

WFNR UPDATE

A U T U M N 2 0 1 5

WCNR 2016 – Plenary speakers announced



Professor John Donoghue, the Henry Merritt Wriston Professor of Neuroscience and Director of the Brown Institute for Brain Science at Brown University, USA will be delivering the prestigious Michael Barnes Lecture at the 9th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation (WCNR 2016) being held in Philadelphia on 10-13 May 2016. Professor Donoghue will be discussing the promise and reality of neurotechnology in restoring lost function.

Plans are well underway for WCNR 2016. The theme of the conference is 'From Science to Society' which reflects the advances in basic neurosciences and clinical practice that are changing the lives of many patients and helping them to re-integrate in society. The programme will cover both inspiring innovations in neurorehabilitation and their societal impacts.

As always, the WCNR has a quality scientific programme



with internationally renowned speakers from the fields of both basic and clinical neurosciences. Dr Catherine Mercier of Laval University, Québec in Canada will present on the effect of pain on motor learning, Dr Walter Koroshetz, Director of the USA National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke will be discussing neurorehabilitation and the brain initiative and Dr Armin Schnider from the University of Geneva, Switzerland will be presenting on orbitofrontal reality filtering and the control of behaviour. Dr Jean Bennett, Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Pennsylvania will discuss vision rehabilitation through retinal gene therapy.

Other plenary speakers include Dr Jianen Li, who in addition to serving as Chief Medical Officer for the Beijing United Family Rehabilitation Hospital, is the Chair of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) International Disaster Relief Committee and he will be discussing disaster rehabilitation. The closing lecture will be given by Dr Marta Imamura, the WHO Medical Officer for Disability and Rehabilitation, and focus on rehabilitation services in resilient health systems.

WCNR 2016 is of interest to the neurorehabilitation interdisciplinary team including physicians, physical and occupational therapists, psychologists, speech therapists, rehabilitation engineers, basic neuroscientists and many other professions.

Philadelphia is a vibrant city, rich in historical traditions, not only as the place where American Democracy was born, but also the cradle of American Medicine and American Neurology. Philadelphia is also rich in cultural life, and will be a perfect backdrop for the meeting. For registration, please visit: www.wcnr2016.org

31st December deadline for WFNR Franz Gerstenbrand Award

The deadline for the **WFNR** Franz Gerstenbrand Award is fast approaching. Entries for this Award, which is worth £3000, must be in by 31 December 2015. The Award is open to **WFNR** members and non-members worldwide.

Named after Professor Franz Gerstenbrand in recognition of his continuous contributions in neurorehabilitation, the Award recognises and rewards a neurorehabilitation project that has benefitted patients.

Award entries are welcome from clinicians, researchers and allied health professionals who are currently working in neurorehabilitation. Please visit: <http://wfnr.co.uk/education-and-research/wfnr-award/> for more information.

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Message from the President



Dear **WFNR** Colleagues

Time is marching on towards our next Congress which takes place from the 10-13 May in Philadelphia next year. We have a programme of excellent speakers and topics reviewing the advances in basic neurosciences and clinical practice that are changing the lives of many patients, and helping them to re-integrate in society. Our plenary speakers are leaders in their fields, and I know you will find their presentations both interesting and stimulating as we address the challenges ahead.

The interdisciplinary approach to neurorehabilitation, which includes physicians, physical and occupational therapists, psychologists, speech therapists, rehabilitation engineers, basic neuroscientists and many other professions, is well reflected in the WCNR 2016 programme and in the direct involvement of the Special Interest Groups. At WCNR 2016, interdisciplinary networking will take a step further, with symposia bridging neurorehabilitation, neurology, neurosurgery and related disciplines.

The Congress will take place in the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, and on behalf of the Organising Committee, we look forward to seeing you there in a few months. Please visit www.wcncr2016.org for registration information.

