Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader,

As you all know, April in our community has become synonymous with Med-e-Tel, one of two key events in the ISfTeH calendar. Despite our wish to have large numbers of you at Med-e-Tel, we know that not everyone can be there. I would therefore, as I did last year, like to share with you my message, below, to Med-e-Tel participants.

It is again my distinct pleasure to welcome you to this edition of Med-e-Tel, the eleventh in the life of the event. Last year, as we celebrated the landmark tenth edition, I implored you that despite the progress and consistent performance of Med-e-Tel, we still needed to grow the two key aspects of the event - attendance and the number of exhibitors. I indicated that "the vision of the International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (ISfTeH), which took over ownership of Med-e-Tel in 2010, is to increase attendance to around 1,000 participants - to improve the chances of your making that networking connection which takes your business or personal eHealth work to another level.” I recommended that we could get there by each of us bringing five "connections". I trust that you are attending this year with your five “connections”.

We will again have the stimulating content, filtered by our ever vigilant expert scientific program committee, to bring you the best of original research, reviews, hot-off-the-press findings, as well as practical, hands-on experiences (lessons from the field) - a priceless feature that the top
journals in the world, such as the WHO Bulletin, have incorporated, in our case to bring you papers that capture experiences and practices gained in solving specific Telemedicine and eHealth problems around the globe.

A special feature of this Med-e-Tel will be the session on Women and eHealth, scheduled for the entire afternoon of Wednesday April 10. It will highlight the crucial role of women in Telemedicine and eHealth and their unrecognized capacity as builders of alternative futures, based on characteristics such as an innate future orientation, capacity to mediate and to network at all levels, capacity to be social actors, to face natural catastrophes and human conflicts by creating solidarity among women. We know that eHealth is used to better reach women in rural and isolated areas, due to the remarkable ability of ICT to connect people. We also know that women are involved in all levels of health throughout their entire life, as mothers, healthcare professionals, community leaders and decision makers.

The two-part session, in collaboration with Millennia 2015, will cover two broad perspectives of women in eHealth and Telemedicine: their place and roles in this arena; and highlights of local and global initiatives in which women are fully involved. At the end of the session, a ceremony will launch yet another chapter in the history of the ISfTeH, with the creation of the Working Group on Women (WoW).

I very much look forward to seeing you all in Luxembourg as we start this second decade of the event - together with your “connections”.

Sincerely,

Prof. S. Yunkap Kwankam
Executive Director
International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth

ISfTeH Meetings and Conferences

18th ISfTeH International Conference
Takamatsu, Japan
October 18 - 19, 2013

The annual ISfTeH Conference is held each Fall.
Visit ISfTeH’s Events webpage for more information.
Attend Your Annual ISfTeH Rendez-Vous: Med-e-Tel 2013!

The Med-e-Tel conference, our (...your!) annual ISfTeH meeting, is taking place next week! If you have not yet made arrangements to be there, we strongly encourage you to do so. Med-e-Tel is an excellent opportunity to strengthen the ISfTeH network and to establish contacts and partnerships that will drive your activities throughout the next year! Med-e-Tel = an extensive conference program, an exhibition showing practical solutions and products, and plenty of discussion and networking opportunities!

Register now for the event, and meet with your peers in Luxembourg from April 10th till April 12th:

For more information on Med-e-Tel 2013, please visit www.medetel.eu

National Member Spotlight

Slovenian Medical Informatics Association (SIMIA)

The Slovenian Medical Informatics Association - SIMIA is a professional, non-governmental organization aimed to promote developments in medical informatics in Slovenia as well as internationally. Its predecessor, the MIA, was founded in 1986 as the ex-Yugoslav professional association of medical information professionals. Nowadays it has more than two hundred members of different professions all working in the eHealth field. The SIMIA is a meeting place for people active in medical informatics in the broadest sense, i.e. physicians, computer scientists, engineers, mathematicians, nurses, hospital administrators, and health care managers.

The main scope of SIMIA is to stimulate and co-ordinate various activities of its members in promoting health informatics in the country and to support international co-operation in this field. Main activities encompass the following tasks:
• Organisation of scientific and professional conferences, symposia, courses and exhibitions very often in collaboration with related organizations abroad.
• Publication of scientific, professional and educational documents and papers in the field of medical informatics.
• Dissemination of information about health informatics conferences, publications and links via internet using various types of web services.
• Promotion of scientific and professional contacts with similar societies at the international level seeking not only knowledge but also friendship
• Active support to professionals and scientists willing to actively participate at international conferences and meetings

At a national scale, SIMIA keeps the tradition of organising yearly national conferences often with international participation. A national congress on medical informatics is held every two years hosting invited speakers from various healthcare informatics associations such as EFMI, IMIA, HIMSS etc. While the congresses cover aspects of healthcare informatics, the yearly organised conferences are aimed towards special topics such as: EPRs (EHCR), healthcare data management, security, patient safety, eHealth, nursing informatics, telemedicine, legal and ethical issues, healthcare legislation and healthcare issues.

