**Dr Alan Nerwich**

**IFEA President’s Report 2024**

It has been an honour to serve as IFEA President for the past two years. As my presidency comes to an end, I reflect on my 12-year journey with IFEA, realizing that a presidency is defined by the legacy one leaves throughout their entire tenure.

When I first joined IFEA as the Oceania Regent in 2012, the organization was far from the digital organization it now is. Most business was conducted via post, bank cheques, and other analogue means. The leaders at the time had realized that many governance issues needed review.

As IFEA transitioned to a paperless organization, I was heavily involved in rewriting the WEC guidelines and updating our By-Laws.

During my time on the Executive Committee (EC), I realized that there was no legal protection for the Board of Directors (BOD) nor for the EC, and no formal contract arrangements for the World Endodontic Congress (WEC). Thankfully, we now have an insurance policy safeguarding our officers and a legal contract for the WEC.

Over this period, we initiated the use of a secretariat in India to assist with organizational matters and ensure smooth transitions within the BOD and EC. Our website has been updated and continues to improve, and we have established a social media presence on Facebook and YouTube.

However, the journey was not without challenges. Seven years ago, we lost contact with our treasurer, leading to significant financial difficulties. It took considerable dedication from our Executive Team to reorganize our accounts, regain access to our funds and implement systems to prevent such issues in the future.

Another major challenge was the COVID-19 pandemic, which occurred during Dr. Cathy Ricci's leadership. The WEC in India was postponed and eventually held as a highly successful online conference, thanks to the tremendous efforts of Dr. Gopi Krishna and the organizing team. This experience not only demonstrated our resilience but also strengthened our global communication and collaboration, enhancing IFEA's relevance and influence worldwide.

During my presidency, we introduced World Endodontic Day, celebrated annually on October 16th, to promote endodontics and the importance of saving teeth. This initiative, conceived by Dr. Gopi Krishna, was a resounding success, with over 68,000 views for the inaugural online symposium. We look forward to continuing this tradition.

As our membership has grown, we have revised the Global Regions and WEC bidding process to ensure all member societies have a fair opportunity to host the event. Throughout my tenure, I have attended six WECs—in Tokyo, Cape Town, Seoul, Chennai (Online), Santiago, and now Glasgow. Each WEC has been special in its own right, however, being the current IFEA president, I have been most involved with this WEC here in Glasgow.

Dr. Will Mclean, on behalf of the British Endodontic Society (BES), first bid for the WEC ten years ago, and now, the IFEA World Endodontic Congress in Glasgow has come to fruition. Will, the BES and the organizing committee have shown incredible commitment, effort, and energy in putting together this amazing WEC. I don’t recall ever seeing such an outstanding scientific program nor social program – Red Hot Chilli Peppers – REALLY? They have truly set a new standard for future WECs, and I congratulate them on this remarkable achievement.

It has been a pleasure working with the current BOD and EC, who are dedicated, intelligent, and committed to IFEA's goals. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to:

* Dr. Elisabetta Cotti as the new President of IFEA, has been an incredible and stylishly late team member, full of innovative ideas for IFEA's future. She worked tirelessly as treasurer during the difficult years. She is full of life and an exciting member of the EC. I look forward to being part of the EC during her presidency and wish her all the best as IFEA President.
* Dr. Cathy Ricci, our immediate past president, has been actively involved with IFEA since its inception. Her guidance and leadership have been invaluable, especially during the challenges with our treasurer and the COVID-19 pandemic. Cathy has been a remarkable role model with her experience and intelligence. Cathy and her wonderful French accent will be greatly missed.
* Dr. Gopi Krishna, our tireless and enthusiastic secretary, and the new president-elect of IFEA, has been instrumental in advancing IFEA with the secretariat, the website, social media, and of course, World Endodontic Day. Gopi can be credited with the amazing success of the IFEA WEC online congress in Chennai. He is a beacon of thought and ideas and I am looking forward to seeing what he will achieve in the future. IFEA is very fortunate to have Gopi on the EC.
* Dr. Patrick Taylor, our treasurer, has been invaluable in stabilizing our financial affairs and banking. As a past president of the AAE, Patrick has fostered and enhanced our close relationship with the AAE. Our financial affairs are now in very capable hands, and we can rest assured that this will continue under Patrick’s stewardship.

As we look to future-proof the organization, Dr. Patrick Taylor has kindly offered to take over as the Registered Agent of IFEA, with the support of the AAE, who have generously allowed us to use their mailing address for the management of our office. On behalf of IFEA, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation to Dr. Joe Maggio and his wife, Karen, who have tirelessly supported IFEA by managing the registered office in the USA for many years.

A big thank you to all members of the BOD, especially the Regents, for their dedication and effort in promoting IFEA and disseminating information to their regions, and to the chairs and members of the research and education committees for their contributions.

This year, we congratulate two successful candidates for the Jean Marie Laurichesse Research Award, and I would like to thank the members of the research committee for their diligent assessment of all the applications.

I am pleased to welcome Dr. Henry Kim as the new Secretary of IFEA, and Drs. Priscilla Ledezma and Garima Sharma as Regents for South America and Oceania, respectively.

With over 40 countries under our umbrella, we are excited to welcome new members, including Croatia, Malaysia, Taiwan and Saudi Arabia.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all member countries for their ongoing support. The global nature of IFEA is our strength, and I look forward to welcoming more members in the future.

I am confident that I am leaving the presidency with IFEA in a strong, stable, and vibrant state, poised for a bright future.

Faithfully submitted,

**Dr. Alan Nerwich**

*IFEA Oceania Regent 2012-2018*

*IFEA Secretary 2018-2020*

*IFEA President-Elect 2020-2022*

*IFEA President 2022-2024*