Can I also please encourage you and your colleagues to enter the **WFNR** Franz Gerstenbrand Award, especially our younger members. We established the Award in support of Brain Awareness Week in 2013 and we encourage you all to enter. The 2015 Award winner will be presented at WCNR 2016. Please visit www.wfnr.co.uk for further information.

A few words about our membership. The **WFNR** welcomes members from around the world – whether you are part of a comprehensive neurorehabilitation service, or if this is an area that is relatively new to your country. For those of you that may not be familiar with the **WFNR**, we are a multidisciplinary organisation open to any professional with an interest in neurological rehabilitation. We are a forum of communication between those with an interest in the subject. We produce a regular newsletter, **WFNR** Update, twice a year and organise a World Congress in NeuroRehabilitation every two years. **WFNR** membership entitles you to the following:

- Biannual issues of the **WFNR** Update newsletter
- Membership of the **WFNR** Special Interest Groups
- Reduced registration fees to the **WFNR** World Congresses
- Reduced registration fees to selected **WFNR** regional meetings
- Reduced subscription rates to Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair (www.sagepub.com)

Individuals of affiliated neurological rehabilitation societies are automatically **WFNR** members a list is available, please visit www.wfnr.co.uk). The national society pays an annual membership fee to the **WFNR** on their behalf. If there individuals either in those countries, or anywhere else in the world, who would like to join the **WFNR** then you would be most welcome. The **WFNR** has a small annual subscription for members of €30 per person per year. If you would like to become a member please email traceymole@wfnr.co.uk

Best wishes

Stephanie Clarke

Stephanie Clarke, President **WFNR**

1st Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury Conference and the 1st Dr Jane Gillett Award

The International Paediatric Brain Injury Society held its 1st Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury Conference (IPBIS) last month in Liverpool. Registration was closed early due to the meeting being over-subscribed which was, as Dr Carol Hawley, IPBIS Chair said "an amazing response". This was the first global event that brought together all those involved in the identification, treatment and prevention of brain injury in children, adolescents and young adults.

A wide range of eminent speakers explored current and innovative treatments, rehabilitation programmes, support mechanisms and ways to improve the lives and potential of young people and their families.

The 1st Jane Gillett Award was presented to Dr Shari Wade, Director of Research in the Department of Pediatric Rehabilitation, Cincinnati Children's Hospital in the USA at the IPBIS meeting. The Award honours the memory of an outstanding doctor, Dr Jane Gillett, who was a paediatric and adult neurologist at the forefront of brain injury treatment. She was the medical director of the Acquired Brain Injury Programme at Hamilton Health Sciences in Hamilton, Canada and an Associate Professor at McMaster University.

Dr Gillett was known as a caring physician who worked closely together with patients, families, teachers, and other caregivers. She was one of the first to recognise that the

impact of an acquired brain injury in youngsters may continue to emerge for many years post injury, often arising or changing with developmental stages. Dr Gillett established the Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury Community Outreach Program in London, Ontario which continues today as an international model for children and youth with acquired brain injury and their families.



Dr Gillett was also a founder of the IPBIS and its Board of Directors, in cooperation with Gluckstein Personal Injury Lawyers, created the Dr Jane Gillett Award. The \$1,000.00 USD Award includes an original, framed work of art that was created by Dr Gillett's former patient and artist Benjamin Sloetjes.

Call to action for developing countries

The **WFNR** has developed a position paper entitled 'Neurorehabilitation in Developing Countries: Time for Action' to highlight the problems in the developing world.

To facilitate this 'Call to Action' the **WFNR** will be identifying

contacts within governments, non-governmental organisations, international organisations and other interested partners that can play a key role in changing the global neurorehabilitation landscape. We will be organising meetings to present the issues and the **WFNR** Flying Faculty will continue to deliver the education and training required within hospitals and communities.

