Dear Colleagues,

My term is getting closer to its end as only two months are left before the World Congress in Rio. This was a long and busy year for me and I am happy to say that most of my goals have been reached. I want to thank all of you for the support you gave me as a President and to the whole IFSO organization.

First of all am pleased to inform you that on the 2016 Google Scholar metrics that covers articles published in 2011–2015 and include citations from all articles that were indexed in Google Scholar as of June 2016, for 2016, *Obesity Surgery* is ranked as the #5 journal in the Obesity category and the #7 journal in the Surgery category! This is an excellent result for which I’d like to congratulate and thank the Editor-in-Chief Professor Scott Shikora, the Advisory Editors, Associate Editors, Members of the Editorial Board, Authors and Readers of our Journal.

The Video Atlas on Revisional Surgery for Morbid Obesity, made of videos of the different operations already started. The first Volume will be presented in Rio and I am sure it will be a great success among the surgeons. Also every video will be posted later in our website to be discussed and analyzed by all our members.

The important Position Statement on “Indications for surgery for obesity and weight related disease” was published this month online on our official Journal Obesity Surgery and it will appear in print on the August issue.

My thank for this goes to the group, appointed by my predecessor and good friend, Rudolf Weiner and led by the Co-Chairman of our Position Statement Committee, Maurizio De Luca. Great job.

The second IFSO Global Registry data analysis is in progress and will be presented officially in Rio during a dedicated session on September 30th from 16:00 to 17:00. Also printed material will be given to our members there. We are proud to inform you that the number of Countries and individuals that sent data increased considerably.

Doors are closed for submitting data this year, however, if you would like to contribute to this important goal please let Manuela know and she will get you in direct contact with Dendrite.

In the past months I have been travelling A LOT to bring IFSO’s mission in every corner of the world and to encourage more and more countries to establish their own societies and become members of IFSO, and I am happy to announce that IFSO has now two new Adhering Bodies: the Honduran and Malaysian Societies for Bariatric Surgery. Also some societies like China and Chile, increased their number of members considerable.

As promised I also created an Ethics Committee that will help us in some of the delicate issues that arise from time to time in our Federation.

As regards our Corporate Partners I am proud to say we have now 4 Platinum Partners, 2 Gold Partners and 2 Silver Partners. Thank to the support from the industry we will be able to reach our goals and get the resources we need to realize our projects.
The Spring congress season was very busy for IFSO and rich of cooperation with the biggest organizations of the field: in May for the first time IFSO held a Symposium at XIII ICO 2016, the International Congress on Obesity, organized by World Obesity Federation in Vancouver (Canada). Reciprocally WOF will host a symposium in Rio at our XXI World Congress in September.

In June the first “European Obesity Summit” was held in Goteborg (Sweden). It was the first joint meeting between the European Chapter of IFSO and the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO). Parallel programs and joint sessions gave the delegates the opportunity to increase their knowledge and network with a diverse range of colleagues. The meeting was a big success from any point of view and we hope it will be followed by other similar events in the near future.

Again in June for the first time we had a Symposium at the 24th European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES) International Congress in Amsterdam (Netherland) on “How to avoid complications in bariatric surgery”. EAES will have a symposium in Rio at our World Congress.

At the end of June the IFSO North American Chapter hosted a Course directed by our President elect Kelvin Higa, Mehran Anvari and myself, at Obesity Week-end in Las Vegas. This course offered a comprehensive review of all bariatric interventions with the latest updates on the available relevant data, comparison among procedures and results.

Again in June I attended the 18th annual Congress of the Spanish Society for the Surgery of Obesity (SECO) in Barcelona, where I had the great honor to receive the honorary membership of SECO for which I thank the Spanish colleagues. Also congratulate them for a fantastic Meeting.
At the beginning of July I had the pleasure to visit the IFSO Head Quarter in Naples, Italy, where I had the opportunity to lead one of the monthly conference calls of the Executive Board seated in the office close to Manuela and her staff after eating a delicious Neapolitan pizza!
I really enjoyed the visit in Naples that allowed me to combine work and some free time to admire the beauty of the places during the hot Italian summer. Grazie mille to you all for the warm hospitality.

The program of the Rio Congress, skillfully created by our Scientific Committee under the guidance of my friend Ricardo Cohen, looks really fantastic. We'll offer you 10 Post Graduate Courses, lectures of the most renowned Faculty members from all over the world, new technologies, revisional and allied health sessions, just to mention some of them.

The Presidential session on Friday morning will be one of the highlights of the congress. I will pass the baton (and a very heavy medal) to my friend Kelvin Higa who will be the new President and the two outstanding named lectures, the Scopinaro and the Mason lectures will capture the audience.
I hope all the delegates from every Member Society and all our committee members will attend, so I can personally thank you all for your unselfish Commitment.
The Gala dinner on Friday evening will be a great event with the typical Brazilian flavor and I am sure you’ll enjoy it very much. It will be as always a nice moment to relax, celebrate the closing of the Congress and have some fun after 3 days of science.
We already have almost 2000 people registered so this is probably going to be one of the most attended IFSO Congress ever.

I want to thank Manuela, Francesco and everybody in the office for all they do for us. My task, and most of our job would be impossible without their hard work and full dedication to IFSO. For that Grazie di cuore.
I wish to thank again all of you for your commitment to our organization, for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President and can’t wait to see you all in Rio soon.

Thank you
Natan Zundel
Executive Board

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IFSO’S NUMBERS

62 NATIONAL SOCIETIES
8,000 MEMBERS
2,900 OBESITY SURGERY SUBSCRIBERS

WELCOME TO THE NEW ADHERING BODIES:
HONDURAN BARIATRIC SURGERY ASSOCIATION
MALAYSIAN METABOLIC AND BARIATRIC SURGERY SOCIETY

- European Chapter (EC)
- Latin American Chapter (LAC)
- Asian Pacific Chapter (APC)
- North American Chapter (NAC)
As new President of the IFSO European Chapter, it is my privilege and honor to welcome everyone and update you on recent Chapter activities.

First European Obesity Summit—Gothenburg June 2016

Recently, the first European Obesity Summit took place in Gothenburg / Sweden, organized in conjunction by IFSO-EC and the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO). The program was prepared by both organizations, which involved on the Chapter’s part both our Executive Council, the local Swedish Organizing Committee, presided by M. Wiren and Y. Yashkov, as well as, mainly, our Scientific Committee. The latter has done a magnificent job putting up an attractive program of high scientific quality, covering many aspects of obesity and its consequences, from basic science to clinical applications. I take the opportunity to thank our two Chairs, Prof Rachel Batterham/UK and Prof Ralph Peterli/CH, and all others involved, for their efforts and involvement in this challenging activity. I also thank our sponsors without whom such an event could not be possible.

