



## MINUTES

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

**12:30pm, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Willem Burger Hal - De Doelen ICC  
Schouwburgplein 50, 3012 CL Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Daniel Nagle opened the meeting at 12:40pm and requested David Warwick to chair.

Brigitte van der Heijden (FESSH Secretary-General) welcomed the IFSSH Executive, Delegates and guests to Rotterdam and the FESSH Congress.

#### 1. Present

Daniel Nagle	President
S. Raja Sabapathy	President Elect; India (proxy)
Marc Garcia-Elias	Immediate Past President
David Warwick	Secretary-General
Jin Bo Tang	Communications Director
Greg Bain	Member-at-Large (Asia-Pacific)
Francisco del Piñal	Member-at-Large (Europe/Africa)
David Shewring	Member-at-Large (Europe/Africa); IFSSH 2022 London
Aida Garcia Gomez	Member-at-Large (South America)
Peter Amadio	Nominating Committee Member-at-Large
Ilse Degreef	Nominating Committee Member-at-Large
Belinda Smith	Administrative Secretary
Eduardo Zancolli	Argentina
Roland Hicks	Australia
Filip Stockmans	Belgium
Marcelo Rosa Rezende	Brazil (proxy)
Francisco Mellibosky	Chile (proxy)
Jing Chen	Chinese-Speaking United (proxy)
Ales Fibir	Czech Republic (proxy)
Fidel Cayón	Ecuador; Mexican Association (proxy)
Heidi Vastamaki	Finland (proxy)
Pascal Jehanno	France (proxy)
Joerg van Schoonhoven	Germany
Zoe Dailiana	Greece
Margaret Fok	Hong Kong (proxy); APFSSH
Shai Luria	Israel
Andrea Atzei	Italy
Ryosuke Kakinoki	Japan
Jihyeung Kim	Korea (proxy)
Martin Kapickis	Latvia
Tom van Mulken	Netherlands (proxy)
Sandeep Patel	New Zealand (proxy)
Katrin Valen Ek	Norway (proxy)
Irek Walaszek	Poland

José Alexandre Marques	Portugal
Alexandru Georgescu	Romania
Sia Wei Tee	Singapore (proxy)
Grant Biddulph	South Africa
Higinio Ayala Gutiérrez	Spain
Melanie Amarasooriya	Sri Lanka
Esther Vögelin	Switzerland
Yin-Chih Fu	Taiwan
Ömer Berköz	Turkey (proxy)
Gillian Smith	UK
David Ruch	USA - AAHS
Julie Katarincic	USA - ASSH
James Chang	IFSSH 2025 Washington D.C.
Jeff Friedrich	IFSSH 2025 Washington D.C.
Melissa Garcia	USA - ASSH guest

## 2. Apologies / Proxies

Jorge Clifton Correa	Member-at-Large (North/Central America)
Rohit Arora	Austria
Milton Bernardes Pignataro	Brazil
Sebastian von Unger	Chile
Bohumil Zalesak	Czech Republic
Pasi Paavilainen	Finland
Anil Bhat	India
Goo Hyun Baek	Korea
J. Emmanuel Ruiz Aguilar	Mexico - AMCM
Anne JH Vochteloo	Netherlands
Robert Rowan	New Zealand
Rasmus Thorkildsen	Norway
Sreedharan Sechachalam	Singapore
Özgün Barış Güntürk	Turkey
Sergio Daroda	Allied Organisation - FLACM

## 3. Confirmation of previous minutes

*Motion: "To accept the minutes as a true record of the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 Delegates' Council Meeting"*

Proposed: Roland Hicks

Seconded: Gill Smith

Carried unanimously

## 4. President's Report

Daniel Nagle presented his report to the Delegates:

*On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to thank the Delegates for your continuing support of the IFSSH and for taking the time from your practices and private lives to participate in this Delegates' Council meeting and the IFSSH.*

*I also would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the members of the Executive Committee and Belinda Smith for all their hard work during the past year. The ExCo has joined the Zoom generation meeting quarterly and sometimes more often. Thank you!*

*Much has been accomplished since we last met in Toronto. I am very pleased to announce that as of December 1, 2023, the IFSSH officially acquired Professor Larry Hurst's Hand Surgery Resource. Dr. Hurst offered this amazing resource to the IFSSH at no cost. Dr. Hurst felt the IFSSH would be the best organization to house and, more importantly, preserve and maintain the Hand Surgery Resource. More on this in the Committee for Educational Sponsorship report.*

*The first Midterm Course was held in Quito, Ecuador, from January 31 through February 3 of this year, in spite of a national security alert. You will hear more about that from Dr. Fidel Cayon. I must, however, take this opportunity to thank Dr. Cayon, Dr. Gabriel Alegria, President of the Ecuadorian Hand Society, and their team for their courage and tenacity and for putting on a spectacular course at the "center of the world."*

*March found our Secretary General David Warwick and me in Washington, DC, for the Triennial Congress site visit. The ASSH has taken on the dual roles of host society and professional congress organizer (PCO). Natalie Hinman, the ASSH Director of meetings, is coordinating the PCO side, while Jim Chang, past President of the ASSH, is doing a superb job chairing the IFSSH Triennial Congress Committee. David Ruch, President of the American Association for Hand Surgery (AAHS) and Nash Naam, AAHS Immediate Past President, spearheaded the amazingly popular Pre-congress Traveling Fellowship. Drs. Chang and Ruch have much to share with you in their reports.*

*The ExCo understands the increasing importance of social media in 21st-century communications. Professor Jin Bo Tang, our Communications Director, will, among other things, update you on how the IFSSH is leveraging electronic communications to promote its mission.*

*I believe we are approaching a pivotal moment in the Federation's history. We have come a long way since 1966, when the IFSSH was founded by eight hand surgeons on a cold January day in Chicago during the annual American Society for Surgery of the Hand meeting. Interestingly, while the IFSSH was founded in 1966, its first meeting was not held until 1980, right here in Rotterdam. Also, it's interesting to note that our logo was designed by the Dutch artist Kees DeVries.*

*From its inception, the Federation has been dedicated to the dissemination of hand surgery knowledge around the world. Initially, this involved the publication of a textbook on hand surgery nomenclature. This expanded to include the work product of the IFSSH Scientific Committees, which produced expert opinion monographs covering many areas of hand surgery. Since 1980, the IFSSH Triennial Congresses have constituted a significant Federation activity. However, over time, the philanthropic activities of the IFSSH have increased thanks to the gradual improvement of the Federation's financial health. It is the ExCo's perception that to continue, and to expand such philanthropic endeavors, the IFSSH must identify additional funding sources beyond dues payments. To that end, the ExCo has begun considering the creation of an IFSSH fundraising campaign. Greg Bain has created a proposed capital campaign roadmap, while I have been investigating the engagement of professional fundraising consulting firms. Dr. Greg Bain will provide an update on this project.*

*Thank you again for your support. I look forward to an exciting nine months as we prepare for the 16th Triennial Congress in beautiful Washington, DC. Please put March 24 -28, 2025, on your calendars! I hope to see you there!*

## 5. Member Society applications

David Warwick advised that the Sri Lankan Society for Surgery of the Hand (SLSSH) has applied for IFSSH membership, with letters of support from the Indian, Malaysia and Singaporean hand surgery societies. The IFSSH ExCo has reviewed the application and recommends that the Delegates' Council admit SLSSH to IFSSH membership.