If you can help and support this initiative please contact: Tracey Mole E: traceymole@wfnr.co.uk
The document can be accessed on: www.wfnr.co.uk

Call to Action is:

- Long-term, coordinated efforts by governments, non-governmental organisations, international organisations and other interested partners to facilitate investment in, and the provision of, rehabilitation equipment and the funding of education and training programmes for health professionals
- The development of a core set of standards to constitute minimum requirements for the establishment of credible neurorehabilitation units
- Implementation of community-based rehabilitation services with tailored and culturally sensitive education for families and carers



Education initiatives – news from Korea

Dr Nam Jong Paik, Professor, Seoul National University, Korea

WFNR Certificate Course in Neurological Rehabilitation 2015

The Certificate Course in Neurological Rehabilitation 2015 was successfully held from the 16 -17 April at the Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, South Korea.

The two-week **WFNR** endorsed programme was the second one following the successful first meeting in 2010. Six participants from Malaysia, Pakistan, and Philippines with multidisciplinary backgrounds attended the course.



of neurological rehabilitation, but also the recent advanced theories and technologies. The course encompassed several teaching formats including lectures, visits to rehabilitation centres and participation in clinics. A certificate was awarded to each participant under the auspices of the Seoul National University Bundang Hospital and the **WFNR**.

This small group contributed to a stimulating and interactive course. The content covered not only the general principles

Commenting on the meeting, Dr Nam-Jong Paik said “This was an excellent opportunity to promote collaborative networking and overall the meeting received very positive feedback”.

The 1st Asia-Oceanian Congress for NeuroRehabilitation - AOCNR 2015

The 1st Asia-Oceanian Congress for NeuroRehabilitation (AOCNR 2015) was held in Seoul, Korea on 3-5 September this year at The Grand Hilton.

At the AOCNR 2015, under the theme of ‘Fire together, Wire together’ a total of 515 participants, 327 domestic and 188 international from 30 countries, gathered to discuss recently emerging issues and exchange the latest information in the field of neurorehabilitation.

AOCNR 2015 featured a high standard Scientific Programme that reflected the characteristics of the Asia-Oceania area, with diverse social networking events catered to the needs of individual participants.

Many professionals in the field including invited speakers, physicians, scientists, therapists, students, exhibitors and accompanying persons came together to build friendships as well as professional connections. The **WFNR** Presidium participated in the meeting and celebrated this 1st inaugural Congress.

There were a total of 36 sessions and an impressive 311 presentations including 60 invited lectures, along with 213 poster presentations. There were 27 companies who participated as exhibitors. Various social programmes such as the Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner were held.

The Presidium of the Asia-Oceanian Society for Neurorehabilitation (AOSNR) was established during the Congress with Dr Nam-Jong Paik from Korea elected as the first President. Dr Teresita Joy Evangelista from the Philippines will serve as the President-Elect, Dr Nirmal Surya from India as Secretary General and Dr Tiebin Yan from China as Treasurer.



The organising committee and Korean Society for NeuroRehabilitation thank all participants for their tremendous support and interest, all of which brought great success to this inaugural congress. The 2nd AOCNR will be held at the Tagaytay City, Philippines in August 2017.



A visit to Iran

Professor Barbara Wilson (founder of the Oliver Zangwill Centre in Cambridge, UK) and Dr Jill Winegardner (Lead Psychologist at the Oliver Zangwill Centre) had an interesting experience earlier this year when they were invited to Iran by Dr Hamed Ekhtiari, a clinician and cognitive neuroscientist based in Tehran.

Barbara and Jill ran a workshop with 50 participants, mainly students from Tehran's university studying cognitive rehabilitation, as well as occupational therapists and some occupational therapy lecturers from the university. The workshop focussed on the holistic approach to

rehabilitation, a partnership of professionals and family, including psychosocial and emotional issues as well as cognition.

In addition, two lectures were delivered on cognitive rehabilitation at Shiraz University and Tehran University. Commenting on the visit, Barbara said: "We felt we had joined our hosts at the start of rehabilitation services in Iran and hopefully provided our audiences with some helpful ground rules for good rehabilitation practice. The visit was interesting and worthwhile and the hospitality was exceptionally good".