The Summit took place from June 1st to June 4th 2016 in summary conditions, and was well attended with around 550 delegates from the Chapter’s side, and more than 1000 delegates from EASO’s side. Speakers from all over the world although mostly from European countries brought new insights in many aspects of our specialty. One of the highlights of the congress was certainly the opening lecture given by Lena Carlsson who summarized the main findings of the Swedish Obese Subjects Study, now running for almost 30 years. Our impression and that of most delegates on the Chapter’s side is that it was a huge success. Several interactive sessions, involving both surgeons and non-surgeons, allowed for intense scientific exchanges and communication. After this first enthusiastic experience, we hope that collaboration with EASO will continue and lead to the organization of future joint meetings of the same quality.

Three scholarships were attributed to young and motivated European surgeons entering the bariatric field, allowing them to attend the Summit and learn from the experience of their peers. The winners of the scholarships were: Tatiana Tarasiuk, Ukraine, Daniel Serralta De Colsa, Spain and Daniel Moritz Felsenreich, Austria.

During EOS, a special session for the 8 best papers was organized with rating from members of the Executive and Scientific committees. The winner was Dr Meritxell Garay Solà from Spain for a paper entitled “Antrum preservation seems to accelerate gastric emptying after laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy without having effects on weight loss”. She is to be congratulated for her excellent work.
Moscow International Bariatric Congress

Originally, IFSO-EC’s bi-annual congress was to take place in Moscow. For several reasons—including the desire to enter into a collaboration with EASO—it was decided to move the 2016 Congress from Moscow to Gothenburg. We thank Y. Yashkov for his understanding and collaboration in this respect. Instead of the planned IFSO-EC event, Y. Yashkov organized the Moscow International Bariatric Congress from April 20-22 2016, attended by more than 400 delegates from several countries, including many countries from Eastern Europe, some of them not yet members of IFSO. Presentations were in Russian or English with translation, allowing for fruitful exchanges between surgeons from various horizons. The congress included two pre-congress Masterclasses, one for surgeons on different aspects of bariatric and metabolic surgery, the other for anesthetists and dedicated to the management of the morbidly obese patient during anesthesia.

New bylaws and transparency

The Chapter’s bylaws have recently been updated and approved during the General Council meeting which took place in Gothenburg. The new bylaw # 12 states that the Chapter is committed to transparency, democracy and inclusiveness, and includes a statement about conflicts of interest, clearly defining what can and cannot be considered as conflict of interest for any of the Chapter’s member. These new bylaws are to be posted on the IFSO-EC’s website very soon.

For transparency also, unreserved minutes of Executive Council meeting will also be posted on the website, so that every member can be informed about the Chapter’s business, even if not attending General Assembly. The first minutes to be published are those from the ExCouncil meeting which was held in London on May 14th 2016.

Future developments

IFSO-EC has now a permanent PCO, which contributed to the success of the Gothenburg meeting, and which will help the Chapter in the organization of future events. In order to increase the visibility of the IFSO-EC brand among both our members and sponsors, it was decided and approved that the Chapter would organize a yearly event as of 2017. The events will be different between even and uneven years. The traditional bi-annual congress which runs on even years since 2004 will continue, and the next one will take place in Athens in May 2018.
On uneven years, the Chapter will be involved in the organization of one of the already existing meetings in Europe, with alternation between meetings and locations, so that no new meeting is created and there is no threat to other events, notably the yearly world IFSO congress when the latter takes place in Europe. The first such event will be organized in Naples/Italy early May 2017.

The Chapter wishes to pursue its collaboration with EASO with the organization of future common meetings so as to progressively narrow the distance between surgeons and others involved in the management of obese patients.

Obesity involves many aspects of the human health, both physical and mental, and it only makes sense that the different specialists involved in the study of obesity and the management of obese patients meet together and exchange views.

As EASO seems not quite as ready as the Chapter to enter a close and regular collaboration with the organization of yearly EOS, as was held this year, collaboration will initially include mostly joint and integrative meetings during each Society’s annual congress and possibly joint meetings during world congresses.

**New Executive Council members**

Our Executive Council welcomes G. Prager / Austria, new President elect, and M. De Luca / Italy, new Treasurer, to replace K. Miller during the second part of 2016. As new President of the Chapter, I thank Y. Yashkow, former Past-President and K. Miller who both retire from the Executive Council, for their excellent and invaluable work during the years they have served. I also thank A. Fiennes, current Past-President, M. Fried, our Executive Director, as well as J. Himpens for their highly appreciated contribution in the development of the Chapter.

**Multinational Advisory Group (M.A.G.)**

Recently appointed by our Past-President, the Multinational Advisory Group met for the first time in Gothenburg this year under the leadership of N. Di Lorenzo / Italy. I hope that this group will contribute to the development of the Chapter and provide the Executive Council with initiatives and ideas in order to foster the development of bariatric and metabolic surgery throughout Europe and other IFSO-EC adhering countries. I also hope that it will help the Chapter to expand towards not yet adhering Countries where bariatric surgery is in development in order to facilitate its implementation in places where there is no doubt that obesity also represents a major public health problem.

Prof Michel Suter  
President IFSO-EC 2016-2018
IFSO North American Chapter Course at Obesity Week-End

The IFSO North American Chapter (NAC) Course was a great success during Obesity Week-End. More than 30 people attended the course under the direction of the IFSO President Natan Zundel, MD, along with Kelvin Higa, MD, and Mehran Anvari, MBBS, PhD. Faculty included Laurent Biertho, MD, Bruce Wolfe, MD, Eric DeMaria, MD, Daniel Jones, MD, Kelvin Higa, MD, Manoel Galvao Neto, MD, Natan Zundel, MD, Mehran Anvari, MBBS, PhD, Alan Saber, MD, Stacy Brethauer, MD, Bipan Chand, MD, Dana Portenier, MD, and Michel Gagner, MD.

The session offered a comprehensive review of the metabolic consequences of different bariatric interventions with the latest updates on the available relevant data, comparison among procedures and results.

NAC Course 2017

Next year the IFSO NAC Course will be held in Canada on Friday May 19 in conjunction with the Joint CABPS/IFSO NCS/DS Consensus Conference May 17 - 20, 2017.

ObesityWeek 2016

Now we are looking forward ObesityWeek 2016 in New Orleans from Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 and the IFSO programing that is always an important part of this meeting.

