

WORLD NEUROLOGY

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WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY ANNUAL REPORTS – 2002

Report of the President

The WFN, established in 1957, recently underwent major organizational changes under the leadership of Lord Walton and Dr. James F. Toole. It established a Secretariat in London, revised its Constitution and Bye-Laws, and redefined its purpose. The Federation has now initiated some of its priority programs, and revitalized its website (www.wfneurology.org), which is used increasingly to complement our official publication, the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, edited by Dr. Robert Lisak, and *World Neurology*, under Dr. Jagjit Chopra. We are also at a turning point not only in modernizing our structure, but in reorienting our philosophy for the cause of neurology as an incorporated charity organization.

Our primary mission centers on the improved care of patients with neurological disorders through education of physicians worldwide. The WFN does not intend to compete with national or regional groups who can address their own educational and research needs with considerable finesse. Rather, we will focus our attention

on more global concerns and advocate implementing programs of international consequence.

We seek to achieve greater worldwide recognition of our discipline, and make the prevention and treatment of neurological conditions a high priority of governmental medical policies. Specifically, we endeavor to encourage and assist the education of young neurologists in the hope of improving patient care where needed (Bergen 2002). To achieve this goal, the Education Committee chaired by Dr. Ted Munsat, a Trustee of the WFN, has developed a number of successful programs. These activities include 1) a CME Program, conducted with 31 national neurological societies utilizing a group discussion of *Continuum*, generously donated by the American Academy of Neurology, and *Seminars in Clinical Neurology* that WFN publishes periodically, 2) Visiting Professorships in Zambia, one of the most satisfactory experiments of neurological education for non-neurologists (Birbeck 2002), 3) Residency Training in Honduras (Medina & Munsat 2001), which graduated the first four residents this year, all returning to their country after fellowship training abroad, and 4) an Educational Survey with a questionnaire designed

to assess the effectiveness of our effort as described in detail on our website.

The Research Committee under the leadership of Dr. Roger Rosenberg also launched new initiatives with the help of Dr. François Boller, Chair of the Publications and Website Committee, to disseminate up-to-date information on recent advances in therapy. Entitled "Research Advances in Neurology", this WFN website covers current research advances in clinical and basic neuroscience in each area of some 30 Research Groups. These reviews emphasize neurotherapeutics, including those treatments available and affordable in developing countries. They are intended to provide neurologists everywhere with an elec-

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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- WFN Annual Reports
- Editorial
- President's Column
- WFN Committee Reports
- WFN Research Group Reports
- Book Reviews & Calendar

Visit the WFN website at <http://www.wfneurology.org>

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EDITORIAL

The progress and achievements of the WFN during the year 2002 are reflected in the current issue in the Annual Reports from the WFN Officers and Chairpersons of some of the Committees. The major works undertaken in 2002 are summarized in the Annual Report of the President and in his Presidential Column. He has commented on the future plans of the Trustees for expansion of those educational services currently provided by the WFN in a limited number of countries of the world and has enlarged on their hopes for advancing neurological research and education globally.

Close co-ordination with the World Health Organization is being achieved through the efforts of the First Vice-President, Dr Johan Aarli. In his report Johan has drawn attention to the need for public awareness of the WFN, for recognition of the role of neurologists in the care of patients and for advocacy of policies that benefit patients with neurological disorders. This committee's major activity in 2002 has been to assist WHO in preparing the neurology part of WHO's Project Atlas.

The Secretary-Treasurer General, Dr Richard Godwin-Austen, is to be congratulated on his unopposed election by the Council of Delegates for a second term of four years. Thanks to his masterly planning, the WFN has now invested £1,000,000

which will secure the financial future of the organization and permit increased expenditure on educational programmes as well as help fund Research Group meetings with priority being given to programmes in the developing countries.

Dr Ted Munsat, Chair of the Education Committee, has extensively highlighted the achievements of this committee during 2002, including the WFN CME programme which is ever expanding its net to cover more countries of the world. The WFN Educational Programme in Zambia and the WFN Programme in Honduras have both been very successful under the care of this committee. The report circulated recently by Dr Alexander Moll provides a window on the persisting health care problems and educational facilities available in Zambia: illustrating how fewer than 400 doctors look after the 10 million Zambian population spread over 72 districts; showing how the WFN Visiting Neurologist Programme at Chainama College of Health Sciences in Lusaka can provide an advisory role in teaching health care trainers; and providing clinical consultancy for updating the Neurological Services of this country.

The performance of a great number of WFN Research Groups has been summarized in the Annual Report of the Chair of the Research Committee, Dr Roger Rosenberg. Detailed reports from some of the Research Groups e.g. on Dementia,

Sleep, Neuroepidemiology and the History of the Neurosciences, demonstrate the high quality of their activities. The Research Groups generally need the continuing support of the membership of WFN both professionally and financially.

The Annual Reports of the Chairpersons of the Structure and Function Committee, Publications and Website Committee, Constitution and Bye-Laws Committee and Membership Committee are also included in this issue.

Recently, a religious cult, owner of a biotech company Clonaid, claimed that the first cloned human baby – a girl called Eve – had been born to a 31-year-old woman. News of the birth was received with scorn by world leaders, religious figures and scientists. Scientific confirmation is awaited but if it proves to be true, there should be universal condemnation. Not long afterwards came the sad news that Dolly the sheep, the first cloned adult mammal, aged 6 years had been put to sleep after a severe lung infection which could not be curtailed in spite of best efforts. The announcement of Dolly's birth in 1997 sent shock waves around the world and the heated debate over the ethics of cloning a human being has become even more intense. Dolly's creator, Dr. Ian Wilmut, is himself one of the critics of human cloning.

I hope Dolly's unexpected death will send
(cont. on p. 5)

DISTRIBUTION OF 'WORLD NEUROLOGY'

Important Announcement

At a meeting of the Editorial Board of *World Neurology* held in Denver during the annual conference of the American Academy of Neurology, it was agreed that all readers should be consulted on how they would like to receive future copies of the publication. Because *World Neurology* is accessible on the WFN Website, it is proposed that each issue may either be read or downloaded from the site and that this electronic format should be the prime means of distribution to the membership. Alternatively, readers may prefer to be sent a copy as an e-mail attachment. Finally, there may be those who do not have Internet access or who choose to continue to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, for these the current arrangements will remain unchanged. A number of factors lie behind this proposal, including cost issues, delays in current distribution provi-

sions by surface mail, etc.

Readers are asked to notify the London Office at the earliest if they wish to continue to receive future issues by either (a) e-mail attachment or (b) hard copy. Otherwise, it will be assumed that a member is willing to access his or her copy on the WFN Website. **These new arrangements are likely to come into effect early in 2004.**

It would also be helpful to the Federation if members could supply current e-mail addresses when responding, together with the website address of their national neurological society, so that our records may be kept up-to-date. Finally, please indicate below whether or not you wish to receive advertising information.

Editor-in-Chief

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The Trustees recently agreed that the Chairpersons of WFN committees should provide a brief report on any activities undertaken by their committee during 2002. Accordingly, this issue of World Neurology includes a number of annual reports not only from the Officers but also from committee chairs. My own report summarizes most major WFN activities that took place during the year 2002 in response to a commonly asked question "What does the WFN do?" In the President's Column, therefore, I would like to briefly supplement my report with a more recent development which is of general interest and add short accounts of two regional meetings in which I participated during the last months of the year.

I preside at the Trustees' meetings, which are now conducted on a monthly basis by teleconference. From this collective activity, we initiate projects and make all the final decisions on any related issues. One of the recurring concerns that surfaces every time we meet relates to the low visibility of WFN in general and the lack of active participation of member societies in particular in the affairs of this organization. As one strategy to tackle the problem, the Trustees have agreed that a Newsletter outlining the activities of WFN should be sent to the Delegates of every country in the Federation, as well as the chairpersons of all WFN committees. To keep all member societies better informed of our progress and promote a closer interaction with WFN, we have thus asked Keith Newton, our Administrator, to summarize the minutes of Officers' and Trustees' meetings as a monthly newsletter, and distribute it to all concerned.



Back row from the left: Dr. Ping-wing Ng, Dr. Tak-hong Tsoi, Dr. Hiu-ming Chan (current president), Dr. Ka-kui Ng, Dr. Andrew Hui. Front row from the left: Dr. Patrick Li (past president), Prof. Jun Kimura, Prof. Richard Kay (Past president)



Left to right: Dr. Aris Triantafyllou, MD, Prof. Nikos Triantafyllou, MD, Prof. Ioannis Mavromatis, MD (Members of the Hellenic Neurological Society), Dr. Klimentini Karageorgiou, MD, (Treasurer of the Hellenic Neurological Society) and Prof. Dimitris Vassilopoulos M.D, (President of the Hellenic Neurological Society).

