Greetings to all IFIC members! It was great to see many of you in March at the IFIC Congress in Vienna, Austria. You will see pictures in this newsletter from some of the many activities we enjoyed in Vienna, as we appreciated the beauty of the city and the rich culture of our host country. The IFIC conference committee included Michael Borg, Judith Richards, and Egil Lingaas, from IFIC, as well as Martin Wagner, Birgit Willinger, Markus Hell, and Walter Koller from the Austrian Society for Hygiene, Microbiology, and Preventive Medicine (ÖGHMP). Their planning and hard work provided a wonderful conference experience for all the delegates in attendance. Many thanks to the planning committee, the speakers, the delegates who participated, and to the societies who sponsored sessions and speakers. A special thank you goes to our industry partners who supported the conference.

One highlight of the conference was the presentation of the IFIC Graham Ayliffe Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Benedetta Allegranzi from the World Health Organization. Dr Allegranzi received this award for her long-time global work in infection prevention and control and her continued support of IFIC. Her presentation, “Essential components for IPC programmes in low-resource settings and beyond – what have we learnt from the Ebola epidemic?” was an impressive review of the importance of IPC in all settings, as well as directions needed for the building of future programmes.

During the week of conference activities, members of the IFIC board met with presidents and other representatives of member societies. We were pleased to have 21 people meeting to discuss issues of common interest at the Society Presidents’ meeting.

The IFIC Board held its scheduled meeting prior to the conference where many current issues and future planning were discussed. One decision made that may have an effect on some IFIC members relates to the

Continued on p. 2

2017 IFIC CONFERENCE

IFIC’17 will be held 27-30 September in association with Associação Paulista de Epidemiologia e Controle de Infecção Relacionada à Assistência à Saúde in the beautiful city of São Paolo, Brazil. More details soon.
Chair Update continued from p. 1

discontinuation of the IFIC Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These groups had been initiated at a time when their existence was truly needed; they provided a way to bring together individuals with a shared interest in a special topic. In the recent past, the role that IFIC has played in these SIGs has been varied, and continuation of SIG leadership or planning for meetings has been challenging for some. For now, the SIGs will be discontinued and the formation of any new SIGs will be put on hold. This topic may be addressed again in the future. Questions or concerns may be directed to me.

Special congratulations go out to Dr. Andrew Trotter and a team of doctors and nurses in Kathmandu, Nepal, who recently contacted us with the following information:

“I wanted to give you follow-up regarding my inquiry in November 2015 regarding using the IFIC curriculum for infection prevention education programs. In coordination with the nursing and medical staff, we organized a 4 month, 28 class course for infection prevention and control which included nurses and doctors. We had pre and post tests for each class as well as a practical group project and final exam.

I would like to convey my appreciation to the IFIC and their team for creating the (basic) concepts book and PowerPoint presentations which allowed this program to become a reality. The infrastructure and practice of infection control is minimal in Nepal and thank you for giving us the tools to be able to improve our infection control efforts.”

Best Regards,
Dr Andrew Trotter
Director of Infection Control and Infectious Disease Consultant
Grande International Hospital
Kathmandu, Nepal

Thank you, Dr. Trotter, for contacting us about your class and congratulations on your success! Information about the IFIC Basic Concepts book and our Power Point slides, as well as information about the new edition, is included in this issue of the newsletter as well as our website.

Best wishes to all of our members around the globe as you continue your work in infection prevention and control!

Terrie B. Lee, Chair, IFIC
tleewv@msn.com

2016 IFIC CONFERENCE

There were over 375 delegates from 50 countries at the 2016 IFIC conference! The Conference Committee gratefully acknowledges the financial support provided by the Vienna Tourist Board – Vienna Convention Bureau. We also thank our institutional supporters:

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)
Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC)
French Society for Hospital Hygiene (SFHH)
German Society for Hospital Hygiene (GSHH)
Healthcare Infection Society (HIS)
Infection Prevention and Control Canada (IPAC Canada)
Infection Prevention Society (IPS)
Italian Society for the Prevention of Infections in the Healthcare Settings (SIMPIOS)
World Health Organization (WHO)
New call for applications—Mentor Exchange Scholarship Grant

IFIC’s mentoring/twinning project allows for fostering a close working relationship between a centre of expertise in a developed country and a facility in a less developed country, all for the purpose of enhancing educational experiences between these entities. The Mentor Exchange Scholarship Grant was established to offer an opportunity for mentorship exchange between a mentor from a centre of expertise and a student from a low/medium resource centre to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise in order to achieve best practice in infection prevention and control.

