IBCE Quarterly meeting – January 27, 2016

Dr. Sal LaRusso welcomed Drs. Tripp, Ouzts, and Côté of the NBCE’s International Affairs Committee, Drs. Kollasch and Hyland (IBCE staff), along with eight IBCE advisors to a teleconference on 27 January at 6:00pm Eastern time.

The IBCE advisors in attendance were: Drs. Sue King, Kei Takeyachi, Sira Borges, Gerry Clum, Phil McMaster, David Bellin, Ricardo Fujikawa, and Mr. David Chapman-Smith. Dr. HanSuk Jung had previously sent his regrets, as he was on a delayed return flight to South Korea. Dr. Stathis Papadopoulos later also sent his regrets.

Regional update reports were received prior to the call from Drs. King, Jung, Papadopoulos, Takeyachi, McMaster, and Carol Mwendwa, which were included in the meeting agenda. Reports were received later from Dr. Fujikawa and Mr. Chapman-Smith.

African region –

Dr. Carol Mwendwa reported that Kenya is progressing toward chiropractic legislation and a chiropractic training program at Kenyatta University, which will have the first intake of students in September, 2016.

The 3rd annual meeting of the African Chiropractic Federation will be held in Namibia in April (dates TBA).

Asian region –

Dr. Takeyachi reported that the Indian Association of Chiropractic Doctors (an affiliate of the International Chiropractors Association) conducts 2 very large “Health Camps” each year, treating many thousands of patients.

IBCE will again provide the Japan Chiropractic Register exam on February 7th. The JCR has submitted the list of registered chiropractors to the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, most recently on November 6, 2015.

New, more favorable definitions of “chiropractor” and “chiropractic” have been developed by the Japanese Association of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Jung reported that two programs – International Institute of Health Studies and SunMoon University are providing non-accredited chiropractic training in South Korea. The Korean Association of Chiropractors has reviewed the plans of the IIHS, and determined that it is substandard. This program and the one at SunMoon University are supported by the Korean Chiropractors Association, but not the KAC or the WFC. Busan University is apparently planning on starting a chiropractic program, also.
Dr. Bellin reported that Life University has signed an articulation agreement with WenJo University in China to begin a chiropractic program in September, 2016. This would be a Bachelor’s degree leading to a Master’s in Sports Health Science, which will qualify graduates to practice as chiropractors in China.

Eastern Mediterranean region –

Dr. Papadopolous reported that a new second degree Master’s in Chiropractic program has been initiated at Bahcesehir University in Istanbul, Turkey, and is considering the use of IBCE examinations at graduation.

The next EMMECF meeting will be held concurrent with the WFC Council meeting in Dubai, UAE on May 11-14th.

He recommended strongly that IBCE have at least one representative at major international chiropractic meetings to work with local advisors and meet with interested parties.

European region –

Dr. Fujikawa reported that Portugal has now regulated both the chiropractic profession and the title. There are currently no DC training programs there.

Italy has a law concerning chiropractors, but it has not yet been enacted.

The two chiropractic programs in France have a high enrollment. France regulates both the profession and the title.

The profession in Spain continues to experience strong persecution and pressure from the PT licensing board. There is no regulation for the profession, in spite of the graduation of 2 cohorts in Barcelona (which is planning on re-applying for accreditation) and 4 cohorts in Madrid, which is ECCE-accredited.

There is a conversion program now in Poland, and a school is planned for Norway.

Dr. Clum described a new chiropractic program in Germany at Dresden International University. This 5-year program leads to a Master of Science in Chiropraktik, and is regionally accredited by ZEvA, a member of the European Consortium of Accreditation and ENQA.

He also reported on the progress of attempts by Life University (US) to establish a branch campus in Italy that would provide a D.C. degree accredited by CCE-US. Interest has been growing, but no start date has been determined.

Latin American region –

In August, Drs. Hyland and Seron met with Drs. David Lopez and Raul Guíñez in Santiago, Chile to discuss the use of the IBCE exam by students graduating from the CSC program at Universidad Central, and then (with Dr. Borges' assistance)
they administered the IBCE pilot SPEC exam in Spanish to 32 students and doctors at the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina.

Dr. Borges has organized a FLAQ meeting in early March, 2016 in Mexico City to discuss the development of the CCE-LA and the use of IBCE exams with the leaders of the UNEVE chiropractic program. Dr. Seron will be providing an educational program with Dr. Iury Rocha, a Brazilian chiropractor.

North American region –

Mr. David Chapman-Smith (Secretary-General of the Fédération Interantionionale de Chiropractique du Sport) reported that the FICS Internationally Certified Chiropractic sports Practitioner (ICCSP) program is increasing in popularity and range worldwide and FICS appreciates that there is need for independent, defensible, examinations and hopes to enter into arrangements with the IBCE for that. The FICS Council is waiting on a report from its Education Commission on this and other matters just now, but hopes this can all be arranged without undue delay.

He also reported that there will be sports chiropractors in the host medical services team at the Rio Olympics August 5-21 and Paralympics September 7-18. After a formal recruitment process, letters of invitation will go to about 20 sports chiropractors at the end of this week – about half from Brazil and half internationally. FICS has provided support during the past 12 months of negotiations, led by FICS First Vice President Dr Marcelo Botelho of Brazil, who will be coordinator in Rio, and Dr Tom Greenway of the UK, a past FICS Secretary-General who will also be part of the team in Rio. This means that chiropractic services will be available to all athletes, coaches and officials, not just those teams that will bring their own DCs.

Pacific region –

Dr. King reported that the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia is considering changes to its accreditation methodology to focus on educational outcomes.

Dr. McMaster reported that the New Zealand College of Chiropractic has had a CCEA accreditation visit.

The CCEA registration exam for chiropractors not trained in a CCEA-accredited school is now offered 3 times a year - in Sydney, Perth, and New Zealand.

A new chiropractic program in Adelaide plans to take its first cohort in early 2018.

Dr. LaRusso thanked all the participants for their time and efforts.