

WONCANews

An International Forum for Family Doctors



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World Organization of Family Doctors www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com

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FROM THE WONCA PRESIDENT :

A LIFE IN THE DAY OF WONCA

Over the past years, the Wonca membership, Council and Executive have worked hard to strengthen the position of primary care and family medicine: better appreciation of the value of primary care in the health care system, better support for the care of people with their health problems, and – at the basis of it – the recognition of the core values underlying primary care. And with this comes the need to secure the future by capacity building and investing in the future generation of family physicians.

This has resulted in quite a number of impressive publications, initiatives and actions, of which the resolution of the World Health Assembly of last May will probably stand-out for its global impact. I have since 2007 used my various columns to allude to these developments, in order to share with you where in my view Wonca and primary care are heading.

For this column I would like to share with you the impact of all this for the daily activities on my work as Wonca president. It is nice that we can make statements, it is even better if we can publish them, but what it is all about is the resonance in hands-on activities. The last three weeks of September may serve to illustrate some of the impact we are looking for. Allow me to take you on my journey and experiences.

The story started with a journey to Denver, where I had the honor to give the keynote presentation at the Global Health Forum of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). This forum is unique in that the AAFP brings annually together, for a three days meeting, all individuals and groups with an active involvement in international projects. The exciting projects of the AAFP Foundation in the former Soviet republics at the Caucasus ('Physicians with a Heart') were featured at this meeting. But there is an abundance of projects – small and large, generic and focused on specific health objectives – and there is a lot of what I would call 'evidence-based passion'. Despite the differences among these projects, the common trait is that of working in the context of the population and community that is to be addressed. And with the goal of meeting people's health needs, the core concepts of primary care and family medicine were utilized in devising hands-on care for the most needy people and populations.

This theme was also at the forefront of my meeting in New York at the headquarters of the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA). The UNFPA focuses on the UN millennium goals, that are the leading theme of the Wonca Cancun world conference. Safe motherhood is an example where public measures and individual care interact and it is important to find the approach where each is facilitated by the other and at the same time strengthens the other. It is clear that Wonca and UNFPA have much to offer each other after the 2010 Cancun conference. In fact, their 'safe motherhood' goal exemplifies an essential point of the WHO resolution on primary health care, the collaboration of public health and primary care in addressing the social determinants of health.

Shortly after the Denver – New York trip, it was time for the Wonca Europe regional conference in Basel. This conference marked the founding of a new Swiss academic organization of family physicians, that unites all medical professions working in primary care. This was a landmark event, and illustrates Wonca's mission to organize strong national colleges and academies of family medicine. Time at Basel was precious as well to discuss the progress of ICPC and the strategy of the Wonca collaboration with WHO on ICD and with SNOMED (IHTSDO). Again, the demand for time illustrates how important a primary care focus of important global disease classifications and taxonomies has become.

At the Basel conference, the European launch took place of the WHO-Wonca collaboration to integrate mental health into primary care. The book with this title was presented and a large number of participants had given-up their lunch break to attend this session. The report is one of the most popular publications, already in need of a reprint. This is underlined with the recent inclusion in Index Medicus, of the Primary Care Mental Health journal the Wonca Working Party of Mental Health had initiated. The activities of this working party were further discussed in Basel, including further collaboration with the WHO.

But before this came on, two further activities asked for my presence. First, I had the honor of addressing the founding congress of the Italian young doctors, the Giotto Movement. It was particularly impressive to see young doctors in Italy organizing themselves – in a country that is struggling to get primary care into the medical schools and thus engaging students and future family physicians. The founding of the high quality program at the inaugural conference in Florence were a tribute to the self efficacy of young doctors and of the Italian Wonca member organization CSerMeG.

Following Florence, Antalya, Turkey was on the agenda, where TAHUD organized their annual Summer School. With more than 1,000 participants this was again a significant meeting of a country successfully developing family medicine. The Summer School did not only attract me, and 1,000 + Turkish family physicians, it also brought high level representation from the Turkish Ministry of Health to Antalya. This may exemplify the position that primary care has taken on the political agenda.

Following that, we were back to mental health – to the WHO headquarters in Geneva, where Wonca had been invited to join the advisory board of a new WHO initiative to address the GAP in mental health of people around the world.

Three weeks on the road of Wonca, with Wonca, for Wonca: testimony that the Wonca activities of recent years are translated in action – frenzy action sometimes, but action that demonstrates that we are making progress!

Professor Chris van Weel
President of Wonca

FROM THE CEO'S DESK:

WONCA NEWS – PAST AND PRESENT

The very first issue of the Wonca Newsletter, predecessor of today's (Wonca News) was a very simple typewritten and machine duplicated publication prepared by the then Wonca Honorary Secretary Treasurer, Dr David Game, just a few months before the First Wonca Executive Meeting in August 1973 in Singapore. The circulation was principally to Member Organizations and Members of Council. Following that, subsequent issues were published quarterly.

In 1975, Dr Paddy Finnegan of Australia assumed editorship of the newsletter which was then upgraded and renamed 'Wonca News'. For reasons of lower cost and the inability of the Member Organization in Yugoslavia to remit the membership dues out of the country, it was decided that the printing and distribution would be from Yugoslavia to offset this difficulty and recover cost. This arrangement lasted for only a year and in 1976, Wonca News was printed and distributed from the member organization in Malaysia.

Dr Finnegan, in his report to Wonca Executive in July 1975 in South Africa, declared his editorial policy of including a Wonca President's Report, a curriculum vitae of Members of Executive and Chairs of Standing Committees, reports of committees and notification of future Wonca events in each issue. This became the basic contents of Wonca News with some modification up to this day. Dr Finnegan retired as editor in 1980 and the Wonca Executive appointed Dr David Game as the editor. After assuming the responsibility, David Game proposed to Wonca Executive

the formation of a Publication Committee as the Editorial Advisory Board to Wonca News.