We have also decided to go electronic with this Delegates' Newsletter according to the general trend, and to provide our members with a more current, and therefore immediate, look at our ongoing activities. I hope that Delegates will now feel better informed about WFN developments and that they in turn will keep the members of their neurological society abreast of the progress that we make on the various issues of common interest. We are also contemplating the possibility of developing an e-mail database for all neurologists of our member societies, which would allow us to make direct individual contact, when appropriate.

On November 6–9, I represented the WFN at the 18th Hellenic National Congress held in Athens under the able direction of Professor Vassilopoulos. The program consisted of an appropriate mixture of many major disciplines of neurology covered by a large international faculty and local speakers, emphasizing recent advances. All sessions were conducted in Greek, but fortunately simultaneous translation was provided for invited guests so that it would not "sound all Greek" to the participants.

I also attended the 15th Annual Scientific meeting of the Hong Kong Neuro-

logical Society on November 16–17, 2002 with Dr. Chan as the Convener. The conference dealt with stroke and movement disorders as the main themes, but other areas such as prion disease and epilepsy were also covered. Prior to this annual meeting, I had the privilege to serve as an examiner for the Hong Kong specialty certification in neurology (and gave a passing score to all candidates assigned to me because they all performed remarkably well).

At the time of this writing, the world is mourning the Columbia tragedy. We are also watching the outcome of UN resolution and US decisions on possible military interventions with trepidation. The WFN has a traditional policy to shy away intentionally from any non-medical issues so as to remain absolutely free of international politics and to concentrate our efforts on promoting patient care by education of neurologists globally. Nonetheless, I cannot help expressing my personal concerns about the possible escalation of violence, which is threatening different corners of the world. These uncertainties notwithstanding, I hope that peace will prevail without major confrontations. My thoughts go out to our member societies, which are directly involved in these conflicts. I wish them well in supporting their cause to continue with the medical mission for patient care, the stated primary objective of our Federation.

Jun Kimura MD
President WFN

(WFN Annual Reports – cont. from p. 1)

electronic syllabus on important new therapies that will be up-dated every six months.

The quadrennial meetings of the World Congresses of Neurology (WCN) serve as the most effective venue for presenting scientific achievements and interacting with delegates of varied backgrounds and perspectives, as attested by the highly successful WCN 2001 held in London, which attracted some 7,000 registrants. The Australian Association of Neurologists hopes to make the next Congress in Sydney equally memorable under the direction of President Bill Carroll, who also serves the WFN as a Trustee. A Planning Meeting is scheduled at the Congress venue on July 5–7, 2003 in conjunction with the Council of Delegates Meeting.

We also work closely with regional neurological organizations to improve communication between member societies and encourage their continued participation and interaction. To further facilitate the networking of information, Dr. Richard Godwin-Austen, Secretary-Treasurer General, has recently initiated a plan to organize a joint meeting between the WFN and regional groups, which, otherwise, would be unable to hold a congress. These conferences will take place in the intervening years of the WCN, i.e., in 2007, two years

after the 2005 WCN. We are currently soliciting applications from regional groups who might be interested in this new venture.

Various local neurological societies and nongovernmental groups share our common interest in advancing neuroscience and its related fields. Dr. Johan Aarli, as First Vice President, leads the Public Relations and WHO Liaison Committee. This effort will enhance issues of stroke and brain function within the WHO framework. It will coordinate various activities essential for the goals of WFN. These include 1) Project Atlas to assist WHO in preparing a catalogue of neurological resources on a global scale, 2) Tobacco Control Program, one of the goals of WHO, 3) enhanced visibility of neurology to improve the mission of WFN, 4) joint effort with psychiatry to remove the stigma of "mental illness", and 5) international campaign against stroke in collaboration with the International Stroke Society (Bogousslavsky et al 2003).

The WFN primarily serves countries in need of external support to enhance their neurological education. We ask affluent countries for resources that can then be distributed effectively. Because our initiatives to promote the neurosciences worldwide will take a great amount of work to prepare and initiate, we will need to gen-

erate an outpouring of interest and energy from member societies in general, and the advanced countries in particular. To achieve these objectives, we must explore a number of options for more active fundraising to attract charitable donations in support of our effort to advance neurological research and education globally. We are anxious to improve the value of membership in the WFN and to achieve the missions and objectives of our newly incorporated Federation.

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Jun Kimura, MD
President, WFN

(Editorial – cont. from p. 3)

signals to those who are thinking of cloning a human baby. Scientists believe that the life of a cloned human baby would be brutally short or burdened with grim handicaps as reflected in an extremely high number of miscarriages – as many as five out of six implanted cloned animal fetuses end in spontaneous abortion. Many cloned offspring die within 24 hours of birth from malformed heart, lungs and kidneys. World neurologists need to join the protests against human cloning. Recently, the USA has banned human cloning and I hope other countries of the world will follow.



Jagjit S. Chopra, FRCP, PhD
Editor-in-Chief.

WFN COMMITTEE REPORTS – 2002

Report of the First Vice President and Chairman of the Public Relations and WHO Liaison Committee

This committee shall consider all matters pertaining to public awareness of the World Federation of Neurology, recognition of the role of neurologists in the care of patients, and advocacy for public and private policies that benefit patients with neurological disorders.

Project Atlas. A major activity in 2002 has been to assist the World Health Organization (WHO) in preparing the neurology part of Project Atlas, a catalogue of neurological resources on a global scale. The Project Atlas initiative to provide information about health resources in different countries was launched by WHO in 2000. The first book from the project was published in October 2001 and was titled, *Atlas: Mental Health Resources in the World*. The publication contained the initial global and regional analyses of data that were

collected from 185 countries and covered 99.3 % of the world's population.

The second, which is a companion to the first, provides the Country Profiles. Each country - small or large - has about 2 pages. The information was gathered in a series of steps. The first involved sending a standard questionnaire to the regional WHO offices with a request that they transmit them to the Ministries of Health in each WHO Member State. More than two thirds of the countries that had originally responded also provided confirmation and corrections. It is available on the Internet at <http://mh-atlas.ic.gc.ca>

The first report covers psychiatry, and the time has now come to turn to neurology. It is important because it may become the first comprehensive catalogue of neurological resources available in the world today. The idea is that Country Profiles will assist health planners and policy-makers within countries to identify areas that need urgent attention. Comparing health resources in developed countries with those of countries in transition is of little value,

but the catalogue will make it possible to compare resources in countries with comparable health care systems.

The tobacco control programme. One of the goals of the World Health Organization (WHO) is to reduce the burden associated with mental and neurological disorders and substance abuse, and to promote good mental health world-wide. The World Federation of Neurology should unite with WHO in working to establish strategies to reach this goal. One part of this activity is the tobacco control programme. The Director-General of WHO, Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, has initiated a first comprehensive action against tobacco smoking. Recognising the serious effects of smoking upon the nervous system, the World Federation of Neurology strongly supports this initiative. WFN has therefore called upon its members to incorporate anti-smoking and physical training programmes in patient counselling as well as in multidisciplinary rehabilitation of patients suffering from such disorders. In addition, the national neurological associations are encouraged to allocate a part of the annual Brain Awareness Week to disseminate information on the negative effects of smoking and physical inactivity.

Neurology and Psychiatry. In several countries, neurology and psychiatry were from the beginning one clinical specialty. There is an interface between neurology and psychiatry which is poorly defined but which needs co-operation. It is increasingly important to find the areas in which we can work together for the good of individuals with cognitive and behavioural disorders. The fight against stigma of mental and neurological illness is important for WFN and there is also a need for a better co-operation to obtain a more unified terminology at WHO about mental illness. WFN has therefore initiated a process to obtain a better defined strategy for what we as an organization should aim at in our relationship with psychiatry: joint congresses, international collaboration between the two societies, using World Neurology to encourage the national neurological and psychiatric associations in the individual member countries.

International campaigns. WHO is organizing a very successful international campaign against epilepsy. This is a public health campaign with main emphasis upon the preventional aspect. WFN feels that there is now time for a similar WHO campaign against stroke with a similar focusing upon the prevention of stroke. This is taken care of by the new Stroke Affairs

and Liaison Committee with Julien Bogousslavsky as the chairman.



Johan A. Aarli
Norway

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer General

In 2001 I reported on the transition the Federation had made during the year from being an unincorporated charity to a charitable company. I also noted how substantial were the assets of the company and that these were being invested with a view both to securing the financial future of the organisation and to permitting increased expenditure on our charitable objectives. The initial sum invested has now been rounded up to £1,000,000 and simultaneously we have been able during this past year to begin to enhance the range of educational programmes we are supporting, as may be seen from the excellent report from Dr Ted Munsat, Chairman of the Education Committee.

