

Contributors: Rosemary Coates; Esther Corona; Kevan Wylie, Osmo Kontula

Editor: Woet Gianotten

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been an extremely busy year with four of the five Federations holding their biennial Congresses. It was my privilege to attend all four Congresses which provided me with an opportunity to meet with so many of our members. This was an enriching experience with the diversity of knowledge, interests and culture from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. To be a part of WAS is, indeed, to be a world citizen. My thanks to the organisers and participants of each of these Congresses.

FLASSES celebrated its 30th Anniversary at the Congress held in Alicante, Spain. FLASSES is the oldest of the Regional Federations and its members have made a major contribution to the development of sexual health, sexuality education and the promotion of sexual rights.

During each regional Congress ballots were held to elect a new administration. Federation Presidents are member of the WAS Executive Committee. We welcome the following members to the Executive Committee:



Chiara Simonelli
(Italia)
President of EFS,
the European Federation.

Arif Adimoelja
(Indonesia)

President of AOFS,
the Asia-Oceania Federation



Antonio Casaubón Alcaraz
(Spain)
President of FLASSES ,
the Latin American Federation



WE NEED YOU!

WAS needs your help. When we send emails to 'All Members' we get a high proportion of bounces. It is important that we keep you informed and encourage your participation in a variety of activities. Please make sure that you keep us up to date with any changes to your contact details. Currently this may be achieved by emailing the Secretary General/Treasurer, Pierre Assalian pierreassalian@3web.net. In the near future we anticipate that the web site will be completed and you will be able to keep your credentials current through this means.

WAS needs your help. A number of members have yet to pay their annual dues. WAS depends upon this income for the day to day administration. A sound infrastructure facilitates our capacity to attract sponsorship, develop projects and promote sexual health and sexual rights.

Benefits of membership. Apart from the global reach and the peer support, benefits include access to the E-copy of the International Journal of Sexual Health and reduced registration fees to WAS Congresses. Access to the Journal will be through the WAS website. Members whose organisations have paid their dues and individual members who have paid, will be provided with an access code. Registration for the Glasgow Congress is also coded to recognise paid up members.

WORLD SEXUAL HEALTH DAY

The inaugural World Sexual Health Day was held on 4th September 2010. Despite the limited time available and no official funding it was enormously successful. A total of twenty-five countries representing five continents participated, with some countries organising activities in several cities. The theme was '*Let's talk about it... an intergenerational discussion*'. The emphasis was on positive, healthy sexuality and on functional communication between young people and older generations. Organisers were provided with



information packages and asked to generate activities consistent with the WAS ethos. Media releases and posters were prepared and made available. A number of countries made their own posters and obtained local sponsorship.

Activities included inter-generational group meetings, symposia, film making and screenings; TV interviews, radio talk-back, singing, dancing, popular and scholarly discussions. The most exciting aspect was the enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by the organisers and participants. I was contacted by people from all over the world requesting more information, volunteering to participate and, after the event, expressions of eagerness to participate in 2011.

I wish to express my profound gratitude to the organisers, many of whom paid expenses out of their own pocket, for the innovative ideas and the enthusiasm with which they embraced this important initiative. Also thanks to all those who participated.

I have asked Esther Corona to take charge of organising next year's event and she will set up a small, representative committee. Please contact Esther at esthercoronav@gmail.com

Rosemary Coates, President.



More pictures can be found in attachment 2

Middle East

Recently the World Association for Sexual Health established a Committee focussing on the Middle East. All members of the Committee come from Muslim countries, with representatives from Bahrain, Iran, Lebanon, Egypt and Pakistan. The purpose is to promote sexual health in Middle Eastern countries. Part of the Committee's brief is to assist sexual health professionals to develop their own associations.



The Middle East Committee

EFS (European Federation of Sexology)

In June, during the EFS congress in Porto, a new Executive Committee was elected for the European Federation.

The present formation is as follows:

- Chiara Simonelli (Italy), President
- Osmo Kontula (Finland), Secretary General
- Moshe Mock (Israel), Treasurer
- Kevan Wylie (UK), Vice-President
- Alfons Vansteenwegen (Belgium)
- Antonio Palha (Portugal), past-President
- Audrey Gorin Lazard (France)
- Birgitta Hulter (Sweden)
- Elsa Almås (Norway)
- Mireille Bonierbale (France)
- Miren Larazabal Murillo (Spain)
- Ursula Pasini (Switzerland)



The new EFS Executive Committee (2010-2014)

EFS Training & Education Committee (TEC)

TEC had its first meeting on October 14th in Tallinn. The aim of the TEC is to promote and facilitate collaboration between European institutes and organisations that provide postgraduate training towards the profession of sexology / sexual health. A survey, conducted by Osmo Kontula from Finland, covering 25 European countries, clearly showed that countries have different practices concerning the admission criteria and training modules in sexological training.

