Dear Colleagues,

Many of the projects and goals I wanted to achieve in my Presidency this year are in an advanced progress and I want to thank all of you for the support you are giving IFSO.

We created the Ethics Committee that will help us to deal with the delicate issues that sometimes arise in the daily life of our Federation.

We are producing a Video Atlas on the Surgery of Obesity that will be a great source of knowledge for all the surgeons of the field. Videos of the different operations will be periodically uploaded on our website and will be available for our members. The realization of this Atlas will be quite expensive because the quality of the videos will be excellent and many companies are eager to sponsor this important project to offer you such a useful tool to be always updated on the different surgical techniques.

The two Task Forces that I appointed in Vienna are working with alacrity. The Financial Task Force is looking for the best ways to invest the funds of the Federation and to make them more and more profitable for its members. So we can develop and implement more and more projects for our members.

The Statute Task Force is working on the possible improvements of our internal regulations to make sure democracy and transparency remain the cornerstones of our Federation, and are updated for the different challenges that new times always bring.

I want to thank the ad hoc group, appointed by my predecessor and good friend, Rudolf Weiner, and ably led by the Co-Chairman of our Position Statement Committee, Maurizio De Luca, that has recently produced a very important Position Statement on “Indications for surgery for obesity and weight related disease”.

This is a starting point to go ahead and to discuss our surgical options and proven results with other Societies and Federations, and is great step, the greatest since 1991/1993. The full document will be published on Obesity Surgery in May or June.

Our Executive Board has recently decided to endorse the recommendations and guidelines established through the Second Diabetes Surgery Summit (DSS-II), titled: “Metabolic Surgery in the Treatment Algorithm for Type 2 Diabetes: A Joint Statement by International Diabetes Organizations”.

The Summit was organized in partnership with leading international diabetes organizations and with the endorsement of many surgical and endocrinology societies, and IFSO has been an important supporter and played a key role in the initiative, with numerous members involved in the DSS organizing committee, voting experts and also in the authorship of the final report.
The report is scheduled to be published in the June issue of Diabetes Care and on our official journal Obesity Surgery.

I think this report represents a unique opportunity to improve acceptance of, and access to, metabolic surgery worldwide.

The 2016 Global IFSO Registry data merge is progressing. So far Dendrite have received and merged >60,000 procedure records and there are 14 countries who have committed to provide their national data to the IFSO Registry in the next few weeks and another 8 countries where no national database exists but a number of large individual centres have pledged to submit their data. The data submission process for these contributors is underway. The aim is to complete the data merge process by the end of April so that the data analyses can commence with earnest. The project is currently still on track with the aim to deliver a second report for the IFSO congress in Rio. If you have not yet submitted your data and need help, please let Manuela know and she will get you in contact with Dendrite.

I have been travelling around the globe for the last months and I will keep on doing this in representation of IFSO to reaffirm our growing importance in the field of obesity on one side and to encourage countries that can be considered “emerging” from the surgical societies point of view, to establish their own societies that will become member of IFSO.

I am also glad to inform you that, besides our 3 strong Platinum Corporate Partners, we have a few new partner companies that are members now, and also other ones interested in joining and supporting us. I believe, in fact, that support from industry professionals can help us further our goals and provide us the resources we need to realize our projects.

This is going to be a very fruitful Spring season and I am glad to share with you some of our short term future activities: in May for the first time IFSO will be holding a Symposium at XIII ICO 2016, the International Congress on Obesity, organized by World Obesity (the former WOF) in Vancouver (Canada). Reciprocally we will offer WO the chance to host a symposium in Rio at our XXI World Congress in September. I am sure this is going to open a path towards the cooperation between the two biggest international organizations of the field and maybe one day, not too far, we will host a huge joint world congress together the World Obesity Week (WOW).

In June the first European Obesity Summit will be held in Goteborg (Sweden) and it will be 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 will ensure that delegates are given the opportunity to increase their knowledge and network with a diverse range of colleagues.

Again in June for the first time we’ll have a Symposium at the 24th European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES) International Congress in Amsterdam (Netherland) on “How to avoid complications in bariatric surgery” and EAES will have one in Rio at our World Congress. I am confident that science and knowledge will benefit from these mutual integration and cooperation with the most important organizations in the field of Surgery.
At the end of June the IFSO North American Chapter will host a Course directed by our President Elect Kelvin Higa, Mehran Anvari and myself, at Obesity Week-end in Las Vegas. This course will offer a comprehensive review of all bariatric interventions with the latest updates on the available relevant data, comparison among procedures and results.

Last but not least my friend Ricardo Cohen and I, together with the Scientific Committee with a masterful coordination by Almino Ramos, have built up an outstanding scientific program for the XXI IFSO World Congress that will be held in Rio de Janeiro, that I think will be one of the best you have ever attended.

We will offer you an international view on the state of the art treatment for obesity and diabetes, addressing all the advancements and challenges that are going on in this field in any corner of the world.

I don’t need to say anything about Rio and its attractiveness that are famous all over the world, so I just say.... see you there soon!

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank every single member of our very active Committees. What they do, and how they do it, implies a great commitment to our organization. So for all of you a big THANK YOU. Also to Kelvin Higa that exerts the coordination of all of them.

As always I encourage all of you to communicate with us - through our Secretariat - to give us your suggestions, to get involved in the various activities of our several committees and to tell us your ideas on how we can improve our Federation.