On Wednesday, November 2, IFSO and ASMBS will host the Asian Pacific Panel and there will be another international panel on Thursday, both of which will include live surgeries from around the world. Also, on Wednesday evening you will have the chance to welcome friends old and new in the heart of New Orleans at the International Reception where you can enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with your friends and colleagues around the world.
Of course there is much, much more to learn and experience at ObesityWeek from hands on labs on Balloons and Robotics to Mini Consensus Conferences on Band Conversions, Single Anastomosis vs DS, Single Anastomosis Gastric Bypass, to Top Papers of latest research in metabolic and bariatric surgery.

Registration is now open for ObesityWeek. For more information, be sure to stay connected with ObesityWeek on Facebook and Twitter. Sign up for the latest updates from ASMBS and ObesityWeek here."
On behalf of the Board of the Latin American Chapter of IFSO, it is my pleasure to report you what are the main achievements of our Chapter, in the last three months, from March 2016 to June 2016.

We have had 8 communications with our member societies, as e-mail communications. Our WhatsApp CHAT IFSO LAC has been a quite useful tool between us and the Presidents of each member society. In these last 3 months we shared in Cartagena, Colombia and in Mendoza, Argentina, and this type of communication has made our meetings and agendas easier.

Our III Intermedial IFSO LAC Congress was held in Cartagena, Colombia from April 13th. To 16th. 2016, organized in conjunction with the Asociacion Colombiana de Obesidad y Cirugia Bariatrica during the Ibero/American Congress of Obesity, Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery in the Convention Center of the Hotel Las Americas. We have had the presence of 14 presidents of our Member Societies, and we had the opportunity to make an Extraordinary General Assembly, on April 14th. This Assembly was very important because we had the opportunity to conclude the modifications to our bylaws, that took several months to be finished.

This III Intermedial Congress was a great success, we had the participation of a prestigious International Faculty, and during this meeting we shared with the interdisciplinary teams, other medical specialties were represented. The social program was outstanding. Dr. Sergio Guevara and Dr. Rami Mikler did a great job.

During the Extraordinary Assembly, Dr. Sergio Aparicio the President from Bolivia related to the General Council the progress in the organization of the VII IFSO LAC Congress, that will held in the beautiful city of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from April 26th. to 29th. 2017.
• From May 25th to 28th, 2016 we have had the IV Intermedial IFSO LAC Congress at the Intercontinental Hotel, Mendoza Argentina, during the X International Congress of Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery. Dr. Pablo Omelanczuk and Dr. Santiago Horgan are the organizers of this International Meeting, this was its 10th edition, and our second joined adventure. All the Presidents of the IFSO LAC member societies were invited to actively participate in the Academic Program, as speakers and Presidents of several of the symposia. Because just one month before was the last Intermedial IFSO LAC Congress in Cartagena, Colombia, only 6 Presidents were present. It was not organized any Assembly of the chapter in Mendoza. The Guest International Faculty was excellent, and the academic program was very interesting, showing the New Technologies in Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery. The Allied Health Program was very well attended. The attendees participation was one of the biggest in the last 4 editions of this International meeting.

• The website www.ifsolac.org is a great asset, as you know the launching of our blog in the last months has been a great success for our chapter, our members have been participating with their comments and experiences, this blog is similar to the one that the American College of Surgeons has. Our blog has two sections: 1) Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery and 2) Allied Health Professionals. Both groups have had a great acceptance.

• Future meetings: 21st. World Congress IFSO 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, from September 27th to October 1st, 2016. Some words about this meeting: As you know our friends from The Brazilian Society for Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery are the organizers of the next World Congress of IFSO, in Rio de Janeiro. Dr. Ricardo Cohen (Congress President) together with Almino Ramos, Wendy Brown and Kelvin Higa (Scientific Committee) and Natan Zundel (IFSO President) are the organizers. We, as Chapter are going to participate actively in the Scientific Program, all of our Presidents were included in the Academic Program. We hope that this World Congress of IFSO will surpass all the expectations from the world of Bariatric Surgery.

Estuardo J. Behrens MD MACG FACS FASMBS
Executive Director IFSO LAC
IFSO Member at Large LAC
ebehrrens@comnetsa.com
TSMBSS (Taiwan)

The 7th Asian Diabetes Surgery Summit (ADSS) will take place at the Taipei International Convention Center October 28 and 29, 2016. You are also invited to attend the pre-congress workshop, featuring live metabolic surgery, organized on Thursday October 27. For this year’s event, the TSMBSS is joining forces with the Chinese Taipei Diabetes Association that is hosting the 11th IDF-Western Pacific Region Congress on the same dates. This will ensure that many surgeons and internal medicine specialists will be in attendance for the combined event.

APMBSS (Asia-Pacific)

The burgeoning Malaysian Society was hosting the APMBSS 2016 Conference April 14-16 in sunny Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. A pre-congress workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur April 12-13 and featured cadaver lab training.
PSMBS (Philippines)

The Philippine Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery (PSMBS) will organize a Symposium on Surgery for Type 2 Diabetes during the 6th Annual Convention of the Philippine Association of Laparoscopic & Endoscopic Surgeons (PALES).

The meeting will take place July 11-13, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ortigas, Manila, Philippines.

Guest speakers:
- Dr Suthep Udomsawaengsup, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Dr Yosuke Seki, Yotsuya Medical Cube, Tokyo, Japan
- Dr Edward Oliveros, St Luke’s Medical Center, Quezon City, Philippines
- Dr Miguel Mendoza, Asian Hospital & Medical Center, Muntinlupa City, Manila, Philippines

Middle East

The Saudi Society (SASMBS) will host its second international conference October 7-9, 2016. The conference will take place in Abha, the capital of Asir Province in the south and mountainous south of the Kingdom. The theme of the conference is “Diabetes: a Threatening Epidemic”. There will also be a surgical workshop on October 8th, between PM 5:30 and 8:00.
OSSANZ (Australia - New Zealand)

OSSANZ Workshops & Conference

The Obesity Surgery Society of Australia & New Zealand has continued to grow with memberships numbers increasing by 15% in 2016. The contributions from all fields - including surgical and allied health - are a catalyst for broadening our knowledge as to how to better understand the management of the obese patient and their unique requirements.

On May 2nd OSSANZ held its first Fellowship workshop for 2016 - the day was themed "Bariatric Surgery - Which Operation & How?". The interactive workshop was held at the RACS Office in Brisbane and was a huge success - OSSANZ would like to thank all of those involved on the day. The program provided an intricate learning environment for the 40 people in attendance with presentations and group discussions lead by the faculty that included Ahmad Aly, Jeff Hamdorf, Steve Kelly and international guest Shaw Somers as well as representatives from the allied health teams. The workshop and the ASE Bariatric component were both very well represented and OSSANZ hopes to build on this at the Advanced Bariatric Fellows Workshop being held in Brisbane on December 9th 2016.