Next to the importance of recognizing and identifying differences and similarities that exist in the various European training schemes, TEC considers it important to develop collective requirements and teaching modules for local or national programs.

A first European meeting on training in sexology will take place in Glasgow, on June 11th, the day before opening of the WAS congress.

For this meeting the important European stakeholders in teaching sexology - sexual health will be invited. This meeting will offer the participants an opportunity to discuss sexological training and education in a wider European context. Main topics will be mapping, networking and models for training programs. Attention will be paid to comparing different models in the live situation and on the balance between the various aspects: knowledge, skills, attitudes and competences.

In case you are interested in this meeting you can contact Osmo.Kontula@vaestoliitto.fi

Osmo Kontula, Secretary General EFS

AOFS

Asian-Oceania Federation for Sexology

In August the 11th Asia-Oceania Conference for Sexology took place in conjunction with the 3rd National Congress of the Indonesian Association of Sexology. The happening took place in Kuta on the paradise island of Bali (Indonesia). The leading topic of the meeting was 'Sexuality throughout the Life-span'. The meeting was a real success, with 350 participants from 8 countries.

In her statement WAS-President Rosemary Coates confirmed that WAS and its

Federation Partners are unique organisations with a multi-disciplinary and multi-national nature that may not only strengthen the transfer of knowledge in Sexual Health, but also the transfer of love between nations.

The next (12th) AOFSS congress will take place in 2012 in Japan. As a warming-up for that congress, a 'Friendly Gathering' will be organised in Jakarta (Indonesia), supported by the Men's Health Unit of the School of Medicine of the Hang Tuah University. The tentative date: 1st week of July 2011.

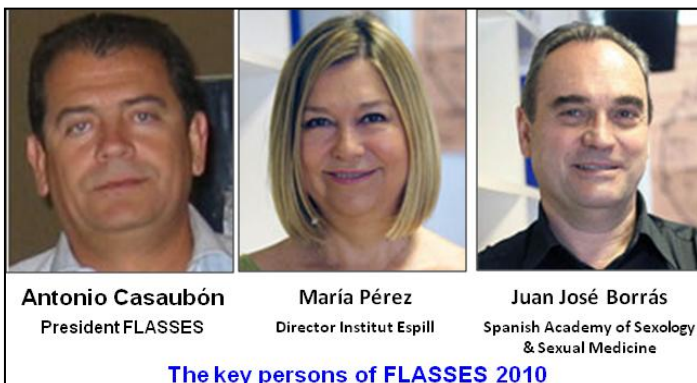
A new Executive Committee was elected for 2 years. The present formation is as follows:

- Arif Adimoelja (Indonesia), President
- Reiko Ohkawa (Japan), President-Elect
- Margaret Redelman (Australia), Vice-Pres.
- Peicheng Hu (China), Immediate Past-Pres.
- Verapol Chandeying (Thailand), Past-Pres.
- Johannes Soedjono (Indonesia), Secret. Gen.
- Hongli Zhen (China), Assistant Secr General.
- Srilata Balasubramanian (Singapore),
Membership Secretary
- Joanna Mak (Hong Kong), 1st Treasurer
- Stanislaus Lai (Hong Kong), 2nd Treasurer

FLASSES

The 15th Congress of FLASSES (the Latin-American Federation for Sexology and Sex Education) took place in October in Alicante (Spain). The leading topic of the meeting was 'Working towards a happy and responsible sexuality'.

The congress was a great success, with many of the global sexual health leaders present. There were more than 380 visitors from over 20 countries attending in person. An additional 50 professionals participated on-line for the first time in FLASSES congresses.



The meeting ended with an official statement on sex education. 'Sex education has to be based on science and should focus on a free and responsible sexual life with respect for sexual diversity. Moreover, sex education should emphasize a positive attitude towards sexuality and loving relationships, should promote tolerance without gender discrimination, and should create the skills both to prevent risks and to attain sexual pleasure and wellbeing'.

