

The **newsletter** of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (ISfTeH) is published quarterly for members of the global telemedicine and eHealth community to provide updates about ISfTeH members and activities, as well as other telemedicine and eHealth news.



International Society for
Telemedicine & eHealth
NGO in Official Relations with WHO



Updates from the ISfTeH Global Telemedicine & eHealth Network (April 2018)

Read in this issue about the recent ISfTeH International Conference in Finland, an award for a global telenursing advocate, Portugal's leadership in digital health, telemedicine/telehealth collaboration among Portuguese speaking countries, a telemedicine-based hearing screening program, new ISfTeH groups and initiatives on cardiology, dermatology and for French speaking stakeholders, women and eHealth advocacy, private public partnership in teleophthalmology, last chance to register for European Silver Economy Awards, event news and more. Lots of news, so take a coffee (or whatever you fancy) and enjoy reading!

STAY CONNECTED:



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader,

Over two hundred members of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth community have recently returned from a unique experience at the 23rd International Conference of the ISfTeH. Organized by our Finnish national member, the Finnish Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (FSTeH) on March 15-17, the event took place on a ship, which was docked in Helsinki harbor during the opening sessions, and then set sail for Stockholm in Sweden, arriving in the mid morning the next day. Each participant then engaged in one of three organized visits to see and explore various Telemedicine and eHealth services in Stockholm. On board sessions continued from early afternoon, and the ship headed back to Helsinki, arriving at 10 o'clock the next day. It was a memorable experience, not least for the experience of plying the Baltic sea even as we pondered many aspects of the transformative powers of digital health. Our thanks to the FSTeH for their excellent organization of the event. And congratulations to Dr. Claudia Bartz, who was honored with a well-deserved ISfTeH Presidential Service Award for her contributions to telenursing.

We are now heading towards, arguably, the number one annual event in global health - the World Health Assembly (WHA), which will take place on May 21-26, 2018 in Geneva. This will be the 71st edition of the WHA, and this year marks the 70th anniversary of the World Health Organization (WHO). It promises to be a particularly exciting Assembly, on the theme "Health for all: commit to universal health coverage." We have often posited as follows (for example, within the framework of the Global eHealth Ambassadors Program):

1. Information and communication technology (ICT) is the foundation/underpinning of the knowledge-based health system of the 21st Century;
2. With judicious and effective use of ICT, the world has a chance to meet SDG Goal 3 - without digital health there is no hope of doing so;
3. For ICT to have the impact it can have on health around the globe three things are necessary: a) mainstreaming of digital health through greater emphasis in the policy arena and more resources in its practice; b) building capacity for digital health in countries; and c) more effective sharing of digital health information and knowledge.

WHA71 agenda item 12.4 is on mHealth, where delegates will discuss the use of appropriate digital technologies for public health. The background paper sees digital health as "a broad umbrella term encompassing eHealth as well as developing areas such as the use of advanced computing sciences (in the fields of "big data", genomics and artificial intelligence, for example)."

As in the past two years, students and faculty, members of the ISfTeH from Shenandoah University, Virginia, USA, will be in Geneva to observe global health policy-making at the highest level. In addition, three graduate students from the University of California at Irvine will be part of the delegation, to help tease out our thesis that there are digital health implications in every health policy decision.

If you are a member of the ISfTeH family, are in the Geneva area that week, and are so inclined, drop us a line to request a position in the ISfTeH delegation to WHA71. But whether from Geneva or elsewhere, it would be very much worth your while to tune in to the deliberations of the WHA. Global health is everybody's business, and what digital can do to empower health is very much our core business.

Sincerely,

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

International telenursing advocate receives ISfTeH Presidential Service Award

ISfTeH

International Society for
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During the 23rd ISfTeH International Conference last month, Claudia Bartz, RN, PhD, Faculty Member at the College of Nursing, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, was awarded the ISfTeH Presidential Service Award in recognition of outstanding services rendered to the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth and the international nursing and telenursing community.



Claudia Bartz (center), together with Konstantinos Antypas, new coordinator of the ISfTeH Telenursing WG, and Pirkko Kouri, ISfTeH Vice-President

Claudia has worked tirelessly over the past decade as Chair of the **ISfTeH Telenursing Working Group** and served as liaison with the International Council of Nurses (ICN), where she was the Coordinator of the ICN eHealth Programme, including the **International Classification for Nursing Practice** and the **ICN Telenursing Network**. She has made great strides on improving modern nursing worldwide, through the use of telemedicine and eHealth, and has actively shared

knowledge and research outcomes related to telenursing and eHealth.