Thank you

Natan Zundel
Executive Board

Honorary President
Nicola Scopinaro, MD

President
Natan Zundel, MD

President-Elect
Kelvin Higa, MD

Secretary/Treasurer
Almino Ramos, MD

Immediate Past President
Rudolf Weiner, MD

Senior Past President
Luigi Angrisani, MD

Board of Trustees Chair
Antonio Torres, MD

Editor-in-Chief Obesity Surgery
Scott Shikora, MD

Integrated Health Representative
Blanca Rios, MD

European Chapter President
Alberic Fiennes, FRCS

Latin American Chapter President
Juan Antonio Lopez Corvala, MD

Asian Pacific Chapter President
Lilian Kow, MD

North American Chapter President
Ninh Nguyen, MD

European Chapter Member at large
Jacques Himpens, MD

Latin American Chapter Member at large
Estuardo Behrens, MD

Asian Pacific Chapter Member at large
Anton Cheng, MD

North American Chapter Members at large
Jaime Ponce, MD

IFSO 2015 Congress President
Ricardo Cohen, MD

Historian
George Cowan, MD

Inside this issue

1 Message from the President
5 IFSO’s numbers
6 Chapters’ News:
   - European Chapter
   - North American Chapter
   - Latin American Chapter
21 IFSO World Congresses:
   - 2016 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
   - 2017 London, UK
24 Obesity Surgery Journal
25 Committees News
27 Young IFSO
28 2016 GLOBAL IFSO REGISTRY
29 IFSO Corporate Partners
   - Our Platinum Corporate Partners
31 IFSO Endorsement
32 Endorsed meetings
34 How to join IFSO
IFSO’S NUMBERS

• 60 NATIONAL SOCIETIES
• 8,200 MEMBERS
• 2,832 OBESITY SURGERY SUBSCRIBERS
NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN CHAPTER

Germany

The German society has grown up to 372 full members in 2015. From these 204 are full IFSO members and we are happy to have more and more colleagues joining us. In Germany we face a strong restrictive policy of the reimbursement politics from the general insurances; more than 50% of the applications are to be denied at the moment. Probably there is a coincidence for the health costs for the immense number of refugees which have come to our country in 2015. Therefore we plan several action days to aim for more importance of the burden of obesity – we name the program: Save life days.

Moreover we are happy again to host the famous Frankfurter Meeting on laparoscopic surgery and metabolic disorders again in Frankfurt. In this year Prof. Weiner has organized a joint meeting with our colleagues from the medical field; so that we host the 1st Obesity Days together with the German Association for Obesity together with its president Martin Blüher. We will have a 5ow program from 17th-19th of November 2016 – 2 days live transmission, educational courses and training will take place. We will transmit live surgeries with international experts from all over the world and we are happy to host a extensive IBC Club Meeting. For further information we invite to join us on our website www.dag-kongress.de

Spain

Dear Friends,

From the Spanish Society for Obesity Surgery (SECO) we are pleased to inform you that a huge work is been done regarding training of surgeons in Spain. In fact, a multidisciplinary on line courses have been developed, focussing in Emergency Surgery, multidisciplinary approach and also in Advanced bariatric surgery.

3rd Edition Advanced Course in Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
1st Edition Emergency Training in patient with a history of bariatric surgery
1st Multidisciplinary approach in obesity surgery.
3ª edición Curso Avanzado en Cirugía Bariátrica y Metabólica and
1ra Edición del Curso de Urgencias del paciente con antecedentes de cirugía bariátrica
1era Abordaje multidisciplinar en cirugía de la obesidad).

You can visit: http://campus2016.campusseco.org
South Africa

The year 2015 will be remembered as a year full of interesting challenges in the Centers of Excellence for Metabolic Medicine and Surgery in South Africa. These Centers are located in Gauteng, the Free State, in Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Cape Town itself and KwaZulu-Natal.

Our newly acquired affiliation with the South African Medical Association in February 2015 has also been concluded after endless discussions and more than a year’s fruitless communication to a fragmented Association. As an affiliated member of SAMA the possibilities are endless as SASSO will have the exposure, prominence and forum to play an even more pivotal role in the obese population’s education to a better and healthier lifestyle.

We are holding thumbs now as we have put in our bid to host the 2019 World Congress on Obesity Surgery of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders (IFSO). It will be done in conjunction with the Durban KwaZulu-Natal Convention Bureau.

SASSO is also a member of IFSO (International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders) who has members in over forty different countries and is constantly requesting more surgeons with a passion for obesity surgery to join.

The Chair of SASSO, Prof Tess van der Merwe has also joined the Global Energy Balance Network as VP of Africa in August 2015.

South Africa is fast becoming a fatter nation, if you look at the following graph:

The expected percentage at the current rate will rise to as much as 75% in 2030. Some Medical Aids have realized that by paying up to 80% of bariatric surgery, they are in fact investing in a healthier member and therefore attracting more individuals without the necessary funds but who are in dire need to have the surgery done, to change to a Medical Aid that provides the funding.

Prof Tess van der Merwe, Chair of SASSO was inundated with requests to talk on obesity and explaining that NCD’s can be something of the past if patients opt for bariatric surgery. Diabetes Mellitus, certain types of cancer and chronic lung diseases such as asthma, are classified as non-communicable diseases.

She was invited to have live talks hosted by Kosmos Radio (Namibia), Channel Africa, Eye Witness News and Talk Radio 702. The spin-offs post these talks are incredible to our Centers of Excellence. It created such an impact on the public that we suspect it has formed part of the upsurge of bariatric surgeries that are performed at our Centers. Some of our patients who are celebrities in South Africa have also been asked to join the show at various stages which could add to the numbers experienced.