A new Executive Committee was elected for 4 years. The present formation is as follows:

- Antonio Casaubón Alcaraz (Spain), President
- Sylvia Cavalcanti (Brasil), Secretary General:
- Mario Lourenzo (Portugal), Treasurer
- Leon R. Gindin (Argentina), 1st Vice-President
- Elizabeth Gutierrez (Colombia), 2nd Vice-Pres.
- Rubén Hernández Serrano (Venez), Past-Pres.
- Rafael Garcia (Dominican Republic)
- Dinorah Machin (Uruguay)
- Elena Sepulveda (Chile)
- Raúl Belén (Argentina)
- Rosa Mayra Rodriguez (Cuba)



The new FLASSES Executive Committee for 2010-2014

The Youth Initiative,

Recently the first moves are made for a new plan dealing with the participation of youth in WAS. One of the aims is creating a Youth Advisory Panel with representatives of all WAS regions.

Since this plan is still in a developing stage, the full text is placed in Attachment 1.



The 20th World Congress for Sexual Health will take place in Glasgow in Scotland. We are succeeding in developing a fascinating program with famous plenary speakers, their topics ranging from *Erotic Intelligence* to *Pelvic Floor* and from *Partner violence* to *The mind and the genitals*. The symposia are characterised by a wide representation and collaboration between different countries and different specialities. An example is the symposium *Dealing with sexuality after breast cancer* with female presenters from 3 different continents. The English attitude, the quality of the scientific committee members and the transparent division over the 7 tracks will guarantee a meeting of high standard.

The call for abstracts is available. Abstracts can be submitted until January 12th, and we encourage all members and societies to consider their participation in the meeting.

The actual economic downturn and change in strategy for sponsorship, particularly from the pharmaceutical industry, means that we are unable to offer as many bursaries as in 2009 in Gothenburg, but a number remain available for those who have successful acceptance of abstracts.

The conference site is within easy walking distance of the city centre and has some exciting features. It is sited astride the Clyde River giving a great and easy riverside walk. Just across the river opposite the onsite hotel (Crowne Plaza) are sited a brand new Science Museum, a cocoon-shaped IMAX cinema with huge screen and a Conference hall that looks at first like the Opera House at Sydney but affectionately named the 'Armadillo'.



Social: The conference Gala Dinner will be in the city centre's converted historic and classic indoor Victorian fruit and vegetable market with great food and a fascinating and unusual mealtime entertainment.

The President's Dinner will be held at the intriguingly entitled 'House for an art lover' - a very special house & museum designed by the famous architect Charles Rennie McIntosh. Even if not invited you or your partner can visit and see this lovely place for yourselves.

While the programme of the conference is of course the *raison d'être* for attending, one should not overlook the riches that Scotland and Glasgow possess.

Glasgow has free entry into its 13 museums catering for every taste. The Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum has a massive 8000 objects from armour to an elephant and from Dali to a real Spitfire.



Scottish whisky has been copied world-wide but Scottish malts have never been equalled. Imagine you and your partner on a tour visit to the famous Glengoyne Distillery, only a 20 minute ride away from Glasgow. You can not only taste their very old malts but try your hand at mixing your own whisky for later drinking. A souvenir of Scotland that will more than tickle your taste buds!

We hope very much that you save this date in your diary and come and spend an enjoyable five days in Glasgow.

Kevan Wylie, Congress President.

<http://www2.kenes.com/was2011/Pages/Home.asp>

OTHER MEETINGS

ISSWSH 2011 Annual Meeting

February 10 - 13, 2011
Paradise Valley Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona
www.isswsh.org

20th WAS World Congress for Sexual Health

June 12 – 16, 2011
Glasgow, UK.
www.worldsexology.org



Cancer Survivorship and Sexual Health Symposium

June 17 – 19, 2011
Washington D.C., USA.
www.cancersurvivorsandsex.org

This State of the Art symposium is jointly organized by ISSM and SMSNA (Sex Med Soc of North America). The goal of the program is to define sexual dysfunctions experienced by cancer survivors, and introduce sexual medicine into the care plans for cancer survivors.

37th IASR 2011 Annual Meeting

August 10 - 13, 2011
Los Angeles, California
www.iasr.org

22nd WPATH Biennial Symposium

Theme: 'Transgender Beyond Disorder: Identity, Community, & Health'
September 24 - 28, 2011
Atlanta, Georgia (USA)
www.wpath.org

15th ISSM World Meeting on Sexual Medicine

August 26 - 30, 2012
Chicago, USA
www.issmsmsna2012.info

21st WAS World Congress for Sexual Health 2013

Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
www.worldsexology.org



Although the exact date for the congress is not yet known, you will get enough time to prepare. At least once in a lifetime you have to visit Rio, the most vibrant city in the world.