During 2002 consideration was given by the Trustees to a proposal from the Association of British Neurologists that the two organisations might jointly purchase a property in London. The questions of adequate office space and the staffing complement appropriate in the future to the Federation's growing range of activities are always very much in the minds of the Trustees. On this occasion it was decided on balance not to commit our funds in this way at the present time, though ideas for the enhancement of our facilities and administration remain under continuing review by the Structure & Function Committee, chaired by one of the Trustees, Dr Julien Bogousslavsky.

Also during 2002, we have introduced a system of financial assistance for Research Group meetings. This may take two forms: a contractual relationship where the WFN may advance to the Research Group organizing the meeting a loan of £10,000, £15,000 or £20,000 repayable within three months of the end of the meeting. If a profit is realized, for a loan of £10,000, the WFN shall be entitled to a share of 10% with 90% being retained by

the Research Group. For loans of £15,000 or £20,000, 15% or 20% of any profits are paid to the WFN. Secondly, a Research Group, including any holding a meeting under the aforementioned contractual arrangements, may apply to the WFN for financial aid in the form of bursaries, support for free registrations etc. Priority will be given to developing countries and those undergoing economic difficulties.

The report from the Chairman of the Education Committee makes brief mention of the WFN Neurology Training Programme and the financial assistance we will be providing based on the successful pilot venture in Honduras. Again our emphasis will be on those countries in greatest need and we plan to allow a wide range of projects to be eligible for support, including support for Residents or Fellowships; purchase of educational material; purchase of equipment necessary to train Residents adequately; assistance in establishing a new neurology training programme in an area of need; or salary support for resident training outside of the home country.

In April, during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology, the Trustees met jointly with some of the Chairmen of WFN committees who were in Denver, including the Finance Committee Chairman, Dr Alberto Portera-Sanchez. Some members of the Finance Committee then held a business meeting in October during the American Neurological Association annual meeting in New York. There is great enthusiasm amongst the Finance Committee members for playing an active part in WFN affairs and the Trustees are eager to benefit from the Committee's advisory role in respect of our long-term financial strategy, particularly in the context of a fund-raising appeal for educational programmes, travelling fellowships and other areas.

At the Denver meeting I made two specific points about WFN budgeting. First was the support for Research Groups detailed above; second was the way in which the annual budget is drawn up. Yearly expenditure is running at some £350K and a system of prospective budgeting and quarterly monitoring has therefore been instigated. If Committee chairmen so wish, they may be included in this process by submitting itemized budget applications during August/September to the London Office. But it must be borne in mind that the guidelines issued by the UK Charity Commission need to be followed scrupulously if the WFN's charitable status,

and the tax advantages it brings, is not to be jeopardised. The committees should follow the example of the Trustees themselves who employ mainly electronic means of communication (monthly conference calls and e-mails) to conduct their business.

In July, the Council of Delegates met in Vancouver and elections took place for the positions of Secretary-Treasurer General and Elected Trustee, the latter falling vacant through the rotation off the Board of Directors of Dr Roberto Sica. Dr Marianne de Visser from the Netherlands was chosen to succeed Dr Sica and, with no other nominees for the Secretary-Treasurer General post, I was re-elected for a second four-year term of office. I thank all those Delegates present who declined to oppose me! The attendance at the Vancouver Annual General Meeting was 24 Delegates/Representatives, 3 of whom also held proxy votes for 4 other countries. Although safely above the minimum number of 15 required to achieve a quorum, it is clearly not a satisfactory arrangement to have important decisions taken at meetings where fewer than 1/3 of the Federation's membership are present. We shall renew our efforts to overcome these difficulties through improved communications and explore alternative means of conducting the Federation's business.

In the intervening years between World Congresses, beginning in 2007, it has been agreed that the Federation should hold a Regional Congress of Neurology with any regional organization or national society that would like to enter into such a joint venture. This would be on the basis of combined planning and a sharing of any profits realized as for World Congresses and the aims would be to help regions that might otherwise have great difficulty in hosting a World Congress which in recent times have been attracting more than 5,000 delegates; and would also allow for an academic meeting to be held free of all the usual additional events with their cost impact; and finally highlight topics of particular concern to the region in question and perhaps secure the involvement of WHO. We are looking to the WFN Regional Vice Presidents, especially in the less developed Regions, to play a key role in this activity prior to application to the Trustees.

During the course of the year, the WFN Administrator, Keith Newton, has introduced a series of summaries of Trustees' discussions and decisions taken at their monthly telephone conference calls. These are be-

ing circulated as "Delegates Newsletters" and we expect Delegates to make them even more widely available within their national societies and amongst colleagues. Hopefully, improved communication and greater participation will be the outcome.

In conclusion, I must yet again acknowledge the continuing generosity of Glaxo-SmithKline whose annual donations, despite an economic climate that is not the most favourable, help promising young neurologists travel to international meetings and gain invaluable experience. It is very much appreciated.



R B Godwin-Austen, MD, FRCP
Secretary-Treasurer General

Report of the Education Committee

During the past year the WFN Education Committee has been quite active in supervising and enlarging existing programs as well as establishing two important new ones – the Visiting Professor series in our Zambia Program and the WFN Training Support Program. The first group of Neurology residents graduated from the WFN supported program at the University of Honduras this year. The WFN Education Committee consists of forty-four members, various subcommittees and an Executive Committee. At the end of the year, our Executive Committee met in London for long range planning. The conclusions of this important meeting will be recorded on our website and in World Neurology. The first WFN Education Effectiveness Survey has recently been completed. These developments are reported in detail as follows.

CME Program

The WFN CME program remains the key-stone of the educational activities of the WFN. Thirty national neurologic societies currently participate, each with an appointed Education Coordinator who is responsible for distribution and evaluation of the six courses they receive yearly. New members include Uganda and Syria. Some centers which began as single programs have expanded to several parts of that country i.e. Russia, Turkey and Egypt.

Special enthusiasm has been evidenced from Eastern and Central European countries. Over 265 Certificates of Achievement have been awarded this year for participation. There is increasing use of the program in resident education, hospital grand rounds and particularly in national neurologic meetings. The American Academy of Neurology continues to be most generous in supplying the *Continuum* courses used in this program without charge. In addition, several new courses in the WFN *Seminars in Clinical Neurology* series are in production in collaboration with Demos Publishing who will publish both electronic and hard copy versions.

WFN Educational Program in Zambia

This program, under the most able direction of Gretchen Birbeck, continues to mature, expand and increase in effectiveness. In a country with no neurologists, the educational program has been directed to medical students, primary care physicians and non-physician primary health care workers. Several recent publications have resulted from this work including: Neurologic Services in Sub-Saharan Africa: a case study among Zambian primary healthcare workers. Birbeck, G.L. and Munsat, T. *J. Neurol. Sci.* 2002;200(1-2); 75-78; Neurologic needs and services in Zambia-A survey of primary healthcare workers. *Arch. Neurol.* Birbeck, G.L. and Munsat, T.; Barriers to care for patients with neurologic disease in rural Zambia. Birbeck, G.L. *Arch. Neurol.* 2000;57; 414-417; A neurologist in Zambia, Birbeck, G.L. *Lancet Neurology*, 2002;1(1); 58-61; Neurologic disease in a rural Zambian hospital. Birbeck, G.L. *Trop Doc* 2001; 31:82-85; Seizures in rural Zambia. Birbeck, G.L. *Epilepsia*.2000;3; 277-281.

The first WFN Visiting Professor to Zambia, Enrique A. Wulff, MD, PhD has just returned from a one month stay at the Chainama College of Health Sciences in Lusaka. Dr. Wulff was selected from a list of over forty applicants. Details of his most important and most productive visit can be found on our website (wfneurology.org). Dr. Wulff carried out extensive instructional and lecture programs during his stay, but of even greater importance he made a thorough evaluation of the existing program and future opportunities, which will be extremely useful for future Visiting Professors.

WFN Program in Honduras

Five years ago, in response to a request by the Neurologic Society of Honduras,

the WFN through its Education Committee took part in a coordinated series of meetings with the Minister of Health of Honduras, University of Honduras officials and the leadership from the Hospital Escuela in Tegucigalpa to establish the first neurology training program in Honduras and one of the few in Central America. This program, under the direction of Prof. Marco Medina, has been supervised by yearly visits from Education Committee members. This year, the first group of four outstanding residents has graduated. As part of the graduation ceremonies, all residents from all departments are required to present their theses. The four graduating neurology residents "swept" all the awards, to the delight of the neurologists involved with the training program. Details are provided in a separate write up in this issue.

