A Note from the President

Welcome to the Spring 2018 UIP Newsletter. Included are the results of the UIP Executive Committee elections held in Melbourne, Australia on 7 February, 2018, selection of the Turkish Society of Phlebology to host the UIP World Congress in Istanbul in 2021, as well as other important decisions reached during the UIP General Council meeting.

There may be some confusion regarding the terms of the individual officers, so please allow me to present a brief explanation.

I will serve as President of the UIP through the next UIP Chapter Meeting in Cracow, Poland in August 2019, and then as Past President until the World Congress in 2021. Other officers elected in Melbourne begin their terms immediately following the Melbourne meeting and will serve until the next World Congress in Istanbul.

The Past President finished his term at the end of the Melbourne meeting with the President-Elect (Kurosh Parsi) taking his place on the Executive Committee. At the next Chapter meeting in Cracow, the President-Elect will take over as President, and the current President (Nick Morrison) will become the Past President to serve on the Executive Committee until 2021.

As a reminder to all UIP Member Societies, it is imperative that the UIP Secretariat has up-to-date and accurate information from each member society in order to keep them informed about UIP activities. To help with this task, a “Members Only” page will be developed on the UIP website through which member societies will be able to update their own society’s information, including new officers, scientific meetings, etc. So please help the UIP Executive Committee and Secretariat keep each member fully informed about the important activities conducted by and in service to the UIP Member Societies.

And finally, I have included some personal comments at the end of this newsletter.

Best regards,
Nick Morrison, MD
President, UIP

International Compression Club (ICC) Survey

We would greatly appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to complete this online survey on the treatment of acute femoropopliteal and iliofemoral DVT in symptomatic outpatients.
Election of Officers

The following officers were elected by the UIP General Council during its meeting at UIP2018 in Melbourne, Australia, and will serve as members of the UIP Executive Committee, beginning immediately and for the next four years, with the exception of Kurosh Parsi who will begin his term as President in August 2019.

President
Kurosh Parsi, Australasian College of Phlebology

General Secretary
Mark Meissner, American College of Phlebology

Assistant General Secretary
Malay Patel, Venous Association of India

Treasurer
Paul Thibault, Australasian College of Phlebology

Vice President
Victor Canata, Paraguayan Society of Phlebology and Lymphology
Sergio Gianesini, American College of Phlebology
Lowell Kabnick, American Venous Forum
Dong-Ik Kim, Korean Society of Phlebology
Lorenzo Tessari, Italian College of Phlebology

Education Committee Chairman
Oscar Bottini, Argentinian College of Venous and Lymphatic Surgery

Scientific Committee Chairman
Andrew Bradbury, Royal Society of Medicine Venous Forum

Summary of the UIP Executive Committee and General Council Meetings at UIP2018 in Melbourne, Australia

New Member Societies

- Association of the Vascular Surgeons, Phlebologists, and Angiologists of Ukraine
- Iranian College of Vascular Surgeons
- Italian Society of Phlebology
- Singapore Society of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery
- Thai Vascular Association
- Thai Phlebology Society
- International Compression Club
- Kazakh Society of Phlebology (as Associate member)

Non-Active Societies (removed from membership for non-participation)

- Armenian Association of Phlebology and Angiology
- The Croatian Society of Phlebology
- Indonesian Society for Phlebology and Microcirculation
- The Venous Forum of Philippines
- Phlebological Section of The Portuguese Society of Cardio-Thoracic and Vascular Surgery (SPCCTV)
- Portuguese Society of Surgery, Chapter of Venous Surgery
- Mexican Society of Angiology and Vascular Surgery
Vice Presidents’ Reports

Brief synopses were given for Europe, Australasia, North, Central, and South America. Indications are that the UIP is growing in number and influence throughout the world.

Treasurer’s Report

The financial situation of the UIP is slightly improved over the previous year, but still very limited. You can find the UIP 2017 financial report here.

