

WORLD NEUROLOGY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 1, MARCH 2008



19th World Congress of Neurology
Innovation in Neurology
October 24-30, 2009
BITEC, Bangkok, Thailand

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The Changing Face of the World Federation of Neurology

The World Congresses of Neurology and the newsletter *World Neurology* are essential in shaping the visibility of the World Federation of Neurology. Both are now in a process of change.

For 50 years, WFN has organized a World Congress of Neurology every fourth year. The quadrennial meetings serve as the most effective venue for presenting scientific achievements and interacting with delegates of varied backgrounds and perspectives. They are also crucial for the visibility of the organization. The number of congress participants is increasing, and so is the number of contributions. The progress in research in clinical

neurosciences is accelerating, but the interval of four years between each congress also makes it necessary for many neurologists to attend important conferences on specific parts of neurology in the years in between the world congresses.

During the WFN Delegates meeting in Brussels, August 2007, there was a general agreement to change the frequency of its World Congresses from quadrennial to biennial. The World Congress of Neurology 2009, which will take place in Bangkok, October 2009, will be the last of the quadrennial congresses. The next World Congresses of Neurology will be in 2011, 2013, 2015 etc.

The venue for the next world congress was previously decided at the Delegates meeting at the previous world congress. Bids were sent in a year in advance, and each bid was presented to the Delegates during their meeting. We can now look forward to a geographical rotation of congress venues. Thus, the 2011 congress will take place on the African continent, while in 2013, it will be in Europe, and in 2015 in Latin America.

Up to 2009, much of the organizing work has been successfully performed by the national neurological society of the organizing country. The local organizing country established an agreement with a professional congress organizer (PCO), which has varied from congress to congress.

Each contract written between the organizing national neurological

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- Encephalitis—The Broader Spectrum
- Regional News
- Calendar
- Obituary: Prof Jens Mielke and Prof. P.K. Thomas

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Please send inquiries about advertising in *World Neurology* to the Advertising Department, Elsevier Ltd., The Boulevard, Langford Lane, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GB, UK. Phone: +44-1865-843 258; Fax: +44-1865-843 976; email: b.keall@elsevier.com

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World Neurology, ISSN 0899-9465, is published by Elsevier B.V., Radarweg 29, 1043 NX Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Phone: +31 (20) 485 3358; Fax: +31 (20) 485 3249; e-mail: p.f.bakker@elsevier.com

REPRINTS

Reprint requests and all correspondence regarding the journal should be addressed to the Editor. However, back issues of *World Neurology* can be obtained from the publisher.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Notice of change of address should be sent to: World Neurology, Editorial Secretariat, 12 Chandos Street, London W1G 9DR, UK. Fax: +44 20 7323 4012; e-mail: WFNLondon@aol.com

Printed by Chandika Press (P) Ltd, 126 Industrial Area-1, Chandigarh-160002, India. e-mail: chandika.press@gmail.com.

EDITORIAL

I had conveyed my thanks to the members of Editorial Board of *World Neurology* and the WFN Trustees on completion of my tenure as Editor-in-Chief, in the December 2007 issue of *World Neurology*. New tabloid form of *World Neurology* was to commence from March 2008 issue under the Editorship of Mark Hallett. However, for some technical reasons this could not happen. I was requested by WFN President Johan Aarli to bring out the March 2008 issue, which I accepted with pleasure.

March issue of *World Neurology* is always a unique issue because it contains the Annual Reports of the previous year which indeed are a reflection of the WFN activities completed by the Trustees, officials, various WFN Committees, Research Groups and the Editors of *JNS* and *World Neurology*. Readers are requested to go through the Annual Reports in this issue and realise the magnitude of WFN undertakings in the previous year, critically analyze it and send their feedback if any to the WFN Head Office in London.

This issue also carries two sad news, firstly about the demise of Prof. P.K. Thomas who was a neurologist of international fame, researcher of high quality output and an exceptionally good teacher. He was my personal friend, an adviser who indeed had the opportunity of visiting our Department of Neurology and Research Lab along with his wife Anita Harding at

Chandigarh. His demise is a personal loss of many, including myself.

The second was a tragic end of the precious life of Dr Jens Mielke in an air crash at Harare in Zimbabwe. I had not personally met him but there were several tributes to him on the internet. He was one of the light house in neurology in black Africa, had worked with WHO and WFN on several projects including epilepsy and other neurological diseases. He was a popular man and his tragic end is a great loss to the fraternity of already scarce force of neurologists in Africa.

Lastly, I once again would like to thank everyone with whom I had worked as Editor *World Neurology* for last 9 years and I convey my best wishes to the readers of *World Neurology*.

I also wish to inform the Readers that I have been awarded *Padma Bhushan*, one of the highest civilian honours given by the President of India, for my services in Medicine. I am the only Indian neurologist to receive this award so far.



Jagjit S. Chopra, FRCP, PhD
Editor-in-Chief

WFN ELECTIONS 2009

In accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the World Federation of Neurology, the election of three new Officers and one new Trustee as shown below must take place at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Council of Delegates during the Bangkok World Congress of Neurology, October 24th-30th, 2009.

- President (to take up office w.e.f. 1st January, 2010)
- First Vice President (to take up office w.e.f. 1st January, 2010)
- Secretary-Treasurer General (to take up office w.e.f. 1st January, 2011)
- One Elected Trustee (to take up office w.e.f. October, 2009)

Candidates for President and First Vice President will be required to formulate a statement of their goals and objectives for the organization, which will be published.

If you wish to propose a candidate for any of these posts, please be in touch with either your national society or WFN Delegate (whose name appears on the WFN website—www.wfnneurology.org). Names of those who are willing to serve and who receive the official support of their national society must arrive at the WFN London headquarters office by 15th August, 2008 to enable the Nominating Committee to consider them at a meeting to be arranged. All submissions received will be scrutinized by the Nominating Committee according to the Guidelines that are published on the WFN website

The names of candidates will be published in *World Neurology* and on the WFN website at least six months before the date of the election. Additional nominations may be submitted by five or more Delegates at least thirty days before the AGM.

There will be a degree of overlap between old and new administrations in two ways: the term of office of the current Secretary-Treasurer General will continue until 31st December, 2010; and two of the three Elected Trustees already in post at the time of the Congress will also continue to hold office—for one and two years respectively.

