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1. Message from the Secretary General Georgina Gál



After a thrilling time in the Federation during the Annual Congress it is time for the old executive to say goodbye and the new executive to

introduce themselves. In the following issues of the Newsletter you will hear more about the Congress where we were all excited to welcome over 300 pharmacy students and recent graduates from all over the world and also a few lines from old and new executives. A big thank you! goes to the Organising Committee of the Congress as they have done a brilliant job!

The 'Training the Trainers' session, that is a new programme of IPSF this year, was a success at the congress and we were happy to see how enthusiastic and motivated both the participants and the speakers were and how well the trainings were organised.

In this Newsletter you can find three articles that all describe activities from the past year - this is a good time to think back what all we and our members have achieved!

Enjoy reading!

2. First Spanish pharmacy student meeting Javier García Sánchez-Valdepeñas, SEO & CP FEEF, Spain

The southern city of Seville held this new event, hosting around 120 pharmacy students from 6 Pharmacy Faculties in Spain, from 21st to 23rd



April. Lectures about Pharmaceutical Marketing or the importance of joining the Consejo General de Colegios Oficiales de Farmacia (a sort of big Spanish

Pharmaceutical Federation) once we graduate were organised. There was also a chat about FEEF activities, to introduce the world of students associations to all the people. The programme also included touristy visits to the architectural jewels from the city and of course a bunch of parties, which, I must say, students enjoyed a lot.

University Deans were invited to the event and became very pleased to see how students have the organisation skills to be able to build such an important project as this one.



But the key of this event were the students, and as far as I have heard (and I have heard a lot), all of them were delighted about a nice weekend in a nice city and with nice pharmaceutical friends. We are looking forward to Interfarma '07.

3. IPSF at the World Health Assembly Katja Hakkarainen, Immediate Past President, IPSF

Aileen Ramirez, the IPSF Intern, and I represented IPSF at the 59th World Health Assembly in May 2006 in Geneva, Switzerland. The 59th World Health Assembly discussed many interesting health topics. These included International Trade and Health and the shortage of health workers. The WHA urged member states to work at a national level to coordinate trade and health policies called on the WHO Secretariat to support member states to develop coherence in these policies. The WHA also urged countries to promote training and give financial support for health training institutions in developing countries. The Global Health Workforce Alliance was additionally launched as a new alliance to address the shortage of health workers. In addition to following the discussion at the Assembly, IPSF met with many departments of WHO to share ideas about IPSF public health campaigns.

A meeting with the WHO Department of AIDS, AIDS Medicines and Diagnostics Service (AMDS) were very encouraging and exciting for further developing AIDS initiatives of IPSF. Traditionally IPSF has endorsed the IPSF AIDS Awareness Campaign. In addition to HIV/AIDS awareness, pharmacists and pharmacy students have a significant role in improving access to AIDS medicines and medicines' supply. Future initiatives will be discussed at the 52nd Congress in Cairns and presented to AMDS. IPSF will possibly facilitate a workshop at the Pre-Conference for Youth of the 16th International AIDS Conference in August in Toronto, Canada.

AMDS kindly offered to assist in organising the workshop on Access to AIDS Medicines.

At the World TB (tuberculosis) Day in March 24, the Stop TB Partnership launched the Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015. IPSF was invited to formalise the Federation's collaboration with the Stop TB Partnership by signing an agreement after recognising areas in the Global Plan that IPSF will focus. The Stop TB Partnership and International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) invited IPSF to take part in a joint award scheme between the WHO Stop TB Partnership, IFMSA and IPSF aiming at encouraging healthcare students to implement public health projects on tuberculosis control. In May, the Partnership welcomed an IPSF Intern, Tejal Chande from USA, to work on paediatric TB medicines.

Following the World Health Day theme Working together for health, which looked into human resources in health, IPSF and FIP met with the WHO Department of Human Resources during the WHA. The Department holds a database of health education institutes which currently doesn't include pharmacy schools. Creating an up-to-date database of pharmacy schools and mapping the different levels of education in pharmacy were discussed.

The Tobacco Free Initiative invited IPSF to encourage its members to submit information about their activities into the World No Tobacco Day web-database. IPSF member associations were provided with online and as well as printed material from WHO to implement activities on World No Tobacco Day on May 31. Based on the WHO Code of Practice on Tobacco Control for Health Professional Organisations, IPSF developed the IPSF Code of Practice on Tobacco Control to encourage pharmacy students' associations to take more active roles in promoting a tobacco free world. In accordance with the Code of practice, IPSF members will be surveyed on their tobacco use and attitudes at the IPSF Congress in Cairns.

Since 2005, IPSF has been a partner organisation in the WHO-NGO (Non-Governmental Organisation) Advisory Group on Health promotion. Following the Advisory Group's Workshop entitled From Vision to Action: NGOs Promoting Health in a Globalized World in February 2006, the Group organised a briefing at the World Health Assembly. IPSF was delighted to invite Mrs Carolyn Bell, who has worked for the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association (CPA) and managed the Indian TB fact Card Project in Mumbai, to present about IPSF's and CPA's work on health promotion to the 50 participants at the briefing. It was a very

interesting and fruitful meeting for IPSF, continuing the successful collaboration with WHO.

4. TB Day at the German University in Cairo Amira Metwaly, President, GUC-SPSA

On Saturday 25th of March, more than 200 Pharmacy and medicine students from all over Egypt were there on the German University in Cairo campus to attend and actively contribute to the World Stop TB Day 2006 organized by the German University in Cairo Scientific Pharmaceutical Students' Association (GUC-SPSA) that has been announced as a full member at the Egyptian Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (EPSF) recently.



The programme was enlightening, with several topic-related lectures and various students' contributions guaranteed to make it a day well-spent. The aim was to raise awareness of TB as global problem in the world among medical and pharmaceutical student audience through our Stop TB partnership. Guest speakers from the National TB Center, Global Drug Facility and the



World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office were there on this day to give

their presentations about advances of TB, the role of our community in TB control and TB from a drug prospective. Those highly informative presentations were followed by students' competition session where pharmacy and medicine students made 10 minutes presentations about the link between TB and Tobacco. On the sideline of the day hand-made posters and charts about the Symptoms, ways of transmission and the different types of TB and Stop TB Partnership "Actions for Life" posters were hung everywhere, a TB Information desk, where many publications from the WHO and GDF were provided, was set up, a survey about TB was distributed and movies and videos about TB were shown.