

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF ANATOMISTS



PLEXUS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF ANATOMISTS

Special Issue, November 2016



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Cover picture (courtesy of Friedrich Paulsen) with names from left to right, Stefan Pryzborsky, Ceri Davies, Susana Biasutto, Wojciech Pawlina, Beverly Kramer, Andreas Winkelmann, Richard Drake, Friedrich Paulsen, Yunqing Li, Erdogan Sendimir, Marios Loukas, Changman Zhou, Bernard Moxham.

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to this extra edition of Plexus. The IFAA Executive Committee met at the end of September 2016 and we wanted to share with you some of the deliberations. In particular the Executive discussed how there can be better engagement with its members in order to grow the discipline of Anatomy internationally. A variety of recommendations were made and these include: holding 2 IFAA Congresses in a five-year period, providing clarity around the duties of member Associations and also nominating one of the IFAA Vice Presidents to have specific responsibilities for communications with member Associations. Referendum documents have recently been sent to all member Associations addressing these recommendations and we have included these papers in this edition of Plexus for your information. To maintain momentum and progress activity the IFAA Executive will from now on meet twice a year.

The Executive also considered how best to facilitate communication with, and between, its members. Currently the main channels of communication are the website and the 2 editions of Plexus per year. It is sometimes a struggle to obtain articles for Plexus and we wonder if it is providing the information members want, and if it is in the best format. We would welcome your feedback and will be sending out an electronic survey to member associations in the next few weeks. The survey will also be available via the IFAA website but if you would prefer to send us your thoughts by email, please do (helen.nicholson@otago.ac.nz).

In the last year the Executive Committee has received 3 new applications for membership from the Taiwanese Association of Anatomists, Anatomical Society of Ethiopia and the Colombian Association of Morphology. We welcome new members so please help in bringing new societies into the IFAA, and if your society has been a member in the past please consider rejoining.

The next IFAA Executive meeting is planned for January 2017 and we will update you on progress in the February edition of Plexus.

Best wishes
Helen

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Feedback from the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) Executive meeting held in Göttingen, Germany in September 2016

At the recent meeting of the IFAA Executive held in Göttingen, Germany in September, the Committee developed a number of proposals to enhance the interaction of member Associations with the IFAA and *vice versa*. As a great admirer of epithelio-mesenchymal interactions and the **reciprocal interactions** that take place between these tissues during development, I like to think of the interactions between the member Associations and the IFAA in the same way - as reciprocal interactions!



As it was felt that it is important that international anatomists belonging to the IFAA gather more often for discussion and debate, the Executive Committee has agreed that there shall be two Federative International Congresses during the 5-year term of office of the Executive Committee.

In addition, in order to ask member Associations to engage more regularly with the IFAA, the member Associations are being asked to:

1. Provide information concerning the Association's President (or equivalent), Treasurer (or equivalent), and delegates to the IFAA so that information residing with the IFAA is up-to-date. It would be preferable if each Association could provide a generic email address for the member Association, so that as the Executive Officers change over time, it would still be possible for the IFAA to contact the Association.
2. Respond to official requests from the IFAA's Federative International Programmes and Committees – for example, in the review of the Terminologies or contributions to core syllabi.
3. Have on the business agenda of the Association, 'International Affairs' that include matters relating to the IFAA and send suggestions/requests from their Association for the IFAA to debate/consider/distribute.

We thus hope that there will be a better flow of information, and growing of the discipline of anatomy, through the reciprocal interactions between the member Associations and the IFAA.

Please feel free to raise any suggestions for the IFAA either through your own Executive Committee or directly with me.

With warm anatomical greeting,

Professor Bev Kramer
President: International Federation of Associations of Anatomists
Beverley.kramer@wits.ac.za

News from the IFAA Executive Committee



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF ASSOCIATIONS OF ANATOMISTS

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13.10.2016

International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA)

Items for the attention of Member Societies from the IFAA Executive Committee meeting held in Göttingen, Germany in September 2016

At the second meeting of the IFAA Executive Committee (period: 2014-2019), it was agreed that a number of matters which arose during discussion regarding the Constitution should be directed to member Associations for a **referendum**. As the General Assembly and all voting Societies will only meet again in 2019 at the next IFAA Congress, and in order for the IFAA to move forward constantly and to keep abreast of matters, we wish to ask member Associations to consider and vote on a number of items. The following article in the Constitution allows for such a referendum:

Article 8: 4. The representatives may be contacted by the Secretary-General, acting on behalf of the Executive Committee, to vote on policy issues, including Constitutional matters (in line with Article 29). In such cases, the representatives are required to consult with their Association in order to decide its vote.

