

# WONCANews

An International Forum for Family Doctors



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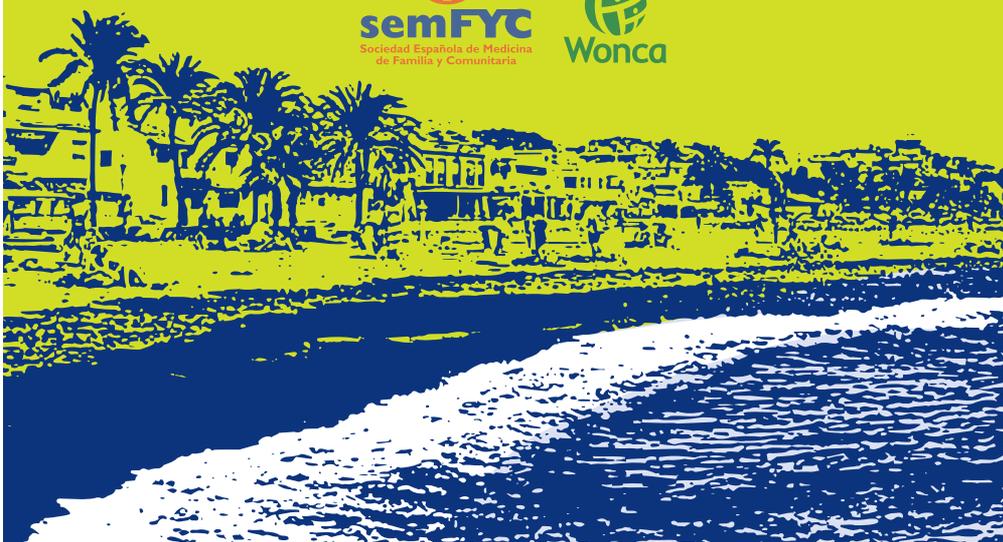
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6-9 October 2010



  
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## FROM THE WONCA PRESIDENT :

### WONCA Can, Can CUN

Hurricane Wilma. World financial crisis. Border violence. Visa problems. These were some of my thoughts last May as our plane touched down at Cancun International Airport (CUN). In 2008, Hurricane Wilma, the most intense storm in the history of the Atlantic basin, wiped out much of the infrastructure in the Yucatan peninsula. In 2009, the world financial crisis drained the resources of many global organizations and threatened their viability. In 2010, the U.S. State Department warned against travel to Mexico and many from other countries reported difficulties getting a visa to enter Mexico. Could the Mexican college overcome these challenges? Would the World Conference be a success? They did and it was!

History was made in Cancun. The World Council agreed to bylaws changes that assured better gender balance among our leadership. The Council also adopted proposals submitted by GROW (Group to Redesign the Operations of Wonca), the committee that was charged with developing recommendations to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of World Wonca. The World Conference theme of the Millennium Development Goals focused our attention on what family doctors can do to promote equity, social justice, and sustainable development. More than 3000 of us joined together to learn more, share ideas, and have fun.

In my Presidential Address, I mentioned the important lessons of the Mayans and those who came to the Yucatan before us. Among Native Americans, there is a tradition of looking forward seven generations when considering decisions that will affect our successors and their environment. Wonca must take the same long view as we plan our future.

Wonca has never been more influential. Over the past 38 years, we have grown to 122 member organizations in more than 100 countries that represent over 250,000 family doctors and more than 90% of the world's people. In Cancun, we learned of the exciting work Wonca is doing in many important areas, including cancer and palliative care, classification, complexity science, education, elder care, environment, ethics, gender equity, informatics, mental health, research, rural practice, and women's health. We now work closely with the World Health Organization and are asked to meet frequently with numerous national and world leaders interested in improving health care and the quality of people's lives.

Yet, Wonca has never been more vulnerable, given our rising expectations and very limited funds. The evidence is compelling that the most equitable and effective health care systems are centered in primary care. The huge gaps in health care and outcomes between countries rich and poor confront our notions of equity. The desperate need for more resources and greater capacity in many countries, especially in Africa and central Asia, demand our attention and support. We must train many more family doctors and assure their continuing quality. We have much to do to accomplish our goal of a family doctor for every family. We must look inside as we look outside.

Looking inside, we cannot sustain our many global initiatives on an average annual budget of USD 750,000, with the equivalent of only two full-time staff – we need to be at about ten times those levels. While we must increase dramatically our resources, we must also be mindful of the limited ability of our member organizations to absorb dues increases and our desire to be less reliant on pharmaceutical or other commercial support. The way forward will likely come through more and better conferences and other educational offerings that family doctors are willing to invest in, as well as the development of products and services such as classification systems, software, and consultations to governments and international agencies.



New President of Wonca Prof Rich Roberts (right) with President Elect Prof Michael Kidd (left) and Immediate Past President Prof Chris Van Weel (centre).

I am very excited about the future of Wonca, just as I am excited about the future of family medicine. Leaders like Professor Chris van Weel have brought us to this moment of great possibility. Chris has been a tireless advocate for Wonca, crossing the globe many times to share our message of primary care, equity, and social justice. He has been such an effective diplomat and teacher that I can't imagine not having him at

Executive Committee meetings. Most importantly, he has become a good friend. Fortunately, he will be on the Executive for another year. We have an extraordinary group on the Executive who will take Wonca to even greater heights. I look forward to continuing to work with Alfred, Yvonne, and Gillian – they seem to accomplish the impossible with grace and good humor. They remind me time and again that when it comes to big challenges, Wonca is up to the task.

We learned once more in Can CUN, Wonca can. Yes, we can.

**Professor Rich Roberts**  
Wonca President  
World Organization of Family Doctors

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## FROM THE CEO'S DESK:

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### LANDMARK DECISIONS TAKEN AT COUNCIL MEETING

#### The Cancun Wonca World Council Meeting

The Wonca World Council was held from 16th – 18th May 2010 at the Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Hotel, Cancun, Mexico just prior to the 18th Wonca World Conference. The Council Meeting lasted two and a half days and ended at noon on the third day with a welcome reception and dinner hosted by Wonca for all Council Members that evening.

Council Members from 64 Member Organizations were present with nine absent Member Organizations exercising their votes through appointed proxies attending the Council. Also present were 15 Official Observers and these were officials from Organizations in Collaborative

Relations with Wonca and the leaders of the various Wonca Working Parties and Special Interest Groups.

#### Remembering past Wonca Personalities

A minute of silence was observed by Council in respect for those Wonca leaders and members who had passed away during the triennium 2007- 2009. These included:

Dr Lynn Carmichael from the USA, Founder of STFM and Family Medicine in the USA.

Dr Cecil Helman from South African, Family Physician and Medical Anthropologist.

Dr Henk Lamberts from The Netherlands, Fellow of Wonca, founding member of the Wonca International Classification Committee and development of primary care classification systems.

Dr John McLeod from Scotland, United Kingdom, Wonca Honorary Life Direct Member, founding member of the Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice.

Dr Thomas Owens, from Panama, Founder of Family Medicine in Panama and ICFM.

Dr Jack Rodnick from the USA, Family Medicine Educator.

Mrs Louise Sparks from South Africa, wife of Prof Bruce Sparks, President of Wonca 2004 – 2007.

Dr M K Rajakumar from Malaysia, President of Wonca 1986-1989.

#### Welcoming new Wonca Member Organizations

During the 2007 – 2009 triennium, Wonca received several applications

for full and associate membership. These were vetted by the Wonca Membership Committee and those qualifying were admitted by the Wonca Executive Committee as members.

These new members were introduced by the Wonca President to the Cancun Council and Council welcomed the new member organizations that had joined Wonca since the last World Council Meeting in 2007 in Singapore, namely the Federation of Family Physicians' Associations of India (FFPAI), the Croatia Family Physicians' Coordination, the Uganda Association of Family Physicians and the Syrian Family Medicine Association.

#### Official Recognition and Ratification of 7th Wonca Region, (Wonca East Mediterranean Region)

One of the highlights of the Cancun World Council was the official recognition and ratification of the 7th Wonca Region, namely The Wonca East Mediterranean Region. The resolution to establish this 7th Wonca Region was unanimously approved by Council.

Prof Nabil Al Kurashi, who, prior to the Council Meeting, had been the Pro-tem Regional President of Wonca East Mediterranean Region (EMR), was asked to take his seat with the Executive Committee on the platform.

Council also officially welcomed the representatives of the member organizations from Wonca EMR who were requested to stand to be acknowledged. These included member organizations from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Jordan, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Egypt and Syria.

## Wonca Bylaws and Regulations Issues

A considerable portion of the first day of Council was devoted to the issue of amendments to the existing Wonca Bylaws and Regulations.

Notification of the amendments to the Wonca Bylaws and Regulations dated October 2008 had been circulated to all Member Organizations and Council Members prior to the Council meeting as stipulated by the Bylaws. A considerable part of the amendments were related to the move by Wonca to engender greater equity, in particular gender equity, within the organization. Following that notification, Wonca received several additional proposed amendments. These were highlighted by the Chair of the Bylaws Committee, Dr Dan Ostergaard following which an open forum to allow for adequate discussion was held.

Council members actively participated in the open forum discussions on the proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Regulations, especially the issues on gender equity. At the end of the open forum, there was consensus that any suggested changes to improve the text of the proposed original amendments would be put in writing so that they could be put to the vote on Day 2 of the Council.

On Day 2, Council voted unanimously to accept the "Proposed Amendments to the Wonca Bylaws and Regulations, dated October 2008", as presented to Council, together with the proposed textual amendments made by and agreed to by the World Council at its meeting of 16th – 18th May 2010.

Arising from the open forum and the discussion on the Wonca Bylaws and Regulations, Council made two key policy decisions. Firstly, concerning the Chair of the Organizational Equity Committee, Council agreed that this should be a Member of the Executive so as to not enlarge the Executive Committee.

Secondly, concerning Terms of Office - Council agreed that all elected members of the Executive be appointed for three year terms and may be reappointed for a second three year term. No elected member of the Executive should serve for more than two consecutive three year terms in any one office. Similarly, all Chairs of Committees of Council or Executive, and Chairs of Ad Hoc Task Forces, Working Parties, and Special Interest Groups should be appointed for three year terms. Chairs may be re-appointed for a second three year term, but no one should serve as Chair for more than two consecutive three year terms. Any appointed positions within the Executive, such as the Chief Executive Officer, have observer status and are not subject to terms of office.



Wonca World Council meets in Cancun

## Council Break-out Sessions

The Cancun World Council had two break-out sessions in line with the practice of past Wonca World Council Meetings. These were held, one each on Day 1 and 2 of the Council. These break-out sessions were aimed at giving all Members of Council greater participation in the deliberations of Council and in the decision making process.

The first break-out session was on the "Recommendations of the GROW Initiative". Prof Rich Roberts presented the overview of GROW and its implications for Wonca's future. Council then broke up into six groups along regional lines for the discussions. The recommendations of the six groups were then consolidated by Prof Roberts. There was consensus on GROW and Council voted to accept the GROW Recommendations which were:

- \* To establish a World Conference Committee.
- \* To develop a plan for Wonca to advance the global accreditation of family medicine training and to create a consulting service.
- \* To develop a plan to better brand and use the Wonca Website.
- \* To develop a strategy to increase membership and the involvement of young family doctors.
- \* To study the feasibility of a change in the frequency and structure of meetings of the Wonca leadership.
- \* To develop a plan to increase the capacity of member organizations.

The second break-out session was on "The Future of Primary Care". Prof Jan De Maeseneer gave a short introductory talk and slide presentation on the "The Future of Primary Care", covering the important issues that happened between 2007 and 2010, including the

report of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health, the World Health Report and Resolution. Council members then broke into the same six groups for their discussion sessions. Members of Executive were assigned as resource persons. The break-out groups discussed the following topics:

1. Universal coverage and improving accessibility of primary health care.
2. People centred primary health care.
3. Integrating personal and public care.
4. Contribution of family medicine to leadership in primary health care.

Prof De Maeseneer consolidated the reports from each break out group. The recommendations of this break-out session will be highlighted in the CEO's Column in the next issue of *Wonca News*.

**Dr Karen Flegg takes over as the new Editor of Wonca News**

Council was officially informed that Dr Marc Rivo was stepping down as Editor of *Wonca News* at the end of the Wonca World Council Meeting in Cancun. He had served as the Editor since 2001. Council thanked Dr Rivo for his contribution as the Editor of *Wonca News* for the past nine years.

