

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MWIA



Update

No. 67 September 2016

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MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

THEME OF THE 2016-2019 TRIENNIUM

“MEDICAL WOMEN: AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE”

I. MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Professor Dr. Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer, Germany

As your new MWIA president I am honoured to share with you this message for the first edition of the newsletter of the triennium 2016-2019.

I am still very saddened by the passing of Professor Atsuko Heshiki of Japan who passed away from a cerebral vascular accident on September 8th. She was President of the Medical Women's International Association from 2007-2010 and was the current Chair of the Centennial Committee. She was a great inspiration and role model and I valued her advice. We are already missing her very much. I wrote a condolence letter to Prof. Heshiki's family, which was read by Atsuko's younger daughter Kana at her funeral.

Two months have passed since Vienna, where we had our 30th International Congress of MWIA with the theme: *Generation Y Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors*. Those of you who were able to attend the Vienna congress will agree - it was a wonderful congress with interesting talks and lively discussions, spectacular music performances and special social events like visiting a local winery ("Heurigen"). There were about 600 participants from all over the world and many of us made new friends! A big thank you goes therefore to Dr. Edith Schratzberger-Vécsei and her wonderful local team for organizing this congress so well and making it such a wonderful event for MWIA.

MWIA is in particular proud that we were able to launch the MWIA's Training Module on Violence in Vienna. The concept for the project arose from our association's 2013-2016 triennial theme "Prevention and Elimination of Domestic and Sexual Violence," chosen by former MWIA President Prof. Kyung Ah Park (Korea).

The link is <https://mwiaviolencemanual.wordpress.com/>

The purpose of this resource is to offer a global lens of learning materials generated by members of our association from all regions of the world. Gender-based violence is a challenging issue for clinicians to address. This online source is a living document and will be continuously updated and amended. You are very welcome to send us new cases at secretariat@mwia.net.

The theme of the triennium will be: "*Medical Women- Ambassadors of Change!!*" The focus will be on 3 broad areas:

1. The role of medical women in society and health care
2. The development of strategies to sharpen the profile and to increase the visibility of MWIA
3. Gender and health.

The full text of my inauguration speech can be found here: http://mwia.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/inauguration_speech.pdf

I want to thank my predecessor, Professor Kyung Ah Park, for her leadership and great achievements. I am looking forward to working with her and all of you in the next three years!

Last but not least, in 2019 MWIA will be 100 years old. We will celebrate this together in New York at our 31st International MWIA congress. Let us work together to make this a meaningful event - bridging the past with the future, and to bring the expanded vision of the future of MWIA into life: **Medical women are Ambassadors of Change!**

2. REQUESTS FROM THE SECRETARY- GENERAL

Dr. Shelley Ross, Canada

Welcome to the 2016-2019 triennium with the theme “Medical Women: Ambassadors of Change.”

It has now been two months since the very successful 30th International Congress of MWIA held in Vienna. The theme is **Generation Y: Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors** allowed for an excellent scientific program. The Austrian Medical Women’s Association is to be thanked for arranging such an excellent congress both scientifically and socially. A good time was had by all and old acquaintances were renewed and new ones made. Highlights can be found later in the Update and a full report should be on the www.mwia.net website by the end of October.

Thank you to all the national associations who entered bids for the 31st International Congress of MWIA in 2019 which will be our Centennial Anniversary Meeting. The American Medical Women’s Association was the successful bidder. Please watch the website and MWIA Update for details about venue and date in issues to come.

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Professor Atsuko Heshiki, who was MWIA President from 2007-2010. At the time of her passing, she was Chair of the Centennial Committee, a position she felt passionate about. In her memory, Dr. Pfleiderer and I shall act as the co-chairs of the Centennial Committee.

A call for committee membership went out to NC’s and Presidents. If you missed this call and would like to be on one of the MWIA committees—Finance, Ethics and Resolutions, Scientific and Research, Strategy and Membership, Communications and Social Media, or Centennial, please write to the Secretariat at secretariat@mwia.net. As there are many members who wish to serve on committees, the following guidelines ensure that there will be capacity for all that are interested. (<http://mwia.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Rules-for-serving-on-committees.pdf>)

MWIA has partnered with ZONTA to deliver birthing kits to areas in need. The birthing kits can be seen in the video from the Refugee Camps around Tabul, Afghanistan in the following video on the section on midwifery:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efB4zedA89U&feature=youtu.be>

Let me remind you that the **fiscal year** for MWIA is July 1st to June 30th. Dues notices were sent out in July. Thank you to those who have paid and to those who have not yet done so, we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

The website has a secure site for the National Coordinators. Please contact the Secretariat for access information. Please note that MWIA's expectation is that information given to NCs and Presidents is to be shared with your members, including this newsletter.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to working with the new MWIA President, Bettina Pfeleiderer, and the entire 2016-2019 executive.