Item 1. General Assembly

The IFAA Executive wishes to have constant engagement with its member associations in order to consolidate and grow the discipline of anatomy internationally. Thus, for the “visibility” and scientific credibility of the IFAA, it was decided to have two IFAA Congresses in a five-year period. Although this is not a constitutional issue, there are consequences to the IFAA Constitution relating to the organisation of the General assemblies at these two meetings.

The proposed changes are stated below and you are kindly asked by the Executive Committee to approve these procedural matters. In essence, although there will be two General Assembly meetings in the five-year period, only the General Assembly meeting at the Congress at the end of the five-year period will include in its agenda the election of IFAA officers and the sites of the next Congresses. This arrangement ensures that the IFAA officers have their full five-year term of office. The Constitution would thus be changed to read:

Article 24

- (1) There shall be two Federative International Congresses during the 5-year term of office of the Executive Committee. At each of these Congresses, there shall be a meeting of the General Assembly of the IFAA. Only at the General Assembly meeting at the Congress marking the termination of the 5-year term of office of the Executive Committee shall there be election of officers and election of the venues for the Federative International Congresses.



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- (2) Applicants to organize a Federative International Congress shall mail their proposal, including the site, date and name of the President to the Secretary-General, at least three months before the beginning of the Congress that marks the termination of the 5-year period of office of the Executive Committee.

Item 2. Duties of member Associations

Once again, in order to stimulate two-way engagement and interaction between the IFAA Executive and its member Associations and to consolidate and develop the research, education and other facets of the discipline of anatomy and the Federation, the IFAA would like to define the duties of its member Associations as follows:

Article 5:

- (4) The duties of a member association of the IFAA that define an Association's engagement with the IFAA include:
- (a) Payment of fees as required in Article 5 (2).
 - (b) Providing information concerning the Association's President (or equivalent), Treasurer (or equivalent), and delegates to the IFAA.
 - (c) Responding to official requests from members of the IFAA Executive Committee.
 - (d) Responding to official requests from the IFAA's Federative International Programmes and Committees
 - (e) Participating in IFAA referenda.
 - (f) Providing evidence that the Association's Committee of Management (or equivalent) has, on its business agenda, 'International Affairs' that include matters relating to the IFAA.

Item 3. Duties of Vice-President

The IFAA Executive also requested that the duties of one of the Vice Presidents be clearly defined in order to, once again, encourage interaction between the IFAA Executive and its member Associations.

Thus the change to the Constitution would then read:

Article 15 (2):

The duties of a Vice-President shall be:





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(a) To carry out the functions of the President in her/his absence in line with Article 15(1) and Article 23.

Following approval from the Executive Committee relating to ONE of the Vice-Presidents, to be charged with matters relating to communications between the IFAA (including its Executive Committee) and member Associations. This responsibility will be assisted by ONE of the Secretaries of the Executive Committee as outlined in Article 17.

Please return the following ballot by **November 30th, 2016** to Friedrich Paulsen, Secretary General of the IFAA.

Email: friedrich.paulsen@fau.de





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IFAA Referendum on three items within the Constitution: October 2016

Please complete this form by placing a tick in one of the two columns.

Ballot

Item	Agree	Do not Agree
(1) Only at the General Assembly meeting at the Congress marking the termination of the 5 year term of office of the Executive Committee shall there be election of officers and election of the venues for the Federative International Congresses		
(2) Definition of duties of member Associations		
(3) Definition of a Vice_President's duties		

Member Society:

(please add name of Society)

Name of member completing referendum form:

Signature of above member:

Email address:

Name of President of the Society:

Signature of President of Society:

We attest that the Executive/Council of our Society has discussed the above matters and agreed to the completion of this form

Yes/No

Professor Friedrich Paulsen,
IFAA Secretary General

Report from the Federative International Programme for Anatomical Education (FIPAE)

Federative International Programme for Anatomical Education (FIPAE) 2015 Istanbul Report