Claudia is stepping down as Chair of the ISfTeH Telenursing WG, but will continue to support the Working Group's activities as Vice-Chair, together with Pirkko Kouri (ISfTeH Vice-President), under the new leadership of Konstantinos (Kostas) Antypas, PhD. Kostas is based at the Norwegian Centre for eHealth Research, currently working on his post-doc and has also been very much involved in telehealth research over the past years.

The Telenursing WG also presented one of its regular webinars last Monday, on the topics of "*Intervention research in nursing: where we are and why we need it*" and "*Tele-assistance strategies to support elderly in institutionalized care*". If you would like to access a recording of the webinar or if you would like to join the WG and participate in future activities, contact info@isfteh.org.

Portugal eHealth Summit: Portugal is a leader in digital health



The 2nd edition of the **Portugal eHealth Summit** took place last month in Lisbon. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Health and promoted by the **Shared Services of the Ministry of Health (SPMS)** and its **National Center of Telehealth (CNTS)** who are an institutional member in the ISfTeH.

It is not only Portugal's largest gathering on digital transformation and innovation in the health sector, but also one of the largest in Europe with more than 13,000 people in attendance, and even more (22,000) who accessed the livestream of the event.

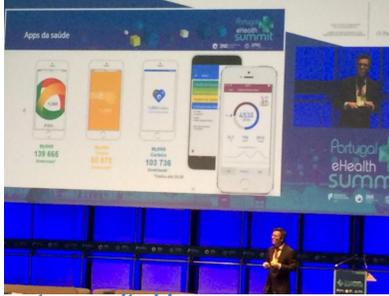
The Summit included more than 70 discussion panels, several thematic workshops, more than 200 national and international speakers, and an exhibition area with 80 companies and 45 startups. Topics ranged from cyber-security, digital markets, eProcurement, digital literacy, artificial intelligence, telehealth, strategic communication in health, social eHealth, to other relevant issues in public health.

Portuguese President, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, participated in the official closing session, underlining that "Portugal is a digital leader" and that there is a "silent revolution in universities, research centers of excellence, culture and social", necessary to reach more people. This paradigm shift in health and technological innovation are fundamental to the future of the National Health Service.

The CNTS organized several panels with the participation of national and international speakers on the topics of "Cost-Effectiveness: Telehealth vs Standard of Care"; "Contact Centers - Nearest Health Services"; "Telehealth, AI and Robotics - the 3 Musketeers or the Bermuda Triangle"; and "Global eHealth in Portuguese-speaking Countries". Other relevant activities led by the CNTS included a Workshop on Telehealth presented in collaboration with the University of Beira Interior; signature of the first 5 protocols between Hospital Centers and Prisons; launch of a new book on eHealth; presentations about ePrisons and Emergency eHealth. And in the exhibition area the CNTS staged an operational unit of its SNS24 Contact Center.

The eHealth Summit has leveraged the country's strategic position in advancing the digital revolution in health, not only at the national level, but at the international level and transversal to all areas of society. Because of its impact outside the country, SPMS was contacted by the Websummit, the largest tech conference in the world, held in Lisbon. For 2019, the Portugal eHealth Summit looks at involving even more professionals, entities, organizations and citizens.





[click to view post-summit video](#)

Portuguese speaking countries unite on telemedicine and telehealth



The CPLP (Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa) is an international organization created in 1996 for cooperation between Portuguese speaking countries. Currently, nine nations make up the community: Portugal, Brazil, Mozambique, Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, East Timor and Sao Tome and Principe.

In September 2017, a first **CPLP Telemedicine and Telehealth** Meeting was held, with the objective of ensuring that all member countries implement telemedicine and telehealth. At the event, the work plan for a "Strategic Roadmap for the Implementation of Telehealth in Portuguese Speaking Countries" was drawn up, which resulted in the creation of a Permanent CPLP Telemedicine and Telehealth Working Group.

