



PLEXUS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF ANATOMISTS

IN THIS ISSUE:

» Editorial

- A note from the Editor
- A Note from Your President

» Obituary

- Dr Stephen Webb Carmichael (1945 – 2025)

» Reports

- Federative International Subcommittee on Body Donation (FISBoD) annual report – 2024-25
- 13th international Conference of Society of Clinical Anatomist (India) – 2025
- The Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology (CABA), University of Cape Town Represented at the ASSA 50th Annual Conference
- University of Johannesburg, Department of Human Anatomy and Physiology (HAP)
- Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, Department of Anatomy and Histology
- Diversity in Anatomy: Highlights from the 20th TEPARG Annual Meeting
- Events from the FICSP Committee of the IFAA

» Interesting reads

- Visceral-Somatic Integration in Frozen Shoulder: A Meridian-Based Clinical Perspective
- Nurturing the Next Generation: IFAAs PEAP Year of Connection and Growth

» Events across the globe

- Cultural Heritage Day in Chile, Museum of Normal Anatomy, 2025
- 11th Asia-Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (APICA) and the 39th (2025) Annual Academic Conference of the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences (CSAS) in Guangzhou, China

» Student contribution

- Amanda Dutton – Cardiff University

» Cartoon strips

- Min Suk Chung

» Upcoming Events

- 2025 Virtual International Festival of Anatomy, 27th August 2025
- World Congress of Clinical Anatomists and 14th Annual Meeting of SOCA (SOCACON) – 2nd to 4th April 2026
- IFAA 2026 | 22nd Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists – 13th-16th August 2026, Australia

» Promotional flyer

- An Illustrated Guide to Anatomical Eponyms

A note from the Editor

Dear Readers,

It is a pleasure to present this September 2025 edition of *Plexus*, which once again showcases the vibrant and diverse activity within the global anatomical sciences community.

In this issue, we highlight the significant milestones and achievements of our colleagues and institutions. From the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa celebrating its 50th anniversary to international representation at major congresses in Lisbon, Rouen, Guangzhou, and beyond, it is evident that anatomy continues to inspire innovation, collaboration, and excellence. Reports from Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University illustrate the strength of African scholarship and community engagement, with inspiring outreach activities that bridge science, education, and society.

We also spotlight the theme of diversity, with reflections from the 20th annual TEPARG meeting in Lisbon, which explored equality, inclusion, and representation in anatomy education. These conversations remain crucial as our discipline seeks to reflect the diverse communities we serve.

The work of the IFAA committees is equally commendable, with initiatives supporting high-quality publishing, mentoring through PEAP, and strengthening professional networks across continents. Our “Interesting Reads” section brings fresh perspectives—from integrative approaches to frozen shoulder to reflections on mentoring and growth for emerging anatomists.

This edition is enriched by a student contribution from Amanda Dutton, reminding us of the profound impact of donors in anatomical education, and by creative input from our cartoonist, Min Suk Chung. Looking ahead, we feature exciting upcoming events, including IFAA 2026 in Melbourne and SOCACON 2026, which promise to provide further opportunities for exchange and growth.

I am grateful to all contributors who have made this issue possible, and to our readers for your continued engagement. May these pages inspire you with new ideas, reinforce connections within our international community, and encourage us all to nurture the next generation of anatomists.

Warm regards,
Shiby

Note from your President – Professor Helen Nicholson

Warm greetings to you all.

For those of you in the northern hemisphere I hope that you have had time for an enjoyable summer break and for those in the southern hemisphere spring is on its way!

Over the last few months, I have had the pleasure of attending various international conferences: the ISMS in Lisbon, APICA in Guangzhou and the IASCBC in Kuala Lumpur. All three meetings were extremely well organised and had some great talks and posters. I particularly enjoyed meeting with anatomists from across the world and being involved in the networking sessions organised by the President's Emergent Anatomists Programme (PEAP) in Lisbon and Kuala Lumpur. The latter was extremely well attended, and the feedback was very positive. I would like to thank the senior anatomists who supported both events.

Continuing with the theme of conferences, planning is going well for the next IFAA Congress in Melbourne in August 2026. The organisers have recently released a call for symposia so if you are interested in proposing a symposium for the Congress, please check the website <https://ifaa2026.org>. Early bird registration runs until 10 April 2026 and there are reduced rates for those anatomists from low and middle income countries. If you require a visa, a letter of invitation to support your visa application can be requested during the registration process. We will shortly be opening applications for the Emergent Anatomists' Incentive Award that supports attendance at the IFAA Congress. Please check the website and our social media sites for further information.

The Executive Committee of the IFAA met at the end of July. We discussed the revised guidelines from the Federative International Committee for Ethics and Medical Humanities (FICEM) and these have recently been sent out to member associations for feedback. Please discuss the guidelines within your association, we really do want to know what you think! Following the IFAA Congress in South Korea last year, a Subcommittee on Body Donation (FISBoD) was established, with Susana Biasutto as chair, to provide encouragement and support for those associations who do not currently have a body donation programme. This group have already reached out to member associations across the globe, and you can read a report of their work in this edition of Plexus.

The various programmes and committees of the IFAA have been updating their five year plans. The plans for the FICEM, Scientific Publications (FICSP) and Support for Anatomists (FICSAP) have already been sent to member associations and those for Anatomical Terminology (FIPAT), Research (FIPAR), and Education (FIPAE) will be circulated shortly for your comments. A report of the work of FICSP is included in this edition of Plexus. An exciting venture hosted by FIPAE is the Virtual International Festival of Anatomy with the theme of "Anatomy in uncertain times" has just begun. This series of webinars includes keynote talks, panel discussions and networking sessions and is open to all (<https://tinyurl.com/VIFA2025>).

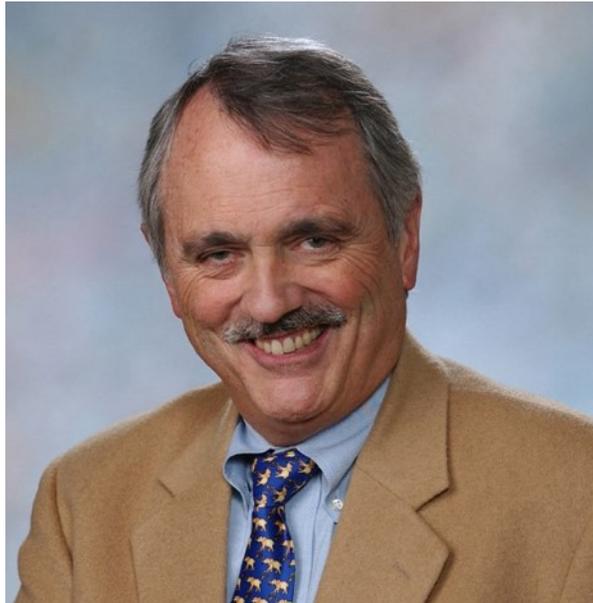
The 15th October marks World Anatomy Day. This year's theme is "Global perspectives of anatomy – bringing together the global community and recognising differences while celebrating similarities." The theme emphasises unity, diversity and collaboration within the international anatomy community. I know that many of you already have creative plans to celebrate this special day and share the importance of anatomy with the wider community. We would love to hear about your celebrations, so please send us photos and a report of your activities so that we can include them in Plexus.

With best wishes

Helen

OBITUARY

Dr Stephen Webb Carmichael (1945 – 2025)



It is with sadness that we mark the death of Emeritus Professor Stephen Carmichael on 30th August 2025. Stephen was a passionate member of the Anatomy community and played an active role in the life of the IFAA. He was a long serving member of the Federative International Committee for Anatomical Terminology (FICAT – now FIPAT) and was Vice President of the IFAA until 2019.

Stephen began his academic career at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where he majored in Biology. He then moved to Tulane University to study for a PhD. In 1971 he took up an anatomy teaching position at West Virginia University before moving to The Mayo clinic in 1982 where he held a number of positions including Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of Anatomy and Professor of Orthopedic Surgery.

Stephen's research interests included the adrenal chromaffin cell as a model neuron, and he published more than 160 papers and authored 7 books on this topic plus one book on climbing Mount Kilimanjaro! His teaching interests included gross, developmental and microscopic anatomy.

Stephen was the recipient of several awards including Teacher of the Year at Mayo Medical School, Mayo Clinic Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Award, R. Benton Adkins, Jr. Distinguished Service Award (AACA), Distinguished Member Award, Anatomical Society of Southern Africa and Volunteer of the Year, "Courage Alpine Skiers".

Stephen was a member of 22 scientific societies including the President of Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Neurobiology Chairpersons, the Histochemical Society and the Mayo Chapter of Sigma Xi. He was a founding member of the American Association of Clinical Anatomists and Editor-in-Chief of Clinical Anatomy from 2000-2012. During his time as Editor-in Chief he travelled widely raising the profile of Clinical Anatomy internationally. In recognition of his contribution to the global anatomy community he received honorary awards from many societies including the Turkish Society of Anatomy and Clinical Anatomy, the Australian and New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists, the Anatomical Association of Southern Africa.

Stephen was a frequent attendee at conferences and went out of his way to provide support and encouragement to many anatomists across the world. His warm friendly personality and his keen sense of adventure meant that he was fun to be with. Stephen contributed much to the anatomy community, and he will definitely be missed.

Our thoughts are with his wife Susan and his family at this sad time.

Helen Nicholson

REPORTS

FISBoD ANNUAL REPORT - 2024-2025

The IFAA Executive Committee approved the creation of the Subcommittee on Body Donation at its meeting on May 22, 2024, and appointed Susana Biasutto (Argentina) as Chair. Due to the need to hold a meeting with the new Chair of the Ethics Committee (FICEM), it was requested to postpone the constitution until the World Congress in Gwangju (South Korea).