Registration for the OSSANZ Conference "Dilemmas in Bariatrics" being held in Sydney from October 27th - 29th 2016 has opened. The seminar will provide an ideal environment to foster communication and collaboration and to further our knowledge of Bariatrics on an international level. The program will focus on decision making and dilemmas in relation to adolescents, the super obese, the unique issues associated with public bariatrics and medico legal aspects. The OSSANZ Annual General Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference.

OSSANZ Sub-Committees

OSSANZ has formed two subcommittees in 2016. The Public Bariatrics Sub-Committee was formed with members from Australia and New Zealand with the purpose of advocating for Public Bariatrics in Australia. The paucity of public bariatrics in Australia is becoming more evident and the current state of public bariatrics is being assessed via survey monkey. This information will be used to identify what steps can be taken to alleviate pressure in the public system and increase the number of surgeries.

The Allied Health Committee was established to recognize the importance of integrated health positions in the care and treatment of the obese. These allied health sub-specialties (dietitians, nurses, psychologists) are being engaged as OSSANZ believe they are currently underrepresented in the ongoing health care of the obese. At present, the subcommittee is liaising with the Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) with the aim of establishing allied health workshops around Australia to raise awareness and broaden the knowledge of those working in said sub-specialties and their importance in bariatrics.

Bariatric Surgery Registry

OSSANZ has continued its support of the Bariatric Surgery Registry (BSR) that is still rolling out across Australia and New Zealand. With the aim of improving the quality and safety of bariatric surgery, there are now 13,869 consented patients on the Registry, with an Opt Off rate of 3.32%. The BSR now has a total of 83 approved sites across Australia with 109 surgeons currently contributing to the Registry. The online database known as the Bariatric Surgery Registry Interface (BSR-i) allows surgeons and their staff to enter data directly onto the electronic interface, eliminating the need for hard copy forms. OSSANZ encourages everyone to start or to continue making contributions to the BSR in order monitor and evaluate patient outcomes across Australia.
JSSO (Japan)

The 7th obesity treatment seminar was held in Tokyo on June 5th and 6th. About 55 people including surgeons, physicians, nurses, dietitians and anesthesiologists, participated.

The 34th Annual Meeting of Japanese Society for Treatment of Obesity will be held from July 1 to 2, 2016 in Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Wei-Jei Lee has been invited as the guest speakers at the Meeting. We anticipate that approximately 500 people will participate.

CSMBS (China)

The 9th Annual Meeting of Chinese College of Surgeons (CCS) approved by the Chinese Medical Doctor Association (CMDA) and Chinese College of Surgeons (CCS) was held in Peking BICC, May 20 to May 2, 2016. Three meetings of the Chinese Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery took place during this conference.

Meanwhile, the second plenary session of the second Chinese Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons committee was held. The agenda of this session was: (1) to establish expert consensus on Obesity and Metabolic Disease Surgery in China; (2) publish the next year’s annual plan; (3) to call for more committee members to join in IFSO.

The Annual Meeting of CSMBS will be held in Guangzhou from 9th to 10th September 2016. This meeting will invite famous experts and professors in the field of weight loss at home and abroad, and champion the advancement in metabolic and bariatric surgery research by uniting the world’s leading clinicians and visionary researchers. This is an exclusive opportunity for experts to share their latest findings, technical expertise and experiences in the fields of obesity, metabolic syndrome and bariatric surgery. We will update as work commences on organization of the Congress on the official website.

Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Congress in WCES 2016 (15th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery) will be held in Shanghai and Suzhou in China from November 10 to 12, 2016. During the congress, we will show you various results in the field of surgery in China weight loss and diabetes; it will cover academic papers and surgical video. It will be a platform to introduce China to the world. For further information on the Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Congress please go to www.wces2016.com, www.elsa2016.com. You can contact us by the email info@wces2016.com.
The IFSO RIO 2016 will be opened by the pioneers of Bariatric surgery celebrating the 50 years anniversary of the gastric bypass. From a historical perspective to the contemporary view, this landmark Bariatric and metabolic procedure will be fully detailed. Technical evolution and outcomes will be reported.

During the Conference, a comprehensive approach on the new guidelines for metabolic surgery, endorsed by over 45 world Societies, including IFSO, will be presented. Several lectures, workshops and discussions on mechanistic aspects, outcomes and cost effectiveness will be addressed. No question will be left unanswered.

JOIN US AT IFSO 2016!

MORE INFORMATION AT:
WWW.IFSO2016.COM
2016 IFSO World Annual Meeting

20 Reasons to Attend the XXI IFSO World Congress in Rio

1. Participate in the biggest world high-level congress in Bariatric/Metabolic surgery;
2. Extend your network with over 2500 colleagues from different countries all over the world;
3. Present your abstract in the major bariatric/metabolic surgery congress;
4. Discuss with your colleagues, about personal doubts and difficult cases you have;
5. Attend the most interesting sessions, symposiums, workshops and lectures on bariatric/metabolic subjects according to your preferences;
6. Get updated in the most recent discoveries and advances related to obesity, and its comorbidities, metabolic syndrome and its surgical treatment options;
7. Be the first to receive new guidelines and selection criteria for metabolic syndrome, obesity and T2DM;
8. Enjoy the opportunity to ask questions, make points and comments in your preferred sessions of the congress;
9. Update in the new technologies, regarding innovation in the treatment of obesity and metabolic syndrome;
10. Take the advantage to have in the same conference the most known and respected world class experts in bariatric/metabolic surgery;
11. Attend high levels debates and cross fires involving the most controversial issues in bariatric/metabolic surgery;
12. Book to your preferred Post Graduate Course among the 10 options. There will be very selected courses, for small groups, aiming to go deep in each subject with lot of time to discussion, interaction and case-discussion;
13. Know how to improve your multidisciplinary work group based in the Integrative Bariatric/Metabolic Care sessions;
14. Improve the skills and take advantage of the chance to train in new technologies in the Laparoscopic Endosuturing Course;
15. Receive the last input over the two more intriguing issues, revisional and metabolic surgery;
16. Know the proper ways to advance your practice improving numbers and results;
17. Update about the new technologies in mini-invasive approaches, endoscopy and robotic surgery;
18. Understand the expectations for the future trends of the surgical treatment of obesity and metabolic disorders;
19. Enjoy and relax with the social events of the congress;
20. Rio, the wonderful city, will be very nice with the entire infrastructure coming from the Olympic Games.

