

# Annual Report - 2019

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On behalf of the WFICC Council<sup>1</sup>, the Executive Committee presents our Annual Report to our member societies and federations. The current Council was inaugurated in Melbourne, Australia in October 2019 and so this report outlines accomplishments by Council members who served from 2017 to 2019. We express our appreciation to John Myburgh, Arzu Topeli, Djillali Annane, Lluís Blanch, Masaji Nishimura and Álvaro Rea-Néto who each completed their period in office this year. This



is the second Annual Report to be published by the World Federation and is consistent with the commitment we made in 2018 to publish a formal review of our activities each year. This formed part of Council's determination to ensure our organisation is fit-for-purpose, modern, transparent and responsive and keeping you better informed about what we do and how we do it.

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## Executive highlights

- working in partnership with the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS) and Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) to deliver a successful 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Melbourne;
- introduced our first **International Rising Star** awards for best poster and oral presentations targeted at young intensivists from low and middle-income countries;
- continuing with the implementation of our modernisation agenda by changing our name, planning changes for our legal status as a not-for-profit organisation, updating our policies and procedures and creating the new Office of President-Elect;
- establishing a process for the submission and evaluation of strategic projects to further our mission;
- building on our commitment to foster diversity and gender equity across related activities.

## New members

In 2019 membership applications were received, approved and ratified by the General Assembly and we formally welcome members from the following societies to our global family;

The Critical Care Society of Namibia (CCSNA);  
The Critical Care Society of Kenya;  
Taiwan Society of Critical Care Medicine (TSCCM)

There have been recent expressions of interest in submitting membership applications from societies in Yemen, Qatar, Croatia, Israel, Paraguay and a further society in Egypt. We hope our global presence will be strengthened by applications from these countries.

## 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress – Melbourne, Australia – October 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> 2019

Our hosts for the 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress were the Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS) and the Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN). We worked in very close collaboration with the Local Organising Committee and supported them in their dedication to creating a valuable, integrated, inclusive and memorable experience for all. The Congress was a celebration of inclusivity by attracting 2400 delegates from 85 countries.



Of great significance was presentation of the first WFICC International Rising Star Awards for the best oral presentation and best poster submitted by delegates from low and middle-income



countries. These awards will be an important feature of all future World Congresses and offer the award of a certificate, complimentary World Congress registration and a travel assistance grant. The photos (left) show the winner of the best poster award, Dr Saidu Yakubi from Nigeria for Length of Stay, Mechanical



Ventilation and Outcome Among Intensive Care Admissions in a Low Resource Tertiary Hospital and Dr Narayanan Parameswaran (right) originally from India for the best oral presentation on Functional Outcome of Children Discharged from a Paediatric Intensive Care Unit – a Cohort Study.

## 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress – Vancouver, Canada – September 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

Our hosts for the 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress will be the Canadian Critical Care Society (CCCS) and the Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses (CACCN). We will work in very close collaboration with the Local Organising Committee and support them in their dedication to creating an inclusive, diverse and memorable experience for all. Please reserve the dates in your calendar, visit the congress website ([www.worldcriticalcarecongress21.com/welcome](http://www.worldcriticalcarecongress21.com/welcome)) and plan to join us in Vancouver for this celebration of our specialty.



## Modernisation, Endorsement and Support



After researching the official names of our national scientific society members and their use of the terms “intensive”, “critical” or both and then consulting them, Council recommended a change of name for our organisation. The General Assembly meeting in Melbourne approved this recommendation and the *World Federation of Intensive and Critical Care* was born on October 16<sup>th</sup> 2019. This change was subsequently incorporated into our new logo which was introduced in 2018.

This name change is a significant event in our evolution and an important step forward in our modernisation agenda. The updated logo captures the essential attributes and values of our global organisation. We are global, we are inclusive, we are increasingly diverse and our mission is founded on encouraging collaboration and cooperation between all those involved in the delivery of intensive and critical care.

Further evidence of our modernisation was provided by the recommendation by Council to create the new Office of President-Elect which was subsequently adopted by the General Assembly. Part of the justification for the creation of this new position was the opportunity to bring greater consistency and continuity in the leadership of the organisation. Eligible candidates will need to have served for 2 years as a Council member and if elected will have their period in office extended by exception to 6 years rather than the usual 4 years. At a meeting of Council held in Melbourne on October 16<sup>th</sup>, Gene Sung was appointed by acclamation to be President-Elect and will assume the Presidency at the 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress in 2021.