The handover of the *Wonca News* Editorship to Dr Karen Flegg (Australia) took place at the Council Meeting and Dr Flegg was introduced to Members of the Council. Dr Flegg would assume her editorship duties with effect from the end of the Cancun Council Meeting. The next issue of *Wonca News* (July-August 2010) would be produced by Dr Flegg.

**Voting on Conference Venue for 2016 Wonca World Conference**

There were three bids for the 21st Wonca World Conference 2016. These were from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners & Royal New Zealand of College of General Practitioners (a joint bid) with the proposed conference venue to be in Sydney, Australia; the Brazilian Society of Family and Community Medicine with the proposed conference venue to be in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; the Korean Academy of Family Medicine with the proposed conference venue to be in Seoul, South Korea.

Voting by secret ballot took place on Day 3 of Council, 18 May 2010. Council voted Rio de Janeiro, Brazil as the venue for the 21st Wonca World Conference in 2016.

**Voting of Wonca President Elect and Executive Members at Large for the 2010 – 2013 triennium**

The elections for the Wonca President Elect and Executive Members at Large took place on the morning of the last day of Council. As there was only one candidate nominated for President-Elect, Prof Michael Kidd (Australia) was elected unopposed as President-Elect (2010-2013).

There were seven nominations for the three positions of Executive Members at Large. Three of these nominations were received from the floor by the end of the first day of the Council meeting as permitted by the Bylaws. Each candidate was given the opportunity to address the Council to present their credentials for the position and their contributions to the future of Wonca, if elected. This was followed by a secret ballot of voting Members of Council on 18 May 2010.

Council elected the following as the Wonca Executive Members at Large for the 2010 – 2013 Triennium:

- Dr Iona Heath, (United Kingdom)
- Dr Francine Lemire, (Canada)
- Dr Wesley Schmidt, (Paraguay)

Council also ratified the elections of the following Regional Presidents held during the Regional Councils of the seven Wonca Regions:

Regional President, Wonca Africa:  
Dr Sylvester Tola Osinowo, (Nigeria)

Regional President, Wonca Asia Pacific:  
Dr Donald Li, (Hong Kong)

Regional President, Wonca East Mediterranean:  
Prof Nabil AlKurashi, (Saudi Arabia)

Regional President, Wonca Europe:  
Dr Anthony Mathie, (United Kingdom)

Regional President, Wonca Iberoamericana-CIMF:  
Prof Liliana Arias-Castillo, (Colombia)

Regional President, Wonca North America:  
Dr Dan Ostergaard, (United States of America)

Regional President, Wonca South Asia:  
Dr Preethi Wijegoonewardene, (Sri Lanka)

The Cancun Wonca World Council Meeting ended at noon on 18th May 2010 with the presentation of mementos to all members of the Wonca Executive Committee of the 2007 – 2009 Triennium.

**Dr Alfred Loh**

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**FROM THE EDITOR:**

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**IN THIS ISSUE AND CHANGES AT THE EDITOR'S DESK**

**A tribute to Marc Rivo**

As many of you know, Dr Marc Rivo retired as Editor of *Wonca News* at the recent Wonca World Conference in Cancún. Marc has served Wonca as Editor of *Wonca News* for an incredible 50 issues over nine years, the second longest serving editor after Dr David Game. I would like to pay tribute to Marc and the enormous amount of quality work that he has contributed over such a long time. Marc has made a large number of close friends in the Wonca family over many years and I am sure the entire Wonca family joins me in wishing him well in his next venture in life, whatever it may be.

Also at the recent Wonca World Conference in Cancún, I was privileged to take over the role of *Wonca News* editor from Marc in a ceremony that involved the exchange of the Wonca News editor ceremonial cap.

**A little about the new editor**

I am an Australian GP with a part time academic position at the Australian National University Medical School in Canberra Australia where my teaching role involves working with medical students as well as General Practice registrars. My clinical work is done in the local Aboriginal Health Service, serving the indigenous people of my country. In the past, I have worked in a number of rural areas of Australia and have also lived and worked in New Zealand and for Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) in Iran.

My previous involvement in Wonca includes as Treasurer for the Asia Pacific Region when I was Chief Executive Officer of the Royal New Zealand College

of General Practitioners. I have held a number of roles within the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, including being on Council and I currently serve on our state board and also as an examiner in our GP Fellowship exams.

I live in a region of Australia that does not fit the national stereotype, having temperatures exceeding 40°C (104°F) in summer to subzero in winter with frosts occurring during six months of the year. Outside medicine, I have a passion for travel, painting and sculpture and I enjoy relaxing in my garden where I have cold climate fruit trees like apples and pears, a vegetable plot and 11 laying hens.



New editor of Wonca news, Dr Karen Flegg with Wonca President Prof Rich Roberts.

**In this issue**

Most of this issue of *Wonca News* focuses on events of the Wonca Cancún 2010 conference held from 19 to 23 May 2010. At that meeting Rich Roberts took over from Chris Van Weel as President of Wonca and in this issue we look at Chris' parting words in Cancún and Rich writes his first column as President. The key-note address of Prof Jan de Maeseneer is also featured, as are the gender equity by-laws changes from Wonca council meeting held in Cancún

The generosity of many in donating money for bursaries to assist their colleagues to attend Cancún has led to a number of personal stories of experiences gained in Cancún. Many recipients were young doctors and their preconference and subsequent development of an Iberoamericana network for Young Doctors is also featured. Wonca Africa region sets its goals for the triennium and Wonca Asia Pacific looks forward to its conference in Cebu.

Over the next few issues of *Wonca News* profiles of the new team at the helm of Wonca with profiles on various Executive members and Committee chairs. This issue features Wonca Executive members Rich Roberts, Michael Kidd and Tony Mathie. We also meet Dr Alfredo Jiménez Orozco, a Mexican doctor who has attended two world family doctor conferences in Mexico and is a Foundation member of Wonca. Sadly, we remember the life of Professor Charles Bridges- Webb of Australia but known by many worldwide.

### **Your news and views are welcome**

Over the past nine years Marc Rivo has had great support from many individuals and from your national colleges and academies who provided the material published in *Wonca News*. Like Marc, I am interested in receiving news from your region and country and I look forward to working with all of you to ensure every country can see its news in *Wonca News*. I aspire to work hard in this role in an effort to maintain the high standard of *Wonca News* as set by my predecessor.

I welcome your ideas, suggestions, questions and hopefully news articles.

#### **Dr Karen M Flegg**

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## **FEATURE STORIES : CANCUN 2010**

### **WONCA CANCUN 2010 OVERVIEW**

At the 2004 Wonca Council meeting, the Mexican College of Family Medicine won its bid to host the 19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors, in the city of Cancún, México, from 19th to 23rd May 2010. The main theme of the Scientific Program was “The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): The Contribution of Family Medicine” with the program being structured around the MDGs.

The abstracts book for the conference program lists 517 oral presentations, 89 workshops, 13 symposia and 679 posters. These were submitted by participants from 79 different countries with all regions of Wonca represented. Naturally, many were from Mexico and nearby USA and Brazil but there were also many presentations from Turkey, Spain, Korea and Portugal. It was wonderful to see one participant presenting their research from each of Bahrain, Bangladesh, Latvia, Macedonia, Myanmar, Netherlands Antilles, Palestinian Occupied Territory, Rwanda, UAE, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

### **KEY-NOTE SPEAKERS**

The opening key-note address followed the opening ceremony on Wednesday evening 19th May. It was delivered by Professor Jan de Maeseneer of Ghent in Belgium and focussed on the MDGs. (more detail later in this edition of *Wonca news*).

The Thursday morning key-note address featured Dr. Jose Narro Robles current rector of the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México (UNAM), but previously General Family and Community Medicine department head spoke on “Primary Health and Medical Education”. On Friday morning Professor Catherine Law from the Centre for Policy Research Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCL Institute of Child Health in London UK spoke on “Children’s Health: New and old challenges for the family physician”. For the Saturday morning key-note Dr Bene Madunagu an internationally respected advocate for women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights from Nigeria, was invited to speak on gender issues.



Prof Barbara Starfield addresses the closing session of the conference in Cancún

Professor Barbara Starfield, an eminent speaker and researcher from The Johns Hopkins University in the USA, delivered the final key-note address on Sunday morning 23rd May before the Closing ceremony. She is of course, an extremely sought after participant in medical conferences worldwide.

To view Barbara Starfield’s presentation “Primary Care/ Specialty care in the era of multimorbidity” see the *Wonca* website [www.globalfamilydoctor.com](http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com) as a news item posted on 31st May 2010.

**Pomp and Ceremony and Entertainment**

At the Official Opening Ceremony, following a formal military procession to bring in the Mexican flag, conference registrants were treated to traditional Mexican folk dancing and of course a Mariachi band featuring a young man with a magnificent voice as singer.



Mariachi musicians at the opening ceremony in Cancún 2010

On the Friday evening, an incredible number of buses were used to transport the several thousands of participants and their families to another world at Xcaret. There, we were treated to a spectacular show featuring traditional Mexican dancing and music, a visual representation of the history of México and a Mayan ball game (Pitz). Thankfully no member of the losing team was executed as is said to have happened in Mayan times.

Cancún is a coastal city in Mexico's easternmost state, Quintana Roo, on the Yucatan Peninsula which has everything: crystal clear water, white sandy beaches, superb restaurants and nightlife, nearby Mayan ruins such as Tulum or Chichen Itza and, an excellent convention facility in the Cancún Center. Cancún proved an excellent venue for the 19th Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors and all participants took advantage of at least some of the attractions of Cancún and nearby Quintana Roo.

**Acknowledgements**

The Host Organizing Committee was ably led by Dr Javier Dominguez del Olmo as Chairman and included Drs Juan Carlos Maldonado Carrasco, Octavio Noel Pons, Laura Baillet, Sergio Juárez Márquez, Miguel Angel Luna, Georgina Farfan Salazar, Jorge Meneses Garduño, Homero de los Santos, Blanca Hernández Leyva, Francisco Javier Gómez Clavelina, Miguel Angel Fernandez and Miguel Angel Quijada Fragoso. Congratulations to Javier and the Host Organizing Committee as well as the Colegio

Mexicano de Medicina Familiar and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and other partners, for creating a memorable event for all who attended.



Dr Javier Dominguez del Olmo, Chairman HOC for Wonca Cancún 2010

**CANCUN OPENING KEY-NOTE ADDRESS  
PROF JAN DE MAESENEER**

*Professor Jan De Maeseneer is an active family physician working in a community health centre in a deprived area in the city of Ghent in Belgium. He is an academic, being the head of the Department of Family Medicine and Primary Health Care of Ghent University and also, he is the chairman of the European Forum for Primary Care and the Secretary General of the network: Towards Unity for Health.*



Professor Jan De Maeseneer addresses the opening session at the 2010 World conference in Cancun

On Wednesday the 19th of May 2010, Prof. Jan De Maeseneer gave the opening key-note address at the WONCA Cancun World conference titled "The contribution of family medicine / Primary Health Care to the realisation of the Millennium Development Goals".

Prof De Maeseneer drew the picture of the current situation of the Millennium Development Goals that should be reached by 2015. In some regions, excellent progress has been made, but there remain a lot of problems to reach the targets in Sub-Saharan Africa and South-Asia. However, there are positive signs, for example, in some of the regions, it has been demonstrated that under-five mortality, can be reduced drastically but, it remains unacceptable that every year 7.7 million children die under the age of five.

There is increasing evidence that both the burdens of HIV and of Non-Communicable Diseases are related to unequal progress in health Millennium Development Goals in low income countries. This underpins the need for a comprehensive approach through an integrated primary health care system. Prof. De Maeseneer illustrated how primary health care may contribute to address the social determinants of health through community oriented Primary Care and intersectoral action for health.

#### MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Integration of personal community health care is of utmost importance in order to empower individuals, families and communities, as well as to increase social cohesion. He stressed the importance of universal coverage and access to primary health care and made a plea for the right to health and the sustainability of health care - a "world social insurance" could really make a difference globally.

The importance of the World Health Report 2008 and the focus on "putting the people first" creates an opportunity for family medicine, operating in the framework of a multidisciplinary health care team, to address the needs of individuals and populations.

Prof. De Maeseneer illustrated the characteristics of the patient encounters of family physicians using the "seven C's", namely, commitment, clinical competence, context, comprehensiveness, complexity, coordination and continuity. In order to put this in practice, a paradigm-shift from problem-oriented to goal-oriented medical care is needed. Experiences in different countries (United States of America, Thailand and Belgium) illustrated how family medicine and primary health care can really make a difference.