1. In 2010, the new organization structure for FIPAE was approved by IFAA Executive Board. Dr. Wojciech Pawlina from Mayo Clinic, USA was elected Chair of the Committee and was reelected for his second term at the 2014 IFAA meeting in Beijing. Committee has 3 subcommittees:
 - a. Curriculum/Topics coordinated by Prof Stephen McHanwell from Newcastle, UK.
 - b. Education techniques and Innovations coordinated by Prof Hee-Jin Kim from Seoul, Korea.
 - c. Faculty/Faculty development coordinated by Prof Jennifer McBride from Cleveland Clinic, USA.
 - d. Each committee has 3 representatives from various countries including Mexico, Germany, Singapore, Brazil, UK, Zambia, Turkey, Peoples' Republic of China, and Australia.
2. Coordinators of FIPAE subcommittees have established a few contacts with representatives of IFAA member societies. However working interactions are very difficult to established and maintain; due to lack of education representatives (many societies are too small and do not have education committees), frequent personnel changes in societies leadership, as well as the different needs and goals of the societies.
3. As reported at the Beijing meeting, FIPAE developed a needs-assessment questionnaire and distributed to the education representative of the IFAA member societies (low response rate). Most of the associations had specific local needs that included access to education materials, lectures, examination questions, published papers on anatomical education topics, and need for examples of curricular structures from other countries. Some of these requests are difficult to provide due to copyright issues and intellectual property restrictions.
4. When a specific goal was applied (IFAA meeting in Beijing), FIPAE established fruitful collaboration with Chinese colleagues to develop a very successful education program for that meeting. During the meeting, the education sessions were the most attended sessions and were inclusive to encompass representatives from anatomical associations from different parts of the world.
5. Our continuous goals are to increase visibility of FIPAE at different anatomical meetings attended by committee members, and develop an education section (website) on the IFAA webpages with appropriate links to useful educational materials.

6. To assure active and productive work of the FIPAE committee, few personnel changes to the existing structure of the committee will be necessary in its second term. Individuals with strong credential willingness to work for the committee are being solicited at national/international anatomy meetings. A list of new potential members will be provided to the executive committee for final approval in 2016.
7. In consultation with Prof Moxham who published a position paper in the Anatomical Sciences Education, as well as recently published Head and Neck core curriculum paper in Clinical Anatomy, I am proposing to add a fourth standing subcommittee to FIPAE on core curriculum. IFAA would provide the venue for publishing core curricula in anatomical discipline on IFAA website. I would propose that Prof Moxham will be in charge of this subcommittee to coordinate all activities associated with the core curriculum. This subcommittee would report to the chair of FIPAE. This would create greater visibility for IFAA in general and spark the interest in obtaining core curricula direction for many anatomical sciences courses world-wide.

Respectfully submitted by
Professor Wojceich Pawlina, M.D.
 Chair of FIPAE

Core Syllabus Survey	<i>We want your feedback!</i>
<p>The IFAA, through its Federative International Programme for Anatomical Education (FIPAE), is in the process for developing core syllabuses for teaching anatomy in medicine and allied health programs. This project is being steered by Professor Bernard Moxham, the Immediate Past President of the IFAA, and Associate Professor Nalini Pather.</p> <p>The process for the development of these syllabuses is outlined in the paper published in Anatomical Sciences Education (Moxham et al., 2014, Anatomical Sciences Education).</p> <p>Below is a list of the core syllabuses that have already been published. We invite you to review the proposed core syllabuses already published, and to provide us with feedback for each of the syllabuses by completing this short Survey Form. If you have any queries regarding this, please email Nalini Pather (n.pather@unsw.edu.au).</p> <p>PUBLISHED SYLLABUSES FOR COMMENT</p> <p>Medicine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Head and Neck: Tubbs et al., 2014, Clinical Anatomy 2. Neuroanatomy: Moxham et al., 2015, Clinical Anatomy <p>The IFAA would be glad to receive formal responses from member associations/societies (perhaps through their educational committees), as well as from individual anatomists, educationalists and clinicians</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Bernard Moxham Emeritus Professor of Anatomy, Cardiff University Immediate Past President of the IFAA</p> <p>Nalini Pather Associate Professor, UNSW Australia</p> </div>	

Update on Federative International Programme for Anatomical Terminology (FIPAT)

REPORT from FIPAT CHAIR

PROGRESS

The **Agenda** for developments in 2014 – 2015 was set at the FIPAT meeting in Beijing

Objective 1: to have the following FIPATs, namely, Terminologia Anatomica [TA], Terminologia Histologica [TH], Terminologia Embryologica [TE], Terminologia Anthropologica [TAnth] and Terminologia Odontologica [TO] revised, and Terminologia Neuroanatomica [TNA] fully drawn up, with drafts prepared, ready for review at the Istanbul meeting.