Interesting developments with far-reaching effect for citizens from the Government’s side was the announcement by the Minister of Finance during his Budget Speech in February 2016. In the current budget round the government is taking steps towards trying to make South Africa a healthier nation. A recent study undertaken by the University of Washington’s Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, found that 70% of South African women and 40% of the men were overweight or obese. It then did not come as a surprise when the Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan proposed a tax on sugary drinks. This development was one of a few that has been welcomed by many due to the growing concerns over the high obesity rate among adults and children. The proposed tax will be introduced from 1 April 2017 and will be levied on sugar-sweetened beverages such as soft drinks, fruit juices, sports/energy drinks, vitamin waters, sweetened ice tea, lemonade, cordials and squashes.

The tallies received from our Centres of Excellence for Metabolic Medicine and Surgery in South Africa for the past year, have shown a sharp increase in bariatric surgery. Obesity and its current rate of increase makes surgical procedure the choice of the morbidly obese person or people with a BMI of 35>.
Patients with non-communicable diseases for instance, realized that they can claim back their lives by opting for bariatric surgery. At each of the CEMMS(SA) Accredited Centers of Excellence, they get the best possible attention by way of specialized teams.

JEMDSA has published the first peer-reviewed outcome-based article "Baseline Patient Profiling and Three Year Outcome Data after Metabolic Surgery in a South African Centre of Excellence", authored by Maria-Terésa Van der Merwe and collaborators.

We hosted several surgeons and dieticians for the 3 day-training session in our Centre of Excellence and are looking forward to receiving those who have registered for 2016. This comprehensive training is vital for proper accreditation in our bariatric programmes.

At Waterfall City Hospital we were very fortunate to receive a visit from Marc Harris, Chief Executive Officer of the Cleveland Clinic in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates to discuss possible collaborations and partnerships. The visit was coordinated by Maurice Goodman of Discovery Health in South Africa.

Exciting future interests that are currently in the pipeline is for instance Discovery Health’s decision to do a pilot study on bariatric patients’ progress post the surgery. This will be monitored by way of the FitBit arm bracelet they have launched last year. The CEMMS(SA) Centre at Netcare Waterfall City Hospital will work in conjunction with Discovery Health to get the pilot study on the road.

To stay the best, means capitalizing on all your resources to remain in that position. We therefore thank Netcare, Mediclinic and Life Healthcare who are giving back in monetary value what SASSO means to them.
Cardiff 2016

For a full report on the meeting, more photographs, AHP news, Best Posters and other BOMSS news, bookmark our website: www.bomss.org.uk

All together now: BOMSS members gathered in Cardiff to hear a fascinating array of science-based talks and expert insights during the two-day meeting which saw record attendance figures.

BOMSS makes the most of stunning Cardiff venue

Once again, the BOMSS annual meeting was a great success with the society going from strength to strength albeit with many challenges. The meeting was opened by BOMSS president Mr Roger Ackroyd who welcomed delegates to Cardiff and gave a potted history of BOMSS, saying: “BOMSS has gone from strength to scenes to promote and protect the benefits of bariatric surgery.” He also welcomed colleagues from SOBA and APSO, adding: “We all work together in the field of obesity and bariatrics. Answering the question what has BOMSS ever done for us, Mr Ackroyd described the various benefits of membership - lobbying, keeping on top of new

Keep in touch
- BOMSS 2017 will be held in Staffordshire and will be preceded by a Training Day.
- IFSO 2017: Email nichola@augis.org with your offers and availability.
- Follow us on Twitter. - @bariatricBOMSS
- Join us at
Worthy winners!
BOMSS 2016 Prizes

Free Paper Council Prize
A6 “Predictive Value of CRP for Complications following Laparoscopic Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass.”
Miss Fiona Langlands

Prize Poster
P02 “The Impact of Tier 3 Bariatric Services on Short-Term Clinical Outcomes Following Laparoscopic Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass”
Mr Ian Maheswaran

APSO Prizes
1st Prize: APSO1 “The current provision of Tier 3 Services in the Obesity Care Pathway remains deficient nationally.”
Ms Katharine Knight

2nd Prize – APSO5 “A rare case of PICA syndrome post bariatric-surgery”
Mr Padraig McQuaid

IFSO Newsletter – March 2016

European Chapter NEWS

raising the Society’s profile in the media and, of course, hosting the annual Scientific Meeting.
Thanks were given to Mr Jon Barry and the scientific committee for organising the conference and to Mr Sean Woodcock and colleagues who organised the training day, plus the office staff and sponsors.
The meeting started with a series of keynote lectures, the first from Swansea-based Prof Ceri Phillips who described himself as “the warm-up act - a position not usually taken by a health economist” with a talk on the cost burden of obesity.
He described the many attractions of Wales - but also pointed out that 58% of adults are overweight or obese with the highest figures found in deprived areas of the Valleys. He went on to outline the rising direct and indirect costs of obesity.
“We have to see obesity as a whole society problem. Surgery is great for those who get it and it is cost-effective and you rescue people - but we have to look at the whole system.”
Prof Chris Mathias then spoke about “Faithing after surgery and the autonomic nervous system”, describing key data and studies. He recommended pre- and post-operative autonomic assessment and more work on the mechanisms of orthostatic intolerance.
Prof Nick Finer discussed “What’s new in obesity drugs?” He pointed out that while there is a lot of bad press about bariatric surgery, there is also a lot of a bad press about obesity drugs.
He gave an update of currently licensed drug therapies - saying many seemed promising, particularly for the treatment of diabetes and said: A growing number of therapies are becoming available globally but there is a challenge about whether they will become available for use in the UK.”
“Microbiota and metabolic syndrome” was the subject of the final talk of the session from Prof Jeff Stephens. He said: “This is a very complex area, there is more than just gut microbiota involved in obesity, but watch this space.” Prof David Nocca then spoke on “How to decrease the morbidity of gastroscopy.”
Three fascinating debates followed. Mr Simon Dexter went head to head with Mr Shaw Somers to debate hiatus hernia treatment during bariaric surgery. Mr Somers asserted: “The clear cut hernia needs repair but any interventions has a risk so it’s right that we debate which interventions are
appropriately, the patient - specifically the patient in front of you on the day.
Mr Ahmed Ahmed debated the merits of “Reinforce or not during sleeve gastrectomy - is this just about cost?” with Prof David Kerrigan. Mr Ahmed offered three reasons for reinforcing - it’s the right thing to do, it saves money and it can reduce litigation. Meanwhile Prof Kerrigan used a slightly unflattering photo of Mr Ahmed as part of the case against - but then moved onto look at scientific studies to back his argument. He acknowledged that his was a minority position and spoke of the fear of being “outside the group.”