*Motion: To admit the Sri Lankan Society for Surgery of the Hand (SLSSH) to IFSSH membership.*

Proposed: David Warwick

Seconded: Raja Sabapathy

Carried unanimously

This decision will be conveyed to Dr Dilshan Muidasa (President, SLSSH) and Dr Gayan Ekanayake (Honorary Secretary, SLSSH). In their absence, Dr Melanie Amarasooriya, an SLSSH member, was welcomed to the IFSSH Delegates' Council Meeting.

## 6. Secretary-General's Report

### a. Finance Report

A spreadsheet of annual income and expenses was provided to the Delegates in advance of the meeting (Appendix A). David Warwick elaborated that the IFSSH income is mostly provided through annual membership dues (stable income), triennial congress profits (unpredictable and only every third year) and the investment portfolio (unstable income dependent on the stock market, with variable results over the IFSSH history).

The IFSSH treasury totals \$2,495,617.85 (at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024). There is a trend that financial outgoings are now exceeding the stable income with \$165K of expenses last year. The substantial portions of the expenses relate to CES grants, ExCo travel reimbursements, secretariat salaries, the Ezine, and legal/accounting fees. The acquisition of the Hand Surgery Resource will also now add to daily expenses.

The IFSSH treasury continues to grow but the basis of this is unstable income.

### b. Call for Nominations

David Warwick reminded Delegates that the Call for Nominations was shared through an official email to Delegates at the timing stipulated by the IFSSH policies, as well as within Secretary-General newsletters and the Ezine.

Items within the Call for Nominations are:

- 2025 Pioneers of Hand Surgery
- Executive Committee and Nominating Committee members: 2025-2028
  - Secretary-General (NB: 2025-2031 position)
  - Communications Director

- 5x Executive Committee Members-at-Large (regional representation)
- 2x Nominating Committee Members-at-Large
- 2nd IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery (2026-2027) host society
  - allocated to the Europe/Africa region
- 3rd IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery (2029-2030)
  - allocated to the North/Central America region
- 18th IFSSH Triennial Congress (2031) host society
  - allocated to the South America region

The submission process and deadlines for each are within the Call for Nominations documentation. All Delegates should discuss these items with their society Boards.

## 7. Committee for Educational Sponsorship (CES) Report

Raja Sabapathy, CES Chair, noted that the purpose of the IFSSH is to coordinate the activities of societies, further education and support practices of hand surgery across the world. The CES is pivotal at ensuring financial support is available where needed.

The acquisition of the Hand Surgery Resource (HSR) in 2023 is a huge asset to the IFSSH's education portfolio. This global online education program is available free of charge to any user worldwide. Dr Hurst will continue to oversee the HSR but the IFSSH will provide the financial support for its logistics.

The HSR newsletter is distributed to 18,000 people worldwide, demonstrating the reach and impact of its education. The intellectual property is a gift from Dr Hurst, for which the IFSSH is very grateful and will continue to build on.

To assist Dr Hurst with the workload of maintain the HSR and its content, the IFSSH has proposed the formation of the International Hand Surgery Resource Advisory Group (IHSRAG). There are 450 clinical sections included in the HSR, each reviewed over a 5 year cycle (i.e. 90 sections/year). The IHSRAG will share this load; the more IHSRAG members, the fewer sections that each individual needs to review. It is also a vehicle to share your specific knowledge on a topic.

Raja Sabapathy invited all IFSSH Delegates to become IHSRAG members. The current list is on the IFSSH website: <https://ifssh.info/hand-surgery-resource.php>. Any interested person should contact the IFSSH secretariat: [administration@ifssh.info](mailto:administration@ifssh.info).

Recent CES financial contributions to enabling and enhancing hand surgery education worldwide have included:

- \$20,000 to the 2025 IFSSH Congress hosts, specifically to be directed to the 2025 IFSSH-AAHS/ASSH Travelling Fellowship program. This was a great success in the UK in 2022 with young hand surgeons from all parts of the world joining together. The CES thanks the American hosts for continuing this, with the AAHS taking the lead role.

- \$18,000 pledged to the Current Practice of Hand Surgery textbook to support editorship and publication costs.
- \$2,000 provided to an educational tour in China: surgeons from Eastern China regions will travel to two Western China provinces to lecture and discuss cases. Traditionally the Western regions do not benefit from the same degree of exposure and education as the Eastern region, so this is an excellent way to share knowledge that is also cost-efficient.

Raja Sabapathy appealed to all Delegates to return to their society memberships and source more high-quality CES applications. The CES accepts applications at any time. The process is simple (refer to the Educational Sponsorship tab on the IFSSH website - [https://ifssh.info/educational\\_sponsorship.php](https://ifssh.info/educational_sponsorship.php)) and the submission outcome is delivered quickly.

He also highlighted the IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorship program. Dr Steven Moran was the inaugural Professor, travelling to Australia. Prof Jin Bo Tang then travelled to Poland in 2023 under this scheme.

Any IFSSH society is eligible to host an IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor. This enables a society to have a distinguished guest participating in activities in their country, while the IFSSH pays for transport and accommodation up to \$15,000) and provides the Professor with an honorarium. The Professor can lecture at meetings, join students and trainees for workshops, visit multiple centres and satellite meetings, teach in cadaver labs, or any other relevant activities that are planned.

The IFSSH is calling for applications for the next society to host an IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor. Delegates should consider this with their society's Board and apply as per the directions on the IFSSH website ([https://ifssh.info/educational\\_sponsorship.php](https://ifssh.info/educational_sponsorship.php)).

Irek Walaszek, the Polish IFSSH Delegate, passed on his society's thanks to Prof Jin Bo Tang for a memorable and educational visit and presented Prof Tang with a photobook of the Professorship. Dr Walaszek thanked the IFSSH for supporting this opportunity, which inspired the Polish hand surgeons and trainees, and noted such a program and distinguished guest would have been very difficult to fund locally.

## **8. Communication Director's Report (website, social media and Ezine)**

Jin Bo Tang explained that the IFSSH communication methods are used to unite the membership and enhance the mission of the Federation. This consists of X (Twitter), Instagram, and the Ezine – alongside the Secretary-General newsletters and ongoing emails.