Prof. De Maeseneer stressed "the Wonca World Conference in Cancun will mark the transformation of family physicians from individual providers, looking at the individual needs of individual patients into a medical team-member focused on the needs of the community, working together with other community health workers while integrating personal and community health care". He drew attention to the current trends of hospital-centrism, commercialisation and fragmentation, which need to be counterbalanced by primary health care reforms in order to reach health equity, universal access to people-centred care and healthy communities.

He argued that vertical disease-oriented programs should be integrated and implemented in the context of integrated primary health care, referring to the 15by2015 campaign ([www.15by2015.org](http://www.15by2015.org)).

Finally, Prof. De Maeseneer put emphasis on the need for reform in medical education, in order to train "5-star doctors", that are able to address the challenges of the 21st century. One of the biggest threats however for the availability of human resources for health care in developing countries is "brain-drain". In order to reverse the deadly carousel of brain-drain, Prof. De Maeseneer suggested

that every Western country should reimburse the country that trained the physicians and nurses they receive in their health system, with the full cost of training. He reported on the positive experiences of the Primafamed network in Africa in building capacity for primary health care and family medicine ([www.primafamed.ugent.be](http://www.primafamed.ugent.be)).

In his conclusion, the importance of strong leadership was put forward and Prof. De Maeseneer congratulated Wonca as an organisation with excellent leadership, in the persons of the Past-President, Prof. Chris van Weel and the new President, Prof. Richard Roberts.

## WHO DIRECTOR-GENERAL GREET'S WONCA ELECTRONICALLY AT CANCUN

*The following message from Dr Tim Evans on behalf of Dr Margaret Chan was pre-recorded on DVD and delivered at the WONCA opening ceremony in Cancun.*

Good day. My name is Tim Evans. I am the Assistant Director-General, Information Evidence and Research at the World Health Organization in Geneva. I would like to greet you on behalf of the World Health Organization (WHO) and its Director-General Dr Margaret Chan on the occasion of the World Organization of Family Doctors, Wonca's 19th World Conference in Cancun from 19-23 May 2010.

Unfortunately the dates that you have chosen for your world conference correspond almost exactly with the dates of the World Health Assembly here in Geneva and therefore it was not possible for neither Dr Chan nor myself to participate in your World Congress.

In 2008 WHO received a Wonca delegation and requested our attendance in this meeting during the bilateral discussions and were grateful to have had the opportunity of this technological assistance to provide this message to your conference and, more importantly, express our appreciation for the work of Wonca in collaboration with WHO in our joint pursuits to improve the health of the peoples all over the world.

Just to say a few words about WHO and Wonca collaboration around Primary Health Care - Wonca, when it was established in 1972, came into being at a time when WHO really began to develop its Health for All Strategy which focussed on Primary Health Care and since the Alma-Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care in 1978 both WHO and Wonca have promoted the basic values and principles and strategies of Primary Health Care, not only to family doctors or general practitioners but to the universal Primary Health Care workers.

Thirty years after Alma-Ata, WHO issued a report which many in your membership participated in entitled 'Primary Health Care Now More than Ever'. In the forward to that report, Dr Chan expressed her commitment and appreciation with respect to Primary Health Care and the quote in the report went "When I took office last year I called for a return to Primary Health Care as an approach to strengthening health systems. My commitment has deepened."

The 2008 report attempted to respond to what Dr Chan had picked up during 2007 in her visits to over 30 member states but it also tried to make clear that Primary Health Care is a strategy for reform of health systems, which involves a commitment and orientation towards universal health care, patient centred care, Health for All policies and then an investment in the leadership - particularly with respect to public sector but also other stakeholders to orient systems around patients and person-centeredness more fundamentally. It also recognized that without a clear strategy with respect to Primary Health Care reforms, health systems left on their own don't necessarily lead to more equitable people-centred, integrated and comprehensive systems.

I understand that the theme of the Wonca meeting this year is the Millennium Development Goals and this is timely in so far as we are really well past the mid-point in 2010. In a sense, it's a bit of a threshold year. We are two-thirds of the way towards 2015 and I think there is some good news. We are making progress but it is not fast enough and especially in some of the poorest countries and especially with respect to some of the MDG goals and MDG5 in particular relating to maternal health.

Not surprisingly, there is an emerging focus coming out of the UN by deliberations this year led by the Secretary-General, but engaging all stakeholders around mothers and children as being at the centre of development and this corresponds very well with the maternal and under-five child health initiative that is characterizing the G8's commitment this year - the G8 which will be held in Canada in June next month. But, in these discussions, what is interesting is that there is a strong focus on comprehensiveness, the whole notion of integrated care and the response to patients' needs that is contextually appropriate and, where there is an adequate investment in an appropriately trained workforce and, recognition that the workforce are not only the heavy lifters, in terms of delivery and services, but they also represent the ability for assistance to learn and also nurture the leadership that is critical in health systems.

In this regard, we wanted to note very importantly Wonca '15 by 2015' campaign which was really an effort to accelerate investments in integration and the workforce as critical adjuncts to moving forward towards more targeted service delivery and health outcome goals.

I would like to draw particular attention, with respect to a more specific area of collaboration between WHO and Wonca and this is in the area of health information and Primary Health Care and, specifically we are trying to work on the harmonization of the international classification of diseases (the ICD) and the Wonca ICPC - international classification of primary care. The vision is that the future of the next iteration of the ICD-11 will have a Primary Care version that is closely related to the ICPC Version 3. We are aiming for these two classifications to become one full classification that has full correspondence and congruence and, as a joint product clearly a demonstration of our effective collaboration. We obviously recognize that there is a lot of work going on in this and will require more efforts from individuals associated with both of our institutions, but we are looking forward to it being carried out to a successful completion in the coming years.

And on that note, I would like to speak and recognize more generally that WHO remains extremely appreciative of Wonca for its collaboration not only with respect to information and the ICPC, but many other areas. We are both important agents and stewards with respect to Primary Health Care. We look forward to nurturing and working hard at sustaining our relationship moving forward and wish you all the best with your World Conference this year. Thank you very much.

## GENDER EQUITY BY-LAWS CHANGES PASSED AT WONCA COUNCIL MEETING

The Wonca World Council at its meeting in Cancun hosted a forum to discuss the proposed Bylaws changes relating to gender equity and, then voted unanimously to change to the laws to enhance gender equity in Wonca. The World Council also agreed to establish an Organisational Equity Committee. This is a magnificent achievement for Wonca and the Wonca Working Party on Women in Family Medicine (WWPWFM) which has worked to bring these issues and changes to fruition.

Even though, under the constitution, the Bylaws changes won't take effect until the 2013 Wonca World Council meeting and elections, it was exciting to see women physicians elected to key positions on Wonca Executive. Francine Lemire of Canada and Iona Heath of the UK as members-at-large and, as regional president, Liliana Arias-Castillo for the Iberoamericana CIMF region. Karen Flegg from Australia has taken over as *Wonca News* editor and Amanda Barnard also of Australia is chair of the Wonca Working Party on Women and Family Medicine (WWPWFM).



Prof Amanda Barnard, chair WWPWFMM addresses Wonca Council in Cancun on the by-laws changes.

There were also a large number of women appointed as members of all the Wonca committees. Congratulations again to all! For a full list see the Wonca website. <http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com/PDFs/WoncaCommitteesComposition2010-2013.pdf>

### Why are these changes important for Wonca?

Essentially these changes mean that Wonca's governance structures now empower women and advance their participation in the organization and, in doing so, better enable Wonca to achieve its mission to "improve the quality of life the peoples of the world" by, (among others) "promoting equity through the equitable treatment, and meaningful advancement of all groups of people particularly women and children, in the context of all health care and other societal initiatives".

### Rationale for the changes:

Wonca works through its Bylaws which are the means by which Wonca governs its affairs, and there was therefore a need for these Bylaws to better reflect the imperative that women physicians must play an adequate and equally prominent role in Wonca as do male physicians. Women are now the majority of physicians in many countries but are still inadequately represented in many areas of public life, including historically in the leadership of Wonca.

Enhanced women's participation in Wonca will greatly benefit Wonca's legitimacy as an international organization and, have the effect of increased women physician participation in Wonca and society at large. It is now well-understood that the advancement of women is a (if not the most important) primary determinant of socio-economic developmental progress.

The Organizational Equity Committee is a mechanism to ensure that equity awareness and action, a key part Wonca's mission, is integrated into all Wonca activities. This committee will be chaired by new Wonca Executive member, Wesley Schmidt of Paraguay and also includes Cheryl Levitt (Canada), Atai Omoruto (Uganda), Amanda Howe (UK), Muhammad Arshad Malik (Pakistan), Sonia Roache-Barker (Trinidad & Tobago), and Nandani de Silva (Sri Lanka). Cheryl Levitt, Amanda Howe, Atai Omoruto and Nandani de Silva are WWPWFMM executive who have been key to moving these changes through Wonca.

### WWPWFM and gender equity in Wonca

In 2006, at its mid triennial meeting the Wonca Working Party on Women and Family Medicine (WWPWFM) met to discuss how to achieve and maintain gender equity within Wonca. The group at the meeting (women family physicians from 16 countries and all Wonca regions) developed the Hamilton Equity Recommendations (HER statement), and a statement urging Wonca to promote awareness of the critical effect of gender as a determinant of health (10 Steps to Gender Equity in Health) These were adopted and endorsed by Wonca World Council in 2001. The group finalised the recommendations for the amendments to the Bylaws, and the Bylaws committee and WWPWFMM then worked through the complexity of the issues to present the recommendations to Wonca Council in Cancun. WWPWFMM at its meeting in Norwich in 2009 developed a guide to help implement gender equity standards (GES) for meetings – the GES statement, which was also endorsed by Council.

Professor Cheryl Levitt has inspired and led WWPWF through this journey, and her extraordinary contribution to Wonca was recognised by the bestowing of Wonca Fellowship (Wonca's highest award) at the conclusion of the Cancun meeting.

Prof Amanda Barnard,  
Chair WWPWF

## CANCUN BURSARIES A HUGE SUCCESS

If you or your member organisation has assisted others to attend WONCA conferences, you will be interested to know that bursaries to attend the Cancun conference were a big success.

Through the generosity of many, it was possible for a number of our colleagues who would not otherwise be able to attend important events such as the Cancun conference, to participate and be heard. Such broader participation makes WONCA and family medicine, better and stronger.

### The donors

Some individuals made personal donations of up to USD5000 and their extreme generosity in making such donations to help their colleagues to join us in Cancun is acknowledged.

The Wonca Working Party on Women and Family Medicine (WWPWF) sought donations from individual GPs and family physicians of even small amounts to assist young women doctors with travel and accommodation costs to attend Cancun. Several national colleges and academies accepted the donations from their own members and the pooled money was allocated by the WWPWF to award ten bursaries. These were awarded to doctors from Nigeria (2), Uganda (2), Philippines,

Sri Lanka and Venezuela with another three recipients being unable to attend for various reasons (from Nigeria, Indonesia and Vietnam).

The WONCA Europe region established a fund of US\$30,000 to support bursaries of US\$1,000 per person. to doctors in need to attend Cancun. The WONCA Europe fund provided bursaries to doctors from Uganda, Philippines(3), China, Jordan, Panama, Costa Rica, Ghana, Colombia, Malaysia, Peru(3), Brazil(2), Israel, Pakistan, Nigeria, Thailand, Ecuador. These bursaries had obvious far reaching benefits around the globe.

The Host Organising Committee from Mexico generously waived registration fees for recipients of bursaries awarded by WONCA Europe and the WONCA Working Party on Women. They also assisted with sourcing lower cost accommodation for some.

Finally, a number of member organisations in more developed countries decided to assist their colleagues from other countries and young doctors from their own country. In the USA, the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation allocated USD5000 for young family doctors, trainees, and medical students to attend Cancun. Stories from a grateful intern and resident as well as of the Korean Academy of Family Medicine donations in the Asia Pacific region are included below.

Thank you to all who contributed to bursaries for Cancun.

### PERSONAL STORIES : THE BENEFITS OF THE BURSARIES

Stories of donors and individual bursary recipients allow all to see the far reaching benefits that WONCA bursaries have had for

some of the recipients. Many bursary recipients were in fact young general practitioners and family physicians and more can be read about the exciting developments from the activities of young doctors in Cancun elsewhere in this newsletter.