After five years, the responsibility of publishing and distributing Wonca News changed from the Malaysian College to the Hong Kong College. In 1982, the possibility of Wonca News being included in the new format of Family Practice – an International journal published by Oxford University Press (OUP) - was explored. Ongoing negotiations between OUP and Wonca took some time. The Wonca World Council in 1983 in Singapore made the significant decision to amalgamate Wonca News with the Wonca Research Newsletter with Dr Greg Papworth assuming editorship as Dr David Game had to resign to take on the Wonca Presidency. At this Council, it was also agreed that Wonca News would be incorporated into Family Practice with effect from March 1984. Subscription to the new journal was linked with Wonca Direct Membership whereby Direct Members were given the privilege to subscribe to the journal at substantially reduced rates. Those who were not Direct Members received Wonca News as reprints from the journal distributed as a free standing publication. The distribution was done in bulk from Hong Kong.

Dr Papworth's role as editor became impractical as he was seconded to Bahrain in 1984. At this time, Dr Arthur Hofmans, the then Immediate Past President, took on the role of editor for the next two years. In 1986 the editorship was assumed by Dr Jack Froom of the USA. Following differences in opinion between the editor and the Executive on editorial policy and the future direction on Wonca News, Dr Froom resigned at the end of 1987 after which the Honorary Secretary, Dr Wes Fabb, took on the role for a short while.

At the Wonca Executive Meeting in October 1988 in New Orleans, USA, the then Past President, Dr David Game reassumed editorship. Dr John Chung of Hong Kong and Dr John Fry of the UK were invited to be members of the Editorial Board. In 1989, the editorial policy of Wonca News was again reviewed by Wonca Executive and it was agreed:

1. That Wonca News remain as an information vehicle, serving to distribute news for and about Wonca and its Member Organizations and provide factual information about medical education and related events in various parts of the world
2. That there be a regular research segments indicating research activities in various countries and inviting collaboration if appropriate.
3. That it not be a vehicle for original research articles or clinical materials as these are provided for by many other journals

To a large extent these policies laid out in 1989 continue to guide Wonca News to this day. The arrangement with Oxford University Press worked well from March 1984 and was left to continue for several years. There were however a few problems which were not easily overcome. These included the long lead time required by OUP which tended to make the material in Wonca News outdated and stale. There was also the limitation of 16 pages insisted by OUP which capped the amount of news materials made available in each issue.

In 2001, Dr David Game indicated to Wonca Executive his desire to resign from the editorship after 12 years of service. It was fortuitous that Dr Marc Rivo of the USA was able to take over the appointment from Dr Game. The handing over of the editorship was formally done at the Wonca World Council at Alpine Heath in South Africa.

When the Wonca Secretariat was moved to Singapore in that same year, it was felt that with the lower cost of printing and bulk distribution facilities available in Singapore, Wonca should take over the task of publishing and distributing Wonca News itself and end the collaboration with OUP. This was to be done through close liaison between the newly appointed CEO and the Wonca News Editor. This change was instituted in August 2001.

Under Dr Rivo's able editorship and dedication, Wonca News grew in stature and readership and is now very much appreciated and read by Wonca Members globally. Wonca News is distributed to all Wonca Direct Members, Members of Wonca Council, Presidents of Member Organizations and Organizations in Collaborative Relations to Wonca, Institutions that are Academic Members and friends and supporters of Wonca in industry. The head-office of all Member Organizations also each receives several copies of the bimonthly publication.

Wonca News is published and distributed solely from funds received through the Wonca Global Sponsorships which also goes to support the maintenance of the Wonca Website. Complete editorial freedom is given to the Editor who is answerable to the Wonca Executive and ultimately to the Wonca Council.

In May 2009, the Wonca Secretariat received notice from Dr Rivo of his intention to resign from the editorship of Wonca News with effect from May 2010 at the end of the Wonca World Council in Cancun. Dr Rivo would have served as editor for nine years in total (three three-year terms) with fifty issues of Wonca News to his credit. His resignation marks another milestone in the thirty-six years history of Wonca News. Wonca is most grateful to Dr Rivo

for his dedication and contribution to making Wonca News one of the enduring features of Wonca as an International Non-Governmental Organization.

In June 2009, the Wonca Executive at its meeting in Hong Kong decided that Wonca News stop its publication in hard copy for reasons of cost and the preservation of the world's forest. This change became effective from the August 2009 issue and the move was widely supported by its readers.

It will now be the task of the Nominations and Awards Committee to nominate candidates for election to the post of Editor by the Wonca World Council in Cancun. The potential candidates should ideally have :

- a) adequate working knowledge of Wonca and its corporate structure, mission and vision.
- b) have prior experience participating in Wonca member organizations and in Wonca Committees or Working Parties at regional, and/or world level.
- c) prior editorial and/or writing experience
- d) computer and internet literacy, as that is how the issues get compiled.
- e) commitment to be at the Wonca World Council meeting in Cancun to be introduced to the World Council

The Wonca Secretariat welcomes any member with some or all of the above abilities to assist the organization by considering taking on the appointment of Wonca News Editor and contact to the Secretariat for more information.

Dr Alfred Loh
 Chief Executive Officer
 World Organization of Family
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19TH WONCA WORLD CONFERENCE OF FAMILY DOCTORS

May 19th-23th, 2010 Cancun, Mexico
www.wonca2010cancun.com

Great discounts in registration fees!