Social media posts are prepared and published by the IFSSH Secretariat for the last 18 months, after the accounts were established by British colleagues. Rama Sudakar, the IFSSH Administrative Assistant appointed in December, has taken the lead with this. The posts recognise the planned activity of the IFSSH members – i.e. focussed at the society level. Future consideration is to be given to enhancing timely content. Delegates are requested to send news from their societies that can be shared by the IFSSH.

The website is continually updated. This is maintained by Mr Santhosh Kumar in India. The education sections are now very active, with a lot of resources available to all.

The Ezine is in its 14<sup>th</sup> year of digital publication. Future plans may include an alteration to three issues per year; the ExCo are considering content, cost and the role of the incoming Communications Director (for 2025-2028) in relation to this.

## 9. Philanthropy/Fundraising update

Greg Bain, Chair of the IFSSH Philanthropy Committee, addressed the IFSSH Delegates' Council to reveal the IFSSH Patron of Hand Surgery program - [https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php).

This program has been established to ensure that adequate funds are available to support educational projects and the IFSSH purpose into the future. An aim of raising US\$5 million has been set.

A presentation (Appendix B) was shown, explaining the donation process, its uses, and the impact that the IFSSH has on worldwide education. The beneficiaries of IFSSH educational funding each write reports and these are placed on the IFSSH website (<https://ifssh.info/ifssh-sponsored-educational-projects.php>) – the feedback is outstanding and the impact is wide-reaching.

The donation system has five designated tiers: Super platinum, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze. LMIC individuals are recognised by halving the donation amount required to reach each level.

A QR code has been generated – this takes the viewer to the IFSSH webpage where a donation can occur via bank transfer and, shortly, by credit card.



The presentation slides and QR code will be shared with Delegates via email following the meeting. Each delegate is requested to share this program with their society's membership.

Greg Bain noted that this is an opportunity for all hand surgeons to engage and give, as a means of supporting the hand surgeons of the future and their education as well as many regions through outreach support.

## 10. 1<sup>st</sup> IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery (2024) – Quito, Ecuador

Fidel Cayon, Chair of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery, provided the final report of this Course.

493 attendees joined the IFSSH Course in Quito, Ecuador (31 Jan – 3 Feb 2024). Five keynote speakers were invited utilising finance from the IFSSH. An unfortunate State of Emergency caused some difficulties but the meeting proceeded with excellent engagement from the keynote and invited speakers and registrants. A social evening was held at the “centre of the world” monument and was an outstanding success.

Fidel Cayon noted that the State of Emergency and its consequences on registration numbers (and increased costs for security measures) meant that the Course ended in debt. In Ecuador, insurance policies are not available for these types of incidents. It is also expected that invited speakers receive free registration but this was a large number for the Course and also impacted financially. The “Meet and greet” concept was introduced at this meeting, with registrants able to register/pay for a small informal group discussion with an expert. These were not fully subscribed. The organisers believed that the system could be a success in the future now that it has been introduced but it was a hard concept to promote at this first meeting.

On behalf of ECUMANO, Fidel Cayon thanked the ExCo and the Delegates’ Council for supporting an international meeting of this scale in Ecuador. Ecuador is a small society and only recently become an IFSSH member; this was an opportunity for the ECUMANO members to show their society and country to the international hand surgeons.

The ExCo and Delegates’ Council expressed their gratitude to Fidel Cayon and ECUMANO for the effort and dedication placed into the organisation of the 1<sup>st</sup> IFSSH Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery.

## **11. 16<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Congress (2025) – Washington D.C., USA**

Jim Chang, 2025 IFSSH Congress Chair, addressed the Delegates’ Council, noting that this was also on behalf of his AASH co-Chair, David Ruch. Melissa Garcia, ASSH CEO, was introduced, and acknowledgement given to Jeff Friedrich and Jeff Yao, the Scientific Program Chairs.

Jim Chang detailed that the site visit had occurred with members of the IFSSH, IFSHT, ASSH, AAHS and ASHT committees. This was in March, one year prior to the congress commencement, with the cherry blossoms were in full bloom.

Whilst the 2019 Berlin and 2022 London IFSSH meetings included FESSH involvement, the AAHS and ASSH will be proceeding with their own annual meetings in 2025 in addition to the 2025 IFSSH-IFSHT Congress. This makes registration numbers a little uncertain at this stage.

1462 abstract submissions were received, 600+ of these from outside of the US. These are under review at present. Half of the accepted papers will be from international presenters.



The location of the meeting has been carefully considered. The hotel and meeting are in the one space – for convenience and comfort, and no transport will be required. The site is 10 blocks to the White House. Major sites are all accessible.

The program remains similar to established templates used in Berlin and London. The final version will be released in November.

Prof Fu-Chan Wei has been invited to give the Swanson Lecture. The Presidential Lecture will be delivered by James Swanson, an American historian and author of novels, including “Manhunt” that has been turned into a TV series.

The textbook is underway, on the theme of Trauma Reconstruction.

Social events include the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception (Monday), the Presidents’ Dinner (Tuesday, invite only – the Spy Museum), a SPIN games night (Wednesday) and the Gala Dinner (Thursday – The Smithsonian American Art Museum). Gala tickets are limited to 900 and registrants are encouraged to purchase these early.

Entering the USA can be difficult for some nationalities. The local office has invitation letters available, for use in visa and immigration processes – registration is not required to get one of these letters. Delegates from countries that require visas are asked to share this information with their society membership. The visa process can take time so all should apply now!

The ASSH and AAHS are particularly proud of two schemes for this meeting:

- 1) the IFSSH-AAHS/ASSH Travelling Fellowship program, similar to the 2022 UK program. 24 Fellows will undertake visits to east coast hand surgery units and then join the congress.
- 2) A “Buy One, Get One Free” registration program for LMICs, enabling a registered surgeon to bring their trainee for free.

The ExCo and Delegates’ Council congratulated Jim Chang on the organisation of the congress to date.

David Warwick advised that, along with the package of Patron documents, a second package relating to the 2025 IFSSH-IFSHT Congress will also be sent to Delegates after the meeting. This latter package will contain the meeting logo and slides (Appendix C). All Delegates are asked to show these at their own national meetings as well as at any meetings they attend.

## **12. Business arising from Executive Committee Meeting**

David Warwick reiterated the IFSSH Patron of Hand Surgery program announcement, thanking Greg Bain for leading this initiative from inception to reality. This has the potential to grow the IFSSH activity and deliver education to all in need. All Delegates are encouraged to read more on the [website](#).

The IFSSH Executive Committee announced the expansion of the Secretariat. Rama Sudakar (Coimbatore, India) has been appointed as IFSSH Administrative Assistant to support Belinda Smith and undertake secretariat duties. Rama will use the same [administration@ifssh.info](mailto:administration@ifssh.info) email address – Delegates should please welcome her via email contact. She will likely join the Washington DC meeting in person.