WFN Travelling Fellowship Report

In 2007, I was awarded with a WFN Junior Travelling Fellowship. This gave me an opportunity to attend the XII Pan-American Congress of Neurology, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and attend various presentations given by several recognized international experts. One of my areas of interest always has been Vascular Neurology, and consistent with it, we presented a Poster about the situation of Stroke in the main public hospital in my country, Honduras, where we have a case-fatality rate of 38.5 %, a complex situation that we could analyze and compare with other neurologists of the region, who were very interested in following the research line that we carry out with my professor, Dr. Marco Tulio Medina (Ex-President of the Latin-American Society of Cerebrovascular Disease). Dr. Medina is one of the regional leaders in the study of Stroke Epidemiology and during the Congress he invited us to a work-meeting with the leaders of the initiative WHO/STEPS-Stroke, Dr. Branka Legetic and Dr Thomas Truelsen, and from our region Dr. Medina, Dr. Pablo Lavados from Chile, among other colleagues. I remain eternally grateful to the WFN for this award. The experience was very positive.

Dr. Luis César Rodríguez Salinas,
Neurologist, Tegucigalpa, Honduras

(President's Column contd from page 1)



A photograph taken outside the Lord Charles Hotel, Stellenbosch, South Africa on the occasion of the first meeting of the newly-established WFN Africa Committee.

Back Row (left to right): Chafiq Hicham (Morocco), Melaku Zenebe (Ethiopia), Pierre Bill (South Africa), Keith Newton (UK).

Middle Row (left to right): Elly Katabira (Uganda), Mohamed Arezki (Algeria), Amadou Gallo Diop (Senegal), Mark Guttman (Canada), Rajesh Kalaria (UK), Beugre Kouassi (Ivory Coast).

Front Row (left to right): Raad Shakir (UK), Johan Aarli (Norway), Alfred Njamnshi (Cameroon), Girish Modi (South Africa), Erastus Amayo (Kenya).

society, the PCO and the World Federation of Neurology has had its distinctive stamp, but the contracts have also to a great extent been standardized since the general structure of the congresses remained the same. Frequent world congresses leads to a demand for a permanent PCO.

Biennial congresses will present a new challenge to the World Federation of Neurology. The World Federation of Neurology is therefore now in a situation to appoint a core PCO which will be in charge of the world congresses of 2011, 2013 and 2015. The planning of the World Congress of Neurology in Bangkok, 2009 is already far advanced and will continue as before. The new situation will commence after Bangkok.

The WFN newsletter, *World Neurology*, is now in its 23rd year. For 22 years, it has served as an important news medium for neurologists at all levels, and it has increased the visibility of neurologists worldwide. Each issue has brought information about upcoming conferences, news from the research groups,

book reviews, biographical data and reports from regional and national neurological conferences. During this period, the electronic media have had an almost explosive growth and we are

Jagjit Chopra retires as Editor-in-Chief

In 1999, Jagjit Chopra took over as Editor-in-Chief from Frank Clifford Rose, who had edited the newsletter almost since its inception.

The World Federation of Neurology had established its first international journal, which was also called *World Neurology*, in 1960, but the publication was discontinued after three years. *The Journal of the Neurological Sciences* was established as its successor in 1964. Soon after Richard Masland in 1981 had been elected President of the WFN, he realized the importance of a newsletter for the organization. *World Neurology* now appeared as a publication to bring WFN activities to the attention of an international audience. For several years it was produced, printed and circulated

more and more dependent upon communication related to the internet. *World Neurology* is also available on the internet, but our readers still prefer the printed version.

For the last few years, *World Neurology* has been published with a generous grant from the Japan Foundation for Neuroscience and Mental Health. 2007 was the last year of this funding and the newsletter will now be published in a different way. A new Editor-in-Chief is being appointed and will take over from Jagjit Chopra in a few months time. The new newsletter, in addition to serving as before as a newsletter, will have improved scientific content and aims to emphasize new and emerging clinical and basic neuroscientific reports in the neurological literature. Elsevier will be the publisher and will provide professional writers and broad editorial support to the new Editor and the Editorial Board. By an independent but still related process, WFN will soon have a new webmaster and the structure of our website will be reorganized. I hope that these changes will prove positive and increase the visibility of neurology in all parts of the world.

Johan A. Aarli
President, WFN

from Winston-Salem. In 1990, Frank Clifford Rose, now Secretary-Treasurer General of the WFN, took over as the Editor-in-Chief, and *World Neurology* now appeared as a quarterly publication and changes were made to the format of the newsletter.

From Number 1, 1999, Jagjit Chopra has been the Editor-in-Chief. Together with the WFN President, James F. Toole, he redesigned the newsletter based upon the recommendations of the readership and external advisors to make it a news medium for neurologists at all levels. Since Jagjit took over, printing and distribution has been from India at great savings to the WFN. At this time, Elsevier contracted with the WFN to produce the newsletter and solicit

appropriate advertisements.

During his period as an Editor-in-Chief, *World Neurology* has developed into a popular and widely read publication. His well-written editorials review the contents of each article of the issue, put them into a global perspective with the background of his deep insight into how WFN works and of his knowledge of modern clinical neurosciences. The improved layout settings have facilitated easier reading, fonts are now more legible and the spacing improved so the newsletter is easier to read. Jagjit is also the newsletter's own photographer, and

each issue of *World Neurology* successfully presents the attendance at important business meetings of the WFN as well as important regional meetings.

Because the transactions to establish the new format of the newsletter were delayed due to technical problems, Jagjit was willing to continue his editorship of *World Neurology* with one more issue, for which we owe him our warm thanks. We are all grateful to Jagjit for his excellent work as an editor of *World Neurology*, and the way he has developed it into an important contact medium for bilateral dissemination of news

within the world's neurological community. We also look forward to working together with him in the future.



Johan A. Aarli
President, WFN

World Federation of Neurology Annual Reports, 2007

Report of First Vice-President

The best time to consider change is not in a crisis, but when things are going well. In this spirit, the First Vice-President presented a discussion paper to the annual meeting of delegates in Glasgow in September, 2006. The World Congresses of Neurology have been the World Federation of Neurology's (WFN) major activity and source of revenue. The Congresses have been increasingly successful, scientifically, financially and culturally. It was a good time to consider:

1. Whether holding the Congresses every four years is too long to have any sustained impact, particularly at a time when neurological problems, knowledge and the number of neurologists are increasing.
2. Whether discontinuity of organization, fundraising and scientific and educational programs can be redressed.
3. Whether we can continue to count on industry so extensively. In some countries, drug and device companies can no longer sponsor the attendance of participants who are not speakers, and those who are must observe strict guidelines. This trend probably will become worldwide. This should encourage us to search for additional sources of funding.

The highly successful Sydney Congress

and the vigorous competition for the next Congress site by several credible teams, suggest that the Congresses could be more frequent, geographically distributed and able to offer a productive blend of continuity and innovation.