The final debate was between Prof David Nocca and Mr Marco Adams on “Band to sleeve or band to bypass?” Despite a lively debate, a show of hands from delegates revealed that the overwhelming number of surgeons in the room would convert band to bypass rather than sleeve - and the debate didn’t change their minds.
Prof Stephanie Sogg took to the stand to deliver a very well-received talk on “The many roles for psychology input throughout the treatment of the weight loss surgery patient,” saying “We handle the messy psycho-social stuff so you don’t have to.”

A very wide-ranging lecture on psychological aspects of obesity and how psychologists can help pre- and post-operatively, making the case for expert intervention at every stage in the process. She suggested that bariatric teams will make the most of psychological input if they keep them in the loop, help them understand the technical aspects of surgery and care and, in turn, try to understand their role but most of all - use psychologists. “Get your money’s worth.” Prof Jean-Marc Chevalier gave a fascinating update on Anastomosis Gastric Bypass with helpful videos and study results.

A talk on “Obstructive Sleep Apnoea – an update” given by SOEA members Dr John Cousins, Dr Jon Redland and Dr Mike Margarson included fascinating insights and updates about this debilitating and dangerous condition. Prof Kerrigan gave an update on tariffs, describing the downward financial pressure and outlined how BOMSS council members have been working with monitor

What they said about us on Twitter
@duffbruce Starting the journey from Scotland to BOMSS2016. I believe I head straight to England and turn right...
@DrEveleigh - Fantastic talk on importance of psychosocial evaluation pre-weight loss surgery
@VSnowdonCarr - Prof Sogg: We need highly specialised bariatric behavioural & mental health HCPs to provide bariatric assessment
@HumGardUK - Prof Kerrigan vs Mr Ahmed-Good-humoured debate about sleeve leak.
@GoldieKhera - Interesting debate in Cardiff surrounding Sleeve Gastrectomy complications and surgical consent.
@Roxanna_Zakeri - Prof David Nocca, Montpellier, describes nissen-sleeve: the next evolution in sleeve gastrectomy.1.
@timanStiss - What a lovely bunch of health professionals at BOMSS2016
@NutriShion_UK “Food is familiar, a dear friend, available 24/7, cheap, legal & doesn’t talk back” It can be difficult to change eating habits.
@martinswadley - Welsh Male Voice Choir - stunning.
to secure funds for surgery. One session was devoted to bariatric surgery for patient who have type 2 diabetes with contributions from Prof Rachel Batterham, Prof Shahrad Taheri on “pre- and post-operative management” and Dr Barbara McGowan who reviewed RCTs. Mr Marcus Reddy spoke about Medico-legal aspects of metabolic surgery, pointing out that bariatric surgery is a big player in NHS for the size of claims. He told delegates: “We have a very tightly regulated system and data collection is robust but for some reason our claims are relatively high. I think there are several possible reasons - our patient base is younger, more ready to claim and more connected to other people who may support and encourage them in making a claim.”

Chairman Mr Shaw Somers advised the audience to “Take your time and write it down, no matter how busy you are. Conjecture will not help people defend your position in the case of a claim.”

Mr Jim Byrne updated delegates on new technologies, saying, “This is an exciting time for bariatric surgery with a plethora of new technologies, covering the head to the hind.”

Scientists in the UK are currently looking at brain stimulation to control food intake. Elsewhere, very restricted calorie intake is being studied in Glasgow while neuro modulation - vagal blocking is still being studied.

Mr Byrne then described the “Roman-style” Aspire Assist which allows the liquid contents of the stomach to be discharged after a meal using a peg which is being looked at by credible centres in the US.

Other development includes: Endoscopic Sleeve Gastroplasty was also detailed, focusing on patients with a little weight to lose; Duodenal Muscular Ablation - being looked at several centre; and Endobarrier - Mr Byrne said: “When you talk about obesity to politicians they see a huge mountain that they want to move out of the way, but what we see are a few people heading up to the mountain and some patients happy to go on the journey with us.”

“We are in a good position to lead research in the UK and we should engage with people who really know how to do good studies such as the By Band Sleeve study.”

Mr John Dixon from Melbourne spoke on “BMI: a maligned metric that needs our understanding” and described the evolution of the BMI measure, saying it came to prominence in the late 70s.

He then highlighted differences of risk depending on age - data shows that older people are at less risk of mortality with higher BMI but younger people are a greater risk. We need to interpret BMI with respect to age - optimal weight can vary throughout the life cycle.”

There is a paradox. People who are overweight tend to live longer with chronic disease although they may need more medications.” He asked the delegates to think about BMI as a way of measuring fatness, adding: “It’s not how much fat we have, it’s how we wear our fat.”

In conclusion he said: “BMIW is an excellent metric for inferring body composition, fat mass and fat free mass. It is a good tool for selecting patients for intentional weight loss. Optimal BMI for health varies with age, ethnicity and state of health.”