General Secretary’s Report

From several member societies, considerable discussion was held regarding the fairness of multiple societies representing the same country. While far from an ideal and effective situation, and despite previous attempts to resolve this issue, further discussion and possible revision will be forthcoming in the Executive Committee and brought to the General Council for discussion in 2019.

Secretariat’s Report

The UIP website can now be accessed by using either www.uip-phlebology.org or www.iup-phlebology.org.

Consensus documents developed by or under the auspices of the UIP have been published on the UIP website.

Because of the significant expense, the UIP Constitution, Appendix, and Internal Regulations will be made available to any member society in French or Spanish only upon request.

The Secretariat of the UIP, L&M, is contracted until September 2019, beyond which point L&M has indicated they will not renew their contract with UIP. A new Secretariat will be at the discretion of the President Elect with approval of the Executive Committee.

Constitutional Revisions

Most were of a secretarial nature and were passed by the General Council unanimously. Also passed unanimously was the addition to the UIP Executive Committee of two new seats: the Chair of the newly formed Scientific Committee and Education Committee. (See the newly elected officers.) The duties of these committees will be:

Scientific Standardization Committee

1. Coordination of the scientific activities of the UIP and its member societies including coordination of UIP Scientific and Clinical Guidelines and Consensus activities.
2. Establishing the scientific standards for UIP Congresses and UIP sanctioned meetings.
3. Making determinations on awarding the UIP auspices to other meeting and events.

Education Committee

1. Management of the On-line Education modules from the Australasian College of Phlebology
2. Administration of the UIP Certificate of Knowledge program

These two committees will be filled by qualified individuals from around the world, with final approval by the Executive Committee.

For those interested in applying to volunteer on either of these committees, please communicate your desire to Andrew Bradbury, Scientific Committee Chair (andrew.bradbury@btinternet.com) or Oscar Bottini, Education Committee Chair (bottini2@gmail.com).

Also discussed was the idea to reduce the number of Vice Presidents and instead elect regional representatives. The Executive Committee will continue to discuss this proposal and deliver more information at the next General Council meeting in Cracow.

2019 UIP Chapter Meeting (date change)

A change to the dates for the 2019 UIP Chapter Meeting was approved, and it now will be held on 25-27 August, 2019 at the Cracow Conference Centre in central Cracow, Poland, under the direction of Tomasz Urbanek, MD. Cracow is a wonderful city to visit, and I am sure Dr. Urbanek will lead a team to produce a scientific meeting of the highest quality. He is also a gracious host, so the social events will also be superb.

Venous Glossary

The UIP has given its endorsement to a new Venous Glossary edited by Michel Perrin and Bo Eklof, to be distributed through Servier.

Official Journal of the UIP

In spite of considerable discussion with the publisher of the current UIP official journal, International Angiology, significant difficulties in accessing the journal have persisted for many years. Consequently a search for a different official journal has begun and will be reported in the UIP Newsletter later this year.
Approval for a UIP Certificate of Knowledge

Attainment of this certificate will require documentation of extensive experience and study of venous and lymphatic medicine, and successful completion of a computer-based, psychometrically-validated examination in English based upon the examination used by the American Board of Venous and Lymphatic Medicine. At this point in time the examination is available only in English and is strictly knowledge-based without practical assessment. It is not intended to be a declaration of competency in Phlebology, nor is it to be used by practitioners for marketing purposes. Application for the UIP Certificate of Knowledge will be available in the summer of 2018, and the first examination will be given in April 2019. Successful diplomates will be presented at the UIP Chapter meeting in Cracow in August 2019.

UIP Education Modules

A large collection of education modules will be made available to the UIP from the Australasian College of Phlebology. Any individual member will be able to access these education modules for a fee paid to the UIP. This motion was passed by the General Council.

Consensus Document

The following Consensus Documents are in development:

- *Rehabilitation of Patients with Venous Disease* – Alberto Caggiati
- *Contraindications to Sclerotherapy* - Mandy Wong
- *Intersociety Consensus on Venous Mapping* - Jorge Ulloa
- *Pelvic Venous Insufficiency* – Zaza Lazarashvili
- *Post-Thrombotic Syndrome* – Mark Meissner

The Consensus Document on Foam Sclerotherapy has been dormant for several years, in spite of a great deal of work by the consensus committee. The decision to abandon this project was ratified.