Summary of progress [Full details of progress made in the following terminologies will be discussed in relation to each of the working group presentations later in the Agenda]:

Terminologia Anatomica has been updated by the working group, particular emphasis having been given to including clinical anatomical terms. [*Clinical anatomical term = a term relating to a morphological entity which is used in one or more clinical disciplines, but which is not included in FIPAT TA.*]

- Extensive modifications were made in cardiac terminology, based on the position of structures in the adult heart.
- Each member was responsible for reviewing and proposing a particular set of revisions to the group.
- Tom Gest was responsible for collating, formatting and maintaining the terms; he provided overview with Stephen Carmichael and Shane Tubbs.
- Each member enlisted advisors to help with specific terminology.
- In view of his central role, Tom Gest is recommended for nomination as Secretary of the TA working group.
- After several iterations, the final document was distributed to the coordinators of the other Working Groups also to the Chair and the Secretary.

Terminologia Histologica:

- A list of proposed changes is being worked on by the TH group.
- By November 2015 it is projected that a workable database will be available for review by FIPAT.
- This database will be compatible with TA in anticipation of a possible merger.
- Perhaps TH could (also) continue as a "stand alone" database.

Terminologia Embryologica was thoroughly updated by the working group. There was extensive input from external consultants and experts. Classes of new terms introduced included those applying to:

- entities from the stem cell field,
- terms relating to congenital anomalies [a key clinical component of TE],
- terms which had been omitted from the published version of TE,
- sets of terms relating to the developing CNS; this section was extensively revised.

Terminologia Anthropologica and **Terminologia Odontologica**: Both documents were compiled during the course of 2013 and the beginning of 2014 and were then placed on the IFAA Website for comment. However, little response was received. Following review by an anthropologist of international standing, both were revised. The objective is to have them both further reviewed by senior anthropologists, possibly through an anthropological society of standing. This is regarded as necessary to complete the refinement of the documents. The European Anthropological Association has been requested to provide this.

Terminologia Neuroanatomica was energetically developed as a modification of the CNS and PNS sections of TA. Now it stands alone.

- The anatomical and histological terms for the CNS and PNS are now provisionally merged. A similar objective for the Organa Sensuum is currently under discussion with the relevant working groups.
- The terminologies for the CNS and PNS were extensively revised, updated and combined into two main files (TNA - CNS and TNA - PNS). Preliminary versions of the Hierarchy and of these files were circulated to the working group coordinators for comments. The final versions for Istanbul were sent to the co-ordinators of the other WGs and to the FIPAT Secretary, for further distribution within FIPAT.

Terminologia Orobiologica was established at Beijing as a new Terminology which is concerned with the oral cavity, for the benefit of oral biologists and the dental profession. The membership of the working group has been identified and an Action Plan has been approved by the group. The group has commenced looking at possible terms alphabetically and it is intended to complete the initial list by the beginning of October 2015. It was resolved, in the first instance, to consider terms relating to the anatomy, histology and development of the oral cavity (i.e. to develop a *Terminologia Oroanatomica*).

WGInfo [see *Appendix* for full report]: Numerous contacts have taken place between Pierre Sprumont and Paul Gobée about collaboration of FIPAT with AnatomicalTerms.Info. Also, periodic telephone conferences have been organised by AACAT-CAT to investigate the possibility of collaborative (FIPAT and ATI/AACA-CAT) development of databases. The draft of a NEW hierarchical tree has been posted, and is currently being developed on the Restricted Zone of Fribourg web site. A set of Term Categories is proposed: *Official term*, consisting of 2 unique parts, an automatically attributed *identification number* and a *Latin name*; *Synonyms* in Latin and equivalents in other languages; *Related terms* [see *Appendix*]; *Candidate term* - a unique Latin name for an entity, either as a replacement for a previously named entity or for an entity being proposed for recognition.

Objective 2: Explore the possibility of merging TA with TH:

Little definitive information on movement towards the **merger** of TA and TH is to hand as yet. However, this development will be most appropriate once TH has been thoroughly revised. The value of such a merger needs further discussion. Note: anatomical and histological terminologies have tentatively been merged in the TNA section, for both CNS and PNS.

During the year a **Latin Subcommittee** [LSC] of FIPAT was set up, the membership being: P Sprumont, A Riva, P Neumann, J Holmes, J Fraher [Chair]. Its brief is to help the individual working groups in relation to all aspects of Latin translation. A major task executed was a review of the Latin translations of TA, TNA and TE. In addition, specific matters were considered, and will be referred to in the report of the LSC.