External funding for educational programs

During the past year, the Committee has pursued funding for its programs from a large number of both large and small private charity organizations without success. However, we propose that these efforts should continue, with proposals directed to other funding sources as well as utilizing other kinds of professional assistance.

WFN 2002 Education Survey

One hundred and ninety questionnaires were sent to WFN members who are in leadership positions. These included WFN national delegates, national CME education coordinators, Education Committee members and members of the Research Committee. Sixty seven or 35% responded, a very decent response rate for a survey. The details of the questionnaire and responses are on our website www.wfneurology.org. Respondents were asked to rank the four programs in the order of importance of promoting WFN goals. The CME program was ranked the highest in this regard and support for training programs second. Only four expressed a lack of knowledge about one or more programs and a few felt ranking was difficult as each served a somewhat different purpose.

In the specific evaluation of the CME program, ratings were uniformly high, it was felt that the program should be continued and that the number of courses each year (6) was appropriate. Although many respondents were relatively unfamiliar with the Training Support Program, there was very strong support for the concept and enthusiasm for expanding it beyond cur-

rent activities. "This program (should) be expanded to cover all developing countries." "The Honduras experience should be expanded." "Very important forum to promote neurology in the world". "I need more information about this program". There was a significant lack of familiarity with the program to train non-neurologists in Zambia, despite the fact that all respondents are involved with some WFN activities. Nonetheless, there was significant support for continuing and improving the program. The results relating to the NIPP program reflect a general lack of awareness of the nature of this activity. In fact, there is little on-going activity as the program director is in the process of assessing progress after a prolonged period of apparent inactivity.

In summary and conclusion, there was a good consensus on certain aspects. Uniformly, although varying with each program, there is a relative lack of awareness of the WFN's educational programs, even amongst those who are active WFN members. There is also a consensus, amongst those that know about or participate in the programs, that they are worthwhile, important and should be continued and expanded.

WFN Aid For Training Programs

The WFN Trustees have recently approved a modest grant program for neurology training programs in low resource countries to be given on a competitive basis. Announcements will appear shortly in *Neurology*, *J. Neurol. Sci.*, *World Neurology* and on our website.

Global Neurology Training Programs Survey

A survey about neurology training programs has been sent to WFN Delegates [and repeated once] and other knowledgeable sources. Replies from 60% of member countries have been received, and the data are being tabulated. The most difficult, yet important, information relates to countries or regions without training programs, who of course are not represented in the WFN.



Theodore L. Munsat, M.D.
Chairman, WFN Education Committee

Report of the Chairman of the Research Committee

The Research Committee composed of 28 Research Groups comprising the major fields of clinical neurology met in Denver April 2002 and was attended by 15 chairs of the Research Groups and by Jun Kimura, President, WFN, Theodore Munsat, Chair, Educational Committee and Keith Newton, WFN Administrator. A new initiative of the Research Committee, the formation of a new Research Committee Website "Research Advances in Neurology" was put forward by Roger Rosenberg, Chair of the Research Committee, with the intent of developing an electronic syllabus emphasizing "New and Emerging Neuro-Therapeutics: Results of Basic and Clinical Research". The initiative was discussed and approved unanimously. This new WFN Research Committee Website will be an effective means of providing up-to-date information for neurologists everywhere related to neurotherapeutics. The intent is to update it annually. It was agreed that neurotherapeutics will serve further to unite the Research Groups with this common theme and thus be inclusive involving neurologists, whether basic neuroscientists or physician-scientists, or clinicians doing clinical trials or providing care for patients.

At the present time, 12 Research Groups have submitted reviews for the WFN Research Committee Website. They can be viewed on the internet using www.wfneurology.org and follow the prompts to the Research Committee Website.

Reports from the Research Groups:

The **Research Group on Neuromuscular Diseases**, chaired by Arthur Asbury, held a highly successful International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases in July 2002 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. It was organized by Andrew Eisen, who served as President of the Congress, and George Karpati, who was Chair of the Scientific Program Committee. The Congress was attended by 935 delegates from 55 countries. Lifetime Achievement Awards were given on behalf of the WFN at the Gala Banquet to honor senior physician-scientists who have devoted their careers to the betterment of understanding and treating neuromuscular disorders.

The **Research Group on Motor**

Neuron Diseases, chaired by Michael Swash, announced the establishment of their scientific journal *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Related Motor Neuron Disorders*. Five issues were published during the first year with the inaugural issue published at the end of 2000. Three supplements have been published as well, allowing publication of various locally arranged conferences on ALS held around the world during the year.

The **Research Group on Medical Education**, chaired by Matthew Menken, has emphasized education of patients, families, and the global population generally and primary healthcare workers. They sponsored a recently completed monograph *Common Brain Disorders: a Guide for Non-Professionals*. It is hoped it will be published soon. Drs. Donna Bergen and Gretchen Birbeck have successfully and innovatively continued their work on the neurology workforce globally and the role of primary care health workers in the providing of neurological services.

The **Research Group on Palliative Care in Neurology**, chaired by Dr. R. Voltz, held a meeting of their group in Palermo in April, 2001. They have developed an international group of neurologists concerned with palliative care and have supported the publication of a book on *Palliative Care in ALS* edited by Drs. D Oliver, G D Borasio and D Walsh.

The **Research Group on Demyelination** is chaired by Dr. Jurg Kesselring. The Research Group is emphasizing a detailed analysis of data from all peer-reviewed groups and published papers on therapeutic trials in multiple sclerosis. They are studying further the natural course of multiple sclerosis.

The **Research Group on Parkinsonism and Related Disorders**, chaired by Dr. Donald Calne, is planning an International Congress for May 2003 in Beijing, China. Dr. Calne appointed an Executive Committee of 12 to formulate the policy.

The **Research Group on Neuroethics**, chaired by Dr. Franz Gerstenbrand, is developing several programs including a review of current criteria of brain death, the vegetative state, consent from patients with altered mentation or level of consciousness and ethical issues related to stem cell research and human genetics.

The **Research Group on Neuroepi-**

demology is now chaired by Will Longstreth, Jr., and has an active educational program held in conjunction with the WFN and the American Academy of Neurology.

The **Research Group on Sleep Research** is chaired by Pradeep Sahota, and supports educational activities at the WFN World Congress and the American Academy of Neurology. They are currently reviewing epidemiologic data regarding sleep and sleep disorders and plan to promote an international collaboration and investigation related to disorders of sleep, restless leg syndrome, insomnia and narcolepsy.

The **Research Group on Neuroimaging**, chaired by Joseph C. Masdeu, is developing an electronic edition of images from a variety of neurology journals which have a clear and evident diagnostic value. They will be incorporated into our new WFN Research Committee Website. In addition, they plan a public service website, called "Neuroimage Portal" which will be operated by the World Federation of Neurology.

The **Neuro-ophthalmology and Neuro-otology Research Group** has been reorganized and is chaired by Dr. G. Michael Halmagyi. They plan an emphasis on exchange of research and clinical data such as figures and video clips utilizing our new Research Committee Website.

The **Research Group on Clinical Neuropharmacology** is chaired by Amos D. Korczyn. This Research Group is active in planning educational programs in Europe and Asia and hosts clinicians from developing countries for three months' training in neurology at Tel-Aviv University Medical School.

The **Research Group on Neuropathology**, chaired by Stephan Patt, continues to develop educational programs, including one recently on cerebrospinal fluid in infectious, tropical and metabolic diseases as well as intra-thecal immune responses and protein markers of neurodegenerative disorders. A consensus paper entitled "Quality Assessment for CSF protein Analysis: International Consensus by an Internet-Based Group Discussion" has recently been developed for publication. They also have a website for all neurologists interested in CSF studies at www.teamospace.net/csf.

The **Research Group on Space and**

Underwater Neurology, chaired by Dr. Franz Gerstenbrand, has developed an innovative program studying the neurological effects of space travel in close cooperation with experts in the field in the United States and Russia. They are studying microgravity. The research program in Space Neurology in real and simulated microgravity will continue their research collaborations with space scientists in Moscow. The Research Program in Underwater Neurology is studying spinal cord lesions and spine decompression and symptoms related to spasticity with diving at St. Geran, Mauritius. Hyperbaric medicine projects are also being conducted and coordinated with the Ocean Hyperbaric Neurologic Center at Lauderdale by the Sea, Florida, United States and the Hyperbaric Center at the University of Vienna.

The **Research Group on Organization and Delivery of Neurological Services** is chaired by Dr. Bosko Barac. The group has identified that neurological diseases constitute worldwide a significant proportion of all illness. Further, neuroepidemiological studies to document specific prevalence and incidences rates and current means of delivery of neurologic care need to be studied.

