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# NEWSLETTER

*International Federation of Environmental Health*

## August 2018

Mudaly, South Africa. Likewise we welcome our new IFEH President Elect Prof. Susana Paixão, Portugal

### New President of IFEH

Dr. Selva Mudaly South African Institute of Environmental Health (SAIEH) was elected as the new President of the IFEH at the 15th IFEH World Environmental Health Congress which was hosted by the New Zealand Institute of Environmental Health in Auckland, New Zealand.

His term of office will be from March 2018 to August 2020. He was inaugurated on the 22 March 2018



*Mr. Selva Mudaly, President IFEH*

### Briefing from Dr. Selva Mudaly, IFEH President Update August 2018

Dear Colleagues,

I wish to thank all of you who voted me into office and for placing your confidence in me to ensure that the IFEH would grow from strength to strength.

The IFEH Council has resolved to draw up a Strategic Plan for the organization. I have been mandated to drive this process. Thanks to all our colleagues who have contributed to this process. I am busy compiling the inputs from the various strategic teams into one document. This document will be presented at the Council Meeting in Uganda for deliberation and final adoption. I appeal to all of you to contribute to this Strategic Planning process as this will be our plan going forward.

I call on all our member organizations to celebrate World Environmental Health Day on the 26th September 2018 as this is the day for all of us to promote Environmental Health. We must participate and grow World Environmental Health Day as it is the eight year since its inception.

I encourage all of you to send details of local projects and celebrations to the PRO and the Webmaster for listing on the IFEH website.

Lastly, let me encourage all of you to grow the IFEH membership and contact your colleagues in those areas where we do not have membership to join the IFEH.

Regards, Dr. Selva Mudaly

#### **New President elect of IFEH**

The new IFEH President Elect 2018 - 2020, to become IFEH President 2020 - 2022, is Prof. Susana Paixão, Portuguese Society of Environmental Health (SPSA).

Professor Susana Paixão, Environmental Health Specialist by the Coimbra Health School-Coimbra Polytechnic Institute (ESTeSC-IPC)



*Prof. Susana Paixão, President Elect IFEH*

#### **Immediate Past President of IFEH**

IFEH give our sincere thanks to the outgoing IFEH President Peter Archer for his commitment to the Federation the past two years.

#### **Summary and reflection from Peter Archer, Immediate IFEH Past President**

To be elected President of the IFEH was for me both an honour and enormous privilege. I have thoroughly enjoyed the four years as a member of the Board. I started my career as a student public health inspector in 1964 and completed 50 years of membership of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health in 2014. My principal interest has always focused on housing conditions and the impact that poor housing has on the general health of the population.

As an IFEH member my principal interest has developed into inequalities in health on an international basis and what can be done to improve both the environmental and social determinants of health. The World Health Organisation's Programme for 'Health Equity – Closing the Gap in a Generation' has provided a basis for individual countries to follow. During my Presidency the IFEH has become a Partner Member of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHAs). In June 2016 the WFPHAs launched at the UN in Geneva the 'Global Charter for the Public's Health' and I have been appointed on behalf of the IFEH as a Diplomat for the Charter. Please check out how you can help deliver the Charter by going to <https://www.wfpha.org/wfpha-projects/14-projects/171-a-global-charter-for-the-public-s-health-3>.

I would like to highlight a few of the events across the world which have excited me in my time as President. In May 2016 we held the World Congress in Lilongwe, Malawi where we were able to see at first hand the impact of poor facilities and structures for education of the young population. In villages and rural areas, a shortage of piped water which means many women and girls having to walk several kilometres each morning to fetch water from the nearest wells. Even within a short distance of the huge fresh water Lake Malawi there was virtually no mains water. We visited a school with no water supply and very limited sanitation where the roof of the school had been removed by a storm twelve months previously and was still awaiting repairs by the government. The IFEH with support from individual members including Ireland, Scotland, and South Africa set up a project to provide a well and a new sanitation block with special facilities for the adolescent girls. Our conference hosts, the Malawi Association of Environmental Health oversaw the complete project. I was delighted all work was completed early in 2018 (please see [www.ifeh.org](http://www.ifeh.org)).

Early in 2017 I was invited to attend the South African Institute of Environmental Health's (SAIEH) Annual Conference in Cape Town. More than 200 paying delegates attended the excellent conference and there was strong support from the South African local government association (SALGA), the City of Cape Town and from government departments. I was delighted and impressed by the vibrancy and energy of the delegates, many of whom had been professionally qualified for only a few years.

In March this year, the 15th IFEH World Congress was held in Auckland, New Zealand. It was hosted by the New Zealand Institute of Environmental Health (NZIEH) with strong support from the Australians in Environmental Health Australia (EHA). The conference entitled 'A South Pacific Perspective' introduced delegates to major problems in the country largely unrecognised outside Australasia. We celebrated in Auckland that this world congress was the 30th Anniversary of our first congress in Sydney, Australia. Further to this, World Environmental Health Day on 26th September continues to be highly successful. The day was chosen to celebrate actual date of the opening of that first world congress in 1988. The theme for 2016 was 'Tobacco Control', and in 2017 it was 'Indoor & Outdoor Air Quality'. Both were fantastically successful with dozens of individual member organisations participating. During my presidential term of office, the IFEH has continued to grow, now with 43 full members from individual countries, 25 academic members and 14 associates. It is estimated that IFEH now represents more than 50,000 environmental health professionals worldwide. It only remains for me to wish both Selva

Mudaly and Susana Paixao successful and enjoyable terms of office.

