It is a pleasure as President of the WFICC to welcome everyone to the 2020 New Year—the calendar New Year starting January 1 and the Chinese New Year starting January 25. As with personal resolutions for the New Year, it is a good time to reflect on the internal and external goals for the next two years for the WFICC. We start this New Year with some newly elected Council members, a new office of President-Elect to ensure continuity in leadership, and a new name for the organization.

Internally, our goals are to continue the modernization by completing the incorporation of our organization in Belgium as an international nonprofit entity (“Association internationale sans but lucratif”). We hope to have all legal requirements completed in the next 2 months. We have also acquired new URLs for the organization that reflect the new name and allow greater visibility for our website.

An internal goal adopted by the 2017-2019 Council was to develop a diversity policy for the organization. The Policy Committee chaired by Gene Sung is drafting a policy that reflects our commitment to supporting diversity within our organization and provides an example for other critical care organizations.

My greatest hope for the next two years is that the WFICC make significant progress in accomplishing external goals that support our mission “to promote the highest standards of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine for all humankind, without discrimination.” We have developed a process for submission, evaluation and prioritization of strategic projects and initiatives that will particularly benefit members of the clinical team in areas of the world with limited resources. We continue to hear that the greatest needs include education for all members of the team and support to develop research. Information will be disseminated on our website in the near future but anyone with a great idea should feel free to bring it to our attention at any time.

Another external goal is the development of a database of available training opportunities for physicians who seek additional experience outside their institution or country. Gene Sung and Chae-Man Lim are organizing the data elements of that database. Some opportunities in Korea are currently listed as International Education Opportunities under the Resources tab on our website. We will be asking member societies to contribute information for this database so that a central resource is available.

Communication with our member societies and the global Intensive and Critical Care community is critical to accomplishing our mission. I hope we can expand and improve our communication in the coming year with regional videoconferences with leadership of member societies, website enhancements and the development of a presence on social media.

Anthony Robbins said “Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible.” The WFICC has goals and the commitment to make them visible and ultimately beneficial for critically ill patients and their families.
The World Congress of Intensive Care 2019 was hosted by the Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS), the Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) and the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine (WFSICCM). The Congress was held from 14th – 18th October 2019 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC). The Congress also included the 44th Australian and New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting on Intensive Care and the 25th Annual Paediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Conference. There was excellent global coverage with 85 countries represented.

Congress at a Glance:
Total attendees (includes sponsors, exhibitors and speakers) – 2344
Abstracts 411
Oral presentations 105
Mini oral presentations 26
Poster presentations – 280

Top visits by geography:
1. Australia 46,144 (44.9%)
2. United States 8,053 (7.84%)
3. New Zealand 4,830 (4.70%)
4. Brazil 2,836 (2.76%)
5. India 2,783 (2.71%)
6. Japan 2,716 (2.64%)
7. United Kingdom 2,560 (2.49%)
8. Canada 2,301 (2.24%)
9. Republic of Korea 2,248 (2.19%)

Special Thanks:
Organising Committee: Gabrielle Hanlon (Convenor), Stephen Warrillow (Convenor)
David Ku (Deputy Convenor, Sponsorship Convenor), Rand Butcher (ACCCN), Diane Chamberlain (ACCCN), Brent Kingston (ANZICS), Kassandra Koudelka (ACCCN)
Scientific Program Committee: Leanne Aitken, Adam Deane, Gabrielle Hanlon, Tina Kendrick, Johnny Millar, Stephen Warrillow
The World Federation is governed by an elected Council of 14 members each of whom serve a term of office of 4 years. The leadership of the organization is provided by an Executive Committee comprised of the President, President-Elect, Secretary General and Treasurer. Current members include:

Jose Elizalde (Mexico)
Elisa Estenssoro (Argentina)
Shigeki Fujitani (Japan)
Jorge Hildago (Belize) – Secretary General
Ruth Kleinpell (World Federation of Critical Care Nurses)
Chae-Man Lim (Korea)
Ignacio Martin-Loeches (Ireland)
Obashina Ogunbiyi (Nigeria)
Assem Abdel Razek (Egypt)
Fernando Suparregui Dias (Brazil)
Gene Sung (Neurocritical Care) – President Elect
Chong-Jen Yu (Taiwan)
Mary White (Australia) - Treasurer
Janice Zimmerman (United States) – President
Kapil Zirpe (India)
Members of the current WFICC Council taken during the 14th World Congress in Melbourne, Australia

**Society Profile**

**Sociedad Paraguaya de Medicina Crítica y Cuidados Intensivos (SPMCYCI)**

Council members were very pleased to review and approve a membership application from the society in Paraguay. This means the WFICC now has representative national scientific societies in 10 countries in South America. Established in 1997, the Paraguayan society has 100 members and a very active program of activities which are contributing to the growth and development of the speciality. These activities include:

- Organising an Annual Congress of Critical Medicine and Intensive Care;
- Monthly meetings for the presentation of clinical cases by members of the society and professional partners;
- On-going professional development and education including courses on Critical Care Ultrasound, Theoretical and Practical Mechanical Ventilation and an Obstetric FCCS Primer.

The WFICC extends a warm welcome to all our new professional colleagues in Paraguay and looks forward to supporting them in growing and developing intensive and critical care medicine in their country.
Save the Date for the 15th World Congress in Canada

The 15th World Congress of Intensive and Critical Care will be hosted by the Canadian Critical Care Society (CCCS) and the Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses (CACCN) in Vancouver Canada on September 11 to 15, 2021.

Please mark your calendar for this major world-wide event. 
https://www.worldcriticalcarecongress21.com/welcome

New Member Societies in 2019

At the General Assembly meeting in Melbourne Australia, it was proposed that the membership of the following societies be ratified. This was approved unanimously and the following societies were therefore elected to membership of the World Federation:

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

16th World Congress to be Held in Istanbul in 2023

The 16th Congress in 2023 will be held in Istanbul, Turkey. Mark your calendar and plan to join your colleagues on 23-26 August 2023.
About WFICC

The World Federation of Intensive and Critical Care (WFICC) was established in 1977 and is a membership organization comprised of National Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine. The principle objective of the World Federation is to promote the highest standards of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine for all humankind, without discrimination. The WFICC now has a membership of over 80 Societies with a combined individual membership of over 70,000 intensive and critical care practitioners throughout the world.

http://www.wficc.com

Newsletter Production: WFICC Communications Taskforce, Chair, Jorge Hildago MD FCCM, Ruth Kleinpell PhD RN FCCM