



### The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the 54<sup>th</sup> IPSF Executive Committee

The current IPSF Executive Committee held their first meeting in The Hague, The Netherlands from 27th to 30th September. All six Executive members, elected during the 53rd IPSF Congress Taipei last August were present in the meeting. In addition, the Chairperson of 54th IPSF Congress Reception Committee, Anca Pop, participated in the meeting as well. The IFMSA Liaison to Student Organisations Andrea Solnes met with the Executive Committee for a discussion on future collaboration.

Susana Gassmann from Portugal was appointed as Chairperson of Public Health 2007-08. The Executive decided to split the Chairperson of Education and Practice into two portfolios as specified in the IPSF Constitution accepted by the 53rd General Assembly. The two re-established positions are the Chairperson of Pharmacy Education and the Chairperson of Professional Development. Persons for these two positions will be appointed later. Mary Poon, Secretary-General 2007-09, was nominated by the Executive Committee as Vice-President.

Reports from each Executive member covering their first weeks of office were accepted and action plans for the coming 10 months were discussed and finalised. The programme of the upcoming 54th IPSF Congress in Cluj-Napoca, Romania in August 2008 was planned to guarantee a successful meeting. Naturally, a wide

range of other issues that are current in IPSF were also covered during the long meeting days.

Besides the formal meeting, the Executive had a chance to chat informally and get to know each other. It was also a great chance to enjoy the flavours of local Dutch restaurants and who can forget the tastes of the IPSF flat kitchen! The second Executive meeting will be held in February-March 2008 and the third one in Romania in July 2008.



The 54th IPSF Executive Committee, from left to right: Mary Poon Secretary General 2007-09), Anca Pop (Chairperson of 54th IPSF Congress Reception Committee), Karen McGill (President 2007-08), Veronika Sumpichova (Chairperson of Student Exchange 2007-08), Juha Mönkäre (Vice President 2006-07 and Treasurer 2005-08), Neveen Abdelghani (Chairperson of Public Relations 2007-08), and Tandy Rusdiana (Chairperson of Publications 2007-08) taking a picture together in front of FIP-IPSF office.

### **Attention!!!** to all who are a members of IPSF e-groups!

If you have received an email recently inviting you to join a new e-group with similar name to the current Yahoo group, you need to follow the instructions on the invitation if you wish to continue to receive important IPSF information. The e-groups are being switched to our new server and IPSF appreciates your patience and cooperation in this time of change. Should you have any questions or problems, please email [publications@ipsf.org](mailto:publications@ipsf.org).

#### Karen McGill President



Karen began her involvement in IPSF at the 49th World Congress in Singapore 2003. She has attended five World Congresses and the four most recent Pan-American Regional Symposium (PARS). She has represented the Federation at a United Nations conference and the 1st World Healthcare Students Symposium. Karen was the APhA-ASP Contact Person from 2004-05 and was elected as Pan-American Regional Chairperson for 2005-06 and 2006-07. Karen graduated with her Doctor of Pharmacy from Purdue University in 2006 and went on to complete one-year, post-graduate residency in community pharmacy with Aurora Health Care.

#### Juha Mönkäre Treasurer



Juha is beginning his third year as IPSF Treasurer after being elected for a two year term during the 52nd IPSF Congress in Cairns. He has attended four IPSF congresses since the 50th IPSF congress in Halifax 2004. Prior to working in the IPSF Executive, he was the Treasurer and the IPSF Contact Person for the Finnish Pharmaceutical Students' Association. Juha is aiming to graduate with a Master of Pharmacy this autumn from Kuopio University, Finland. After that, he is continuing with PhD studies on drug delivery systems.

**Mary Poon  
Secretary-General**



Mary's first international congress was the 4th Asia Pacific Pharmaceutical Symposium 2005 Tokyo, and at the 5th APPS Bandung 2006, was elected as APRO Secretary 2006-07. She finished her term at the 6th APPS 2007 Kathmandu.

Mary's first IPSF congress was the 53rd IPSF World Congress Cairns 2006 and was elected as Secretary-General at the 54th IPSF World Congress Taipei 2007. Mary has recently completed her four year Bachelor of Pharmacy at the Victorian College of Pharmacy, Monash University in Melbourne, Australia and will be commencing her pre-registration year at Monash Medical Centre in November 2007.