### Dr Siddharth Naidu: KAFM bursary recipient

The Wonca 2010 Conference held in Cancun, Mexico was a conference which I would describe best as an experience of a lifetime knowledge and adventure.



Ms Yvonne Chung presents Dr Siddharth Naidu of Fiji with his bursary money from the KAFM

By attending this conference, I was able to share thoughts, build on friendship, and participate in the many interesting sessions.

With the co-operation of junior doctors from the Vasco de Gama and the Rajakumar movements, I was able to participate in helping the establishment of an Iberoamericana movement for young doctors. This conference enlarged my network database of communication with doctors from different regions. The hosts also provided a splendid opportunity for me to witness Mexico's rich and diverse cultural life and activities.

This trip from my home country to Mexico would not have been possible without the kind generosity of the Korean Academy of Family Medicine (KAFM). Their kind donation in the form of a bursary was overwhelming.

I would also like to thank Vatukoula Gold Mine Ltd (Fiji), in particular, Mr Bert Leathley (General Manager) for providing me with fully paid business class return air tickets. Heartfelt thanks goes to Drs Ram Raju and Wahid Khan of the Fiji College of General Practitioners for nominating me as a candidate for the Korean bursary.

Dr Siddharth Naidu. Fiji islands

**A letter from the President of the Korean Academy of Family Medicine**

Greetings from Korea.



Professor Kyung-Hee CHO, President KAFM

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all honorable WONCA members.

The Korean Academy of Family Medicine (KAFM) through the Bursary Committee offered a total of USD5,000 (USD 1,000 per person) in bursaries to young family medicine doctors to attend the May 2010 Cancun Mexico WONCA Conference.

The focus was on promoting sustainable development, strengthening partnerships with developing partners, and enhancing the local ownership of beneficiaries. This initiative helped doctors to access participation in this important WONCA conference. KAFM planned this program to enhance the sharing of experiences and to advance forward together through WONCA.

In particular, Korea has the unique experience of developing from one of the poorest countries in the world to one of the most economically advanced, “and know-how gained from this experience” is an invaluable asset that helps KAFM to efficiently support the sustainable medical & socioeconomic development of its partner countries.

To help developing countries to achieve their development goals with a sense of ownership and responsibility, it is crucial for leading countries to build global partnership for organizing WONCA for all the countries.

I look forward to meet you again in Prague. Best regards

Professor Kyung-Hee Cho,  
MD PhD. President KAFM

**Asia Pacific Region President thanks KAFM**

The Asia Pacific Region consists of a diverse group of membership organizations. There are member countries who enjoy economic success yet we also have some who have low GDPs and lack financial resources especially in providing quality medical care.

Some Asia Pacific countries have well established primary healthcare systems engaging family physicians leading multidisciplinary teams. Likewise some countries have well structured family medicine training programs whilst others are in the developing stage and keen to learn and train up family physicians following the footsteps of the established.

WONCA World and Regional conferences provide excellent opportunities for experience sharing, learning and mutual support. For those who lack resources, it is almost

impossible to bear the costs of travel, registration and to be away from work to attend these conferences. Nonetheless we have thoughtful and considerate countries such as Korea who are willing to share their resources and provide subsidies through providing bursaries for individuals from developing countries to attend WONCA conference.

The Korean Academy of Family Medicine has set a fine example by their generous donation to establish five bursaries for successful applicants to attend the Cancun conference. On behalf of the recipients, I thank President Cho and the Academy wholeheartedly.

Dr Donald Li. President,  
WONCA Asia Pacific Region

**AAFP bursary recipient : Ms Tasha Starks**

As a second year medical student, I was in awe of the dedication and commitment that the leaders of the WONCA organization have made to ensure that in the future young physicians, residents, and students will have the opportunity to play a role in the decision making of the organization. It was truly inspiring to hear WONCA President Dr Richard Roberts, speak so passionately about wanting and needing young physicians, residents and students to be a part of determining the goals of primary care in the new millennium.

At this meeting, there was no shortage of educational opportunities for students, residents, or young physicians. Sessions ran the gamut: from information about international opportunities for students to leadership development for young physicians. The wealth of information shared through my interaction with the attendees at this conference has proven invaluable as I now have direct contact to many who

live abroad. The individuals I met are eager to share information and resources; moreover, now after the WONCA conference, instead of being strangers interacting through email, we are now friends who share similar goals.

I would like to thank the AAFP Foundation for their generous support that enabled me to attend this conference. The WONCA World Conference is a perfect example of the diversity that this organization has brought and continues to bring to Family Medicine. This meeting reiterates the fact that primary care is not just a local entity, but a field that encompasses the globe focused on enhancing health care for our world.

Tasha Starks. Medical student, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine, USA

**AAFP bursary recipient :  
Amy McIntyre MD**

The 19th WONCA World Conference in Cancun in May gathered 3000 family physicians from around the globe, with approximately 1000 young physicians, residents, and students. It was incredible to have a gathering of so many colleagues practising in such different places - yet it was striking how many similarities we share as family physicians.

Physicians from each continent talked about the importance of patient-centeredness, frustrations with health care systems moving away from prevention and primary care, difficulty recruiting physicians to rural areas, and challenges in chronic disease management. One of the most interesting examples of this was a lecture on “medically unexplained symptoms” constituting largely somatic complaints with underlying psychosocial influences,

and hearing physicians from Africa, to the Netherlands, to India discussing the centrality of empathy, continuity of care, and the physician-patient relationship in care for such patients. Family medicine is truly a common language!

The theme of the conference revolved around family medicine’s contribution to the Millennium Development Goals, including an emphasis on the social determinants of health. The opening session was Dr Jan de Maeseneer, whose message included the importance of establishing primary care in the developing world as the core of any efforts towards diseases such as HIV and AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.

As globally conscious residents and students, we should all visit [www.15by2015.org](http://www.15by2015.org), the website for this movement of strengthening primary care around the world. If you support this concept, sign the petition. It’s one way to keep the energy and mission of this WONCA meeting going for the benefit of communities around the world that need family medicine!

Amy McIntyre, MD, MPH,  
Family Medicine Residency of Idaho,  
USA

**Dr ‘Yemisi’ Folasire :  
WWPWFM recipient**

I was privileged to attend the Wonca Working Party on Women and Family Medicine (WWPWFM) pre-conference program and WONCA World conference 2010, due to the generous support I received from my senior colleagues at the WWPWFM which included a bursary for my transport from Nigeria and shared accommodation in Cancun with Dr Betsy Garrett.

In my opinion the WWPWFM programs were conveniently timed with the Wonca conference programs so I was able to attend both without too many clashes of interest. The WWPWFM topics were quite educative and the presenters did a good job disseminating their findings.

My oral presentation was from my dissertation work for my fellowship program in Family Medicine titled “Quality of life of people living with HIV/AIDS attending the antiretroviral clinic, University College Hospital, Nigeria”.

I had a full audience who really wanted to know how the study was



Yemisi Folasire (back row 4th from left) with colleagues from the WWPWFM in Cancun

carried out and appreciated the presentation on the state of play regarding HIV/AIDS in Africa. I did not feel it was my first international presentation at all, with the support I got from Betsy especially, (my perfect hostess) and my colleagues from Nigeria. I must say a big thank you again to all the great women that believed in me and allowed me to be part of them. I am looking forward to better times for women all over the world where equity really is the order of the day.

Oluyemisi F Folasire.  
University College Hospital,  
Ibadan, Nigeria.

## FUTURE FAMILY DOCTORS MEET IN CANCUN

Language, age, gender, religion. None of this mattered at the first ever preconference for new and future general practitioners which was held at the 19th World Wonca conference in Cancun recently. There were over 80 registrants at the Cancun preconference for the World's Future General Practitioners, from four World Wonca Regions and over 21 different countries.

In June 2009, the Rajakumar Movement (The Wonca Asia Pacific Working Party for New and Future Family Doctors) was launched in Hong Kong. The European movement for young and future family doctors, called the Vasco da Gama movement was launched at Kos in 2005.

Naomi Harris from Australia and Andrea Poppelier of France developed a proposal for a preconference for young and junior family doctors to be held in Cancun. The Cancun Host Organizing Committee approved the plans and introduced their member for junior doctors Miguel Angel Quijada Fragoso, to Andrea and Naomi. Thus, three junior doctors from three very different regions of the world, worked for six months to discuss, to exchange ideas and to make plans in order to bring together future General Practitioners from all over the world.

The Cancun preconference for the World's Future Family Doctors featured a welcome from Professor Chris van Weel and a keynote address from Professor Rich Roberts. Participants then split into working groups set to their tasks with at least one doctor who was able to speak Spanish and English in order to allow for interaction between all participants.

A social dinner was held at a local restaurant and judging from the noise created, any language barriers were rapidly broken down, as all enjoyed dinner and some lively conversation.

For the final session of the preconference the over 100 junior doctors sat down to see each group present their work from the two days. The presentations were in a mixture of Spanish and English but with the help of PowerPoint and those who were bilingual, everybody was able to interact in the presentations.

The culmination of the Preconference, which demonstrates how highly successful it was, is that there is now an Iberoamericana Junior Doctors Network, to work alongside The Rajakumar Movement and the Vasco da Gama Movement. Dr Harris reports that North America is moving rapidly towards a junior doctors network as well.

So WONCA now has four World Wonca regions with networks for new and future family doctors – four regions down, three more to go.

The innovation and hard work of Naomi Harris, Andrea Popplier and Miguel Quijada Fragoso to create such a successful event is recognised. The enthusiasm of such a large number of young family

doctors in attending the Cancun is also recognised. Now, WONCA looks forward to continued expansion and developments of the future family doctors movement in WONCA.



Some of the young doctors at the preconference in Cancun

## EL MOVIMIENTO WAYNAKAY WONCA NACE

En el pasado 19º Congreso Mundial de Medicina Familiar (WONCA Cancún 2010) se llevaron a cabo reuniones precongreso los días 18 y 19 de mayo en conjunto con médicos residentes y médicos familiares jóvenes (egresados de menos de 5 años) del Movimiento Vasco da Gama de Europa y del Movimiento Rajakumar de Asia Pacífico, y de Iberoamérica en donde pudimos compartir experiencias, ideas, información y sobre todo asesoría. Logramos reunir a más de 100 residentes y médicos familiares jóvenes de más de 20 países de todo el mundo, siendo más del 70% de países de Iberoamérica.

Después de reuniones con residentes de Iberoamérica durante los días precongreso y en el Congreso se llegó a la conformación del Movimiento Waynakay eligiendo este cuyo que su significado es Juventud en la lengua quechua, la lengua quechua es una lengua originaria de los Andes de la parte occidental de Sudamérica.

Se pretende conformar un grupo de Médicos residentes y Médicos Familiares Jóvenes (egresados de menos de 5 años) con la finalidad de poder llevar a cabo investigación, educación continua, rotaciones parciales en el extranjero, compartir información, para poder fortalecer la Medicina Familiar desde nuestra formación como especialistas y fortalecer la Medicina Familiar de la región de Iberoamérica.

La Junta Directiva del Movimiento Waynakay es:

- \* Presidente Bruno Souza Benevides (Brasil)
- \* Vicepresidenta Essie Woodfin Maduro Hood (Panamá)
- \* Secretaria María Alejandra Sequeiro Neme (Argentina)
- \* Tesorera Andrea De Angulo Losada (Colombia)
- \* Presidente Honorario Miguel Ángel Quijada Fragoso (México)

Además cuenta con un Consejo Directivo conformado por un representante de cada país Edgar Uriel (México), Sonia Kang (Paraguay), Bruno Benavides (Brasil), María Alejandra Sequeira (Argentina), Andrea De Angulo (Colombia), Carlos Hernández (El Salvador), Xavier Maldonado (Ecuador), Essie Maduro (Panamá) y José Rafael Hernández (Venezuela).

Hay Comités Técnicos como son: Comité de Comunicación dirigido por la Dra. Evelyn Herverth García (México), Comité de Intercambio dirigido por el Dr. Claudio Bullen Aguilar (México) y el Comité de Educación por parte del Dr. Jorge López Leal (México).

*Del editor: muchas gracias por el texto a Miguel Ángel Quijada Fragoso*

## THE WONCA WAYNAKAY MOVEMENT IS BORN

At the 19th World Organization of Family Doctors conference (Wonca Cancun 2010), preconference meetings were conducted on the 18th and 19th May, in conjunction with resident doctors and young family physicians (graduates of less than 5 years) from the Vasco da Gama Movement of Europe and the Asia Pacific Rajakumar Movement, where we could share experiences, ideas, information and advice on everything. This brought together over 100 residents and young family physicians from over 20 countries around the world, with over 70% of Iberoamericana countries represented.