The collaborative exchange could be either for a candidate (students) to travel to a centre of special expertise/excellence, to learn on the ground, develop new techniques or new approaches to infection prevention and control problems, or acquire further knowledge or skills in relation to specific problems (sterilisation, surveillance, infection prevention and control aspects of antibiotic stewardship programmes, etc.) or to facilitate visits from international experts (mentors) to local facilities, with a view to developing teaching programmes, provide on-site assessment of needs and help establish facilities, or address other related needs.

ELIGIBILITY:
The scholarship is open to IFIC Member Societies and Associate Members. All exchange participants must be able to communicate with one another, and, therefore, must share a language that will allow for easy exchange of information. Members of the IFIC board or those who serve in ex-officio positions with the board are not eligible to receive any Exchange scholarship grants.

For more details and information please check IFIC’s web site or contact Carolina.giuffre@thefic.org

Submit your manuscript to the International Journal of Infection Control
the official publication of the International Federation of Infection Control

The International Journal of Infection Control (www.ijic.info) is an open access, online-only English language journal, published quarterly. Its aim is to provide a forum for infection control professionals, especially those in low resource countries, to disseminate research and practice information.

Benefits of publishing in IJC include:
• a peer reviewed publication in an English journal
• open access with unlimited, immediate views on the IJC website as soon as issues are published
• no publication costs to authors
• choice of formats for manuscripts, including reviews, original articles, and brief reports
• our “practice forum” allows authors to share their real-life solutions to challenging problems

Visit our website for more information:
www.ijic.info
or e-mail us at ijic@thefic.org
International Journal of Infection Control

Dr. Kathryn Suh, Canada, is the Journal Editor. She is supported by Elizabeth Scicluna as Journal Administrator and an excellent Board of Assistant Editors (Smilja Kalenić, Walter Popp, and Judith Richards).

Thank you to all those who submit their papers to IJIC and please keep them coming! Contact Ms. Elizabeth Anne Scicluna at elizabeth.scicluna@theific.org.

The International Journal of Infection Control recently published its latest issue at http://www.ijic.info/. We invite you to review the Table of Contents here and then visit our web site to review articles and items of interest. Thanks for the continuing interest in our work.

International Journal of Infection Control Volume 11, Number 1, 2016

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Original Articles
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Usefulness of patient education materials for central line associated blood stream infections. C Zellmer, P Zimdars, N Safdar

Practice Forum
Pseudomeningitis due to Pseudomonas aeruginosa in a paedriatic ward of a tertiary care centre: a glimpse on infection control measures. A Sood, PK Gupta, K Thakur, S Chauhan, SC Jaryal, P Gautam

Short Reports
Lack of sporcidal activity in diallyl-disulphide-oxide and a nanotechnology-product for sterilizing medical and dental instruments. CI Velázquez-Ramírez, RJ Scougall-Vilchis, L Sánchez-Pérez, AEAcosta-Gio
Perceptions of environmental services staff regarding disinfectants for cleaning in healthcare facilities. B Young, M Schmitz, K Thomas, B Weiler, N Safdar

BASIC CONCEPTS—NEW EDITION!

The 2016 edition of IFIC Basic Concepts of Infection Control is now available at http://theific.org/basic-concepts-book/. This 3rd edition builds on its predecessors, enhancing and updating in a scientific way the knowledge required as a foundation on which local policies and procedures can be developed. All English language chapters have been reviewed and brought up-to-date by an international panel of experts; a few new chapters have been added to ensure this new edition provides a sound comprehensive knowledge base. As before, the infection prevention and control principles set out in this book are applicable to all health care settings, however, particularly to areas where infection prevention and control is still in its infancy.

The 2011 Edition is available in Spanish, Italian, French, Hungarian, Arabic and Bulgarian thanks to BD, Meiko, IFIC Board members, and our member societies.
See Your Hands – hand hygiene supports safe surgical care: Practice hand hygiene for surgical patients from admission to discharge

You can find this slogan and a new associated image featured on the campaign web pages. You are encouraged to use these to promote a 2016 campaign in your organisations and regions.

http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en/
http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/fr/
http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/es/

Coming next – a promotional poster and a “how to” guide featuring information on how you can link with and engage your surgical teams in support of this year’s campaign. A technical poster featuring the 5 Moments in the context of surgical care and an infographic will follow, which will give you another opportunity to maintain the profile of hand hygiene along the surgical care continuum.