The scientific program will cover all major areas in sexology and sexual health. But we feel also a cultural obligation to pay special attention for the topics '*Love & passion*', and '*Pleasure & satisfaction*'.

We promise! We have enough experience for a vibrant social program including a breathtaking carnival show. Dreaming about dancing the samba with a view over the sea and a caipirinha in your hand? → Attend WAS 2013!

22nd WAS World Congress for Sexual Health 2015

The **call for bids** can be found at our website
www.worldsexology.org

WAS member organizations are requested to consider being the host for this congress.

The WAS World Congress represents a unique opportunity of exposure for local professionals, NGO employees and societies to enhance their public profile. It is an opportunity to showcase scientific work, programmes and projects in sexual health, sexuality education, research and sexual rights.

History has shown that the country that organizes a WAS World Congress benefits from the impulse that the field of sexology, sexual health, sexuality education, sexuality research and sexual rights promotion obtain as a consequence of the public awareness generated by the event.

IJSH CALL FOR PAPERS:

IJSH (International Journal of Sexual Health) is the Official Journal of the WAS.

A special Issue will be prepared on “The sexual health and functioning of military personnel and veterans”

We invite the submission of abstracts for a special issue of the *International Journal of Sexual Health* to focus on the sexual health and functioning of military veterans from any country. The issue will feature original research. Topics may include the effect of military experiences on the general sexual health of veterans across the lifespan; the prevalence of sexual dysfunctions among veterans and across branches of service; treating sexual dysfunctions and comorbid psychiatric symptoms in veterans; the relationship between sexual health and resilience; the sexual health and functioning of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender active duty personnel and veterans; and the sexual health of women veterans who have been exposed to combat; and sexuality and chronic illness.

Interested persons should email a letter of intent with an abstract (limited to 300 words or less) of the proposed article to the Guest Editor, Michael R. Kauth, PhD (Michael.kauth@va.gov) with the subject line “IJSH Paper Abstract”.

Deadline for letter of intent & abstract: February 15, 2011

Full papers are due by July 1, 2011. It is anticipated that this special issue will be published in Fall 2011 or early 2012



Standards for European Sexuality Education

In October WHO Europe launched the new European Guidelines on Sexuality Education. This framework for policy makers, educational and health authorities and specialists is a goldmine for sexual health specialists. In part 1 an overview is given of the underlying philosophy, rationale, definitions and principles

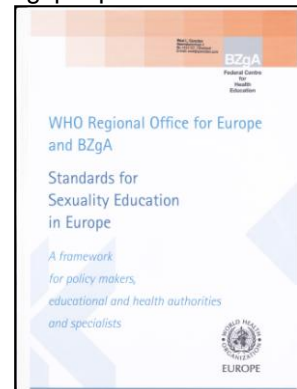
of sexuality education and the elements it comprises. It introduces the wider concept of holistic sexuality education and argues why that is especially important for young people and adolescents. It gives also information on the various ages & stages in the (sexual) development of children.

In part 2 an extensive matrix is laid down showing which topics sexuality education needs to cover at different age groups. With separate attention for information, for skills, and for attitudes.

The ISBN is 978-3-937707-82-2

The complete 68-page document can be downloaded

www.bzga-whocc.de/pdf.php?id=061a863a0fdf28218e4fe9e1b3f463b3



BEST WISHES!

For a large proportion of our WAS-members December and January is a period for celebration. The President of WAS joins with the members of the Advisory Committee in wishing you all an enjoyable season and a very successful 2011.



Rosemary Coates, your President

Boas Festas e um feliz Ano Novo

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo

Frohe Weihnachten und ein glückliches Neues Jahr

God Jul och Gott Nytt År

Hyvää Joulua or Hauskaa Joulua: Onnellista uutta vuotta

Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année

Krismas Njema Na Heri Za Mwaka Mpya

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

'n Geseënde Kersfees en 'n Voorspoedige Nuwe Jaar

Rõõmsaid Jõulupühi ja Head uut aastat

Selamat Hari Natal dan Tahun Baru

Sretan Božić i uspješnu Novu godinu

Рождеством Христовым и С наступающим 2011

ATTACHMENT 1

THE YOUTH INITIATIVE

Note: The following is a proposal yet to be reviewed by the Executive and Advisory Committees. It is offered here as a general proposition.

Why WAS needs a youth initiative and why youth need the support of WAS.

According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), more than 1.5 billion people today are between the ages of 10 and 25. It is the largest generation of young people in history.