The Conference, first ever organized in a Latin American country, promises to be a very stimulating international event with delegates coming from all Wonca regions. **Wonca Cancun 2010** will provide the opportunity to bring together experts in family medicine and primary care from all over the world to exchange ideas, information and the most up to date findings allowing us to enhance family health across diverse cultures.

We invite you to register on line, through the following direction:

<https://www.pagoswonca2010cancun.com/inscripciones.aspx>

Following are the official registration fees to the **19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors**. These fees are considered in mexican pesos and as you can see, we have attractive promotions for those who make their registration before December 31st. Take advantage of this opportunity!

Categories	Before December 31st 2009 mexican pesos	Before May 15th 2010 mexican pesos	In site mexican pesos
Wonca direct member	\$ 6,576.00	\$ 7,261.0000	\$8,740.60
Doctor and Health care professional	\$ 6,781.00	\$ 7,946.00	\$7,987.10
Resident (Trainee)	\$ 3,767.00	\$ 4,795.00	\$5,274.50
Accompanying person	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,000.00

Estimated exchange rate: 1 USD = 13.7 mexican pesos

Please, visit our web page where you can find detailed information of the **19th World Conference of Family Doctors**.

www.wonca2010cancun.com

We look forward to seeing you in WONCA Cancun 2010!

Registry committee
registry.committee@wonca2010cancun.com

Wonca Cancun 2010 at YouTube:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5WDzGyLsV0>



For more information:
 + 52 55 55 99 28 60
[Click here](#)



FROM THE EDITOR:

COME VISIT WONCA'S GLOBAL NEIGHBORHOOD

During the past decade, Wonca has played a key role in developing family medicine in areas of greatest need throughout the world. In the process, Wonca has transformed itself into a diverse, global community.

In his Presidents Column, Chris van Weel reports on his globetrotting visits to Wonca meetings in Antalya Turkey, Geneva Switzerland, Florence Italy, and Denver Colorado, USA.

Feature stories in this October 2009 issue report on two global meetings. The 9th Wonca World Rural Health Conference was held on the Island of Crete in Greece, and the American Academy of Family Physicians hosted the 5th Global Health Workshop. In addition, articles report on meetings from Beijing, China and the Western Pacific Region to Lagos Nigeria.

As the October issue is being read, Wonca members in Africa and throughout the world will be converging in Rustenberg, South Africa from October 25-28 for the 2nd Wonca Africa Regional Conference. Among its relevant themes, the conference will highlight the role of the family doctor in the African context of cultural diversity, values, traditional beliefs, and community-oriented primary care.

You can among the fortunate plan to visit Wonca's global neighborhood early in the second decade of the 2nd millennium. The 19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors, will be held in Cancun, Mexico, from May 19-23, 2010, the first time a Latin American country has hosted a Wonca world conference.

The 19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors will focus on the theme, "The Millennium Development Goals: The Contribution of Family Medicine". The Host Organizing Committee – The Mexican College of Family Medicine – could not have selected a more globally relevant theme. The more than 5,000 of our international colleagues expected in Cancun for this once every three years global family medicine reunion will examine the implications of the historic 2008 World Health Report and the 2009 World Health Assembly Resolution on Strengthening Primary Health Care and Health Systems.

Visit the 19th Wonca World Conference website at <http://www.wonca2010cancun.com/> to learn more about the exciting scientific and social programs, the broad selection of quality and affordable hotels, and the beautiful sights of Cancun, Mexico. Now is the time to register, submit abstracts, reserve your favorite hotel, and take advantage of the bursary, research awards, member honor nominations, early registration discounts and cost-saving opportunities described in this issue of Wonca News and on the Wonca2010 website.

As the October issue demonstrates, Wonca has focused much attention on developing family medicine in all countries of the world and in the process is becoming one global neighborhood.

Marc L. Rivo, M.D, M.P.H.

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FEATURE STORIES

THE 9TH WONCA RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE: A CELEBRATION IN CRETE

The 9th Wonca Rural Health World Conference 2009 took place from June 12–14th 2009, in Hersonissos, Crete, under the auspices of the Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice. The congress was sponsored by the Medical Faculty of the University of Crete and was organized by the Clinic of Social and Family Medicine, the Greek Society of General Medicine and the European Society of Rural Medicine (EURIPA). The congress was also supported by the Athens Medical Association, the National Faculty of Public Health, and the Greek Society of Social Pediatrics and Promotion of Health, under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity.

Health inequalities and the role of primary health care in reducing inequalities and improving care constituted the main theme of the conference. The first day of the conference focused on inequalities of health, whereas the second day focused on technologies suitable for rural settings and the third day focused on island medicine. Despite the unfavorable international conditions, including the economic recession and flu pandemic, the congress was attended by 691 participants from 44 countries and was considered a success.



Smiles from Christos Lionis, John-Wynn Jones, Ian Cooper and Jane Randall-Smith



Barbara Starfield Keynote Highlights the World Rural Conference



The Wona Rural Executive Board

Esteemed colleagues from the academic world, well-known researchers and clinicians were invited as central speakers to present their views and experience on the subject of health inequalities between rural and urban regions. The Keynote speaker in the opening ceremony of the Congress was Professor Barbara Starfield from USA, who both reminded everyone of the role of primary care in addressing inequity, but also challenged delegates to research and document the role of rural doctors in comprehensive care and relating to specialists. Prof. John Pallikaris, the Rector of the University of Crete, and Dr. Tido Von Schoen-Angerer from the *Medicins Sans Frontiers* were the keynote speakers in the opening plenary. Professor Jan De Maeseneer from Belgium and Dr Jose Lopez Abuin from Spain offered important insights on health inequalities across globe and the role of international organizations.