Contact information for MWIA:

Website is www.mwia.net
Email is secretariat@mwia.net
Phone is [1-604-522-1960](tel:1-604-522-1960)

3. THANKS FROM THE TREASURER

Gail Beck, O. Ont., MD, CM, FRCPC

Every year at this time, just after the dues notice goes out at the time of the Update, I like to thank those National Associations and individual members who diligently pay their dues. It is only because of your support that MWIA is able to accomplish its goals. Here is the list of everything funded by MWIA through your dues:

- A presence at the World Health Organization, including representation at the World Health Assembly.
- A presence at the United Nations, including representation at the Commission on the Status of Women.
- Representation by the President once every triennium at the World Medical Association.
- Representation by the Executive Committee at 2 regional meetings during the triennium. In 2014, the Executive Committee attended the Northern European Regional Meeting near Copenhagen and in 2015 they attended the North American Regional Meeting in Toronto.
- Support for the virtual Secretariat (less than 2000 US dollars annually, which is all we can afford).
- Support for the Birthing Kits Project.

It is important to note that all of our Executive Committee Members volunteer their time, as do our WHO representative, Dr. Clarissa Fabre and our UN representatives, Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy. Most of our representatives to UN and WHO meetings finance their own travel and donate their time. All of the Executive Committee members donate a significant amount of personal funds to the organization in order to complete their work on behalf of MWIA. MWIA is fortunate to be served by such dedicated volunteers. I want to thank the members of MWIA, especially the Executive Committee members and UN/WHO representatives who give so much to MWIA.

Throughout history, women and women's organizations have self-funded so that others' lives might be improved. The members, National Associations and MWIA representatives continue in this tradition. I hope you all join me in thanking them.

4. 2016-2019 EXECUTIVE with email addresses:

President	Prof Bettina Pfleiderer, Germany	president@mwia.net
Past President	Prof Kyung Ah Park, Korea	past_president@mwia.net
President Elect	Dr. Clarissa Fabre, UK	president_elect@mwia.net
Secretary-General	Dr. Shelley Ross, Canada	secretariat@mwia.net
Treasurer	Dr. Gail Beck, Canada	treasurer@mwia.net
VP Northern Europe	Dr. Tuula Saarela, Finland	VP_northerneurope@mwia.net
VP Central Europe	Prof Khatuna Kaladze, Georgia	VP_centraleurope@mwia.net
VP Southern Europe	Dr. Antonella Vezzani, Italy	VP_southerneurope@mwia.net
VP North America	Dr. Padmini Murthy, USA	VP_northamerica@mwia.net
VP Latin America	Dr. Maite Sevillano, Brazil	VP_latinamerica@mwia.net
VP Near East/Africa	Dr. Mabel Aboah, Ghana	VP_africa@mwia.net
VP Central Asia	Dr. Piyanetr Sukhu, Thailand	VP_centralasia@mwia.net
VP Western Pacific	Dr. Cissy Yu, Hong Kong	VP_westernpacific@mwia.net



The Medical Women's International Association Executive 2016-2019

Front row left to right

Kyung Ah Park, Clarissa Fabre, Bettina Pfleiderer, Shelley Ross

Back row left to right: Piyanetr Sikhu, Mabel Aboah, Padmini Murthy, Maite Sevillano, Cissy Yu, Khatuna Kaladze, Tuula Saarela, Antonella Vezzani (absent: Gail Beck)

5. REPORT ON VIENNA2016



The full congress report will appear on the MWIA website by the end of October. Here is a small sample of information from the 30th International MWIA Congress, held July 28-31, 2016, at the University of Vienna. The theme was Generation Y – Challenges of the Future for Female Medical Doctors. Thank you to the Austrian Medical Women’s Association for a fantastic job in organizing the congress.

There were 586 persons from 34 countries plus 62 Austrian Medical Students as members of the organization.

