

FIPAE Report: 2020-2024

FIPAE has consistently focussed on four main goals to promote and advance the Program for Anatomical Education:

- a. Nurture a global connected community of anatomists and anatomical educators.
- b. Promote collaborative, reciprocal initiatives that leverage the expertise of the IFAA community.
- c. Facilitate the exchange of educational resources and skills across institutions and borders.
- d. Address key challenges facing 21st century anatomical education.

Over the last five years, it has been a pleasure grow professional relationships with anatomists across the world and to support and mentor people from diverse backgrounds. We are proud of our key initiatives and achievements that began in 2020 when the pandemic closed borders and in some places access to anatomy laboratories and classrooms.

1. Key Initiatives and Achievements:

2020:

- Launched Virtual Anatomy Education Symposium series
- Initiated social media presence (Twitter)
- Developed framework for FIPAE webpage
- Conducted workshop on Quality Qualitative Research in Anatomy

Highlight:

Virtual Anatomy Education Symposium

The launch of the first Anatomy Education Symposia coincided with World Anatomy Day, 16 October 2020, and presented a unique opportunity to engage anatomists across the globe. The symposium consisted of two keynote talks and a panel discussion:

- *Keynote 1. Professor Gareth Jones (Otago University, New Zealand): **COVID-19 and anatomy: Threats to the continued flourishing of anatomy as a humanistic and research-based discipline***
- *Keynote 2. Professor Claudia Krebs (UBC, Canada): **The Virtual Anatomy Lab: creation and implementation during the COVID-19 pandemic.***
- *Panel Discussion. **Opportunities and Challenges to Anatomy Education.*** Panel members: Professor Beverley Kramer, Professor Adam Taylor, Professor Andrea Oxley da Rocha, Ms Joyce El-Haddad (Chair, Professor Nalini Pather)

The recording of the symposium is found at <https://www.ifaa.net/education/> It continues to be accessed with high frequency. A total of 1104 participants registered for the symposium (111 of these were for the recording only). On the day, there were 1342 in attendance (643 via Zoom and the remainder via the livestream).

Of these attendants, 294 did not belong to any anatomical society, and 364 requested information on how to join societies in their regions. A total of 1031 wanted more information from IFAA. Most participants represented the following societies:

AACA
AAA
Anatomical Society
Anatomische Gesellschaft
ANZACA
Argentinian Anatomy Society
ASSA
BACA
Bolivian Anatomical Society
Brazilian Anatomical Society
Dutch Anatomical
EACA
Ghana Anatomical Society
Hungarian Anatomical Society
Indian Anatomical Society
Indonesian Anatomical Society
Korean Anatomical Society
Macedonian Anatomical Society
Malaysia Anatomical Society
Mexican Anatomical Society
Myanmar Anatomical Society
Nigerian Anatomical Society
Pakistan Anatomy Society
Pan-American Anatomical Society
Portuguese Anatomy Society
Regional society of Anatomy, Andhra Pradesh, India
Sri Lankan Anatomical Society
Thailand Anatomy Society
Tamil Nadu Anatomical Society
Turkish Anatomical Society
Ugandan Anatomical Society
Ukrainian Association of Anatomists
World Association of Veterinary Anatomists

2021:

- Organized Anatomy Festival (October-December)
- Launched Anatomy Connex
- Conducted survey with FICSAP to determine anatomists' needs
- Continued virtual symposia and workshops

Highlights

- **Education Research Training Workshop** on 6 December 2020
- Quality Qualitative Research in Anatomy delivered by Associate Professor Michelle Lazarus (AAA, ANZACA, AMEE), Assistant Professors Stefanie Attardi (AAA, IAMSE) and Jessica Byram (AAA, AAMC)
- **Anatomy Festival** from 15 October to 15 December 2021
- The festival comprised an Opening Symposium on World Anatomy Day, 15 October 2021 and Closing Symposia on 15 December 2021. The symposia recordings are accessible at <https://ifaa.net/anatomyconnex/>
- Launch of **Anatomy Connex**, the FIPAE portal for sharing symposia presentations, innovation, scholarship, and discussion on topical anatomy education matters (<https://ifaa.net/anatomyconnex/>)
- Together with FICSAP, disseminated a **survey** to determine the needs of anatomists.

