



# Union Internationale de Phlébologie

International Union of Phlebology

Newsletter 1/2016  
June 2016

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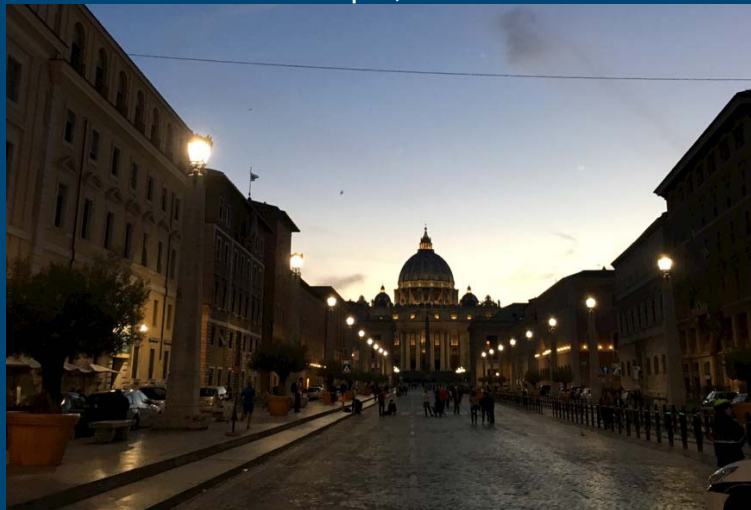
## ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY

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## TREASURER

[Kurosh PARSİ](#)

This edition of the newsletter is the President's  
Report of the UIP Executive Committee and General  
Council Meetings in Rome, Italy  
13 April, 2016



The Executive Committee (EC) of the International Union of Phlebology (UIP) met on 13 April, 2016 during the UIP Rome Chapter Meeting.

## Secretariat

The new UIP Secretariat was introduced to leaders and general council attendees. Michael Majdalany of L&M Management will maintain the official duties of the UIP, assist the EC as well as Member Societies in communicating with each other, and be perhaps the easiest point of contact for the UIP. The Secretariat details are at the bottom of this newsletter.

Of course as President, anyone can reach me directly by simply clicking on my name in the left hand column. You can reach any member of the Executive Committee similarly by clicking on their name.

## General Secretary Report

During the EC meeting in Rome, General Secretary Pier Luigi Antignani reported:

- reception of bids for the 2019 UIP Chapter meeting received from:
  - Benelux Society of Phlebology (Brussels)
  - Polish Phlebological Society

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- submission of application for UIP membership of the St Petersburg Society of Phlebology with Evgeny Shaydakov, MD serving as its first delegate; and the
- anticipation of 750 attendees and exhibitors for the 2016 Rome UIP Chapter meeting.

## **Regional Vice President Reports**

Each regional IUP Vice President (VP) delivered their report. From the Asia/Africa region, VP Malay Patel reported that activity in some of the phlebologic societies continues, including India, Korea, the Asian Venous Forum and Egypt, with re-activation of the Chinese Association of Phlebology. Representing the North American region, Nick Morrison delivered for Mark Meissner and acknowledged that the Canadian Society of Phlebology, the American College of Phlebology, and the American Venous Forum were all very active. Eduardo Tkach for the South/Central American region discussed the difficulty of communicating with the current leadership of the Member Societies. It was proposed the Secretariat gather as much correct contact information as possible from the representatives of all Member Societies during the registration for the General Council (GC) meeting later in the Rome Chapter meeting. From Northern Europe VP Marianne de Maeseneer described continued robust activity within the Scandinavian, Baltic, French, Benelux, German, Swiss, Austrian, British societies, and the European Venous Forum. Although Attilio Cavezzi reported difficulty obtaining accurate information on some Member Societies, many in the Southern European region maintained good communication and scientific activity including Russia, Egypt, three Italian societies, Poland, Slovenia, and the Balkan Venous Forum under newly-elected President and former UIP VP Mehmet Kurtoglu.

