
IHS Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Friday 6 September 2019, 12.00 BST
Ecocem Room, Convention Centre Dublin,
Spencer Dock, North Wall Key, Dublin 1, DO1 T1W6, Ireland

IHS Board of Trustees

L Edvinsson (President)
M Ashina (President-elect)
S Evers (Secretary)
W Thomas (Treasurer)
A Ambrosini
C-S Chung
B Jenkins
R Jensen
M Peres
A Purdy
G Terwindt

IHS Advisory Council

I Abu-Arafeh
F Ahmed
A Andreou
E Bancalari
A Belitardo de Oliveira
D Dolezil
C Gaul
K Hirata
K Karbozova
M Láinez
E Leroux
M Levin
A Maassen van den Brink
A Numan
J Ong
J Pereira-Monteiro
L Paolo de Queiroz
D Obelieniene
S Odobescu
J Olesen
R Peatfield
A Roceanu
P Schubaroff
S Sretenovic
C Tassorelli
K Velez
S Yu

Members

F Amin
H Ansari
S Ashina
S Bender
A Bertelsen
G Coppola
M Deen
H-C Diener
U Frejvall
R Fronczek
H Ghanizada
M Goicochea
A Gozalov
P Goadsby
E Johnson
E Kristoffersen
E Loder
A MacGregor
F Martin Bertuzzi
K Paemeleire
A Planchuelo-gómez
P Prabhakar
F Riederer
H Schytz
E Shaikh
A Sinclair
K Skorobogatykh
R Stark
P Tfelt-Hansen
M Vikelis
W Whitehouse
T Wijeratne
P Wilbrink

The President opened the meeting at 12.00 and welcomed all attendees. No apologies were received.

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1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7 September 2018

The minutes were approved as presented.

2. Presentations from:

The President

The President thanked members for their support over the past 2 years of his term in office.

The Secretary

In 2019 IHS welcomed Mexico and Myanmar as Affiliate Member Societies – IHS now has 53 Affiliate Member Societies representing 52 countries.

Membership numbers in 2019 are 1,556, the highest since the International Headache Congress (IHC) 2004 when all non-member delegates from IHC 2003 were offered a years' free membership. There are 266 junior members which is excellent news for the society – many joined to take advantage of IHS educational courses and grants and it is hoped they will renew in future years. The renewal rate for past members has increased – IHS will strive to retain members, as well as recruiting new members. New members join either directly with IHS or through their national society where this is offered, e.g. UK, Denmark, USA, Italy.

The membership fee has remained stable since 2011 and the Board agreed in the recent Board meeting that there would be no increase for 2020.

The number of Associate Members, membership offered free of charge to researchers and physicians from developing countries, increased to over 1,000.

There have been recent changes to IHS Committee Chairs as terms ended. A Chair term is 4 years, renewable for a second 4 years. Appointments are:

- Clinical Trials – Gisela Terwindt (replacing Cristina Tassorelli, retiring having been elected President-elect)
- Classification – Peter Goadsby (replacing Jes Olesen who has Chaired since the Committee was formed and published three versions of the International Classification of Headache Disorders (ICHD)
- Education – Henrik Schytz (appointed as Co-Chair to work with Allan Purdy who will retire in 2021)
- Membership – Anne Ducros (replacing Luiz Paolo de Queiroz who has served for 8 years).

Arne May was re-appointed as Editor-in-Chief of Cephalalgia and Chairs the Cephalalgia Committee.

The Special Interest Groups work on specific topics and continue to be active with the exception of the Primary Care SIG which was dissolved. A primary care member representative was selected to join the Education committee

Elections for the Board of Trustees was held and there was an almost 50% turnout, the highest seen, and very encouraging to know that IHS members are engaged in the activities of the society.

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Cephalalgia has had a good year scientifically and financially. The Impact Factor increased to 4.438. The journal is ranked 35 of 199 in clinical neurology journals, and 64 of 267 in neuroscience journals.

The publisher has now applied to PubMed to have Cephalalgia Reports listed so the journal can obtain an impact factor. Members are encouraged to submit their papers to this open-access title.

IHS continues to be active in Education.

IHS supported the 4th MENA (Middle East and North Africa) meeting in Turkey. Visiting Professors were sent to Nepal, and later in 2019 events will be held in Iran, Philippines and Kyrgyz Republic. A Master School will be held in Colombia later in 2019.

The 5th European iHEAD was held immediately prior to IHC in Dublin in September; this was an international event with 110 delegates from all over the world and attendees subsequently attended IHC.