Daniel Nagle asked the Delegates to pause and consider two influential people:

- 1) Peter Amadio has been a long term advocate of the IFSSH. He has represented the AAHS on the IFSSH Delegates' Council for many years and is a current member of the IFSSH Nominating Committee. Peter Amadio is stepping down from his IFSSH Delegate position after this meeting. His input has been immeasurable and the IFSSH ExCo pass thanks to him for this.
- 2) With sadness, the IFSSH Executive Committee were informed of the passing of Eduardo A. Zancolli. Dr Zancolli Sr had been involved in the IFSSH, especially during the 2016 Buenos Aires Congress at which he was the Congress Chair. His influence on the hand surgery community has been immense, as a mentor and friend. The IFSSH also benefits from the support of Eduardo R. Zancolli, as IFSSH Delegate of the Argentine Society and organiser of the 2016 Triennial Congress. The IFSSH passes its heartfelt condolences to Dr Zancolli Jr on the passing of his father and asked that this be extended to his family and colleagues.

The IFSSH Delegates' Council acknowledged the outstanding contributions of Dr Amadio and Dr Zancolli.

### **13. IFSSH Allied Organisations**

Each IFSSH Allied Organisation was invited to submit an annual report to the Delegates, for inclusion in these minutes. These are incorporated as follows:

- International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT) – Appendix D
- Asia-Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH) - Appendix E
- Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH) - Appendix F
- Latin American Federation for Hand Surgery (FLACM) – Appendix G
- Hand and Wrist Biomechanics International (HWBI) – not received

### **14. Next meeting of the IFSSH Delegates' Council**

To be held within the Triennial IFSSH-IFSHT Congress: March 23 - 28, Washington D.C., USA

David Warwick closed the meeting, inviting Delegates to gather for a photograph and then join their regional IFSSH Member-at-Large for an informal discussion on local events.

- Asia-Pacific – Greg Bain
- Europe and Africa – Paco Pinal and David Shewring
- North and Central America, including Caribbean – Jorge Clifton
- South America – Aida Garcia



	January 1st 2014 - December 31, 2014	January 1st 2015 - December 31, 2015	January 1st 2016 - December 31, 2016	January 1st 2017 - December 31, 2017	January 1st 2018 - December 31, 2018	January 1st 2019 - December 31, 2019	January 1st 2020 - December 31, 2020	January 1st 2021 - December 31, 2021	January 1st 2022 - December 31, 2022	January 1st 2023 - December 31, 2023	January 1st 2024 - April 30th 2024
<b>OPENING BALANCE (US\$)</b>											
Wells Fargo #1	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	488,360.96	409,714.00
Wells Fargo #2	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	1,781.75
Fidelity #1	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	1,251,106.73	1,505,578.10
Fidelity #2									0.00	490,436.10	535,929.69
Chase HSR checking/savings #1										6,306.94	5,004.36
Chase IFSSH HSR checking #2										-	6,946.77
Chase HSR visa #1										-729.43	-517.95
Chase IFSSH HSR visa #2										-	-129.66
<b>INCOME (US\$) - Wells Fargo #1</b>											
Membership dues	71,844.21	80,189.37	93,027.46	78,379.17	89,576.63	106,452.57	68,593.98	120,873.01	110,879.32	82,459.83	31,061.86
IFSSH Congress	14,221.57	0.00	89,960.00	106,490.30	0.00	0.00	132,104.31	90.35	175,604.60	101.38	0.00
Ezine	1,635.00	2,600.00	1,300.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	6,500.00	2,000.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest - Wells Fargo Bank	37.74	13.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Merchandise	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations/Fundraising										4,740.22	0.00
Misc	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,629.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,738.52</b>	<b>82,802.63</b>	<b>184,287.46</b>	<b>185,869.47</b>	<b>95,205.79</b>	<b>112,952.57</b>	<b>202,698.29</b>	<b>121,463.36</b>	<b>286,483.92</b>	<b>87,301.43</b>	<b>31,061.86</b>
<b>INCOME (US\$) - Wells Fargo #2</b>											
Ezine sponsorship											
Misc (Incorrect acct for deposit)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE (US\$) - Wells Fargo #1</b>											
IFSSH Triennial Congress	40,000.00	54,889.96	5,053.60	7,080.82	1,242.00	5,053.40	108,327.51	0.00	10,289.62	20,446.84	4,409.38
IFSSH Annual ExCo/Council Meetings	897.91	0.00	1,490.22	0.00	1,976.87	759.00	325.52	0.00	806.44	253.58	0.00
Executive Expenses	18,230.19	21,926.69	19,879.93	36,218.45	30,662.49	21,070.67	0.00	0.00	18,973.75	27,401.05	19,635.23
Secretariat	13,630.72	12,693.33	11,988.21	15,960.10	13,280.64	13,289.62	17,000.00	15,000.00	20,330.11	21,417.85	10,500.00
Bursaries and Grants	19,350.00	35,000.00	9,500.00	26,000.00	30,900.00	34,100.00	28,300.00	24,254.00	68,822.83	51,163.74	25,000.00
Ezine	11,729.98	11,025.29	22,511.48	19,784.44	19,777.11	20,589.70	23,754.98	28,833.54	30,777.44	30,732.13	8,005.87
Lawyer/Accountant Services	N/A	14,123.38	18,571.33	2,435.81	2,659.00	2,476.00	19,714.92	7,400.00	10,201.57	11,305.87	6,685.52
IT Services	500.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	1,660.00	960.00	960.00	1,335.00	1,648.52	2,203.92	1,481.80
Bank fees - Wells Fargo Bank	3,132.51	2,412.86	2,129.30	1,674.61	2,052.24	1,740.17	1,657.56	2,146.83	1,863.06	1,023.41	609.88
Transfer to Investment Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc	900.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	33.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,371.31</b>	<b>152,071.51</b>	<b>91,124.07</b>	<b>110,204.23</b>	<b>304,210.35</b>	<b>100,038.56</b>	<b>200,074.21</b>	<b>78,959.37</b>	<b>163,712.34</b>	<b>165,948.39</b>	<b>76,327.36</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE (US\$) - Wells Fargo #2</b>											
Editorial / layout set up fees	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	159.00	144.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc (Incorrect deposit reversed)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>159.00</b>	<b>144.00</b>	<b>36.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>FIDELITY INVESTMENTS - #1: Main (US\$)</b>											
Transfer from WF/Fidelity#2 account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,163.74	0.00
Change in Investment Value	58,475.77	-15,744.35	-6,062.87	81,021.51	-10,188.73	205,379.96	233,321.29	328,139.60	-241,372.88	251,765.00	70,895.55
Advisor Fees	5,189.29	5,363.00	5,366.20	5,418.00	6,500.00	8,595.00	9,827.00	12,540.00	13,273.00	13,481.82	7,840.00
Transaction Costs & Charges	Within advisor fee	93.98	83.53	105.57	101.00	112.93	19.80	24.84	30.20	30.42	33.73
Taxes Withheld	889.26	721.71	916.68	561.02	624.40	710.32	780.20	879.32	1,017.29	945.13	781.39
<b>Total Change</b>	<b>52,397.22</b>	<b>-21,913.04</b>	<b>-12,429.28</b>	<b>74,936.92</b>	<b>182,585.87</b>	<b>195,961.71</b>	<b>222,694.29</b>	<b>314,695.44</b>	<b>-255,693.37</b>	<b>254,471.37</b>	<b>62,240.43</b>
<b>FIDELITY INVESTMENTS - #2: Kleinert (US\$)</b>											
Transfer from Wells Fargo account									0.00	0.00	0.00
Change in Investment Value									490,436.10	67,930.83	23,634.33
Transfers to WF/Fidelity#1										17,163.74	0.00
Advisor Fees									0.00	5,085.01	2,784.00
Transaction Costs & Charges									0.00	4.37	4.53
Taxes Withheld									0.00	184.12	133.10
<b>Total Change</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>490,436.10</b>	<b>45,493.59</b>	<b>20,712.70</b>
<b>HSR CHASE #1: HSR checking/savings</b>											
Transfer from WF/HSR IFSSH										18,800.03	45.10
Donations										0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>										<b>18,800.03</b>	<b>45.10</b>
Social Media/Newsletter										150.00	0.00
Lawyer/Accountant/Insurance Services										2,258.04	0.00
IT services										600.00	300.00
Bank fees										34.00	15.00
Transfers to bank accounts / credit card										17,060.57	4,734.46
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>20,102.61</b>	<b>5,049.46</b>
<b>HSR CHASE #2: IFSSH HSR checking</b>											
Transfer from WF/HSR IFSSH										6,921.77	4,222.40
Donations										25.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>										<b>6,946.77</b>	<b>4,222.40</b>
Social Media/Newsletter										0.00	450.00
Lawyer/Accountant/Insurance Services										0.00	1,089.87
IT services										0.00	900.00
Bank fees										0.00	25.00
Premises rent										0.00	107.50
Transfers to bank accounts / credit card										0.00	2,975.71
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,547.08</b>
<b>HSR CHASE CREDIT CARD #1: HSR visa</b>											
Transfer from WF/Chase HSR										1,409.50	517.95
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>										<b>1,409.50</b>	<b>517.95</b>
Social Media/Newsletter										567.02	0.00
Lawyer/Accountant/Insurance Services										0.00	0.00
IT services										240.28	0.00
Bank fees										0.00	0.00
Advertising/Promotion										390.72	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,198.02</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>HSR CHASE CREDIT CARD #2: IFSSH HSR vis</b>											
Transfer from WF/Chase HSR										0.00	2,975.71
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>										<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,975.71</b>
Social Media/Newsletter										0.00	1,137.96
Lawyer/Accountant/Insurance Services										0.00	0.00
IT services										129.66	1,518.51
Bank fees										0.00	884.99
Advertising/Promotion										0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>129.66</b>	<b>3,541.46</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE (US\$)</b>											
Wells Fargo #1	416,992.11	347,723.23	440,886.62	516,551.86	307,547.30	320,461.31	323,085.39	365,589.38	488,360.96	409,714.00	364,448.50
Wells Fargo #2	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	1,781.75	1,781.75
Fidelity Investments - #1: Main	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	1,251,106.7		