Objective: "To collaborate with the members of the associations within the IFAA to provide encouragement and support for developing body donation programmes (BDP) in those universities that do not yet have them, in accordance with the IFAA's ethical guidelines and within the existing legal framework. In those universities where a BDP exists, but doesn't work, the Committee will suggest ways of improving the situation". Working methodology: "Through contact with member associations, we aim to learn the current situation within their universities and will offer the possibility of working together to achieve BDP objectives. Our goal is to maintain sincere and friendly contacts with the anatomical associations, providing support, and even guidance, when it required. Contacts with member associations will also provide an opportunity for associations to collaborate.

The Subcommittee on Body Donation held its first meeting and began its activities on October 10, 2024. At the time of writing this report, we have held **a total of 23 meetings: a) 6 Subcommittee meetings and b) 17 meetings with 12 associations from 4 different continents** (2 from Africa, 3 from America, 4 from Asia, 3 from Europe). Two associations have not responded to repeated emails (we will continue insisting), have not been able to organize a meeting.

Although FISBOD followed a consistent approach for our meetings with associations, each meeting led to a different outcome, due to the differing situations their countries faced. FISBoD sought to understand, interpret and propose alternatives to address the difficulties.

For this report, we will mention some of the relevant issues we identified:

- Most associations are unaware of the IFAA guidelines, although those that have BDPs generally agree with their provisions. FISBoD has disseminated the guidelines.
- We have interviewed associations with very diverse situations, ranging from having a BDP at every university to not even having considered the matter previously. In all cases, we have learned a great deal from each meeting. The strategies for developing BDPs in some countries are outstanding and can surely be helpful for other associations. In other cases, we have managed to encourage (to a greater or lesser extent) anatomists to begin or resume the path of body donation. We will monitor these latter associations to prevent their enthusiasm from fading.

IFAA - Federative International SubCommittee on Body Donation (FISBoD)

- Some countries have legislation that facilitates the use of unclaimed bodies and thus have access to bodies without the work and effort required to create and develop a donation programme. We have encouraged them to change the way bodies are acquired on ethical grounds, while also emphasising the beneficial effects of BDP on attitudinal change of students, and on the public appreciation of anatomists generated by the dissemination of donation programs.
- Associations wishing to initiate new BDPs often point out a lack of financial resources. However, it is difficult to determine the true extent of this issue as, in some cases, the impression was gained that this might just be an excuse. Undoubtedly, starting a BDP requires financial support from the university, but this varies depending on the current modality of work (unclaimed bodies are being received, preserved, stored and used, or cadaveric material and facilities are completely unavailable).
- Africa and Latin America in particular are the regions that have made the least progress. However, a difference was perceived between them. In Africa, a strong cultural and religious influence predominates, while in Latin America, a lack of knowledge prevails.

We believe we have made significant progress in certain cases. Some anatomists have begun extensive work for their universities' BDPs and others have taken an interest in the topic and begun to develop strategies to overcome difficulties.

Undoubtedly, the work of FISBOD will be arduous, ongoing and extensive, but we are confident that we can progress.

FISBOD members:

Benjamin Arko-Boham (Ghana)

Agustin Cabrera (Uruguay)

Raffaele De Caro (Italy)

Brenda De Gama (South Africa)

Ilke A. Gürses (Turkey)

Bernard Moxham (United Kingdom)

Madihah Rushaidi (Malaysia)

Chair: Susana Biasutto (Argentina)

REPORTS

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, SRINAGAR

Postgraduate Department of Anatomy

SOCACON 2025 - Conference Report

13th International Conference of Society of Clinical Anatomists

SOCA 2025

10th to 12th July 2025

Postgraduate Department of Anatomy

Government Medical College, Srinagar

Introduction

The 13th International Conference of the Society of Clinical Anatomists (SOCA India) was successfully organised by the Postgraduate Department of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar, from 10th to 12th July 2025.

The conference was held under the theme: "**Bridging Anatomy and Clinical Practice: Challenges and Future Prospects.**" The event served as a platform for clinical anatomists, educators, and researchers from across India and abroad to share ideas, innovations, and research outcomes in anatomical sciences and their application in clinical practice.

Pre-Conference Workshops

Three hands-on pre-conference workshops were conducted:

PCW I: Cytogenetics - Karyotyping and FISH

Participants explored the art and science of chromosome analysis. Participants gained hands-on experience in preparing, analyzing, and interpreting karyotypes to detect chromosomal abnormalities and FISH.



Chief Guest Prof. Nilofer Khan (Vice Chancellor University of Kashmir)

REPORTS



Workshop sessions conducted in hybrid mode

Experts for workshop:

1. Dr. Tahir Mohiuddin, Research scientist, Regional genetics centre SKIMS, Srinagar
2. Dr. Abdul Basit Baba, Biology technical support, Selleck Chemicals, Hyderabad, India
3. Dr Javaid Ahmad Khan, Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, GMC Srinagar
4. Dr Uzma Rasool, Assistant professor, Department of Anatomy, GMC Srinagar



PCW 1: Cytogenetics - Karyotyping and FISH Workshop

PCW 2: Innovations in Teaching Anatomy

Experts discussed strategies for incorporating innovative tools into existing curricula to improve learning outcomes and student engagement. The workshop equipped participants with the insights and tools needed to effectively implement and leverage new methodologies, ultimately enhancing the quality of anatomical education for future healthcare professionals. **Experts:**

1. Prof. (Dr.) Manjula Patil, Department of Anatomy, S. Nijalingappa Medical College, Bagalkot
2. Dr. Anne D Souza, Department of Anatomy, Kastuba Medical College, Manipal
3. Prof. (Dr.) Suhail Ahmed, Professor, Department of Physiology, GMC Srinagar
4. Prof. (Dr.) Bashir Ahmed Shah, Professor, Department of Anatomy, GMC Srinagar

REPORTS



PCW2: Innovations in Teaching Anatomy

PCW3: Scientific Manuscript Writing

Learning Objectives included:

1. Understand the structure and components of a scientific manuscript
2. Learn Strategies for writing a systematic review
3. Gain insights into the peer review, publication process and ethics.
4. Develop skills for effective revision, literature search and reference management



PCW3: Scientific Manuscript Writing

Experts:

1. Prof. (Dr.) Sreejith Das, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman
2. Pro. (Dr.) Kumar Satish Ravi, Vice Principal, Professor and Head of Anatomy, National Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Jaipur, Editor in Chief (NJCA)
3. Dr Pushpa NB, Associate Professor, JSS Medical College, JSSAHER, Mysuru
3. Dr Pushpa NB, Associate Professor, JSS Medical College, JSSAHER, Mysuru
4. Prof (Dr.)Gulam Mond. Bhat, Head of the Department, Anatomy GMC, Srinagar

REPORTS



Felicitation of Organising Chairman

Highlights of Contribution:

- Managed delegate registration and station wise planning
- Coordinated scientific content, faculty trainers, and logistics
- Delivered well-received, high-participation hands-on learning experiences.

Remarks: Their efforts helped provide valuable academic enrichment prior to the main conference.



Felicitation of Organising Secretary

All these workshops witnessed enthusiastic participation from postgraduate scholars, faculty, and researchers, and focused on enhancing practical knowledge and teaching methodologies in anatomy.

Inaugural Ceremony- 11th July 2025

The conference was formally inaugurated on 11th July at GMC Srinagar. Dignitaries present included:

REPORTS



Chief guest with dignitaries

- **Chief Guest:** Professor (Mrs.) Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir
- Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Shah, Principal & Dean, GMC Srinagar (Patron)
- Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, Professor and Head of the Department, Anatomy GMC, Srinagar, Organising Chairman
- Prof. (Dr.) M. Sivakumar, Professor of Anatomy, Trichy SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, President, SOCA India
- Prof. (Dr.) N. Muthukumaravel, Professor of Anatomy, AARUPADAI VEEDU Medical College Pondichéry, General Secretary, SOCA
- Prof. (Dr.) Kumar Satish Ravi, Vice Principal, Professor and Head of Anatomy, National Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Jaipur, EIC NJCA
- Prof. (Dr.) Bashir Ahmad Shah, Professor of Anatomy GMC, Srinagar, Organising Secretary
- Prof. (Dr.) Mohd. Saleem Itoo, Professor of Anatomy GMC, Srinagar, Co-Organizing Secretary
- Mr. Mohd Ashraf Hakak, Administrator Associated Hospitals GMC Srinagar



Traditional Izband ceremony during Inauguration

REPORTS

The conference features over **250 scientific presentations** (Paper and poster, both offline and online) across two days, managed by a dedicated Scientific Committee under the leadership of Dr. Javaid Ahmed Khan, Associate professor of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar



Felicitation of Editor-in-Chief NJCA

The sessions covered a wide spectrum of topics, including:

- Neuroanatomy & Functional Imaging
- Anatomical Variations in Surgery
- Innovations in Medical Education
- Clinical Relevance of Embryology
- Forensic Anatomy and Applied Aspects
- Medical Education

Guest speakers for SOCACON 2025 included:

- Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Ashraf Ganie, Director SKIMS & EOSG Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar
- Prof. Syed Mudasir Andrabi, Professor and Head Division of Veterinary Biotechnology, SKUAST (K)
- Prof. (Dr.) P. Vatsala swamy, Director (IQAC): D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth Director Academics D.Y.Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre
- Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Nabi, Clinical Professor (Teaching and Research) of Surgical Uro Oncology, University of Dundee, UK
- Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Sultan Khuroo, Former Dean & Director SKIMS & EOSG, Director, Digestive Diseases Centre, Dr. Khuroo's Medical Clinic, Srinagar
- Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Akbar Bhat, Professor and Head, CVTS, Superspeciality Hospital, GMC Srinagar
- Prof Dinesh K Badyal, Professor & Head, Department of Pharmacology, Program Director FAIMER CMCL
- Prof (Dr.) Ranjit Guha, Principal and Professor of Anatomy Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences Sheikhpura, Patna, Bihar

Key Highlights

- **Expert Lectures:** The conference featured a series of insightful lectures by distinguished faculty members and renowned guest experts in anatomy. These sessions covered cutting edge research, emerging trends, and innovative methodologies in anatomical education and practice.
- **Oral Presentations:** An exciting lineup of oral presentations was delivered by postgraduate students and faculty members. These presentations showcased original research findings, offering attendees the opportunity to engage with new ideas and contribute to discussions on the latest anatomical studies.