## **Treasurer's Report**

In his Treasurer's report, Kurosh Parsi described the marginal financial situation of the UIP and the need to generate more resources. Proposals included:

- expansion of the Individual UIP Member category and
- re-organization of the official UIP meetings such that the UIP would maintain more control of the scientific and financial aspects.

These proposals will be presented to the GC for discussion and a formal vote will occur at the GC meeting during the UIP World Congress GC in Melbourne in 2018.

## **Motions and Proposals**

Motions and proposals were discussed at some length and were to be included for formal voting during the GC meeting including:

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- allowing a vote at the General Council meeting for Emeritus Presidents;
- a number of constitutional changes intended to update and clarify the UIP Constitution;
- establishment of new UIP Committees, including Scientific and Education committees in anticipation of proposed restructuring of official UIP meetings;
- changes to the appearance and content of the UIP Newsletter;
- suggestions for new UIP Consensus documents will be solicited from Member Societies with current proposals to date expressing interest in:
  - anterior accessory saphenous vein: diagnosis and treatment
  - foot-calf pump dysfunction
  - Segmental saphenous reflux
  - sapheno-popliteal junction diagnostics or popliteal fossa duplex ultrasound investigation

## **New Financial Model**

Based on the Treasurer's report recommendation, the EC discussed financial alternatives including a new revenue sharing model with host societies for the World Congress. The new formula for official UIP meetings would likely necessitate contracting with a meeting organizing entity and proposals were presented by two (2) such companies with extensive experience planning and executing international medical meetings.

The EC also accepted a proposal to move forward planning an official UIP credential examination for Competence in Phlebology. A core curriculum and examination have been developed by several societies including the American Board of Venous and Lymphatic Medicine (ABVLM) which was presented on behalf of Steven Zimet, MD, ABVLM President, of Austin, Texas USA. Plans are endorsed to have the first candidates vetted to sit for an examination in 2017.

## **IUP Foundation**

On a strategic note, the EC discussed a project to enhance its ability to invest in the global community of phlebology. Over the past 3 years as President-Elect and now President of the UIP, I have been working with an ad hoc group to develop a foundation which could provide resources to the UIP for research and education programs. The need for such funding is quite clear, so the EC voted to bring to the GC a proposal outlining the developing concept and authorize a feasibility study to determine if a UIP Foundation is a viable and sustainable project. The feasibility study would be completed within 9 months and would then be presented to the EC in 2017. The structure of this foundation would be established if and when the feasibility study concludes that the project is viable and sustainable.

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## 2018 World Congress

And finally Kurosh Parsi, as President of the 2018 UIP World Congress, presented an update on the meeting. A preliminary program outline has been written for the meeting to be held at the Melbourne Convention Center in Melbourne, Australia on 4-8 February, 2018 ([www.uip2018.com](http://www.uip2018.com)). Parsi promised an exciting and innovative meeting of high scientific quality.



**General Council Meeting** - 15-16 April, 2016 – Rome, Italy

### Meeting Introduction

Admission to the General Council meeting was lengthy due to implementation of a new computerized system managing dues for the Member Societies. The UIP apologizes to members for the delay and confusion reported for some, but with the new system and active secretariat admission should be considerably smoother in Melbourne.

The new secretariat, L&M of San Francisco, USA, represented by Michael Majdalany, was introduced to the General Council. Very similar UIP officer reports as related in the Executive Committee above were given to the General Council. Within the Treasurer's report, it was noted that bookkeeping for the UIP is now moved to a cloud-based system, which should greatly enhance communication within the UIP

### UIP World Congress Management

The proposal to reorganize management of the UIP World Congresses and Chapter Meetings approved by the Executive Committee in Rome was presented for discussion (so as to be voted upon in Melbourne). Through this plan, the UIP will retain control of its official meetings, including financial and scientific program, in close cooperation with the host Member Society. It is anticipated that such a reorganization will result in a financially more stable UIP with greater consistency of the UIP scientific programs.