"The ISfTeH has been fundamental in the consolidation of the CPLP Permanent Working Group on Telemedicine and Telehealth," says ISfTeH member, Luiz Ary Messina, national coordinator of the Brazilian University Telemedicine Network (**RUTE**), who is a member of the Working Group. *"Through some initial contacts, facilitated by the ISfTeH, with colleagues from the **Centro Nacional TeleSaúde** in Portugal, we were able to set up this valuable initiative."*



Members of the CPLP Permanent Working Group on Telemedicine and Telehealth at the Portugal eHealth Summit

Telemedicine-based hearing screening program in Polish primary schools



The **Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing** (Poland), ISfTeH institutional member, has been instrumental in the adoption of the EU Council Conclusions on Early Detection and Treatment of Communication Disorders in Children, including the Use of eHealth Tools and Innovative Solutions.

The Institute has now implemented a comprehensive telemedicine-based hearing screening program for children. Often, hearing impairments are not detected by parents or caregivers. Early medical intervention in a child with hearing disorders means faster improvement of its auditory pathway functions and thus better communication with the environment as well as reduction of

costs for the patient and for the healthcare system. Therefore, school-entry hearing screening is especially important.

In 2017, the Institute started its hearing screening program, involving the entire Mazowsze region around Warsaw. It is the first region in the world where a comprehensive hearing screening program is implemented for the entire population of children in primary school. The program is coordinated by members of the **ISfTeH Tele-Audiology Working Group**.

Hearing screening protocol includes video otoscopy: digital still images and videos are recorded during testing and transmitted to the Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing for assessment by specialists. Live video consultations have been incorporated into a telehealth service and a reduction in waiting times for specialist services has been shown. This procedure is normally performed by audiologists or otolaryngologists only and provides valuable information. It is a procedure that can also be carried out by primary care providers in a telehealth setting after appropriate training.

The protocol also includes pure tone audiometry (PTA) using a platform for sense organs screening. This device is fundamental for inexpensive and universal screening in a large population of children. Via a network connection, an audiometer is controlled remotely by an audiologist.

In addition to the audiometric examination, training is provided to medical staff, led by experts and medical specialists such as laryngologists, phoniaticians, audiologists and speech therapists. Courses are conducted both as stationary studies and through distance learning (eLearning). The Institute has two high-technology teleconferencing studios that are used for all types of educational activities.

Click here for more information about the Tele-Audiology Working Group and this screening program.

Business models in teledermatology

The ISfTeH Tele-Dermatology Working Group is describing different business and payment models in teledermatology and has identified the following models:

- Fee for Service
- Capitated service contracts
- Per individual case service contracts
- Direct to Consumer services

There are other models that include Veterans and Accountable Care Organizations (USA only).

The group invites all ISfTeH members and others who are active in (tele)dermatology to send information about additional models that are being implemented in their geographic areas.

Please send information to Byron L. Barksdale, MD (internetdoctors@aol.com) or get in touch if you have any questions.



Call for contributions to Pro Digital Health

ISfTeH member, **Agir pour la Télémédecine**, organizes the **Pro Digital Health** conference next November. The event will take place at Futuroscope in Poitiers, France, on 7-9 November 2018, under the theme of "**eHealth in Action**."



Various sessions will focus on practical experiences and latest trends such as eHealth economics, artificial intelligence, connected health and disease prevention, access to health services, and more.

Specifically for two sessions, the organizers of the conference would also like to call on readers of this newsletter for their input:

- **international best practices in telehealth/telemedicine**
- **eHealth projects and solutions for older people or people with**

functional/cognitive impairments (e.g. autism, etc.)

If you have concrete experience with the implementation and management of specific telehealth/telemedicine programs, or projects that are aimed at the 'ageing' marketplace, please contact us at info@isfteh.org.

For preliminary information about the event, check www.pro-digital-health.com.

New ISfTeH working group focuses on cardiology



Dr. Alexandru Mischie, MD, PhD, FESC, FAHA, Head of the Cath Lab at Montluçon Hospital in France, together with Dr. Ion Petrovai from Romania and ISfTeH board member Dr. Adolfo Sparenberg from Brazil, have launched the **ISfTeH Tele-Cardiology Working Group**.

The group will focus on the exchange and sharing of expertise and advances in the domain of telecardiology/ecardiology.