Away from the formal networking opportunities of the conference, delegates also enjoyed a lively trade exhibition, again in grand surroundings and with regional fayre including Welshcakes, while the social programme was a highlight of the event with wonderful singing from the Morrison Orpheus choir, a blessing in Welsh from one of the surgeon delegates and a delicious meal of Welsh lamb.

We look forward to seeing you in Staffordshire at the Alton Towers Conference centres after what is sure to be another roller-coaster year for bariatric surgery!
European Obesity Summit
1 - 4 June 2016
Gothenburg, Sweden

In 2016 EASO and IFSO-EC will link their annual congresses to form the first European Obesity Summit – EOS 2016

Parallel programmes and joint sessions will bring together colleagues from every area of obesity research, prevention and management

‘2 Congresses for the price of 1’

A very cost effective registration fee.
You really do get 2 congresses for the price of 1.

Join Forces: Young Investigators form EASO and IFSO-EC can unite at a special joint session and networking party.

Increase your knowledge: the scientific programme will feature the leading European and global experts in obesity, combining the best science from EASO and IFSO-EC.

Task Force Workshops delivering education on hot topics.

Debate controversial topics with Key Opinion Leaders in interactive sessions.

Apply for EASO and IFSO-EC Travel grants and Awards.

Increase your connections: the European Obesity Summit brings together colleagues from every field of obesity.

Gain exposure and recognition - Submit an abstract for review, oral or poster presentation. No fee for abstract submission.

Plenary lectures delivered by leading European and Global obesity Experts!

Learn about industry developments in the exhibition and satellite sessions.

Incorporating EASO’s ECO 2016 and the 2016 IFSO - EC Annual Congress

For further information visit www.obesity-summit.eu
The IFSO North American Chapter (NAC) is pleased to report that the one-year anniversary is quickly approaching of when the Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians and Surgeons (CABPS) joined the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) in the IFSO NAC. This partnership is creating opportunities to collaborate on education, membership, and the dissemination of information that is beneficial to both organizations.

Obesity Week-End: ASMBS' Annual Clinical Symposium is scheduled for June 23-25, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Aria Hotel. For the second year in a row during the symposium, the ASMBS will be hosting the 2016 IFSO North American Chapter Course. The course, directed by Dr. Natan Zundel, Dr. Kelvin Higa, and Dr. Mehran Anvari, is scheduled for Thursday, June 23 from 8:00am-5:00pm and will offer a comprehensive review of all bariatric interventions with the latest updates on the available relevant data, comparison among procedures and results. Watch the Obesity Week-End web site for updated information and registration. The next IFSO NAC course will take place in conjunction with the CABPS annual meeting in Canada 2017.

The NAC also wants to make sure that everyone marks their calendars for the ASMBS Annual Meeting during ObesityWeek, October 31-November 4, 2016, in New Orleans, Louisiana. You don't want to miss this unique, international event that offers diverse educational opportunities, networking events and scientific synergy.

The collaboration of ASMBS and CABPS in the NAC created a positive collaboration between organizations that is helping to address the global obesity and diabetes epidemic. As the organizations continue to grow, so does the discussion on the many different interventions and policies. These discussions continue to help advance the science of obesity and care of the patients.
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 five months, from October 2015 to March 2016.

1. We have had 9 communications with our member societies, as e-mail communications. As you know Mr. President we have developed our CHAT in WhatsApp, it’s name is IFSO LAC, and it includes each one of the Presidents of our member societies, it has been very convenient. The communication with all the Presidents at once is a great advantage, everyone receives in their Smart Phones what we need to discuss. Also, they can give their opinions as a general forum. The technology in this matter has been of great value. We can get confirmations, opinions and doubts from our member societies.

2. From October 20th. To 23rd. 2015 we have had the II Intermedial IFSO LAC Congress at the Hangar Convention Center, Belem, Brasil. Organized in conjunction with the Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia Bariatrica e Metabolica (SBCBM), during their XVII Congress.

The participation of our member societies in this meeting was excellent, we have had 10 countries represented, and we had the opportunity to make an Extraordinary General Assembly, on October 22nd. It was discussed the modification of our Bylaws, and they were almost concluded. In Our next Extraordinary General Assembly, that will be held in Cartagena, Colombia from April 13th. To 16th. 2016 we will conclude this matter.

During this same Assembly our friends from Bolivia showed us a great progress in the organization of the next IFSO LAC Congress. As was mentioned before the VII IFSO LAC Congress will be held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from April. 26th. To 29th. 2017 They presented numbers, hotels and all the information regarding the organization. Dr. Sergio Aparicio and his team are working very hard to make a great meeting in 2017.

The II Intermedial Congress in Belem of IFSO LAC was a great success, the Brazilian Society is huge, and the participation was outstanding, from surgeons from Brasil and all over the world, the Invited Faculty was of first class. Our Brazilian friends were so kind with all of us, and their hosting was splendid, all the Presidents of the member societies had the opportunity to participate actively in the Scientific Program, and were treated as VIP. We want to extend a sincere gratitude to Josemberg Campos and Almino Ramos.

3. Our website www.ifsolac.org has evolved substantitally, it is more friendly and has more capacity. It now has a new administration and webmaster. As you know Mr. President, we have created a blog specially for the interaction with the members of our chapter, we already launched two sessions, one of Bariatric Surgery and the other from our friends of Allied Health. It is a real success this blog.

The response from our members was very strong. I think that this initiative from you will give us the opportunity to develop our Latinamerican Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Guides. We are very happy participating in this wonderful idea and tool, this is another form of been in touch with our member societies.
4. On February 26th and 27th, 2016 the Colegio Mexicano de Cirugía para la Obesidad y Enfermedades Metabolicas (CMCOEM) in Monterrey, Mexico, developed the I National Congress for the Surgical and Multidisciplinary Management of Diabetes Mellitus Type II, it was a good meeting as reported by our Mexican members.