After the preconference and conference meetings, those resident in the Iberoamericana region decided on the formation of the Movement Waynakay. "Waynakay" means "youth" in the Quechua language, native to the Andes in western South America.

The aim is to form a group of medical residents and young family physicians (graduates of less than 5 years) in order to be able to carry out research, continuing education, and partial rotations abroad, to share information in order to strengthen family medicine from our training as specialists and strengthen family medicine in the region of Latin America.

The Executive of the Movement Waynakay is:

- \* President: Bruno Benevides Souza (Brazil)
- \* Vice President: Essie Hood Woodfin Maduro (Panama),
- \* Secretary: María Alejandra Sequeira Neme (Argentina)
- \* Treasurer: Andrea De Angulo Losada (Colombia)
- \* Honorary President Miguel Angel Quijada Fragoso (Mexico)

It also has a Board comprised of one representative from each country Edgar Uriel (Mexico), Sonia Kang (Paraguay), Bruno Benavides (Brazil), María Alejandra Sequeira (Argentina), Andrea De Angulo (Colombia), Carlos Hernández (El Salvador), Xavier Maldonado (Ecuador), Essie Maduro (Panama) y José Rafael Hernández (Venezuela).

There are technical committees such as: Communication Committee headed by Dr Evelyn Herverth Garcia (Mexico), Exchange Committee led by Dr Claudio Bullen Aguilar (Mexico) and the Education Committee by Dr Jorge Lopez Leal (Mexico).

*From the editor: text thanks to Miguel Ángel Quijada Fragoso*



El Movimiento Waynakay nace: (De izquierda a derecha)

The Waynakay Movement is born (from l to r) Evelyn Herverth García (México); Edgar Uriel Robles Salgado (México), Bruno Benavides (Brasil) Andrea Poppelier (Francia), José Rafael Hernández Jurado (Venezuela), Miguel Ángel Quijada Fragoso (México), Essie Maduro (Panamá), Lidia Amino (Suecia), Andrea de Angulo (Colombia), María Alejandra Sequeiro Neme (Argentina)

## PROFESSOR CHRIS VAN WEEL'S FINAL DAYS AS WONCA PRESIDENT

*Professor Chris Van Weel of the Netherlands was President of Wonca from 2007 to 2010. At the recent Cancun conference he handed over the chain of office to Professor Rich Roberts of the USA. He was awarded Honorary Direct Life Membership of Wonca at the Cancun Conference in recognition of his great contribution to Wonca as President and over many years. Chris travelled extensively during his time as Wonca President and is well known to many. Here are excerpts from some of the speeches he made in Cancun.*

### OPENING SPEECH TO WONCA COUNCIL ON ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST THREE YEARS

We can be very grateful to the founding fathers but we've grown. We've grown since 1972 from 13 to 123 member organizations. We've grown particularly in the last 10 years. We've outgrown the organization that we originally were and that asks for new structures, new ways of positioning ourselves.

#### WHO Liaison

When we look at the past three years, I think the most significant development we've had was the adoption at the World Health Council last year in Geneva, of the resolution 62.12 on Primary Health Care (including health systems strengthening), in which the 192 member countries of the WHO group stressed the importance of primary care for health systems. To put people at the centre of health care is an important issue for Wonca. It is the first time that in the political discussion of Primary Care that it has been clarified who and what primary care is: - professionals, nurses, midwives and family physicians, that we have to train, that we have to offer exciting job prospects to retain them in their work and it is an important gesture to put vertical programs that may reflect the needs of countries or regions through strong Primary Care.

With this resolution came a very strong alliance between Wonca and WHO.



Prof Van Weel chairs the WONCA Council meeting in Cancun

## ICPC

An important development in the field of classification: - in the past three years we've made good plans to further develop the flagship of Wonca - the ICPC. The Classification Committee is determined to develop ICPC3 and to enable them, we've been making alliances, again with WHO and also with the group who governs SNOMED to put Primary Care classification in the centre of the family of classifications and to make it part of the international standard that has to find its way into electronic medical records.

## Mental Health

The greatest event of the past three years (as well as the cooperation with WHO) has been the Working Party for Mental Health producing this report. Taking care of (completely neglected in many areas of world) mental health problems and putting mental health in the mainstream of primary care - a great achievement, great cooperation. Very important for health people.

## Young Doctors

In past years with the increasing number of regional conferences, we on Executive have deliberately tried to establish contact with young doctors. I am delighted that at this conference in three days time we will have a substantial number of young doctors, residents, students with an interest in Primary Care. And we not only have their active participation in the academic program but we have also seen a cooperation of regional organizations from North America, Asia - Pacific region and Vasco da Gama from Europe to secure the position of young docs in Wonca. I don't think I can overestimate the importance of this and I'd like to acknowledge Naomi Harris of

the Rajakumar movement, Andrea Poppelier of Vasco da Gama, and Miguel Angel Quiljada Fragoso of the Iberoamericana region for their untiring contribution to this.

You have made the best of Wonca regional structure in linking regions and not seen them as separate items standing on their own and the fruits of that are directly after the World Council is finished the young doctors have organized a preconference meeting a two day meeting.

## Research

The last point I would like to acknowledge here is the development in research. Wonca has been accused of being pretty late in putting research to its full agenda in 2003 with the Kingston conference report. Since then we have been able to strengthen the position of primary care journals - a very important issue in the building of the research capacity.

In the past three years we have been in contact (together with the North American Primary Care Research Group, NAPCRG) with Index Medicus which succeeded last year in convincing Index Medicus to introduce a subject title "Primary Health Care" including Family Medicine and to allocate all journals in that field to category of their own. If you work in a university you will understand the vast importance of this increased visibility. But even more important is the introduction of Primary Care publications, in better visibility in the allocation of impact factors and bibliographic analyses of research output. For the main big database is that of Thomson Reuters ISI Web of Knowledge, and a couple of weeks ago I got the good news that they have decided to followed the advice of Wonca and NAPCRG to introduce a separate Subject Category Primary Health Care in their database to

bring together all Primary Care journals. I think that is a substantial improvement in the visibility of our research. A development with which our Executive is very delighted.

So in conclusion I think we can be pretty proud of what Wonca has done with given means and given capacity. We are more and more highly valued as a partner at global tables where important academic health policy is made. That's remarkable success but the past three years have been particularly painful for the lack of our financial resources. We could do so much and we are restricted to do so little with the budget we have.

There is the urgent need to address this, and this asks for a fundamental review of how Wonca operates, including its financial resources: the GROW project. It is the appropriate moment to address this in this Council, in order to continue the success we have established. With it come changes in the bylaws, to secure a much better gender equity within our organization - most important to secure the recruitment of the best talents, from all regions, for Wonca. I have all the confidence in the wisdom of Council that the important right decisions will be taken here, in the coming days. Thank you.

## CLOSING WORDS OF THANKS AT HANDOVER CEREMONY TO NEW PRESIDENT RICH ROBERTS

That brings me at the end and of course a couple of words of thanks are most appropriate.

I would like to thank first the Dutch College and Arno Timmermans for allowing me to become the candidate for President Elect in 2004 and for his unwavering



Prof Van Weel applauds the work of others at the Wonca Awards Ceremony in Cancún

support throughout all these years particularly the last three years. And the Royal College for supporting my candidacy.

I'd like to thank the Wonca council for electing me and allowing me what have been a marvelous three years. I don't dare to say that I enjoyed every minute of it but it comes pretty close to it.

I'd like to thank the members of the outgoing Executive as a team as much as everyone in person for their support and for their willingness to go with me on the way we have been working in the past three years. And of course three very special people from Singapore. Alfred Loh, his stewardship I have

already mentioned. Alfred thank you very very much for your leadership. Yvonne Chung, Gillian Tan. Gillian, Yvonne, what you are doing for Wonca is fantastic and the way you are doing it is even more fantastic. Such an involvement, such a knowledge, such a passion, and in such a pleasant way: it has made my presidency particularly pleasant.

When in 2004 I was elected President Elect, at the same voting round two young men were also elected on Wonca Executive - Michael Kidd and Rich Roberts. At the time, I called that the dream choice of having that team together. The last three years they were the core executive with me. I am glad that on occasions my predictions come true. It was really fantastic to have Rich and Michael along: supporting me, reassuring me and giving me the backing at the moments I really needed it. And particularly thanks Rich for what you have done. If Michael would only give you half the support to you that you gave to me, you have a magnificent President Elect.

Rich, it will very soon be up to you. I have here my last philosophical statements to you. Rich, if we knew where we were going, we wouldn't need leadership. We need you as we don't know exactly where Wonca will go. It's up to you, after you've allowed me to thank the last couple of people.

I am delighted that with me here for the first time at a world Wonca conference is my complete family. My daughter Nienke will turn 35 tomorrow and we are going to celebrate that, my daughter in law Olduz and my son Jorrit are celebrating their honeymoon and we are delighted they are with us. And of course very special words I should give to Evelyn, as so often I knew that everything I had to do for Wonca or I thought I would like to do for Wonca had your backing. It was a wonderful tacit agreement we had and of course I made very much use of it and paid very little tribute to it. So this dismal state of affairs let me amend that for a little bit by thanking you very very much for everything you have allowed me to do. Thank you

## WONCA AWARDS 2010

The following awards were presented at a ceremony on Saturday 22 May 2010 at Cancún.

The Fellowship of Wonca is Wonca's most prestigious award. It is awarded to individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the Wonca Organization. This year the award was made to Prof Cheryl Levitt of Canada and the most recent Past President of Wonca Europe region, Igor Svab of Slovenia. The next issue of Wonca News will feature profiles on these two remarkable doctors.

Honorary Life Direct Membership is awarded in recognition of contributions to the work of the Wonca Organization and/or to general practice/family medicine on a world basis. All past presidents of WONCA receive this award and as such Prof Chris Van Weel was a recipient this year.

The Wonca Award of Excellence in Health Care, otherwise known as "The 5-Star Doctor" at the Wonca Regional level is awarded to physicians, who in the opinion of the Council, have made a significant impact on the health of individual and communities, through personal contributions to health care and the profession. It is instituted in an attempt to increase the global development of Family Medicine, global networking and partnership. In 2010 this award was conferred on Drs Sonia Roche Barker of Trinidad & Tobago and Ruth Wilson of Canada. More on these two doctors in future issues of Wonca News.

The Wonca Foundation Award has been made possible by an initial donation of ten thousand Pounds Sterling from the Royal College of General Practitioners. The Award is used to further the aim of "fostering and maintaining high standards of care in general practice/family

medicine” by enabling physicians to travel to appropriate countries to instruct in general practice/family medicine, and appropriate physicians from developing countries to spend time in areas where they may develop special skills and knowledge in general practice/family medicine.

This triennium, the winner of this award was Dr David Whittet of New Zealand. During the presentation of the award to Dr Whittet at Cancún, Dr Tane Taylor another New Zealand GP sang a waiata - a tradition from the Maori culture of New Zealand. Dr Whittet’s plans for his Foundation award will be featured in the next issue of Wonca News.