Preparations are being made for a first webinar to be presented in June on the topic of "**Artificial Intelligence in Cardiology**." For more details or to participate in this webinar, contact us at info@isfteh.org and we'll keep you posted.

A review of the 4th European Congress on eCardiology and eHealth at which several group members participated, is available on the [Working Group's webpage](#), as well as a contribution on "**Start-ups and innovations in healthcare: Can medical innovation be learned, practiced and perfected? The Stanford Biodesign Model.**"

Join the ISfTeH and become a **member of the Tele-Cardiology WG**. And follow/join the Group's social media channels in order to exchange ideas and scientific projects:

 www.facebook.com/groups/752621424932546

 www.linkedin.com/groups/13592346

 [@isfteh_wgcardio](https://twitter.com/isfteh_wgcardio)

New ISfTeH initiative brings together French-speaking telemedicine and eHealth stakeholders

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Another new ISfTeH initiative is the Francophonie Working Group, bringing together people, organizations and initiatives from French-speaking countries and regions, to exchange good practices in local and national telemedicine/eHealth development and implementation. Obviously, speaking the same language sometimes makes it easier to share information and existing research results, to replicate information systems, to develop or offer joint educational programs. These are exactly some of the things that the Working Group will aim to support.

ISfTeH board member, Philippe De Lorme, will be chairing this Working Group and will be working towards a reinforcement of Francophone initiatives within the ISfTeH. Links and collaboration with other (non-Francophone) networks will of course also be supported.

For more information or to join this group, contact us at info@isfteh.org.

**ISfTeH WoW and WeObservatory:
strong alliance for women's
involvement in telemedicine & eHealth
and for women's, maternal and child health**



Since its **launch** at the Med-e-Tel conference in Luxembourg in 2013 under impulse of the **ISfTeH Working Group on Women (WoW)**, the **WeObservatory** (*Women Observatory for eHealth*) has achieved quite a few milestones, including 27 innovative projects, 9 mentoring initiatives, 8 mobile apps, 10 eLearning modules, participation in numerous conferences, several scientific publications, and much more. **This infographic** provides a more comprehensive overview:



The WeObservatory also provides an annual selection of free Massive Online Courses (MOOCs) in order to expand education in Women's Health and ICT: the **Intelligence MOOCs Commons for Women and eHealth of the WeObservatory (WeMOOCs)**. These courses are developed by the most famous universities and academics. The MOOCs included in the WeMOOCs are scanned and selected by specialized advisors and members of the Foundation, and cover the themes of Nurses, Patients, Mobiles, GIS and Vaccinology in three of the six UN official languages: English, French and Spanish. Through the WeMOOCs, the WeObservatory offers a unique platform to improve education and training in eHealth and telemedicine for Women's Health.

The **WeObservatory** and the **ISfTeH WoW** are continuing to actively pursue activities over the next years, so that more women can be actors in eHealth and telemedicine. They are currently working on a next theme issue of the **JISfTeH** with articles authored by women: [click here](#) for the call for papers for this theme issue.

Successful 23rd ISfTeH International Conference



The **23rd ISfTeH International Conference** took place last month in conjunction with the 23rd National Conference of the **Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth** (FSTeH). The Finnish Society is actually one of the oldest telemedicine societies in the world (2nd, after the American Telemedicine Association) and has been a member of the ISfTeH since its inception. This was the first time that they hosted the annual ISfTeH International Conference, and the venue was unique and exceptional: a cruise on the Baltic Sea between the capital cities of Helsinki (Finland) and Stockholm (Sweden).

The Conference covered international and nordic eHealth trends and solutions; looked at citizens as partners; cyber era in leadership and education; benchmarking nationwide eHealth communities; beating cancer with the help of the cyber community; tackling acute crisis in local and distant environments; and more. A complete **overview of the program** is still available [here](#). If you would like to access copies and recordings of the presentations, contact us at info@isfteh.org.

Some 250 participants from over 30 countries joined the event and an exhibition area featured over 20 companies and organizations such as **AMD Global Telemedicine**, **Wolters Kluwer Health**, **Klinik Healthcare Solutions**, **Oulu Health**, **Kuopio Health**, and many others. Also the eHealth2018 Game Jam was organized as part of the conference by Games for Health Finland. The Game Jam brought together healthcare professionals and game makers with the goal of creating new ideas and ways to use eHealth technology and promote health through gamification and encouraging citizens to take responsibility of their own self-care.