Ricardo Cohan
President of IFSO 2016 Congress

Almine Ramos
Scientific Committee Coordinator

Natan Zundel
President of IFSO

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

FOR ACCOMMODATIONS BOOKING, TOURISTIC TOURS AND TRANSPORT, CONTACT THE OFFICIAL TOURISM AGENCY.

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2016 IFSO World Annual Meeting

IFSO 21st WORLD CONGRESS

21st WORLD CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR THE SURGERY OF OBESITY & METABOLIC DISORDERS
September 28th to October 1st
Rio de Janeiro | Brazil

POSTGRADUATE COURSES
SEPTEMBER, 28TH

- INTEGRATIVE TRANS DISCIPLINARY BARIATRIC SUPPORT
- SINGLE ANASTOMOSIS GASTRIC BYPASS OR ONE ANASTOMOSIS GASTRIC BYPASS – THE FORMER MINI-GASTRIC BYPASS. EXPLORING THE ROLE OF SINGLE ANASTOMOSIS BARIATRIC SURGERY. IS THE ROUX LIMB A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF BARIATRIC PROCEDURES? A BALANCED VIEW
- REVISIONAL SURGERY
- METABOLIC SURGERY
- HOW TO GET YOUR PAPER PUBLISHED
- POSTOPERATIVE COMPLICATIONS
- ENDO SUTURING
- BARIATRIC ENDOSCOPY
- DIFFICULT HERNIAS IN MORBIDLY OBSESE PATIENTS
- THE SICK PATIENT: PRE, TRANS AND POSTOPERATIVE CARE

SPECIAL RATES UNTILL AUGUST, 01ST € 165

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.IFSO2016.COM
IFSO 2017 - LONDON

The 22nd World Congress of IFSO will be held in London, UK between the 29th August and the 2nd of September 2017.

The scientific program for IFSO 2017 provides a unique opportunity for all interested in obesity and metabolic surgery to share their experiences, expertise and knowledge and seek practical solutions in their search to eradicate and manage this epidemic. With more than 8 postgraduate courses, multiple symposia and numerous oral, video and live operating sessions, this is set to be a great meeting. The program highlights the multidisciplinary nature of this disease and its management with joint symposia with anesthetic, plastic surgery, pediatric surgery and internal medicine colleagues. There are planned joint sessions with fertility, psychology and psychiatry experts. There will also be special emphasis on Integrated Health and non-surgical treatment strategies. An exciting ‘Dragon's Den meets Shark tank’ session will take place where participants will pitch ideas for randomized controlled trials to a panel of experts.

The post-graduate courses include the 6th International Conference on Sleeve gastrectomy as well as a One Anastomosis Gastric bypass (OAGB-MGB) consensus workshop. There will be networking lunches organized for integrated health professionals, Young IFSO members and Women in Bariatric Surgery. Meet the expert sessions have also been arranged in the lunch breaks. The regional variations in practice are also recognized with Latin American, European, Asia Pacific, ASMBS and Pan-Arab Symposia.

The conference venue, the Queen Elizabeth II centre (http://qeiicentre.london), is located at the heart of London directly opposite to Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament and a 5-minute walk to the river Thames and the London Eye. The venue is served by outstanding transport links providing great access to everything the city has to offer from hotels and world-class restaurants to culture, museums, shopping and nightlife. It is also within an hour’s transfer from five international airports. In addition to the wealth of scientific education and networking offered by the official congress program, you will be able to take advantage of London’s attractions in your free time.

On behalf of the organizing and the scientific committees and the IFSO president elect, Dr Kelvin Higa, I would like to welcome you all to the great city of London. For more information go to www.ifso2017.com
Important dates for your diaries:

Abstract submission and registration open: 1st December 2016

Abstract submission ends: 1st April 2017

Acceptance notification & confirmation of presentation type: 10th May 2017

End of early bird registration: 1st June 2017

IFSO 2017 Post-graduate courses include:

6th International Conference on Sleeve gastrectomy (2 days)

One Anastomosis Gastric bypass (OAGB-MGB) consensus workshop

Bariatric Endoscopy and novel procedures course

T2D and metabolic surgery course

Emergencies in Bariatric Surgery Course

Allied Health Professional course

Primary care physician course

IFSO 2017 endorsing societies:

Specialists in Obesity and Bariatric Anaesthesia (SOBA)

Association of Physicians Specialising in Obesity (APSO)

British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (BAPRAS)

Society for Endocrinology

Diabetes UK

World Obesity

International Bariatric Club (IBC)
SAVE THE DATE
29 August to 2 Sept 2017
QEII Centre, London

A Message from Dr Kelvin D. Higa, MD, FACS, FASMBS, President-Elect IFSO

I am delighted to invite you to IFSO 2017 in London bringing together world leaders in metabolic and bariatric surgery to educate, discuss and collaborate.

Our hosts, the British Obesity and Metabolic Surgical Society is planning a superb scientific programme that promises a unique opportunity for all those interested in obesity and metabolic surgery to share their experiences, expertise and knowledge and seek practical solutions in their search to eradicate and manage this epidemic. With an emphasis on integrated health and on surgical treatment strategies, participants can look forward to more than 8 postgraduate courses, multiple symposia and numerous oral, video and live operating sessions. This is set to be a great meeting.

Please join me and our hosts in London for the IFSO 2017 Annual Congress.

For more information contact The Congress Secretariat
Email: ifso2017@tfigroup.com Tel: +44 (0) 207 808 5172
www.ifso2017.com

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- Pre-congress courses including the 6th International Conference on Sleeve Gastrectomy
- Video and operating sessions discussing technical aspects and management of complications
- Sessions about established operative, endoscopic as well as novel procedures for weight loss and type 2 diabetes
- Multidisciplinary symposia with physicians, psychologists, anaesthetists, plastic surgeons, dieticians and primary care doctors
- Symposia about special patient groups including adolescents and young adults, pregnant women who have had surgery and older patients
- Innovative sessions including the use of technology in obesity and bariatric surgery, medicolegal issues and the impact of bariatric tourism
- ’Dragon’s Den meets Shark tank’ - participants will be able to pitch their ideas for randomized controlled trials to a panel of experts
- Networking lunches for Allied Health Professionals, Young IFSO members and Women in Bariatric Surgery
- ’Meet the Expert’ lunchtime sessions
- Latin American, Asia Pacific, North American and Pan-Arab Symposia
- Patient engagement sessions
We are pleased to inform you that on the 2016 Google Scholar metrics that covers articles published in 2011–2015 and include citations from all articles that were indexed in Google Scholar as of June 2016, for 2016, Obesity Surgery is ranked as the #5 journal in the Obesity category and the #7 journal in the Surgery category!