Social Programs and Ceremonies

<p>Welcome Reception July 28th, 2016 18.00-19.30 University of Vienna, Arcade Courtyard, Vienna</p>	<p>Local Evening at Austrian Winery July 29th, 2016 19.30-23.30 Heurigen Fuhrgassl-Huber, Neustift am Walde, Vienna</p>
<p>yMWIA Networking Meeting July 28th, 2016 20.00-open end Pop festival Vienna, Karlsplatz, Vienna</p>	<p>Gala Dinner July 30th, 2016 19.30-23.30 Casino Baumgarten, Vienna</p>

Opening Ceremony July 30 th , 2016 10.00-12.00 University of Vienna, Audimax, Vienna	Closing Ceremony July 31 st , 2016 15.30-16.00 hour University of Vienna, Audimax, Vienna
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MWIA General Assembly

Place	University of Vienna, Audimax, Vienna
Time	General Assembly I & Election: July 29 th , 2016 (Fri), 13.00-14.45 General Assembly II: July 30 th , 2016 (Sat), 13.30-15.30 General Assembly III & Election: July 31 st , 2016 (Sun), 14.30-15.30

Participants

	Number of registrations
Participants	492
Members	369
Non-Members	123
Gratis Registrations	59
Fully-paid Registrations	354
Non-paid Registrations by Nigerian colleagues	113
Students	46
Accompanying Persons	94
Press	3
Exhibitors	5
Austrian Medical Students (gratis registration, members of the organization)	62

Scientific Program

A. Free Paper Presentation: 146 papers (30 Austrian and 116 International)

86 Oral Presentations (25 Austrian, 61 International)

7 Workshops (2 Austrian, 5 International)

53 Posters (3 Austrian, 50 International)

B. Scientific Sessions

Keynote Lecture	Sessions	Special Session (Workshop & Poster Viewing)
6	24	4

6. GETTING TO KNOW THE MWIA EXECUTIVE

MWIA Treasurer, Dr. Gail Beck, was recently awarded the Dr. May Cohen Award by the Federation of Medical Women of Canada. Following is the blog she wrote after the Awards Ceremony.

This past weekend, I received the May Cohen Award from the Federation of Medical Women of Canada. I have known Dr. May Cohen for almost 20 years. She was the co-founder of the first centre for women's health in Canada at McMaster University. The Federation gives this award every year to the member who "transfers the FMWC Vision into living action in support of women physicians and women's health." Like many of the women before me who've received this award, knowing May makes the award feel very personal. She can tell you personally – and likely would – if you didn't measure up to the standard she sets by her own actions.

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada (FMWC) is the one medical organization I belong to that never loses sight of the ongoing restrictions to health care that women still face because of gender bias. This was evident when May was a medical student in 1955. It was still the case when I was a medical student twenty years later and it continues to be the case today. Medicine is beginning to more conscious of the needs of women patients, but the annual meeting of the FMWC is always a reminder that there are still circumstances when medicine and doctors fail women. Being a member of the FMWC ensures that I stay current with the controversies affecting women's health care. Also, the FMWC's parent organization, Medical Women's International Association, allows me to be involved in women's health at a global level. The FMWC has always been the vanguard of women's health and women physician concerns. To be recognized by the Federation as having contributed to that important goal of promoting women's health is an important achievement for me. Here is how expressed this when I accepted the May Cohen Award:

Madam President, my Distinguished Past President Colleagues, and Members of this Federation of Medical Women of Canada:

On Walnut Street, between King Street and Main Street in Hamilton, from 1932 until 1966, Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw ran the first birth control clinic in Canada. If you go there, you can find the plaque in honour of her pioneering work around the parkade and Dollarama on Walnut Street. More important to the Federation, Dr. Bagshaw is one of the Founders of this organization, and her work represents for me the essence of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada.

Women physicians through this organization have worked to ensure that women in Canada, and especially women in marginalized populations, have access to the safest and best health care for themselves and for their families. We have done this even when it is controversial.

Family Planning (Code for birth control) was certainly controversial in Dr. Bagshaw's time. As we confront the barriers to the prescription of the mifepristone/misoprostol combination for

medical abortion, the Federation faces that family planning continues to be controversial. But the FMWC has always supported women having control over their own reproductive system. When the birth control pill was introduced, this Federation worked to ensure its broadest access. We still have to do that – all physicians do.

Gender-based violence is a scourge on women's health and we have always championed the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence. This year Medical Women's International Association published online a new manual on gender-based violence for use around the world. The Federation of Medical Women of Canada alone among medical organizations in Canada worked to ensure funding for the vaccination against Human Papilloma Virus. We continue to lobby so that more and more young people can be vaccinated – a proven preventative measure that is, sadly, controversial.

We have worked for the most vulnerable women in Canadian Society and, through Medical Women's International Association, around the world.