The conference also included three excellent and eye-opening site visits in Stockholm:

- The first site visit "*Swedish eHealth Frontrunners*" included a look at **Swecare** who are developing global partnerships in health for Swedish companies; **MedHelp**, a Nordic care operator with smart solutions in eHealth; **Visiba Care**, an eHealth platform that allows healthcare providers to open their own digital practice anywhere anytime; **Coala Life**, providing solutions for heart monitoring and analysis; **Psykologpartners**, offering (tele)psychology and contextual behavioral health services in the Nordic countries.
- The second site visit "*Future Care of Patients with Chronic Diseases*" included: **RISE**, developing novel eHealth solutions for the benefit of individuals and caregivers; **Cambio Healthcare**, providing innovative eHealthcare solutions; **Sigma**, solutions for tomorrow's healthcare.
- The third site visit "*Primary Care Center & eHealth*" introduced **Råsunda Primary Care Center**, pitting eHealth in practice; **Siemens Healthineers**, providing a digital ecosystem and eHealth vision 2025.

For more information on these Swedish and Nordic solution providers, contact info@isfteh.org.

The next edition (24th) of the Finnish Society's annual meeting will be held in April 2019 in Kuopio, Finland. More details about the 24th ISfTeH International Conference will be made available in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for more information, or contact us at info@isfteh.org.

National member spotlight - Zimbabwe Telemedicine Network



The **Zimbabwe Telemedicine Network** (ZTN) was established in 2015 to promote and advance the field of telemedicine in Zimbabwe. In that same year, ZTN already received an award and recognition from the Ministry of ICT in Zimbabwe for innovation.

Ever since its establishment the network has made steady progress in the introduction of telemedicine in Zimbabwe. Through its advocacy work and partnerships with several developmental partners, two clinics (Nyatate and Tombo) have been connected with Nyanga District Hospital and are providing live video conference telemedicine consultations.

With government support the project is now being scaled and twelve more remote clinics will be connected this year: six in Nyanga District and six in Chimanimani District. A total of 24 nurses and 4 doctors have been trained in basic telemedicine and a further 3 (1 doctor and 2 nurses) have undergone a specialized telemedicine course in India and are now set to spearhead local capacity building and train local healthcare professionals.

The communities in which the service has been introduced have welcomed the initiative and a lot of adult patients are finding it convenient for them. The **Zimbabwe Telemedicine Network** has also been engaging the nation at large on the subject of telemedicine. A website has been set up to enable people to learn about telemedicine in Zimbabwe. Going into the future there are plans to introduce telemedicine enabled cancer clinics in the country's 70 district hospitals and these clinics will be connected with a central hub at the Parirenyatwa Oncology Unit which will provide TeleOncology services.

The network has also been actively assisting private sector players working to introduce telemedicine devices such as wearable devices/monitors. Whilst the uptake of telemedicine has been rather slow in Zimbabwe the network is committed to see the deployment of ICTs in the health sector and seeks collaborative partnerships in the field of research and exchange programs.

For more information or to assess collaboration opportunities, contact ZTN Director, Dr. **Admore Jokwiro**.

Apollo Telehealth Services launches public private partnership in teleophthalmology



In India, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu recently launched 115 centers under a public private partnership (PPP). Through these "Chief Minister Electronic Eye

Clinics", online services relating to ophthalmology will be provided. The authorities have selected 121 Community Health Centers across the state to set up these centers in areas which do not have facilities and infrastructure to treat eye infections.

The state government has entered into an agreement with corporate hospital group Apollo Health and two other companies to run these centers. As part of the agreement, the private companies will conduct eye tests on the patients and treat their ailments. The companies will also provide free opticals to the patients.



The state government came up with the idea of establishing these centers after observing reports that several people of the state were slowly losing their eyesight without their knowledge due to lifestyle related ailments like diabetes, etc. The main objective of the government is to identify the people suffering from eye infections and extend necessary treatment to them by not allowing the infection to assume serious proportions. The officials of these centers will take the images of the patients' eyes and send them online to a doctors' hub located in Chennai. The ophthalmologists sitting at the hub will revert back to the officials of the centers online with a detailed report and suggest suitable treatment.

