

WFSICCM Newsletter



World Federation of Societies
of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine



Message from the President, WFSICCM

Janice Zimmerman MD FCCM

It is my pleasure as the President of WFSICCM to welcome everyone to the 2018 New Year. During the very successful WFSICCM Congress in November 2017, the organization leadership and new Council members were elected. John Myburgh as Secretary General and Arzu Topeli as Treasurer join me in guiding the WFSICCM for the next 2 years. I am excited to welcome new Council members that increase the diversity of leaders of the organization along with the continuing Council members.

In just a short period of time, Council members have expressed ideas and suggestions that will help develop objectives for WFSICCM and shape the work ahead of us. Several areas of emphasis were identified.

- Professional evolution of the organization. Revision and updating of the constitution are planned along with development of policies to guide the business of the organization.

- Engagement and communication. WFSICCM needs more and better involvement with member societies with a particular emphasis on bringing new societies on board and liaising with important groups such as young clinicians and future leaders. Social media will play a large role in achieving this goal.

- Contribution to the field of Critical Care. The greatest need identified by member societies is education and resources to utilize knowledge. WFSICCM plans to move forward with projects involving education that will particularly help to meet needs in resource-limited areas. Facilitation of global research and collaboration was also identified as an important goal for WFSICCM

- Diversity. Diversity of professions, cultures, gender, and thought will be a goal that encompasses all actions and projects of WFSICCM.

We have a lot of work to do and it will take time. Strategic planning, focus and prioritization are needed to be effective and efficient. We are organizing the Council into committees to work more efficiently on these goals for the next 2 years. I am excited to be a part of this journey and look forward to new friends and colleagues that I meet along the way.

"We will never make a journey of a thousand miles by fretting about how long it will take or how hard it will be. We make the journey by taking each day step by step and then repeating it again and again until we reach our destination."

Joseph B. Wirthlin

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13th World Congress – A Successful Event!

The 13th World Congress of the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine was held November 8-11, 2017 in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. Dr. Álvaro Réa-Neto served as the Scientific Meeting Chair and led the work of the conference committee.

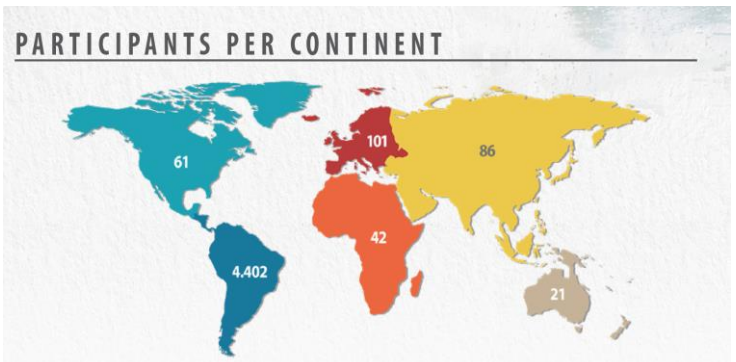


The Congress brought together a historical number of medical intensivists and health professionals: more than 4,700 participants from approximately 70 countries enjoyed a rich scientific program.

The theme – “No Frontiers for Excellence” – reflected well on the relevant topics for the fastest growing specialty in the health sector. By bringing together participants from all continents, it was possible to discuss changes and the future of intensive care, planning the next steps, and exchanging both theoretical and practical experiences.

The program was held simultaneously in 14 different rooms, with industry-sponsored satellite symposiums and hands-on activities. The World Congress also had a record number of papers submitted and presented. There were more than 1,000 abstracts approved and presented in three days. The event was attended by 261 national and 94 international speakers and 47 exhibiting companies.

The event was most successful and Dr. Álvaro Réa-Neto and the conference planning team are to be congratulated!



Congratulations to Newly Elected WFSICCM Council Members

The World Federation is governed by an elected Council of 14 members each of whom serve a term of office of 4 years. The leadership of the organization is provided by an Executive Committee comprised of the President, Secretary General and Treasurer.