The following suggestions were made:

1. That the World Congresses of Neurology move to a two-year cycle.
2. That the WFN contract with an international organizer to provide continuity and perhaps an infrastructure and
3. That the Scientific Program Committee, the Fundraising Committee and the Local Organizing Committee of the Congress have agreed proportions of members of the Research, Education and Finance Committees of the WFN.

Potential advantages include: a) Greater regional impact of the WFN. b) Diversified sources of funding, as some governments and tourist organizations are interested in hosting a prestigious international congress and c) Continuity in organization, fundraising and research and educational agendas.

Potential disadvantages include: a) Decreased revenue from industry per Congress. b) Perceived lesser prestige of the Congresses because of the increased frequency. c) Potential conflict with regional congresses.

A small proportion of the world's neurologists can travel to wherever the Congresses are held. However, the greatest impact of the World Congresses of Neurology is on individuals who can not attend unless the Congress is held in their region. Congresses bring together the societies that organize them and often have other benefits in the form of government policy regarding neurological diseases, the education of non-neurologists, and in attracting students and trainees who could become neurologists or interested in neurological problems. President Johan Aarli became an immediate and strong supporter of the discussion paper. When Secretary General Raad Shakir assumed office, he reinvested our resources and was able to assure the Trustees that the WFN would be able to carry on even in the worst case scenario that one World Congress of Neurology did not yield any revenues. With additional discussions and contributions from the Trustees, especially Professor Werner Hacke, a proposal was made to and approved by the delegates in Brussels in August 2007, during the 50th Anniversary of the WFN's foundation. The next World Neurology Congress will be held in Bangkok, October 24-30, 2009 as scheduled. The 2011 Congress will be held in Africa. The 2013 Congress in Europe, jointly with the European Federation of Neurological Societies Annual Meeting; an answer and a model for concerns about regional Congresses conflicting with World Congresses of Neurology.

Change for the sake of change is pointless. Continuity without change invites obsolescence. We have the opportunity to continue the best features of our World Congresses of Neurology while adapting to and taking advantage of an evolving world. We need continuity and change.



Vladimir Hachinski
First Vice-President, WFN

Report of Secretary-Treasurer General

I took over office from Richard Godwin-Austen in Jan 2007. Important issues on restructuring of the Secretariat had already been started. The major objective was to support all our activities with the appointment of a management company. A contract with Concorde Services was already being discussed and this was approved in March 2007. The CME programme proved to be difficult to administer and in November Mrs Helen Gallagher was specifically appointed to look after the issues of the Education Committee including CME.

The issue of contributing to the WCN 2009 activities with our Thai colleagues was addressed on a visit to Bangkok in January 2007. The facilities were looked at and approved. By the end of 2007 preparations were well underway for the congress.

Financial matters were looked at very carefully. The WFN investment profile was discussed with the Finance Committee in April 2007 and the investments were changed to Sterling Base high interest accounts through the Charities Aid Foundation in the UK. The WFN is a viable organisation with an income that is recurrent and is enough to cover a budget approved by the Trustees. This is crucial as the WFN should not rely in the future on income

from world congresses to assure its survival.

In the Delegates meeting of August 2007, the decision to hold the WCN biennially was approved. This entails major administrative changes to WCN contracts and a major role for the WFN in planning and administering future congresses. The appointment of a core PCO was therefore imperative. In January 2008, after formal bidding, Kenes International was appointed as WFN core PCO for 3 congresses. It was also decided to follow a regional distribution of WCNs and following Bangkok, it will be in Africa followed by Europe in 2013 and the Americas in 2015.

In view of the major changes made, the London office has to change to accommodate the vast increase in work involved with biennial world congresses. It was decided to employ more staff in the office and terminate the contract with Concorde in March 2008. One of the major achievements of 2007 was a visit to Shanghai with our President Johan Aarli, where the membership of the Chinese Neurological Society was successfully negotiated without affecting the independence of any other member society. The establishing of the Task Force for Africa and the collaboration with the EFNS in running teaching programmes in Africa was a main issue of the year. A WFN delegation also visited other countries to give advice on their neurological training. Ethiopia was visited in December 2007. A meeting with major heads of Neurology departments from all over Africa is scheduled for March 2008.

The WFN remains committed to improving world neurology and the Africa drive is a major initiative. The negotiations with our publisher Elsevier to start publishing World Neurology have been successful and the first issue is expected in June 2008.

The activities of the Publications and Website committee are in progress to revamp our Website and the outcome of this is expected in 2008. Fund-raising both for WCN 2009 and for the WFN is in progress through the activities of the Fund-raising committee and this has

put the WFN on the map as far as donor organisations are concerned. The WFN relies on the goodwill and hard work of all its committees' chairs and members, and all research groups to push the achievements of the Federation to higher levels. On behalf of the WFN office I would like to thank you all for your contributions and continued support.



Raad Shakir FRCP
Secretary-Treasurer General

Report of Research Committee Chairman

The Research Committee has been active and involved in planning the Scientific Program for the World Congress of Neurology (WCN 2009) to be held in Bangkok, Thailand October 24-31, 2009. We have had a planning meeting at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology in April 2007 and will have another in April 2008. I have served as Co-Chair of the Scientific Program Committee along with Naraporn Prayoonwiwat, MD and Niphon Pongvarin, MD, President of the Thai Neurological Society. I represented the Research Committee at a meeting with the Thai Neurological Society Planning Committee for the Scientific Program in Bangkok on January 18-19, 2008, where the program was reviewed and discussions held to provide an optimal geographic distribution of speakers in addition to selection of the scientific topics and speakers. The Research Groups of the Research Committee are well represented in the WCN 2009 Scientific Program. The WCN 2009 in Bangkok will be an excellent scientific meeting with an excellent balance of clinical neurology and relevant neuroscientific topics on the program and with superb speakers from around the world. Nobel Laureate Stanley B. Prusiner, MD, USA will give a Plenary Lecture.

Thailand is a beautiful country and our Thai hosts have planned wonderful Scientific and Educational Programs and social events and so, I do hope you will make every effort to attend WCN 2009. It will be a very memorable experience.

Erik Wolters, MD of the Netherlands, has been elected Chair of the Parkinson Disease Research Group and we welcome him and wish him every success in his new position.



Roger N. Rosenberg, MD
USA

WFN Education Committee Report

During the 2007 calendar year our activities were significantly hampered by the continued lack of a Program Coordinator. This has now been corrected and the Committee is delighted to have Helen Gallagher appointed to this position. We continue to focus our efforts on developing countries and designing programs specifically useful for neurologic practices in low resource environments. Our continuing philosophy, under guidance of the Trustees, is to direct our efforts and resources to educational activities that will have a lasting effect on neurologic care. Thus, we have concentrated our efforts on the educational infrastructure of countries—assisting with establishing or improving the training of neurology residents, establishing effective neuroscience courses for medical schools, CME/Lifelong Learning and the training of Clinical Assistants “Where There Is No Neurologist”. These efforts have been an outgrowth of previous pilot studies.