Institutional member spotlight - Institute of Sensory Organs



The **Institute of Sensory Organs** (INZ) was established in Poland in 2008, with the aim of designing, conducting and implementing research and scientific work related to the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of sense organ diseases.

The first project that was realized was the research and development of a Platform of Sensory Organs Examination, designed for screening tests of hearing, speech and sight in children, youth and people with special educational needs. After that, the Institute produced the Polymodal Sensory Perception Stimulator according to Skarzynski's method, which uses multi-senses therapy. These two devices use telemedicine as a tool of controlling the outcomes of the tests and programming the therapy.

The Institute conducts training and workshops on a daily basis. For this purpose the Institute cooperates with the best Polish and international experts, and R&D institutes. The Institute also organizes specialized international events. One of them is the **Window Approach Workshop (WAW)**. These workshops have been organized since 2007 and there have been 24 editions so far. 2029 surgeons from 40 different countries took part in these seminars. **The International Course of Endoscopic Sinus Surgery** has been another regular activity in the educational program of the Institute since 2008.

Other international conferences that the Institute has organized or will organize are:

- XII International Tinnitus Seminar and I World Tinnitus Congress, Warsaw 22-24.05.2017
- IERASG, XXV International Evoked Response Audiometry Study Group Biennial Symposium, Warsaw, 21-25.05.2017
- The 5th International Symposium on Otosclerosis and Stapes Surgery, Krakow, 6-7 April 2018
- XXXII Politzer Society Meeting/2nd World Congress of Otolaryngology, Warsaw 2019
- XXXV Congress of Audiology, Warsaw 2020

For more information, see www.inz.waw.pl. Or contact sekretariat@inz.waw.pl to find out about collaboration opportunities and for a more in-depth discussion of the educational possibilities as

Open health architecture for developing eHealth framework in Nepal



ISfTeH member Sanjog Sidel (student Computer Science at Kathmandu University) invites contributions and comments on an **Open Health Architecture for Developing E-Health Framework of Nepal**. Contact details available in the document, or comments can be made directly into the document itself.

On the subject of Nepal, note that the Community Health Educational Services by Telehealth (CHEST) and DI Skin Health and Referral Center (DISHARC) will organize their **1st International Conference on eHealth and Telehealth (ICEHAT)** in Kathmandu, Nepal on November 1-3, 2018. This conference will support eHealth and telehealth development in Nepal and facilitate knowledge dissemination. More info at <http://icehatdisharc.org>.

New material published on JISfTeH



Various new papers have been published in the **Journal of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (JISfTeH)** on:

- The Role of e-Health in Disasters: A Strategy for Education, Training and Integration in Disaster Medicine
- Pinpointing What Is Wrong With Cross-Agency Collaboration In Disaster Healthcare
- Design Considerations for a Disaster eHealth Appliance
- The Role of Telehealth in Disaster Management: Lessons for the Philippines
- Securing the Evidence and Theory-based Design of an Online Intervention Designed to Support Midwives in Work-related Psychological Distress
- Africa Radiation Oncology Network (AFRONET): an IAEA Telemedicine Pilot Project
- Development of a Smartphone Application to Enable Remote Monitoring in the Outpatient Management of Cirrhotic Ascites

Papers can be accessed for free at www.jisfteh.org.

The ISfTeH website now also features a link to all past **Med-e-Tel proceedings**. You can download them from www.isfteh.org/media/category/knowledge_resources. Hard copies are available upon request (contact info@isfteh.org).



European Silver Economy Awards: final opportunity to join



The **Silver Economy Awards**
Powered by SEED

Are you familiar with the concept of the "European Silver Economy"? The EU-funded project **SEED**, is launching the first **European Silver Economy Awards** on May 3, 2018 in Brussels at the Committee of the Regions. It is the right opportunity for you to come and learn more about it and discover the **9 finalists** selected as social innovators in the **three different categories**.

Investors, innovators, public authorities, health and social actors will be present in Brussels to discuss the long-term benefits of the Silver Economy in Europe and how to ensure its sustainability. Be among them and share your perspective as potential buyer, investor or innovator

in the field of the silver economy.

If you would like to attend, grab this final opportunity to register and get in touch with julia.wadoux@age-platform.eu or nhu.tram@age-platform.eu today, Tuesday April 17th latest.