## 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](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Patron of Hand Surgery Donation Program

### A Donation:

- Provides a life changing inspirational experience, especially to a young surgeon or those from LMICs
- Develops skills, networking and leadership
- Encourages motivation, collegiality and loyalty: recipients want to give back



	Upper-middle and high income countries*	Low and lower-middle income countries*
Super platinum	\$25,000	\$12,500
Platinum	\$10,000	\$5,000
Gold	\$5,000	\$2,500
Silver	\$2,000	\$1,000
Bronze	\$1,000	\$500

\*World Bank definition.



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Patron of Hand Surgery Donation Program



A donation inspires young surgeons from developing countries. They give back and become leaders in their communities.



## Patron of Hand Surgery Donation Program



### 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](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)



*"My fellowship journey is one of the memorable events I will cherish forever."*

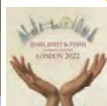


## Travelling Fellows - London IFSSH 2022

*"I met fellows from all over the world and established new friendships."*

*I am still completely overwhelmed by the experience."*

Dr Sebastian Leixnering  
Austria



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

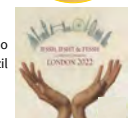


2022 IFSSH London Congress: IFSSH/BSSH/IFSSH Travelling Fellows

## Travelling Fellows - London IFSSH 2022

*"I had the most amazing time; I thought this experience was going to be good, but for me it was perfect!"*

Dr Rodrigo Aquino  
Brazil



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)



2022 IFSSH London Congress: IFSSH/BSSH/IFSSH Travelling Fellows

## Travelling Fellows - London IFSSH 2022



*"My fellowship journey is one of the memorable events I will cherish forever."*

Dr Nurunnahar Begum  
Bangladesh



2022 Fellows looking forward to reconnecting at the 2025 IFSSH-IFSHT Congress in Washington, D.C.



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Travelling Fellows - London IFSSH 2022



*"It was a wonderful time, a lot of new friends made, and opportunities for collaborations. It is a fantastic initiative. Hopefully there will be many surgeons in the future that have the same opportunity."*

Dr Hentas Van Zyl  
South Africa



The 30 Travelling fellows at The Royal College of Surgeons, England 2022. For the two weeks prior to the IFSSH Congress, they visited renowned UK Hand Surgery centres.



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Workshop – Attendance assistance

Esser Masterclass: Tendons, 2018



Dr Mohamed Abdelrahman, Sudan – sponsored by the IFSSH to attend the 2018 Esser Masterclass: Tendons



In 2019, Dr Abdelrahman was supported again by the IFSSH - to spend 6 months undertaking a Hand & Microsurgery Fellowship, Provincial Hospital of Shandong University in China: **\$10,900**

*"There are huge numbers of trauma hand patients (in Sudan) and the number of specialists is scarce indeed, with lack of great and specialized expertise in the field. For that, I was trying to pursue fellowship in hand surgery."*

Dr Mohamed Abdelrahman  
Sudan



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## International Meetings – Attendance assistance

APFSSH Congress, 2023



**\$20,000** - 25 recipients - Developing nations and/or trainees

*"An experience of a lifetime, enriching my professional life in countless ways."*

A highlight- presenting my paper "Intercostal Nerve Transfer for Brachial Plexus Birth Palsy".

The constructive feedback further motivated me to pursue excellence.

I was thrilled to meet Dr. Chris Dy. His "upper hand podcast" has been an inspiration.

Our interaction has left a lasting impact on my professional aspirations."