IFEH/PJA/19.08.18. peterarcherrhs@btinternet.com

### Follow up - IFEH Congress – 2018



Thanks to NZIEH for hosting this very successful World Congress in Auckland - March 2018.

The Congress was a huge success and all the presentations that were delivered at the Congress can be found on the IFEH [website](https://ifeh.org/worldcongress/wceh2018/presentations/index.html), following this link: <https://ifeh.org/worldcongress/wceh2018/presentations/index.html>

### Public and Environmental Health History – a novel approach to comprehensive review and promotion.

Article by: Sara Tajnikar, BSc Sanitary Engineering - Institute of Public and Environmental Health, Ljubljana.

During the 15th World Congress on Environmental Health on 20–23 March 2018 in Auckland, New Zealand, the ongoing project called 'Historia Sanitaria' was presented by Institute of Public and Environmental Health, Slovenia. The presentation is available on [IFEH website](https://ifeh.org).

'Historia Sanitaria' is the realised model of recording the landmark events and historical achievements of the profession of public and environmental health and its promotion through the portal 'Historia Sanitaria'. It is an online magazine covering different periods of history as well as recent developments. It is a 'living form' of the contributions, which are continuously updated and upgraded. Therefore, all colleagues who are operating in the field of public and environmental health and have an access to historical sources, are invited to actively participate in the preparation of contributions on the historical development of the profession of public and environmental health in their country. There have already been cooperating colleagues from different countries of Europe and the United States of America.

All suggested posts should be written in English. They should contain a year, a title, the name of the country, basic information of the event and/or achievement, and relevant photos if is available. The posts should be send in Word format to the following e-mail address: [info@institut-isi.si](mailto:info@institut-isi.si).

For additional information, visit the journal's website: [www.wiki.sanitarc.si](http://www.wiki.sanitarc.si). There you can also find a special category organised for International Federation of Environmental Health history review.

### The 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the International Environmental Health Faculty Forum (IEHFF)

Article by Andrej Ovca Honorary Education Liaison Officer:

The 14th Biennial Meeting of the International Environmental Health Faculty Forum (IEHFF) was held on 19th March 2018 in Auckland, New Zealand in conjunction with the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) 15th World Congress on Environmental Health. The Forum was attended by academics involved in environmental health education.

Seven papers had been accepted for presentation. After the agenda was approved firstly and overview of current educational initiatives and activities within the IFEH was given. During the presentations on the agenda the following topics were discussed:

Spanned classrooms and collaborative teaching in environmental health  
Innovative method of large cohort block model teaching

Experiencing the practice of environmental health  
Challenges of providing authentic content and assessment for online students undertaking work integrated learning

Incorporating Environmental Health Concepts Into Diverse Undergraduate Programs  
Using a zombie apocalypse to raise the profile of environmental health

During the meeting also election of IEHFF Chair was on the agenda. Andrew Mathieson from Victoria University (Australia) was elected as a new chair. At this occasion the members of IEHFF would like to acknowledge Charles D. Treser (University of Washington, USA) for his valuable contribution as a IEHFF Chair in the past period.

### The Eric Foskett Award 2018

The IFEH congratulate Henning I Hansen, Denmark, being the receiver of the Eric Foskett Award 2018.



Mr. Henning I. Hansen –  
Hon Vice President IFEH

### Nomination facts

Henning has made a remarkable contribution to the work insight and oversight the Federation. Particularly we should like to highlight these efforts:

- Excellent contribution to Profession for Policy and Communication of IFEH Goals
- Work for IFEH's commitment to the UN, including IFEH's formal partnership with UNISDR on Science and Technology and implementation of the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org).
- Work as Chairman of the IFEH Committee of Disaster Risk Reduction
- Work at the European level, as a catalyst for the development and cooperation with EU and especially IMPEL cooperation, where he serves as coordinator for EFEH. - <https://www.impel.eu/about-impel/members-and-observers/>
- Great and significant work with development on the IFEH website and as Website Master for almost 20 years. [www.ifeh.org](http://www.ifeh.org)

### Biographical details

Henning has held and holds several positions of trust in IFEH for decades:

- IFEH Council member for many years.
- IFEH Webmaster (1999- )
- EFEH Chairman (2012 – 2014)
- IFEH President Elect (2012 – 2014)
- IFEH President (2014 -2016)

### Personality

Henning I Hansen is an environmental senior specialist. He has a significant interest and knowledge within his field globally as well as regionally and locally. When he discovers or recognize new environmental/health risks and/or opportunities, he assess the topics and define how to deal with this in IFEH. His drive, push and attitude has been essential to maintain focus on high priorities in IFEH.