REPORTS

- **Poster Demonstrations:** The conference also hosted interactive poster sessions, where anatomists from various institutions presented their work.

Gala Dinner 11th July 2025

The evening of the first day concluded with a cultural programme and a gala dinner hosted in honour of the delegates. It featured traditional Kashmiri music and cuisine, adding a local flavour to the scientific gathering.

Valedictory Function - 12th July 2025

The valedictory session marked the conclusion of the conference with the distribution of certificates, special recognitions, and expressions of thanks to all organising committees, volunteers, and participants. Feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive.

Organizing Team

- **Organising Chairman:** Prof. (Dr.) Ghu-lam Mohammad Bhat
- **Organising Secretary:** Prof. (Dr.) Bashir Ahmad Shah
- **Co-Organising Secretary:** Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Saleem Itoo
- **Scientific Committee:** Dr. Javaid Ahmad Khan & team

Report on Activities of Various Committees

I. Scientific Committee

Head: Dr. Javaid Ahmad Khan, Associate professor of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar

Members: Dr Nowsheeba Khursheed, Dr. Mohammad Arif Makhdoomi, Dr. Farah Syed, Dr. Falak Saleem, Dr. Nazish Aslam Highlights of Contribution:



Welcome address by organizing chairman

REPORTS



*Dr M Sivakumar
President, SOCA*



*Dr N Muthukumaravel
General Secretary*



*Dr Kumar Satish Ravi
Editor-in-chief (NJCA)*



*Dr Pushpa NB
Treasurer SOCA*

- Coordinated and scheduled 250+ presentations (oral & poster, both online and offline)
- Designed the scientific sessions with diverse themes in clinical and applied anatomy
- Maintained a glitch-free flow of presentations across parallel sessions
- Handled abstract screening, reviews, and communication with presenters
- Ensured timely publication of abstracts in the souvenir/ conference proceedings

Remarks: The team demonstrated exceptional academic rigor, time management, and logistical coordination.

2. Registration Committee

Head: Dr. Yasmeen Jan, Associate professor of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar

Members: Dr. Samreen Siraj Bala, Dr. Nuzhat Bashir, Dr. Sheikh Tousia, Dr. Syed Mubashir Yousuf, Dr. Yasmeena Akhtar, Dr. Muneeb, Dr. Beenish, Dr. Arshee, Dr. Zeeshan, Dr. Rabia *Highlights of Contribution:*

- Managed online and offline registration of more than 600 delegates
- Addressed payment issues, issued confirmations, and managed delegate data
- Managed on-the-spot registrations at the venue with smooth efficiency
- Coordinated distribution of kits, badges, and certificates

Remarks: Their timely responses and systematic approach greatly contributed to a hassle-free delegate experience.

REPORTS



*Prof Ghulam Mohd Bhat
Organising Chairman*



*Prof Bashir Ahmed Shah
Organising Secretary*



*Dr Mohd. Saleem Itoo
Co-Organising Secretary*



*Dr Javed Ahmad Khan
Convenor Scientific Committee*

3. Hospitality Committee

Head: Dr. Shamima Banoo, Assistant professor of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar

Members: Dr. Manmeet Kour, Dr. Uzma Rasool, Dr. Kaneez Fatima, Dr. Masrat Jahan, Dr. Majote Kour

Highlights of Contribution:

- Oversaw the reception and accommodation of national and international delegates
- Provided personalised assistance and managed guest comfort throughout the conference
- Coordinated catering, refreshing counters, and gala dinner arrangements
- Assisted senior faculty and VIP guests during ceremonial functions

Remarks: Their warmth, patient, and gracious conduct won the admiration of all quests and delagates

4. Finance Committee

Head: Dr Sabia Nazir, Associate professor of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar

Members: Dr. Maheen Nazir, Dr. Shahid Kaleem, Dr. Syed Insha Saify, Dr Insha Majeed, Dr Zeenat

Highlights of Contribution:

- Managed budgeting, expenditure tracking, and financial documentation
- Handled sponsor management and reimburse- ment processing with transparency
- Coordinated fund flow for pre-conference workshops, logistics, and hospitality
- Ensured timely audit-compliant financial statements for internal and external reporting

REPORTS



SOCACON 2025 Souvenir release ceremony

Remarks: Despite the heavy financial work-load, the team operated with discipline, clarity, and accountability.

5. Advisory Committee

Key Advisors: Prof. (Dr) Kulbir Kour, Prof. (Dr.) Nusrat Jabeen, Prof. (Dr.) Sha- heen Shahdad, Dr. Naseer Ahmad Shah, Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Hassan, Dr. Ashfaq-ul-Hassan, Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Gupta, Dr. Mahmood Ahmad

Highlights of Contribution:

Provided senior guidance in content planning and guest coordination

- Helped in maintaining academic depth and integrity across all sessions
- Assisted in choosing relevant resource persons and speakers

Remarks: Their mentorship provided the foundational support necessary for excellence.

6. Organising Secretariat

Organising Chairman: Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Mohammad Bhat

- **Organising Secretary:** Prof. (Dr.) Bashir Ahmad Shah
- **Co-Organising Secretary:** Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Saleem Itoo

Highlights of Contribution:

- Oversaw planning, logistics, and execution of all conference activities
- Acted as the main point of coordination between SOCA India and local committees
- Ensured interdepartmental liaison, government clearances, and institutional support

Remarks: Their strategic vision and day-to-day leadership brought the event to life.

REPORTS



Culmination-Valedictory ceremony

7. Student and Resident Volunteers Key Contributors: Senior Residents & Postgraduate Scholars **Support from:** MBBS student volunteers Highlights of Contribution:

- Helped in hall coordination, registration desks, media, stage management, and logistics
- Provided round-the-clock support to committee heads and the organising team
- Displayed professionalism and dedication throughout

Remarks: Their energy, humility, and team-work spirit were the true heart of SOCACON 2025.

The SOCACON 2025 was organized under the aegis of the Society of Clinical Anatomists (SOCA- the largest association of clinical Anatomists of India having about 2800 life members). SOCA is dedicated to furthering knowledge in clinical-based Anatomy. The members of SOCA aim to bridge the gap between anatomists and clinicians and to explore new dimensions in Clinical Anatomy. The Society strives to promote professional development and to foster an exchange of ideas among clinical anatomists and clinicians belonging to all fields of medicine

Conclusion

SOCACON 2025 was a resounding success, both academically and organizationally. It not only reinforced the importance of anatomy in clinical practice but also provided an opportunity for collaboration and exchange of ideas among professionals from varied medical disciplines.

The coordinated efforts of each committee ensured that SOCACON 2025 was a well-organised, academically enriching, and widely appreciated event. Their contributions not only ensured a smooth flow of activities but also reflected the organisational strength, teamwork, and hospitality of the Government Medical College, Srinagar. The Department of Anatomy, GMC Srinagar, extends sincere thanks to office bearers SOCA, all delegates, sponsors, and supporting institutions for their valuable contribution.

Report compiled by Dr. Farah Syed, Senior Resident
Department of Anatomy, Government Medical College, Srinagar, J&K
Email: Syefar001@gmail.com

REPORTS

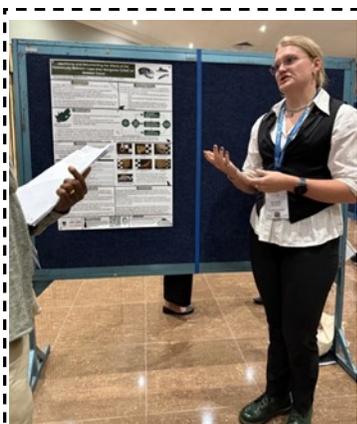
The Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology (CABA), University of Cape Town Represented at the ASSA 50th Annual Conference

The Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA) celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2025 with its first in-person conference since the COVID-19 pandemic. The University of Cape Town's Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology (CABA) was strongly represented, with members presenting across all three research themes.



From left: Ms Jeshika Luckrajh-Williams, Mr Lutho Daza, Ms. Mbalentle Madolo, Dr Kentse Mpolokeng, A.Prof Geney Gunston and Mrs Megan Petersen.