The h-5 index for the journal is 57, meaning that 57 articles published by OBSU have been cited at least 57 times.

This is an excellent result! Congratulations and thanks to the Editor-in-Chief Professor Scott Shikora, to the Advisory Editors, Associate Editors, Members of the Editorial Board, Authors and Readers of our Journal !!!

Springer is pleased to offer free access to the top 10 most downloaded articles published in 2015 in Obesity Surgery through 31st August 2016.

Read, download and cite!
Forward this message to your colleagues http://bit.ly/29kgmgJ

Never miss an issue! Sign up to receive Table of Contents (TOC) Alert emails for Obesity Surgery. You will be able to update your email address or unsubscribe at any time. http://bit.ly/WZAF8g


CITATION ALERT: Never miss getting cited! Thanks to the information SPRINGER receive from CrossRef, a journal article’s corresponding author will be alerted after his/her paper was cited by another article (http://goo.gl/XGjVc)
INTEGRATED HEALTH COMMITTEE

Activities 2015-2016:

1. On line Courses in bariatric since 2010, over 300 students from Iberoamerica in Bariatric Psychology, Physical Training and Nutrition. This year we include Bariatric Nursing and Administration and coordination of bariatric clinics.

2. To organize Integrated Health course integrative trans disciplinary bariatric support for 21th World Congress, on September 27 to October 1th, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

3. To organize Integrated Health network meeting in 21th World Congress, on September 27 to October 1th, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

4. To participate like conferencists IH committee member of IFSO in 21th World Congress, on September 27 to October 1th, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Scientific Committee membership has now been finalised and had our first teleconference on 6 July. Membership includes Wendy Brown (co-chair), Miguel Herrera (co-chair), Alex Escalona, Jeff Hamdorf, Scott Shikora, Wei Jei Lee, Prof. Michel Suter, Moshe Rubin, Natan Zundel and Kelvin Higa.

The Scientific Committee is a relatively new committee and undoubtedly the role of the committee will change over time. Our current mission is to provide support to local IFSO scientific organising committees, ensure that the scientific content of the Website is current and provide information to members on current research of interest.

We look forward to working together to help promote best evidence based practice across all the chapters of IFSO.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Let IFSO hear your voice: IFSO has circulated a survey to know which subjects are important for our members to hear about. [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWNJVKR](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWNJVKR)

750 Members have done the survey and these are the results:
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Committees’ Reports</th>
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<tr>
<td>least interesting</td>
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<td>The need for routine pre operative Ultrasound and the utility of Actigal</td>
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<td>Management of pre operative anemia</td>
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<td>Pre operative screening for OSA and the STOP BANG questionnaire</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>The role of routine pre operative endoscopy and indication for colonoscopy prior to bariatric surgery</td>
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<td>Peri operative DVT prophylaxis in bariatric surgery</td>
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<td>The role of the psychologist in the pre-operative workup</td>
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<td>The role of the dietician in the pre-operative workup</td>
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<td>Enhanced recovery for bariatric surgery</td>
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<td>Evaluation of patients with GERD after sleeve gastrectomy</td>
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<td>Evaluation of patients with weight recidivism after sleeve gastrectomy</td>
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<td>Procedure selection for type 2 DM</td>
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IFSO Website new look launched in 2014:

- Hits in 2014 (34,000 hits).
- Hits in 2015 (50,056 hits) +47% increase.
- Hits in 2016 (70,477 hits) +30% increase

Website statistics:

- Visit by visitor type: (33.4% new visitor).
- Visit and page visit by country 2014 compared to 2015:

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<td>Australia 1100</td>
<td>France 679</td>
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- Meetings endorsed by IFSO:
  - 2014 (11 meetings).
  - 2015 (28 meetings up) 150% increase.
  - 2016 (20 meetings up to July 2016)

- Please join the IFSO Facebook Group: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/396874800435861/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/396874800435861/). This is a closed professional social networking group to discuss complex cases and receive updates about important events in the IFSO calendar. It was started in 2013:

  - Members 2014 (454)
  - Members 2015 (832)
  - Members 2016 (930)
Please Join the IFSO LinkedIn group: 975 members
https://www.linkedin.com/groups/IFSO-International-Federation-Surgery-Obesity-4941421/about

Educational obesity public lecture English version will be released soon on the IFSO website. Versions in Spanish, French, Portuguese to follow.

POSITION STATEMENTS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The IFSO Position Statements and Standards Committee has just published an important Statement and is about finishing one more Statement based on current scientific evidence.

The first statement e-published online on Obesity Surgery in July and inprint on the August issue concerns "Indications for surgery for obesity and weight related disease". This important paper regarding indications for obesity surgery in the light of the latest scientific evidence, benefited from the contribution of many colleagues and from the revision of the IFSO board.

Commonly used parameters such as Body Mass Index (BMI) and anthropometric measures, although useful, have substantial limitations as indications for surgery for obesity and weight related diseases in individuals. Any indication for surgery has to consider the metabolic comorbidities, particularly Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM), physical symptoms, psychological/psychiatric symptoms and the functional limitations. For these reasons the words "bariatric", "obesity" or "metabolic" surgery should be replaced by the term "surgery for obesity and weight related diseases" which better describes the impact of this type of surgery on obesity and weight related conditions.

After careful review of the available data concerning the safety and efficacy of surgery for obesity and weight related diseases and its effectiveness in treating obesity and related comorbidities, this panel reached a consensus on a number of recommendations regarding T2DM, class I obesity (BMI>30 kg/m2), obstructive sleep apnea syndrome (OSAS) and asthma, disabilities derived from joint disease, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) particularly in Roux-en Y gastric Bypass (RYGB), and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). As for mental Health, surgery is not contraindicated for individuals with mood and anxiety disorders, Binge Eating Disorder (BED) and Night Eating Syndrome (NES), provided the patients received appropriate mental health treatment. On the contrary, surgery finds a contraindication in cases of severe and untreated bipolar disorders, unstable schizophrenia and psychosis, untreated bulimia nervosa and intractable substance and alcohol abuse.

The second position statement is entitled "IFSO position statement on prevention, detection and treatment of leaks after sleeve gastrectomy".

The importance of the subject resides in the fact that Staple Line Leak (SLL) is the most serious postoperative complication of laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy (LSG), with an incidence ranging from 0.5% to 7% in different published series. SLL is associated with significant morbidity and mortality and its treatment can be demanding, requiring a long hospital stay and causing substantial discomfort to the patients.

