



IFEA President's Report

Board of Director's Meeting; April 27, 2017
Annual General Assembly Meeting; April 28, 2017
New Orleans, USA.

Dear colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to present my first report as IFEA President. The new Executive Office commenced its term following the AGM during the 10th IFEA World Endodontic Congress in Cape Town, June 2016. More by coincidence than design, for the first time in many years, all Officers' positions were changed, as well as the Chairpersons of the Education Committee and the Research Committee. I thank the Immediate Past-President Sam Dorn, former Secretary Luke Kim, now President Elect, and past Treasurer Cathy Ricci, now Secretary for their services in their former roles and for their current work for IFEA as they embrace their new duties. I welcome Terry Farmakis as the new Treasurer and thank him for taking on this onerous role. My gratitude is also extended to the retired Chairpersons of the Education Committee and Research Committee being Sam Dorn and Markus Haapasalo respectively for their services and welcome Gopi Krishna as the new chair of the Education Committee and Christine Berthold as the Research Committee Chairperson. With an initial stable of Regent Directors comprising Peet van der Vyver (Africa), Anil Kohli (Asia), Elisabetta Cotti (Europe), Patrick Taylor (North America), Alan Nerwich (Oceania) and Manoel Eduardo de Lima Machado (South America), we commenced the term with a Board of Directors that is truly international.

It wasn't long into the new term of Office that the Executive was faced with a major decision. After very deliberate consideration, and in accordance with *IFEA By-Laws* and the *World Congress Guidelines* the Executive reached the decision to regretfully withdraw the invitation to the Turkish Endodontic Society (TES) to host the 11th World Endodontic Congress (WEC) in Istanbul in May 2018. The Executive in acknowledging that the Congress at the time was still 19 months away and that TES was the victim of circumstances beyond its control, nevertheless considered with the frequent and recent acts of violence in Turkey, including Istanbul, and the recent political unrest, that the safety of Congress delegates would likely be compromised if the Congress was held there at that time.

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The Executive is sincerely grateful and thankful to the Turkish Endodontic Society President Mehmet Baybora Kayahan, General Secretary Jale Tanalp, Treasurer Handan Ersev and its Congress Organising Committee for the enormous time, effort and dedication needed to bid for the Congress and begin the process of its organisation, and is acutely aware of the disappointment felt by all in TES. We have been grateful for the gracious manner in which the Turkish Endodontic Society accepted the decision. The TES is exemplary of the ideals of IFEA, bonded by the fact that we are all about harmoniously promoting Endodontics world-wide. We look forward to the continuing valuable input from the TES and hope that at some time in the future the Turkish Endodontic Society can hold a World Endodontic Congress in beautiful Istanbul.

The Executive was then faced with the decision as to which Society should host the 11th WEC in 2018. There had been two impressive bids in Cape Town from Korea(KES) and the UK (BES) for the 13th WEC in 2022. Korea had previously lost the bid to host the 2018 WEC (to the TES), but won the 2022 bid against BES. These two member associations were invited to resubmit their bids for the 2018 Congress. With due consideration, the Executive decided to appoint Korea (KES) as the host for the 11th WEC in Seoul on October 4-7, 2018, and so the 2022 World Congress was again vacant.

We sincerely appreciated the fine effort the BES committee, chaired by Will McLean and the Glasgow Convention Centre made in presenting the bid for 2018 WEC and I certainly encourage the BES to consider bidding again for a Congress.

As there is currently no host for the 13th WEC in 2022, an invitation to bid for this 2022 Congress will be extended in the next month or two, with the bidding taking place at the AGM in Seoul in October 2018. The 12th WEC is still scheduled to be held in Chennai, India on October 7-10,2020. President -Elect Luke Kim is IFEA's liaison with the Local Organising Committee Chaired by Dr Anil Kohli and with Dr Gopi Krishna as the Organizing Secretary.