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In the event of a positive vote for the UIP reorganization, a large, multinational professional conference organizer (PCO) will be contracted to further enhance the consistency of the UIP biannual meetings for the UIP, the host society, and importantly for industrial sponsors. Some GC members expressed concern about the ability of a PCO to save the UIP money with its meetings. Sponsors would know what their biannual expenses for UIP meetings would be, and what they receive for their sponsorship would also be consistent from meeting to meeting.

The Australasian College of Phlebology, the host society for the Melbourne World Congress, has contracted with a PCO and will be a good “test case” before a vote in Melbourne on the reorganization plan. If the GC accepts the proposal, two (2) new UIP Committees would then be formed:

- Scientific Committee
- Education Committee

These are necessary structures to support the scientific portion of the World Congresses and Chapter Meetings. Individuals will be recruited from Member Societies to work on those two proposed committees and they would work hand-in-hand with the host Society.

## **Next UIP Chapter Meeting Location and Date.**

Two of the most important items on the agenda were the votes to establish the date and location of the next UIP Chapter Meeting

1. By an overwhelming majority, it was decided to return to odd-numbered years for the UIP Chapter and World Congress meetings, beginning in 2019.
2. Next, determination of the host Member Society, date, and location of the 2019 UIP Chapter meeting resulted in the selection of the Polish Phlebological Society to host the next regional meeting in Krakow, Poland June 6-9, 2019 over the bid of the Benelux Society of Phlebology for Brussels, September, 2019. By tradition, the UIP meetings are held in the early autumn. However, the Convention Center in Krakow is already booked for the entire fall season, so the meeting will be in June.

## **UIP Credential Proposal**

An exciting proposal for the establishment of a new UIP credential in Phlebology was presented. This credential will be awarded to international candidates who successfully complete a comprehensive computer-based certification examination regarding venous and lymphatic disorders. The examination will be made available in English based upon the core curriculum and examination

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developed by the American Board of Venous and Lymphatic Medicine (ABVLM – [www.abvlm.org](http://www.abvlm.org)) , but will be an official certificate issued by the UIP. The examination will be available at any of over 4,000 international Pearson VUE testing centers.

It is anticipated that the first candidates will be able to sit for the examination in 2017. Please visit the ABVLM website for more information on the content of the examination. Successful candidates will receive a certification from the UIP demonstrating superior knowledge and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with venous and lymphatic disorders. Drs. Kurosh Parsi and Malay Patel will be working with Steve Zimmet, President of the ABVLM to lay the foundation for and begin the process of vetting candidates within the next few months. Look for more information on the UIP website as details become available.

After multiple attempts to contact their leaders, motions to terminate membership of The Portuguese Society of Surgery and the Phlebological Section of the Portuguese Society of Cardio-Thoracic and Vascular Surgery for non-payment of dues and lack of attendance for over ten years were approved by a unanimous decision of the General Council.

## **Constitution Changes**

Having been passed on a vote within the Executive Committee, a number of suggested changes of the UIP Constitution were proposed. Among those changes approved by a 75% majority during the General Council meeting were:

1. Article 2 Life of UIP extended to 99 years – eliminate clause as unnecessary
2. Article 6 Clarification of the term Associate Members and replacement of “Ordinary Members” to “Individual Members”
3. Article 10 Clarification of various terms for delinquent members for consistency with other articles
4. Article 19 Elimination as clarification of other articles renders Article 19 redundant
5. Article 21 Past President or President-Elect will be consultative members of the Executive Committee without voting rights
6. Article 24 The Executive Committee approves the agenda for the General Council meetings
7. Article 26 Clarification of “Members” by adding “Society Members”
8. Article 29 Establishes English as the official language of the UIP Constitution meeting minutes are drafted in English, Spanish, and French
9. Article 34 Clarify article to allow members of the General Council to be represented by proxy

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Suggested changes to the following articles of the Constitution were disapproved:

- A. Article 8 Allow one vote for Emeritus Presidents in the General Council
- B. Article 13 Replace “Associate Members” in attendance at the General Council meeting to “guests of the President”
- C. Article 17 Add “The General Council discusses and votes on any changes in the Constitution and on potential dissolution of the IUP.” This was meant to make this article consistent with others in the Constitution.
- D. Article 20 Allow the Executive Committee to delegate certain administrative tasks to the Secretariat (L&M)

