

Development Fund (DF) – EVENT GRANT – IPSF World Congress



Since I was child, I always have a dream to travel to Europe. When I entered my university, I was interested about IPSF. In my opinion, by join the IPSF division in my university's Pharmaceutical Students Association, I can improve my English, learn something new, and perhaps attend some international events. When I became a CP for my university's Pharmaceutical Students Association, there was a chance to make my dream comes true by joining Development Fund Event Grant program. I applied to attend The 56th IPSF World Congress 2010 on Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Before the end of 2nd term for registration, I got an email telling me that I was granted a partial grant to attend the IPSF World Congress 2010. Even though this grant was just a quarter of the cost I have to spend, but this grant gave me a hope. From that time, I also got other sponsorships. From my university, Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB); my faculty,

School of Pharmacy ITB; and a pharmaceutical company, PT. Kimia Farma.

After about 24 hours of travelling from Indonesia, finally I arrived on Ljubljana, Slovenia, at August the 2nd 2010. Although I felt really tired, but it was all gone when I met many friends from other countries around the world with different skin, eye, and hair color, different languages, and different cultures. I know that IPSF stands for International Pharmaceutical Students Federation, but it was my first time to feel and see the meaning of it since this was my first Congress. There were students from Asia, Africa, America, Australia, and Europe. All continents were complete! IPSF is a really big and important organization. By joining IPSF and doing IPSF program, pharmaceutical students can give contributions to improve healthy life and quality of pharmacies and pharmacists in their own country. I also learned more about IPSF from discussing with other CPs and SEOs over the world, attending the General Assembly, doing a health campaign, and also joining the Poster Exhibition.

In Slovenia, I found many different things and unforgettable experiences. I had to eat without rice and chili everyday; it was totally different from my daily meal. It was amazing for me to still see a bright sky at 6 p.m. because in Indonesia the sun sets at around 6 p.m. everyday. The number of citizens in Slovenia (one country) was the same as my city, Bandung

(one city). So Ljubljana, as a capital city wasn't crowded and there wasn't any traffic jam either. I am happy to stay here because of this calm situation and also because of the weather. In Indonesia the weather was so hot with high humidity at dry season.

The best place that I visited in Slovenia was Bled, the famous tourism place in Slovenia. We can find a really beautiful lake with mountains around it, and also a castle and a church at the middle of this lake. Even though my country has many mountains and lakes, but this place was really different. There was also a wine shop and a letter museum. There is just one word to describe it, "Wow!"

I thank You, Lord for this trip. Thanks for opportunity YOU has given to me. I also want to say thank you to every sponsors for the support, to IPSF Development Fund (DF) for the Grant, to Jenna Carmichael as DF-Event Grant coordinator and Vesna Terbuc as Coordinator of Registration team for helping me to complete the administration, and to reception committee for organizing the best congress ever.

Don't hesitate to dream something big! If it was appropriate with God's will, you will get it! IPSF, Vive la Pharmacie!

Estherina Juliana Marbun
HMF 'Ars Praeparandi' ITB, Indonesia