Dr Sayantani Misra, India



*"Words can't express my gratitude"*

It is almost impossible to attend from a developing nation like Nepal.

Only made possible by this wonderful grant."

Dr Amit Limbu, Nepal



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## International Meetings – Attendance assistance

World Symposium on Congenital Malformations of the Hand & Upper Limb, 2023

**\$10,000** - 3 recipients – LMIC surgeons

*"It left an indelible impact on my professional and personal journey as a hand surgeon."*

*I feel less isolated in trying to understand congenital upper limb differences.*

*Delighted to finally meet the "O" in the OMT Classification – Dr Kerby Oberg."*

Dr Nathaniel Orillaza,  
Philippines



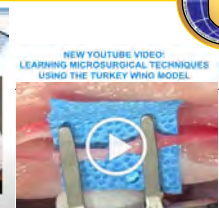
[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)



## ifssh.info resources

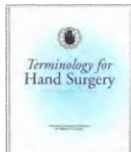


[www.handsurgeryresource.net](http://www.handsurgeryresource.net)  
"An Educational Asset of IFSSH"



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Educational resources – www.ifssh.info



BSSH Video and Webinar Archive

[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professorships



Dr Steven Moran (USA), the inaugural IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor – Australia, 2020 – with Dr Marc Garcia-Elias (IFSSH President, 2019-2022) **\$7,000**



Dr Jin Bo Tang (China), the second IFSSH Harold Kleinert Visiting Professor – Poland, 2023 **\$12,790**



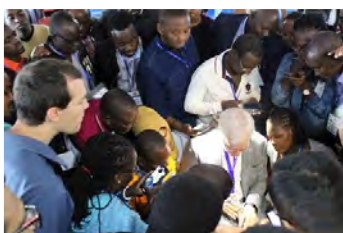
[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Outreach assistance Hand Surgery workshop in Kenya, 2020



Teaching wide awake surgery

Dr Don Lalonde (Canada)  
2020: **\$3,300**



Further WALANT courses in Kenya in 2022 and 2023 with IFSSH support

**\$3,500 + \$10,000**



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Outreach assistance Hand / Upper Limb Surgical Mission to Cambodia, 2014



Surgical care and education of local clinicians

Dr Graham Gumley (Australia)  
**\$19,350**



This group continue Outreach to Cambodia, Nepal, Vietnam, Solomon Islands



Supported by IFSSH, Australian HSS and Orthopaedic Outreach.

[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Collaborative education programs Western China Seminars and Workshops



Surgeons travelled from Association of Chinese-Speaking Hand Surgeons United  
- 3 centres in Western China (June 2024)  
- seminars and workshops  
**\$2,000**



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

## Collegiate support IFSHT Grant, 2022



*"It enhanced my ability to provide better services, leadership skills and built confidence in my career."*

*I gained motivation and knowledge to network with other researchers and gather interested individuals in Ethiopia. We are now developing hand therapy in Ethiopia, and preparing national hand therapy guidelines."*

Sintayehu Damtew, Ethiopia



**\$12,322** Supported 10 therapists from limited resource countries through the Evelyn Mackin Award and the IFSSH/IFSHT Triennial Travel Grant.

The IFSSH provided similar grants in 2012 (**\$9,000**), 2016 (**\$9,500**), and 2018 (**\$9,600**).



[https://ifssh.info/hand\\_surgery\\_donation\\_program.php](https://ifssh.info/hand_surgery_donation_program.php)

**2025 IFSSH and IFSHT  
Triennial Congress  
Global Hand Care**

March 24-28, 2025 | Washington, DC

[www.ifssh-ifsht2025.org](http://www.ifssh-ifsht2025.org)



**Washington, D.C.**  
Capital of the United States of America

**Hotel and Meeting Space**

**The Marriott Marquis**

- Flagship hotel
- 80 meeting rooms, 3,500-person capacity in conference space
- Walking distance to attractions and nightlife



**Convenient Location**



**Activities & Attractions**

D.C. is proud to offer more than 100 free things to do across the city including museums, theaters, landmarks, festivals, and more.

**National Mall**



**Smithsonian Museums are free!**



## **Cherry Blossom Festival**

3,000+ cherry blossom trees will be in full bloom. It's a magical time in Washington, D.C.!





### IFSHT President, Peggy Boineau (PB)-- Activities since October 2023

- Working with attorney in Switzerland to update the Congress agreement with host society, with effective date targeted for 2031 Congress.
- Developed new process for Congress bids.
  - Consider joint bids first
  - If no joint bids are acceptable to the IFSHT (i.e. no established hand therapy society that can host), then standalone bids will be considered
  - For joint bids, the therapy society will be required to have a strong written and signed agreement with the surgery society and must demonstrate ability to financially support the Congress.

### 13<sup>th</sup> IFSHT Triennial Congress / 16<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Triennial Congress, 2025, Washington, D.C., USA

- PB will participated in a Congress planning meeting and site visit, March 2024
- Abstract submissions are closed and strong global representation was achieved
- Grant applications for IFSHT's Evelyn Mackin Grant and IFSHT/IFSSH Triennial Congress Grant close 24 June 2024
- Lifetime Achievement Award and Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy nominations close 24 September 2024

### 14<sup>th</sup> IFSHT Triennial Congress / 17<sup>th</sup> IFSSH Triennial Congress, Singapore

- IFSHT needs confirmation from the Singapore Hand Therapists, indicating they have a signed agreement with the Singapore Hand Surgeon Society for collaboration on the Congress. An email was sent in May 2024 and we await a response.

### IFSHT Membership: 61 total (increased by 4 since last report)

- Full members: 38
  - No new Full members since last report
- Associate members: 10 (United Arab Emirates, Nepal, Qatar, Bangladesh, Thailand, Singapore, Mexico, Ethiopia, Malawi, Vietnam). New since last report:
  - Ethiopia moved up from Corresponding Membership
  - Malawi joined as Corresponding and moved up to Associate Membership
  - Vietnam jointed as Associate Member
- Corresponding members: 13 (Bahrain, Egypt, Fiji, Gaza, Iran, Nigeria, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Malta, Zimbabwe, Bhutan). New since last report:
  - Nigeria was restored as Corresponding Member
  - Bhutan joined as Corresponding Member

Regional Liaison Organisations: American Association for Hand Surgery (AAHS), Asia Pacific Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (APFSHT), European Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (EFSHT), International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) and International Society for Sport Traumatology of the Hand (ISSPORTH) and South American Society Hand Therapy (SSTM)

### **Committee Activity:**

- Education committee: developed criteria for posting educational videos on the IFSHT website and are working to arrange videos for posting

- By-laws Committee: no by-laws changes since last report
- Publication Committee:
  - Publishes 3 volumes of IFSHT's online newsletter, *REACH*, each year. Currently in the fourth year of *REACH* publication
  - Provides a therapy article for each publication of IFSSH's *Ezine*.
- Nominations Committee: actively seeking nominations for next triennium