## THE NEW WONCA TEAM

The change of officers at Cancun means that a new team is leading WONCA for the triennium until 2013. CEO Alfred Loh remains at the helm but many of the elected officers have changed. A full list of new office bearers and committee members is available on the WONCA website. <http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com/PDFs/WoncaCommitteesComposition2010-2013.pdf>

## Wonca Executive Committee 2010 – 2013

President: Prof Richard Roberts (USA)  
 President-Elect: Prof Michael Kidd (Australia)  
 Immediate Past President:  
 Prof Chris van Weel (Netherlands)  
 Executive Member at Large & Honorary Treasurer:  
 Dr Francine Lemire (Canada)  
 Executive Member at Large & WHO Liaison Person:  
 Dr Iona Heath (United Kingdom)  
 Executive Member at Large:  
 Dr Wesley Schmidt (Paraguay)  
 Regional President, Wonca Africa:  
 Dr Sylvester Tola Osinowo (Nigeria)  
 Regional President, Wonca Asia Pacific:  
 Dr Donald Li (Hong Kong)  
 Regional President, Wonca East Mediterranean:  
 Prof Nabil AlKurashi (Saudi Arabia)  
 Regional President, Wonca Europe:  
 Dr Anthony Mathie (United Kingdom)  
 Regional President, Wonca Iberoamericana-CIMF:  
 Prof Liliana Arias-Castillo (Colombia)  
 Regional President, Wonca North America:  
 Dr Dan Ostergaard (USA)  
 Regional President, Wonca South Asia:  
 Dr P. Wijegoonewardene (Sri Lanka)

## Wonca Statutory Committees 2010 – 2013

### NOMINATING AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Chair: Professor Michael Kidd (Australia)  
 Members:  
 Dr Ada Videlei (Venezuela), Dr Antony Omolo (Nigeria),  
 Prof Meng-Chih Lee (Taiwan),  
 Prof Nandani de Silva (Sri Lanka)

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Francine Lemire (Canada)  
 Members:  
 Dr Arno Timmermans (Netherlands),  
 Dr Chris Mitchell (Australia), and Regional Honorary  
 Treasurers as ex-officio members:  
 Dr Muriel Fallala (Zimbabwe),  
 Dr Soraya Abubakar (Philippines),  
 Dr Carl Steylaerts (Belgium),  
 Dr Marina Almenas (Puerto Rico),  
 Dr Mohammed Tarawneh (Jordan)

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Iona Heath (United Kingdom)  
 Members:  
 Prof J Metsemakers (Netherlands),  
 Prof Adolfo Rubinstein (Argentina),  
 Dr Grace Azikn (Lebanon),  
 Dr Aziz Khan Tank (Pakistan), Dr Paul Obiegu (Nigeria),  
 Dr Jose Miguel Bueno (Spain), and the Regional  
 Presidents as ex-officio members.

### BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Tony Mathie, (United Kingdom)  
 Members:  
 Dr Daniel Thuraiappah (Malaysia),  
 Dr Dora Bernal (Colombia)

### PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Liliana Arias Castillo (Colombia)  
 Members:  
 Dr Marina Almenas (Puerto Rico / Wonca  
 Iberoamericana-CIMF), Dr Ramnik Parekh (India),  
 Dr Alexandre Gouveia (Portugal),  
 Dr Pauline Williams-Green (Jamaica),  
 Dr Oraib Alsmadi (Jordan), and the editors of the  
 Wonca regional journals as official observers.

### WORLD CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Dan Ostergaard (USA)

**Members:**

Dr Muriel Fallala (Zimbabwe),  
 Dr Naomi Harris (Australia), Prof Igor Svab (Slovenia),  
 Prof Nabil Kurashi (Saudi Arabia),  
 Dr Gustavo Gusso (Brazil), Dr Pratap Prasad (Nepal)

**ORGANIZATIONAL EQUITY COMMITTEE**

Chair: Dr Wesley Schmidt (Paraguay)

**Members:**

Prof Cheryl Levitt (Canada), Dr Atai Omoruto (Uganda),  
 Prof Amanda Howe (UK),  
 Dr Muhammad Arshad Malik (Pakistan),  
 Dr Sonia Roache-Barker (Trinidad & Tobago),  
 Prof Nandani de Silva (Sri Lanka)

**Wonca Working Parties**

Wonca International Classification Committee WICC Chair  
 Dr Michael Klinkman, USA

Working Party on Quality in Family Medicine Chair:  
 Daniel Thuraiappah, Malaysia

Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice Chair:  
 Professor Ian Couper, South Africa

Wonca Working Party on Informatics Chair:  
 Professor Peter Schattner, Australia

Wonca Working Party on Women and Family Medicine  
 Chair:  
 Prof Amanda Barnard, Australia

Wonca Working Party on  
 Research Chair: Dr Waris Qidwai, Fiji

Wonca Working Party on Education  
 Chair: Dr Allyn Walsh, Canada

Wonca Working Party on  
 Mental Health Chair:  
 Dr Gabriel Ivbijaro, United Kingdom

Wonca Working Party on  
 Ethical Issues Chair:  
 Professor Manfred Maier, Austria

**Special Interest Groups (SIG)**

SIG on the Environment Convenor:  
 Dr Alan Abelsohn, Canada

SIG on Travel Medicine Convenor:  
 Dr Garth Brink, South Africa

SIG on Elderly Care Convenor  
 Dr Hakan Yaman, Turkey

SIG on Cancer and Palliative  
 Care Convenor Prof David Weller,  
 United Kingdom

SIG on Systems and Complexities  
 in Health

A/Prof Joachim Sturmborg, Australia

**WONCA REGIONAL NEWS**

**WONCA AFRICA LOOKS TO THE FUTURE**

The Africa Region of Wonca has, for the first time has adopted By-laws modelled on the Wonca World By-laws, for their business and activities. This was tested in Cancun during the election of Africa Region executives, when both the spirit and letter of the new by-laws were strictly adhered to, creating an initial litmus test which resulted in success for the new document.

The following goals were set, which we shall try to accomplish during the coming triennium:

1. Communication improvement amongst member organisations and executive members: we adopted open source information and communications technology for multi users (“skype”) and we hope to conduct our executive meetings and interactive sessions by teleconference.
2. We shall deploy improved communication as tool for vigorous “membership drives and development”. We will follow up the leads of certain countries and organisations that indicate an interest to join the Wonca family and thus we hope to improve our membership during the triennium by at least 30%.



Wonca Africa Region President Dr Sylvester Osinowo (Nigeria) (centre) with (L to R) Immediate Past President Africa Region Prof Kaya Mfenyana (South Africa), Dr H J O Lawson from Ghana (Executive member at large, Wonca Africa Region), Dr Atai Omoruto from Uganda (Treasurer Africa Region Wonca), Dr Matie Obazee from Nigeria (Vice President Africa Region Wonca), Dr Tony Omolola (President, Association of General & Private Practitioners of Nigeria) and Dr Muriel Fallala from Zimbabwe (Treasurer Africa Region Wonca).

3. Working towards hosting 3rd Africa Regional Conference in 2012 in Zimbabwe - the location is expected to be scenic and a tourist's delight area, Lake Victoria. We hope the political situation in Zimbabwe will continue to stabilise and be more clement. The entire region will mobilise resources in support of hosting organisation.
4. Education and training will be encouraged using the principle of the strong ones helping to strengthen the weak. We must accentuate capacity building for education and training and to this end, we shall be looking to our age-long collaborators to assist us improving training in residency for family physicians. Our existing collaborators are: Global Health through Education, Training and Service (GHETS); THUTS, and Primafamed.  
  
We shall reopen dialogue and negotiation for extension of their activities and we will look beyond these dedicated past friends and woo new ones for example, regional WHO and our various governments. We shall encourage members to write in and patronise our regional peer journal The African Journal of Primary Health Care and Family Medicine.
5. Finally, we shall develop mechanisms to raise "funds" for our activities. The Wonca Africa President will support any serious plan and project that can actualise this, including making an appearance in the name of solidarity if invited with adequate notice and planning.

Dr Sylvester Tola Osinowo (Nigeria) - Africa Region President Wonca.



Dr Sylvester Osinowo, President Africa region

## WONCA ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE COMBINES WITH WONCA RURAL HEALTH WORLD CONFERENCE IN CEBU, PHILIPPINES

### WONCA Cebu 2011: Registration and submission of abstracts now open

Professor Zorayda E Leopando, Overall Chair of Wonca Cebu 2011 is pleased to announce that the pioneering joint 18th World Organization of Family Doctors Regional Conference for Asia Pacific and 10th Wonca Rural Health World Conference has opened its online registration and online abstract submission. This can be done through the conference website [www.woncacebu2011.org](http://www.woncacebu2011.org)



The event will be held on February 21-24, 2011 in the Waterfront Hotel, Lahug, Cebu City with the theme "Paradigms of Family Medicine: Bridging Old Traditions with New Concepts". It is a four-in-one affair because it is also the time that the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) will celebrate its Golden Anniversary and the Foundation for Family Medicine Educators, its Silver Anniversary.

The 6th Wes Fabb Orator is Professor John Murtagh of Australia, author of the well known and much used textbook 'General Practice' and one of the most influential people in our discipline.



Prof 'Dada' Leopando (left) and Dr Soraya Abubakar, PAFP President (right) with Prof Rich Roberts in Cancun

## Plenaries and speakers announced

The plenary sessions topics are: Climate Change, Environmental Protection and Health; Making Primary Health Care Reform Work through Family Medicine Research; Family Medicine Education: Think Global, Act Local; and Family Health Care, Quality, Patient Safety and Social Accountability.

Plenary speakers include Professor Rich Roberts, Wonca President; Dr Iona Health, Wonca Executive member at large and President of the Royal College of General Practitioners; Professor Christos Lionis of Greece, Dr Sarah Larkins of James Cook University, Australia and Dr Lucy Walters of Flinders University, Australia.

## Multiple collaborations within the umbrella of WONCA

There are sessions being organized by the Rajakumar Movement headed by Dr Naomi Harris in coordination with the PAFP. These will provide academic and social networking opportunities.

The skills workshops which are regular features of both PAFP Conventions and Wonca Rural Health Conferences will also be included. Coordination with the Wonca Working Party for Women and Family Medicine is likewise being done for the Women's track.

The editors of Asia Pacific Family Medicine Journal shall present the Lyn Clearihan Award to the winning original article published in 2010. They will also conduct two writing workshops.

A number of social events have been planned and will definitely be a source of enjoyment. The welcome reception will feature entertainment provided by talented Filipino and international family physicians. There will be sports activities, non-stop dancing, as well as cultural and shopping tours.

WONCA Cebu 2011 is certainly an event you should be a part of. Register now! [www.woncacebu2011.org](http://www.woncacebu2011.org)

## WONCA MEMBER AND ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

### PROFILE : WONCA'S NEW PRESIDENT - PROFESSOR RICH ROBERTS

Richard G Roberts, MD, JD, FAAFP, FCLM, is a Professor and past Chair in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine & Public Health in Madison. Since 1987 Dr. Roberts has practiced in Belleville, a rural community of 1900 people. A family physician and attorney, Dr. Roberts provides the full scope of family medicine services: he delivers babies, cares for patients of all ages, performs endoscopy and minor surgery, and attends patients in the home, nursing home, and hospital, including those in intensive care units.



Professor Rich Roberts  
in Cancun

In the United States, Dr. Roberts is President of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Foundation. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the National Patient Safety Foundation and the National Advisory Council of the California Health Benefits Review Program. He is a member of the Guidelines Leadership Group of the National Heart, Lung, Blood Institute (NHLBI). He is Vice Chair of the Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association. A member of United Health Group's national Physician Advisory Council, Dr. Roberts also chairs its Scientific Advisory Board on primary care and emergency medicine.

At the international level, Professor Roberts is now President of World Organization of Family Doctors (Wonca). For ten years, he served on and chaired the Wonca Working Party on Quality in Family Medicine. He serves on the Steering Committee of the global Dialogue on Diabetes and Depression. He is a member of the Executive Board of Peers for Progress, a \$15 million international grant to promote peer support among those

with diabetes. He has consulted on primary care redesign for Brazil, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates. He has supervised exchanges involving students and residents from Brazil, China, Nigeria, Portugal, and Spain. Professor Roberts has lectured and taught in more than two dozen countries. He led U.S. physician delegations to Brazil, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam. He has been a member of six U.S. delegations to WHO International Consultations on urinary health.

Dr Roberts is a past president of the AAFP and the Wisconsin Medical Society. He has worked closely with a wide range of physician groups focused on quality, including service as a director on the boards of the American Medical Accreditation Program (AMAP) and the Commission on Laboratory Accreditation (COLA). He served for 15 years as a member of the Wisconsin delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates. He was a member of the Medical Advisory Panel to the Technology Evaluation Center of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. He was a member of the Standards Committee of NCQA (National Committee for Quality Assurance). He has been a member of more than two dozen guidelines panels of groups such as the AAFP, American College of Cardiology, American Pain Society, American Urological Association, Joint Commission (JCAHO), Maternitywise, U.S. Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the World Health Organization. He has been a consultant to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Anesthetic and Life Support Drug Advisory Committee and the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board. He has been a consultant to EyeTel, Google, and Symphony Corporations.