2022:

- Further developed Anatomy Connex
- Contributed to IFAA 2022 program (symposia and workshop)
- Analysed FICSAP/FIPAE 2021 survey results
- Planned qualitative investigation on pandemic impact on anatomy education

2023-2024:

- Expanded Virtual Anatomy Symposia series with diverse topics and international speakers
- Collaborated with Chilean Association of Anatomists for the first Joint Symposium between FIPAE and an anatomical society
- Collaborated with FICSAP to deliver the Faculty Development Program with Flinders University in Australia
- Contributed symposia for 2024 IFAA Congress

Highlights

- **Focus on the Virtual Anatomy Symposia series.** These online events brought together anatomy educators from around the globe to share best practices, learn from each other, and discuss challenges/solutions. The virtual format enabled wide participation. Symposia in 2023, included:
 - All in One: Creating interactive packages for medicine and health. Dr Christina Byun, UNSW Australia
 - Anatomy education in changing times: a case study of Nigeria. Dr Izuchukwu Okafor, Nnamdi Asikwe University, Nigeria
 - Are We Ready To Embrace Change & Shape The Educator Of Tomorrow. Professor Nalini Pather, University of Queensland, Australia
 - Does the North American shortage of anatomists foretell a worldwide shortage? Professor Adam Wilson, Rush University, USA
 - Fetal and embryological collections: perspectives on informed consent in changing societal times. Ms Joyce El-Haddad, UNSW Australia
 - Keeping up (ethically!!) with advances in technology when teaching human anatomy, Professor Beverley Kramer, Wits University, South Africa
 - Medical Anatomy and Pathology E-learning Lab (MAPEL). Associate Professor Lakshmi Selvarathnam, Monash University Malaysia
 - Sculpting bodies: Developing low tech resources for teaching and learning medical embryology. Associate Professor Olesegun Oyedele, University of British Columbia, UK

- Why is sense of touch an important modality for observation and learning in education? Leonard Shapiro, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- **Promoting Collaboration with Anatomy Societies:** In 2023, FIPAE was invited by the Chilean Association of Anatomists to organise the following joint symposia at their conference.
 - Joint Symposium on Augmented Reality
 - Symposium on the Role of Women in Science
 - Symposium on Emerging Trends in Anatomical Sciences Education
- **Supporting the development of Anatomy Educators:** Together with FICSAP, and in partnership with Flinders University in Australia, FIPAE supported the pilot Faculty Development Program, including provision of three of the six mentors for the program. The mentee partners were:

Mentees	Mentors
Dr Izuchukwu Okafor	FIPAE - Nalini Pather n.pather@unsw.edu.au
Dr Chinedu Godwin Uzomba	FIPAE - Olusegun Oyedele olusegun.oyedele@ubc.ca
Dr Boma Erekosima	FIPAE - Manisha Dayal M.Dayal@westernsydney.edu.au .

2. Challenges and Adaptations:

- Navigated challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Adjusted goals and activities to accommodate academic pressures
- Leveraged virtual platforms to maintain global engagement

3. Community Engagement:

- Consistent high attendance at virtual events (e.g., 1342 attendees at 2020 symposium)
- Engaged anatomists from numerous international societies
- Provided opportunities for non-society members to connect with the field

4. Future Focus:

- FIPAE has three symposia at the 2024 IFAA Congress.
- Following the 2024 Congress, the membership of FIPAE subcommittees will be refreshed to foster renewed focus and engagement. An EOI will be circulated to IFAA member societies for nominations. This will enable FIPAE to expand its work and reach its goals, and to build capacity of future leaders.
- A focus to enable the goals of final is to expand the Anatomy Connex, and initiatives based on survey results and community needs

This report demonstrates FIPAE's consistent efforts to adapt, innovate, and support the global community of anatomists and educators over the past five years, despite challenges posed by the pandemic and changing academic landscapes.

Submitted by
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