Among the highlights was PhD student Kirsten Synckers, who received the Willie Voster Award (runner-up) for best first-time poster presentation. Her poster was titled *"Identifying and Documenting the Effects of the Forensically Relevant Cape Grey Mongoose on Skeletal Tissue"*



PhD student Kirsten Synckers

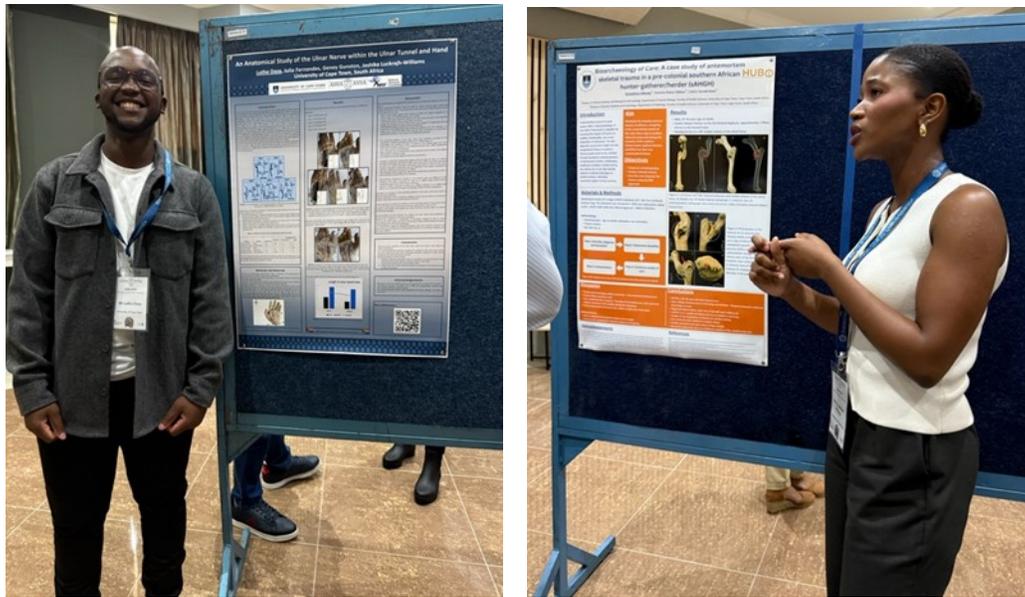


PhD student Lucky Ubulu delivered an oral presentation titled *"Development and Validation of Three-Dimensional Geometric (GM) and Metric Morphometrics (MM) for Sex Estimation from the Tali of a South African Sample."*

REPORTS

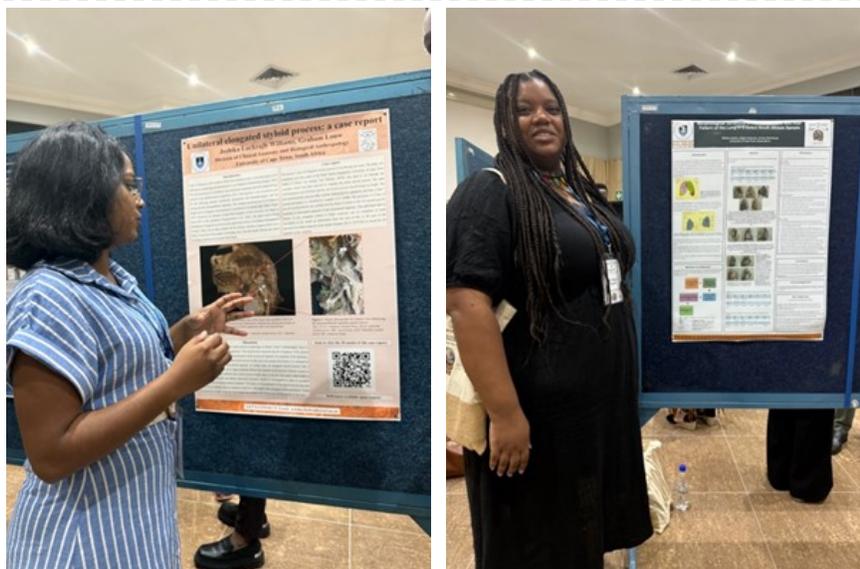
PhD student Mbalentle Madolo presented findings from her Master's research in an oral presentation titled "An Angiographic Study on the Morphometry of the Anterior Communicating Artery Complex – A South African Sample". This work has also been published in *Surgical and Radiologic Anatomy* (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00276-025-03670-4>).

MSc students Siwaphiwe Mfengu, Lutho Daza, and Noku-Lunga Ndima impressed with their poster presentations: "Bioarchaeology of Care: A Case Study of Antemortem Skeletal Trauma in a Pre-colonial Southern African Hunter-Gatherer/ Herder (sAHGH)" and "An Anatomical Study of the Ulnar Nerve within the Ulnar Tunnel and Hand".



Mr Lutho Daza and Ms Siwaphiwe Mfengu

Staff members Megan Petersen and Jeshika Luckrajh presented posters on "Morphological Variation of Fissures, Lobes, and Hilar Pattern of the Lung in a South African Sample" and "Unilateral Elongated Styloid Process: A Case Report".



Mrs Jeshika Luckrajh-Williams and Mrs Megan Petersen

REPORTS

Rounding off the contributions, Dr Kentse Mpolokeng presented “Chalkboard Schematic Drawings in Anatomy Education: Enhancing Medical Student Learning During Dissection”, highlighting innovative approaches to anatomy teaching. A.Prof Geney Gunston co-chaired and facilitated the Medical Education workshop on “Using AI in Anatomical Sciences Teaching and Learning and Related Research”.



New Staff members join the Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology

Welcoming Mr Ntoampe Samuel Pule to the University of Cape Town

The Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology is delighted to welcome Mr Ntoampe Samuel Pule as a Laboratory Assistant. Originally from Welkom in the Free State, he brings valuable experience in mortuary and laboratory work from his years at the University of the Free State. At UCT, he will support the dissection halls and mortuary, ensuring the care and preparation of anatomical material and well-maintained teaching spaces. Colleagues describe him as approachable, eager to learn, and a strong team player. We warmly welcome Mr Pule and look forward to his contributions to the Division.



REPORTS

Dr Kyle Paulssen Joins the Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology at UCT

Lecturer in Anatomy, Medical Doctor, and Creative Communicator

The Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology is pleased to welcome Dr Kyle Paulssen as a Lecturer in Anatomy. A UCT alumnus, Dr Paulssen has completed studies in Human Biosciences, Applied Anatomy, an MSc, and an MBChB. He brings a unique blend of clinical and academic expertise, with research interests in fascia and its role in pathology, healing, proprioception, and movement. He has extensive teaching experience across medical and allied health programmes and is passionate about integrating anatomy and clinical practice. We look forward to the energy, insight, and dedication he will contribute to the Division.



CABA hosting two students outreaches:

Beyond the Textbook: Anatomy Outreach for First-Year Emergency Medical Sciences Students

The Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology (CABA) hosted 45 first-year Emergency Medical Sciences students from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology on 21st July. The initiative introduced students to a range of anatomical specimens—wet, plastinated, and skeletal—providing valuable hands-on exposure to support their learning.



In picture: Mrs Megan Petersen and the first-year students from the CPUT.

The initiative was led by Megan Petersen (UCT) and Dr Samantha Cairncross (CPUT), with a welcome from A.Prof Geney Gunston and Dr Kentse Mpolokeng, who also spoke about the UCT Body Donation Programme and free online learning resources. Students explored four key topics—Upper Limb, Lower Limb, Head and Neck, and

REPORTS

Perineum/Pelvic Floor—through guided sessions with postgraduate demonstrators. The programme combined specimen-based teaching with worksheets to consolidate learning.

Special thanks to the demonstrators, CABA staff, and donors of learning materials for their valuable support.



Bringing Science to Life: Successful High School Outreach at UCT

On 12 July 2025, the Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology (UCT) welcomed 57 learners from Silikamva High School and 12 from Walmer Estate High School, together with their Life Sciences teachers, for a day of discovery and exploration in anatomy.



Learners took part in interactive anatomy demonstrations and revision sessions, exploring the reproductive system in the Anatomy Museum and the nervous system, ear, and eye in the Teaching Laboratory. Complementary discussions on physiology topics such as homeostasis and meiosis reinforced classroom learning. Guided by academics and postgraduate students, learners engaged directly with specimens and models, bridging theory with practice.

REPORTS



Students moving along the practical stations in the laboratory.

After lunch, learners joined an engaging Qhaphela Occupational Health and Safety session led by Dr Itumeleng Ntamatamala (UCT School of Public Health), which highlighted safety, awareness, teamwork, and work readiness. The day concluded with career talks showcasing opportunities in the health sciences, broadening learners' horizons and inspiring them to envision future pathways.



Dr Itumeleng Ntamatamala from the School of Public Health, UCT delivering a talk to the Silikamva High School learners.



In this picture: Ms Mbalentle Madolo, Mrs Jeshika Luckrajh- Williams and Dr Kentse Mpolokeng with learners from Silikamva High School.

REPORTS

The outreach had a clear impact, with teachers praising its value and students expressing excitement at the opportunity to work with real specimens. Learners reported greater understanding, confidence, and motivation in their studies. More than an academic exercise, the day fostered curiosity, built connections between UCT and local schools, and highlighted the importance of mentorship in inspiring the next generation of scientists and health professionals.



In this picture: Anatomy demonstrators from left: Ms Mabelentle Madolo, Ms Viyanka Luckrajh, Ms Boitumelo Molale, Ms Zekethelo Zuma, Ms Amiksha Sujan and Mr Sandile Ntuli.

REPORTS

UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG (UJ) Department of Human Anatomy and Physiology (HAP)

Academic Recognition

Dr Nicolene Jooste was featured in ISET Careers South Africa 2025, Gauteng Edition. The magazine aims to expose high school students to different career options. She appeared in a Q&A style article that provided students with insights into Human Anatomy as a career path, based on her experiences. Dr Sundika Ishwarkumar-Govender was recognized as the Top Achiever in all Postgraduate Diplomas within the Faculty of Education at the University of Johannesburg for the 2024 academic year.

