.

Message from the Incoming Secretary-General: David Warwick

It is a privilege to take over the baton of Secretary General from Raja Sabapathy. I would like to thank him for all his contributions so far and for all his future involvement as President Elect and then President.

Having worked as the Historian for the past 6 years, I have seen the remarkable support provided by Belinda, our Administrative Secretary. Without her institutional knowledge, dedication and efficiency, the role of Secretary-General would be impossible. As it would be without the dedication and contribution of the entire Executive Committee. I look forward to working with the Executive Committee - our President Dan Nagle, the new Communications Director Jin Bo Tang, President Elect Raja, Past President Marc Garcia-Elias and of course our expanded pool of Members-at-Large and new Nominating Committee - to maintain and grow the wonderful role that the IFSSH assumes in the world of hand surgery.

15th IFSSH Congress, London: June 6-10, 2022

The 15th triennial IFSSH Congress was a spectacular week of reconnecting with colleagues in person in London. Over 3600 hand surgeons and therapists from 89 countries participated in the congress, experiencing a sophisticated scientific programme and enjoying the social events.

2022 IFSSH Pioneers of Hand Surgery

The tradition of inducting IFSSH Pioneers of Hand Surgery continued at the Opening Ceremony, with 28 surgeons honoured:

- Peter Amadio** - American Association for Hand Surgery
- Ronaldo Jorge Azze** - Brazilian Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Jacques Baudet** - French Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Duke Whan Chung** - Korean Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Abraham Cuperman Donskoy** - Colombian Association for Surgery of the Hand
- José Mauricio de Moraes Carmo** - Brazilian Society for Surgery of the Hand
- David Elliot** - British Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Marybeth Ezaki** - American Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Alexandru Georgescu** - Romanian Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Rolf Habenicht** - German Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Leiv M. Hove** - Norwegian Society for Surgery of the Hand
- William B. Kleinman** - American Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Simon Kay** - British Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Bhaskaranand Kumar** - Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Susan E. Mackinnon** - American Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Murray Hugh Matthewson** - British Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Duncan Angus McGrouther** - British Society for Surgery of the Hand; Singapore Society for Hand Surgery
- A. Lee Osterman** - American Association for Hand Surgery; American Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Timo Raatikainen** - Finnish Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Yolanda Restrepo De Marriaga** - Colombian Association for Surgery of the Hand
- Robert Russell** - American Association for Hand Surgery
- Francois Schernberg** - French Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Beat R. Simmen** - Swiss Society of Hand Surgery
- Michael A. Tonkin** - Australian Hand Surgery Society
- Allen Van Beek** - American Association for Hand Surgery
- Catherine Vlastou** - Hellenic Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Batia Yaffe** - Israeli Society for Surgery of the Hand
- Fok-Chuan Yong** - Singapore Society for Hand Surgery

The IFSSH extends its sincere gratitude to all Pioneers for their contributions to the field of hand surgery.

2022 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting

The annual IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting was held on Wednesday 8th June with a number of important decisions reached. As described in the revised Bylaws, the Executive and Nominating Committees have been expanded to allow for greater participation, regional representation and increased transparency. We thank all who submitted nominations and congratulate those who were appointed:

Incoming IFSSH Executive Committee

Past-President (by succession): **Marc Garcia-Elias**

President (by succession): **Daniel Nagle**

President-Elect (by succession): **Raja Sabapathy**

Secretary-General: **David Warwick**

Communications Director: **Jin Bo Tang**

Members-at-Large:

- Asia-Pacific: **Gregory Bain**

- North and Central America: **Jorge Clifton Correa**

- South America: **Aida Garcia Gomez**

- Europe and Africa (x2): **Francisco del Piñal** and **David Shewring**

Incoming IFSSH Nominating Committee

Past-President (automatic appointment to committee): **Marc Garcia-Elias** (Chair)

President (automatic appointment to committee): **Daniel Nagle**

Members-at-Large: **Ilse Degreef** and **Peter Amadio**

2024 IFSSH Mid-Term Course

The Delegates' Council also selected the host society for the inaugural IFSSH Mid-Term Course. Four competitive bids were presented by the Australian Hand Surgery Society, Bolivian Association of Hand Surgery, Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society, and Thai Society for Surgery of the Hand. The **Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society** was successful and will host the course in February 2024. This is a great achievement for a recently established society and we look forward to supporting their progress as they plan this course.

2028 IFSSH Triennial Congress

The 2028 IFSSH Triennial Congress Host was also selected. After informative and entertaining bids, the **Singapore Hand Surgery Society** was selected over the Association of Chinese-Speaking Hand Surgeons United. Congratulations to all involved in the preparation of the Singaporean bid.

Further general business matters will be detailed in subsequent newsletters.

Future Meetings

A detailed list of national and regional hand surgery meetings is available on the IFSSH website. The triennial IFSSH Congresses are as follows:

1st IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery – Ecuador

14th – 17th February, 2024

XVIth IFSSH – XIIIth IFSHT Congress – Washington D.C., USA

23rd - 28th March, 2025

XVIIth IFSSH – IVth IFSHT Congress – Singapore

23rd – 27th October, 2028 (TBC)

With very best wishes

David Warwick

Secretary-General, IFSSH

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