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# IHS Annual General Meeting

## Minutes

Monday 5 October 2020, 15.00 BST  
Virtual meeting

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### IHS Board of Trustees

M Ashina (President)  
C Tassorelli (President-elect)  
S Evers (Secretary)  
W Thomas (Treasurer)  
F Ahmed  
M J Lee  
A Purdy

### IHS Advisory Council

I Abu-Arafeh  
M Braschinsky  
H-C Diener  
P Goadsby  
M T Goicochea  
G Schoonman  
H Schytz

### Members

A Ambrosini  
F Amin  
K Brooks  
A Ehrlich  
D Garcia Azorin  
C Gaul  
A Gryglas-Dworak  
V László  
M Marmura  
A Rapoport  
M Straburzyński  
D Sudibyo

The President opened the meeting at 15.00 and welcomed all attendees.

Apologies were received from Regina Macalintal-Canlas and Anne MacGregor.

Due to COVID-19 it has not been possible to hold the AGM in person – it is hoped the next meeting can be held during IHC 2021 in September 2021.

## **1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6 September 2019**

The minutes were approved as presented.

## **2. Presentations from:**

### **The President**

The President noted he has enjoyed his first year in office despite the challenges posed with the unpredicted COVID outbreak which has made things different and forced the society to delay projects. A new website was launched in June with content in different languages to establish IHS as a global society, and the society will continue to engage with headache specialists and researchers worldwide.

### **The Secretary**

In 2020 IHS welcomed Israel as an Affiliate Member Society – IHS now has 54 Affiliate Member Societies representing 53 countries.

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Membership numbers in 2020 are lower than 2019, with 1,200 members versus >1,500 in 2019. It is usual for member numbers to drop in years when IHS does not hold the International Headache Congress (IHC) and they are expected to rise again in 2021. It has been noted that many members have not renewed in 2020 and IHS will work to regain these members. A working group is looking into strategies to increase membership numbers and keep members engaged in non-IHC years. The Secretary urged all members to encourage their colleagues, in particular their juniors, to become members of IHS.

The membership fee has remained stable since 2015 and the Board agreed in the recent Board meeting that there would be no increase for 2021.

The number of Associate Members, membership offered free of charge to researchers and physicians from developing countries, increased to over 1,250.

Trustee elections will be held in 2021. The call for nominations for the President-elect has been sent to members by the Leadership, Development and Nominations Committee; members can nominate another member or themselves. A call for Trustees will be sent early in 2021; Mario Peres, Patricia Pozo Rosich and Todd Schwedt will leave the Board and three new trustees will be elected.

Cephalalgia has had a good year scientifically and financially. The Impact Factor increased to 4.868. The journal is ranked 30 of 204 in clinical neurology journals, and 53 of 271 in neuroscience journals. The publisher is still waiting to receive notification from PubMed to have Cephalalgia Reports listed so the journal can obtain an impact factor; the journal is now listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and SCOPUS.

IHS continues to be active in Education despite the travel restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

IHS has supported the MENA meeting which will now be a virtual meeting at the end of October.

Visiting Professors were sent to Bangladesh and Mexico; two others have been postponed until 2021.

Three Headache Trainees were awarded to young physicians from Colombia, Malaysia and Thailand who will visit centres in Brazil and London, hopefully in 2021. The Trainees and Residents SIG awarded five Short-Stay Scholarships to young physicians from Armenia, Brazil, Iran (2) and Russia to spend up to 6 weeks in headache centres in London and Denmark. These grants have also been postponed and will likely take place around IHC 2021. The IHS Fellowship application deadline has been extended to December 2020. IHS has funded two young participants for the Danish Master in Headache Disorders course.

The IHS website has been upgraded and included relaunch of the online learning centre. New content includes webinars, videos and podcasts on many headache topics.

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The Core Curriculum has been updated and translated into several languages, all freely available in the learning centre.

IHS continues collaboration with Lifting the Burden on the global burden paediatric study with IHS-funded studies in Zambia, Iran and Mongolia; the results of the study in Mongolia have been published and Zambia and Iran are nearing conclusion.

Following a call for proposals two research grants were awarded for multicentre scientific projects from over 30 applications received.

The Board reviewed the 2021 IHC which was to have been held in Helsinki, Finland. Due to concerns over the venue and the ongoing pandemic, it has been agreed to hold a joint congress with the European Headache Federation (EHF) in Berlin, Germany, in September 2021. The congress tagline is Headache Science to Optimise Patient Care. The Congress Chairs will be Messoud Ashina and Zaza Katsarava, and the Scientific Programme Committee is Chaired by Patricia Pozo Rosich and Todd Schwedt for IHS and Christian Lampl for EHF. IHC 2023 will be held in Seoul, South Korea.

Due to the AGM being held virtually, the Secretary invited members to submit any questions by email.

### The Treasurer

The final figures for 2019 were presented to the Board in September. The accounts, presented in statutory format, have been approved by the IHS Board and are in the process of being audited. The accounts will be signed off by Messoud Ashina and Wendy Thomas and submitted to UK Companies House and the UK Charity Commission, and will be publicly available on their websites.

- 2019 income: £ 2,061,977
- 2019 expenditure: £ 1,988,278
- Surplus: £ 73,699

#### Income:

- IHC 2019 Dublin: £ 1,246,459 – 60% of income
- Cephalalgia royalty: £ 260,048 – 13% of income, the highest income from Cephalalgia in 20 years
- Corporate Roundtable: £ 208,209 – 10% of income
- International Headache Academy (iHEAD) sponsorship: £ 137,651 – 7% of income
- Membership: £ 136,380 – 7% of income, 27% increase on 2018 with approximately 300 more members than usual, membership fees stable
- Investments: £ 73,230 – 3% of income

#### Expenditure:

- IHC 2019 Dublin: £ 998,996 – 50% of expenditure

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- Fellowships/grants: £ 362,188 – 18% of expenditure, includes two fellowships, three Short-Stay Scholarships and travel grants
- Education: £ 214,705 – 11% of expenditure, mainly on iHEAD and Colombian Master School
- Support costs: £154,256 – 8% of expenditure
- Committee costs: £ 147,742 – 7% of expenditure, includes ARCH meeting
- Cost of Cephalalgia: £ 52,948 – 3% of expenditure, member copies/online access
- Other/exchange: £ 57,443 – 3% of expenditure

The annual income, excluding IHCs, is primarily from sponsorship for educational activities, Cephalalgia royalty, membership fees and Corporate Roundtable membership. Investments have been also been successful in recent years.

Member numbers were a record high in 2019 due to delegates joining to take advantage of reduced registration fees for IHC and grants offered for attending iHEAD.

IHS has shown a surplus over the past 5 years. Reserves are healthy with £ 2.2 million at the end of 2019; £ 1.4 million is invested in bank deposits, £ 1.1 million in a combination of equity and bond investments and £ 500,000 in a property fund. IHS should therefore withstand the current COVID environment being in a strong financial position.

### **3. Report and Audited accounts for year ended 31 December 2019**

The accounts were approved as presented.

### **4. Re-appointment of the auditors**

The recommendation to re-appoint MacIntyre Hudson LLP to audit the 2020 accounts was approved.

### **5. Date of next meeting**

The next AGM will be held during IHC 2021 in Berlin, Germany, in September 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 15.25.

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