Janice Zimmerman was elected President of World Federation at the Rio Congress, and will lead the organization from 2017 to 2019. Joining Janice on the Executive Committee is John Myburgh (Secretary-General) and Arzu Topeli (Treasurer).

The General Assembly met on November 8th in Rio de Janeiro and elected the following members of Council to serve from 2017 to 2021:

Elisa Estensorro (Argentina)
Assem Abdel Razek (Egypt)
Kapil Zirpe (India)
Ignacio Martin-Loeches (Ireland)
Chae-Man Lim (Korea)
Gene Sung (Neurocritical Care)
Obashini Ogunbiyi (Nigeria)



Members of the current WFSICCM Council taken during the 13th World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in November 2017 (missing: Jean-Louis Vincent, Elisa Estensorro)

Society Profile

The Medical Intensive Care Society – Bosnia and Herzegovina



The Society was established in 2016 with the principle objective of enabling the progression of intensive care medicine in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The most recent history of conflict in the region restricted the development of new medical disciplines and so for example in 2008 there were no non-surgical intensive care units in Bosnia and Herzegovina. At that time most critically ill patients (more than 80%) did not have access to mechanical ventilation.

With international support from intensive care practitioners from France, USA and Germany units were established in Sarajevo and Banja Luka. From these early beginnings and with the establishment of additional units in Tuzla and Mostar, there are now 72 ICU beds in the country.

After the creation of this limited intensive care presence a group of dedicated and enthusiastic specialists formed a Society. The first intensive care sub-specialists have been certified with the assistance of faculty from Slovenia, Croatia, Germany and USA. A number of young physicians from internal medicine, anaesthesiology, pulmonary medicine and neurology have now committed to sub-specialty critical care training. In addition to working on improved access and improved outcomes for critically ill patients, the Society is planning a significant expansion in educational and research activities. These include the annual regional ICU symposium "BH-ICU", led by Dr Ognjen Gajic and Dr Emir Festic (now in its ninth year) allowing networking for education, research and quality improvement among intensive care practitioners from Slovenia, Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The leadership of the Medical Intensive Care Society – Bosnia and Herzegovina are confident that membership of the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine will further help to boost the specialty of intensive care in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the Balkan region.



WFSICCM Task Force Manuscripts Published

Congratulations to the members of the WFSICCM Task Forces that completed their work and had manuscripts published. The work efforts of the task force members are most appreciated as the reports reflect updates in the field of critical care globally! All articles are available open access via *Journal of Critical Care* at <http://www.jccjournal.org/>

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Save the Date for the 14th World Congress in Melbourne Australia in 2019

The Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS) and Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) will host the 14th World Congress, in Melbourne, Australia on October 14th to 18th 2019.

Please mark your calendar for this major world-wide event. The quality of the program is exceptional and the delegates will include doctors, government ministers and officials, major business leaders from the pharmaceutical, hospital and allied medical fields, as well as the international media and representatives from the world's leading think-tanks and foundation.



New Member Societies in 2017

At the General Assembly meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on Wednesday, November 8th 2017 it was proposed that the membership of the following societies and one Federation member be ratified. This was approved unanimously and the following societies and Federation were therefore elected to membership of the World Federation:

College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists of Sri Lanka
Botswana Society of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine
Mongolian Society of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine
Medical and Intensive Care Society – Bosnia and Herzegovina
Society of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine – Taiwan
Federacion Panamericana e Iberica de Medicina Crítica y Terapia Intensiva

16th World Congress to be Held in Istanbul in 2023

During the 13th World Intensive and Critical Care Congress in Rio, Brazil, It was announced by the WFSICCM Council that the 16th Congress in 2023 will be held in Istanbul, Turkey. Mark your calendar and plan to join your colleagues on 23-26 august 2023!



About WFSICCM

The World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine (WFSICCM) was established in 1977 and is a membership organization comprised of National Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine. The principle objective of the World Federation is *to promote the highest standards of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine for all mankind, without discrimination*. The WFSICCM now has a membership of over 70 Societies with a combined individual membership of over 70,000 intensive and critical care practitioners throughout the world.

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