In 2018 Council formally adopted a new policy for endorsing and supporting initiatives which are consistent with the objectives of the World Federation. The aims and purposes of the WFICC are defined in the Constitution, specifically *promoting the highest standards of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine for all humankind, without discrimination*. The pursuit of these aims includes the establishment of world-wide co-operation between international societies and the promotion of educational and research activities. The endorsement policy has been effective in ensuring compliance with the things we value and greater consistency in our approach to endorsing and supporting initiatives. A summary of endorsed and supported events in 2019 is as follows:

#### Meetings and events:

- CRITICON 2019 – Bangladesh Society of Critical Care Medicine;
- International Congress Serbian Society of Intensive Care Medicine
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual World Day of the Critical Lung
- Annual Meeting Intensive and Critical Care Society of Nigeria;
- 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Neurocritical Care Society;
- 25<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Infections in the Critically Ill Patient;
- 1st Qatar Critical Care Conference;
- Pan-Arab Critical Care Conference – Cairo 2019.

#### Publications and initiatives:

- World Brain Death Statement (pending publication);
- WFCCN Workforce Position Statement;
- WFCCN Position Statement (update) on Rights of the Critically Ill Patient
- Representation on the Surviving Sepsis Guideline Revision Committee
- Representation on the Global Sepsis Alliance with Ignacio Martin-Loeches serving on the Board
- iWIN Initiative including Executive Committee representation and the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual iWIN Conference planned for 2020.

Our commitment to modernisation must also be reflected in the key document that guides our affairs. Council members are conducted a detailed and comprehensive review of our constitution to ensure it meets the needs of an organisation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The recommendations from this review were circulated to all society and federation members in advance of the General Assembly in October 2019 at which they were formally adopted. Our commitment to greater transparency was enhanced with the adoption of a Conflict of Interest Policy requiring all Council members to submit an Annual Declaration of Interests which is published on our website.

### Summary financial report for 2019 (11-month data)

Total income	\$53710 USD	Total expenditure	\$46214 USD
(Membership fees)	\$52430	(CEO)	\$27950 USD
(Bank interest)	\$ 1280		
Total assets	\$574595 (as at November 30th 2019)		

Our only sources of income are from the payment of annual membership fees from societies and a share of the profits from our biennial World Congress. During the year under review total assets were \$574000 (as at November 30th 2019) an increase of 0.7% over the previous year. However, at the time of publication we are waiting to receive a share of the profit from the 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Melbourne which is expected to have a very positive effect. Expenditure increased by 29% in the reporting period but this was almost entirely due to one-off costs associated with the transfer of our administrative functions to Belgium and incorporating as a not-for-profit organisation. All other annual expenses including our CEO salary (\$27950) have remained unchanged from previous years.

The organisation is financially stable and to reinforce this stability there are plans to establish a reserve fund to protect against any future adverse financial event. We are also evaluating an investment strategy to safeguard our assets and to mitigate against the effects of inflation.

### Our collective commitment

At the first World Congress in 1977 the General Assembly established some firm foundations for our global organisation. As the current custodians of the mission of the World Federation we re-state our collective commitment to *promoting the highest standards of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine for all humankind, without discrimination*. We accept that for any global organisation, standing still is not an option and so our organisation will continue to embrace change, to modernise and to move forward into an exciting future. In 2020, we look forward to another year of supporting our existing members and welcoming new members, investing in new projects and initiatives and maintaining our focus on what matters and what works.



Janice Zimmerman  
President



Jorge Hidalgo  
Secretary General



Mary White  
Treasurer

<sup>1</sup> Janice Zimmerman (USA); Jorge Hidalgo (Belize); Mary White (Australia); Elisa Estensorro (Argentina); Fernando Suparregui Dias (Brazil); Assem Abdel Razek (Egypt); Kapil Zirpe (India); Ignacio Martin-Loeches (Ireland); Jose Elizalde (Mexico); Shigeki Fujitani (Japan); Chae-Man Lim (Korea); Obashina Ogunbiyi (Nigeria); Chong-Jen Yu (Taiwan); Gene Sung (Neurocritical Care) and Ruth Kleinpell (WFCCN)