Conference Attendance

National Conference

Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender, Dr Jooste and Prof Shahed Nalla delivered oral presentations at the 50th Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA), held from 6 - 9 April in Muldersdrift, Johannesburg. The team presented the following research:

Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender: "Dental Age Assessments Using Willems Scoring in a Select South African Sample"

Dr Jooste: "Atlanto-Occipital Facet Bipartition in a South African Sample"

Prof Nalla: "Transverse and Arcuate Foramina of the Atlas Vertebra – Size Relationships in a Modern Southern African Skeletal Population Sample"



Left to right: Dr Jooste, Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender and Prof Nalla

International Conference

Prof Nalla and Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender attended and presented their research at the XXIX International Symposium on Morphological Sciences (ISMS) in Lisbon, Portugal from 23rd-26th July 2025. Prof Nalla presented two oral presentations entitled, "Engaging with diversity: South African students' experiences of human body dissection" and "The unclosed transverse foramina in a South African population sample - an osteological study". Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender delivered an oral presentation on "Dental age estimation using Cameriere's methodologies in a select KwaZulu-Natal population of South Africa". Both participated in the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists event: "PEAP: Bridging Careers in Anatomy – A Speed Networking Event" session, with Prof Nalla serving as a mentor and Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender as an emergent anatomist/researcher.

REPORTS



Left to right: Dr Glen Paton, Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender and Prof Nalla

Funding

Dr Jooste and Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender received Department of Higher Education and Training: University Capacity Development Grant (DHET UCDP) funding for 2025.

Community Engagement

HAP Annual Book-Drive

HAP is currently collecting new or previously loved books, toys and stationery for underprivileged children aged between birth to 16 years old. If you wish to contribute to this initiative, please contact Dr Ishwarkumar-Govender.

Dr Sundika Ishwarkumar-Govender

REPORTS

SEFAKO MAKGATHO HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY Department of Anatomy and Histology

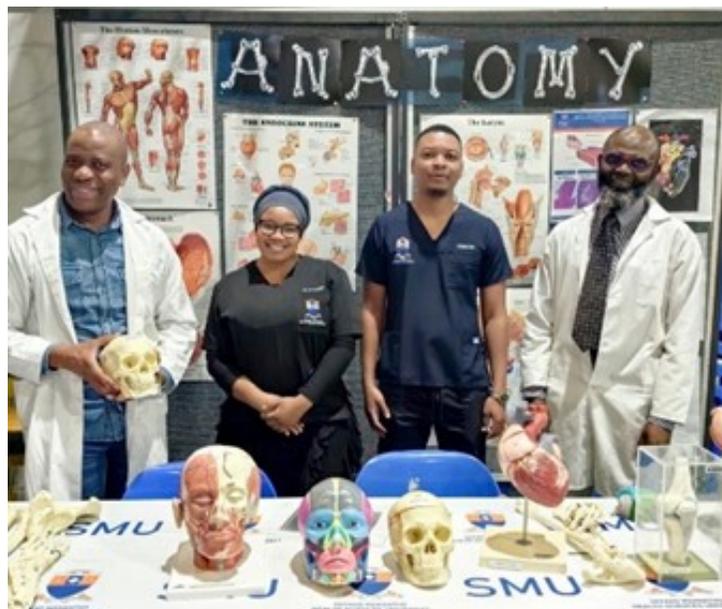
Anatomy Steals the Show at SMU Open Day! (by Daniële Kristen)

On 8 May, Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU) welcomed over 3,000 pupils from Northern Gauteng to its annual Open Day. The event showcased the wide range of Medicine and Health Sciences courses on offer, with every department putting its best foot forward.

The Department of Anatomy and Histology (DAH) drew significant attention with an engaging exhibition of posters, anatomical models, and realistic bone clones. Learners were enthusiastic, asking questions and showing great curiosity—so much so that announcers had to remind them to move along to other stalls.

For many, the experience highlighted the central role of anatomy in health sciences, and even sparked interest in anatomy as a career. Staff shared inspiring moments with learners, including one aspiring inventor who promised, “*watch this space.*”

The day was a resounding success, both for SMU in showcasing its programmes and for DAH in igniting excitement about anatomy and its importance in shaping future scientists and health professionals.



REPORTS

Anatomy Day Celebrations at SMU – “Anatomy Through Our Eyes” (by Daniële Kristen)

At Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU), this year’s Anatomy Day will celebrate how anatomy connects people, ideas, and communities. The Department of Anatomy and Histology, in collaboration with the Department of Practice of Medicine (POME), is hosting a two-part programme that blends outreach with creativity. The first part involves a community outreach visit, sparking conversations about health and the human body in engaging, accessible ways that show anatomy is part of everyday life. On campus, the event “Anatomy Through Our Eyes” will showcase student perspectives through art, study tips, videos, reels, and live presentations. A judging panel will award prizes to the most impactful contributions.

Prof Oettlé recognised for pioneering anatomical research

Professor Anna Oettlé, Full Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Histology at SMU, continues to make an extraordinary impact in advancing anatomical sciences. Trained as a medical doctor at Wits and later earning her PhD at the University of Pretoria, she has dedicated her career to studying anatomical variation, forensic anthropology, and the use of modern imaging techniques such as 3D scanning in health and humanitarian contexts. Her work spans applications from biological profiling to clinical practice, including orthopaedics, orthodontics, and forensic science.

Prof Oettlé’s achievements have been recognised with a prestigious NRF C2 rating and the Vice-Chancellor’s Excellence Award (2024). Reflecting on this recognition, she said: *“It is both an honour and a motivation to keep pushing boundaries with research that advances our understanding of skeletal form.”* She also emphasised the value of collaboration: *“Dream big, work hard, and stay open to new ideas. With the right partnerships, almost anything becomes possible.”*

Through her leadership, Prof Oettlé continues to inspire colleagues and students, while positioning SMU at the forefront of medical research and innovation.



New staff appointed at the Department of Human Anatomy and Histology

We are delighted to welcome Dr Samantha Muller to the Department of Human Anatomy and Histology at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University. Dr Muller completed her PhD in Human Anatomy at the University of Pretoria and holds a PGCE in Further Education and Training. Her academic journey reflects a passion for anatomy, research, and education, as well as a strong commitment to mentoring students and advancing Biological Anthropology.

At SMU, Dr Muller will contribute to innovative research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and dynamic teaching, with particular interest in applying anatomical sciences and biological anthropology to forensic and humanitarian contexts. She brings expertise and vision that will enrich both the department and the wider university community.



REPORTS

Titles of Abstracts Presented – 2025 Department of Human Anatomy and Histology, Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University

Authors(s)	Abstract title	Type (oral / poster)
50th conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA) – 6-9 April 2025		
<u>D. Kristen</u> and A.C. Oettlé	Assessing distal femur sexual dimorphism in a South African sample using computer tomography	Oral
H. Hambrock and <u>D. Kristen</u>	Students' evaluation of an exemplary design strategy in a Human Anatomy course	Oral
<u>S van der Walt</u> ; R Kobedi; AC Oettlé	Quantification of the effect of gravity on ocular protrusion	Oral
TV Mamphaga; R Kobedi; AC Oettlé; <u>S van der Walt</u>	Age and sex variations in ocular volume in a South African Black sample using Computed Tomography scans	Oral
A. Bhika, A.O. Ihunwo, <u>D. Pillay</u>	Mandibular trabecular morphometry and tensile strength following chronic binge alcohol consumption and subsequent abstinence in Sprague Dawley rats.	Oral
M.K. Bodiba, D. Pillay, R. Ndou	The Effect of Metformin on Oxidative Stress, Inflammation, and Cell Morphology in the Hippocampi of Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetic Sprague Dawley Rats	Oral
<u>R. Kobedi</u> , S. Rajbaran-Singh, HF. Swanepoel, AC. Oettlé	Cephalometrics of patients with malocclusion referred to an academic hospital in Gauteng	Oral
<u>M. Meyer</u> , C.H. Jonker, S. Rajbaran-Singh, A.C Oettlé	Understanding Dentine Thickness in First Molar Roots: A Review of Literature and Case Illustrations	Poster
<u>M. Meyer</u> , R. Potgieter, A.C Oettlé	A Novel Tool for Measuring Wall Thickness Perpendicularly in Three Dimensionally Curved Structures	Poster

Diversity in Anatomy: Highlights from the 20th TEPARG Annual Meeting

In March 2025, the 20th annual meeting of the Trans European Pedagogic Anatomical Research Group (TEPARG) was held at Nova Medical School, Lisboa themed around Diversity in Anatomy.

Attended online and in person, delegates were from Cardiff, Newcastle, Aberdeen, Wroclaw, Lisbon, Innsbruck, Paris, Stellenbosch, Glasgow, Liverpool, Exeter, Plymouth, Bristol and Nigeria making it a truly international event discussing equality, diversity and inclusion.

The first keynote was by the President of TEPARG Professor Erich Brenner who spoke about the domains of diversity in anatomical education that are currently being studied in Innsbruck and Keynote 2 by Dr Asha Venkatesh who spoke about prospects and challenges for diversity initiatives in Anatomy in Aberdeen, UK.

This was followed by several short presentations themed around Diversity, including two junior and one student

REPORTS

presenter. These included psychometric and sociodemographic factors as predictors of OSCE success (Douglas Henderson, Université Paris Cité), inclusive demographic data collection (Lily Evans, University of Plymouth), creating anatomy EDI teaching resources by the Education Committee of Anatomical Society (Hope Gangata, University of Exeter), practical examples of embedding EDI into anatomical sciences education (Michelle Welsh, University of Glasgow), going beyond the binary in the teaching of sex and gender in Anatomy (Scott Paterson, University of Bristol), inclusive research practices in Anatomy (Siobhan Moyes, University of Plymouth) and online anatomy teaching for everyone (Iain Keenan, Newcastle University).
The wide-ranging discussions demonstrated the wealth of work being carried out to improve inclusion in Anatomy.