CME/Lifelong Learning in Neurology

The American Academy of Neurology generously continues to provide six excellent CME courses yearly. The number of WFN CME participants from eligi-

ble developing countries has now grown to 43 with recent additions of neurologists from Ethiopia, Mongolia, Congo, Brazil, Nigeria and Vietnam. We have particularly been interested in having new members from Asia which is proportionately underrepresented in our programs. We were thus pleased to receive an appreciative e-mail from a new WFN Education Coordinator from Vietnam.

The most important development during the past year has been the availability of our courses online, which will make access much easier for many and will reduce shipping charges for the hard copy format. We await revision of our website so that all educational material from the WFN can be available in a convenient online manner. The Committee continues to believe that evidence based, effective CME is one of the most important elements in approaching the goal of effective clinical care. On behalf of the WFN, the Education Committee Chairman has accepted a plaque of recognition from the Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA) for the work the WFN has done with Prof. Sarosh Katrak in India.

WFN Seminars in Clinical Neurology

This program, under the direction of Jerome “Pete” Engel, and available in both hard copy and online, continues to produce books specially designed for neurologists practicing in developing countries. In addition to volumes on neurology, epilepsy and dystonia, volumes on stroke, MS and malnutrition have been added this past year. Other volumes are in various stages of preparation.

Book Sharing Program

This program which has been highly successful was discontinued two years ago because of the loss of our Program Manager. We hope to restart it in the future.

Neurology training assistance

As a result of the successful pilot study in Honduras, we have offered help to countries who do not have a neurology training program and wish to do so (ex.

Nicaragua) and to countries who would like an impartial evaluation of an existing program (ex. Guatemala, Ethiopia, Mexico). This provides an important educational service for countries that do not have access to such a review process. Recently, three members of this committee reviewed the training program at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia at their request. Meetings were held with the Ethiopian Minister of Health, Dean of the Medical School, Chairman of Neurology and other Medical School and Hospital officials. Suggestions were made for strengthening specific areas of training.

The program in Honduras, under the direction of Prof. Marco Medina, continues to flourish. It will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year.

Where there is no Neurologist

This increasingly effective program initiated and directed by Gretchen Birbeck in Zambia, continues to grow and more recently has begun to involve Malawi as well. This effort has initiated a most productive Visiting Professor program as summarized in a recent report from Dr. Birbeck.

The WFN Visiting Professors Program remains active and strong in Zambia. In 2007, Dr. Antoine Samman of Lafayette, California joined faculty at the University of Zambia's University teaching hospital and undertook a broad range of teaching and clinical responsibilities. Dr. Samman's bedside teaching and second opinion on difficult cases were especially appreciated. In Malawi, Dr. Douglas Postels of Albuquerque, New Mexico served as the second Visiting Professor to the Pediatrics Department where he delivered lectures to faculty, medical registrars, and medical students as well as providing inpatient and outpatient neurologic consultations. Following his visit the Chair of Pediatrics as well as their Medical Education Coordinator requested continuing opportunities for Dr. Postels' assistance in future years.

We have recently begun discussions with the Neurology Department at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia to further

train a cadre of Psychiatric nurses in the management of neurologic problems.



Theodore Munsat
Chairman, WFN Education Committee

Annual Report of the Membership Committee

The World Federation of Neurology (WFN) has had an exceptionally good year. Six neurological societies (China, Congo, Iran, Libya, Nigeria and Senegal) have found their way to WFN as was already reported by President Aarli in his President's column in the September 2007 issue of *World Neurology*. This has only been possible by the great efforts of individual neurologists who pointed out the benefits of WFN membership in furthering the standard of neurological practice by education and facilitation of research.

Still, a remaining 96 countries are not represented in WFN, distributed over various parts of the world: Latin America: 14; Pan-European region: 15; Pan-Arab-region: 4; Pan-African region: 38; and Asian-Oceanian region 25. As the President stated in his afore-mentioned column WFN is a Federation of neurological societies and not of countries. However, it is not an easy task to find out how many national societies have not yet affiliated with WFN. A fair number of the countries are very small with a number of inhabitants not even exceeding 100,000. It is highly unlikely that these countries have their own national neurological societies. The Membership Committee will ask the Regional Directors to try and obtain this information. We also expect that the Africa project will generate enthusiasm to link up with WFN because of the obvious advantages that the Educational Committee together with the Taskforce of the African Initiative under the leadership of Johan Aarli and Gallo Diop can offer.

With the mission statement of WFN in mind we have to keep on trying to expand our membership. That is also our task for 2008.



Marianne de Visser, MD
Chair, Membership Committee

Report of WFN Committee on Public Relations

The Committee met in April 2007 during the meeting of the American Academy of Neurology's Annual Meeting, and on 27 August 2007 during the Brussels meeting of the European Federation of Neurological Societies.

An assessment of the previous work of the Committee was carried out at the April meeting, and a determination was made that further projects would depend upon the recruitment of new, active members, and upon frequent email, telephone, and personal meetings of the group. The Committee also agreed that dissemination of the work of the WFN would depend upon specific projects aimed at the international neurological community. The difficulty of recruiting new participants to the WFN in the context of its structure as an 'assembly of assemblies' rather than one with individual membership was identified as a crucial obstacle. The Committee agreed to produce a platform presentation describing the WFN's work, and opportunities to participate in it, for use of senior WFN members attending international meetings. It also agreed to design and construct a new, more attractive exhibition booth to be used at international meetings, to showcase WFN publications and projects. Over the next few months three new members were recruited, two from developing countries and all with the skills needed for the committee's plans. A draft of the platform presentation and a design for the new booth will be pre-

sented to the committee in session in Chicago during the American Academy meeting in April, and a budget for this work and other projects identified at this meeting will be submitted thereafter.



A. Kurdi, MD

D. Bergen, MD

Report of Fund Raising Committee

Twelve months ago the Fund Raising Committee made a submission to the Africa Project Meeting in London and this was followed by a more detailed presentation to the Trustees the following day.

The review identified opportunities which were immediately available to the WFN, particularly with the global pharmaceutical industry, based on the forthcoming fundamental changes to the WFN publication, *World Neurology*, and the WFN website. Highlighted also was the importance of working in a close complementary fashion with the World Neurology Foundation, especially to avoid overlap. The development of projects as part of the Africa initiative, in this regard were seen as essential for the approach to potential individual and corporate funders in the US and the rest of the world.

