

NEWSLETTER

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In this edition we present

- PTC at the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists - Buenos Aires

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PTC is a multidisciplinary family, but has deep roots in anaesthesia, so the occasion of the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists in March was a great opportunity for anaesthesiologists supporting PTC to get together, to celebrate PTC's achievements, learn from one another, and think about future development.

The world congress is organised by WFSA, the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists, which has been a firm and generous supporter of PTCF from our beginnings. In addition to our gratitude for past support, we are also grateful to them for providing rooms for the two "unofficial" PTCF discussion meetings (see below) in addition to 2 full congress sessions on trauma with PTC speakers and chairmen. These latter sessions were given to a packed audience of several hundred, and the presentations were of stunningly good quality. They feature various clinical aspects of trauma, and the audience went away highly impressed by the quality of PTC teaching.

Our first informal session was attended by delegates from Latin America (15) China (7) and elsewhere (8). In it we heard from various speakers about the growth of PTC worldwide, after receiving greetings from the PTCF Board chairman (Roy Fenner), Council Chair (Saeed Minhas) and CEO (Charles Clayton).



Oscar Gonzales Allen, former regional co-ordinator for Latin America, and current PTCF board member, and Juan Carlos Duarte, current regional co-ordinator, reminded us of the growth of PTC in the region. From the first courses in 2001 in Paraguay, PTC has now been established in 12 Latin American countries, and continues both to build in established countries, and to reach out to new ones. There is great variety in the region in resources, but a uniform enthusiasm to help meet the needs of injured patients through PTC.



Oscar Gonzalez Allen

Jeanne Frossard described the growth of PTC in the Middle East – Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine & Iraq; numbers are small but the need is great, and there have been many successes in co-operation with governments and NGO's such as MSF.



Oscar Gonzalez Allen



Nerio Bracho

Yan Ying, leading the Chinese delegation, then spoke encouragingly of the progress of PTC in China, where 6000 people are currently being trained. He concluded with an invitation to all for the first world congress of PTC, to be held in China in 2013 (for further details, watch the PTC website).

Our second informal meeting was an opportunity for our dynamic and creative Latin American colleagues to brainstorm suggestions about future evolution and strengthening of PTC, both in their own region and worldwide. There is not space to go into all the suggestions, and the meeting's aim was to ventilate opinions rather than make decisions, but the full proceedings have been forwarded both to Council and the Board.



Juan Pablo Ilic



Juan Carlos Duarte

In the time available we could only scratch the surface, and we concluded with a request to everybody to send news and information to Annette in Oxford, for publication in the newsletter.

Topics discussed included revision of PTC teaching materials (manual, slides, scenarios and assessment), the regular requests from participants for more practical & interactive sessions, the possibility of different materials for different regions, finances, the need for more instructors, and the need for PTC to provide a central list of major supporters (to help local fundraising).

PTC Primary Trauma Care Foundation



And of course, as at any family gathering we met together for a celebration meal in fine Argentine style at a great restaurant in the restored docklands. ¡Viva PTC!

Mike Dobson