Dr Asha Venkatesh
TEPARG member representing the Anatomical Society UK

REPORTS

EVENTS FROM THE FICSP COMMITTEE OF THE IFAA

The Federative International Committee for Scientific Publications (FICSP) of the IFAA organized a series of highly successful events in 2025, contributing to the advancement of anatomical publishing and scientific communication. At the Joint Congress of the European Association for Clinical Anatomy (EACA) and the International Symposium of Clinical and Applied Anatomy (ISCAA), held in Rouen, Normandy, France (June 25–27, 2025), the FICSP supported the session “Meet the Editors” (June 27). Moderated by Prof. Nihal Apaydin (Turkey) and Prof. Fabrice Duparc (France), the session featured engaging presentations on systematic reviews in anatomy (Nihal Apaydin), research integrity and publication ethics (Kumar Satish Ravi), and publishing on anatomical variations (Fabrice Duparc). The event was very well attended, stimulating fruitful discussion between editors and participants.

Subsequently, at the XXIX International Symposium on Morphological Sciences (ISMS 2025) in Lisboa, Portugal (July 23–26, 2025), FICSP organized the symposium “Excellence in Anatomical Publishing: Strategies for Writing, Reviewing, and Publishing” (July 24). Chaired by Prof. Gulgun Sengul (Turkey) and moderated by Prof. José Paulo Andrade (Portugal), the session included presentations by Prof. Friedrich Paulsen (Germany), Prof. Gulgun Sengul (Turkey), Prof. Heather F. Smith (USA), and Prof. Jason M. Organ (USA), covering manuscript preparation, journal selection, peer review, and ethical publishing practices. The symposium drew a large audience and generated active participation.

Later that day, FICSP also hosted a “Meet the Editor” session (July 24) with Profs. Heather Smith, Gulgun Sengul, Friedrich Paulsen, and Jason Organ. This interactive discussion provided participants with the opportunity to exchange directly with editors about the publishing process, challenges, and opportunities.

Across both congresses, the FICSP events were well received, with excellent attendance and strong engagement from the anatomical community. These sessions continue to demonstrate the importance of fostering dialogue on high-quality publishing practices within our field.



Visceral-Somatic Integration in Frozen Shoulder: A Meridian-Based Clinical Perspective

Author: Abdurachman, Department Anatomy, Histology and Paharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia

Corresponding Email: abdurachman@fk.unair.ac.id

Reflective Summary:

Frozen Shoulder Syndrome (FSS) has long been classified as a local musculoskeletal disorder characterized by pain and reduced range of motion. However, many cases present with symptoms that do not align with imaging or structural findings, suggesting the involvement of systemic factors. Our recent clinical work proposes a novel model

REPORTS

integrating visceral-somatic convergence with meridian theory to explain and treat FSS more effectively.

In this framework, shoulder pain is viewed as referred pain from internal organ dysfunctions, especially the heart, liver, lungs, and gallbladder transmitted via shared spinal segments. Using Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) meridian mapping, we correlated pain locations to dominant meridian lines, allowing for more accurate inference of visceral contributions.

Thirty patients diagnosed with FSS received multi-meridian acupuncture based on individualized pain mapping. Significant improvements in pain reduction, range of motion, and patient-reported outcomes were observed within 6–10 sessions. In several cases, pain shifted along adjacent meridians after initial treatment, supporting the model of dynamic, multi-level visceral involvement.

This approach emphasizes autonomic pattern recognition (sympathetic vs. parasympathetic dominance), temporal pain patterns, and segmental innervation to refine diagnosis and therapy. Integrating anatomical knowledge with traditional energetic systems creates a richer clinical map and offers a promising paradigm for treating conditions previously regarded as purely orthopedic.

We believe that embracing this integrative model aligns with the broader anatomical principle of systemic interconnectivity and invites deeper dialogue between Eastern and Western biomedical thought.

Nurturing the Next Generation: IFAAs PEAP Year of Connection and Growth

Since stepping into our roles as co-chairs of the President's Emergent Anatomists Programme (PEAP) in September 2024, we have been privileged to witness the remarkable strength of a supportive, global community for early-career anatomists.

We follow in the footsteps of Prof Beverly Kramer, founder of the programme, and Dr Carol Hartman and Prof José Ramón Sañudo, immediate past PEAP co-Chairs. Their dedication helped shape PEAP into the platform it is today.

Building on their legacy, our programme continues to open doors to learning, mentorship and collaboration for those stepping into the fascinating world of anatomy.

Over the past year, our work has centered on two things: sharing knowledge and creating spaces for connection.

The monthly webinar series has been at the heart of the first mission. From September 2024 through July 2025, these webinars became a meeting point for knowledge and inspiration. Each speaker gave their time freely, sharing expertise not for personal gain, but to strengthen our community of emerging anatomists.

We are deeply grateful to Dr Ourania Varsou for exploring AI in Scientific Publishing; Ms Mona Al-Khalidi for introducing us to Photogrammetry-generated 3D models; Dr Ignacio Hernandez for addressing the ethical use of Photoshop in anatomy; Prof Olusegun Oyedele for charting global trends in embryology visualization; Prof Helen Nicholson for explaining what the IFAA is and what it does; Emeritus Prof Brenda Claibourne for her guidance on asking for and writing recommendation letters; the inspiring panelists, Dr Evie Vereecke, Dr Ana Paula Benaduce, Ms Desiree Botana Machado and Dr Carolina Smok, of our April Women in Science round table; Prof Geney Gunston and Prof Timothy Pennel for discussing clinical integration in anatomy teaching and research; and Prof Neils Hammer for illuminating the legal framework for body donation in Central Europe.

These sessions have strengthened our community and offered valuable, practical insights for our members, that can be applied in their own teaching, research and professional development. We sincerely thank all our speakers for their contributions.

The second mission – fostering connection – came to life most vividly in Lisbon in July 2025 during the Congress of the International Symposium on Morphological Sciences (ISMS). On Friday the 25th, we hosted our much-

REPORTS

anticipated PEAP networking lunch, where about twenty early-career anatomists gathered, lunch in hand, ready for lively conversation and meaningful exchange.

Following a rotating format, participants met a new senior anatomist every ten minutes – a pace that kept conversations lively, yet meaningful. We were honored to welcome an international and diverse panel of mentors: **Prof Bev Kramer** (South Africa), **Dr Olusegun Oyedele** (Canada), **Prof Helen Nicholson** (New Zealand), **Erin Hutchinson** (South Africa), **Prof Friedrich Paulsen** (Germany), **Dr Shahed Nalla** (South Africa), **Dr Brendon Billings** (South Africa), **Dr Cagatay Barut** (Turkey) and **Dr Jon Cornwall** (New Zealand). Adding an

extra spark to the day, **Dr Jason Organ** (USA) and **Dr Joy Reidenberg** (USA) joined spontaneously, offering their experience and encouragement.

We had an intimate setting which allowed fluid conversation and genuine connections. Many left with not only new contacts but also renewed enthusiasm for their careers.

We are deeply grateful to all the senior anatomists who generously took time out of their conference schedules to participate in our session. Their willingness to share experiences, offer advice and listen attentively made the event a success. We would also like to thank Prof Diogo Pais, President of the ISMS for all his support.

IFAA PEAP networking and mentoring sessions were also held alongside other regional anatomy conferences. At the 50th Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA), hosted by the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa (6th–9th April 2025), a panel discussion on “Addressing Barriers and Opportunities for Emerging Anatomists” was presented by Prof. Beverley Kramer and Prof. Tanya Augustine.

Similarly, during the 8th International Anatomical Science and Cell Biology Conference (IASCBC) and 3rd Malaysian Anatomical Conference (MAAC), organized in collaboration with the Indonesian Anatomical Association (PAAI), a group networking event was facilitated by Prof. Helen Nicholson (New Zealand) and Prof. Stefanie Woodley (New Zealand).

Looking ahead, we will continue to expand learning and mentorship opportunities.

If you would like to learn more about PEAP or join our mailing list, please contact us at IFAA.PEAP@gmail.com.

Isabel and Kutlwano

Isabel Adrados, PhD

Assistant Professor
School of Medicine
University of Complutense of Madrid
iadrados@ucm.es

Kutlwano Xulu, PhD

Senior Lecturer
School of Anatomical Sciences
University of Witwatersrand
Kutlwano.xulu@wits.ac.za

REPORTS



Networking event group.



IFAA President - Prof Helen Nicholson, IFAA immediate past President - Prof Beverly Kramer and PEAP co-Chair – Dr Isabel Adrados.

REPORTS



Image 3: FICSAP Chair - Prof Segun Oyedele and PEAP co-Chair – Dr Isabel Adrados.



Image 4: IFAA PEAP – ISMS Networking Event logo

REPORTS

EVENTS ACROSS THE GLOBE

Cultural Heritage Day in Chile, Museum of Normal Anatomy, 2025

It was a sunny Saturday, May 24th. Two hours before opening, people were already lining up in front of the Institute, which was celebrating its 103rd anniversary. People of all ages—families, professionals, young people, and children—were preparing to enter the Museum of Anatomy, a National Historic Monument since January 20, 2016. More than 30 people—academics, faculty, student assistants, support staff from the National Monuments Council, and security guards—waited for the doors to open.

Groups of 70 people formed and, with enthusiasm and order, entered our facilities.

1. They headed to the anatomical amphitheater, where a classroom presented the history and evolution of anatomy teaching in Chile since its beginning, explaining its location and mentioning cadaveric preservation techniques.
2. They then entered the South Pavilion, where the Body Donation and Preservation Program was explained to them.
3. They proceeded to the North Pavilion, where they were greeted by another 18 graphite tables dedicated to heritage, where various organ preservation techniques were explained and demonstrated.