To read the complete article on ISfTeH National Member SIMIA, please click here.

SIMIA Contact Information:
Dr. Ivan Erzen, MD - President of SIMIA (ivan.erzen@gmail.com)
Andrej Orel M.SC. - SIMIA representative to EFMI, IMIA (Andrej.orel@marand.si)
Dr. Drago Rudel - SIMIA representative to ISfTeH (drago.rudel@mf.uni-lj.si)
Website: www.sdmi.si

A different National Member will be spotlighted each quarter.

Board Member Spotlight

Professor Rifat Latifi

Dr. Rifat Latifi is a Professor of Surgery at the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, and Director of Trauma Services at Hamad General Hospital in Doha, Qatar. Dr. Latifi is also the President and Founder of International Virtual e-Hospital Foundation (IVeH, www.iveh.org), a not for profit US based organization based in Austin, Texas. Through this
organization, Dr. Latifi has been working to transform healthcare and medical education worldwide through telemedicine and advanced medical technologies. IVeH creates and establishes self-sustainable telemedicine and e-health programs around the world to rebuild medical systems in the developing world, one country at a time. The goal of IVeH is to train and educate healthcare providers of developing countries in the use, adoption, practice, and implementation of telemedicine, e-health, and electronic libraries in order to improve healthcare.

Dr. Latifi is a graduate of the Medical Faculty from the University of Prishtina in Prishtina, Kosova. He completed his internships at the University Clinical Center of Kosova and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio, his residency in General Surgery at Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut, and his Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at New York Medical College, Bronx New York. He was a research fellow in surgical nutrition and re-operative surgery at the University of Texas, Houston, Texas, and at Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania under Professor Stanley J. Dudrick, MD, FACS. After graduation from the training program, Dr. Latifi served as Assistant Professor of Surgery at Virginia Commonwealth University, at the Department of Trauma, Critical Care and Emergency Surgery. From 2003 to 2005 he served as an Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, and in May of 2005 was promoted to Professor of Surgery.

Read more about Professor Rifat Latifi’s accomplishments and contributions to telemedicine here.

Contact:
Rifat Latifi, MD, FACS
Board Member, ISfTeH
Professor of Surgery, University of Arizona - latifi@surgery.arizona.edu
President and Founder, International Virtual e-Hospital Foundation www.iveh.org

A different Board Member will be spotlighted each quarter.

ISfTeH Member News
National Member News

“School of Telemedicine & Biomedical Informatics”
Prof. Saroj MISHRA, President of the T.S.I. (Telemedicine Society of India)

School of Telemedicine & Biomedical Informatics was established in 2006 at the campus of Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India as an integral part of this tertiary care super-speciality medical university. This is the first of it’s kind of institution in South Asia devoted exclusively for education, training and research in the field of Healthcare ICT. Currently it runs One year full time residential Diploma Course in five disciplines namely Telemedicine, Hospital Information Management System, Public Health Informatics, Nursing Informatics & Digital Medical Library besides undertaking Training for In-service health professionals sponsored by various organizations from India and overseas. The school has excellent facilities for carrying out hands-on practice
besides exposure to routine healthcare ICT activities of the hospital and tele-health & tele-education network covering whole of India, South Asia and Africa. Ministries of Communication & IT and Ministry of health & Family Welfare, Government of India have recognized it as the National Resource Center for Telemedicine & Biomedical Informatics.

For more information; Contact telemedicine@sgpgi.ac.in / info@stbmi.ac.in

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**Individual Member News**

"New Bulgarian University - Healthcare and Social Sciences Department"
(P. Mihova, J.Vinarova, Individual members from Bulgaria
A. Vladzymyrsky, President AUTeHD, National Member for Ukraine)

For the first time in the NBU, a live online videoconference of 30 hours course in the field of telemedicine will be conducted. The course will be presented by the leading Ukrainian professor in Telemedicine - Prof.Dr. Anton Vladzymyrsky, MD, PhD for students in the fourth course of the Medical cybernetics bachelors degree program and first course students in the Masters Program "Regulations and standards in medicine." The lectures will be delivered to the students through the MOODLE platform, adopted for NBU needs.

For training purposes we have prepared and issued on behalf of the NBU a Bilingual digital textbook entitled "Information Technologies in Medicine and Healthcare", by A.Vladzymyrsky, P.Mihova. I.Pendzhurov, ISBN 978-954-535-755-8, NBU, 2012. The online meetings will take place between 1 and 5 April 2013 in the NBU, Bulgaria, realized with the help of e-Works software platform.