#### Delegate Communication:

- Delegates continue to receive regular updates from the IFSHT Secretary General and vote electronically as needed.
- The second Interim Virtual Council Meeting was held November 2023

#### Web-based Communication with Hand Therapists Globally:

- *REACH* newsletter
- Website ([www.ifsht.org](http://www.ifsht.org))
- Facebook and Instagram
- IFSHT contribution to IFSSH *E-zine*

#### IFSHT Grants and Awards:

- IFSHT Evelyn Mackin Congress Grant: sponsorship of therapists from developing countries to attend triennial congress. Currently we have 6 applicants from the following countries: Ghana, Ukraine, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, and Vietnam. Estimated cost to cover flight, lodging, per diem for meals, ground transportation and visa costs is 4500 USD per applicant. IFSHT has 4803 USD in our Evelyn Mackin Grant Fund. We need 27000 USD to fund all 6 of these applications. We are actively seeking donations. We will be applying for grant funds from IFSSH.
- IFSHT/IFSSH Triennial Congress Grant: We currently have 16 applicants for this grant to fund a portion of the cost of Congress attendance. Funding may include flight, hotel, and/or registration. Applicants are from: Greece, Colombia, Uruguay, Ethiopia, India, Turkey, Argentina, Iran, Hong Kong, Spain, Netherlands, Singapore and United Kingdom. We have 9683 USD to support this fund and are actively seeking donations to fund these requests that total approximately 35000 USD. We will be applying for grant funds from IFSSH.
- IFSHT-IFSSH International Hand Therapy Teaching Awards. Grants up to 1500 USD are available to support therapists teaching hand therapy in less-developed countries. Awarded 1500 USD to a UK hand therapist to travel to Sierra Leone to teach about hand therapy.
- Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy: Application period closes 24 September 2024.
- IFSHT Lifetime Achievement Award: Application period closes 24 September 2024

#### DYNAMOMETER DONATIONS:

- IFSHT has 9 of the original 50 remaining to be distributed and we are planning to conclude this program within the next twelve months
- Since the last report we have distributed dynamometers to Vietnam and Ukraine



# Annual Report of the Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand

## Office Bearers for 2023-2025

President: Anthony Berger

President Elect: Fuminori Kanaya

Secretary-General: Alphonsus Chong

Treasurer: Hyun Sik Gong

Immediate Past President: S Raja Sabapathy

Editor-in-Chief: Sandeep Sebastin Muttath (from 1 Jan 2024)

Members (co-opted):

1. Clara Wong
2. Emmanuel Estrella
3. Jeremy Prakash
4. Jihyeung Kim
5. Margaret Fok
6. Michael Boland
7. Pankaj Ahire
8. Peter Maloney
9. Toshiyasu Nakamura
10. Yuwarat Monteerarat

## Member Countries

1. Australia
2. Hong Kong
3. India
4. Indonesia
5. Japan
6. Malaysia
7. Philippines
8. Singapore
9. South Korea
10. Taiwan
11. Thailand
12. New Zealand
13. Bangladesh

## Subcommittees

1. Finance
2. Education
3. Communications (Newsletter, Website, Social Media)
4. Membership
5. Diversity

## APFSSH Meeting in Singapore

The 13th APFSSH Congress, held with the 9th APFSHT and 8th APWA meetings from May 31 to June 3, 2023, at Singapore Expo, marked the first event since the Covid pandemic. The congress proceeded successfully with 840 participants from 33 countries, featuring 378 abstracts and 171 speakers. The theme "Diverse and Inclusive" was showcased through various sessions, including keynote lectures by Professors Fu Chan Wei, Robert Pho, and Tunku Sara Ahmad. The event also featured a Nurses Symposium and concluded with a memorable Congress Dinner at the Flower Dome in Gardens by the Bay.

## APFSSH Book "Crafting a Legacy"

During the Singapore meeting, Drs. Dawn Chia, Sandeep J. Sebastin, and S. Raja Sabapathy launched their book "Crafting a Legacy: The Incredible Lives of Asian-Pacific Hand Surgery Pioneers," published by World Scientific Publishing Company, which also publishes the JHSAP journal. This book features the lives of 48 pioneering hand surgeons from the Asian-Pacific region, offering an in-depth look at their contributions. Each congress participant received a copy, and the authors have donated future royalties to the APFSSH. The first book published by the APFSSH is still available for purchase. Royalties from the book have also been donated by Dr Sandeep Sebastin to the society.

## New Memberships

The United Arab Emirates and Nepal have both submitted applications for membership in the APFSSH. We have also received 2 individual applications for Associate Membership from Vietnam.

## Educational Activities

### APFSSH Travelling Fellowship

This year we launched the APFSSH Travelling Fellowship. Dr Wendy Teo, a newly qualified Hand Surgeon from National University Health System, Singapore was awarded the inaugural Travelling Fellowship to enhance her expertise in wrist conditions and arthroscopy. She will learn advanced surgical techniques and management practices, establish connections with international peers and foster future collaborations during her 2-week observership with Prof Shih Jui Tien, Prof Wang Jung-Pan, and Dr Huang Chao-Yi from our member country, Taiwan. She will also participate in the 9th Asia Pacific Wrist Association Annual Congress and an advanced wrist arthroscopy course. Congratulations Wendy!

### APFSSH Visiting Professorship

In 2023, we also launched the APFSSH Visiting Professorship. It aims to provide funding for member societies to invite a senior surgeon to their scientific meeting, who will also visit and teach at 1-2 other institutions. The Visiting Professor, ideally a keynote speaker, is expected to make significant contributions to the conference and the educational program. Member societies must apply to the APFSSH Education Committee with a detailed plan and secure free registration and assistance for the professor's travel and accommodation. The APFSSH funds one professor annually with \$5000 SGD. Post-visit, the organizing committee must report the outcomes to the APFSSH, with an expected presentation at the next APFSSH congress or newsletter.

## Diversity and Inclusivity

The Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH) is committed to promoting diversity and inclusivity within the field of hand surgery. Signing the International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance (IODA) Charter on 17 March 2024 (<https://www.orthopaedicdiversity.org>) and appointing a diversity subcommittee for APFSSH underscores our dedication to creating an equitable environment that values diverse perspectives and backgrounds. This commitment ensures that our organization fosters a culture of inclusion, supporting a wide range of voices and experiences in all its initiatives and activities.

## Website and Social Media

Our website, [www.apfssh.net](http://www.apfssh.net), serves as a primary communication channel for our members and the broader community interested in Hand Surgery and Hand Conditions. In addition to our website, we actively engage with our community through our Facebook page (@apfssh). In 2024, we just started our Instagram account (@APFSSHHand). We encourage all members to utilize these platforms to share news about their societies and any events they are organizing.