At the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) meeting in Boston in April 2007, a presentation was made to potential sponsors from the pharmaceutical industry.

At this presentation one was also given by Mr Peter Bakker of Elsevier, outlining the way in which Elsevier and the WFN could jointly promote sponsors through *World Neurology* and the website and its links. Draft packages for potential sponsors were presented. At a further meeting in London in June, the sponsorship opportunities for the

Memorial Award for Neurology Residents-in-Training Announced in Memory of Dr. John Newsom-Davis

To commemorate Dr. John Newsom-Davis' life and his dedication to improving the treatment of patients with myasthenia gravis, MGFA has established The Dr. John Newsom-Davis Award for Neurology Residents-in-Training (registrars, residents or fellows) to attend scientific or clinical meetings related to myasthenia gravis.

Dr. Newsom-Davis was a leader in clinical and basic research related to myasthenia gravis. His death is a major loss to patients with MG, practitioners and researchers. MGFA is honored to take this step forward towards a "world without MG" by making this new funding available in Dr. Newsom-Davis' name.

Awards will be given to residents who wish to present their MG related research at a recognized professional event or gathering, such as the MGFA Annual Scientific Session. Other considerations may include travel and lodging for a resident to attend a meeting that might significantly further his or her understanding of MG and related autoimmune diseases.

Applications and selection criteria are available online at www.myasthenia.org/hp_research.cfm. All applications are subject to review by members of the MGFA Medical/Scientific Advisory Board with final approval by the MGFA Executive Committee.

Questions may be directed to Janet Golden, chief executive of MGFA, at (800) 541-5454, or by email at janet.golden@myasthenia.org.

The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America (MGFA) is the only national volunteer health agency dedicated solely to the fight against myasthenia gravis.

pharmaceutical industry were completed after discussions between representatives of Congrex and the Fund Raising Committee.

At the European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS) Meeting in Brussels in August 2007, after more discussions with Mr Peter Bakker and another representative from Elsevier, a further presentation was given to the pharmaceutical industry. Ms Alison Shamwana of Congrex outlined the sponsorship packages for the 2009 World Congress of Neurology, whilst the WFN Fund Raising Committee presented opportunities to the pharmaceutical industry for sponsorship and closer collaboration with the WFN over one or more years.

At the European Committee for the Treatment, Research and Investigation of Multiple Sclerosis (ECTRIMS) in Prague in October 2007, meetings between representatives of Biogen Idec, Merck Serono, Bayer Schering Pharma and Teva and Sanofi Aventis were held by the Chair of the Fund Raising Committee and Ms Alison Shamwana.

Subsequent feedback has been positive, both for the sponsorship of the WFN, and also for the World Congress of Neurology.

For 2008, it is hoped to expand these sponsorship opportunities, given that the publication of *World Neurology* is about to change, both for its place of printing and the editorship (see report of the Publications and Website Committee), which should take advantage of the possibility of regionalisation of global advertising. Also during 2008/2009, there will be an opportunity to expand other activities of the Fund Raising Committee, as well as to host the first WFN Global Advisory Board meeting at the World Congress of Neurology



W.M. Carroll
Chair, WFN Fund Raising Committee

(Note: Members can have details of existing sources of revenue available to WFN and those which should be accessible in future from the Chairman. These could not be printed in this issue because of space constraints.

--Editor-in-Chief)

Annual Report of Journal of the Neurological Sciences

Fourteen volumes, including eleven double issues, featuring 359 articles and the Cumulative Author/Subject Index were published. These included one Supplement 256.S1 (amy) that presented "Relapses Matters: The Costs and Consequences of Multiple Sclerosis Relapses". Guest editors were Patricia K. Coyle and Kenneth P. Johnson.

A Special Issue 257.1-2 (June) presented "Proceedings of the Fourth International Congress on Vascular Dementia", Portugal, October 2005. Guest editors were Amos D. Korczyn and Natan M. Bornstein. A second Special issue 259.1-2 (August) presented "Treatment Strategies in Multiple Sclerosis: From Pathophysiology to Clinical Practice", European Charcot Foundation Symposium, Portugal, November 2005. Guest editors were O.R. Hommes and M. Friedrichs. A third Special Issue 261.1-2 (October) presented "Update in Neurosciences Critical Care". Guest editors were J. Ricardo Carhuapoma and Mark A. Mirski. The final Special Issue 261.1-2 (November) presented "Proceedings of the Meetings of the Environmental Neurology Club" held in France in December and February under the aegis of the French Society of Neurology, the University of Metz, and the Environmental Neurology Research Group of the World Federation of Neurology (ENRG-WFN). Guest editors were Gustavo C. Roman, Jacques Reis, Gilles Defer, and Leon D. Prockop.

All submissions to the journal are through the Elsevier Electronic System (EES) as is the review process. EES has accelerated both the submission rate and the review process. There was a 47% increase in submissions for the year. 330 manuscripts were accepted in 2007

and 528 manuscripts were rejected. The distribution of manuscripts accepted by country parallels that of the past eight years. The top three ranked countries were Japan (21%), USA (18.5%), and Italy (10%). These three countries alone accounted for 157 of all manuscripts accepted in 2006. Geographically, accepted manuscripts were as follows: Africa 3, Asia 63; Australia/New Zealand 7; Caribbean 1; Eastern Europe 13; Japan 69; Middle East 9; Scandinavia 7; South/Central America/Mexico 12; USA and Canada 66; and Western Europe 80. Clinical research still dominates every issue and 9% of all submissions were basic (non-human) research. Ad hoc reviewers were acknowledged in April issue, 255.

Changes were made to the editorial board. H. Moser and K. Poeck, who both died, were recognized for their service as was C. Ozdemir who was also rotated off the board. J.R. Carhuapoma was invited to join the board.

A Special Report in volume 258 was published by Johan A. Aarli to celebrate the history of the "World Federation of Neurology 1957-2007".



Robert P. Lisak, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief JNS

Annual Report of World Neurology

As usual all the four issues for March, June, September and December, 2007 were published and mailed to over 25,000 neurologists in more than 100 countries of the world as per schedule. Undelivered copies received back are almost five per cent in spite of repeated reminders to members to update their

address with the WFN Headquarters in London. All the issues contained important WFN news, travelling fellowship reports, updates on Education Committee programmes in developing countries, regional news, abstracts of articles published in *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, short reports and the calendar which carried the awareness of international congresses, neuro updates, symposia and workshops. The Elsevier Publishers and the Chandika Press in Chandigarh made tremendous efforts to bring out the four annual issues in time: I am grateful to them and Keith Newton for timely co-ordination with me.