On the second day, plenary speakers Dr. Elisabeth Swensen from Norway and Dr. Oluyombo Awojobi from Nigeria discussed technologies

suitable for rural settings; Dr Awojobi impressed participants with his innovative solutions to lack of equipment and facilities in a resource-poor setting. On the third day, Dr John MacLeod from Scotland and Prof. Christos Lionis inspired delegates in regard to island medicine. Several Professors and Chairpersons of Medical Faculties from Canada, Australia, Norway, Great Britain, USA and Italy also participated.

In addition to the distinguished speakers, several international organizations and working parties, such as the International Network of Medicine without Borders, the World and European Society of General Medicine, the Wonca Working Party on Mental Health, the International Primary Care Respiratory Group and the European Society of Primary Care Gastroenterology also actively participated in the congress. At the closing of the congress, the joint publication between WHO and WONCA, entitled “Integrating mental health into primary care”, was presented.

Professor Ian Couper from South Africa, the current chairperson of the Working Party on Rural Practice and Dr John Wynn-Jones, president of EURIPA, presented in their closing speeches the issues of quality and equality as they pertain to rural health and the challenges for Europe. This world event closed with the approval of two important resolutions relevant to the main theme of the conference, relating to access to essential medicines and the horizontal integration of health services – the “15 by 2015” campaign. Delegates also committed themselves to being “innovative leaders in local communities, striving for equity for rural people, based on just distribution of resources and quality of care, delivered by teams, while advocating and working for health systems which are oriented towards

primary care. The resolutions and the slides presentations of keynote and plenary speakers are available at the link: <http://www.ruralwonca2009.org/>.

The Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice hoisted a pre-conference workshop on rural medical education, bringing together experts from around the world to address key issues in regard to this important field. This workshop was a major step forward towards the publication of a shared textbook on rural medical education.

The Rural Working Party held pre- and post-conference business meetings. It was agreed that the next rural conference would probably be held jointly with the Asia-Pacific conference in February 2011 in the Philippines. It was also decided to develop position papers on non-communicable diseases and on the environment, to meet with the Working Party on Women in Practice at the Cancun conference, to explore a joint conference with the Network-TUFH in 2012, to revitalize the Working Party’s web page, and to endorse the journal *Rural and Remote Health* as the international journal on rural medicine. Bilateral discussions were held with a team from the WHO Health workforce migration and retention, and with the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) Scientific Committee on Rural Health, with both of whom further collaboration was planned.

Professor Ian Cooper

Chair, Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice

Professor Christos Lionis

President of the Host Organizing Rural Working Party Committee

THE 6TH ANNUAL AAFP FAMILY MEDICINE GLOBAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

The 6th annual American Academy of Family Physicians’ (AAFP) Family Medicine Global Health Workshop was held September 10-12, 2009 at the Omni Interlocken Resort in Denver (Broomfield), Colorado. Daniel Ostergaard, MD, AAFP Vice President of Professional Activities, welcomed Professor Chris van Weel as keynote speaker. Professor van Weel spoke about political issues in global health and the role of primary care and family physicians to secure relevant health care for populations and people.

The workshop framework was developed by the AAFP Center for International Health Initiatives (CIHI), created in 2000 in response to increased interest in the global development of family medicine. The CIHI Advisory Board members also served as workshop core faculty.



Professor Chris van Weel, President of Wonca, with Dr Dan Ostergaard, AAFP Vice President of Professional Activities

Since 2003, the workshop has gradually broadened its thematic message and educational goals to meet the needs and interests of a growing population of family doctors, family medicine educators, family medicine residents and medical students interested in and passionate about global health and quality primary care development worldwide.

Different from the previous years, the workshop was divided into three tracks: Challenges of Global Health and Family Medicine Consultants, Global Clinical Issues in Resource-poor Countries and Student/Resident International Health Issues. For two and a half days the participants were immersed in sharing their knowledge of how to address global health problems and how to invest in people, institutions and capacity building locally and worldwide. The workshop highlighted one networking reception with poster presentations and longer than usual breaks between the sessions that allowed for significant networking, sharing experience, learning from others and hearing new ideas.

With its focus on primary health care and family medicine development, the AAFP-CIHI workshop has become an outstanding forum for the above constituencies from the US and other countries. The 2009 workshop experienced an increase in attendance compared with last year. This year’s conference attracted participants from other countries including Australia, Cambodia, Canada, India, the Netherlands and Nicaragua, adding an even more diverse, international flavor to the exchange and communication during the workshop.

In their evaluations, participants spoke highly of a wide and rich variety of breakout sessions and peer review presentations and a good balance between basic and advanced topics. “What a great set of amazing clinicians!” – said one of the participants. “Phenomenal experience!” – said another. The workshop was made possible thanks to the financial support of the AAFP Foundation.

The 2010 Family Medicine Global Health Workshop will be held in Coral Gables, Florida at the Hyatt Regency

Coral Gables Hotel, September 9-11. For information about registration, hotel accommodation as well as peer presentation abstract submission, poster and exhibitor’s guidelines, please go to www.aafp.org/intl/workshop or contact Rebecca Janssen, Senior Program Coordinator, at rjanssen@aafp.org.

19TH WONCA WORLD CONFERENCE CANCUN WATCH: MAY 19-23 2010

REGISTER NOW FOR 19TH WONCA WORLD CONFERENCE

On behalf of the Host Organizing Committee of the 19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors (Wonca Cancun 2010), I have the great pleasure of inviting you to join more than 5,000 of our international colleagues in Cancun, Mexico, from May 19-23, 2010.