Finally, they arrived at the Museum's exhibition hall and its collections, which include a situs inversus, wax models, and the papier-mâché anatomical statue of Dr. Auzoux, among others.

Nearly 2,000 people visited us that day. They were able to visit the Anatomy Institute and its Museum, and not only learned about the Organ Donation Program, which encourages donations and future visits from primary and secondary school students in our country—reaching approximately 12,000 annually—but also learned about their history and heritage in a university setting. This constitutes a good strategy for developing this and other initiatives to disseminate the discipline nationwide.



REPORTS

A SUCCESSFUL 11th ASIA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ANATOMISTS (APICA) AND THE 39th (2025) ANNUAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE OF THE CHINESE SOCIETY FOR ANATOMICAL SCIENCES (CSAS) IN GUANGZHOU, CHINA Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences

The 11th Asia-Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (APICA) and the 39th Annual Academic Conference of the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences (CSAS) was successfully held during August 8th-11th, 2025, at the Guangzhou Yuexiu International Conference Center in Guangzhou, China, with the theme of “Proceeding”. The conference brought together over 700 experts and scholars in different fields of anatomy from 18 countries and regions across the Asia-Pacific region and around the world. Participants gathered to discuss and exchange the latest advancements and future directions in anatomical sciences.



The opening ceremony of 11th Asia-Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (APICA) and the 39th Annual Academic Conference of the Chinese Society for Anatomical Sciences (CSAS)

REPORTS

Following the opening ceremony, plenary lectures featured 7 distinguished speakers:

Professor Kwok-Fai So, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences from the Jinan University, China; Professor Helen Nicholson, President of IFAA from the University of Otago, New Zealand; Professor Wojciech Pawlina from the Mayo Clinic, USA; Professor Sumio Terada, President of the Japanese Association of Anatomist from the Institute of Science Tokyo, Japan; Professor Han-Sung Jung, President of the Korean Association of Anatomists from the Yonsei University College of Dentistry, South Korea; Professor Tianzi Jiang, Foreign Academician of the Academia Europaea from the Institute of Automation of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, China; and Professor Siti Nurma Hanim Hadie, President of the Malaysian Anatomical Association, from the School of Medical Sciences Health Campus, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia. These experts delivered outstanding presentations on cutting-edge topics in different anatomical fields, including optic nerve regeneration, epithelial cell plasticity, brain network mapping, anatomical education in the artificial Intelligence (AI) digital era, and the professional development of anatomists. During the conference, Professor Shizhen Zhong, a 101-year-old Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and a professor at Southern Medical University, attended the event in person and delivered a speech.



President of APICA 2025 and CSAS, Professor Yun-Qing Li (top, left) gives an inaugural address. President of IFAA, Professor Helen Nicholson (top, right) gives an opening speech and delivers a plenary lecture. Professor Wojciech Pawlina (bottom, left) delivers a plenary lecture. Prof. Shizhen Zhong (bottom, right), 101 years old Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering gives an inaugural address.

The conference featured parallel sessions and organized symposiums, each focusing on different aspects of anatomy, aiming to promote interdisciplinary exchange and collaboration. The 11th APICA conference hosted 26 podiums with 118 oral presentations, and 2 Postgraduate Forum with 16 students reported. The 39th CSAS Annual Academic Conference held 32 sessions with 140 oral presentations. 128 academic papers were presented as posters. Additionally, 14 companies and 7 academic journals exhibited their products and journals. The conference sessions covered 29 anatomical fields, including anthropology, human and digital anatomy, clinical anatomy, histology and embryology, stem cells and developmental biology, neurobiology, and cancer research, etc. The Postgraduate Forum and other symposiums encouraged and supported young scholars in presenting

REPORTS

their research results. This not only helps cultivate the next generation of scientific researchers but also provides with a valuable platform for exchange.



Each symposium or podium is unusually brilliant, a warm place for international academic exchange and friendship enhancement

The 11th APICA International Advisory/Executive Committee and representatives of anatomical societies from across the Asia-Pacific region joint meeting was held at 12:30-13:30 PM on August 9. Two anatomical societies applied to host the 12th APICA Conference. After intense competition and a voting process, the Japanese Association of Anatomists (JAA) was awarded the hosting rights for the 12th APICA conference, to be held in Okayama, in 2027.



The 11th APICA international advisory/Executive Committee members and representatives of anatomical societies from the Asia-Pacific region.

REPORTS

Since the first APICA conference was founded in Seoul, South Korea in 1996, nearly 30 years have passed. Despite the ever-changing world situation and severe global pandemics, APICA has always united colleagues in the anatomy field in the Asia-Pacific region to move forward! The 11th APICA and the 39th Annual Academic Conference of CSAS never forget the original intention and keep in mind the mission, so achieved complete success through the joint efforts of all parties. It was not only an academic feast in the field of anatomy but also an important opportunity to drive the advancement of the discipline. We look forward to reuniting in the near future to continue writing a new chapter in the development of anatomy. With Japanese Association of Anatomists securing the hosting rights for the 12th APICA conference in 2027, we anticipate witnessing more exciting research achievements and academic exchanges at future conferences. We are ensuring that APICA 2027 will become an equally successful and meaningful occasion for all participants across the Asia-Pacific region.



Some of delegate of CSAS take part in the first APICA conference in Seoul, South Korea in 1996 (right 1, Professor Chang-Man Zhou, Peking University Health Science Center, Beijing China)



Every event at the conference is a highlight moment for gathering new and old friends, the moment of welcome reception.

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

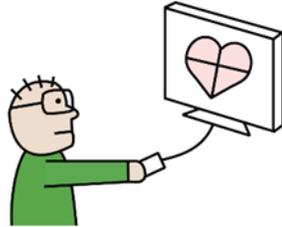
Amanda Dutton

The use of donors as part of my degree has been an incredibly powerful and enriching experience. This hands-on opportunity has significantly expanded my anatomical knowledge beyond the capabilities of a textbook as I can learn in a real-life context. I still vividly remember how eye opening the very first dissection was. I felt an immense sense of privilege to see the inner workings of the human body first hand. Observing how muscles, nerves and vessels are positioned in relation to one another, in situ, elevated my understanding. I was able to trace nerves and vessels to their point of origin and visualise how muscle attach to specific bony features. The process of actively searching for and identifying specific anatomical structures was far more captivating than passive learning. As a result, I absorbed and retained more information. I also found it fascinating to observe anatomical variations between donors such as differences in organ size and the presence of pathological changes including tumours and sclerosis. This added to my curiosity about the way the human body functions. Each session in the anatomy centre was highly collaborative, strengthening my pronunciation and memorisation of key terms. Working in a dissection team encouraged the use of teamwork and communication skills, as we collaborated to explore and identify structures, taught in the previous lecture. Additionally, this experience provoked a strong sense of empathy. Each donor represented a life that was lived, someone who had relationships, emotions, and experiences. I feel incredibly fortunate that these donors gave their consent to allow students, such as myself, to benefit from such a practical approach to learning.

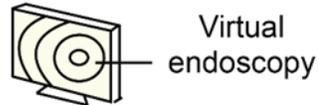
CARTOON STRIPS

It is an artwork by Min Suk Chung on display in the Silent Mentors Remembrance Room (which was conceptualized by George Yip, Boon Huat Bay), Department of Anatomy, National University of Singapore.

Virtual dissection is...

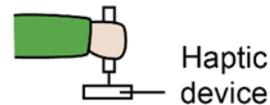


Three-dimensional images of structures are selected, rotated, and sectioned repeatedly.



Virtual endoscopy

What we cannot see from the actual dissection is seen.



Haptic device

The resistance of each tissue is felt.

The virtual dissection can aid the actual dissection, but cannot replace it.

Visible Korean



I have researched on virtual dissection to know its limitation.

Therefore, cadavers for dissection as well as medical school building are needed now and forever.



We could get help from computer, but we should not rely on it.

We thank the donors for their altruism and valuable contributions, and their family for their support.



Whole body donors are silent honourable mentors!

CARTOON STRIPS

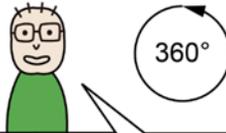
Anatomy Association of Thailand (AAT) (1/2)

Min Suk CHUNG
(anatomy.co.kr)

Anatomy Association of Thailand (AAT) annually holds international conference in May.



It is extraordinary in Asia that a domestic conference of anatomists has developed into the international conference.



The theme of AAT 2026 is Anatomy 360 degree.

As a Korean anatomist, I attended the conference twice to be satisfied as follows.



First, I could learn from the diverse keynote speakers and over 200 Thai anatomists.

PARTICIPANTS

Show 1,000 entries

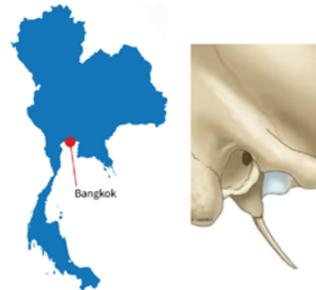
No	Code	Title	Name
225	A0225	Assist.Prof.	Phanthip Chaweeborisuit
224	A0224	Dr.	Thanasup Gonmanee
223	A0223	Dr.	Ingo Späth

Recently, Thai anatomy has considerably improved in quality together with Thai economy.



Thailand has been highly industrialized.

Thai map resembles the temporal bone and its styloid process.



Bangkok is the external acoustic meatus.



That seems to be why Thai anatomists listen carefully to improve.

Second, I could be comfortable with the warm hospitality and fluent English of Thai anatomists.

The hospitality includes satisfactory food and drink.



In the subtropical Thailand, people do not worry about food, clothing, and shelter.

That might cause the hospitality of Thai anatomists.