5. Future meetings:

III Intermedial IFSO LAC Congress in conjunction with the Asociacion Colombiana de Obesidad y Cirugia Bariatrica (ACOCIB), that will be held in Cartagena, Colombia, from April 13th. To 16th. 2016.


XVIII CMCOEM in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico

21st. World Congress IFSO 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, from September 27th. To October 1st. 2016

This is what have occurred in the last 5 months in our Chapter, please contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Estuardo J. Behrens MD MACG FACS FASMBS

Executive Director IFSO LAC

IFSO Member at Large LAC

ebehrens@comnetsa.com
TSMBSS (Taiwan)

The Taiwan Surgical Society will hold its annual conference in Taipei March 19-20, 2016. As a participant to the event, the Taiwan Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (TSMBSS) will organize a symposium on laparoscopic bariatric surgery between AM 8:00 and 9:30 on Sunday March 20.

PSMBS (Philippines)

Two courses on Bariatric and Metabolic surgery will be held in Manila in the coming weeks/months.

These International Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery Training Course in Bariatric & Metabolic Surgery on Fresh, Soft Human Cadavers will take place at St. Luke’s Medical Center, Quezon City, Manila, Philippines. The first one will be held March 11-12, and the second one July 8-9, 2016. Contact edwardoliverosmd@yahoo.com for more information.

Middle East

Two societies in the region have changed their name. The Kuwaiti Society, formerly known as the Kuwaiti Society for Bariatric Surgery (KSBS), is now called the Kuwait Laparoscopic and Obesity Surgical Society (KLOSS).

In the Emirates, the Emirates Obesity Surgery Interest Group (EOSIG) has now become the Emirates Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Society (ESMBS).

OSSI (India)

Obesity Surgery Society of India has recently concluded its annual conference OSSICON 2016 in the beautiful Northern city of Chandigarh on the foothills of The Himalayas. With nearly 500 delegates, this was the biggest OSSICON to date and is symbolic of the growing popularity of bariatric and metabolic surgery in India. The conference benefitted from the expertise of a number of internationally renowned surgeons like Tomasz Rogula (USA), Robert Rutledge (USA), Ranjan Sudan (USA), C Pullatt Rana (USA), W J Lee (Taiwan), Kamal Mahawar (UK), J M Chevallier (France), Jaideepraj Rao (Singapore), Laurent Layani (UAE), and Leon Cohen (Australia).
In addition, Professor Scott Shikora from Harvard, Professor Michel Gagner, and Professor Mervyn Deitel joined as panelists over the teleconference links. With participation of experts from no less than ten countries in the world, it was truly an international event organised to absolute perfection by Dr. Kuldeepak Singh Kular, who is widely recognised as a pioneer in the field of Mini Gastric Bypass. Dr. Kular is also the president of recently founded MGB/OAGB club.

With participation of 154 speakers and live transmission of 10 operations from a number of centres in India and abroad, it was a wonderful scientific and training opportunity. The quality of the symposia, panel discussions, invited lectures, and debates were so good that many delegates described it as the best OSSICON ever. There were specific sessions on preparation of patients for bariatric surgery, management of complications, and metabolic surgery. The keynote lecture delivered by Prof. Pradeep Chowbey, past president of OSSI and IFSO, on metabolic surgery in India was widely appreciated by the audience. Dr. Arun Prasad, vice president, OSSI had a keynote on selecting a patient for metabolic surgery. Conference also saw a lively debate on to the topic of “which amongst the Mini Gastric Bypass, Sleeve Gastrectomy, and Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass is the best bariatric procedure?” Dr. Kular made an elegant case for Mini Gastric Bypass; Dr. Nandkishore Dukkipati and Dr. Mahendra Narwaria, argued for Sleeve Gastrectomy and Roux en Y Gastric Bypass respectively with concluding remarks by Dr. Kamal Mahawar. Dr. Shashank shah debated for “Metabolic Surgery is not a Myth” against an eminent endocrinologist of the area.

For the first time in OSSICON’s history, there were debates and symposium organised by International Bariatric Club. Superb efforts by Dr. Tomasz Rogula and Dr. Jayashree Todkar, Secretary of OSSI and President of IBC India Chapter led to this session becoming one of the star attractions of the meeting. Dr Robert Rutledge, the inventor of Mini Gastric Bypass, argued for MGB and Dr. Arun Prasad, Vice President of OSSI and co-chairman of the OSSICON 2016 made a case for the robotic bariatric surgery, amongst many eminent speakers.
OSSANZ (Australia - New-Zealand)

Membership and Board of Management

OSSANZ has continued to grow as a society in 2015 with membership growth of 20%. We are delighted that this growth has come from a range of backgrounds and specialties. We continue to attract members from surgical as well as medical and allied health backgrounds.

2015 saw the introduction of a New Zealand sub committee within the Board of Management to ensure that the growing numbers of New Zealand members have a forum to advocate for local initiatives. The first meeting of this sub committee took place at the OSSANZ 2015 conference.

Our 2015 conference was held as a joint conference with ANZGOSA (Australia and New Zealand Gastric & Oesophageal Surgery Association) in October at Hamilton Island, Queensland. This very successful combined meeting provided the opportunity to liaise with colleagues working across a range of disciplines in the treatment of obesity.

The OSSANZ 2015 Annual General Meeting was also held at the conference and results of the OSSANZ Board of Management elections were announced. 2015 saw the retirement of Wendy Brown (past president) as well as two other Board members. OSSANZ are delighted to welcome new members to the Board of Management and 2015 marks the first year that New Zealand members have been elected to the Board.