The Research Committee will meet in Honolulu, Hawaii, with the American Academy of Neurology on April 2, 2003, and the major agenda item will be a discussion of the scientific program for the World Congress of Neurology 2005 to be held in Sydney, Australia. The recommendations from the Research Committee will be formulated at our April 2003 meeting and will be forwarded to Dr. Berkovic. The Research Committee has been active in developing our "Research Advances in Neurology" WFN Research Committee Website and individually each Research Group has been active developing regional, national and in some cases, international educational programs.



Roger N. Rosenberg, MD
Chair, Research Committee

Report of the Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*

Further changes were made to the editorial board in October. Oded Abramsky (Israel), Donald Paty (Canada), and Michael Swash (UK) rotated off the board. I wish to thank these members for their years of service to the journal and to welcome the new board members, Tamir Ben-Hur (Israel), Howard Feldman (Canada), Anders Sima (USA), and Israel Steiner (Israel).

JNS paid tribute to George W. Bruyn, a former editor of *JNS*, and Guglielmo Scarlato, both of whom died this year. They were recognized worldwide as leaders in their field and will be greatly missed.

Fourteen issues, including seven double issues, featuring 170 articles, two Cumulative Author and Subject Indexes, one supplement containing "Abstracts of the Xth International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases held in Vancouver, Canada 7–12 July, 2002," and one special issue containing "Papers from the 2nd International Congress on Vascular Dementia held in Salzburg, Austria on 24–27 January 2002" by guest editors Amos D. Korczyn, Gustavo C. Roman, and Natan M. Borstein were published.

Clinical research still dominates every issue. Only 10% of all submissions were basic (non-human) research. Ad hoc reviewers were acknowledged in March, vol. 195.2. We continue to work on monitoring the review cycle to accelerate the process. 203 manuscripts were accepted in 2002 and 164 manuscripts were rejected.

The distribution of manuscripts accepted by country parallels that of the past four years. The top four ranked countries were Japan (30%), USA (26%), Germany (6%), and Italy (5%). These four countries alone accounted for 137 or 68% of all manuscripts accepted in 2002. Geographically, accepted manuscripts were as follows: Africa 3; Asia 19; Australia 3; Eastern Europe 3; Japan 61; Middle East 5; Scandinavia 3; South/Central America 1; USA and Canada 56; and Western Europe 49.



Robert P. Lisak, M.D.

Report of the Editor-in-Chief, *World Neurology*

The three issues of *World Neurology* published and mailed in March, June and September 2002 appeared on schedule. However, for technical reasons, the December 2002 issue was delayed by about 11/2 months.

During the Editorial Advisory Committee and WFN Publications Committee meetings held in Denver during the AAN meeting in April/May 2002, it was decided that efforts should be made to reduce the annual expense of printing and mailing *World Neurology*. Members of the World Federation of Neurology are therefore being requested to make use of electronic media and retrieve every issue of the newsletter from the WFN website or receive it through e-mail. Important announcements in this regard were inserted in the June, September and December 2002 issues. Some of our colleagues have responded to these announcements favourably and opted for receiving *World Neurology* from the WFN website; however, this response has fallen short of expectations and I would appeal again to WFN members to help the Federation reduce its costs so that the funds saved may be utilized for other important goals of the WFN. Members are also requested to immediately inform the WFN office in London of any change in their address.

In spite of reminders about sending important regional news, the response from Regional Vice Presidents in this respect has been unsatisfactory. They are requested again to send items of interest for publication in *World Neurology*.

Jagjit S. Chopra, FRCP, PhD

Report of the Chairman, Structure & Function Committee

With the growth of the WFN and the multiplication of international exchanges, educational projects, and many other topics needing to be addressed quickly and efficiently by the Trustees, Committees, and Secretariat, specific issues related to the WFN's inner structure and functioning have to be dealt with on a regular basis. This is the task of the WFN Structure & Function Committee, which is composed of Antonio Culebras (USA), Jagjit Chopra (India), Michael Donaghy (UK), Michael Hennerici (Germany), Kaji (Japan), and J. Bogousslavsky (Switzerland, chairman).

In 2002, the Committee, which met face-to-face in Denver during AAN, had to address the following topics:

Potential moving of WFN Secretariat to new offices

Sharing offices between the WFN Secretariat and the Association of British Neurologists (ABN)

Purchasing office space in London for the WFN Secretariat

Examining the issue of locating the WFN Secretariat in a country other than that of the Secretary-Treasurer General.

While local moves, purchase offers, and office sharing with ABN have not been judged by the Committee to be worth pursuing at the present time (an opinion which was subsequently endorsed by the Trustees), the Committee is now examining more strategic options. These include entering into an association between the WFN and a professional management company, with the aim of their carrying out secretarial and other specific logistic activities for the WFN. This move could potentially be linked to fund raising development, now virtually non-existent outside the World Congresses.

Any suggestion on this topic by WFN members will be welcome, and should be sent to Julien.Bogousslavsky@hospvd.ch. Hopefully, a detailed assessment of all options can be completed during 2003, with a detailed report to the WFN Trustees and members.



Julien Bogousslavsky,
Committee chairman

Report of the Chairman of the Publications and Website Committee

This is a report concerning the activities of our Committee. First of all, concerning the web, as you can see by looking at the site <http://www.wfneurology.org>, it has undergone a major restyling and new contents have also been added, namely an exhaustive links page that we hope will be useful to anyone seeking information in the neurosciences area. It is no longer hosted by Elsevier and it has a much higher rank in the search engines.

The next steps will be (1) to continue to publish and, as we go along, update the material sent by Dr Rosenberg (Research Advances in Neurology). So far, 16 reports are already available; (2) to check every external link (meetings and other external resources) and maintain those pages (deleting old meetings, adding new ones, looking for further links to societies and departments in the neurology field). Right now, links are divided into "Neurology" and "related" links. The Neurology link brings one to the address of Departments of Neurology as well as to links organized according to major pathologies. The related links lead one to various sites including links with other Societies; and (3) to collect and prepare material related to grants and funding opportunities for further appreciation by the Website Committee;

The Webmaster, Bento de Sousa, is also working on adding a counter to the various sections of the site and giving the website the capability of interactive communication. I suggest that all of you take a critical look at the organization and content of the site and let me have your comments. On a related matter, the London Office of WFN will get a new e-mail address linked to our site. However the AOL one will continue to be operational for quite a while, so again people will not notice the change.

Publications: Last Fall, there was a meeting in Vienna with representatives from Elsevier. One of the items was how to increase revenues from the *JNS* and also if possible from *World Neurology*. Some propositions have been tossed around, but my feeling is that the Editors (Dr. Lisak and Dr. Jagjit Chopra) must be strongly involved in any discussion on these matters. This will be discussed at the Committee's next meeting (at the AAN). The Publisher of the *ALS and Other Neuron Disorders* journal, Taylor and Francis, has prepared a new contract. We are in the process of discussing some of the terms.

The Editorial Board of the *Alzheimer Journal* (ADAD) has given its approval to an affiliation with the WFN/RGD, but nothing concrete has happened yet.



François Boller, MD, PhD
Paris, France

Report from the Chairman of the Constitution and Bye-laws Committee

Committee members:

Prof Ashraf Kurdi (Chairman), Dr Richard Godwin-Austen, Dr John King, Dr Francois Maugière, Dr Federico Micheli, Prof Marc Nuwer, Prof Bhim Sen Singhal, Dr Nobuo Yanagisawa, Dr Saeed A Bohlega, Prof Carlos Chouza, Prof Giancarlo Comi, Prof Lueder Deecke, Dr Michael Donaghy, Prof Dr Osamah Elwan, Dr Asma Fischer.

Charges and guidelines of the Committee:

(1) To consider changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association or other procedural matters at the request of any Officer or member of the Federation (2) To report the committee's deliberations to the Management Committee (Trustees) for their consideration and, if necessary, referral to the Council of Delegates (3) To evaluate potential procedural changes which may come from other committees, such as the Management Committee (Trustees)

Activities: (1) At the joint meeting of the WFN Officers and committee chairs held in Vienna on October 29, 2002, the charges and guidelines were further elaborated. The Committee reviewed the new Memorandum and Articles now governing the Federation's operations. This was found to be a broad, general document needing to be supplemented by more detailed procedures and it fell to this committee to develop these. There seemed to be two ways of proceeding: (a) distribute the Memorandum and Articles themselves to the Committee; or (b) for the Trustees to summarize on paper those things that needed to be addressed as priorities. Guidelines were clearly necessary. After that, the Committee's ideas and suggestions would be invited prior to referral again to the President and Trustees so that the recommended changes could be further discussed, approved and implemented. It was decided to send to all members of the Committee a copy of the current Memorandum and Articles of Association, charges and guideline for each committee together with the minutes of this meeting for review. (2) The Committee decided that if any assistance was needed from the firm of lawyers employed by the Federation, then it should be done via the London Office. (3) The Committee recommended that the Trustees look into the present system used by the Nominating Committee to select the slate of candi-

dates for the Council of Delegates meeting. (4) The Committee discussed the job description of the Regional Vice Presidents, since they do not have a formal description. The Committee decided that as a first step the following issues should be tackled by the Regional Vice Presidents: (a) contribute news from their region to *World Neurology* and the WFN website. (b) Become involved in the planning of Regional Congresses that the Trustees are introducing as a joint venture between the WFN and Regional Organizations or national societies within certain regions. The Committee shall further study this issue to develop a formal job description for the Regional Vice Presidents.