Henning I Hansen is the person who makes it happen although the barriers and challenges seem to be too hard. He has demonstrated a unique and dedicated effort for IFEH and the aim of the organization during many years.

### World Environmental Health Day 26 September 2018

Theme for the 2018 World Environmental Health Day: **Global Food Safety and Sustainability**

This year's WEHD theme of 'Global Food Safety and Sustainability' aims to support the provision of more safe food, to make use of precious water and nutrient

resources, and for communities to increasingly value sustainable food production.

In a globalized world with increasing international trade, food safety is challenged. From tainted dairy products to contaminated beef, high-profile cases comes up regularly, to reduce consumer confidence. At the same time, there is an increased focus on efficient use of natural resources and demands for less food waste.

Look up for more details about this year's theme on [IFEH.org](http://IFEH.org).

### How to get involved

We encourage all member organisations and regional groups, academic associates and associate members to set up local initiatives and events to celebrate World Environmental Health Day.

We would specifically ask Universities to encourage and support their students in producing short videos on topics important to them.

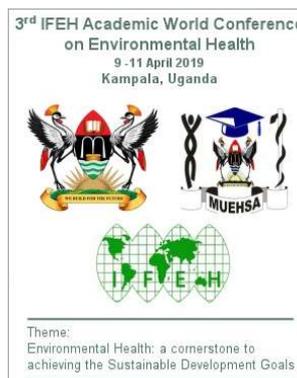
Regarding information about planned national / regional initiatives as well as short videos we will provide opportunity for this to be displayed on the specific page on the [IFEH website](http://IFEH website).

This opportunity is open to all – regardless of membership of the IFEH. Please send information about your initiatives to Hon. Webmaster Henning Hansen [webmaster@ifeh.org](mailto:webmaster@ifeh.org) or Hon. PRO Jesper Christensen [pro@ifeh.org](mailto:pro@ifeh.org)

### Updates for the 3rd IFEH Academic World Conference on Environmental Health 2019

#### Kampala, Uganda, 9 - 11 April 2019

The 3rd IFEH Academic World Conference on Environmental Health which is run in conjunction with the 16th Makerere University Environmental Health Students' Association (MUEHSA) Scientific Conference is kindly hosted by: Makerere University School of Public Health



The aim for the conference is to bring together various stakeholders from around the world to stimulate multidisciplinary and multisectoral collaboration in environmental health central to achievement of the 17 [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#). (SDG)

The conference will engage academia, researchers, policy makers, practitioners, students and local communities from the 4 regions of the IFEH (Africa, Americas, Asia and Pacific, and Europe). It is expected that through the diverse group attending the conference, participants will be able to deliberate on environmental health interventions relevant for attainment of the SDGs.

IFEH would like to urge all members to make the effort to attend the congress as it will be a great opportunity to see how Environmental Health functions in the African region as well as a great opportunity to network with members from other countries. Full details of the conference are on the [IFEH website](#) or by going to the [congress website](#).

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### General information to members

The Federation works to disseminate knowledge concerning environmental health and promote co-operation between countries and member organisations.

Sharing of information between members are important.

The IFEH website offers several options for knowledge sharing – one of the opportunities is to take part in the IFEH special interest groups. The groups covering 16 different professional fields – drinking water, food safety and security, waste, public health etc. Look at the website for more information <http://www.ifeh.org/sig>

### Professional networking

Another way to share information is through the IFEH Facebook group ([facebook.com/ifeh.org](https://facebook.com/ifeh.org)) or [LinkedIn IFEH Group](#).

### Twining arrangements

Exchange between members of IFEH

There is an agreement between the national associations within the IFEH, opening the possibility for members of the national associations to swap office and chair for a period of up to two or three weeks.

It is highly recommended by the IFEH Council, that members of a National Association within the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) take the chance to see how the environmental health work is carried out somewhere else in the World.

Look at the website for more information <http://www.ifeh.org/twining/index.html>.

### IFEH Magazine/Journal and newsletter

Environment and Health International is the journal of the International Federation of Environmental Health. The magazine is published twice a year.

The last magazine was published in December 2017 and can be seen at [IFEH.org](#)

This edition has interesting articles on

- the production of Jameson Whiskey in Cork
- the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 in the UK
- sustainability principles into all operations of motor sports
- the challenges of Healthcare waste management within hospitals
- the importance of measles vaccination
- the need to train the consumer so they can make an informed decision when purchasing foods

Members are invited to submit short articles or executive summary from longer articles that can be published in the Magazine.

The regular IFEH Newsletters are a source of information on the daily goings-on at the Federation (the latest newsletter is always available as a downloadable file at [IFEH.org](#)).

Also small news items are welcome for the newsletter.

Articles for coming issues of the magazine please send to Kathryn Young E-mail: [kathy.young@dit.ie](mailto:kathy.young@dit.ie)

Small news items for the newsletter please send to Jesper Ø. Christensen - [pro@ifeh.org](mailto:pro@ifeh.org).