



World Glaucoma Association

The Global Glaucoma Network

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Minutes of the WGA General Assembly during WGC-2023

Date : Wednesday, June 28, 2023
Location : Plenary Hall, La Nuvola Convention Center
Attendance : Board of Governors, National, Regional and International Glaucoma Societies

Chair, Prof. Neeru Gupta, President of the World Glaucoma Association

Prof. Gupta, welcomed all to the General Assembly and thanked them for their commitment to the organization. She reviewed the core purpose and goals of the World Glaucoma Association before inviting Dr. Shan Lin to report on WGA activities in his role as Executive Vice President.

WGA Activity Report - Dr. Lin, Executive Vice-President

Dr. Lin presented a brief history and the current activities of the World Glaucoma Association on behalf of Dr. Robert N. Weinreb. The World Glaucoma Association has expanded its network from 9 to 24 Glaucoma Industry Members, with the following additional members: Viatrix, Glaukos, NIDEK, Elios Vision, BVI Medical, Nova Eye, Heidelberg Engineering, Oculus, Belkin Vision, Eyetronic, OPTOPOL, Olleyes, Omikron Italia, Seonix Bio, and VISUfarma.

WGC-2023

There was tremendous enthusiasm for the 10th World Glaucoma Congress, resulting in the second largest Glaucoma meeting worldwide with record breaking abstracts submission and sponsorship. Dr. Lin thanked the Program Planning Committee, and everyone involved for their dedication ensuring an astonishing in-person meeting.

Finances

Financial key structures and achievements of the World Glaucoma Association were presented by Dr. Arthur Sit, Treasurer of the WGA.

Global Outreach

The WGA in collaboration with International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) is continuing the 3-Month Fellowship Program to provide learning opportunities for young ophthalmologists from developing countries. The fellowship program spearheaded by Prof. Gupta has supported 18 fellows from 12 countries in Africa since 2017 and has made a commitment to 20 more fellows in 2023-2024.



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Prof. Gupta thanked Dr. Lin and invited Prof. Pradeep Ramulu to provide an update in his role as Chair, Education Committee

WGA Education Committee Report- Dr. Pradeep Ramulu, Chair

Dr. Ramulu provided updates on the Education Committee projects, such as the WGA online courses, Fundamental Questions in Glaucoma video series, and the Surgical Grand Rounds. The WGA online courses have been translated into various languages and we will continue the translation into other languages.

WGA#One and WGA Journals

Information on WGA Journals, Journal of Glaucoma (JOG) and International Glaucoma Review (IGR), were provided. Special attention was given to highlighting that the Journal of Glaucoma is accessible for all individual members of affiliated glaucoma societies and the latest free hard copy issue of the International Glaucoma Review, IGR23-3 was available at the WGA booth.

President – Elect of the WGA – Prof. Neeru Gupta, President WGA

Prof. Gupta reviewed the Nominations process for the President Elect which included solicitation of nominees from Board members and all members of the General Assembly via an online nomination process. All candidates were considered by the Nominating Committee chaired by Dr. Fabian Lerner during an online meeting taking place on June 22, 2023. After careful consideration of the contributions to the WGA and the field of glaucoma by the various candidates, Professor Ningli Wang was overwhelmingly recommended to be the WGA President Elect. This was approved by the Executive Committee and Board of Governors for presentation to the General Assembly for approval.

His numerous current and past leadership positions, contributions to glaucoma and the WGA, and to ophthalmology included the following: Director of Beijing Tongren Eye Center, Vice President of Beijing Tongren Hospital, Past President of Chinese Glaucoma Society, Former member of the WGA Board of Governors, Past President of Chinese Ophthalmological Society, Immediate Past President of Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, Disseminated Glaucoma Consensus and Guidelines (Chinese translation), Leading clinician-scientist – ranked fourth in Asia-Pacific and most cited Chinese Researcher.

Prof. Gupta asked for the General Assembly to vote on the recommendation that Prof. Wang be approved as WGA President-Elect 2023. All unanimously approved.



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Additional Business

Prof. Gupta thanked Drs. Lin and Mansouri for being the Executive and Associate Executive Vice President of the World Glaucoma Association, and for their dedicated efforts to successfully grow the WGA. She mentioned that Dr. Lin will be stepping down as EVP at the end of the year with the need for a new EVP and continuity for the WGA. Given that Dr. Mansouri has been working alongside Dr. Lin as Associate EVP with intimate knowledge of the workings of the WGA, he would be well suited for this leadership role as EVP. This was discussed at the Executive Committee and Board of Governors meeting with full support for the recommendation. Dr. Mansouri's role as Executive Vice President of the WGA will begin January 1st, 2024.

Dr. Lin thanked all for their support during his term of service.

WGC-2025

The location and date for the 11th World Glaucoma Congress were announced. WGC-2025 will take place from June 25-28, 2025, in Hawaii, Honolulu, USA.

Adjournment

Dr. Prof. Gupta thanked the members of the General Assembly for their participation and commitment to the WGA and wished them an enjoyable and stimulating congress.