Ashraf Kurdi
Chairman, Constitution and Bye-laws
Committee

Report of the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee (MC) was formed in January 2002. The President of the World Federation of Neurology (WFN), Dr. Jun Kimura, invited Dr. Roberto E. P. Sica to chair the Committee. People, within the Committee, are Karl Einhaupl, Andrew Eisen, Richard Kay, Kerry Mills, Theodore Munsat, Amado San Luis, Yukito Shinohara, Ragnar Stien, Noshir Wadia, and Marianne de Visser.

The mandate given to the Committee was to contact National Neurological Societies (or Associations) or individual neurologists which or who are currently non-members of the WFN and to invite them to apply for affiliation explaining the advantages and requirements of such a membership.

Countries which are non-members of the Federation

Africa: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and

Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Americas: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

Eastern Mediterranean: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Iran, Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Yemen.

Europe: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Monaco, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

South East Asia: Bhutan, Democratic Republic of Korea, Nepal.

Western Pacific: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam, American Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Tokelau, Wallis et Futuna.

The preceding list was circulated among the members of the Committee explaining that in almost all these countries the WFN has no information regarding the current state of the practice and teaching of Neurology. The WFN neither knows the

number of neurologists working in each, nor their needs. Also, it was pointed out that the first step in this direction is to gather information about the state of the discipline in these countries. It was suggested that if the members of the Committee happen to know a person in any of these countries who may give that information, it would be wise to contact him or her asking if they have a Neurological Society or a Neurological Group of any kind and how many neurologists they have. Also a letter was sent to the Delegates of countries, belonging to the WFN, located in geographical proximity of the non-member countries suggesting the same procedure. Letters and e-mails have been sent to neurologists living in most of the above mentioned countries. Positive replies were received from Paraguay, Moldova, Ghana, Iran and Mongolia and initial contacts between the Secretariat of the WFN and the Regional Neurological Authorities of those countries have started.

Regarding mainland China, the initial contacts were made between the Chairman of the MC and the president of the Neurological Society of the People's Republic of China, Dr. Chen. In summary, Dr. Chen said that mainland China would like to join the WFN. A meeting of the WFN Authorities and the representatives of Hong Kong, Taiwan and mainland China was held in Vancouver last June, where the position of each country regarding their representation within the Federation was dis-

cussed; it was agreed that, for the time being, Taiwan will maintain its Delegate, while it was accepted that Hong Kong is part of mainland China since 1999. Therefore, if mainland China joins the WFN, they will have to elect just one Delegate to represent the country. Thereafter, the President of the WFN was invited to visit mainland China to personally discuss these matters with Dr. Chen and other representatives of the China Medical Association, the meeting took place in Beijing last September and progress was made, the positions of the Federation and of mainland China now being clearer; another meeting has been planned to be held in China in the first quarter of 2003.

Finally, the MC has participated in discussions about the policy of the WFN regarding those countries which are unable to pay the usual fees. The definitive position in this regard will be adopted by the Trustees. Currently, the MC continues to work trying to reach all those countries which still are non-members of the Federation.



Roberto E.P. Sica
Chair, Membership Committee

WFN RESEARCH GROUP REPORTS

Research Group on Dementia

I am offering this brief report of activities of our Research Group prior to our upcoming meeting in Hawaii. I would first like to report that the affiliation agreement with the *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* international journal is still approaching finalization. At an editorial board meeting that some Group members attended, and in a subsequent e-mail poll, Dr. Morris received support for the affiliation. François Boller and the Publications Committee of the WFN will move this forward after they receive a draft contract from Lippincott. Based on my discussions with the parties involved I expect the arrangement to be satisfactory to both parties. The agreement will include a discount for members of the WFN Research Group and opportunities to publish our activities in the journal.

We have been active in helping to organize international meetings. We were official sponsors of the Third International Phar-

macoeconomics Conference in Stockholm held in July 2002 at the 8th International Conference on AD & Related Disorders, Alzheimer's Association. This was a very successful meeting judging from the good attendance and was coordinated with the quality of life meeting held at the conference itself. We were also co-sponsors of an International Working Group for the Harmonization of Dementia Drug Guidelines, 2nd Regional Pacific-Asian meeting, which was held in Beijing in November. This was also well attended with most attendees from China, a sizable number from other Asian countries and about a dozen non-Asian academics. A meeting report is being submitted to ADAD. In November, Piero Antuono and I represented the WFN as part of a meeting with other professional societies concerning guidelines for diagnosis of dementia. This meeting was sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association and featured the American Academy of Neurology guidelines as well as those from the American Psychiatric Association, the American Association

of Geriatric Psychiatry and the American Medical Association. A press release was prepared which I once again shared with some of you but which I also submitted to Keith Newton for consideration for WFN publication. The document highlights the similarities in guidelines amongst different organizations. Piero is continuing to lead the Luigi Amaducci Fellowship selection. He has 20 finalists who presented in Stockholm at the International Alzheimer Conference. Material has been distributed to members of the Executive Committee who are part of the selection process.

With regards to membership and finances, François Boller reports the membership list stands officially at 254. Timo Erkinjuntti reports the European balance of EUR 5,349.86. Piero reports the US balance of 7,945.87 USD.

Finally, as you know, I have made a priority of my term as chairperson to formalize the process of leadership succession in our Research Group. To that end I have asked Martin Rossor, our Past President, to chair

a task force on nominations. I have asked Martin to present a slate of candidates for nomination to assume leadership after April of 2004. As you can see, our Research Group has continued a pattern of international activity that is in line with the purpose of our group. Thanks for your efforts.

Peter J. Whitehouse, MD, PhD
WFN RGD Chairman

Research Group on Sleep

The Sleep Research Group met during the Annual APSS meeting in June 2002. The meeting was attended by all members except Dr Thorpy and Dr Guillemainault. Several issues were discussed. (1). Dr Sahota was unanimously elected to serve as the Chairperson of the Group. (2). Participation in the WFN meeting in Sydney and preliminary thoughts on Sleep topics to be presented at that meeting were discussed. This information had already been conveyed to the WFN London Office. (3). Preparation of the Current Status of Sleep Medicine document to be posted on the WFN site was also discussed. This document had already been sent to the WFN London Office as well. (4). Next meeting was tentatively planned for during the APSS meeting in Chicago in June 2003. Income and expenses - None.

Pradeep Sahota MD
Chairman, Research Group on Sleep

Research Group on Neuroepidemiology

The Neuroepidemiology Research Group held its annual regional North American meeting on April 19, 2002 in Denver, Colorado. Twelve scientific papers on a wide range of neuroepidemiologic topics were presented. An international gathering of neurologists and epidemiologists participated. The Group acknowledged Dr. Michael Earnest's role in securing the meeting site. A business meeting was held and is summarized below.

At last year's meeting in Philadelphia, elections were held. An Executive Committee was formed to consist of the former chair, the current chair, and the secretary. A person would serve two years in each post and then advance to the next post. Dr. Milton Alter is the former chair. Based upon the elections, Dr. Will Longstreth is the current chair, and Dr. Giovanni Savettieri is the secretary. At next year's meeting, the Group will need to nominate and elect a secretary.

WFN JUNIOR TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS – 2003

The WFN is once again offering a number of Junior Travelling Fellowships to attend WFN approved congresses in 2003. There will be ten Fellowships each worth up to £1,000. Applicants should be young neurologists (not over the age of 42 years) from developing countries holding a post no higher than Associate Professor. Applications (one clear copy of CV, a letter of recommendation from Head of Department, a covering letter giving name and date of congress for which travel funds are sought and whether the applicant is presenting a paper or poster, plus an estimate of expenses) must be sent to the WFN London Office to arrive by 30th May 2003.

The number of submissions to this year's regional North American meeting was low, despite calls for abstracts as in prior years. We anticipate that next year's regional North American meeting will occur on Friday 2003 April 4 in conjunction with the annual American Academy of Neurology meeting to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii from March 29 to April 5. The mailing list for the Group contains close to 500 names but is in need of updating. The Group discussed the need to identify individuals in regions of the world to make sure that the list included neuroepidemiologists for that region and to try to update information as much as possible.