Dr. May Cohen's personal work as a physician advanced the FMWC's fundamental mission and I am truly honoured to receive the award named in her honour. I want to thank May for the inspiration that she is. I want to thank Dr. Shelley Ross, my mentor, for nominating me for this award. It means a lot to know that she believes I deserve this. For the same reason, I want to thank the Federation of Medical Women of Canada for allowing me to stand among these remarkable women doctors who have changed women's health in Canada.

7. NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGIONS

Brazil

There were five representatives from Brazil in Vienna for the MWIA Congress: Marcela Mattar, Anna Maria Martits, Marilene Melo, Nadir Prates and Marta Maite Sevillano, the last four, members of ABMM.

On August 11, there was a forum organized by ABMM about Zika Virus, which was very successful with a great attendance. In the June MWIA Update June I had written about the subjects: Epidemiological Situation in Brazil; Diagnostic; Evidences on Zika and Microcephaly; Zika Congenital Syndrome. The speakers were illustrious professors from the University of São Paulo Medical School and Medical School of São Paulo.

On August 12, there was a symposium entitled "The heart of women, old challenge, new knowledge," organized by Dr Elizabeth Alexandre (Director of ABMM) and others at the Dante Pazzanese Institute of Cardiology.

The following are the scientific meetings of ABMM:

August 18th: "Personalized and Precision treatment in Oncology" by Dr Nise Yamagushi

Sept 22: Speech Therapy in rehabilitation of laryngectomized patients"

Oct 20: "Highlights of the International Congress 2016 of MWIA" Dr Marilene Melo

Administrative meeting:

We are arranging dates and themes for 2017's meetings. There are many suggestions for interesting themes. We are trying to have at least two themes that focus on Gender Medicine.

Sept 21: planned Workshop on Gender Medicine and Endocrinology during the Brazilian Congress of Endocrinology and Metabolism, (Saiupe, Bahia) with four speakers, Dr Marilene

Melo, (lipids) Dr Elizabeth Alexandre, (DM and cardiovascular disease) from ABMM and Dra Elaine Costa (metabolic syndrome) and Marise Castro (Osteoporosis) endocrinologists. Organized by Dr Anna Maria Martits, endocrinologist.

Canada

The Federation of Medical Women of Canada held its 92nd annual meeting and scientific session in Hamilton the weekend of September 23-25, 2016. The theme was *Pride and Prejudice: Setting the Agenda for Women's Health*. There were a number of excellent speakers and a poster session for students, showing us that the future is in good hands.

A resolution came from the meeting regarding the better accessibility of the combination of Mifepristone/misoprostol for medical abortion.

There was a tribute to Dr. May Cohen, who is Professor Emeritus at McMaster University in Hamilton for all the work she has done in women's health. You will recall that Dr. Cohen was the lead author for MWIA's *Training Manual for Gender and Health*.

There were an amazing number of past presidents of FMWC in attendance to honour May.

The awards luncheon honoured many members, who are listed under Names in the News further in the Update.

The evening event gathered up the attendees and took them to Niagara Falls for a look at the spectacular scenery and then to a winery in Niagara on the Lake for dinner.

FMWC is partnering with the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada and Women's College Hospital in Toronto on the Evolution of Canadian Women in Medicine. This will serve as a fine project for FMWC's contribution to MWIA's centennial.



The National Cervical Cancer Awareness Week, also known as the PAP (Prevention & Awareness Program), is a Federation of Medical Women of Canada (FMWC) initiative. FMWC has been working in partnership with the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada, as well as

several other medical associations and provincial partners, to strengthen our campaign and to increase awareness and access to cervical cancer screening. This program will kick off in October 2016.

Ecuador

A musical literary event was held on August 24th with the participation of Vice President Dr. Normal Arana, Dras. Gina rosario, Maggie Gomez, Carmen Mosquera, Isabel Calero, Buerrero Norma and Guillermina Yong. The event presented the children's choir and the poet Daniel Calero.

Egypt

The Egyptian Medical Women have applied as a field test site for the implementation of WHO's Global Standards for quality health care services for adolescents.

Guatemala

The Medical Women's Association of Guatemala has been holding meetings across the country addressing issue of women's health, with the support of federal and local government.

Mexico

Plans are underway for a congress of the federations on November 18th and 19th.

Panama

The Medical Women's Association of Panama is putting the finishing touches on the congress of the Pan American Alianza/Latin American Regional Meeting, which will be held May 17-20, 2017.

Russia

The Moscow department of the Russian Medical Women Association continues working on the organization of the Congress of Medical Women's Association of Central Europe (23-25 November 2016)



professor O.V.Goncharova)

The Moscow region (Stupino) worked on the organization of full-time and distance learning at the Parent's University for the future and present parents.