For the first time in the history of the World Organization of Family Doctors (Wonca), a Latin American country will be the venue for a World Conference of Family Doctors: In October 2004, the Mexican College of Family Medicine was designated by the Wonca World Council as organizer of the 19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors, to be held in the city of Cancun, Mexico, from May 19-23, 2010.

This Conference will spread the latest scientific and technological breakthroughs in our discipline. It will draw the attention of the Family Doctors from different parts for the world and will lead to the reflection on the technical and social role that Family Medicine must have to achieve the international goals that were

proposed in the 2000 Millennium Summit: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Through Wonca Cancun 2010 we will analyze issues related with the technical and social role of Family Doctors in the achievement of the main international goals proposed during the 2000 Millennium Summit, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). We also will continue the Wonca tradition of distributing cutting edge technology, promoting global calls to action and announcing practical applications of the latest medical progress.

The Scientific Program for the Wonca Cancun 2010 will be structured around the MDGs most strongly linked to Family Medicine, and will respond also to Wonca Goals and scientific needs from the seven Wonca geographical regions.

The Plenary Sessions will include leaders of the United Nations health organizations as well as representatives of other international organizations. The Program will also include a variety of activities oriented to increase and strengthen the knowledge and skills of all the potential participants: free standing papers, workshops, symposiums, poster presentations, and academic activities with Wonca Working Parties, Task Forces and Special Interest Groups.

The 19th Wonca world conference, the first ever organized in a Latin American country, promises to be a very stimulating international event with delegates coming from all Wonca regions. Wonca Cancun 2010 will provide the opportunity to bring together experts in family medicine and primary care from all over the world to exchange ideas, information and the most up to date findings allowing us to enhance family health across diverse cultures.

And for the delegates and their families the possibilities for entertainment, adventure and contact with history and nature are endless. Cancun truly has it all.

For more information and to register, please visit us at: www.wonca2010cancun.com/

The Host Organizing Committee of Wonca Cancun 2010 invites you to join more than 5,000 international colleagues in Cancun, Mexico, to attend the May 19-23 2010 World Conference. Come to learn and contribute to the latest in family medicine, health care, and health, and enjoy our history, culture and hospitality!

Dr. Javier Dominguez del Olmo
Honorary Chairman Host
Organizing Committee
Wonca Cancun 2010

WONCA EUROPE BURSARIES FOR CANCUN WORLD CONFERENCE

WONCA Europe has established a fund of US\$30,000 to support bursaries for the WONCA World Conference in Cancun, Mexico in May 2010. These bursaries will support Conference Registration, Accommodation and Travel to a maximum of US\$1,000 per person. The Host Organising Committee has agreed to reduced Registration Fees for successful applicants and has arranged low cost accommodation. The Bursaries will be available worldwide in competition to any family doctor or resident in a family doctor programme who can make a case for such a bursary and who is supported by his/her own College or Association. Up to 30 bursaries will be granted.

In order to avoid problems where bursaries are granted to doctors

who then do not come to the Conference, WONCA Europe Executive will expect Colleges and Associations supporting the applicants to make the necessary payments and these will be reimbursed direct to the College or Association after the Conference.

Applications will be received by the WONCA Europe Executive and its decisions will be final. Successful applicants will be required to submit a short report of their attendance at the Conference.

Application Forms may be downloaded from the WONCA Europe website www.woncaeurope.org or requested from the:

Wonca Europe Secretariat
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Poljanski nasip 58,
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Phone +386 1 438 6913,
Fax +386 1 438 6910.
E mail Polona Miselj polona.miselj@zrdm-idfm.si

Please submit completed applications to the Wonca Europe Secretariat to Polona Miselj at polona.miselj@zrdm-idfm.si

The last date for receipt of completed applications will be 1 January 2010.

TAIWAN FAMILY MEDICINE RESEARCH AWARDS FOR CANCUN WORLD CONFERENCE

Please consider applying for the Taiwan Family Medicine Research Award for new primary care researchers. Two Awards will be given to support two junior and emerging researchers to travel to Cancun, Mexico, to present his/her paper at the 19th Wonca World Conference on 19-23 May 2010.

The Award is valued at US\$1,500 per recipient. This Research Award has been made possible by a generous donation from the Chinese Taipei Association of Family Medicine to Wonca.

Criteria

1. A junior researcher is defined as a person with no more than 5 peer-reviewed publications.
2. The researcher should be a clinical family physician.
3. The research topic should be on primary care.
4. The applicant needs to submit a full paper for the award. The paper may have been submitted for publication but not yet published.

Selection will be based on scientific merit and potential impact of the findings on patients.

Application

Applications must be submitted by email to the Wonca World Secretariat at admin@wonca.com.sg. The application must consist of the research paper and a covering letter demonstrating that the applicant meets the award criteria.

Deadline for submission

Applications must be received at the Wonca World Secretariat in Singapore no later than December 1, 2009.

Results of Applications

The results of the Research Award applications will be made known by the end of January 2010.

Contact details

Wonca World Secretariat
World Organization of Family Doctors (Wonca)
7500A Beach Road
#12-303 The Plaza
SINGAPORE 199591
Ph +(65) 6224 2886, Fax +(65) 6324 2029
Email: admin@wonca.com.sg
Web: www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com

NOMINATIONS SOLICITED FOR WONCA MEMBER HONORS

The Wonca Nominating and Awards Committee has the responsibility of recommending to Wonca Council, Fellows of Wonca and Honorary Life Direct Membership, and to the Executive Committee, a recipient for the Wonca Foundation Award.