According to the International Sleeve Gastrectomy Expert Panel Consensus Statement held in 2011, SLL onset can be defined as acute, early, late and chronic depending on the time interval since surgery: up to 1 week, 1 to 6 weeks, 6 to 12 weeks, and more than 12 weeks, respectively. It is estimated that 75%-85% of SLL will occur at the proximal third of the greater curvature staple line versus 15-25% in the distal or antral staple line. The pathophysiology of SLL is multifactorial and involves mechanical-tissue mechanisms besides ischemic causes, resulting in imbalance between the intraluminal pressure of the gastric remnant and the strength of the staple line. In this statement, a summary of current, published, peer-reviewed scientific evidence is presented and suggestions made regarding reasonable approaches to prevention, intra and postoperative detection and management of SLL. The intent of issuing such a Statement is to provide available objective information about leaks after primary SG. The Statement will be revised in the future as additional evidence becomes available.
It was felt that this Position Statement was necessary to clarify IFSO’s position on some topics regarding the indications in surgery for obesity and weight-related disease worldwide. The need arose because the indications to surgery for obesity and weight related disease of the NIH 1991 were unanimously considered outdated. Then an agreement about the topics to be developed was reached and consequently a literature research started.

Finally the Statement was written with levels of clinical evidence of specific publications, and with an agreement of the authors shared with the IFSO Board.

Why the IFSO Position Statement?

a) for experienced surgeons it is an update on specific topics

b) for less experienced surgeons it is a document to be taken into account when they want to give indications for surgery in case of non-conventional situations.

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<td>Indications for Surgery for Obesity and Weight-Related Diseases: Position Statements from the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders (IFSO)</td>
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This article is available as 'Online First':

It is fully accessible to all IFSO members who have purchased a SpringerLink license.

If you have paid the annual fee as IFSO Regular member (100 USD$) that includes the subscription to *Obesity Surgery* (12 print issues + online access + abstracts of all IFSO congresses) and you haven’t received the token to access the journal online yet, please email us to: info@ifso.com
This year YIFSO continues for the fourth year in setting up YIFSO sessions at different IFSO and IFSO Chapters events. Recently, young IFSO has been closely involved in organising its own scientific sessions at international Bariatric meetings in Turkey as well as in Moscow and was proud to be able to actively participate in the inaugural European Obesity Summit (EOS), organized jointly by IFSO-European Chapter and the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO) in Gothenburg, Sweden June 1-4, 2016. There were more than 30 abstracts submitted YIFSO session out of that the best 7 abstracts were selected for oral presentations. Presenting authors represented a wide range of countries, such as Australia, Poland, Turkey, Spain and France. The YIFSO session was of high scientific level and was well attended. Discussions following each talk were indeed lively and really interesting. The presentations covered not only purely surgical topics, however some of them were focused on social networking, different aspects of bariatric patient motivations. Surgical topics were centered mostly around complications of gastric bandings, gastric bypasses and sleeve gastrectomies. The YIFSO Session program presented in Gothenburg was really wide and scientifically interesting.

Next YIFSO session is planned for the IFSO World Congress in Rio, Brasil and later this Autumn for the Frankfurter Meeting.

The IFSO World Congress program is already set up, but there is still time to submit abstracts for YIFSO Session for November 2016 Frankfurter Meeting. At the Frankfurter Meeting, there are some awards to be given by the YIFSO for the best abstract and the best poster presented during the YIFSO Session. The best YIFSO poster will win 500 Euro. The best three selected abstracts winners will be awarded free registration for the Frankfurter Meeting. For the first time in YIFSO history, there will be two YIFSO sessions at the Frankfurter Meeting. One of them will be focused on a very interesting and rather provocative topic: Looking into the future: Will pharmacology replace surgery?

The next voting for the Young IFSO President-elect as well as for other Executive positions within the Young IFSO will be held during the IFSO World Congress in London in 2017.

In 2017 in London, the current Young IFSO President, Karin Dolezalova from the Czech Republic will be replaced by the Young-IFSO President Elect, Sylvia Weiner from Germany.

Karin Dolezalova
Young-IFSO President
2016 GLOBAL IFSO REGISTRY

Dear IFSO Members,

I am very pleased to be able to give you a brief update report on the current status of the IFSO Global Registry on Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery:

- This is the second onward phase of the IFSO Registry Project following the publication of a First Pilot Registry Project Report at the IFSO congress in Montreal in 2014.
- Data has now been collected this year on > 150,000 procedure records
- We have seen a significant increase in the number of contributor countries that have joined up from 18 countries in 2014 to 31 countries this year, which represents excellent engagement and involvement with the project from National Bariatric Surgery Societies/Associations and individual surgeons from around the globe – special thanks to each and every contributor – your data submissions are very much appreciated indeed
- The submissions represent a mix of data from national registries and, from countries where national registries do not yet exist, from individual centres from more and more countries from around the world.
- Data has now been received from 8 national country registries – last time around it was just three
- Each continent has submitted more data
- For the very first time we have data from a major centre in the USA to sit alongside existing and new contributions from Mexico and Canada
- We have new contributors from Central and South America - Panama and Colombia again alongside existing contributors from Peru, Chile and Brazil
- There are new contributors also from Europe – Switzerland & Lithuania have joined the project for the first time – last time around we had data only from the UK, France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands and Russia
- The number of contributors from the Middle East area has increased from two to six countries and now includes the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Jordan and data from Israel’s national registry
- From Asia – Hong Kong has now committed their data to complement existing contributions from India, Taiwan and China
- Two countries have just started up new national registries – India and Turkey and they have kindly already submitted their first data submissions

Many thanks also to Japan, Norway and Iran who were keen to join the project but for technical reasons could not do so this time around.

The Registry results will be presented in Rio at the IFSO World Congress on September 30th 2016 and printed materials will be distributed to IFSO members at the IFSO and Dendrite booths.

The submission is closed for this year, so that we can commence the analyses, but we will be more than happy to welcome anyone who will be interested in uploading data for the 2017 edition of the IFSO Registry Report. There is no charge to join this project - all you have to do is contact me and I will guide you through the process of how to get involved.
May I offer special thanks to the Registry Advisory Board, the IFSO Executive Board and to all the IFSO members who have helped to make this ambitious project a reality.

I look forward to meeting you in Rio – please do come and visit the Dendrite exhibition booth to discuss the IFSO Registry Project and your involvement in this rapidly growing project.

Kindest regards

Dr Peter K. H. Walton
MA MB BChir(Camb) MBA(Lond) FRCP
Managing Director
Dendrite Clinical Systems Ltd (IFSO Global Registry – Data Management Partner)
peter.walton@e-dendrite.com
Cell Phone: +44 7850 580 555

How to Submit Data?