A proposal to develop a consensus document on Post-Thrombotic Syndrome was accepted, with Mark Meissner (meissner@uw.edu) to lead and Evi Kalodiki (e.kalodiki@imperial.ac.uk) to serve as Secretary for References. Ideas for other Consensus Documents can be delivered to the Chair of the Scientific Standardization Committee, Andrew Bradbury (andrew.bradbury@btinternet.com).

UIP Foundation

The UIP Foundation Feasibility Study was completed and the recommendation from the Counsel for the Study was that proceeding with the Foundation development should be postponed until more detailed information regarding the financial plan and viability of the UIP itself can be obtained. Following extensive discussion by the UIP General Council, the decision was made to cease pursuit of a robust, multi-million dollar UIP Foundation, in partnership with industry supporters of the UIP.

A complete Feasibility Study financial report will be available soon showing the investments made by angel investors Medi, Medtronic, and BTG, and accounting for money donated and spent over the past several years. My personal thanks to Uwe Meyer and John Cody of Medi, Sandra Lesenfants and Brad Moseley of Medtronic, and Eric Heil and Simon Hogan of BTG for their generous financial and logistic support, as well as their friendship. And to the 22 individuals interviewed during the Feasibility Study for their generous time commitment.

UIP2018 – Melbourne, Australia

Download the [UIP2018 Post-Congress flyer here](#).
Personal Comments from the President

It has always been my primary intent as UIP President to initiate restructure of the UIP on a number of operational levels and prepare it for becoming something more than simply an international educational meeting.

Two (2) initiatives that I have been working diligently to promote and develop within the UIP Executive Committee and the General Council during my term of office are:

1. UIP taking ownership of its educational meetings and programs (to maintain a high scientific standard and create revenue for UIP)
2. Creation of a UIP Foundation (investment in international phlebology projects)

These initiatives have always been symbiotic in my mind – as one, in my opinion, is not possible to achieve without the other. Over the past 5 years, I have had discussions with dozens of industry supporters and important leaders of the UIP.

In the General Council meeting in Rome in 2016, the concept of a UIP Foundation, independent from the UIP leadership structure, was approved. In a previous newsletter, I reported that in December 2016 in Paris, the UIP Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve pursuit of a feasibility study to determine if creation of a separate Foundation would be a sound course of action and to identify a purpose for a Foundation’s existence.

This study was launched with the support of outside fundraising counsel, Trident Development Services of Chicago, IL. Trident successfully built the Foundation of the American College of Phlebology and has helped it raise over $14 million USD for investment in North American phlebologic interests.

In Porto, Portugal in June 2017 during the 2017 European Venous Forum (EVF), Trident presented the initial results of the UIP Foundation Feasibility study to the UIP Executive Committee. After twenty-two (22) UIP members and three (3) corporate interviews, the Trident interim report defined specific concerns raised by potential industry investors seeking assurance that funds raised would only be used for projects submitted by the UIP committees. One of the major concerns was that following restructuring of the UIP to have fiscal responsibility for its own meetings, the UIP might be unable to sustain itself financially and the Foundation would simply serve as a bank for UIP routine activities. This is something industry would simply not support, given their past experience with granting money to the UIP only to have no transparency as to how this money was spent. The severity of these concerns were such that Trident made the decision to suspend further development until the UIP Executive Committee could produce clarity on its proposed financial restructuring. That information has yet to be produced.

One issue raised by the Executive Committee was the Board structure of the proposed UIP Foundation. This was discussed and debated in Porto, Portugal at length, following which a unanimous vote was taken to establish a 51% physician to 49% non-physician balance to the proposed Board. This meant that industry investors could have a significant, but never a decisive position over healthcare professionals on the Board in decision-making processes.

