

2014 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

IASP's greatest resource is its human capital, our members, who supply the energy that empowers IASP to fulfill its mission. Thousands of men and women throughout the world work to reduce suffering and strive to learn more about what causes pain. In their labs and in their clinics, their dedication assures not only the vitality of our association and its mission but also, and more importantly, its continuity and future.

Here is a short account that highlights IASP's accomplishments in 2014.

IASP MEMBERSHIP

In 2014, IASP members numbered nearly 7,000 individuals from 133 countries, many of whom are members of the organization's 90 chapters worldwide. These chapters are independently operated organizations that share IASP's philosophy of a multidisciplinary approach to studying and treating pain.

Regionally, IASP members work in Europe (36 percent); North America (30 percent); Asia, Australia, and Oceania (20 percent); Latin America and the Caribbean (8 percent); and the Middle East and Africa (6 percent). A majority are clinicians and about one-third are basic or clinical researchers. The predominant specialties among the membership are anesthesiology and neuroscience, with a broad array of pain specialists representing a wide array of fields.

IASP's 20 [Special Interest Groups](#) (SIGs) are the products of grassroots movements of the membership who are interested in specific aspects of pain research and management. All SIGs, regardless of their size, [make valuable contributions](#) to IASP's mission of improving pain relief throughout the world.

The IASP Council named six outstanding pain researchers and clinicians Honorary Members. All were recognized before the IASP General Assembly of the 15th World Congress on Pain. Honorary membership is the highest recognition the association awards its members. These individuals have made [substantial contributions in pain-related fields](#) and have advanced the mission of the association:

Gary J. Bennett, Marshall Devor, George Mendelson, Robert Andrew Moore, Donald D. Price, and Manoel Jacobsen Teixeira.

PUBLICATIONS

Research and education are the two pillars that support our association and give meaning and value to our activities and our programs. From its very beginning, IASP has built its reputation on an unwavering commitment to high-quality research and education in the field of pain research and management. And nothing demonstrates best this commitment than our journal and our publications.

In 2014, [PAIN](#) retained its prime position among the excellent publications in the fields of anesthesiology, clinical neurology, and the neurosciences. Its success is due to an unfailing commitment

to quality that has made it well respected and appreciated throughout the world and the vehicle of choice for the best reports on the science and treatment of pain. Led by Editor-in-Chief **Francis J. Keefe**, the journal expects continued success as it [transitions to a new publisher](#), Wolters Kluwer Health, in 2015.

IASP Press publishes a wide range of titles for researchers and clinicians alike. Under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief **Maria Adele Giamberardino**, seven new titles appeared in 2014:

- [Abdominal and Pelvic Pain: From Definition to Best Practice](#), Bert Messelink, Andrew Baranowski, and John Hughes
- [Fordyce's Behavioral Methods for Chronic Pain and Illness: Republished with Invited Commentaries](#), Chris Main, Francis J. Keefe, Mark P. Jensen, Johan WS Vlaeyen, and Kevin E. Vowles
- [Musculoskeletal Pain: Basic Mechanisms & Implications](#), Thomas Graven-Nielsen, Lars Arendt-Nielsen
- [Sickle Cell Pain, Second Edition](#), Samir K. Ballas
- [Orofacial Pain: Recent Advances in Assessment, Management, and Understanding of Mechanisms](#), Barry J. Sessle
- [Postoperative Pain: Science and Clinical Practice](#), Oliver Wilder-Smith, Lars Arendt-Nielsen, David Yarnitsky, and Kris Vissers
- [Pain 2014 Refresher Courses: 15th World Congress on Pain](#), Srinivasa N. Raja, Claudia L. Sommer

IASP members continue to value [Pain: Clinical Updates](#), a newsletter published six times a year under the direction of Editor-in-Chief **Jane Ballantyne**. The well-focused content, immediate clinical relevance, and wide range of topics (often associated with our Global Year campaign) have made these jewels in the crown of our publications program. In addition, IASP introduced [IASP eBooks](#) in 2014 to allow members easy and fast access to publications from IASP Press.

15TH WORLD CONGRESS ON PAIN

In 2014, IASP took its biennial meeting to Latin America for the first time. The [15th World Congress on Pain](#), held October 6-11 in Buenos Aires, boasted a well-rounded program of plenary lectures, topical workshops, and symposia.

The [distinguished lecturers](#) at the Congress were **M. Catherine Bushnell**, recipient of the John J. Bonica Distinguished Lecture Award; **Lilliana De Lima**, recipient of the John D. Loeser Distinguished Lecture Award; and **David Yarnitsky**, recipient of the Ronald Melzack Lecture Award.

Yeoman work by members of the Scientific Program Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, speakers, poster presenters, attendees, sponsors, exhibitors, and IASP staff made the Congress a huge success, and all merit thanks for a job well done.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

IASP has an extensive annual grants and awards program that supports investigators working in basic or clinical research and education in developing countries. In 2014, IASP awarded the following grants and fellowships:

- [IASP Early Career Research Grants Program](#), to support researchers in the early career stage of pain investigations
- [IASP Developing Countries Project: Initiative for Improving Pain Education](#), to support improvements in essential pain education for clinicians in developing countries
- [IASP Developing Countries Collaborative Research Grants](#), to encourage and support collaborative, multidisciplinary research between laboratories in developed and developing countries working on the same topic
- [IASP Collaborative Research Grants](#), to support collaborative research between two or more research groups located in different countries
- [IASP Research Symposium](#), to support the costs of a symposium on a specific pain-related topic of interest to basic scientists and clinical researchers
- [John J. Bonica Trainee Fellowship](#), to honor the memory of the founder of IASP to support training in all aspects of pain research.

2014, THE GLOBAL YEAR AGAINST OROFACIAL PAIN

Each year, IASP sponsors and promotes the Global Year Against Pain, a yearlong initiative designed to raise international awareness of a specific type of pain. In 2014, the campaign focused attention on the [Global Year Against Orofacial Pain](#).

A significant part of the initiative involved producing a wide array of [resources](#), including [fact sheets](#) that address many aspects of orofacial pain. These fact sheets are available in several languages to make them accessible to the widest possible audience.



IASP'S FINANCIAL CONDITION

Total revenues (excluding Congress revenue) increased about 31 percent from \$3,460,069 in 2013 to \$5,009,164 in 2014. IASP also benefitted from improved conditions in equity markets, adding \$276,264 as income and as market gains in our investment accounts.

On the expense side, funding of grants and awards increased by 3 percent, from \$702,075 in 2013 to \$725,109 in 2014.

IASP continues to exercise prudent financial management and strong internal accounting and procedural controls. Our independent auditors issued an unqualified opinion on both the accuracy and fairness of management's financial statements and systems of internal accounting controls for the fifth consecutive year.

Total assets of the association (as of December 31, 2014) were \$13,116,599, which represents an 11 percent decrease from \$14,791,061 at December 31, 2013. This includes \$1,253,143 in funds held by the association on behalf of its 20 Special Interest Groups.

We remain ever vigilant regarding our financial controls and conservative in our use of funds.

Fernando Cervero, MD, PhD, DSc

IASP President, 2014