Jagjit S. Chopra
Editor-in-Chief

Encephalitis—The Broader Spectrum: Rare Forms of Encephalitis

The Encephalitis Society started out 15 years ago as a fairly modest support group, in response to the very limited help available for people, and their families, who had been affected by encephalitis. Since then, it has expanded its activities very substantially and is the only resource of its kind in the world, providing evidence-based information, education and support services. The Society has also supported and funded a number of research studies and is currently involved in a large scale collaborative study of the outcome of encephalitis with the University of York. The Society organizes an annual seminar, which this year had as its topic some of the less familiar varieties of encephalitis.

Professor Tom Solomon from the new Liverpool Brain Infection Group (www.liv.ac/braininfections) opened the meeting with a presentation on Encephalitis in the Global Village, which highlighted the threat of emerging viruses. He has worked extensively on

Japanese encephalitis in Vietnam and, although still a rarity in the UK, this is actually one of the more important brain infections on a worldwide scale. There are anything from 35,000 to 50,000 cases each year with a 30% mortality and 30% of survivors left with significant neurological sequelae.

It has a varied neurological profile which, as well the more familiar features of encephalitis, such as fever, headache, confusion, seizures, raised ICP and coma, may involve acute movement disorders with Parkinsonian mask-like faces, orofacial dyskinesias, choreoathetosis, rigidity and tremor. The Japanese encephalitis virus can also attack anterior horn cells, leading to presentation with a polio-like ascending flaccid paralysis. Dengue is another mosquito borne flavivirus which can cross the blood-brain barrier to produce an encephalitic illness in a proportion of infected patients. Human enterovirus 71 (HEV 71) was isolated from the stool of a child with encephalitis in California in

1969. After sporadic cases and small outbreaks of HEV71 infection worldwide in the 1970s and 1980s, there was a large and severe outbreak in Sarawak in 1997 with 34 deaths in 2628 reported cases. Neurological involvement included aseptic meningitis, encephalitis and acute flaccid paralysis. Since then there have been further outbreaks in Southeast Asia and Australia.

Although these illnesses have tended to be viewed in this country as exotic rarities, the ease and speed of international travel and the effects of climate change are making awareness of them increasingly relevant—a reality brought home by the appearance of West Nile fever in New York City.

Fungal infections of the CNS are mostly familiar to us in the UK as something seen on a relatively small scale in immunocompromised patients. However, as Dr William Hope, Infectious Diseases Physician and Senior Research Fellow, the University of Manchester

emphasized, they actually represent a major problem from a global perspective. *Cryptococcus neoformans* is a leading cause of AIDS-related deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa and *Aspergillus* is a major source of morbidity and mortality in immunocompromised patients, with an associated mortality of 40-50%. The expenditure on antifungal drugs worldwide is astronomical—billions of dollars—and rising. Dr Hope's presentation emphasized that the key to understanding the pathological process in cerebral aspergillosis is the recognition that *Aspergillus* is angiotropic and angioinvasive. He also reviewed the under-recognized but quite common condition of neonatal haematogenous candida meningoencephalitis, in which there is widespread involvement of the CNS with *Candida*.

The second theme of the meeting was the role of the immune system in the pathogenesis of encephalitis. Oxford has been a leading centre in the characterization of voltage gated potassium channel antibody encephalitis and Professor Angela Vincent from the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine reviewed the work of their group. VGKC antibody-associated limbic encephalitis occurs in both men and women. It is an adult-onset condition seen in people from 30 to over 70 years of age, with an acute or sub-acute onset of memory loss, seizures, personality change and occasionally more florid psychotic features, with high signal in the hippocampi on MRI. Associated malignancies are uncommon and

immunological treatments with intravenous immunoglobulins and steroids may produce significant clinical improvement. What was particularly interesting is that this seems to be an expanding phenotype. VGKC antibodies may be linked predominantly to seizures or atypical psychosis occurring in isolation, with some indication that immunosuppressive treatment may be helpful. There has been a suggestion that a proportion of patients with adult onset temporal lobe seizures with hippocampal sclerosis may actually have a history of a previous encephalitic illness with evolving MRI changes, raising the possibility that untreated limbic encephalitis may be a causative factor in some cases. So what started out as something of a relatively small print curiosity, may turn out to have much broader implications for epileptology and neuropsychiatry.

Dr Ian Hart, Consultant in Neurology and Neuroimmunology from the Walton Centre in Liverpool, developed the theme of autoimmune encephalitides, dealing with Hashimoto's encephalitis, Rasmussen's encephalitis and paraneoplastic encephalitis. He emphasized the practical clinical point that while these are all rare conditions, they are not that rare and need to be remembered in the differential diagnosis. Looking for antibodies in the blood is useful and can help make the diagnosis. They need to be thought of sooner rather than later, since immune treatments may be helpful in individual patients if they can be started early enough, before brain cell

death and permanent disability has developed.

The meeting ended with a fascinating presentation from Professor Gavin Giovannoni from Barts and the London on Encephalitis Lethargica, which in contemporary neurology is defined as an acute or sub-acute encephalitis with at least three of the constellation of basal ganglia involvement, oculogyric crises, ophthalmoplegia, obsessive-compulsive behavior, akinetic mutism, central respiratory irregularities and somnolence or inversion of the sleep-waking cycle. There is evidence of an inflammatory process in the basal ganglia, brainstem and hypothalamus and it looks like it may be one of a spectrum of autoimmune CNS disorders, characterized by anti-basal ganglia antibodies associated with recent streptococcal infection.

The encouraging message from this seminar is that the future for encephalitis research in the UK looks bright, with the very active involvement of several different research groups of international standing. It's doubly encouraging that the Encephalitis Society is able to convene meetings like this one, to make sure that the practical benefits from this new knowledge will reach a wide audience as quickly as possible, helping improve the care of people with encephalitis both in this country and on a more global scale.

Drs Steve White and Eva Easton
Encephalitis Society

REGIONAL NEWS

The sixth Congress of the International Society for the Amelioration of the Quality of Life in Chronic Neurological Conditions

Marseille, France
January 26-30 2008.

The sixth International Congress of the Improvement of the Quality of Life in Chronic Neurological Conditions was organized by the International Society

for the amelioration of the quality of life for chronic neurological patients. The congress was held in Palais du Faro, in Marseille, France from 26th to 30th of January 2008. Honorary President of the congress was Prof. Dr. Dr hc mult Franz Gerstenbrand and President Prof. Dr Stavros J.Baloyannis.