## Young Surgeons Forum

Our President has proposed developing a Young Surgeons Forum within the Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH) to encourage young surgeons to network and to present their work without feeling intimidated by senior members. APFSSH Exco is supportive of this. Dr Ahire (MAL) is supportive of introducing a session for young members during the upcoming APFSSH in India in September 2025. We currently already have a Facebook forum for young Asian hand surgeons (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/248440585912198>), which is part of the APFSSH Facebook groups.

## Foundation Course in Hand Surgery

The FESSH Academy, Asia Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand, and the Malaysian Society for Surgery of the Hand are organizing a Foundation Course in hand surgery in Kuala Lumpur from August 5-7, 2024. The three-day course includes lectures, practical sessions, and discussion groups and is suitable for senior trainees and experienced surgeons. It will be followed by the Annual MSSH meeting. The course features an experienced international faculty and is sponsored by industry partners. Subsidized places are available for APFSSH National Society members, while standard registration costs \$375 if registered by May 24, 2024. Early registration is encouraged.

Alphonsus Chong  
Secretary-General

### WHAT DOES FESSH DO?

**OUR MISSION:**  
The advancement of hand surgery in all aspects, encompassing science, education, and clinical practice.

**OUR VISION:**  
To become the authority in the field of hand surgery in Europe. This includes all relevant parties: hand surgeons, allied health professionals, patient representatives, industry partners, representatives from the public, and government bodies.




2024. 06. 14.

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### WHAT BENEFITS DOES FESSH OFFER?

- ✓ EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- ✓ EBHS HAND SURGERY EXAM
- ✓ RESEARCH
- ✓ CLINICAL PRACTICE
- ✓ ANNUAL CONGRESS
- ✓ BEING PART OF A FANTASTIC GROUP...





2024. 06. 14.

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### ✓ EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Discounted price for

- FESSH Academy Foundation Course
- FESSH Academy Advanced Course
- FESSH Academy Webinars (free)
- Annual Congress Fellowships (14 day study tour)
- Annual Congress Educational Afternoon
- E-LIBRARY at the webpage
- FESSH Youtube channel
- Find TRAINING CENTRES through FESSH






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### ✓ EUROPEAN BOARD HAND SURGERY EXAM

- Internationally recognised qualification in Hand Surgery
- Running since 1996
- Take the exam
- Join the board of examiners






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### ✓ RESEARCH

Research Grants

- Guidance - help you to start out in research
- Basic Research Grant
- Clinical Research Grant
- Shark Tank Award
- FESSH / Foundation for Hand Surgery Grants
- Research Fellowships
- FESSH patronised surveys





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### ✓ CLINICAL PRACTICE

- HAND TRAUMA NETWORK  
(FESSH accreditation for your clinic)
- GREEN / SUSTAINABLE HAND SURGERY





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### ✓ ANNUAL CONGRESS

Join 2000 colleagues from Europe and across the globe

**FESSH 2027**  
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2024.06.14.

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### ✓ BEING PART OF A FANTASTIC GROUP!

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### WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE OF FESSH?

Secretary General  
Executive Committee

FESSH Council  
FESSH Office

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### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL

<p><b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b> Brigitte van der Heijden Ilse Degreef Piotr Czarnecki Alex Lluich Zaf Naqui</p> <p><b>FESSH COUNCIL</b> Leila Harhaus Henk Coert Massimo Corain Jonathan Hobby Lindsay Muir</p>	<p><b>YEHS (YOUNG EUROPEAN HAND SURGEONS)</b> Camillo Fulchignoni</p> <p><b>JOURNAL OF HAND SURGERY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF</b> Wee Lam</p> <p><b>FESSH OFFICE</b> Andrea Götz Nandor Matrai Krisztina Szegedi</p> <p><b>HISTORIAN</b> Martin Langer</p>
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### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED IN FESSH?

You can access all aspects of FESSH!

<p>Join a FESSH Committee Become an examiner Grants, Awards, Fellowships Attend our courses Follow us on social media Join the YEHS Chair a congress session Become a Journal reviewer or editor</p>	<p>Get accreditation for your trauma unit Chair a congress session Meet us at the annual congress Join or discussion forums &amp; groups: 3D group, Micro &amp; Hand, Hand Injury Prevention Attend our webinars</p>
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### HOW CAN I GET IN CONTACT WITH FESSH?

Contact the FESSH Office at [office@fessh.com](mailto:office@fessh.com)  
Visit our website [www.fessh.com](http://www.fessh.com)

Follow us on Social Media: [Insta](#), [X](#), [FB](#), [Linked In](#)

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## Latin American Federation of Hand Surgery (FLACM) Report

### Activities of the Latin American Federation of Hand Surgery during the first half of 2024

According to the planning carried out by the new management, the following events were successfully held:

- On December 8th and 9th, 2023, in Montevideo, the **1st Combined Meeting with the Uruguayan Society of Hand Surgery** was held with great success. The event was attended by their President, Dr. Matías Craviotto, and FLACM President Dr. Sergio Daroda, along with prestigious guests such as Drs. Fernando Menvielle, Gabriel Clembosky and Ezequiel Zaidenberg from Argentina, Antonio Costa from Brazil, and physical therapists Jannine Hareau (Uruguay), Fernanda Coscueta, and Yamila Nicora (Argentina).



- Additionally, FLACM joined IFSSH and Ecumano during the **IFSSH Mid Term Course** held in Quito, Ecuador on February 1st, 2024. They coordinated a Microsurgery Case Symposium with a panel of experts from numerous countries in the region: Drs. Sergio Daroda and Fernando Menvielle (Argentina), Alfonso Pérez (Chile), Christian Castro (Costa Rica), Gabriel Alegría (Ecuador), Joaquín Díaz (Mexico), and Bruno Pietrapianna (Peru).



- On April 5th and 6th, 2024, the **1st Congress of the Paraguayan Society of Hand Surgery** was successfully held in Asunción, in collaboration with FLACM. The event was attended by their president, Dr. Juan Carlos Alvarenga, and featured presentations by Drs. Sergio Daroda, Fernando Menvielle, Guillermo Belluschi, Agustín Donndorff, Cecilio Argañaraz from Argentina, Ricardo Kaempf from Brazil, and Jorge Terrazas from Bolivia among other speakers.



- On May 22nd, the **FLACM Virtual Session** was organized, hosted by the Colombian Association of Hand Surgery (ASOCIMANO), led by Drs. Luis Felipe Náquira and Fabio Suárez. The session featured presentations of three original techniques by Drs. Felipe Mesa, Alejandro Sandoval, and Carlos Arroyo.



Another important activity was carried out by the Communication Committee regarding social media developing the following:

- Website update
- Activation of the official Instagram account, gaining over 1000 followers
- Creation of various social media platforms: Facebook, LinkedIn, TikTok, and YouTube