Classes and lectures for doctors were held in Moscow-city.

A conference on the prevention and treatment of common diseases in pediatrics for physicians was held in Ulyanovsk (Lecture of the President of the "Russian Medical Women Association" MD,

A conference was held in Krasnoyarsk (Lectures of the regional head of the "Russian Medical Women Association" of Krasnoyarsk and the President of the "Russian Medical Women Association" MD, professor O.V.Goncharova)

Websites of the "Far East" region of Russia were created. The subjects of Russian Federation are posting their medical and social programs there. These websites as well as one on medical technology will be presented at the Congress of Medical Women's Association of Central Europe.

A monograph about the rehabilitation of lesions of the nervous system in pediatrics was written by the Russian Medical Women Association.

USA

AMWA was well represented by its members at the 30th MWIA congress held in Vienna from July 28th to August 31st in Vienna.

The American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) co-sponsored a webinar on July 11th along with National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence.

The 34th Annual Women in Medicine Conference was held in Vermont from August 3rd to 7th which was co-sponsored by American Medical Women's Association. The Interim meeting of AMWA was held in Indianapolis from Sept 16-Sept 18th 2016.

The 102nd Anniversary annual meeting will be held in San Francisco, California from March 30-April 2, 2017. Registration is now open.

8. REPORT FROM MWIA'S REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UN

Dr. Satty Gill Keswani and Dr. Padmini Murthy

Dr Mini Murthy, MWIA Alternate NGO Representative to the UN, attended the UN General Assembly and the associated side events from September 18 to September 23. Ms. Aishu Narasimhadevara, MWIA youth rep, represented MWIA at several youth related events during the GA including the Microsoft DATA Playground where youth from several countries had the opportunity to review correlation between SDGs implementation and data collection through interactive models and applications.

Dr Murthy had the opportunity of being a media person at the United Nations Foundation Social Good Summit representing NGOs and Academia on Saturday September 18th, which was a fore runner to the General Assembly. Dr Murthy was invited as a NGO representative and she met the First Lady of Namibia, HE Monica Geingos, and had a brief discussion about safe motherhood kits. MWIA has partnered with Zonta International on these kits and will explore opportunities to send kits to Namibian women. Dr. Murthy and Ms. Narasimhadevara were invited to a high level reception honouring the President of Malta, Mrs Ban, and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

She was also invited by the US Mission to attend a high level meeting with Secretary of State, John Kerry, and the President of Croatia. She also represented MWIA as a media person at the SDG Social Media Zone at the United Nations during the General Assembly and tweeted about the event. She met with Ms. Leymah Gowbee, Nobel Peace Laureate and on behalf of MWIA has worked with Zonta International to organize a shipment of 500 Safe Mother Hood Kits to Liberia.

In summary, it was an honour and a privilege for me as MWIA Alternate Representative to the UN to be one of the few health NGO representatives at several high level UN events.

9. REPORT FROM MWIA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO WHO

Dr. Clarissa Fabre

In August this year, the WHO launched 3 publications to help countries improve their data on stillbirths and maternal and neonatal deaths

http://who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/news_events/better-data-stillbirth-maternal-death/en/

Conducting mortality audits and reviews is an important mechanism to make countries accountable in meeting targets laid out in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health.

Every year, worldwide 303,000 women die during pregnancy and childbirth. 2.7 million babies die during the first 28 days of life and 2.6 million are stillborn. Most of these deaths are preventable with high quality care. Nearly all babies who are stillborn and half of all newborn deaths are not recorded in a birth or death certificate, and thus have never been registered, reported or investigated by the health system. 'We need to ensure all births and deaths are counted, and that we can understand what to do to prevent future deaths' said Ian Askew, Director of Reproductive Health and Research and Research at WHO.

The number of stillbirths remains alarmingly high, with half of them occurring intra-partum, and with little reduction in the total in the last decade. Ten nations account for two-thirds of stillbirths: Nigeria, Pakistan, China, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Tanzania, and Niger. Although 98% of stillbirths take place in low and middle-income countries, rates remain unacceptably high in high-income settings. This is partly explained by adverse social and economic determinants of health. Better monitoring, with high quality data collection, stronger review and more robust action, as proposed by the WHO will be very helpful. See the Lancet series <http://do.doi.org/10.1016/SO140-6736> for more information about stillbirths.

Maternal death surveillance and response (MDSR) is a relatively new approach to investigating maternal deaths, and is done by a special review committee of experts, so that health facilities can then take corrective actions. By WHO standards, committees should meet at least twice a year. However, currently only 46% countries are meeting this standard.