Bariatric surgery registry.

In 2015, representatives from the Bariatric Surgery Register visited a number of cities in Australia presenting information and an update on the Registry.

The primary aim of the Bariatric Surgery Registry is to measure outcomes for patients undergoing bariatric surgery across surgical practices in Australia. It is predominantly a quality and safety registry. This proposal has the support of OSSANZ, which regards the registry establishment as an important step forward in monitoring and evaluating patient outcomes across Australia.

An electronic interface (BSRi) is currently being rolled out and many practices are coming online with this at present.

Scholarships

OSSANZ continues to fund two scholarships per year. These aim to promote and encourage research and its presentation, by allied health staff, medical students, surgical registrars and trainees, by offering assistance to attend conferences, workshops and/or mentor programs related to the surgical treatment of obesity.

2015 saw many applications and the selection committee awarded scholarships to Melanie Lauti for travel to the IFSO congress in August 2015 and a joint award to Aditya Varma and Cameron Lewis to attend the OSSAN conference in October 2015.

Fellowship Training Workshops

OSSANZ ran two training workshops in 2015 for surgical Fellows. The first was held in Perth in May and focused on “Obesity and Surgical Approaches to management” and an advanced workshop focusing on revisional surgery was held in Sydney in December.
JSSO (Japan)

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.

The 6th obesity treatment seminar was held on Feb. 28 in Tokyo, Japan. About 50 people including surgeons, physician, nurses, dietitians, and anesthesiologists participated. The 7th obesity treatment seminar is scheduled to be held at the end of June, 2016.

CSMBS (China)

The new general election of CSMBS (Chinese Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery) held approved by the Chinese Medical Doctor Association (CMDA) in Guangzhou Tianhe Hilton Hotel, from 2016 January 16 to January 17. This conference has elected new Chairman CC Wang (Wang Cunchuan), Secretary Jingge Yang, vice-chairman is Shaihong Zhu.

At the same time, the conference founded China’s first professional journal of weight loss, which named Chinese Journal of Obesity and Metabolic Disease (Electronic Edition). The journal launched as a quarterly publication in February 2015, its first issue is CN11-9362/R. ISSN 2095-9605. The journal is undertaken by First Affiliated Hospital of Jinan University which approval by The State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of the People's Republic of China. The editorial department is in the First Affiliated Hospital of Jinan University; Professor CC Wang is the chief editor.

The tenet of this journal is: (1) communicate and spread the related medical information of obesity and metabolic disease; (2) publish the latest academic papers, new technology, new operation and new methods in the field of obesity and metabolic both domestic and foreign; (3) to provide the platform for discussing and interacting research progress of obesity and metabolic diseases at home and abroad.

The Annual Meeting of CSMBS will be held in Guangzhou from 26th to 28th August 2016. This meeting will invited 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 vision researchers. This is an exclusive opportunity for experts to share their latest findings, technical expertise and experiences in the field of obesity, metabolic syndrome and bariatric surgery. We will update as work commences on organization of the Congress in the official website on first of May 2016.

Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Congress in WCES 2016 (15th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery) will be held in Shanghai and Suzhou in China from 10th to 12 November t 2016. On the congress, we will show you various results in the field of surgery China weight loss and diabetes; it will cover academic papers, 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.
Dear colleagues and friends,

The Scientific Committee and the Social and Local Organizing Committee are working very hard to develop a successful Congress and welcome all delegates.

POST GRADUATE COURSES

- Course - Bariatric endoscopy
- Course - Difficult hernias in morbidly obese patients
- Hands on Course - Endo suturing
- Course - How to get your paper published
- Course - Integrative trans disciplinary bariatric support
- Course - Metabolic surgery
- Course - Single anastomosis bariatric surgery: is the Roux limb necessary? A critical appraisal of single anastomosis and Roux-en-y reconstruction
- Course - Postoperative complications
- Course - Revisional surgery
- Course - The sick patient: pre, trans and postoperative care

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

The Scientific Program is almost done!
In the next days it will be available on www.ifso2016.com
2016 IFSO World Annual Meeting

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Welcome Reception
September, 28th

Farewell Dinner
September, 30th

More information will be published in the next weeks

**ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION**

Deadline - April, 22nd

[www.ifso2016.com](http://www.ifso2016.com)
In January we have begun to honor the leaders in our field by publishing a biography of one of them each month. These biographies are the first paper in each issue. In January, we honored Prof Henry Buchwald and in February we honored Prof MAL Fobi. In the upcoming March issue, we honor Prof Aniceto Baltasar.

Also, in the April issue, we will be highlighting Barrett’s Esophagitis and Bariatric Surgery. We are publishing together a series of related papers that were created from a Barrett’s Symposium held at the 2014 IFSO Annual meeting in Montreal.

Hopefully our readers will find both projects to be of interest.

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.org, 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 the Integrated Health program of Iberoamerican Congress of Obesity and bariatric and metabolic surgery in Cartagena, Colombia, April 13-16, 2016.

3. 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.

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

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Scientific Committee of IFSO (co-chaired by ALMINO CARDOSO RAMOS) have been working hard supporting the local organizing committee of IFSO 2016 (Chaired by Ricardo Cohen) to develop an exciting programme of invited talks, scientific papers and workshops. Attendees will find the programme stimulating and challenging and we are sure they will leave having learnt something new.

Future plans include providing content to the IFSO website as well as providing a resource to other societies that require scientific content support.

We welcome any suggestions of how we can help our members more.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Members of the communication Committee:

Chairman: Abdelrahman Nimeri.
Co Chairman: Bart Vanwagensveld.

