



Hedgerow Bursary 2014 A True Success

At the 2013 IFEH Council Meeting it was announced that the Federation had secured substantial financial support from Hedgerow Software Ltd to offer a bursary to encourage members from developing countries to attend Council Meetings. Hedgerow Software Ltd, is a major Software Company operating in the health sector in Canada & North America.

During 2014, applications were invited on a first come first served basis and the Hon Secretary received 6 applications for Bursary funding. Two applications did not meet the Conditions attached to the Bursary in that one Member had not been a Full Member for the required time period and the other was not from a Developing Country.

The other 4 applications were validated by the Hon Secretary and the Hon Treasurer to ensure compliance with the Conditions and then circulated to the IFEH Board for consideration. All 4 applications were approved and the successful applicants were:

- Malawi
- Jamaica
- Uganda
- Liberia

In accordance with the Conditions, payment of the agreed sum to support attendance, would be paid by the Hon Treasurer after attendance at the Council meeting & AGM on submission of the appropriate receipts for travel costs.

As a consequence of the generous support received from Hedgerow Software Ltd, 7 delegates from the countries listed attended the Council Meeting & AGM. Unfortunately one applicant, Liberia did not manage to attend and the funding allocated to this member will be carried forward to 2015.

Following the Council Meeting & AGM and during the World Congress, Hedgerow Software Ltd also kindly sponsored an informal President's Reception for all Council delegates and this allowed the Federation the opportunity to present the Bursary Cheques to the successful attendees.

At this reception Hedgerow Software Ltd also announced that they were offering a further 10,000\$ Canadian for 2015 to build on the success of 2014 and this was gratefully received by all members in attendance

The Hedgerow Bursary has clearly demonstrated, that with funding, the Federation can widen the participation at our Council Meetings & AGM which is important if we are to be truly representative of Environmental Health across the world.

The IFEH Board and the wider Federation Membership are indebted to Hedgerow Software Ltd for their generous financial support during 2014 and look forward to enjoying the further success of the Bursary during 2015.

The next Council Meeting & AGM will be held in Coimbra, Portugal on 20th & 21st September prior to our first Academic Conference on 22nd-26th September 2015. The Federation looks forward to increased uptake on the available Bursary and hopefully the Council Meeting & AGM will enjoy a further expansion of member participation.

**Rod House
Hon Secretary
August 2014**