Fellowship of Wonca

The Fellowship of Wonca is Wonca's most prestigious award. It is awarded to individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the Wonca Organization. It is awarded every three years at meetings of the Wonca Council, but only if a suitably qualified candidate is identified.

It is the expressed wish of Wonca that this should continue to be a prestigious, well earned honour.

To date, the Wonca Fellowship have been awarded to:

Dr Prakash Chand Bhatla, (Deceased) India, 1976
Donald I Rice CM MD, (Deceased) Canada, 1980
Professor Bent Guttorm Bentsen, Norway, 1989
Dr David A Game AO KSJ, Australia, 1989
Professor Max R Polliack, (Deceased) Israel, 1989
Dr Jack Froom, (Deceased) USA, 1992
Dr Lotte Newman CBE, United Kingdom, 1995
Dr M K Rajakumar, (Deceased) Malaysia, 1995
Giora Almagor MD, Israel, 1995
Dr Douglas G Garvie OBE, United Kingdom, 1998
A/Professor Goh Lee Gan, Singapore, 1998
Donald W Rae OC MD, (Deceased) Canada 1998
Professor Wesley E Fabb, Australia, 2001
Professor Vincent Hunt, USA, 2004
Professor Roger Strasser, Australia/Canada, 2004
Professor Charles Bridges-Webb, Australia, 2004
Professor Henk Lamberts, (Deceased) Netherlands, 2004
Professor Richard Grol, Netherlands, 2004
Dr Giorgio Visentin, Italy, 2004
Dr Michael Boland, Ireland, 2007
Professor Henk Lamberts, (Deceased) Netherlands, 2007
Professor Zorayda Leopando, Philippines, 2007
Professor John Murtagh, Australia 2007
Dr Luis Pisco, Portugal, 2007
Professor Maurice Wood, USA, 2007

HONORARY LIFE DIRECT MEMBERSHIP

Honorary Life Direct Membership is awarded in recognition of contributions to the work of the Wonca Organization and/or to general practice/family medicine on a world basis.

Honorary Life Direct Membership is a category available to recognise significant contributions to Wonca in those instances where the award of Fellow would not be appropriate, but is felt that some recognition should be given. Thus, if a nominee for Fellowship is not

recommended by the Nominating and Awards Committee for Fellowship, it may make a recommendation for Honorary Life Direct Membership.

All Fellows and Past Presidents of Wonca receive the award of Honorary Life Direct Membership. Council has resolved that Honorary Life Direct Membership be restricted to 25.

Nominations for the Fellowship or Honorary Life Direct Membership may be made by Member Organizations, Executive Committee or Council. Details of the merit of the candidate being proposed for the Award and a curriculum vitae should be submitted to the Chair of the Nominating and Awards Committee.

In making its recommendations, the Nominating and Awards Committee ensures that the prestigious nature of the Fellowship is at all times maintained, and that the total number of persons holding the Honorary Life Direct Membership is restricted to the number determined by Council.

The Awards are presented to the successful nominees at the ceremony at the World Conference. All nominations for the Fellowship of Wonca and Honorary Life Direct Membership must be accompanied by a detailed curriculum vitae detailing the nominee's contribution to the advancement of Wonca, his/her own organization and the discipline of general practice/family medicine on an international scale.

Nominations Solicited for WONCA Foundation Award

The Wonca Foundation Award has been made possible by an initial donation of ten thousand Pounds Sterling from the Royal College of General Practitioners. This Award is made once every three years at the Wonca Council Meeting. If the successful winner is in attendance, the Award is presented to him/her at the World Conference.

The Award is to be used to further the aim of "fostering and maintaining high standards of care in general practice/family medicine" by enabling physicians to travel to appropriate countries to instruct in general practice/family medicine, and appropriate physicians from developing countries to spend time in areas where they may develop special skills and knowledge in general practice/family medicine.

The value of the Award is determined by the Executive Committee. The current amount of the Award is GB Pounds £1,500. A certificate is given with the Award.

Application Procedure for the Wonca Foundation Award

Applications should be submitted to the Chair of the Nominating and Awards Committee, with details of the project to which the Award would be applied, together with the candidate's credentials. A relevant curriculum vitae is required. There is no official application form.

The application should outline the specific purpose for which the Award will be used, the time frame, and how the objectives would be achieved. The recipient will be expected to furnish the Executive Committee with a detailed report of his/her activities at the conclusion of the task, and this report would be the property of Wonca. If the project should extend over more than one year, a progress report to the Executive Committee is required.

Nominations for the above 3 categories are to be sent to:

Professor Richard Roberts, MD, JD
 Wonca President Elect and Chair,
 Nominating and Awards Committee
 by email Richard.Roberts@FAMMED.WISC.EDU
 and to the
 Wonca World Secretariat
 by email admin@wonca.com.sg

and the original signed copies by post to:

World Organization of Family Doctors (Wonca)
 7500A Beach Road
 #12-303 The Plaza
 SINGAPORE 199591

NOMINATIONS FOR WONCA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE: THE “5-STAR DOCTOR”

Nominations are called for the Wonca Award of Excellence in Health Care, otherwise known as “The 5-Star Doctor” at the Wonca Regional level.

This is an award to be conferred on physicians, who in the opinion of the Council, have made a significant impact on the health of individual and communities, through personal contributions to health care and the profession. It is instituted in an attempt to increase the global development of Family Medicine, global networking and partnership. The award is preferably given to those who are still active in the field for which they are nominated. Nominations are not limited to Wonca members.

The award will be offered on a Regional basis and on a Global basis. The Regional Awards may be awarded on an annual basis and the Global Award be awarded every third year (ie in the year of the Wonca World Conference). The Global award will take the form of a crystal trophy and a certificate.