Comments sought on new guide for user co-production in standardization around ICT for active and healthy ageing



A draft guide on "user co-production" has been developed within the frame of the European PROGRESSIVE project. The guide provides guidance and practical tools on when and how to reach out to users and obtain their opinions on relevant questions. The guide is targeted at national standardization committees, but actually provides **useful guidance and methodologies for any co-production/co-creation process for organizations and companies who are looking to involve end users in the development of their (telehealth) apps, products and solutions**. The guide draws on up-to-date practical methodologies for co-production, such as focus group discussions, story board and customer journey.

Before finalizing the guide, the PROGRESSIVE consortium is still welcoming **comments** from stakeholders in the field of standards, ICT, and active & healthy ageing (AHA), **until April 30, 2018**. You can access the guide [here](#). Comments, or any question you have about the guide, can be sent to zw@nen.nl.

Board member spotlight - Philippe De Lorme

Philippe De Lorme, former hospital director and (since January 2017) honorary hospital assistant manager is well versed in the health IT field. He has many years of experience working in leading positions at the *Assistance Publique - Hôpitaux de Paris* (Paris) and the Rouen University Hospital (Normandy) as well as in international affairs. Graduated as a pharmacist and biologist, he was initially public health inspector for the French Health Ministry.



Philippe firmly believes in the value that ICT and technological innovation can bring to the health care field, with specific interest for data information systems, good practices, quality and security, and a global governance approach. He has been involved in the development and implementation of different telemedicine applications and solutions (in radiology, ophthalmology, ambulatory care, dermatology, pulmonology, telemonitoring).

He was elected to the ISfTeH Board at the end of 2017, as representative of the French National member CATEL, for the period 2018-2020. He is also taking up the Chair of the newly established ISfTeH Francophonie Working Group.

New educational eHealth resource for students and health professionals



Last month, on March 22nd, during the Portugal eHealth Summit 2018 in Lisbon (Portugal), ISfTeH members Miguel Castelo Branco and Luís Gonçalves presented the book "eSaúde" (eHealth). It is a Portuguese textbook for students of health sciences and for health professionals that deals with the topics of telehealth and telemedicine. The book is published by the University of Beira Interior (UBI) with technical and scientific support from the **Hiberiae Societas Telemedicinae et Telesanitas** (SITT), the national member for Portugal and Spain in the ISfTeH.



Luis Gonçalves launching the eSaúde book during the Portugal eHealth Summit 2018



eSaúde (eHealth) book cover

The book can be ordered via tipografia@ubi.pt at the University of Beira Interior.

Upcoming ISfTeH supported meetings and conferences

2nd Digital Health & Wellbeing Conference 2018

1-3 May 2018

Milton Keynes, United Kingdom

wels.open.ac.uk/research/research-centres/digital-health-wellbeing-conference

XXI Joint International Scientific Events on Informatics

25 June - 14 July 2018

Varna, Bulgaria

www.ithea.org/conferences/itaf2018.htm

World Conference on Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

26-27 June 2018

Barcelona, Spain

scientificfederation.com/robotics-artificial-intelligence-2018/index.php

The 2018 International Conference on Education and Modern Educational Technologies

Artificial Intelligence Technology in Smart Education: Methodologies, Applications and Challenges (presentation by Prof. Abdel Badeeh Salem, ISfTeH member)

14-17 July 2018

Majorca, Spain

www.inase.org/conferences/2018/majorca/emet.htm

8th International Conference on Biomedical Electronics and Biomedical Informatics (BEBI '18)

Smart Computing for Bio-Medical Knowledge-based Systems (presentation by Prof. Abdel Badeeh Salem, ISfTeH member)

25-27 August 2018

Corfu, Greece

www.wseas.org/cms.action?id=17203

Global Telehealth 2018

10-11 October 2018

Colombo, Sri Lanka

dhw2018.org/globaltelehealth

SFT-18 - Successes and Failures in Telehealth

9th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Telehealth Society

22-24 October 2018

Darwin, Australia

event.icebergevents.com.au/sft-2018

Telemedicon'18 - 14th International Conference of the Telemedicine Society of India

1-3 November 2018
Amaravati, India
telemedicon2018.com

1st International Conference on eHealth and Telehealth (ICEHAT)