CARTOON STRIPS

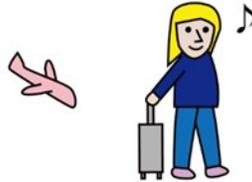
Anatomy Association of Thailand (AAT) (2/2)

Min Suk CHUNG
(anatomy.co.kr)

Indeed, Thai anatomists are equipped with international mindset and resultant fluent English.



Third, I could enjoy traveling in Thailand.



What bring lots of European and American tourists to Thailand in spite of long distance?

It must be the world-class attractions and touring infrastructures of Thailand.



Thai map also resembles the elephant and its nose.



The elephant is the symbol of Thai tourism.

Many Buddhist temples in Thailand are inspiring.

Do not miss the red, green, blue in the temple decoration.

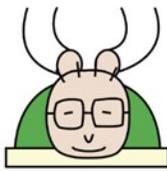


Thai massage can be taken with a reasonable price.



It must be taken by anatomists reviewing surface anatomy.

Not only to touch but also to be touched is for surface anatomy.



I can name my back muscles to be touched.

Do you have any reason not to attend the international conference of AAT?



Smash the reason by AAT (Armored Assault Tank) in Star Wars.

Keep an eye on the homepage.

anatomythailand.org/conference



The conference in May, 2026 will be announced there.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANATOMY, 27th AUGUST 2025

JOIN US AT THE

2025 Virtual International Festival of Anatomy

Anatomy in Uncertain Times

SAVE THE DATES

SHARE
#VIFA

JOIN THE DISCUSSION

REGISTER NOW!

<https://tinyurl.com/VIFA2025>

2025 Dates	UTC	Topic
1 Tuesday, 27 August	21:00	Panel Discussion & Facilitated Networking AI, Assessment and Learning Anatomy
2 Thursday, 25 September	8:00	Panel Discussion & Workshop Faculty Development in a Digital Age
3 Wednesday, 15 October	8:00	WORLD ANATOMY DAY & Presentations Anatomy for Everyone - Inclusive Education
4 Tuesday, 18 November	22:00	Keynote, Presentations & Networking Digital Technology and Engaging Students
5 Thursday, 4 December 2025	TBA	Keynote, Panel, Workshop Anatomy Education as Cultural Bridge

Quick Global Time Reference			
UTC	21:00	8:00	22:00
Mumbai	2.30 +1 day	13:30	3.30 +1 day
Singapore	5:00 +1 day	16:00	6:00 +1 day
Seoul	6:00 +1 day	17:00	7:00 +1 day
Sydney	7:00 +1 day	19:00	8:00 +1 day
London	22:00	9:00	22:00
Cape Town	23:00	10:00	22:00
New York	17:00	4:00	17:00
São Paulo	18:00	5:00	19:00

Abstract Submissions Open 27th August to 15th September

An initiative of the *Federative International Programme for Anatomical Education* | FIPAE

UPCOMING EVENTS

WORLD CONGRESS OF CLINICAL ANATOMISTS AND
14th ANNUAL MEETING OF SOCA (SOCACON) – 2nd TO 4th APRIL 2026



World Congress of Clinical Anatomists &
14TH ANNUAL MEETING OF SOCA
SOCACON



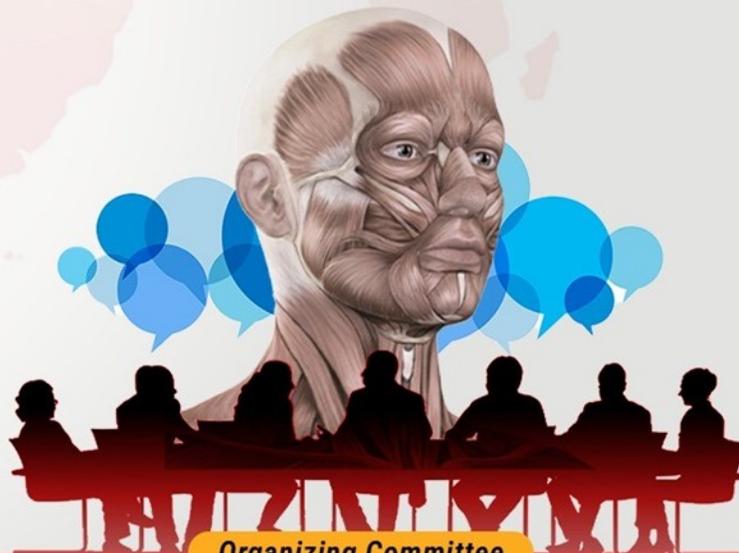
2nd to 4th April, 2026

2026

Save The Date

Theme

“Integrating Clinical Anatomy with Imaging &
Artificial Intelligence for the Next Generation”



Organizing Committee

World Congress of Clinical Anatomists & SOCACON 2026
National Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (NIMS), Jaipur



National Institute of Medical Sciences &
Research (NIMS), Jaipur, Rajasthan



socacon2026@gmail.com



+91-9760313222

UPCOMING EVENTS



World Congress of Clinical Anatomists & 14th Annual Meeting of SOCA (SOCACON 2026)

Venue:

National Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (NIMS), Jaipur, Rajasthan

1st Announcement

Highlights of the Congress

- ▶ Keynote addresses by internationally acclaimed experts
- ▶ Scientific sessions, symposia, and panel discussions
- ▶ Skill-enhancing workshops and hands-on demonstrations
- ▶ Oral and poster presentations for faculty and young researchers
- ▶ Cultural evenings and heritage experiences

Why Attend?

- ▶ Engage with the leading minds of the world in clinical anatomy and medical education
- ▶ Gain insights into the latest advancements and research
- ▶ Participate in skill-building workshops
- ▶ Present your research and network with peers
- ▶ Experience the majestic heritage and hospitality of Rajasthan

Organizing Committee

World Congress of Clinical Anatomists & SOCACON 2026
National Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (NIMS), Jaipur

🌐 socacon2026@gmail.com

📞 +91-9760313222

UPCOMING EVENTS



IFAA 2026 | 22nd CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF ANATOMISTS



Congress News and Call for Symposia Proposals

Dear Anatomy Colleagues and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the 22nd Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists -IFAA2026 - to be held in Melbourne, Australia from the 13th-16th August 2026.

The subject of this Congress is **Anatomy for Everyone**, and it is indeed our hope that anatomists, as well as those with strong ties to anatomy, will attend and be stimulated by a first class scientific program, and by engaging with colleagues from across the world. The core themes of this Congress are:

- Anatomical Sciences Education
- Surgical and Clinical Anatomy
- Imaging Anatomy
- Neuroscience and Cell Biology
- Ethics and Law
- *Anatomy for Everyone*, including Biological and Forensic Anthropology, Histology, Developmental Anatomy/ Embryology

Each theme will include an exciting selection of bespoke symposia which will form the backbone of a stimulating programme featuring world experts and emerging thinkers. The Congress will also feature podium and poster presentations highlighting the cutting-edge research and education practices from diverse anatomy specialties. We are particularly pleased to offer numerous opportunities for early career academics throughout the Congress, including IFAA sponsorship to attend and present, alongside valuable networking possibilities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are some news highlights:

- Stay up to date with the Congress information, please sign up to receive our newsletters at <https://ifaa2026.org/en-AU>
Register for the congress at access early bird rates at <https://ifaa2026.org/en-AU/pages/registration/registration>
- *** The Call for Symposia Proposals is now open. Access information and submit a proposal at <https://ifaa2026.org/en-AU/pages/program/call-for-symposia>
- Enter our Koala competition to win free registration at <https://ifaa2026.org/en-AU/pages/destination/koala-competition>

We look forward to seeing you in Melbourne and encourage you to mark your diaries for the 13th to the 16th of August 2026. Together, we will make IFAA 2026 a memorable event.

Warm regards,
Professors Nalini Pather & Quentin Fogg
IFAA 2026 Congress Chairs



SPRINGER NATURE

 Springer

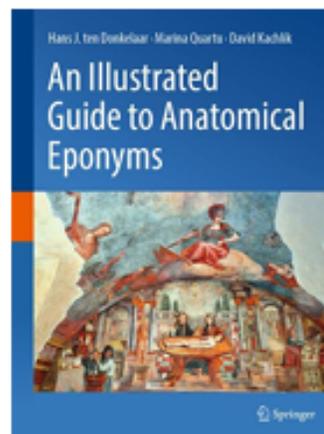
Hans J. ten Donkelaar, Marina Quartu, David Kadlík, Veronika Němcová, Ondřej Naříka, Michael Pretterklieber, Alberto Caggiati, Johannes R.M. Cruysberg, Jiří Šedy, Vedat Toprakal, Ad Gruter

An Illustrated Guide to Anatomical Eponyms

Extensively discusses and illustrates anatomical eponyms

Highlights anatomical eponyms in clinical disciplines

Combines biographical data with illustrations on eponyms



© 2025



Get 20% off with this code: **SPRAUT**

Available on Springer Nature Link



[link.springer.com/book/
9783031916649](https://link.springer.com/book/9783031916649)

Please note that promotional coupons are only valid for English-language Springer, Apress, and Palgrave Macmillan books & eBooks and are redeemable on link.springer.com only. Titles affected by fixed book price laws, forthcoming titles and titles temporarily not available on Springer Nature Link are excluded from promotions, as are reference works, handbooks, encyclopedias, subscriptions, or bulk purchases. The currency in which your order will be invoiced depends on the billing address associated with the payment method used, not necessarily your home currency. Regional VAT/tax may apply. Promotional prices may change due to exchange rates. Promotions are valid for individual customers only. Book fairs, book distributors, and institutions such as libraries and corporations please visit springernature.com/contact-us. Promotions do not work in combination with other discounts or gift cards.