The congress was mostly focused on Dementia, Parkinson's disease, Epilepsy and MS. The international scientific committee in collaboration with the organizing committee prepared an exciting scientific program especially

targeted on new concepts in the pathogenetic background of chronic disease and the transfer of new data from research into clinical practice for improving the beneficial contribution to the patients. Outstanding speakers were invited from many countries in order to impart their knowledge, experience and personal view on the rapidly expanded fields of genetics, pathophysiology, neuropathology, neuroimmunology, neuroradiology, neuropharmacology, therapeutics, radiating at the same time their enthusiasm for the research, the ethics and the devotion to the



Prof. Dr. Franz Gerstenbrand and Prof. Dr. Stavros J. Baloyannis.

crucial field of chronic neurological diseases. A special effort was made by the Organizing Committee in order to promote young neuroscientists to participate with platform presentations and posters on the main topics of the congress as well as with free communica-

The congress was attended by 200 delegates from 12 countries. Leading scientists in the field of dementia, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, neuropathology, neuroradiology, neurochemistry, neuroimmunology, and medical ethics gave lectures and presented platform and poster presentations. The scientific contributions of the congress included 20 plenary lectures, 11 oral communications, 40 posters and one round table.

The opening ceremony was held in the Papal Palace in Avignon, where an excellent performance of Chamber Music by talented young artists was held in the Conclavium of the Palace.

The main lecture was released by Prof. Gerstenbrand entitled "The right and the ethical obligation for care in severest and hopeless Neurological Conditions" which attracted much attention of the audiences and stimulated long and very fruitful discussion.

The round table on the End of the Life was chaired by Prof. Gerstenbrand, with speakers Profs F. Gerstenbrand (Austria), K. Jellinger (Germany), A. Korczyn (Israel), P. Kalvach (Czech Rep) and S.J. Baloyannis (Greece). Many

aspects from the medical, economical, social and spiritual points of view were discussed and involved the participation of audiences who posed many crucial questions.

All the contributions lectures, oral presentations and posters were excellent and mostly focused on the basic research, clinical investigation, diagnostic procedures and treatment and management of patients suffering from chronic neurological disease, with the goal of ameliorating the quality of life of the patients and to throwing light, hope and perspective on their expectations. A special basic paper concerning End of Life Discussion in Apallic Syndrome/Vegetative State with the ethical and religious resonance of the Orthodox Church is in preparation.

The effort for the amelioration of the quality of life in chronic neurological diseases is in fact the third way or the third leg of Neurology, besides the treatment of Acute Neurological Conditions and Neurorehabilitation. The International Society for the Amelioration of the Quality of Life is under the auspices, support and blessings of His All Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox Church Bartholomew and is based on a strong ethical, humanitarian and ecumenical philosophical background.

S.J. Baloyannis

43rd Turkish Neurology Congress

**held in Antalya
10-15 November, 2007**

The first two days of the program were devoted to courses on the main topics. In the opening session, the President of



the Turkish Neurological Society (TND), Prof. Aksel Siva, summarized the activities of TND and discussed current problems of practicing physicians and academicians. WFN President Prof. Johan Aarli was the guest of honor and delivered a talk entitled "Oh, East is East..Neurology and Psychiatry" in which he discussed how the two specialties were related.

Invited speakers: Stephan Pulst (Genetics of Spino cerebellar ataxias), Soheyl Noachtar (New classification of epilepsy), Fernando Cendes (New imaging techniques in epilepsy), Umberto De Gilermo (Pathology of AIDS in the Brain), Mesoud Ashina (Experimental models of headache and migraine), Ahmet Hoke (Peripheral neuropathies and nerve regeneration in humans: new insights and novel therapies), Ergun Uc (Driving ability in Parkinson's disease), Cigdem Dogulu (Clinic Genomic Approach in Neurology), and Deniz Kirik (Stem cells and Parkinson's disease) made great contributions to the Congress with their enlightening discussions on different aspects of Neurology.

Two sessions were held on "Neurology in the Region" with the representatives of neighboring countries from Azerbaijan, Greece, Gurbistan, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Russia and Syria. Common concerns on treatment of cerebrovascular diseases and problems of neuro-intensive care were discussed and feature activities were planned.

The program included 76 oral and 354 poster presentations. In addition to scientific issues, the problems that neurologists face in private practice and obligatory service, ethical issues, and pharmacovigilance were the topics of discussion in separate sessions.

43 candidates participated in the 3rd National Board examination of Neurology which took place during the last day of the Meeting.

*Tulay Kansu, M.D.,
FAAN
Vice President, Turkish
Neurological Society*

3rd National Congress of Indian Stroke Association

8-10th Feb. 2008, Amritsar

The 3rd National Congress of the Indian Stroke Association was held under the aegis of the World Stroke Organization. This was organized by Dr. Ashok Uppal, Director Uppal Neuro Hospital, Amritsar. The meeting was attended by renowned international neurologists: Prof G.A. Donnan, President W.S.O.; Prof. J.P. Mohr; Prof Charles P. Warlow; Prof Gian Luigi Lenzi from Italy; Prof T. Ramachandran, Vice-President World Stroke Foundation, Dr Aneesh B. Singhal, Dr Majaz Moonis, Dr Jose I Suarez and Dr Vineeta Singh, all from USA. Then almost all of our topmost national faculty and stroke specialists gave their valuable deliberations. The Conference was an academic and cultural bonanza. The overall standard of the meeting was excellent. In all there were 20 sessions covering a range of stroke-related topics, from Basic Science, Epidemiology, the Stroke burden in India, and Stroke Prevention to Stroke

Imaging, all types of Thrombolysis, Neurosurgery, Endovascular Interventions, Stroke Rehabilitation and other relevant topics related to developing countries.

The Opening event of the meeting, dedicated to Clinical Neurology relevant to Stroke, was nicely discussed by Prof. Charles P. Warlow and Dr. R.S. Wadia. Then a "Stroke Quiz", conducted by Dr Padma and Dr Khurana, kept the residents on their toes. The Presidential Oration by Dr G. Arjun Das highlighted the evolution of Stroke Management Services in our country. Prof. Geoffrey A. Donnan emphasised the importance

of time for the treatment and management of thrombolysis in the setting of a Stroke Unit. He further explained how the use of telemedicine can increase the number of patients who can receive this therapy. During the Dr. Baldev Singh Session, Prof. J.S. Chopra, Prof. P.M. Dalal, Prof. S. Prabhakar and Dr. Gourie Devi discussed the stroke epidemic in the context of our country and said such Conferences will go a long way in improving stroke care in India and other countries. The highlights also included Challenging Thrombolytic Cases which evoked a great debate from the panelists. Scientific sessions provided many other presentations of extremely high standards and were all very well attended. All in all this 3rd National Congress of the Indian Stroke Association was greatly appreciated and the role of young Dr Salil Uppal in coordinating the whole Conference was also very commendable.