Early in his career, Dr. Roberts was the managing partner in a four-physician group in a very rural and underserved community. He was a founding officer of the University of Wisconsin Medical Foundation, a 900-plus physician multi-specialty faculty practice plan. Dr. Roberts has been a member of the medical staff of five hospitals and was chief of staff for a rural hospital. He served as associate medical director for two health plans (HMO of Wisconsin, Unity) and as a director on the boards of HMO of Wisconsin and a statewide IPA (Community Physicians Network). He was a director and Vice Chair of the Physicians Insurance Company of Wisconsin, a professional liability insurance company. He served on the Board of Governors of the Wisconsin Patient Compensation Fund, a state-administered fund for injured patients and their families. Professor Roberts was involved extensively in the U.S. Future of Family Medicine Project to redesign primary care, serving as a member of the Project Leadership Team and on the Research Advisory Committee; he also chaired Task Force

Five on Leadership and was a member of Task Force Six on Finances. He served as the Founder and Chair of the SOAR (Six Organizations to Advance the Renewal of Family Medicine) International Colloquium, which was funded by Health Canada, convened in Toronto in 2006, and involved representatives from Australia, Canada, Netherlands, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and United States to discuss and redesign the future of family medicine.

Professor Roberts's scholarship has focused on practice redesign, patient safety, quality improvement, and the development of decision support tools such as guidelines to improve clinical care. He has authored more than 150 publications, been an investigator on a dozen grants, and given more than 600 presentations. After receiving a B.A. in philosophy and a law degree from the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Roberts matriculated to George Washington University for his medical degree. He completed a family medicine residency at UCLA-Santa Monica. Professor Roberts is a Fellow of the AAFP and the American College of Legal Medicine. He was a Fellow in the Kellogg Foundation national leadership development program.

Rich and his wife Laura, an exercise physiologist and fitness consultant, live in Verona, Wisconsin; they have four children.

#### **PROFILE :** **WONCA PRESIDENT-ELECT -** **PROFESSOR MICHAEL KIDD**



Professor Michael Kidd of Australia,  
President-Elect of Wonca.

Professor Michael Kidd is the President-elect of The World Organization of Family Doctors (Wonca) and will serve as World President from 2013-2016. He was an elected Member-at-Large of Wonca from 2004-2010 and served as Honorary Treasurer from 2007-2010. He was the Wonca liaison person with the World Health Organization from 2005-2010 and convened the Wonca Education Working Party from 2006-2010. He was a member of the Wonca Asia Pacific Regional Council from 2004-2007. He was the inaugural convenor of the Wonca Informatics

Working Party from 1995-2007. He will serve as President-Elect from 2010 until 2013.

Professor Kidd was President of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) from 2002-2006. From 1995-2009, he was Professor of General Practice at The University of Sydney. He is now the Executive Dean of Health Sciences (including the School of Medicine and the School of Nursing and Midwifery) at Flinders University based in Adelaide and with clinical schools and research centres in South Australia, the Northern Territory and Western Victoria. He also works part-time as a general practitioner in South Australia and the Northern Territory with special interests in the care of people with HIV and Indigenous Health.

He has wide ranging research and education interests including primary health care and general practice, medical informatics, health policy, medical education, safety and quality in primary care, and the primary care management of HIV, hepatitis C and sexually transmissible infections.

He is the chair of the Australian Government's Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections which leads Australia's strategies for the prevention and treatment of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and sexually transmissible infections.

He has experience as a medical educator and examiner working in a number of countries including Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, South Africa and Saudi Arabia. Since 2008 he has been working with the World Health Organization as an advisor on the primary care management of mental health in the island nations of the Western Pacific region and as an adviser on the development of chronic disease prevention and management initiatives in low and middle income nations.

Professor Kidd is the founder and editor-in-chief of the Journal of Medical Case Reports, the world's first journal devoted to case reports from all medical disciplines. He is co-editor of the textbook "Health Informatics: an Overview", which has been published in English, Spanish and Portuguese, and wrote the chapters on "HIV/AIDS" and "Computers in the Consultation" in the Oxford Textbook of Primary Care Medicine. His book with Professor Leanne Rowe on health promotion, "Save your life and the lives of those you love – your GP's six step guide to good health", was published by Allen and Unwin in 2007. His book with Professor Leanne Rowe on doctors' health and well being, "First do no harm

– how to be a resilient doctor in the 21st century", was published by McGraw Hill in 2009.

In 2007 he was a Visiting Professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he researched aspects of primary care in developing nations and conducted field work in Africa, India, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. In 2008 he spent two months as a volunteer assisting in the establishment of new primary care-based HIV testing and treatment services in rural areas in the Limpopo province of South Africa.

In the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2009, he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to medicine and education in the areas of general practice and primary health care and through a range of professional organisations.

Professor Kidd will no doubt make a valuable contribution as President-Elect and then President of Wonca.

#### **PROFILE : NEW PRESIDENT OF WONCA EUROPE - DR TONY MATHIE**



Wonca Europe President,  
Dr Tony Mathie of the UK

Tony Mathie from the United Kingdom is the new President of Wonca Europe having taken over from Professor Igor Svab of Slovenia at the World Conference in Cancun in May 2010. He was previously the Treasurer of Wonca Europe for six years.

Tony is the Director of Postgraduate General Practice Education in the North West Region of England based in Liverpool. This is a full time post in which he is the Programme Director for 420 Residents who undertake a three year programme; 18 months in hospital and 18 months in practice. He has been in this post since 1990 and full time since 1996. Prior to that he was a GP in a large group practice in Cheshire for over 20 years.

Tony is also the Chairman of the United Kingdom Defence Medical Services GP Education Committee and

is the civilian responsible for the training standards of GPs in the Army, Navy and Air Force worldwide. He recently visited the Falkland Islands for the first time.

For ten years up until 2003, Tony was the Treasurer of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and also its workforce lead. He has served on many committees and working parties in the United Kingdom's National Health Service (NHS).

As a result of his membership of the Wonca Europe Executive and the RCGP's International Committee, Tony has been fortunate to travel widely and has been a consultant to WHO and UNICEF in Iran and has also worked in China, Pakistan and widely in Europe.

Outside his day job, Tony is the Honorary Colonel of the 208 (Liverpool) Field Hospital (V) and Chairman of Governors of an independent school and a senior Freemason. He is married to Toni who is a senior NHS Manager responsible for a large Cancer Network. He has two children and three grandchildren.

### **WONCA HISTORY REVEALED AT CANCUN : DR ALFREDO JIMÉNEZ OROZCO**

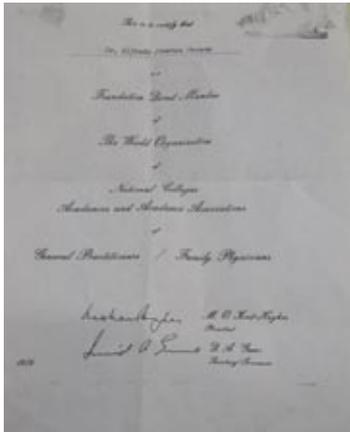
In 1974 from November 4th to 8th, the sixth World Conference of general and family medicine was held in México. A Wonca World Council meeting was also held at that time. So in fact the Cancún 2010 conference is the second time a world conference of family medicine and general practice has been held in México.



VI conferencia mundial de medicina general y medicina familiar. Noviembre 4-8 de 1974. Mexico.  
6th world conference of general medicine and family medicine. November 4-8, 1974. Mexico

Wonca began from small beginnings with 18 members in 1972. At the 1974 world conference in Mexico, a number of doctors joined Wonca as foundation members. Some of these same doctors were present at Cancún 2010. Dr Alfredo Jiménez Orozco works as a family physician in the remote Mexican province of Oaxaca. He was present at both the 1974 and the 2010 conferences.

Dr Orozco showed Dr Alfred Loh, CEO of Wonca his original certificate of foundation membership of Wonca signed by the first President of Wonca, Dr Monty Kent-Hughes and Dr David Game who was Secretary/ Treasurer at that time. Dr Loh presented Dr Orozco with a Wonca tie to honour his second Wonca conference.



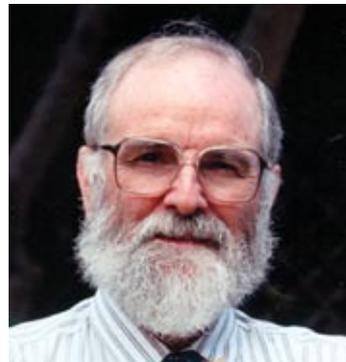
Dr Alfredo Jiménez Orozco's foundation membership certificate



Dr Alfredo Jiménez Orozco's foundation membership certificate of Wonca is displayed by Dr Alfred Loh, CEO Wonca and then President Prof Chris Van Weel

**REMEMBERING EMERITUS PROFESSOR CHARLES BRIDGES-WEBB (1934-2010)**

Charles Bridges-Webb, AO, MBBS (Melbourne), MD (Monash), MM (Sydney), FRACGP, Fellow of Wonca, was a major international figure in primary care research for many years. He was the doyen of general practice research in Australasia and his work and influence will continue to inspire primary care researchers around the world for many years to come.



Charles Bridges-Webb.  
Fellow of Wonca

Charles Bridges-Webb was born in Melbourne, Australia on 15th October 1934. A country doctor's son, he graduated from the University of Melbourne in 1957 and went on to become an international figure in general practice research.

Charles commenced his research, which he called 'organised curiosity'<sup>[1]</sup> while a rural GP in Traralgon. He was appointed foundation Professor of Community Medicine (later renamed General Practice) at The University of Sydney, in 1975 and was head of department until his retirement in 1994.

Charles was a member of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Research Committee for 20 years and RACGP representative on the National Health and Medical Research Council. He was an inaugural member and president (1989-1991) of the Australian Academic Association of General Practice. He was awarded the RACGP Rose-Hunt Medal for service to general practice in 1993.

Shortly after his retirement in 1994, Charles was awarded an Emeritus Professorship by the University of Sydney in honour of his many years of distinguished service and in 2001, also awarded a Master of Medicine (Honorary). In 2002, Charles was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for his services to medicine in primary health care research and general practice. In 2004, he was made a Life Fellow of RACGP for service to general practice.

Charles was an international leader in the development of morbidity surveys and his publication on morbidity in general practice<sup>[2]</sup> is one of the most important research publications from Australian General Practice, offering an understanding of health and disease in the community.

When the World Organisation of Family Doctors (Wonca) was founded in Melbourne in 1972, the Wonca Classification Committee (WICC) was also established and Charles was one of the founding members (1972–1988). From 1981–1984 he served as Wonca nominee on a World Health Organisation working party established to develop a Reason for Encounter Classification for Primary Care.

In 2004 Charles was awarded Fellowship of Wonca. This is the most prestigious award of our international organization and is awarded to individuals who have rendered outstanding service to primary care and family medicine at a global level.

Charles played a major role in the development of the International Classification of Health Problems in Primary Care (ICHPPC) (1979) and ICHPPC-2-Defined (1983), the International Classification of Process in Primary Care (IC-Process-PC) (1986), and the International Classification of Primary Care (ICPC) (1987). He took over from Jack Froom as Chair of the Wonca International Classification Committee (WICC) in 1991. During Charles' time as Chair, the Committee was revising ICPC, and work was often turbulent and difficult, as many individuals had strong personalities and differing views. With his gentle but consistent manner, Charles managed to get the members working together towards the common goal, despite personal and professional differences. This resulted in the 1998 release of the new version of ICPC (ICPC-2), which had been updated, with inclusion and exclusion criteria added for all symptoms and diagnoses. It became the basis on which WHO later accepted ICPC-2 as the official World Health Organization classification system for primary care.

Charles was a Visiting Professor with the Department of Family Practice at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1982 and with the General Practice Unit of The University of Hong Kong in 1988. He was an external examiner with The University of Auckland and The University of Tasmania. He was a member of the editorial boards of a number of international journals including Family Practice and Frontiers of Primary Medicine. He was the author of over 150 publications.

In retirement, Charles was Director of the RACGP Research Unit and Chair of the Management Committee of the Australian General Practice Statistics and Classification Centre (home of the BEACH program). He also spent time enjoying his extensive garden, being a lay preacher and writing his autobiography<sup>[3]</sup>.

A quiet, often philosophical man, Charles saw the good in everyone and encouraged their strengths. He was notable for his generosity in sharing his talents and time, especially with young researchers, for his loving partnership with his wife Anne and his ability to balance his extraordinary professional contributions with his family life.

Charles died in Sydney on 16 June 2010 and is survived by Anne, their four children, Andrew, Ian, David and Kate, and their eight grandchildren.

[1] Bridges-Webb C. Organised curiosity. Medical Journal of Australia 2001; 175: 613-616.