Many of the votes for Constitutional changes were inconsistent with each other and demonstrated a lack of understanding of the proposals by non-native English speakers. Although the official Executive Committee and General Councils have been conducted in English for many years, it became apparent that some General Council representatives did not understand the English versions as read during the meeting. To alleviate this problem, henceforth the proposals for inclusion in the General Council meeting agenda will be distributed well in advance of the meeting in order to allow time for those members not comfortable in English to have the proposals translated for their personal use. Discussions and votes will still however be conducted in English during the meeting. Because each member of the General Council is allowed one accompanying assistant, it might be appropriate for the assistant to be fluent in English if the member is not.

## **UIP Foundation**

For the past several years, as President-Elect of the UIP, I have received quite a number of requests for funding of projects of great interest to the UIP. During my Presidency of the American College of Phlebology (ACP), I had a pivotal role in the development of a foundation to support the programs and projects of the ACP, all of which required funding. To date that foundation has raised over \$13M which has been used for a long list of projects funded through the ACP Foundation. This experience prompted me to explore the idea of a similar project for the UIP. I have spoken at length with leaders within the UIP as well as many industrial supporters of the UIP and have received extremely positive feedback about the project. This foundation would be supportive of initiatives developed by the UIP, but because it would be established as a separate entity from the UIP, it would not be subject to the same political influences that have, at times, complicated progress. The board of directors (BOD) of this foundation would consist of both physician

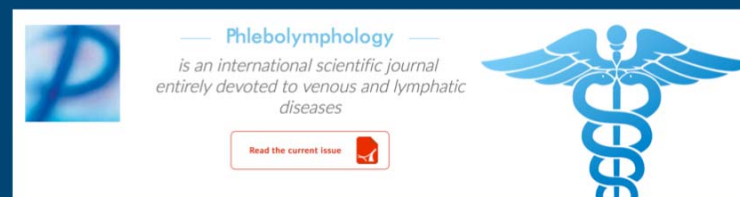
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and industrial leaders, and would be responsible for raising the funds and subsequently determining the allocation of funds for research and educational projects proposed by the UIP Member Societies. It is anticipated the UIP General Council would help determine the makeup of the board of directors for this foundation.

In order to determine if a UIP Foundation is a viable and durable project, a Feasibility Study was proposed to be completed in 2016. The same individual, John Mangold, responsible for the overwhelming success of the ACP Foundation made a presentation to the General Council (available on the UIP website and delivered in English and Spanish to all members of the General Council) and will conduct such a study. Funding for the Feasibility Study was obtained through generous “Angel” grants of €30,000 each from industry partners medi and Medtronic. Following extensive discussion and helpful translation (thanks to Victor Canata, representative of the Bolivian Society) for native Spanish language members, successful passage of a motion to proceed with the Feasibility Study was achieved. The Feasibility Study report will be delivered during the Executive Committee in December, 2016, and a decision will be reached by the EC based upon the data from this study as to whether to move ahead with the foundation project. If approval is granted by the Executive Committee, then entire project will be presented to the General Council at its meeting in Melbourne in 2018.

## 2018 World Congress

And finally, a report on the UIP World Congress in Melbourne was received. All logistical arrangements are well underway, the website is up ([www.uip2018.com](http://www.uip2018.com)) with a provisional program, and translation of many sessions will be available in Mandarin and Spanish. The General Council meeting will be held at a time that will minimize conflicts with the scientific program.



Servier has added two sections ,written by Michel Perrin, to its website dedicated to the journal Phlebology:

- RCT (Randomized Controlled Trials)
- PREVAIT (Presence of Varices After operative Treatment)

The aim of this new service is to help vascular specialists (medical and surgical) to rapidly identify publications of importance for their current presentations or research.

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Comments are welcome and may be addressed to the Secretariat (majdalany@lm-mgmt.com) or directly to me (nickmorrison2002@yahoo.com).

My very best regards,



Nick Morrison, MD



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