Dr G.A. Donnan wrote from Melbourne, "I enjoyed the event enormously and I was most impressed by the enthusiasm and high standards achieved". Dr J.P. Mohr wrote from USA, "In the tight space of 4 days you, your family and staff treated the participants to a well-organized, thorough, and informative meeting. Dr. Subash Kaul from Hyderabad even mentioned that "the 3rd Indian Stroke Association conference was not just a great Conference but a milestone for the Indian Stroke Association".

On behalf of the Organizing Committee I gratefully and humbly acknowledge the active participation and appreciation.

Dr. Ashok Uppal
Uppal Neuro Hospital
Amritsar, India.

CALENDAR 2008

18th Meeting of the European Neurological Society

June 7 - 11, 2008

Nice, France

www.akm.ch/ens2008

3rd International Conference on Intracranial Atherosclerosis

June 18 - 20, 2008

Seoul, South Korea

www.icas2008.or.kr/main/

6th European ALS Congress

June 20 - 22, 2008

Munich, Germany

www.imm.fm.ul.pt/alscongress/

1st International Epilepsy Colloquium

June 22 - 25, 2008

Munich, Germany

www.akmcongress.com/epilepsie2008/

12th Congress of the Movement Disorder Society

June 22 - 26, 2008

Chicago, IL, USA

www.movementdisorders.org/congress/congress08/

15th International Meeting on Advanced Spine Techniques (IMAST)

July 08 - 11, 2008

Hong Kong, China

www.imastonline.com/

ICAD 2008—International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease

July 26 - 31, 2008

Chicago, IL, USA

www.alz.org/icad/

12th World Congress on Pain

August 17-22, 2008

Glasgow, Scotland, UK

www.iasp-pain.org/worldcongress

12th Congress of the European Federation of Neurological Societies

August 23-26, 2008

Madrid, Spain

www.kenes.com/efns2008



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- ✓ Brain mitochondrial dysfunction as a link between Alzheimer's disease and diabetes
- ✓ Applications of microfluidics for neuronal studies

Special Issues

- ✓ Mending the Brain: Stem Cells and Repair in Multiple Sclerosis
- ✓ Environmental Neurology
- ✓ Update in Neurosciences Critical Care
- ✓ Treatment Strategies in Multiple Sclerosis: – From Pathophysiology to Clinical Practice
- ✓ Vascular Dementia
- ✓ Relapses Matter: The Costs & Consequences of Multiple Sclerosis Relapses



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Professor Jens Mielke



Professor Jens Mielke died recently in a tragic plane crash near Harare, Zimbabwe. He had taught clinical neurology and bioethics to undergraduate and graduate medical students at the College of Health Sciences of the University of Zimbabwe in Harare since 1995. His interest in bioethics led to his association with the Joint Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto, where he completed a Master's degree in bioethics in 2002 during a sabbatical. A neurologist and internist by training, he has a background in epilepsy and HIV medicine research, with more recent publications in priority setting and research ethics in an African setting. He was a founder member of the Zimbabwe Association of Doctors for Human Rights and a visiting lecturer to the University of Cape Town Bioethics Center Research Ethics programme.

Jens K.H. Mielke, MBChB, DA, MRCP completed graduate training in the University of Toronto MHSC program funded by a Fogarty International Grant while on sabbatical from his position as a senior lecturer in the Department of Medicine at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare. In 1999, he motivated for and initiated a course in clinical ethics for undergraduate medical students, heading a curriculum committee for the purpose. In 2000, the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Zimbabwe asked him to co-ordinate a faculty-wide ethics curriculum committee for the purpose of designing a combined ethics curriculum. The Commonwealth Medical Association engaged him in 1999, to conduct training seminars and to write a trainers' manual, for continuing medical education of health professionals in medical ethics and human rights. He was the chair of the Zimbabwe Biomedical Research Institute Review Board.

Professor P.K. Thomas

After a year in Montreal, Canada as a junior faculty member, PK returned in 1962 to London to stay, except when he was traveling, and that was frequent. Appointment as Consultant Neurologist came quickly, first at the Royal Free Hospital (1962-1991) and then the National Hospital, Queen Square (1963-1991), and then as Professor of Neurology in 1974 (in the University of London at the Royal Free Hospital and at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery). He established the neurology training program at the Royal Free Hospital. After mandatory retirement in 1991, he continued as active and productive as ever in Honorary status for the next ten years.

From his medical student days on, PK was an avid investigator. In his five plus decades of study, principally of peripheral nerve, he used the techniques of clinical observation, morphology (particularly electron microscopy), electrophysiology, genetics and anything else that came to hand. From this effort, PK and colleagues produced a remarkable oeuvre, that includes near 300 original articles, 75 reviews, numerous editorials and over 100 chapters in books. Perhaps the most well-known of his publishing efforts are the four editions of the two-volume opus, "Peripheral Neuropathy", edited by P.J.Dyck, P.K.Thomas and others.

Another highly visible aspect of PK's career was his work as a journal editor. He served the maximum term as the editor of three separate journals including Chief Editor of *Brain and of the Journal of Anatomy*. In addition, he served on no fewer than ten journal editorial boards. He was seldom seen without a manuscript in hand that he was either writing or reviewing.

In early 1986, PK, Anita Harding and GS were the prime movers in launching the European Neurological Society (ENS)

as an individual membership organization. This stirred much controversy with some of the European national societies of neurology. PK and his colleagues were undeterred. The first ENS meeting was held in Nice in 1988 with PK as the first President. He gave the presidential lecture on "Consciousness and causality", which was both remarkable and far from his usual field of expertise. PK remained involved in the selection and editing of abstracts and in the teaching programme until 2000.

Many honors were conferred upon PK. These include the title of Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 1997, eight Honorary Memberships in national neurological organizations around the world, and an Honorary Doctorate awarded by the Military Medical Academy, Lodz, Poland.

From a personal standpoint, PK's life was not always easy. He lost to fatal illnesses both of his first two wives, Mary Thomas, the mother of his two sons, and Prof. Anita Harding. They died much too young. His third marriage to Dr. Sam Ponsford occurred just a year before his serious stroke. She cared for him lovingly through the next seven years, making it possible for PK to remain active as co-editor with Dr. Peter J. Dyck to the completion of the fourth edition of their two-volume opus, "Peripheral Neuropathy". PK is survived by his widow, Dr. Sam Ponsford, by one step-son, by one surviving brother, by his two sons, Adrian and Nicholas, and six grandchildren.

Many of us have lost a dear friend, and the world of neurology has lost a true hero.

Arthur K. Asbury, MD, FRCP

Gerard Said, MD, FRCP