Do you know a health facility that is not yet registered with the SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands campaign? Ask them to sign up here.

WHO Core Components for Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Programmes

Driven by a number of emerging factors in the field of global public health, there is a need to support WHO Member States to develop and strengthen their infection prevention and control (IPC) capacity in order to achieve resilient health systems at the national and the facility level. There is global consensus that urgent action needs to be taken by all Member States to mitigate future epidemics and pandemics, as well as stemming the spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

In addition, strengthened capacity in IPC at both national and local levels will contribute to the fulfilment of strategic goal 5 of the new Framework on integrated people-centred health services, the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the one relating to water sanitation and hygiene and help make progress towards quality universal health coverage. According to instructions received from the WHO Guidelines Review Committee, the output of this work will be a WHO evidence-based guideline or a best practice principles document, which will assist Member States to build IPC capacity, in particular as part of post-Ebola recovery plans and the preparation of national AMR action plans. A Guidelines Development Group (GDG), involving experts in the field of IPC and public health, has been formed to develop evidence-based recommendations on core components for infection prevention and control programmes.

WHO posted the membership of the GDG for the upcoming Core components for IPC programmes guidelines, which convened its first meeting on 30 March-1 April 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland. See members at http://www.who.int/gpsc/news/ipc-gdg/en/

The GDG will review the available evidence to achieve the following objectives:

- to review the outputs of the two systematic literature reviews addressing nine previously identified dimensions, in order to constitute the critical key components of effective IPC programmes and interventions, at the national and facility level;
- to review the results of an inventory of available national IPC plans and strategic documents realized through a survey in collaboration with the WHO regional offices;
- to collate and critically review perspectives, experiences and lessons learned from regions and countries with established approaches relating to the core components of national and facility-level IPC programmes;
- to develop draft evidence-based recommendations on what constitute the critical components of a functioning IPC programme at the national and facility level, to be used as the basis for an official WHO publication;
- to establish the skeleton of an outline framework for pilot testing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
IFIC’16—POSTER WINNERS

1ST PLACE POSTER AWARD
Given in recognition of poster quality and educational merit to Helle Amtsbiller Denmark for poster presentation entitled: Making national infection control (IC) guidelines for the healthcare sector
Helle Amtsbiller, Elsebeth Tvenstrup Jensen, The National Center for Infection Control (NCIC) at Statens Serum Institut (SSI), Copenhagen, Denmark

2ND PLACE POSTER AWARD
Given in recognition of poster quality and educational merit to Waleed Sayed Ahmed Egypt for poster presentation entitled: Timing of urinary catheter removal after uncomplicated total abdominal hysterectomy: a prospective randomized trial
Waleed Sayed Ahmed, Magdy Refaat Ahmed, Khaled Ahmed Atwa, Lobna Ahmed Metwally, Faculty of Medicine, Suez Canal University, Ismailia, Egypt

3RD PLACE POSTER AWARD
Given in recognition of poster quality and educational merit to Anna Różańska Poland for poster presentation entitled: Polish epidemiological nurses job satisfaction in the context of cooperation with hospital staff and personal career goals
Anna Różańska¹, Anna Szczypta², Marta Wałaszek³, Jadwiga Wójkowska-Mach¹, Małgorzata Bulanda¹
¹Jagiellonian University Medical College, Cracow, Poland, ²Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University, Cracow, Poland, ³St. Luke Hospital, Tarnów, Poland

IFIC 2016 Scholarship Recipients
IFIC places a strong emphasis on facilitating participation at its conferences, especially from medium to low resource countries. This goal is achieved through provision of scholarship awards. We congratulate the 2016 awardees!

Miriam L. Gonzalez, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, USA
Maysam R. Homsi, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, USA
Milica Jovanovic, Clinical Centre of Serbia, Belgrade, SERBIA
Luize Juskevicius, University of São Paulo, Santos, BRASIL
Mohamed Mahjoub, University Hospital Centre Farhat Hached, Sousse, TUNISIA
Daniela Nika, Mother Teresa Hospital, Tirana, ALBANIA
Olukemi Titilope Olugbade, Nigeria Field Epidemiology Laboratory Training Programme (N-FELTP), Abuja, NIGERIA
Silvia Margalejo Raffin, Belgrano Adventist Clinic, Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA
Waleed Sayed Ahmed, Suez Canal University, Ismailia, EGYPT
Cristiane Schmitt, Hospital Alemao Oswaldo Cruz, São Paulo, Brasil
Zhu Shichao, West China Hospital of Sichuan University, Chengdu, CHINA
Borbála Szél, Albert Szent-Gyorgyi Health Center of University of Szeged, HUNGARY
IFIC Basic Concepts Course in Infection Prevention and Control