Under WHO leadership, more than 30 global health organisations are contributing to a user-friendly package of guidance and tools designed to strengthen countries' health information systems.

Zika virus

The WHO has recommended that men and women returning from areas in which the Zika virus is actively spreading should practice safer sex or abstinence for six months, regardless of

whether they are trying to conceive or showing symptoms. Previous advice referred only to men and had a shorter timeframe of at least 8 weeks. Evidence has shown that the virus is present in semen longer than previously thought. Pregnant women should not travel to areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission.

And finally, many congratulations to **Dr Rosemary Ogu** who recently took part in a webinar on the **Safe Childbirth Checklist** <https://portal.ariadnelabs.org/members/rosemary1> There is now an Implementation Guide for the Checklist on the WHO website www.who.int and the Checklist and Guide have been translated into French and Spanish.

10. REPORT FROM EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY

Dr. Edith Schratzberger, President EWL

The European Women's Lobby coordinated a joint contribution to the European Commission, to inform on the consultation on the post-2016 EU Strategy on trafficking in human beings. As members of the EU Civil (...) Read more

An event on violence against refugee women and girls will be organized for November 13th.

A members' space "The Living Room" is being developed for the website where member communications and meetings can be shared and stored.

The Second edition of the EWL AGORA brought together 50 young feminists from 25 countries to share and inspire one another in their feminist activism.

11. REPORT FROM CIOMS

Dr. Christine Wieland

Welcome to Dr. Christine Wieland of Switzerland, who is the new MWIA member on the Executive of CIOMS.

The latest CIOMS newsletter can be accessed at

<http://www.cioms.ch/index.php/news/current-newsletter>)

12. CALENDAR OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS MWIA AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS

2016

1. **October 19-22, 2016** Taipei, Taiwan
World Medical Association General Assembly
Grand Hyatt, Taipei, Taiwan
www.wma.net
2. **November 2-6, 2016**, Riocentro-Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

21st World Conference of Family Doctors

http://www.wonca2016.com/ingles/trabalhos/index_atividades_cientificas.php#c

3. **November 11, 2016** The Light, Euston Road, London, UK

Fall meeting of the Medical Women's Federation

Women

Doctors: Equity of Equality?

www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk

4. **November 14-16, 2016**, Vancouver, Canada

Fourth Global Symposium on Health Systems Research

<http://healthsystemsglobal.org/>

For an opportunity for funding in order to attend, visit

<http://www.who.int/alliance-hpsr/news/2015/HSRCall.pdf?ua=1> before February 19th

5. **November 23-25, 2016**, Moscow, Russia

Central European Regional Meeting

<http://www.congress-inform.ru/>

2017

1. **March 13-24, 2017**, United Nations, New York City

Priority theme: Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work

Review theme: Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls (agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session)

2. **March 30-April 2, 2017**, San Francisco, USA

American Medical Women's Association annual meeting

www.amwa-doc.org

3. **May 10-13, 2017**, London, UK

Northern European Regional Meeting and Centennial Meeting of MWF

Theme: 100 years of Medical Women: Past, Present and Future.

In Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Medical Women's Federation

www.medicalwomensfederation.org.uk

4. **May 17-20, 2017**, Panama City, Panama

Latin American Regional Meeting of MWIA/Pan American Medical Women's Association Meeting

gy.moreno@yahoo.es

5. **May 21-26, 2017**, Geneva, Switzerland

World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization

Please contact secretariat@mwia.net if you wish to be registered

6. **May 26-28, 2017**, Trieste, Italy
Annual meeting of the Italian Medical Women's Association
Contact vp_southerneurope@mwia.net

7. **August 25-27, 2017**, Hong Kong
Western Pacific Regional Meeting
Website under development
Contact vp_westernpacific@mwia.net

2018

1. **August 23-25, 2018**, Thailand
Central Asia Regional Meeting of MWIA
Website to follow in January 2017
Contact vp_centralasia@mwia.net

13. NAMES IN THE NEWS

Dr. Gail Beck, received the Dr. May Cohen Award from the Federation of Medical Women of Canada.

Dr. Carolyn Bennett, Canadian Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs was presented the Sir Charles Tupper Award of the Canadian Medical Association for political activism by her colleague, **Dr. Jane Philpott**, Canadian Minister of Health. Both are members of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada.

Ms. Leema Dookhoo received the Federation of Medical Women of Canada Student Leadership Award.

