



IFSSH Newsletter August 2024

Message from the Secretary-General

2024 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting

We were delighted to be joined by a large group of IFSSH Delegates at our annual council meeting, held in June in Rotterdam (within the FESSH annual Congress).

We are thrilled to **welcome** the Sri Lankan Society for Surgery of the Hand to IFSSH membership. We also were pleased to be able to extend invitations to this year's Delegates' Council meeting to the Delegates of the Georgian Society for Surgery of the Hand and Emirates Hand Surgery Society, as both of these groups were admitted to IFSSH membership in 2023. The IFSSH continues to grow – now with **64 societies** from 62 nations and with more membership enquiries to be finalised in the near future.

Our **finances** are fairly healthy- our investments have made some money recently but that can just as easily fall. But IFSSH needs more money.

The **IFSSH Patron of Hand Surgery** programme was announced- developed by Greg Bain, our aim is to raise US\$5 million, the interest from which will fund a greatly expanded educational programme so we can grow our core mission- educating the world about hand surgery. That will leave our other revenues- from society dues, congress profits investments and bank interest- to support existing programmes and to expand our Secretariat. You will hear more over the coming months and years.

Patron of Hand Surgery Donation Program

Aim: To gain and maintain adequate funds to support growth of the IFSSH mission

Target: US \$5,000,000 - Grants \$150,000 / year

Why donate: To provide access to learning opportunities and educational programs, particularly to young hand surgeons and those from low- and middle-income countries, including through:

- Travelling fellowships
- International meeting attendance grants
- Visiting professorships
- Collaborative educational programs
- Outreach programs
- Online resources

To donate:

- Single/multiple
- Bequeath - a gift in your will / estate

You may choose to have your name added to donor list



https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php

Communication is so important- the website and social media were presented by our Communication Director Jin Bo Tang. Please all look at the website www.ifssh.info and follow IFSSH on X and Instagram @IFSSHHand

Urgent Calls for Nominations and Applications

The IFSSH has issued its Call for Nominations/Applications at the 2024 IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting, as well as in previous newsletters and emails to Delegates. There are five items that will be awarded when we meet in March 2025 in Washington, D.C.:

1. 2025 Pioneers of Hand Surgery - https://ifssh.info/pioneers_hand_surgery.php
2. 2025 Elections: Executive Committee and Nominating Committee members - https://ifssh.info/2025_committee_elections.php
3. 18th IFSSH Triennial Congress (to be held 2031) - <https://ifssh.info/guidelines.php>
4. 2nd IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery (to be held 2026-2027) - <https://ifssh.info/guidelines-to-host-anIFSSH-mid-term-course.php>
5. 3rd IFSSH Mid-Term Course (to be held 2029-2030) - <https://ifssh.info/guidelines-to-host-anIFSSH-mid-term-course.php>

Four of these matters require action by **24th September 2024**:

- 2025 Pioneers of Hand Surgery
 - Applications due by **24th September 2024**. No late applications will be accepted.
- 18th IFSSH Triennial Congress (to be held 2031)
 - Host societies interested in bidding must register their intent by **24th September 2024**
- 2nd IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery (to be held 2026-2027)
 - Host societies interested in bidding must register their intent by **24th September 2024**
- 3rd IFSSH Mid-Term Course (to be held 2029-2030)
 - Host societies interested in bidding must register their intent *by 24th September 2024*

Please refer to the relevant pages on the IFSSH website for full eligibility details, guidelines and application processes.

As ever, please contact me if you have any ideas or questions or concerns – davidwarwick@handsurgery.co.uk or +44 7887 651451

David

Prof David Warwick

Secretary-General, IFSSH



Committee for Educational Sponsorship (CES) report

Dr S. Raja Sabapathy provided the Delegates with an update of the IFSSH CES activities:

- The IFSSH has provided \$20,000 support towards the upcoming 2025 IFSSH-AAHS/ASSH Travelling Fellowships. This program received an exceptional number of applications and 24 worthy candidates have been selected to attend hand surgery centres on the US East Coast on their journey to the IFSSH-IFSSH Triennial Congress in Washington, D.C..
- A grant of \$20,000 was provided to the Ecuadorian Society to assist with their organisation of the 1st IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery. This is an ongoing pledge to all future hosts of the IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery, to contribute towards the international guest speakers.
- The CES has provided financial assistance (US\$2,000) to co-sponsor an educational program in China. This was undertaken in June 2024 and involved hand surgeons from Eastern China travelling to three cities in Western China, providing lectures and workshops to colleagues in those regions.

- The Textbook of Hand Surgery continues to progress. The IFSSH has provided \$18,000 towards the production of this publication that will be released in 2025.
- Ongoing funding will be provided to the Hand Surgery Resource, which is now an educational asset of the IFSSH with oversight by Dr Larry Hurst.

The IFSSH now calls for submissions from societies wishing to host an IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor. Dr Steven Moran was the inaugural Professor, travelling to Australia in 2020. Prof Jin Bo Tang then received this honour and undertook an intensive program of lectures, courses, workshops and teachings in Poland in 2023. If your society wishes to be a part of this Visiting Professorship program, please forward an application – the guidelines are available via https://ifssh.info/educational_sponsorship.php

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:

XVIth IFSSH – XIIIth IFSHT Congress

Washington D.C., USA
24th - 28th March, 2025



XVIIth IFSSH – IVth IFSHT Congress

Singapore
23rd – 27th October, 2028



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