A Basic Infection Control training programme has been developed for training professionals with infection prevention and control as a responsibility and also provides materials to teach healthcare workers. The course information is available at http://theific.org/basic-ic-training-course-outline/

The course consists of six elements:
1. Background of infection prevention and control
2. Responsibility to adhere to principles and practices of infection prevention and control and to monitor performance
3. Modes and mechanisms of spread of microorganisms in the health care setting and strategies for prevention and control
4. Use of engineering and work practice controls and preventive practices to reduce the opportunity for exposure to potentially contaminated material and infected patients
5. Creation and maintenance of a safe environment through application of infection prevention and control principles and practices
6. Prevention and management of infectious diseases in healthcare workers

Guidelines for instructors can be found at http://theific.org/basic-ic-training-guidelines-for-instructors/

NOW AVAILABLE
Online Master of Public Health &
Graduate Certificate in Infection Control

University of South Florida
College of Public Health

• 100% online, except for an MPH internship in city of residence
• Curriculum based on Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC) examination
• Reduced rate tuition available for non-Florida residents
• Faculty with 20+ years experience as an Infection preventionist

For more information visit health.usf.edu/publichealth/online_programs or contact Dr. Donna Haiduven, PhD, RN, CIC, at dhaiduven@health.usf.edu
## SAVE THE DATES!

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seventeenth International Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control</td>
<td>27-30 September 2017</td>
<td>São Paolo, Brasil</td>
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<td>SIMPIOS VII Congresso Nazionale che si terrà a Rimini</td>
<td>9-11 May 2016</td>
<td>Via della Fiera, Italy</td>
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<td>IPAC Canada 2016 National Education Conference and 40th Anniversary Celebration</td>
<td>15-18 May 2016</td>
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<td>35. Jahrestagung der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Hygiene, Mikrobiologie und Präventivmedizin</td>
<td>30 May – 2 June 2016</td>
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<td>APIC’s 43rd Annual Conference</td>
<td>11-13 June 2016</td>
<td>Charlotte, North Carolina, USA</td>
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<td>HKICNA Seventh International Infection Control Conference</td>
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<td>6th Infection Control Africa Network Congress</td>
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<td>Johannesburg, South Africa</td>
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<td>Federation of Infection Societies (FIS) Annual Conference and the 10th Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) International Conference 2016</td>
<td>6-8 November 2016</td>
<td>EICC, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th International Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection (ICC)</td>
<td>24-27 November 2017</td>
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IFIC e-News

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FIS/HIS 2016


FIS/HIS 2016 provides a unique forum for healthcare professionals working on the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections to unite. The conference will facilitate the sharing of research and allow for delegates to learn about the latest developments within this rapidly expanding and changing field. This three-day scientific conference is a collaboration between all the member societies of FIS who share an interest in infection in its broadest sense. The conference is run in conjunction with the biennial Healthcare Infection Society International Conference and is hosted by HIS.

**Key dates:**
- Friday 24 June 2016: Abstract submission deadline
- Early August 2016: Confirmation of accepted abstracts
- Friday 5 August 2016: Bursary submission deadline
- Friday 9 September 2016: Early bird registration deadline
- Sunday 6 November 2016: Conference opens

IFIC MEMBERSHIP

Currently IFIC has **53** full members and **4** Affiliate members in **48** countries.

IFIC welcomed these societies as full members in 2015:

- Infection Prevention Network, Kenya (IPNET-Kenya)
- APECIH - São Paulo Association of Epidemiology and Control of Healthcare-Associated Infection
- Philippine Hospital Infection Control Society (PHICS)

The following groups joined IFIC as Affiliate Members:
- The Sankara Nethralaya Academy
- Asociacion De Esterilizacion Del Uruguay

In addition, there are **91** Associate Members in **34** countries.

**TO JOIN:**

The current membership fee is £120 for full and £75 for Affiliate members. **Associate membership:** Current fee £25/year or £75 for 3 years for high-income countries and £5/year or £15 for 3 years for low to middle-income countries.