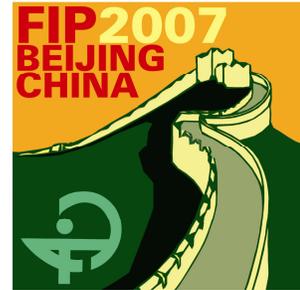


67th FIP Congress Beijing, China



The International Pharmaceutical Federation is very pleased to report the success of the 67th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Beijing, China, which took place from the 31 August to 6 September, 2007. The Congress officially began with a stunning Opening Ceremony at the Great People's Hall in Tiananmen Square, Beijing. Honoured guests included Professor Sang Guowei from the Chinese Pharmaceutical Federation, Professor Channgen Feng, Executive Secretary for the China Association for Science and Technology, Shao Mingli, Director General of the State Food and Drug Administration of China and Ms Wu Yi, Vice Premier of the State Council of China. All were treated to spectacular entertainment showcasing some of the best singing, dancing and martial arts talents in the country.



FIP President Dr Kamal K Midha greeted the audience at the Opening Ceremony and welcomed the close-to 3000 participants to the week of activities to come. Tying in the theme of the Congress - *From Anecdote to Evidence: Helping Patients Make the Best use of Medicines* – Dr Midha highlighted the developments over the first year of his Presidency and emphasized FIP's dedication and commitment to such global healthcare issues as Pharmacy Education, Professional Advocacy, Brain Drain and increased support to developing countries.



Participants of the FIP Congress in Beijing benefitted from one of the most comprehensive Congress Programmes to date, with 32 officially accredited sessions spanning broad to specialised topics from the Boards of Pharmaceutical Science and Practice, including joint BPP/BPS workshops, pre-satellite symposia and Roundtable Sessions on Pharmacy Education and the Impact of the Pharmacist on Society. The Exhibition and Poster Session were also well represented and attended by various companies, researchers and academics from both China and around the world.



Congress Sessions enjoyed higher than ever attendance, with participants filling rooms to capacity to partake in discussions on Technical, Scientific and Evidence-Based Information Resources About Medicines, Lifelong Learning and Continuing Professional Development, Medication Safety and Counterfeit Medicines, to name but a few. In addition, FIP was very pleased to host a joint workshop with the World Health Organization on Herbal Medicines: Education and Training of Pharmacy Practitioners. Abstracts and select Congress presentations will soon be on the Member's Only Section of the FIP Website.

As is tradition, the 2007 FIP Award Winners were also acknowledged during the Opening Ceremony. This year, the Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences awarded FIP's highest scientific honour, the Høst-Madsen Medal, to **Dr Patrick Couvreur (France)**. The medal is given every two years to an outstanding pharmaceutical scientist, and is offered by the Danish Pharmaceutical Association to honour the memory of former FIP President Dr Høst-Madsen.

Complementing this prestigious accolade within the pharmaceutical sciences were two awards recognizing outstanding achievement in Pharmacy Practice. The Distinguished Practice Award went to **Ms Jane Nicholson (UK)**, for her longstanding contribution to and enthusiasm for many branches of pharmacy practice both in and outside of the United Kingdom. Joining her was **Prof. Dr Zoltán Vincze (Hungary)**, the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award for Pharmaceutical Practice for his dedication to the advancement and improvement of Pharmaceutical Practice and recognition of pharmacists in Hungary and on a global level.

In addition, the following individuals were acknowledged and will hereby be recognized as FIP Fellows, for consistently upholding the qualities and professional characteristics deemed by FIP to deserve this special recognition: **Prof. S.I. (Charlie) Benrimoj (Australia); Mrs Cynthia K. Brown (USA); Dr John A Gans (USA); Dr Ross W Holland (Australia); Mr Howard Rice (Israel); Dr Yuichi Sugiyama (Japan)**. FIP would like to offer sincere congratulations to all of the 2007 Award Winners on their most deserved achievements.

The historic city of Beijing offered an engaging setting for the Congress Social Programme as well. FIP Section Dinners, receptions and activities were held in various locations around the city, showcasing the best of local scenery and flavours while allowing intimate and unique opportunities for professional and social networking. A highlight this year was the First Timers Reception, which welcomed all First Time Congress attendees to interact with each other while learning more about FIP, its functions and vision. The week culminated with a breathtaking Goodbye Dinner at the Great Wall of China, where over 1000 Congress Participants enjoyed a once in a lifetime opportunity to celebrate alongside one of the most intriguing wonders of the world.

The FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Beijing was the 67th installment of this annual event. The Congress brought together more pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists than ever before to participate in this unique opportunity for professional and personal growth under the wider scope of improved pharmacy practice and science for the betterment of global patient care.