FIPAT Protocol

To optimise sectional activities and intercommunication, the traditional best practice in relation the production, development and/or modification of a typical FIPAT document was formally set out. This is especially important because, while substantial parts of working group activities take place in parallel, inter-group communication is essential at certain stages in the development of each section. **Protocol:**

1. The primary Working Group [WG] produces a draft through internal [or other] communication.
2. The co-ordinator circulates it to experts outside of the WG if considered necessary.
3. Once the final WG draft is produced, it is circulated to the co-ordinators of the other FIPAT groups and to the FIPAT Chair* for consideration.
4. The co-ordinator of each WG sends feedback to the coordinator of the primary WG.
5. Following any modification, the document is circulated to all FIPAT members for consideration and discussion at a convened meeting. If it is considered satisfactory, an appropriate recommendation is made to the IFAA Executive, specifically, that it be placed on the IFAA website as the official FIPAT version. Alternatively the recommendation may be for revision or rejection.
6. The document is then circulated to member societies for comment and feedback

Website availability enables feedback from individuals, societies and through publications. This allows continual iteration.

*: The FIPAT Chair is the final arbiter, but needs to see the document only at step 3 and subsequently.

COMMENTS

International Nature of IFAA/FIPAT: It is really important that membership of and participation in FIPAT fully reflect its worldwide nature. The current position is relatively satisfactory. For instance, participation from China at and since the Beijing meeting is to be greatly welcomed, as is the recent publication of a Russian translation of TE, as well as Russian participation in the revision of TE and in the establishment of *Terminologia Orobiologica*. South American participation, or more precisely the lack of it, causes concern. Rolando Cruz attended the Beijing meeting. However subsequent attempts to expand FIPAT's links to the region have been unproductive. This is disappointing, as there is an active terminology group there.

J Fraher delivered a lecture to the American Association of Clinical Anatomists in June. It was entitled *Towards a Universal Anatomical Terminology for the Health Sciences* and dealt with the challenges and opportunities for FIPAT. The central theme was the need for Anatomy in general and anatomical terminology in particular to underpin communication within and between health science disciplines.

The development of new *Terminologiae*, such as *T Orobologica* / *T Oroanatomica* is to be welcomed. The eventual objective is to have all sections combined in a single database, which will facilitate easy cross-referencing.

The value of face-to-face meetings every 1 1/2 to 2 years is fully accepted. However, difficulty in obtaining travel funding continues to be a problem for many members, including restricting the ability to attend meetings.

POLICY*

There is a need for a universally accepted anatomical terminology across the health sciences. An authoritative, rigorous system with a comprehensive database of "neutral" Latin terms is fundamental to effective communication. This depends on a precise, common vocabulary, which is simple to use and encompasses pure and applied [clinical and basic scientific] aspects of Anatomy. IFAA/FIPAT must play a key role in providing this. While standardised English is extending beyond the English-speaking world and becoming the *lingua franca* of biomedical science, account must be taken of the fact that clinical practice still uses, and will continue to use, national or regional languages.

In realising this aim, there are obstacles to be overcome. For example,

- FIPAT terminologies are not fully comprehensive. [This is the *incompleteness problem*. However, no system of ontologies is ever complete. The bigger it is the less likely is this to be so. Nevertheless, the comprehensiveness of FIPAT can be considerably enhanced.]
- Furthermore, while TA, TH and TE, for example, specify the official term, there are commonly synonyms for a particular entity. This difficulty can be resolved through prioritisation and cross-links between, for example, TA in its Informatics format and other systems of terminology, such as *AnatomicalTerminology.info*.
- The continual generation of new terms in areas of clinical practice and of anatomical science such as neuroscience and embryology needs to be responded to.
- The fact that a given entity may have different names in TA and in a particular clinical discipline [*terminological drift*] needs to be addressed.
- Also, some entities lacking names in TA have been given them in clinical fields such as imaging, neurosurgery and vascular surgery.
- Corresponding challenges arise for TE in relation to areas such as *in vitro* fertilisation, stem cell biology, neuroscience and congenital anomalies.

Such disparities can be resolved through constructive interaction between anatomists and, e.g., clinicians, embryologists and neuroscientists. Regular updating of terminologies on the FIPAT/IFAA website will enable feedback and continual incorporation of new and refined terms as well as exchange of anatomical [FIPAT] and clinical anatomical terms.

Collaboration, in at least two ways, is central in facilitating this. One entails strong input into working groups from clinical anatomists and anatomically-interested clinicians. To optimise efficiency, disciplines should be dealt with *seriatim* and workloads will need to be reasonable. A second consists in collaboration between FIPAT and AnatomicalTerms.Info (ATI). Pierre Sprumont will give a full report under a specific Agenda item.