Update from South Africa

Dr Karyn Casey, President of the South African Neurological Rehabilitation Association

The 7th biennial Southern African Neurological Rehabilitation Association (SANRA) Conference was held between the 27-29 August in Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference, supported by the **WFNR** was a tremendous success, with delegates across the spectrum of rehabilitation specialists interested in neurorehabilitation from five countries attending over the three days.

With the theme of the conference being 'Neurorehabilitation – Fertile Ground for Forward Thinking', delegates were inspired with thought-provoking talks and discussions from international and local speakers. Dr Rolf Gainer, Psychologist and Chief Executive Officer of the Neurologic Rehabilitation Institute of Ontario, shared his expertise in engaging talks on aging with a brain injury, as well as other mental health topics that affect a person following a brain injury. Professor Laura Murray, Professor in the Department of Speech and Hearing Science, and Cognitive Science and Neuroscience Programs at Indiana University, shared her expertise in evidence-based lectures focussing on the cognitive treatments of dementia as well as new evidence in the treatment of aphasia.

Dr Kelli Williams-Gary, Assistant Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy at Virginia Commonwealth University, gave a moving account of her own personal experience of traumatic brain injury, as well as lectures on post-acute recovery of brain injury. Professor Catherine Dean, Director and Head of the Physiotherapy Program at Macquarie University in Sydney, inspired delegates with her presentations on falls after stroke and walking rehabilitation following a stroke. Dr Sabahat Wasti, Consultant Physician in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in Abu Dhabi, provided his medical perspective to the conference and his talks focussed on the early treatment rehabilitation after neurological injury as well as neuromodulation.

Local speakers included Dr Greg Jonson who currently heads up the Lentando Neuropsychiatric HIV unit at Chris Hani Baragwaneth Hospital. The clinic comprises a multidisciplinary team who treat mentally ill patients with

HIV/AIDS. Professor David Beater, Professor and Head of the Philosophy Department and Director of the Bioethics Centre at the University of Cape Town, gave a fascinating talk on the ethical considerations of assisted death for terminal neurological conditions.

The programme was also supported by a number of local and international abstracts and a data blitz session, which provided a robust outlook for the future of research in neurological rehabilitation in South Africa and beyond.

SANRA would like to thank all the sponsors of the conference as well as the **WFNR** for their support and sponsorship of the speakers for this conference.



**ECNR European Congress
of NeuroRehabilitation 2015**

Vienna

1-4 Dec 2015

Hofburg
Congress
Center
Vienna
Austria



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www.ecnr.org

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Training videos available

A series of training videos are now available on www.understandingneurology.com. The content and videos on the website are the culmination of over 35 years of clinical practice and teaching by Professor Peter Gates, Professor of Neurology at Deakin University, Geelong, Australia. Peter was the first neurologist to move out of Melbourne to set up a regional centre of Neurology for Victoria in Geelong in 1986. It was there that he pursued a career in clinical neurology, clinical research, and teaching. The website content and videos are designed to assist any practitioner who treats patients with neurological problems ranging from students, GPs, allied health workers and physicians.

Those of you who are inclined to general neurology may be aware of the excellent textbook written by Peter in 2010 entitled 'Clinical Neurology: A Primer' and published by Elsevier. This book made the sometimes complex task of neurological diagnosis simple; it received great reviews and is recommended reading for all trainees of neurology in Australia. Peter also produced some wonderfully memorable rules, such as the now well known 'Brainstem rule of 4'.

There are two sample videos on www.understandingneurology.com. One is the Rule of 4 for the brainstem and the other how to examine a patient for sensory loss. The other videos are then available on subscription and include 'how to' clips on examination of the legs and arms, cerebral hemispheres and a great film on taking the neurological history. Each clip is supplemented by four patient videos. Peter will replace one of the videos each month from a bank of over 60.

There is also a valuable historical film of Lord Walton taking a neurological history filmed way back in 1983 (Peter moved to the UK in 1982 to work at the Newcastle General Hospital with Lord John Walton, before returning to Australia).