This group has an enormous potential for positive change as their energy, ideas and aspirations are boundless. However, to realize this potential, it should be recognized that young people have a right to participate in programmes that affect them

In its *Millennium Declaration*, the World Association for Sexual Health emphasizes the special place of youth in comprehensive sexuality education:

Youth however, warrant special emphasis in our call for universal access to comprehensive sexuality education, particularly with respect to the proposition that wide-spread implementation of sexuality education programming will make a meaningful contribution to the Millennium Development Goals. It is also important because the provision of high quality sexuality education to children and youth offers a foundation for knowledge, attitudes and skills that are essential to the attainment of optimal sexual health, which can evolve with their changing needs throughout the life span (WAS, 2008: p76).

Because of their particular developmental stage, young people, as recognized by the WAS, have a great need of comprehensive sexuality education and sexual health, however they can be more passive actors and in partnership with adults they can become according to UNFPA “powerful advocates” in these matters.

Thus, it is crucial for the institutional life of the WAS and for the concretization of the *Sexual Health for the Millennium Declaration*, to start

developing mechanisms of youth participation within WAS itself. If WAS is to act consistently with its core values and principles it needs to move forward to a full integration of the younger members of society.

As a first step it is suggested that WAS may create a Youth Advisory Panel with representatives of all WAS regions. This Panel would advise on the changing environment in which young people are living today from the technological, the environmental, the social and other perspectives and what challenges are they facing related to their sexuality. Global efforts aimed at drawing the current and future panoramas of youth’s sexual health should be carried out and WAS should assume leadership in this matter, as a way of giving continuity to the *Sexual Health for the Millennium Declaration*. The question “Where are we in youth’s sexual health and where are we going?” must be answered. Therefore carrying out an international consultation on the matter is strongly recommended.

In order to provide the background and arguments for such a consultation, a WAS Document on Youth’s Sexual Health in the 21st Century could be created through a Youth-Adult partnership, combining the efforts of the Youth Advisory Panel and members of the Advisory Committee of the WAS

It could include:

- ♥ A report of the **current state of public policies** regarding youth’s sexual health in each of the 5 regions covered by the WAS: North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia-Oceania.
- ♥ Data on the **most relevant sexual phenomena** that are **currently diminishing youth’s health** in the 5 mentioned regions.
- ♥ An exploration of **identified and urgent youth’s sexual health needs** in the same regions.
- ♥ A perspective on the **sustainability of sexual health programs targeting youth**.
- ♥ A perspective on **future challenges in relation to other global phenomena** (such as security, economic and ecological crisis and technological advances).

Simultaneously the Youth Advisory Panel would work on other relevant activities such as the creation and operation of a Youth blog, Facebook account and other social networks through which young people communicate today. The *WAS Youth Blog* would have the objective of reporting about numerous happenings in research, policies, education and media related to youth's sexual health. The Blog of the *WAS Youth Advisory Panel* should encourage young people to comment and analyze issues that affect them.

Another important area would be the involvement of young people in sexuality-related research and work.

It is fundamental that young students can consider sexology as a serious scientific career with professional opportunities. In order to promote the interest of young people a seminar or workshop directed to the professional development of young people could be offered in World Congresses as well the possible establishment of a mentoring programme.

As a necessary measure to reflect the commitment of WAS to youth participation, it is suggested that a change be made in the by-laws to insure that a proportion of seats in the Advisory Committee should be allocated to young people and young professionals.

Esther Corona.

ATTACHMENT 2

More Sexual Health Day Pictures



One of the Australia teams with at the left our President Rosemary Coates active for WSHD.

In Mexico:
Our Eusebio Rubio Aurioles with Patricia Uribe, Director of National Gender Equity and Reproductive Health and Guadalupe Loaza, a well known popular author.

Press Conference in Mexico
WAS members Nadine Terrein-Rocatti, Eusebio Rubio Aurioles and Luis Perelman with the Director of the National Council against Discrimination and the Director of the National Aids Program.



One of the posters from Brasil





WORLD SEXUAL HEALTH DAY

4th September

Let's talk about it...

OUR SEXUAL RIGHTS

THE RIGHT TO -

- **factual & accurate sexuality education**
- **have access to resources**
- **privacy**
- **freedom of choice regarding marriage & choice of partner**
- **reproductive choices**
- **be free from coercion**
- **express sexual pleasure**

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

To -

- **respect the rights of others**
- **make informed choices on safer sex practices**
- **make informed choices on parenthood**
- **abstain from sexual coercion**



Various announcements.
In Russian, Spanish, Japanese and Farsi