Other issues regarding governance, grant-making processes, policy and protocol for grant-making decisions, methodology for feedback on project proposals, and clarity on how a UIP Foundation would work with the UIP were left to be decided if the Foundation Feasibility Study was approved by the General Council. Consequently, it was decided by the Executive Committee to ask the General Council for direction. A clear set of clear choices was presented to the General Council:

- Option 1. Abandon discussion of the proposed UIP reforms and discontinue completely the pursuit of a UIP Foundation.
- Option 2. Create a UIP Foundation but specifically limit its scope and purpose.
- Option 3. Embrace a robust view of UIP’s future and connect the purpose of the UIP Foundation to be a part of that vision.

After much debate, the UIP General Council was also at an impasse with 48 members voting for Option #1, 13 for Option #2 and 40 for Option #3. Because of the results and the inability of both the Executive Committee and the General Council to embrace a common vision for the future of UIP, it is my personal disappointment to report that the Executive Committee is terminating its efforts and postponing this project indefinitely.

With this in mind, I would be remiss without sharing with the UIP community that three (3) organizations stepped up and provided €30,000 each to underwrite the Foundation feasibility study project. A complete accounting of the funds
received and spent will be provided, and all unused funds will be divided equally and returned to the investors.

My personal gratitude to the leadership at Medtronic, medi GmbH, and Provensis for their support. I cannot say enough about the vision of the following individuals at these organizations:

- John Cody - President, medi USA
- Uwe Meyer - Vice President, medi GmbH
- Sandra Lesenfants - Medtronic
- Brad Moseley - Global PACE Director, Medtronic
- Eric Heil - BTG
- Simon Hogan - Provensis
- Paul McCubbin - BTG
- Michael Motion - BTG
- David Wright - BTG

For their personal support, guidance and insights in this endeavor, I am truly grateful. Thank you to the individual UIP members who participated in the feasibility study for your time and opinions:

**Respondents**

- Niels Baekgaard (Denmark)  
- Oscar Bottini (Argentina)  
- Alberto Caggiati (Italy)  
- Attilio Cavezzi (Italy)  
- Sylvain Chastanet (Monaco)  
- Anthony Comerota (USA)  
- Alun Davies (United Kingdom)  
- Marianne de Maeseneer (Belgium)  
- Bo Eklof (Sweden)  
- Jean Luc Gillet (France)  
- Arkadiusz Jawien (Poland)

**Corporate (Angel Investors)**

- Sandra Lesenfants (USA) - Medtronic  
- Brad Moseley (USA) - Medtronic  
- Uwe Meyer (Germany) – medi GmbH

Thank you to the individuals who personally stepped up and attempted to help UIP find a consensus vision for its future through their service to me on the Ad Hoc Feasibility Study Committee:

- Arkadiusz Jawien (Poland)  
- Marianne de Maeseneer (Belgium)  
- Mark Malouf (Australia)  
- Giovanni Mosti (Italy)  
- Hugo Partsch (Austria)

Lastly, thank you to Giovanni Mosti, MD for his personal willingness to serve as leader of this project if the UIP could ever overcome its obstacles. Your faith in our shared vision and continued hope for our colleagues coming together behind a shared purpose and vision for UIP remains a personal inspiration.

In the remainder of my term, I pledge to bring the entirety of my experience to assisting the incoming UIP President Kurosh Parsi as he attempts to advance his agenda during his term of office.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Morrison, MD
President, International Union of Phlebology
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Nick MORRISON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Elect</td>
<td>Kurosh PARSİ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Victor CANATA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sergio GIANESINI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lowell KABNICK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dong-Ik KIM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lorenzo TESSARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Paul THIBAULT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Secretary</td>
<td>Mark MEISSNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant General Secretary</td>
<td>Malay PATEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Committee Chair</td>
<td>Oscar BOTTINI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Committee Chair</td>
<td>Andrew BRADbury</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UIP Secretariat
781 Beach Street, Suite 302, San Francisco, CA 94109, USA
Tel: +1 415 561 6270
dso@iup-phlebology.org