[2] Bridges-Webb C, Britt H, Miles DA, Neary S, Charles J, Traynor V. Morbidity and treatment in general practice in Australia 1990-91. Med J Aust 1992; 157(Suppl): S1-S56.

[3] Bridges-Webb C. To Travel Hopefully, an autobiography. Melbourne: Sid Harta Publishers, 2005

*by Michael Kidd, Niels Bentzen, Helena Britt, Mike Klinkman*

Information correct as of June 2010.

## WONCA CONFERENCES 2010 – 2013 AT A GLANCE

\*\*Wonca Direct Members enjoy lower conference registration fees

See Wonca Website [www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com) for updates & membership information

<b>2010</b>			
6 – 9 October	Europe Regional Conference	Malaga SPAIN	Family Medicine into the Future Blending Health & Cultures
2 – 4 December	South Asia Regional Conference	Kathmandu NEPAL	Bridging Rural and Urban Health by General Practice
<b>2011</b>			
21 – 24 February	Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Cebu PHILIPPINES	Paradigms of Family Medicine: Bridging Old Traditions with New Concepts
8 – 11 September	Europe Regional Conference	Warsaw POLAND	Family Medicine - Practice, Science and Art
<b>2012</b>			
24 – 27 May	Wonca Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Jeju SOUTH KOREA	Evidence Based Approach To Primary Care
4 – 7 July	Europe Regional Conference	Vienna AUSTRIA	The Art and Science of General Practice
<b>2013</b>			
June	20 <sup>th</sup> Wonca World Conference	Prague CZECH REPUBLIC	Family Medicine: Care for Generations



# South Asia Regional Wonca Conference of family Doctors & GPAN conference 2010



Organized by

## General Practitioner's Association of Nepal (GPAN)

*Theme: Bridging Rural and Urban Health by General Practice*

**Date: 2-4 Dec. 2010, Kathmandu**



### Conference Secretariat:

Siddhi Sadan, Exhibition Road, Kathmandu

Post Box: 5919 Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: 00977-1-4225860, Fax: 00977-1-4225300

Email: [gpan1990@yahoo.co.in](mailto:gpan1990@yahoo.co.in), Web: [www.gpan.org.np](http://www.gpan.org.np)

### Venue :

The Everest Hotel

New Baneshwor, Kathmandu

### Poster Sponsered by:



**VIJAYADEEP**  
LABORATORIES LTD.

## GLOBAL MEETINGS FOR THE FAMILY DOCTOR

### WONCA WORLD AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALENDAR

#### Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Malaga, Spain 2010

Host : The Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine (SEMFCY)

Theme : Family Medicine into the Future: Blending Health and Cultures.

Date : 6-9 October 2010

Venue : Málaga Conference Hall (Palacio de Ferias y Congresos de Málaga)

Contact : Dr. Luis Gálvez-Alcaraz  
Chair Host Organizing Committee  
Spanish Society Family and Community Medicine  
Address: Portaferriassa, 8, pral.  
08002 BARCELONA (España)

Tel : 93 317 03 33

Fax : 93 317 77 72

Email : luisgalvez@semfyc.es

#### Wonca Asia Pacific Regional Conference, Philippines 2011

Host : The Philippine Academy of Family Physicians

Theme : Paradigms of Family Medicine: Bridging Old Traditions with New Concepts

Date : February 2011

Venue : Cebu, Philippines

Contact : Prof. Zorayda Leopando  
Chair, Host Organizing Committee

Email : dfcmdada@yahoo.com  
woncacebu2011@gmail.com

#### Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Poland 2011

Host : The College of Family Physicians in Poland

Date : 8-11 September, 2011

Venue : Warsaw, Poland

Theme : Family Medicine: Practice, Science and Art

Contact : Ms Katarzyna Dubas  
Health & Management  
Sarego 16/3 Street  
31-047 Krakow, Poland

phone : 48 12 429 5015

fax : 48 12 431 21 44

Email : Katarzyna.Dubas@ziz.com.pl

Web : www.woncaeuropa2011.org

#### Wonca Asia Pacific Regional Conference, South Korea 2012

Host : The Korean Academy of Family Physicians

Date : 24-27 May 2012

Venue : Jeju South Korea

Email : kafmsd@kafm.or.kr

#### Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Vienna, Austria 2012

Host : Austrian Society of General Practice / Family Medicine

Date : July 4-7, 2012, Austria

Venue : Center Vienna (ACV)

Theme : The Art and Science of General Practice

Contact : Vienna Medical Academy  
Alser Strasse 4, Unicampus  
AAKH  
1090 Vienna

Tel : 43 1 405 13 83-0

Fax : 43 1 407 82 74

Email : woncaeuropa2012@medacad.org

Web : www.woncaeuropa2012.org

## MEMBER ORGANIZATION AND RELATED MEETINGS

#### The New Zealand General Practitioners Conference

Host : The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners

Date : Sept 2-5, 2010

Venue : Christchurch, New Zealand

Web : www.rnzcgpcconference.org.nz

#### AAFP Annual Scientific Assembly, United States 2010

Host : The American Academy of Family Physicians

Date : Sept 29-Oct 3, 2010

Venue : Denver, Colorado

Web : www.aafp.org

#### RACGP GP '10 Conference

Host : The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

Date : September 6 - 9, 2010

Venue : Cairns, Australia

Web : www.gp10.com.au

#### RCGP Annual National Primary Care Conference, United Kingdom 2010

Host : Royal College of General Practitioners

Date : October 7-9, 2010

Venue : Harrogate International Centre

Web : www.rcgp.org.uk

#### Travel Medicine, South Africa 2010

Theme : Travel Health Africa – Research and Reality

Date : October 14-17, 2010

Venue : Capetown International Convention Center, South Africa

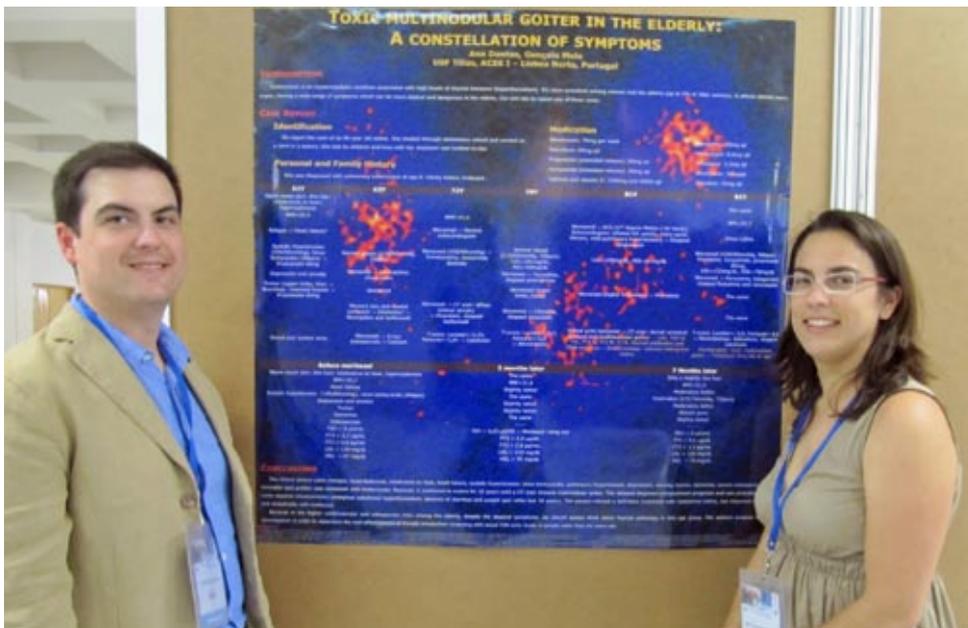
Contact : Dr Garth Brink

Email : gkb@itikzn.co.za

# WONCA CANCUN 2010

## POSTER DISPLAY

The WONCA Cancun 2010 conference included a large number of posters from all over the world - so many posters (679 in the abstract book) that they were changed daily. The Wonca news editor selected three posters at random to feature in this pictorial record of Cancun 2010.

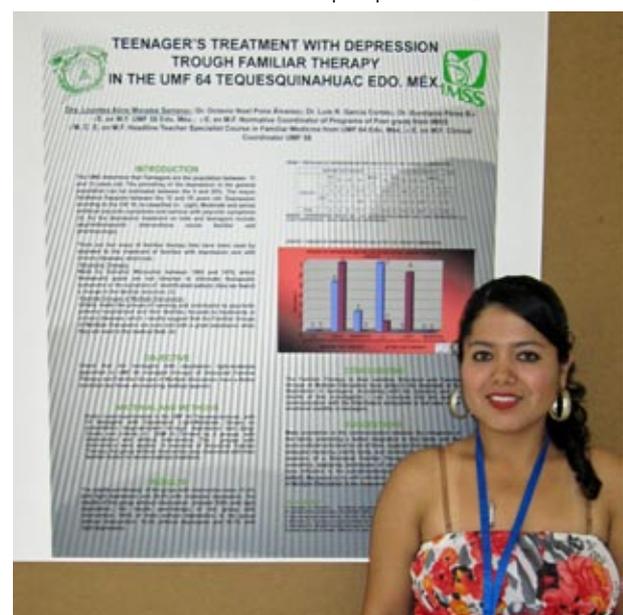


◀ Drs Gonçalo Melo and Ana Dantas of Portugal with their poster titled “Toxic multinodular goiter in the elderly: a constellation of symptoms”

▼ Dra Lourdes Aline Morales Serrano of Mexico with her poster titled “Teenager’s treatment with depression through familiar therapy in the UMF 64 Tequesquahuac Edo. Méx.”



▲ Dr Jose Antonia Rojas-Suarez from Colombia with his poster titled “Evaluation of ALSO® training course for different healthcare providers as an important teaching course for obstetric emergencies. How far is their motivation?”





▲ Young doctors at their Preconference in Cancún ▲



▲ The Mental Health Working Party meet in Cancun (from L to R) Evelyn van Weel- Baumgarten (Netherlands), Alfred Loh (Wonca CEO), Susan Martin (UK), Meng Chi Lee (Taiwan), Gabriel Ivbijaro (chair, UK), Igor vab (Slovenia), Manfred Maier (Austria), Chris Dowrick (UK), Sandra Fortes (Brazil), Henk Parmentier (UK), Matie Obazee (Nigeria).



▲ Prof Kyung-Hee Cho, President Korean Academy of Family Physicians (far left) with other members of the Korean team in Cancún



▲ Professor Chris Van Weel admires a thank you gift received from the Wonca Working Party on Women and Family Medicine in Cancún



▲ All from the USA, Past President of Wonca Bob Higgins (left), with retiring editor of WONCA news Marc Rivo (centre) and Dan Ostergaard, current President Wonca North America region.



▲ Dr Alfred Loh, CEO of Wonca relaxing with his wife Yiau Leng at the Hotel Fiesta Americana



▲ Wonca executive members, Prof Nabil Al Kurashi (Saudi Arabia), Dr Wesley Schmidt (Paraguay) and Dr Preethi Wijegoonewardene (Sri Lanka) at the Wonca Awards ceremony in Cancún



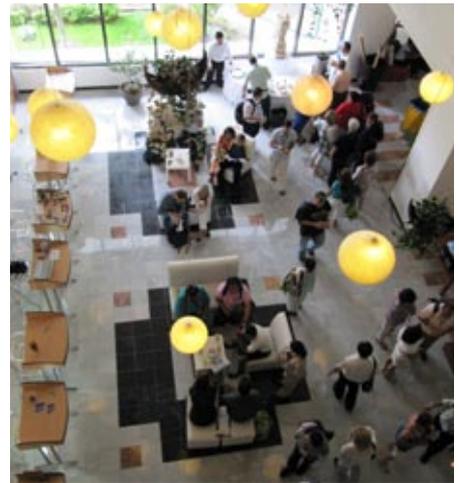
▲ A jubilant team from Brazil after winning the bid to host the 2016 Wonca World Conference



▲ Adolfo Rubenstein (far left), retiring President WONCA Iberoamericana CIMF region with (from L to R) Ana Lucía Meyer from Dominican Republic, Eduardo Alemañy from Cuba, Ada Vedilei from Venezuela, Marina Almenas from Puerto Rico, Lourdes Arratia from Bolivia, Cecilia Llorach from Panama and César Brandt from Venezuela.



◀ Wonca staff, Gillian Tan (left) and Yvonne Chung man the Wonca stand at Cancún



▲ Conference view Cancún ▼



▲ The sun sets on Cancún