In the last week IFEA has received the final financial and statistical report from the Local Organizing Committee of the 10th WEC in Cape Town in June 2016. Faced with challenging times, the Nomads/SASEAD Committee led by Peet van der Vyver and Heath Mark realized a Profit for IFEA of US \$8937.00. The Board congratulates and thanks Peet, Heath and all members of the Nomads/SASEAD Society Local Organizing Committee for their hard work over 6years, as well as the presenters, volunteers and participants attending, resulting in the successful Congress in picturesque and friendly Cape Town.

At the time of presenting the final report for the 10th WEC, the Endodontic Society of South Africa also resigned from IFEA. The Board of Directors and I personally were saddened to receive the resignation and hope that this decision will be reconsidered by them. IFEA has valued the Endodontic Society of South Africa membership over the years, and with the previous solid relationship I was optimistic we could put aside the differing opinions arising from events related to the Congress organisation of the past 2 or so years and rekindle the past relationship. Thus, I hope that with the healing of time this will occur and that there is once again an endodontic association in IFEA representing South Africa. In the meantime, the Board and I wish the Endodontic Society of South Africa and its members, continuing success in fostering endodontic education in the South Africa. As a consequence of the Endodontic Society of South Africa registration from IFEA, it means Prof Peet van der Vyver

can no longer be the IFEA Regent for Africa. I thank Prof van der Vyver for his services to IFEA in that capacity and a new Regent will need to be appointed in due course.

Acknowledging that the World Endodontic Congress Guidelines of 2000 needed revision, the previous Board of Directors set about re-drafting them. Oceania Regent Alan Nerwich and past President Patrick Bogaerts commenced the initial redrafting, and with input from other Directors, the new Guidelines were *approved*, subject to minor grammatical changes by the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors meeting yesterday. Dr Alan Nerwich will elaborate on the major changes later in this meeting, but suffice to say the new Guidelines are more comprehensive with less chance of misinterpretation, and have changes that are advantageous to both the host Association and IFEA with the host receiving greater profit, and IFEA Executive having initial greater influence in determining the preferred region/s to hold a particular WEC.

The policy documents and Guidelines for the Education Grant and Research Grant are also in the process of review, and it is anticipated that at the next BOD meeting in Seoul recommendations will be tabled.

There were 2 applicants received for Research Grants for 2016 and new Chairperson Dr Christine Berthold is assessing these. Unfortunately, no applications were received for the Education Grant. Members are encouraged to apply for both Grants with the application form for the Research Grant available from the IFEA web site.

Speaking of the website it's in a constant process of updating, not only of future events and current news, but also to act as an archive of past IFEA records. There have been positive comments on its status. I can however see the need in the future for a specific web master volunteer to update the site under the supervision of the IFEA Executive. IFEA is most indebted to *B&L BIOTECH* for the continuing generous sponsorship of the website.

IFEA is aware that the banking issues have been a source of frustration for the members and we thank you for your patience with this. With changing banking regulations, dealing with different country regulations, banks and currencies etc., it's not possible unfortunately to make it totally easy for everyone to do their banking with IFEA, but we are endeavouring to improve it where ever we can. Sam Dorn has been working on this issue for some time now and will report later in this meeting on its progress.

We are always eager to promote Endodontics in regions of the world where the opportunities for education has been limited. Thus, I am pleased through the ambassadorship of President -Elect Luke Kim, that Bangladesh is considering applying to join IFEA, and I am presently following up on interest expressed by a Nigerian colleague to join IFEA also. There is also interest expressed in Central American countries. As a result, the Board is appraising the Regional boundaries of IFEA to consider if the current 6 Regions is still in the best interests of IFEA and its members.

The past 9 months have been very busy primarily focused on the administrative affairs of IFEA, to reinforce the solid foundation set by former Executives, and

thus enable IFEA to progress confidently with policies that hopefully will stand the test of time. I'm optimistic that at the next AGM in Seoul you will see the fruits of the labour of this Board of Directors in achieving this. It's an honour to serve IFEA as its President with the fine personnel comprising the Board, and with the support of you the Member Associations.

Thank you.

Mark Wotzke
IFEA President, 26th April 2017

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