Dr. Longstreth and Dr. Alter reviewed a meeting of the Research Committee, which encompasses all of the research groups. This committee's new Chair, Dr. Roger Rosenberg wants the groups to concentrate on therapeutics. Use of the web site for the World Federation of Neurology was encouraged. Our Group will use the web site to post all materials that are sent to its members. The postings will be as PDF documents.

Financial Report

Revenues from Registration fees of 2002 regional North American meeting:	\$560
Total Expenses	\$210
Deficit from 2001 meeting	\$135
Balance	\$215

The balance will be used to correct the deficit from the 2001 meeting in Philadelphia and will be applied to the 2003 meeting in Hawaii.

WT Longstreth, Jr, MD
Chair, Research Group on Neuroepidemiology

Research Group on the History of the Neurosciences

The WFN Research Group on the History of the Neurosciences is one of two international non-governmental organizations devoted exclusively to supporting research in the history of neuroscience, and

the only one composed solely of neurologists. It has, at present, two principal missions: it organizes an international symposium every four years under the auspices of the World Congress of Neurology, and it is a co-sponsor of the Journal of the History of the Neurosciences, the only international journal on the topic. During 2002, the Research Group has been engaged in preliminary planning for the next World Congress. Provisional plans call for a symposium of original research on the history of cerebral localization, which is aimed to be publishable, and both platform and poster sessions of original research. The Research Committee's present focus on new and emerging therapeutics is not directly applicable to the Research Group on History's activities. However, a sophisticated examination of the way that the world responded to new technology in the past may inform modern scientists on methods for research collaboration or dissemination of new scientific ideas or techniques.

The Research Group's leadership has been engaged in two organizational goals. First, we have sought to increase the recruitment of participating members from Asia, Africa, Oceania and South America. Second, we have been investigating sources of funding to hold a meeting interposed between the World Congresses. The Research Group has close ties to the leadership of other societies devoted to historical research, including the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (ISHN), the European Federation of Neurological Societies Panel on the History of Neurology and the History Section of the American Academy of Neurology. It shares the masthead of the Journal with the ISHN and European Club for the History of Neurology. No joint meetings are planned, but individual members of the Research Group faithfully attend other historical meetings.

Finally, the leadership of the Research Group has been involved in the solution of organizational problems of the Journal, including stabilizing its circulation. The journal is presently stable editorially and finan-

cially.

George K. York,
Chairman, Research Group on the
History of the Neurosciences

Residency Training Program In Honduras First Graduation Ceremony

An exciting and important project, the neurology training program in Honduras, has been established by Professor Marco Medina and his faculty at the National Autonomous University, with the assistance of the World Federation of Neurology. It is one of the very few such training programs in Central America. The first four residents, all Honduran nationals, began their training program in 1999. The WFN has monitored their progress throughout. The three years' neurology training culminated in the residents presenting their theses at graduation in November 2002. The topics they had chosen were the AIDS Dementia Complex (Dr Heike Hesse), the National Prevalence of Epilepsy (Dr Lazaro Molina), Genetics of the Epilepsies (Dr Reyna Duron), and Alzheimer's Disease and APOE4 (Dr Humberto Su). The graduation activities culminated in a ceremony in Tegucigalpa, at which 100 residents from other disciplines also graduated. Having actively participated in the development of the program, Dr Theodore Munsat, Chair of the WFN Education Committee and Dr Alberto Portera-Sanchez, Chair of the WFN Finance Committee and member of the Education Committee, were invited as guests of honour.

The residents are now embarking on fur-

ther training outside Honduras with special emphasis on the enhancement of their knowledge of research techniques. (Dr Heike Hesse is working in the laboratory of Professor Eugene Major at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA; Dr Humberto Su is studying with Professor Vladimir Hachinski in Ontario, Canada; Dr Lazaro Molina is spending one year at the Hospital La Paz in Madrid, working with Professor Exuperio Diez Tejedor; Dr Reyna Duron is working at UCLA with Professor Antonio Delgado Escueta). Following their year abroad, all four residents plan to return to Honduras to practice.

Professor Medina has been a prime mover in the establishment of the training program, and his efforts demonstrate what is possible with dynamism and vision. The benefits of the Honduran program are wide-ranging, including a significant impact on the training of medical students in Honduras, and positive repercussions for other hospital and medical school departments, such as internal medicine, neurosurgery and psychiatry. The program can also be used as a model by other countries where there is a neurological need. Apart from assisting to produce clinical neurologists of the highest calibre, by establishing a means of periodic re-certification, the program also contributes to the maintenance of these skilled neurologic healthcare professionals.

The WFN can offer financial support for neurology training programs that specifically aim to improve the training of neurologists, such as resident or fellow support, purchase of educational materials and equipment necessary to train neurology residents. Awards are for a period of 1–3 years to the institutions involved, to a maximum of \$25,000 per year. See the

special insertion in this issue on this training programme.

Monica Brough
Administrative Assistant, WFN Education Committee

1935 London International Congress

Thank you to all those who kindly came forward with suggestions as to the identities of the people shown in the photograph of participants in the 1935 International Congress of Neurological Science, held in London, that we featured in the September 2002 issue of *World Neurology*. To date, we believe we have put names to the following, with varying degrees of certainty:

A8: Dr E Graeme Robertson (Australia), B5: Sir Charles Symonds, C4: Dr E A Carmichael, C27: Dr J N Cumings, C31: Dr Charles D. Aring (1904–1998) *who trained in Boston with Stanley Cobb; Head of Neurology at University of Cincinnati for many decades; President of the American Neurological Association in the 1960s; friendly with Denis Williams & Francis Walshe at Queen Square; travelling in Europe in 1935*, D4: Professor G. H. Monrad-Krohn (Oslo, Norway), D24: Dr Redvers Ironside, D28: Dr C S Hallpike, E2: Otfried Foerster *who looked after Lenin at intervals for two years. He practised in Breslau, Germany (now Wraclaw, Poland) and was held in such high esteem that he remained an Emeritus member of the Society of British Neurological Surgeons despite the war. He also escaped Hitler's wrath despite his wife being Jewish. They both died of TB within 2 days of each other*, E5: Sir Gordon Holmes, E6: Abraham Ornstein (University of Pennsylvania), E16 (or F1?): Lord Brain,

WFN NEUROLOGY TRAINING PROGRAMME

In pursuit of its primary mission to improve human health world-wide by promoting the prevention of neurological disease and the care of those afflicted with neurological disorders, the WFN through its Neurology Training Programme (NTP) is making support available for those countries in greatest need of assistance i.e. those designated by the World Bank as having "low income" or "middle income" economies. Emphasis will be placed on training programmes. The specific goal of the programme is to produce clinical neurologists of the highest calibre.

Eligibility: The programme is designed to support projects that result in the improved training of neurologists. Examples of projects which qualify are: (1) Resident or fellow support (2) Purchase of educational material (3) Purchase of equipment necessary to train residents adequately (4) Assistance in establishing a new neurology training programme in an area of need (5) Salary support for resident training outside of the home country (6) Funding for a visiting senior neurologist from abroad to take part in clinical and procedural training to a fledgling local neurology department

Applications: Applications may be made by Training Programme Directors or similar administrative officials. There is no application form. A brief letter of intent (1–2 pages) – providing a general description of the training programme, major personnel involved, rationale for request and potential benefits for the programme and country – should be sent to the WFN London Office to arrive by September 1. These will be reviewed and ranked by a specially appointed sub-committee of the Education Committee. Those programmes deemed worthy of further consideration will then be referred back to the applicant for a more detailed proposal to be submitted, including an itemized budget and the CV and bibliography of the Programme Director. Final award decisions will be made by the WFN Trustees and announced on December 1.

Terms of Award: Awards to successful institutions will be for periods of 1–3 years. Yearly progress reports will be required.

F1: Dr Earl Walker (USA), F3: Dr Adie, F7: F M R Walshe, F10: Knud Winther (Denmark, 1893–1981), G4: Mr (later Sir) Geoffrey Jefferson, G6: Einar Sørensen (Denmark, 1896–1974), G17: Professor Alajouanine (Paris), H12: Dr (later Prof) F Natrass, H16: Mogens Fog (Denmark, 1904–1990), I12: Dr Wilder Penfield, I14: Knud Krabbe (Denmark, 1885–1966), I16: Tracy Putnam (at Harvard in 1935, later New York), J14: John Fulton, physiologist.

Further contributions are welcome and the photograph remains accessible either by going to the WFN Website and accessing the Publications section of WFN resources (click on the pdf format September issue of *World Neurology*); or by contacting Keith Newton, the Administrator in the London Office, for an enlarged copy of one or more of the photograph's ten sections.