"Overall, this is an excellent resource which should be invaluable to the training neurologist or to other clinicians who need to know how to make an occasional examination of the neurological system".

Professor Michael Barnes

IISART Education - integrating new technologies in rehabilitation

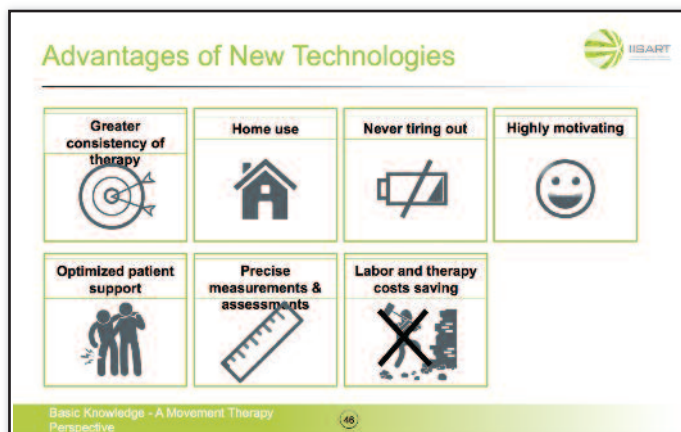
The International Industry Society in Advanced Rehabilitation Technology (IISART) is dedicated to advance and promote modern healthcare technology in rehabilitation for the benefit of the patient and society at large. The main focus is on Robotics, Virtual Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Electrical Stimulation.

Advanced technologies are increasingly used in rehabilitation. The scientific evidence base for their effectiveness is developing and clinical acceptance and public demand is growing. Increasingly clinics are buying a wide range of devices which can be incorporated in their therapists' everyday treatment routines. In contrast to these rapid changes the integration of new technologies into the curricula of therapists has been slow. Today, only a few institutions offer theoretical and practical education with rehabilitation technology, which is essential to provide optimum therapy for patients.

IISART Education currently offers an EducationIndex, Education Material (free to download through the IISART webpage) and Competency Guides for identifying what types of training or documentation should be provided: 1) by companies that develop robotic devices and 2) for clinical end users that assess competency.

The IISART EducationIndex supports clinicians, scientists and engineers to build or further extend their knowledge by providing an overview on international educational courses in modern rehabilitation technology:

<http://www.iisartonline.org/services/iisart-educationindex/>



IISART Educational Material/slidepools provide from introductory through to expert knowledge of new rehabilitation technologies for the benefit of patients and carers to improve their knowledge, for clinicians/engineers to extend their professional knowledge and for schools/universities to establish courses to educate the next generation.

Please visit:
<http://www.iisartonline.org/services/education-material/>

Key Diary Dates

2015

25-30 October 2015
American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine

92nd Annual Conference. Progress in Rehabilitation Research
 Dallas, Texas

<http://www.acrm.org/meetings/annual-conference-2015/>

31 October – 5 November 2015
World Congress in Neurology

Santiago, Chile

www.wfneurology.org

1-4 December 2015
3rd European Congress of NeuroRehabilitation 2015

Vienna, Austria

www.ecnr.org

17-20 March 2016

10th World Congress on Controversies in Neurology (CONy)

Lisbon, Portugal

<http://www.comtecmed.com/cony>

13-15 April 2016

European Stroke Conference

Venice, Italy

<http://www.eurostroke.eu>

19-22 April 2016

9th International Symposium on Neuroprotection and Neurorepair (ISN&N 2016)

Leipzig, Germany

<http://www.neurorepair-2016.de>

10-13 May 2016

9th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation

Philadelphia, USA

E: traceymole@wfnr.co.uk

<http://www.wcnr2016.org>

2016

2-5 March 2016

11th World Congress on Brain Injury

The Hague, The Netherlands

<http://www.internationalbrain.org>

Special registration rate for WFNR members

29 May 2016 - 2 June 2016

10th World Congress of the International Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.isprm2016.com>

WFNR UPDATE

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