PROPOSALS

Proposal 1: There has been a proposal [from HtD] to consider establishing an **Illustrated Terminology**, in the first instance in relation to TNA. This needs to be discussed in detail by FIPAT/IFAA. A number of questions need to be addressed by the meetings, including intellectual property, copyright [of terms and of images], mode of publication [hard copy or web publication], funding and ownership.

Proposal 2: What about a **History of Anatomical Terminology** section? Experience of the Vesalius commemorations alone confirmed the confused, even chaotic, state of anatomical terminology from the 16th century up to the moves which resulted in the establishment of the BNA in the late 19th. Clearly, this enterprise must cover the period from Antiquity to the present. It would be a very substantial task indeed. Is it appropriate for FIPAT to undertake such an enterprise?

AWARENESS and PUBLICITY; need to enhance the profile of FIPAT:

FIPAT contains the official International standard set of human anatomical terminologies, and by virtue of this it needs to take the lead in terminology development.

Once the revised versions of TA, TE, TH and TNA have been finalised there must be a **high profile launch with wide publicity** to inform the Health sciences community worldwide about the new, flexible, iterative nature of the FIPAT terminologies, emphasising their value, authoritativeness, etc. This must be aimed at clinicians, scientists and educators.

Proposed mechanisms include:

Articles [anatomical, educational and clinical journals]

Establish dialogues with the **Professional Colleges**, emphasising the comprehensiveness of the Terminologies, e.g.,

- Radiology/Imaging
- Surgery
- Neurology, etc.

Inform Anatomical and other relevant **Societies**

Educators - inform undergraduates of the resource value of the Terminologies in learning, training and communication

Establish dialogue with the **World Health Organisation**.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank the FIPAT Secretary, Pierre Sprumont, for his continuing commitment, support and advice over the past year. I also thank FIPAT colleagues for their dedication and productivity. This is very encouraging for the future development, status and relevance of FIPAT.

John Fraher
Chair, FIPAT
August 12, 2015

* Derived from abstract of presentation to AACAA, Henderson, Nevada, June 11, 2015

Appendix

Document from WFInfo to be submitted to FIPAT for approval [P Sprumont]

A. Report on developments since Beijing meeting (see Page 3 of the Minutes for Résumé of Actions decided)

- Numerous contacts have taken place between Paul Gobée (PG) and Pierre Sprumont (PS) about the collaboration of FIPAT with AnatomicalTerms.Info (ATI, <www.anatomicalterms.info>), a Project of the Department of Anatomy & Embryology, Leiden University Medical Center with the Clinical Anatomical Terminology (CAT) Committee of AACAA (American Association of Clinical Anatomists). A formal Agreement is pending and the text awaits approval from the responsible Academic Authorities before being presented to FIPAT. (a) ATI will be authorised to freely use those parts of the FIPAT databases that belong to FIPAT without altering them, and (b) FIPAT will be allowed to use the ATI user-friendly programme to facilitate the exchange of views with the terminology committees of the IFAA member-societies. It must be noted that the features under development that were not validated by FIPAT and IFAA Executive Committee may not be shared.
- Periodic telephone conferences have been organised by the AACAA-CAT to investigate the possibility of collaborative (FIPAT and ATI/AACAA-CAT) development of databases. Those discussions led to the conclusion that the representatives of FIPAT and ATI needed different types of definitions; FIPAT requiring formal definitions (i.e., based on classification or taxonomy), and ATI plain language definitions. The AACAA-CAT Committee and ATI will strongly contribute to the writing of original plain language, lexical definitions and invite FIPAT members to contribute too.
- The draft of a NEW hierarchical tree has been posted, and is currently being developed, on the Restricted Zone of Fribourg web site, also in order to test the technical possibility to merge TA and TH. This attempt, which should be discussed in Istanbul, seems to be positive.

B. Terms, synonyms and equivalents

It is necessary to introduce constant denominations for the term categories used in the printings and, especially, in the databases.

