

International Federation of Environmental Health

Date: 24 December 2012

Message from the President of the IFEH.

Dear IFEH Members,

Well good progress this year. 2012 has been a very action oriented year I wanted to especially recognise Henning I. Hansen our President Elect and Webmaster, Stephen Cooper our Treasurer and Roderick House our Secretary for their work on the IFEH B.O.D and thanks to our Journal and Newsletter Editors (Bernard Forteath and Ray Ellard), Regional Chairs, IFEH Council reps and Member Country Presidents and of course my fellow academics.



Dr. Peter Davey, President IFEH

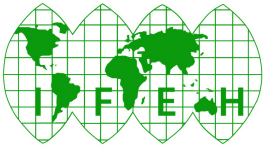
This year we created together a special interest group for our Global EH Student Associations who will drive our future Mission; this initiative was the outcome of an IFEH Sub-Committee to facilitate arrangements for the Bali Inaugural World Health Day in 2011, I drove this process with the Indonesian Environmental Health Specialists Association – 160 strong (IEHSA, thanks to Professor Umar) together with staff of the University of Indonesia, Jakarta (Pak Rahman) and Udayana University, Denpasar (Ibu Utami) and our Indonesian students - thanks to the newly created Indonesian Environmental Health Association and its student leaders Yosi, Budi and Randy .



In mid 2012 I travelled to Lithuania and a great event in Vilnius for the IFEH World Congress; thanks to Viktorija Montviliene and Andrius Kavalūnas for a robust public and environmental health program and cultural experience. We all learnt a lot about Europe and its health status and how important environmental health is to making communities liveable.

I Chaired the 5th Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC) Global Conference in Brisbane 24-27 October this year (I am part of the AFHC Steering Committee in Asia and the Pacific. 470 participants attended from 23 countries; mainly the Asia and Pacific Region but also from Europe, UK, Brazil, Mexico, Canada and USA. I set up an IFEH trade display. Environmental health is the building block of a healthy city/community and we promoted IFEH objectives with the WHO Western Pacific Regional Director Dr Shin. I will follow up on these initiatives in 2013, IFEH needs greater representation on Global bodies like WHO and UNEP.

At this Conference the Asia and Pacific Regional Group of IFEH led by Ben Ryan and other practitioners from Queensland; remembering we had the largest cyclone and flood in our history in early 2012, jointly delivered a 2 day short course titled - Environmental Health and Disaster Management, a collaboration between IFEH, CDC, NEHA and Griffith University - attended by 25 practitioners from 6 countries. I spoke of the need for strategic community/disaster planning while Ben and other staff covered topics including risk, remediation, food, water, accommodation, disease, scenario planning etc. We are delivering a 5 day



International Federation of Environmental Health

program in Bali in late June 2013 with CDC support. Details are on the website (thanks Ben, James, George, Martin, Nelson)

I also attended the 3rd All Africa Environmental Health Congress in Durban in November, with great planning the SAIEH Board of Directors and its Committees attracted over 250 members for the 3 days; quality environmental health applied research and high quality practice papers presented and debated - good outcomes which will be followed up by Africa Group Chair Jerry and SAIEH President Selva and IFEH. So much progress to-date in Africa and I believe a positive future potential for EH practitioners.



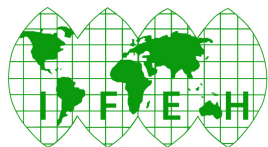
I'm really encouraged by the significant increase in members wanting to share their ideas and opinions at events and via email this year; not only initiating innovative World EH Day Events but debating the several important topics we discussed via email...let's keep working together in this mode but it's also important to meet annually face-to-face if we have time and appropriate budgets.

What's happening in 2013 - I'm attending the May 2013 IFEH Council Meeting and the AGM in Renfrew, Scotland. I hope you can all arrange your schedule to participate in this Council Meeting including the 2 day Scotland National Conference. So I hope to see you in Scotland in May 2013 111.

The IFEH Council, IFEH B.O.D. and Regional Group Minutes/activities and our modified IFEH Strategic Plan 2012 (thanks to Past President Rob Bradbury for accomplishing this important outcome during his Presidency) are posted on the www.ifeh.org website. I went to Denmark to visit Henning to discuss the website and plan our initiatives, I travelled also to the UK for IFEH meetings at our CIEH Headquarters in London (thanks Graham our CIEH Secretary for his support of IFEH) - I participated in a Ceremony that acknowledged the efforts of retired EH Practitioners.

I promoted IFEH in Mexico (working with universities and environmental managers about the emerging "green" economy) and in Brazil (for the UN Earth Summit plus 20), in Japan for WHO Healthy Cities meetings and visited EH Specialists in several regional cities across Indonesia. Henning also visited India promoting IFEH at OECD events. Stephen and Rod visited Croatia, Spain and Portugal developing our partnerships with the local associations.





International Federation of Environmental Health

Note the 2014 IFEH Global Environmental Health Congress is being hosted by NEHA in the Las Vegas - USA please visit our website...thanks to Nelson and Mel from NEHA. Please start preparing for this event and enhance our future partnerships.

Best wishes to all for 2013 and enjoy time with your families over the break. I'm having a few weeks holiday to enjoy the Queensland summer.



Dr Peter Davey PhD, President IFEH

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Convenor Master of Environment (Env Protection Major)

Convenor Bachelor of Science (Env Protection Major)

Professional Body Affiliations

President - International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH)

see <http://www.ifeh.org>

Director Int Research and Projects - Griffith University-CESDI-Centre for Sustainable Development for Indonesia see www.cesdi.net

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