• IFSO Website new look launched in 2014:

Please add the statistics of 2015

• Hits in 2014 (34,000 hits).

• Hits in 2015 (50,056 hits) 47% increase.

• Website statistics:

➢ Visit by visitor type: (33.4% new visitor).

➢ Visit and page visit by country 2014 compared to 2015:

   2014     2015
   1. USA 2501 USA 6397.
   2. India 1455 India 4094.
   3. Brazil 1385 Brazil 3573.
   4. UK 1226 UK 2954.
5. Italy 885          Italy 2219.
7. France 595         France 1492.
8. Spain 576          Spain 1381.
9. Australia 443      Germany 1145.

• Meetings endorsed by IFSO:
  • 2014 (11 meetings)
  • 2015 (28 meetings)
  • 2016 (13 meetings until now)

• Please join the IFSO Facebook Group: 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 2015 (832). 83% increase.
  • Members 2014 (454).

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

• Dr Saber Ghiassi has joined the communication committee.

• Let IFSO hear your voice: IFSO is circulating a survey to know which subjects are important for our members to hear about. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWNJVKR).

• Please Join the IFSO Linked In group: 850 members https://www.linkedin.com/groups/IFSO-International-Federation-Surgery-Obesity-4941421/about

• Top 10 topics you would like to know about: Please look out for a survey that will come to you to ask you about what topics in bariatric surgery you would like to see on the IFSO website (e.g. VTE prophylaxis in bariatric surgery, OSA and the STOP BANG questionnaire, preoperative anemia, etc...) IFSO wants to hear your voice.
This year, Young IFSO continues to be active part of IFSO. Young IFSO has been closely involved in organising its own scientific session at the European Obesity Summit (EOS) in Gothenburg, Sweden June 1-4, 2016. This, inaugural EOS is a joint congress of the IFSO-European Chapter and EASO. Programmes of both will run in parallel, however will be connected and integrated through centralized, core sessions.

There was about 10% of the abstracts for the IFSO-European Chapter submitted through Young IFSO for the EOS 2016. The best seven abstracts were selected for oral presentations at the Young IFSO session which is going to be held from 09:30-11:00 on Thursday, June 2nd, 2016. Presenting authors are going to be from all around the world, starting from Australia, through Turkey, Poland, France and Spain. This year, the Young IFSO session is going to cover the topic of Long-term side effects of bariatric surgery.

After EOS in Gothenburg, Young IFSO is preparing a session for the November 9th Frankfurter Meeting. The main topic for the Young IFSO session in Frankfurt is rather provocative: “Will pharmacotherapy replace surgery?” We are expecting indeed interesting talks to be delivered at this session, and even more interesting discussions to follow-up.

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.

The current Young-IFSO President Elect, Sylvia Weiner from Germany will replace the current Young IFSO President, Karin Dolezalova from the Czech Republic in 2017.

Karin Dolezalova
Young-IFSO President
The 2016 Global IFSO Registry data merge is progressing. So far, Dendrite have received and merged >60,000 procedure records and there are 14 countries who have committed to provide their national data to the IFSO Registry in the next few weeks and another 8 countries where no national database exists but a number of large individual centres have pledged to submit their data. The data submission process for these contributors is underway. The aim is to complete the data merge process by the end of April so that the data analyses can commence with earnest. The project is currently still on track with the aim to deliver a second report for the IFSO congress in Rio. If you have not yet submitted your data and need help, please contact Dendrite’s Managing Director directly: peter.walton@e-dendrite.com (or phone +44 1491 411 288) and he will arrange for suitable assistance to be provided by his data management team.

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$

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/)

Our Platinum Corporate Partners

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

Our Gold Corporate Partner

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

VI CURSO ON LINE: Fundamentos En Cirugia Bariatrica y Metabolica
29 February 2016 – 29 April 2016

13th Expert Meeting for Obesity and Metabolic Surgery
Saalfelden, Austria
11-12 March 2016

Obesity Symposium
Norderstedt, Germany
17-18 March 2016

2nd Azerbaijan-Turkey Days of Bariatric Surgery and Metabolic Diseases
Baku, Azerbaijan
23 March 2016

2nd Laparoscopic Surgical Week 2016
Naples, Italy
4-8 April 2016
2015 Endorsed Congresses

- NOBEZ - The multidisciplinary approach in obesity prevention and management – The Wake-Up Time
  Iasi, Romania
  15-17 April 2016

- Moscow International Bariatric Congress
  Moscow, Russia
  20-23 April 2016

  Orlando, Florida (USA)
  5-7 May 2016

- International Consensus on Duodenal Switch 2016
  Quebec City, Montreal
  27-28 May 2016

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

It’s time to renew for 2016. Ask your national Society how to renew your IFSO membership!

WHY RENEW OR JOIN IFSO?

- Big discounts to all our Congresses or endorsed meetings all over the world
- Free subscription to our official journal: Obesity Surgery
- E-blast with info about the endorsed meetings
- Regular E-Newsletters
- An official Certificate of Membership
- Use of IFSO website to advertise the activities of the national societies
- Eligibility to IFSO endorsement for meeting/workshop/course
- Membership in a professional global network
- Listing in the online registry on the IFSO website
- Eligibility to IFSO Scholarships

2016 Fees

- IFSO Membership: 100,00$ (including Obesity Surgery for free)
- IFSO Integrated Health reduced fee (only for non surgeons): 20,00$

Even attending only one meeting a year, being an IFSO member, you will get a discount that writes off your annual membership fee!

Meetings, pictures, comments? Follow us on Facebook and Linkedin!

info@ifso.com  
secretariat@ifso.com

facebook  
LinkedIn