IMSB Activities 2002

During 2002 IMSB contributed to many of the projects undertaken by the Multiple Sclerosis International Federation.

Sylvia Lawry Centre for Multiple Sclerosis Research

The Chair of IMSB is a member of both the Scientific Oversight Committee (SOC) and Administrative Board of the SLCMSR.

There are 12 other IMSB members on the SOC and Working Groups.

MSIF website: The MSIF website www.msif.org was relaunched in 2002. IMSB members were vital in quality control for information on clinical trials, treatments, symptoms and other medical and scientific content. They also contribute valuable assistance and support in the ongoing editorial process.

Research Updates and Database:

The MSIF website includes a searchable Research Database, consisting of all peer-reviewed MS related articles published since November 2001. The database is updated each week, thanks to a team at the Institute of Neurology, London.

Multiple Sclerosis: The Guide to Treatment and Management: The fifth edition of *The Guide*, by four IMSB members, was published in 2001. The full text is available on the MSIF website in a fully searchable format. It is also available online in German, French and Spanish. In addition the authors updated the online text in December 2002 to take account of all the latest research developments.

MS in Focus: IMSB gives guidance on the strategic direction of MSIF's new biannual magazine for all affected by MS. Two IMSB members, including the IMSB Chair, are on the Editorial Board. The magazine is available online at www.msif.org in Eng-

lish, German and Spanish.

Charcot Award: The process for the selection of the winner of the Charcot Award 2003 began in late 2002. The IMSB Scientific Programs Committee led the way in this process, and it was announced in January 2003 that the winner is Dr Henry McFarland, himself a member of IMSB.

Du Pré Grants: In 2002 IMSB awarded Du Pré Grants to eight trainees participating in the Genetic Analysis of MS in Europeans (GAMES) project.

1st European MS Day

More than 100 people, including IMSB members, Members of the European Parliament, people with MS and representatives of national MS societies, attended the 1st European MS Day, organised by MSIF and the European MS Platform. The History of MS, was displayed at the European Parliament in Brussels.

Workshop: MSIF, guided by IMSB, contributed to the support of a workshop on Repair in the Central Nervous System, held in Nice in October 2002.

Review: IMSB is currently undergoing a process of review. A Review Group meeting was held in January 2002, and the results were presented to IMSB in September 2002.

In Memoriam

Mahar Mardjono 1923–2002



On 19 September 2002, the Indonesian Medical Association, Indonesian Neurological Association and the Indonesia Society Against Epilepsy, lost one of their most illustrious members, Professor Mahar Mardjono.

Professor Mardjono was born on 8 January 1923 in Semarang, Central Java. He went to medical school in Jakarta in the early forties. Due to interruptions from the Second World War, the Japanese Occupation and War of Independence against the Dutch, he graduated as a medical doctor only in 1952. During the War of Independence he was active with the student body that was instrumental in forcing the Indonesian leadership (Soekarno and Hatta) to proclaim the independence

of Indonesia on August 17, 1945. As a freedom fighter, he was once captured in East Java.

After graduation, he went to the United States to study neurosciences and clinical neurology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington D.C. and at the University of California Medical Center. He was the first Indonesian receiving full training in modern neurology. He returned to Indonesia in 1955. In 1958, the Neurology Department at the University of Indonesia in Jakarta became an independent department and he was its first chairman. In 1963 he obtained a Ph.D. degree on the subject of Temporal Lobe Epilepsy. He then became the Dean of the Medical Faculty and served for two terms (1973–1982) as Rector of the University of Indonesia. Professor Mardjono was also active in the affairs of the medical profession. He held office as President of the Indonesian Medical Association. He was one of the founding fathers of the Indonesian Psychiatric, Neurological and Neurosurgical Association in the late sixties, which in 1984 was reorganized to become separate Psychiatric,

Neurological and Neurosurgical associations.

He was the first physician in Indonesia to have a deep interest in Epilepsy. He was the founding father of the Indonesian Society Against Epilepsy, which in the eighties became a member of the International League Against Epilepsy.

Prof. Mardjono held practically every position of importance in the Indonesian scientific community, including Head of the Consortium on Medical and Social Sciences, and was Chief Physician to two former Indonesian Presidents. He received numerous awards from Indonesia and abroad in the field of education and science. In all these contributions, he was fully supported by his wife, Sridjati Kangeaningsih, who presently heads the Indonesia Epilepsy Foundation. With his passing, the Indonesian neurology community has lost a freedom fighter, a teacher, a scientist, a doctor, an administrator and a leader.

Dr. Dede Gunawan
Indonesia Society Against Epilepsy
Indonesian Neurological Association

BOOK REVIEW

The Cerebellum and its Disorders

Editors: Mario-Ubaldo Manto, Massimo Pandolfo
 ISBN: 0 521 77156 0 hardback
 No. of Pages: 589
 Price: \$230.00
 Publication Date: 2002
 Publishers: Cambridge University Press

The cerebellum is an important component of the central nervous system that somehow has not received the attention in the past that it deserved. The present contribution is a most comprehensive deliberation on the cerebellum divided into 38 chapters spread over nine parts. In each part, from the introduction to the sections dealing with the dominantly inherited progressive ataxias and recessive ataxias, the writing is lucid and appropriate. A group of 67 outstanding authors, leading international authorities on the subject, have contributed to this work. They have discussed embryology, neuro-anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and functions of the cerebellum, and detailed information on clinical diseases attributed to cerebellar dysfunctions. The coverage is full and up to date. This book is extremely valuable for general practitioners, neurologists and students in view of the excellent basic and clinical science with detailed coverage on the cerebellum. Extensive discussion on

genetics related to the cerebellum is an added attraction.

Editor-in-Chief

CALENDAR

2003

World Congress of Neurology 2005 Planning Meeting (incorporating WFN Council of Delegates' Annual General Meeting – 6th July)

5–7 July 2003

Sydney, Australia
 Contact: (Council of Delegates/Annual General Meeting) WFN London Office, 12 Chandos Street, London W1G 9DR, UK
 Tel: +44 20 7323 4011
 Fax: +44 20 7323 4012
 e-mail: WFNLondon@aol.com
 Contact: (WCN 2005 Planning Meeting), GPO Box 2609, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia
 Tel: (+61 2) 9241 1478
 Fax: (+61 2) 9251 3552
 e-mail: conference@wcn2005.com
 Website: www.wcn2005.com

3rd International Congress on Vascular Dementia

23–26 October 2003

Prague, Czech Republic
 Contact: Kenes International, 17 Rue du Cendrier, PO Box 1726, CH-1211

Geneva 1, Switzerland
 Tel: +41 22 908 0488
 Fax: +41 22 732 2850
 e-mail: vascular@kenes.com
 web: www.kenes.com/vascular

European Charcot Foundation Symposium 2003

11–13 December 2003

Lisbon, Portugal
 Contact: Ms. M. Friedrichs-Bosmans, European Charcot Foundation, Heiweg 97, 6533 PA Nijmegen, Netherlands
 Tel: +31-24-3561954
 Fax +31-24-3540920
 e-mail: info@charcot-ms.org
 Website: www.charcot-ms.org

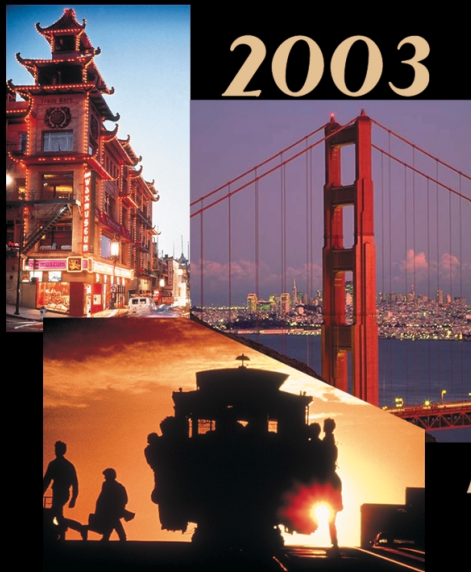
2004

7th Congress of the European Society for Clinical Neuropharmacology

5–9 May 2004

Trieste, Italy
 Scientific Secretariat: Prof. Leontino Battistin, Dept. of Neurosciences, University of Padova, Via Giustiniani 5, I-35128 Padova, Italy
 Tel: +39-049-8213600
 Fax: +39-049-8751770
 e-mail: leontino.battistin@unipd.it
 Organizing Secretariat: ARISTEA, Via Tolmino 5, I-00198 Rome, Italy
 Tel: +39-06-845431
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 e-mail: aristeia.roma@aristeia.com

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- ⌘ fax 507.288.1225



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September 16 – 20, 2003