**Tendy Rusdiana  
Chairperson of Publications**



Tendy is beginning his first year as IPSF Chairperson of Publication after being elected during the 53rd IPSF Congress in Taipei. He has been active in IPSF since the 5th APPS in Bandung as part of the Reception Committee.

After that, his involvement continued in the APRO publications subcommittee and was responsible for designing and maintaining the APRO website. Tendy is aiming to graduate with Bachelor of Pharmacy next spring from the School of Pharmacy Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia.

**Susana Gassmann  
Chairperson of Public Health**



The first time Susana got involved with IPSF was when she was elected as Contact Person for APEF, Portugal in October 2005. Her first international event was WorldMaPS held in November 2005, in Malta. Susana's first IPSF congress was in Cairns

in July 2006, and her second was Taipei Congress in August 2007. Susana was part of the Public Health Sub-Committee 2006-07, and was accepted as part of the Constitutional Working Committee in Taipei. Susana was recently been appointed as Public Health Chairperson 2007-08 at the first Executive meeting, and plans on working closely with the Public Health co-ordinators to ensure that information, support and guidelines are provided for the successful running of IPSF's health campaigns in different countries around the world.

**Neveen "Nev" Abdelghani  
Chairperson of Public Relations**



Nev (as her friends like to call her) attended her first IPSF Congress in Bonn, Germany 2005. She was a workshop presenter and member of the Motions Committee at both the 53rd World Congress in Cairns and the 54th IPSF World Congress in Taipei.

Nationally, Nev served as the SEO-elect (2004-05) and SEO (2005-06) for APhA-ASP. Nev graduated from the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy in May 2006 with her Doctor of Pharmacy and Masters of Sciences degrees. She is currently in the second year of a 2-year fellowship training program in infectious disease and clinical trials research in HIV/AIDS at Childrens Hospital, Los Angeles, California.

**Anca Pop  
Chairperson of the 54th IPSF Congress  
Reception Committee**



Anca is a final year pharmacy student at Iuliu Hatieganu University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. She attended her first IPSF Congress in Bonn 2005 as Contact Person for the Romanian Federation of Pharmacy Students' Associations.

The most exciting moment came at Cairns Congress 2006 when, on behalf on FASFR, she successfully bid to host the 54th IPSF World Congress in Romania 2008. As the Chairperson of the Reception Committee, she is sure that they will offer you an unforgettable experience in the vibrant city, known to Hungarians as Kolozsvar, to the Romans and Dacians as Napoca, to the Germans as Klausenburg and to most, simply Cluj!

**Veronika Sumpichova  
Chairperson of Student Exchange**



The new Chairperson of Student Exchange's name is Veronika Sumpichova. She is 26 years old and comes from the Czech Republic. Veronika is now in her last year of study at the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Kralove. Together with the Student Exchange Committee (Kerstin Heyder,

Alexandra Bartal, Sara Saelices Prellezo, Javier Garcia, Katherine Stutz, Janusz Gawlik, Anna Anastazia Szekeres, Andrea De Sousa, Núria Mur Blanch) she is working strategically on a new database, establishing SEP in new associations, creating new documents for SEOs and LEOs and even more! Many greetings and wishes from Veronika to all the SEOs and IPSFers!

**Nene Patchawaradee Burarungroj  
Chairperson of the  
Asia Pacific Regional Office**



Patcharawadee Burarungroj or just for short as "Nene" had participated in IPSF international congress for the first time at the 4th Asia Pacific Pharmaceutical Symposium 2005 Tokyo, and was elected as APRO Regional Relation Officer for 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. At the 6th Asia Pacific Pharmaceutical Symposium Kathmandu 2007, she was elected as APRO Chairperson. She is currently enrolled as a fourth year student at Pharmaceutical Science Faculty of Khon Kaen University, Thailand and will be graduating in December 2008.