This is a new kind of e-learning for Bulgaria that overcomes grants and time constraints. The introduction of this innovative approach will contribute to the development of quality students as future professionals in the field, and will give them a real chance to communicate with world-class speakers. The training will enhance their skills and enrich their terminological apparatus. A number of sites around the world now offer free lectures by renowned speakers from the most prestigious universities, but the NBU - in the persons of P.Mihova, J.Vinarova and I.Pendzhurov - in partnership with AUTeHD will be the innovator in enabling students of the Department "Health and social work" for free listening and acquiring a certificate in Telemedicine.

New Bulgarian University (NBU)
Association for Ukrainian Telemedicine and eHealth Development(AUTeHD)

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**Nurse Member News**

"Call for Papers in the Field of Home Care"
on behalf of Ekezie Ralueke O., Director
(Nurse member from Nigeria)
Blue Torch Home Care Limited is pleased to announce a call for Papers for its first ever Conference/Seminar on Home Care delivery in Nigeria, scheduled to take place on 20th and 21st June, 2013. The event will draw a wide range of experts from different fields of Health Care Delivery to discuss the possible components and workability of Home Care Delivery in the African Health Care System.

Theme: Home Care Delivery - The Pathway to a Healthier Nation!

Subthemes:
- Home Care Nursing in Nigeria- Possible or Not?
- Tele-Health
- Policies Issues in Home Care Delivery
- Equipments used in Home Care
- M Health Practices in the Homes
- Support Infrastructure necessary for the success of Home Care Delivery
- Challenges in Home Care
- Home Care Delivery Variables/Mechanisms
- Palliative Care
- Ethical issues in Home Care Management
- Home Care Funding
- Data Management In Home Care Delivery
- Advocacy for Home Care Delivery (Home Health Information)
- Medical Tourism

Our goal for this conference is to bring together major stakeholders in our Health Care Delivery System ranging from the Policy Makers, Health Care Professionals, Pharmaceuticals Professionals, Health Care Institutions and Health Care Consumers. Also there will be networking opportunities with the participants and major players in the field of Home health care delivery.

Accepted abstracts/papers will be notified by 17th May 2013

Please email the organizing committee at info@bluetorchhomecare.org OR bluetorch@bluetorchhomecare.org, Gloria@bluetorchhomecare.org

Phone: +2347035774494

Note: We are aiming at making the conference free for every participant except for speakers, but it all still depends on the level of sponsorship we get. Though we have subsidized the fee at the moment, we are still working on organizing it free of charge.

Visit www.bluetorchhomecare.org for more details

Working Groups

Telenursing

The ISfTeH Telenursing Working Group continues to add members who are committed to the advancement of nurses in telehealth. There will be a Telenursing session at the 2013 Med-e-Tel. The TWG has 44 members representing 18 countries. Members represent NGOs, National Nurses Associations, Universities, Business, and care delivery from acute care to home care. Members receive periodic email notifications regarding upcoming conferences, professional announcements and related publications. We receive periodic requests for professional conference speakers and these are disseminated to the membership. Members were
invited to the International Counsel of Nurses Telenursing Network meeting which will be held at the ICN Congress in Melbourne Australia 18-23 May 2013.

For more information on the Telenursing Working Group, please contact:
Claudia C. Bartz PhD, RN, FAAN
Coordinator, ICN eHealth Programme (International Classification for Nursing Practice and ICN Telenursing Network) International Council of Nurses, Geneva Switzerland
cbartz@uwm.edu

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**Announcements**

**ISfTeH Discussion Forum**

A new communication platform has been created on the [ISfTeH website](http://www.isfteh.org), accessible to all duly registered members.

Login to [www.isfteh.org](http://www.isfteh.org) with your username and password and you will see the “Discussion Forum” appearing on the top menu toolbar. In the Discussion Forum you will find the list of ongoing discussions or messages.

We encourage you to start up new discussions (via “create new discussion”) or to participate in any discussion that will be of interest to you.

In addition to the ISfTeH events, newsletters, and member announcements, this new discussion forum is meant to enhance the sharing of information and practical experience and to lead towards new collaborations and partnerships among members.

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**ISfTeH has recently released their updated Brochure!**
[Click here to download a pdf of the new ISfTeH Brochure.](http://www.isfteh.org)
Silvia Helena Tognoli, Brazil

Forward email

This email was sent to asvechak@amdtelemedicine.com by info@isfteh.org
Update Profile/Email Address | Instant removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy
ISfTeH - International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth | St. Urbangasse 2 | Zurich | 8001 | Switzerland