**Upload-My-Data Portal**
for Electronic upload of Data from National Bariatric Surgery Registries
or from individual bariatric surgical centres that have a local database & where there is NO national database in place.

How to Submit Data?

**Upload-My-Data Portal**
for Electronic upload of Data from National Bariatric Surgery Registries
or by Direct Data Entry on-line for those centres that do NOT have a local database (nor a national Registry) but wish to submit data case-by-case

Cost to Join the Registry?

**Zero !!**

...there may be some local costs to configure an output file suitable for upload to the central IFSO Registry, if you have your own proprietary or in-house database
The Role of Industry Relations

IFSO is proud to partner with some of the medical industry’s premier companies, and aims to better facilitate communications and feedback between the Federation, our members and industry professionals.

Support from industry professionals helps IFSO further our goal of providing continuing education resources to our members and other bariatric professionals. IFSO provides appropriate opportunities for communication and exchange of ideas with our members through our conferences, member communications, and other collaborative ventures.

Corporate Committee

The IFSO Corporate Committee is organized to develop and enhance the joint strategies and efforts of bariatric surgeons, healthcare professionals and industry professionals. The Corporate Council offers opportunities to work with industry peers in appropriately influencing the healthcare of the morbidly obese.

IFSO does not endorse any specific commercial product or service. This website has links to private organizations. The inclusion of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by IFSO of the linked Web resources or the information, products, or services contained therein. IFSO does not exercise any control over the content on these sites.

Efforts supported by the Corporate Committee

- IFSO Booth at related medical meetings
- Press Room at the IFSO Annual Meeting
- Support the IFSO Annual Meeting
- IFSO/Bariatric Surgery Public Relations efforts

Benefits of Corporate Committee Membership

- Free advertising and Company link to the IFSO website in the IFSO Corporate Committee section
- Recognition and Free advertising in the IFSO online E-Newsletter
- Access to the IFSO membership
- Listing in the online Bariatric Products and Services Guide
- Access to updates from the field and communications from IFSO Leadership
- Opportunity to exhibit at IFSO ancillary meetings
- IFSO Corporate Committee lapel pins for special recognition as a Corporate Committee member
- Member registration rates for the IFSO Annual Meeting
- Discounted annual meeting booth exhibit fee – 10%

Membership annual fees

Platinum level: 15,000$
Gold level: 7,000$
Silver level: 3,500$
IFSO E-Newsletter  JULY 2016

IFSO Corporate Partners

If your Company is interested in being a member of IFSO Corporate Committee, please visit [http://www.ifso.com/about-ifso/ifso-corporate-committee/](http://www.ifso.com/about-ifso/ifso-corporate-committee/) and contact us at secretariat@ifso.com

**Platinum Corporate Partners**

- [www.apolloendo.com](http://www.apolloendo.com)
- [www.ethicon.com](http://www.ethicon.com)
- [www.medtronic.com](http://www.medtronic.com)
- [www.intuitivesurgical.com](http://www.intuitivesurgical.com)

**Gold Corporate Partners**

- [www.stretta-therapy.com](http://www.stretta-therapy.com)
- [www.usgimedical.com](http://www.usgimedical.com)

**Silver Corporate Partner**

- [www.fractyl.com](http://www.fractyl.com)
Endorsement requests must be sent to IFSO Secretariat (info@ifso.com) together with the scientific program of the Course. IFSO-Communication Committee will carefully review the concepts and objectives of the course as well as the faculty, the structure and content of the course, in deciding about the endorsement. “Endorsement” does not in any way offer credentialing of grant approval to the participant regarding future skills and outcomes.

**Single Endorsement**

- Single Endorsement is only available for one event.
- The event must be directed or coordinated by an IFSO member, or have as its primary faculty, at least one IFSO member
- Endorsed events should offer CME credits (if not, an explanation must be provided)
- The Director must ensure that disclosure of conflict of interest are enforced
- Reduced registration fees must be granted to IFSO Members

The fee for single endorsement is **$400.00**

**Multiple Endorsement**

- Multiple endorsement is meant for two or more events held per year at the same institution.
- The events must be directed or coordinated by an IFSO member, or have as its primary faculty, at least one IFSO member
- All brochures and faculty lists must be submitted to the IFSO-Communication Committee for annual review
- The institution/centre must be equipped with adequate facilities
- Endorsed events should offer CME credits (if not, an explanation must be provided).
- The Director must ensure that disclosure of conflict of interest are enforced
- Reduced registration fees must be granted to IFSO Members

The fee for multiple endorsement is **$1,200.00/year**

**Benefits:**

Endorsed events will be:

- listed on IFSO’s Website on the “Endorsed meetings” page, with a link to the congress website
- included on IFSO’s E-newsletter
- mailed twice to IFSO Members
- advertised once on IFSO Facebook page
- the Director may include IFSO’s Endorsement statement and IFSO Logo on promotional materials among the endorsing institutions, exclusively with the following text: “Endorsed by” before the logo of IFSO.

If you think your event fulfils the above mentioned requirements, please send your request to info@ifso.com by filling the following form together with a PDF file of the scientific program.

After the approval of the Communication Committee and of the President of the Chapter where the event will be held, you will receive further instructions about the payment of the endorsement fee.
2016 Endorsed Congresses

XVIII Congreso Internacional para la Obesidad y enfermedades metabolicas
Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico
13-16 July 2016

ACMOMS 9- Expert Panel Meeting on Revisional Bariatric Surgery
Chennai, India
22-23 July 2016

11th Annual Obesity Summit
Cleveland OH, USA
29-30 September 2016

Obesity Days 2016
Frankfurt am Main, Germany
17-19 November 2016

13th International B.E.S.T. Congress
Naples, Italy
5-6 December 2016
How to join IFSO?

2016 FEES

IFSO Regular Membership (complimentary subscription to *Obesity Surgery*): **100,00$**

IFSO Integrated Health Membership *only for non surgeons*: **20,00$**

If you are an ASMBS Member you can subscribe to *Obesity Surgery* at the discounted rate of US $80,00 clicking here: http://www.ifso.com/join-ifso

If you are a non ASMBS member and you want to subscribe to SOARD please visit: asmbs.org/professional-education/soard/ifso

- **Individual Membership**

Only members who live in Countries where there is no National Society for the Surgery of Obesity can apply to become “Individual affiliated members”, writing to the Secretariat and asking for the application form.

Payment can be made either by bank transfer or credit card/Paypal on www.ifso.com/join-ifso

- **Membership through the National Society**

For details on how your National Society for the Surgery of Obesity can become a member of IFSO, for Individual membership requests and for any other information feel free to contact our Executive Secretariat’s office at: secretariat@ifso.com or info@ifso.com