1-3 November 2018
Kathmandu, Nepal
icehatdisharc.org

Pro Digital Health

7-9 November 2018
Poitiers, France
pro-digital-health.com

Revolutionizing Healthcare with IT

2-3 March 2019
Hyderabad, India
www.transformhealth-it.org

ISfTeH Supported Events Calendar and Other Telemedicine/eHealth Events

New ISfTeH members

The ISfTeH is pleased to welcome the following new members to its global network:



Corporate Member:



HealthNow, Australia

Associate Members:



Agir pour la Télémedecine, France



Association Initiative Médicale, France

Institutional Members:



Institute of Sensory Organs, Poland



Center of Hearing and Speech Medincus, Kyrgyzstan



Chernomorski Center of Hearing and Speech Medincus, Ukraine

Individual Members:

*Teresa Schweiger, USA
André Petitot, France
Alexandre Chagnon, Canada*

*Elena Kirilenko, Russian Federation
Dina Ziadlou, USA
Robin Ohannessian, France*

*Ion Petrovai, Romania
Nina Sesto, Croatia
Liliana Arrubla, Colombia*

Nurse Member:

Anne Reagan, USA

Student Members:

*Allison Garnett, USA
Anne Cestare, USA
Kacie Gee, USA
Lea Labove, Canada
Mahum Zulqarnain, Pakistan*

*Sarah-Jane Gruber, USA
Amanda Eggers, USA
Haley Johnson, USA
Zachary Herbaugh, USA
Rohina Bayat, USA*

*Sanjog Sigdel, Nepal
Juliana Cardoso, Brazil
Maria Mirislene Vasconcelos Ferreira, Brazil
Alisson Oliveira dos Santos, Brazil*

[Click here for full member list or to join as a new member](#)

Join the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth and participate in ISfTeH Working Groups



- Are you heading a national or regional telemedicine/eHealth organization?
- Do you offer telemedicine products and solutions?
- Are you doing research on telemedicine and eHealth applications and technologies?
- Does your organization provide (or wants to offer) care services by means of telemedicine/eHealth technologies?
- Are you engaged in healthcare policy?

If so, you should consider **joining the ISfTeH network** to expand your global reach, enhance your network, broaden your knowledge and learn about key issues and new ideas in telemedicine and eHealth by interacting and engaging in partnerships with other ISfTeH members from around the world.

As a member, you will also be able to participate in or actively contribute to the **ISfTeH Working Groups (WGs)**, or start up new initiatives. Current WGs include among others Open Source Software, Chronic Disease Management, Social Media, Telenursing, Students, Women and eHealth, Tele-audiology, Telecardiology, Teledentistry, Teledermatology, Tele-urology. Contact info@isfteh.org if you are interested in any of these topics or want to join a Working Group.

Or if you are interested in **obtaining exposure in future editions of this newsletter** (through advertising, feature articles, etc.), contact us at info@isfteh.org.

For more information: www.isfteh.org

Partners & Corporate Members

The ISfTeH is proud to work together with the following Partners, representing doctors, nurses, students, industry and policy makers:



ISfTeH Corporate Members and supporters:



If your organization would like to collaborate with the ISfTeH or if you would like to become a member, contact us at info@isfteh.org.

Questions, suggestions? Our board members listen to you!

The ISfTeH board members will be pleased to hear from you with any questions or suggestions you may have related to the Society itself or regarding any telemedicine and eHealth applications or services that you are working on or that you are looking for:



Andy Fischer



Pirkko Kouri



Neil Nerwich



Eric Bacon



Philippe De Lorme



Hassan Ghazal



Michelle Griffith



Sarj Mishra



Piotr Skarzynski



Addfo Sparenberg



Regina Ungerer



Rajendra Pratap Gupta

Management Board



Yunkap Kwankam



Frederic Lievens



Frank Lievens



Maurice Mars

Submit your questions/suggestions via info@isfteh.org.

ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards

The ISfTeH occasionally recognizes and honours a person who has made great efforts in the development of telemedicine and eHealth, creating awareness and driving its implementation and use. Our four Lifetime Achievement Award laureates so far are:



Louis Lareng



Ron Merrell



Gyorgy Miklos
Bohm



Prathap C.
Reddy

Watch this space for future ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards!

STAY CONNECTED:



Join the ISfTeH Global Network
[Click here for membership application](#)

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