- Official term
It is made of two parts: (i) an automatically attributed identification number and (ii) a Latin name endorsed by FIPAT (and IFAA). Each of these parts is unique and identifies the same entity.
 - Synonyms
They should be officially approved by FIPAT.
 - Latin synonyms
These should be limited in number, generally applying to official terms in which individual words have been replaced by a word with same meaning, for example ventralis/anterior, etc.
 - Equivalent terms in other languages. Official unique terms characterised by their language.
 - Equivalent synonyms are characterised by their language.
 - Related terms
Terms that have been used as synonyms in
 - (a) previous versions of the international nomenclature
 - (b) classical anatomical publications
 - (c) current publications in biomedical sciences
 Related terms should be identified by:
 - (a) Language
 - (b) Bibliographic citation of usage
 - (c) Type (Optional): e.g., Eponym, Acronym, Archaisms
 - NOTES:
 - (a) Terms in Nomina anatomica, Terminologia anatomica and related publications that have been replaced by newer terms become related terms. The Bibliographic citation would be the first use in the international nomenclature (BNA, JNA, PNA, NA2, NA3, NA4, NA5, NA6, TA, NH, NH2, NH3, TH, NE, NE2, NE3, TE).
 - (b) Terms in FMA that are not official terms, Latin synonyms, equivalent terms or equivalent synonyms are related terms. The Bibliographic citation would be "FMA".
 - Candidate term
A full, unique Latin name for an entity, either as a replacement for a previously named entity or for an entity being proposed of recognition in the IFAA terminologies.
 - 4.1 Proposed name
This is a term proposed by a FIPAT working group to FIPAT.
 - 4.2 Provisional name
This is a term accepted by FIPAT to be submitted to IFAA Executive Committee for confirmation.
- N.B. Candidate terms are NOT included in the public general database before they are confirmed by FIPAT, and they are not posted out of the Restricted Zone of Fribourg web site until they are approved by IFAA.

John Fraher
Chair, FIPAT
12 August 2015

Report from the Federative International Committee for Scientific Publications (FICSP)

Over the last year, Shane Tubbs, the chair of FICSP, has regularly sent out COPE newsletters of interest to the Committee. The Committee has also discussed standardizing various agreed upon components (e.g., acknowledgment of donors, provenance of cadavers, etc.) of anatomical papers. Such standardization, once agreed on by FICSP and supported by the IFAA could be an advance in the anatomical sciences. Additional similar concepts that would be applied to our discipline are in the planning stages and will be discussed by the Committee in the months to come.

Shane Tubbs
May 2016

Report from Plexus, the Newsletter of the IFAA

Two editions of Plexus, the newsletter of the IFAA, are produced each year. Plexus provides a vehicle to communicate the outcomes of the IFAA Executive meetings and progress reports of the FIPs. It also includes various reports from member societies and from recent conferences and details of upcoming meetings. The newsletter is sent to all member societies, and any others that we have details for, and is also posted on the IFAA website.

It would be useful to discuss how effective Plexus is as a communication channel. I would suggest that there are 2 main areas for discussion. One relates to the content of Plexus, are we providing the information that our member societies want? Disseminating information about the IFAA would seem important but trying to get other people to contribute other articles is very difficult. This could be because we are not asking the right people to contribute, or the format and content is not what people want? We currently do not republish information from individual member societies in Plexus but we could (with appropriate permission) or provide links to relevant websites.

The second question is whether sending a newsletter as a pdf twice a year is the best way to communicate with members in this digital age. Our members are used to getting information immediately not every 6 months. Should we be looking at a different format e.g. social media, blog, or posting updates on the website and sending an email to members to alert them to the new information.

The main issue is that we do not know what members think about Plexus, or whether they even read the newsletter. We do know that a few people read it as we have had emails correcting the contact information that we included in the last 2 editions! As a scientific discipline it would seem appropriate that we base our decisions on evidence. I therefore recommend and seek the Executive's approval to undertake an electronic survey of the IFAA societies and their members to seek information about what they think the content and format of the newsletter should be. This information could then be presented at the next IFAA Executive meeting to inform our decision making.

Helen Nicholson
September 2016

Visit to the Korean Association of Anatomists

In my capacity as President of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA), I was recently invited to attend the annual Congress of the **Korean Association of Anatomists (KAA)** which was held in the Seorak Mountains, south of Seoul. I was delighted to meet a very large, energetic Anatomical Association (around 1000 members including students) who are actively engaged in anatomical research. Approximately 350 members attended the Congress. There are 41 Medical Schools in Korea with dedicated anatomists which explains the large number of members in the Society.

The Chairman of the Board, Professor Wang-Jae Lee and President, Professor Sunhwa Park and the members of the KAA were most hospitable and caring. Professor Chang-Seok Oh, Chair of the International Committee was a gracious host and has continued to be a superb liaison person for the KAA. Below is a photo showing some of the senior members at a spectacular dinner held in the King's House in Seoul.

I visited two excellent research laboratories while in Seoul. One of the labs was that of Professor Han-Sung Jung of the College of Dentistry, Yonsei University, the other of Assistant Professor Ho-Sung Jung of the College of Medicine, also of Yonsei University. Both the laboratories are exceptionally busy with dedicated postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows producing exciting research.