Suitably motivated and validated nominations for Regional Awards should be submitted to the Chairman of the Nominating and Awards Committee and to the appropriate Regional President for regional consideration. The Global Award will be chosen from the recipients of Regional Awards for that triennium.

The criteria for the Wonca Regional Five Star Doctor Award are:

1. A nominee must have the attributes of the 5-Star Doctor (see below).

2. A nominee should be a serving physician in mid-career who in addition to providing regular service:
 - provides innovative services to a community or special group
 - developed services where they were previously not available
 - supports colleagues in another region, country or college and also performs academic work (teaching, research, quality assurance) of exceptional quality and relevance
3. A nominee can work outside his or her region, or create something that can be used outside his or her region or serve as a role model to other regions
4. The attributes of the 5-star doctor are:
 - * a care provider who considers the patient as an integral part of a family and the community and provides a high standard of clinical care (excluding or diagnosing serious illness and injury, managing chronic disease and disability and provides personalised preventive care whilst building a trusting patient- doctor relationship
 - * a decision maker, who chooses which technologies to apply ethically and cost-effectively while enhancing the care that he or she provides;
 - * a communicator, who is able to promote healthy life-styles by emphatic explanation, thereby empowering individuals and groups to enhance and protect their health;
 - * a community leader, who has won the trust of the people among whom he or she works, who can reconcile individual and community health requirements and initiate action on behalf of the community;

- * a team member, who can work harmoniously with individuals and organisations, within and outside the health care system, to meet his or her patients and community’s needs.

Contact details:
 Professor Rich Roberts
 Chair, Wonca Nominating and Awards Committee Email admin@wonca.com.sg

Regional Presidents:
 Wonca Africa, Prof Khaya Mfenyana; kmfenyana@wsu.ac.za

Wonca Asia Pacific: Dr Donald Li; dr2318@hotmail.com

Wonca Europe: Prof Igor Svab; igor.svab@mf.uni-lj.si

Wonca Iberoamericana-CIMF:
 Prof Adolfo Rubinstein; adolfo.rubinstein@hospitalitaliano.org.ar

Wonca North America:
 Prof Alain Montegut; Alain.Montegut@bmc.org

Wonca Middle East South Asia (MESA): Preethi Wijegoonewardene; drpreethiw@gmail.com

WONCA REGIONAL NEWS

THE 16TH SESSION OF THE WHO WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

Asia Pacific Regional President, Dr Donald Li represented Wonca at the 16th Session of the World Health Organization in Hong Kong (China) from September 21-15 October, 2009.

The program and content of the meeting highlighted primary care. The continued attention and emphasis on Primary Care development was highlighted by the director general in her address during the first session. The opening ceremony was a grand affair attended by the WHO director general Dr Margaret Chan, Regional Director Dr Shin Young-soo, Chief executive of Hong Kong Government Donald Tsang, Minister of Health of China Chan Zhou and Secretary of Food and Health of Hong Kong Dr York Chow. A lot of time was spent on update of the H1N1 Swine flu and discussions on mitigating the infection and preparing for a forthcoming second pandemic wave. Attached are some photos taken at the meeting.



Opening ceremony with dignitaries on stage



Donald Li With Dr Shin Young-soo, WHO Western regional director



Donald Li With Director of Health of Hong Kong who chaired the WHO meeting



Donald Li With Henk Bekedam who was one of the advisors of the 2008 World Health Report document "Primary Health, Now more than ever"



Donald Li With Dr Margaret Chan, Director General of WHO

WONCA MEMBER AND ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

AGPMPN'S 31ST ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE IN LAGOS NIGERIA

The Association of General and Private Medical Practitioners of Nigeria (AGPMPN) held its 31st Annual Scientific Conference in Lagos Nigeria, from 5th-8th August, 2009. The highly successful conference, with the theme, "Primary Care Now More Than Ever", attracted over 300 participants from all over Nigeria, including the representatives of the Federal Minister of Health, Lagos and Ondo State Governors. The Wonca World President, Professor Chris van Weel and the Advisor to the European Union on Primary Health Care, Professor Jan De Maeseneer also attended the Conference, on invitation, and made very effective educational presentations on primary care.



Dr Anthony Omolosa, Chairman of AGPMPN - Lagos State Branch, presenting a present to Professor Jan De Maeseneer and Wonca President Chris van Weel



Dr Ade Tade, President of AGPMPN, with Professor Jan De Maeseneer, Wonca President Chris van Weel and other leaders of AGPMPN



AGPMPN President Dr Ade Tade in his official outfit with Wonca President Chris van Weel

The conference had rich cultural and tourism programs. Spouses of participants visited many historical sites around Lagos, the former capital of Nigeria, and enjoyed a boat-ride on the lagoon to Takwa Bay and ocean. Conference participants enjoyed a delicious and joyous hospitality night, a cultural night and Conference Dinner.

Highlights of the conference included the conferment of awards on deserving members of the Association. The Governor of Lagos State, Babatunde Raji Fashola (SAN) and his Ondo State counterpart, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko, were also honoured with special awards for their excellent performances in the area of healthcare in their respective states.

The next AGPMPN Annual Conference comes up in Awka, the Anambra State capital in March 2010.

Dr. Ade Tade
President
AGPMPN

CHINESE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION SOCIETY OF GENERAL PRACTICE ANNUAL MEETING

Dr Donald Li was invited to deliver a keynote on "Strategies to enhance primary care by WONCA and WHO" at the annual general meeting of the Society of General Practice of the Chinese Medical Association, member organization of WONCA on 8-9 September 2009 in Tianjin, China. The conference contained many relevant and impressive presentations on family medicine and shows the rapid advancement in family medicine training and development in the People's Republic of China.