Dr. Paula A. Johnson will join the prestigious list of awardees at the 2016 Alma Dea Morani Award Presentation on November 3, 2016 at the Lotos Club in New York. She is recognized internationally as an innovator, bringing her broad range of experience as a researcher, educator, and expert in health care, public health and health policy to bear in the effort to transform the health of women.

Ms. Aishwarya Narasimhadevara, youth member of MWIA, has been appointed to the DPI NGO Youth Representatives Program Steering committee for 2016-2017.

Dr. Christine Palmay received the Federation of Medical Women of Canada Reproductive Health Award.

Dr. Susan Phillips received the Federation of Medical Women of Canada Honorary Member Award for her work in gender and health.

Dr. Dorothy Shaw of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada was made an Officer of the Order of Canada by the Governor General.

Dr. Sue Swiggum of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada was also honoured by the Canadian Medical Association as their Dr May Cohen Award recipient for excellence in women's health.

Dr. Ellen Wiebe received the Federation of Medical Women of Canada Enid Johnson McLeod Award.

Dr. Ruth Wilson of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada is the President of the North American Region of WONCA.

14. OBITUARIES

Professor Atsuko Heshiki, President of MWIA from 2007-2010, passed away from a cerebral vascular accident on September 8th. She will be greatly missed but fondly remembered for her dedication to MWIA, her successful career as a Professor of Radiology, her lovely personality and her command of ballroom dancing. MWIA extends heartfelt condolences to her husband and daughters.



The funeral was an outstanding tribute to a remarkable woman. In Japanese tradition, three Buddhist monks led the ceremony in a temple overflowing with flowers.

MWIA was very well represented by Past President, Professor Kyung Ah Park, Korean Medical Women's Association President, Japan Medical Women's Association President, Professor Hiroko Yamamoto and Professor Bong Ok Kim. In addition, many members of the Japan Medical Women's Association were present. Thank you to those who attended on behalf of MWIA.

During the ceremony, Atsuko's younger daughter, Kana, read a tribute written by MWIA President, Professor Bettina Pfleiderer.

So much of the memorabilia present showed Atsuko in her MWIA work, to which she gave so much passion and dedication. She never tired of working for MWIA and was Chair of the planning committee for MWIA's 100th anniversary at the time of her passing.

Should you wish to leave a tribute, please do so at:

<https://goo.gl/forms/VjXEYwPXjGCGwhmh1>

15. BOOKS AND ARTICLES

Differences in salaries between male and female physicians in the US was reported in JAMA Internal Medicine

http://www.univadis.ca/external/exit/?r=http%253A%252F%252Farchinte.jamanetwork.com%252Farticle.aspx%253Farticleid%253D2532788&display_iframe=1&exit_strategy=0&new_window=1

Pubic hair grooming is the topic in JAMA Dermatology

<http://archderm.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2529574>

Gender and Tax Justice

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/liz-nelson/gender-and-tax-justice>

Ted Talk: “Every child deserves a champion — an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be.” <http://bit.ly/IS1BTA> #MondayMotivation

Levels of Teen Sexual Activity are reported as essentially unchanged in the Journal of Adolescent Health

[http://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X\(16\)30172-0/fulltext?utm_source=Master+List&utm_campaign=26e5d9ae10-NR_Lindberg_PRI_20168_24_16&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9ac83dc920-26e5d9ae10-244272989](http://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(16)30172-0/fulltext?utm_source=Master+List&utm_campaign=26e5d9ae10-NR_Lindberg_PRI_20168_24_16&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9ac83dc920-26e5d9ae10-244272989)

New Lancet Series on Maternal Health. The series is published online, accessible free of charge, after signing up: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/maternal-health-2016>

Uprooted: The Growing Crisis for Refugee and Migrant Children, by <http://www.unicef.org/emergencies/childrenonthemove/uprooted/>

Women in Parliaments <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

Widows' rituals spread disease in Africa

<http://news.trust.org/item/20160622000428-qy6uw/>

Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in the 2030 Agenda: Looking Back, Moving Forward
Direct Link to Full 32-Page 2016 ARROW Report:

<http://arrow.org.my/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SRHR-in-the-2030-Agenda.pdf>

II. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. World Health Organization (WHO)

a. The **maternal and newborn quality of care framework**, standards of care and quality measures around the time of childbirth have been published. They are now available on the WHO website at any of the following links:

http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/improving-maternal-newborn-care-quality/en/

http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/maternal_perinatal_health/policy/en/

b. The WHO has a link to the WHO website for the maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health department (MCA) and in particular this page about **pregnancy**.