**Shawna Cordon  
Chairperson of the  
Pan American Regional Office**



Shawna attended her first World Congress in Cairns 2006. She went on to participate in the 6th Pan-American Regional Symposium in Costa Rica 2007 where she started her term as Chairperson of the Pan-American Regional Office. Shawna has been active with IPSF in her local association. She is currently in her final year at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

### Albert Howell's award for IPSF

IPSF has been granted the Albert Howell Award from the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association (CPA) as recognition of the Federation's significant contribution to the pharmacy profession. This award is given in honour of the CPA founder Albert Howell and is the highest form of recognition given by CPA.

The award was presented to IPSF during the 9th CPA Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia August 2007, a week before the 53rd IPSF World Congress.

Dr. Grace Allen Young, the CPA out-going President explained that IPSF has grown to be a leading international advocacy organisation for pharmacy students and has contributed to the improvement of health and pharmacy quality in commonwealth countries such as through Neema Project in Tanzania and TB Fact Card Project in India.

This award gives public recognition of IPSF's active contribution in pharmacy for the past few years and it encourages all members to keep the Federation strong in all endeavours.

### Article Of The Representative Of Rwanda and Development Fund Event Grant Receiver In The 53<sup>rd</sup> IPSF World Congress

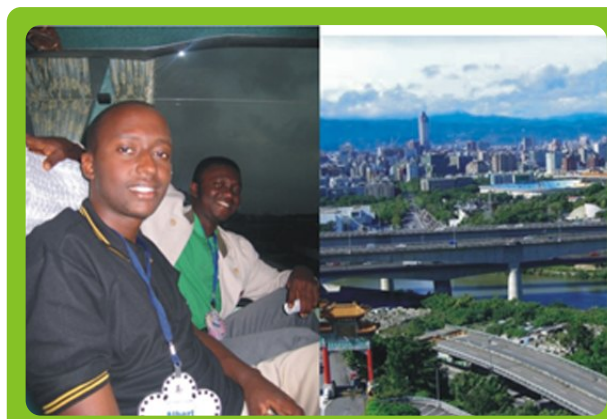
#### My experience and utility of the IPSF Congress for my country

First of all, I would like to thank the Reception committee of the Pharmaceutical Students' Association of Taiwan (PSA-Taiwan) for the wonderful hotel in which we were accommodated, The Grand Hotel.

I really enjoyed my time at the congress. The General Assembly was well organized: the time was respected and I enjoyed the voting process which allowed us full freedom to voice our views and opinions. It was my first time to use a voting card in a General Assembly. This voting procedure was powerful as I had never believed. I think it is crucial to introduce it into my country.

I appreciated the variety of workshops and the way we could attend a workshop of our choice. I especially appreciated the workshop on tuberculosis (TB) because this is a general problem in my country as well as in all developing countries. According to the report of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2003, 8.8 million cases of TB that caused about two million deaths across the world and almost 90% of those were in developing countries, especially in sub-Saharan African countries.

My attendance of the Scientific symposium was very worthwhile. I learnt more about drug payment systems and this is important for my career of a pharmacist.



Left to right, Albert and Kenneth (NAPS-SL, Sierra Leone) in the bus to Taipei 101, the world's tallest building.

The congress was a good occasion to broaden my horizon and my stay was very enjoyable as the people there are polite and welcoming.

The congress was beneficial for my country. I think after the congress many changes will occur in my association as well as the full organisation of my national pharmaceutical students' association. And participation of our members in IPSF will be increased. As African Regional Coordinator, I will have an opportunity to help my neighbours learn more about IPSF and encourage their membership in this organisation.

All I have said can be summarized in a few short sentences - I really had a good time in Taiwan, and I have to say that my country is honoured to be a representative of the African continent. I look forward to succeeding in my new responsibilities as IPSF Regional Coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa.

All my thanks to all IPSF members!

Albert BUSUMBIGABO  
African Regional Co-ordinator  
President of AEPHAR, Rwanda



The new executive committee, from left to right: Karen McGill (President 2007-08), Albert Busumbigabo (African Regional Coordinator 2007-08), Anca Pop (Chairperson of 54th IPSF Congress Reception Committee), Veronika Sumpichova (Chairperson of Student Exchange 2007-08), Audrey Clarissa (Immediate Past President 2007-08), Juha Mönkäre (Vice President 2006-07 and Treasurer 2005-08), Mary Poon Secretary General 2007-09), Neveen Abdelghani (Chairperson of Public Relations 2007-08).