A Headache Trainee was awarded to a young physician from Georgia who visited the Danish Headache Centre for 3 months. The Trainees and Residents SIG awarded three Short-Stay Scholarships to young physicians from India (2) and Serbia to attend IHC and spend up to 6 weeks in headache centres in Ireland, and also 50 travel grants to attend IHC. Two IHS Fellowships were awarded in 2019 and also a joint fellowship with the American Brain Foundation. IHS continued to fund three young participants for the Danish Master in Headache Disorders course.

The ICHD slide kit was updated in collaboration with Juniors Group to be in line with ICHD-3 The kit comprises 70–80 slides comprising all the ICHD-3 data.

IHS continues its collaboration with the International Association for the Study of Pain with a joint session during the IHC.

A second Global Patient Advocacy Programme took place in Dublin immediately prior to the IHC.

On 22 July the headache world recognised the World Federation of Neurology's (WFN) World Brain Day which in 2019 was dedicated to migraine – Migraine: The Painful Truth. Subsequently a joint press congress was held in Dubai during the WFN annual meeting.

The 2019 Special Recognition Award was awarded to Fumihiko Sakai for his tireless work for headache patients and headache science in Japan. The award was presented during the IHC Opening Ceremony.

IHS continues collaboration with Lifting the Burden on the global burden paediatric study with IHS-funded studies now ongoing in Zambia, Iran and Mongolia.

IHC 2021 will be held in Helsinki, Finland – the programme committee will meet in September to start to develop the programme. IHC 2023 will be held in Seoul, S Korea.

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The IHS Board and Ethics Committee are working on IHC programme guidelines to develop rules regarding number of presentations per speaker, industry presentations, etc.

There was a question regarding activities in Latin America which is a region with many specialists interested in headache medicine and few opportunities for education; to date no IHC has been held in the region and IHS should consider this for a future IHC.

The Treasurer

The final figures for 2018 were presented to the Board in May. The accounts have now been audited and presented in statutory format and approved by the Board. The statutory accounts are publicly available on the UK Companies House and UK Charity Commission websites.

- 2018 income: £ 608,843
- 2018 expenditure: £ 602,339
- Surplus: £ 6,504

Income:

- Membership: 18% of income, membership fees stable
- Cephalalgia royalty: 34% of income, main annual source of income
- Donations/sponsorship: 22% of income specifically for iHEAD, a very valuable educational activity
- Corporate Roundtable: 18% of income, seven industry members
- Investment income: 85% of income, a small but important income stream

Expenditure:

- Education: 23% of expenditure, mainly on iHEAD and Australian Master School
- Fellowships/grants: 21% of expenditure, includes two fellowships, three Short-Stay Scholarships
- Committee costs: 24% of expenditure, includes ARCH meeting
- Cost of Cephalalgia: 21% of expenditure, member copies/online access
- Support costs: 21% of expenditure

The overall income increases in alternate years with the income from the congress – it is positive to see a small surplus in a non-IHC year.

Membership fees remain stable; over the years the membership options have changed with a decrease in members choosing the print journal option and moving to online-only, as expected.

IHS has shown a surplus over the past 4 years and there will be a surplus in 2019 due to the IHC. Reserves are healthy with over £ 2 million. As a registered charity reserves need to be kept at a level that is neither too high nor too low – usually aiming for 2.5-years operating costs. In years when there is a deficit these reserves maintain the society and its activities. The IHS Board continues to discuss the best way to use this surplus.

3. Report and Audited accounts for year ended 31 December 2018

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The accounts were approved as presented.

4. Re-appointment of the auditors

The recommendation to re-appoint MacIntyre Hudson LLP to audit the 2019 accounts was approved.

5. Appointment of the Board of Trustees

The following members have been selected by the members through an online or postal ballot to join the Board of Trustees:

President-elect:	Cristina Tassorelli
Elected Trustees:	Fayyaz Ahmed
	Gianluca Coppola
	Alexandra Sinclair

The following members will be automatically re-elected to serve a second term on the Board of Trustees:

Mario Peres
Patricia Pozo-Rosich
Todd Schwedt

Thanks were offered to Board members leaving the Board: David Dodick, Anna Ambrosini, Rigmor Jensen, Gisela Terwindt, and Co-opted members Mark Braschinsky, Chin-Sang Chung, Bronwyn Jenkins and Ingela Nilsson-Remahl.

6. Election of Honorary Members

The election of Professor David Dodick as an Honorary Member was unanimously approved.

7. Date of next meeting

The next AGM will be held during EHF in Berlin in July 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.40.