Dr Donald Li at the inauguration of the "Young Society of GPs"



Dr Donald Li with old friends of the Chinese Society of General Practice

Prof Zhou was elected President of Society of General Practice and Gu Yuan Vice President. During the meeting, A “Young Society of General Practitioners” was also established for those general practitioners under age 45, and Dr Li was invited to officiate.

RESOURCES FOR THE FAMILY DOCTOR

SEARCHING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE INCLUDING FAMILY PRACTICE IN INDEX MEDICUS

View <http://www.cfm.nlm.nih.gov/serials/journals/index.cfm> to view primary health care and family medicine.

Today, Family medicine researchers may be pleased to be able to find the new Subject Title “Primary Health Care – including Family Practice” with 34 journals brought under this title. Look under the Subject Title ‘Medicine – including General Medicine’ and you will see that the primary care/general practice/family practice journals are no longer listed under this title.

Wonca and the world’s family doctors view as a major step forward listing primary care research journals listed in their own right.

Now, the ‘ISI Web of Knowledge’, that provides the system under which bibliometric analyses of papers and publications are made, may be more likely to adopt this new category.

GLOBAL MEETINGS FOR THE FAMILY DOCTOR

WONCA WORLD AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALENDAR

2nd Africa Regional Conference, Rustenburg, South Africa 2009

Host : South Africa Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care Flemish Interuniversity Council

Theme : A Celebration of Diversity

Date : 25-28 October 2009

Venue : Rustenburg Civic Centre, South Africa

Contact : Professor Gboyega A Ogunbanjo
Chairperson -
Local Organizing Committee
Box 222
Medunsa 0204
South Africa

Tel : 27 82 417 7755

Fax : 27 86 610 2440

Email : gao@intekom.co.za

Web : www.woncafrica2009.org

19th Wonca World Conference, Cancun 2010

Host : Mexican College of Family Medicine

Theme : Millennium Development Goals: The Contribution of Family Medicine

Date : 19-23 May, 2010

Venue : Cancun Conventions and Exhibition Center, Cancun Mexico

Contact : Mexican College of Family Medicine
Anahuac #60
Colonia Roma Sur
06760 Mexico, D.F.

Tel : 52-55 5574

Fax : 52-55 5387

Email : jdo14@hotmail.com

Web : www.wonca2010cancun.com

16th Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Malaga, Spain 2010

Host : The Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine (SEMFYC)

Theme : Family Medicine into the Future: Blending Health and Cultures.

Date : 6-9 October 2010

Venue : Málaga Conference Hall (Palacio de Ferias y Congresos de Málaga)

Contact : Dr. Luis Gálvez-Alcaraz
Chair Host Organizing Committee
Spanish Society Family and Community Medicine
Address: Portaferriassa, 8, pral.
08002 BARCELONA (España)

Tel : 93 317 03 33

Fax : 93 317 77 72

Email : luisgalvez@semfyc.es

17th Wonca Europe Regional Conference Warsaw, Poland 2011

Host : The College of Family Physicians in Poland

Theme : Family medicine – practice, science and art

Date : 8-11 September 2011

Venue : EXPO XXI – Exhibition & Conference Centre, Warsaw, Poland

Contact : Scientific Committee Chair
Dr Adam Windak

Tel : +48 12 430 55 93

Email : mmwindak@cyf-kr.edu.pl

Organizational Office Health & Management

Sarego 16/3 Street
31-047 Krakow, Poland

Tel : +48 12 429 50 15

Fax : +48 12 431 21 44

Email : Katarzyna.Dubas@ziz.com.pl

Web : www.woncaeurope2011.org

**18th Wonca Europe Regional Conference,
Vienna, Austria 2012**

Host : Austrian Society of General
Practice / Family Medicine

Date : July 4-7, 2012

Venue : Austria Center Vienna (ACV)

Theme : The Art and Science of
General Practice

Contact : Vienna Medical Academy
Alser Strasse 4, Unicampus
AAKH
1090 Vienna

Tel : 43 ` 405 13 83-0

Fax : 43 1 407 82 74

Email : woncaeuropa2012@medacad.
org

Web : www.woncaeuropa2012.org

**MEMBER ORGANIZATION AND
RELATED MEETINGS****College of Family Physicians of Canada
(CFPC)****Annual Family Medicine Forum,
Calgary 2009**

Date : October 29-31, 2009

Venue : Telus Convention Centre
Calgary, Alberta

Web : www.cfpc.ca/FMF

**4th Triennial PAN-Caribbean Family
Medicine Conference, Barbados 2009**

Host : The Caribbean College of
Family Physicians

Theme : New Directions in Primary
Care

Date : November 20-22, 2009

Location: Bridgetown, Barbados

Contact : The Caribbean College of
Family Physicians
19a Windsor Avenue,
Kingston 5
Jamaica, West Indies

Tel/Fax : 876 946 0954

Email : ccfp@cwjamaica.com

Web : http://www.caribgp.org

**2nd International Second Life
Conference on Family Medicine,
Barcelona 2009**

Host : Spanish Society of Family
and Community Medicine
(semFYC)

Date : November 25-27, 2009

Venue : Barcelona, Spain

Contact : José Miguel Bueno Ortiz
Spanish Society of Family
and Community Medicine
(semFYC)
C/ Portaferrissa, número 8,
principal.
08.002 Barcelona, Spain

Tel : 34 93 317 03 33

Fax : 34 93-317-77-72

Email : jmbuenoortiz@telefonica.net

Web : www.semfy.com
www.secondlifespain.com