<http://www.who.int/topics/pregnancy/en/>

c. WHO shares the newly launched documents on responding to **stillbirths and maternal and newborn deaths**.

1. WHO Application of the International Classification of Disease-10 to deaths during the perinatal period (ICD-PM): <http://who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/monitoring/icd-10-perinatal-deaths/en/>

2. Making Every Baby Count: Audit and Review of Stillbirths and Neonatal Deaths: http://who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/stillbirth-neonatal-death-review/en/

3. Time to respond: a report on the global implementation of maternal death surveillance and response:

http://who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/maternal_death_surveillance_implementation/en/

d. **The Framework Convention on Tobacco Control** has published the documents for COP7 English: <http://www.who.int/fctc/cop/cop7/Documentation-Main-documents/en/>

e. The Egyptian Medical Women have applied as a field test site for the implementation of WHO's **Global Standards for quality health care services for adolescents**. WHO has developed a prototype of a new digital system aimed at allowing easy data collection and automatic generation of facility scores against each criteria and standard that users would like to track. The system is designed to help facility teams, district and national managers to manage own performance against standards and actively provides users with additional ways to improve any standards which are proving difficult.

2. United Nations

a. At the recent **UN General Assembly** the plight of refugees was highlighted. You will see under News on the MWIA website the resolutions in place by MWIA for the treatment of refugees.

- b. A highlight of the 66th **UN DPI/NGO Conference** was the adoption of the Gyeongju Action Plan (GAP). <http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/files/2016/05/FinalAA.pdf>
- c. **DPI/NGO Youth Representatives Program Steering Committee** for 2016-2017 has appointed MWIA Youth Member, Aishwarya Narasimhadevara
- d. **Universal Human Rights Instruments – Conventions, Declarations, +**
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/UniversalHumanRightsInstruments.aspx>
- e. UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka. States that the UN must lead by example in **appointing a woman as its next Secretary General**
<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2016/8/ed-statement-on-a-woman-as-sg>
- f. The **Observatory on the Universality of Rights** reports on 15 Resources for Safe & Legal Abortion - <http://oursplatform.org/2016/09/28/rights-spotlight-september-28-global-day-action-access-safe-legal-abortion/>

3. **Respectful Maternity Care of the White Ribbon Alliance** draws attention to the following updates:

- a. New Comment on Women’s SRHR from the Council of Europe Commissioner on Human Rights which, among other things, includes a short section and recommendation on violations of women’s rights in childbirth and highlights the work of European partners using the CEDAW Committee to raise awareness of these issues: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/protect-women-s-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights>
- b. Animation on the barriers providers face to delivering high quality respectful care – Dr. Bushra Al-Makaleh, Yemen, presented at Women Deliver: <https://goanimate.com/videos/04cILQoGOhX4>
- c. “Birth with Sanctuary” – new film by City of Sanctuary and WRA UK to highlight the barriers to care migrant women face in the UK: <https://vimeo.com/175492778>
- d. IMBCI is publishing webinars on the Ten Steps to Optimal MotherBaby Childbirth Services and teaching the ten steps in disaster recovery situations: <http://www.imbci.org/>

4. **The International Pediatric Association** has written to the Lancet asking to protect children of war and asking for the UN Secretary General to add support. They are asking for support for the campaign by tweeting with the hashtag #ProtectChildrenOfWar.

5. The **HerStory Campaign** provides a worldwide platform for women’s and girl’s stories to be shared. It is a collaboration between **LitWorld** and **Global G.L.O.W.**
<http://herstorycampaign.org/>

6. **The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign** will take place November 25-December 10, 2016. The information and action kit can be downloaded at: <http://16dayscwgl.rutgers.edu/2016/2016-theme-announcement-take-action-kit>

7. The **19 Days of Activism** for the prevention of violence against children and youth November 1-19 is online at <http://19days.woman.ch/index.php/en/>

8. **Family Planning 2020** reports on the rapid response mechanism
<http://www.familyplanning2020.org/microsite/rrm>

9. The **World Psychiatric Association** has endorsed the competency-based curriculum for psychiatrists, trainees (and more generally for FD's, IM's and Ob-Gyn's), and is posted on <http://www.wpanet.org> under the headings of NEWS or Curriculum or Work Plan. Medical educators are welcome to use it in whole or part by simply attributing its source and notifying donna.stewart@uhn.ca

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Update will be published in December, 2016, the second in the new triennium. Please send us your reports, comments or any other interesting information by November 30, 2016, at the latest. We are always interested to put your name and your accomplishments in the Update. We are pleased to post the meeting information for your national association's annual meeting.