I was also shown the dissection laboratories at both the Dental and the Medical Schools at Yonsei University. The Korean Institutions do not appear to have any problems with the acquisition of bequeathed bodies and thus have a relatively plentiful supply for their students (see Park et al. *Anatomical Sciences Education* 4: 33-38, 2011).

In general, south Korea is an amazing country with beautiful forested areas interspersed between its big cities. Seoul is a mix of wonderful tradition and the exhilarating future. The anatomists are highly dedicated to their discipline, have active terminology, education and international committees which mirror that of the IFAA, and contribute newsworthy items to Plexus.

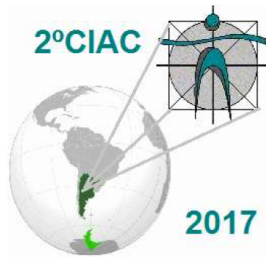
In conclusion, I am delighted to note that the discipline of anatomy is alive and well and growing in south Korea!

Professor Bev Kramer

President: International Federation of Associations of Anatomists

NEWS FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES

2nd International Congress of Clinical Anatomy



2nd International Congress of Clinical Anatomy

Cordoba – Argentina

September 20 to 23, 2017

Venue: Hotel de la Cañada - Marcelo T. de Alvear 580

Deadline date for Abstract submission: 30/06/17

Contact: 2ciac2017@gmail.com

Information: <http://www.anatclinar.com.ar/index.php/en>

Turkish Society of Anatomy and Clinical Anatomy

The Turkish Society of Anatomy and Clinical Anatomy is celebrating its 25th anniversary following its foundation in 1991. Although a fairly young society, TSACA covers almost all anatomists in Turkey and is the only representing NGO. The biennial meetings at its beginning turned to be annual meetings, and for the last five years, a winter meeting has been added preferably held in ski resorts. This active calendar supported by international meetings allows our young anatomists to be more integrated with the global scientific community.



During our 17th National Congress in September, the General Assembly passed a decision to change some of our board members to revive the team. This demonstrated its first result during our “Body Donation Awareness Week”, which we have been running for the last five years. Cadaver shortage is a real problem for the medical and dental schools in Turkey. Unclaimed bodies are mostly being used as cadavers in Turkey where donation is very limited. To overcome this, we are using banners promoting donation like “Donate your body live for medicine” or “live for science” and talking to newspapers and TV stations, and this year we are extending this to its highest level in the media, reaching some Turkish TV stations in Germany and even local US newspapers.



Medical students are also very interested in this topic and arranging seminars and increasing the awareness. Their eagerness to learn anatomy by cadaver dissections and disseminating the need to have cadavers for the medical education might help us to gain more positive attitude among lay people.

Professor Erdoğan Şendemir
Uludağ Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi
Anatomi Anabilim Dalı Öğretim Üyesi



FICA 2021

XX Federative International Congress of Anatomy

Antalya TURKEY



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The 25th International Symposia on Morphological Sciences **ISMS 2017**

July 27 - 30, 2017 Xi'an, China

Morphology: Meeting Point for Molecule and Function



Call for Symposia Proposal for ISMS2017

Do you have a great idea for a symposium? This is your chance to put your research front and center by submitting a session proposal for a symposium in 2017.

Data gathered from the most recent survey indicates that the rank of ISMS as one of the most important.

Deadline is on December 31, 2016.

This is your meeting - participate!



CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

2016

28 November – 1 December 2016

64th National Congress of the Anatomical Society of India
Jodhpur, India

7-9 December 2016

ANZACA: Australian and New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists
Canberra, Australia

19-21 December 2016

Anatomical Society
King's College London, UK

2017

2-5 April 2017

Experimental Biology
San Diego, USA

17-21 July 2017

American Association of Clinical Anatomists
Minneapolis, USA

27-30 July 2017

25th International Symposia of Morphological Sciences
Xi'an, China

20-23 September

2nd International Congress of Clinical Anatomy
Argentina

December 2017

ANZACA: Australian and New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists
TBA

2019

September 2019

XIX Congress of the IFAA

2019

FICA 2021

Turkey

Please send in details of congresses related to the anatomical sciences for inclusion in the calendar

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PLEXUS

Plexus is intended for staff and student of all member Societies of the IFAA.

Should you receive a copy, please distribute as widely as possible in order to inform all members of the events and issues covered by the IFAA and its member Societies.

Contributions will be gratefully accepted. Please submit all information by email to the Editors:

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*Happy
Holidays*