Our Vision

The WCCS is recognized for continually changing global consciousness. We achieve this through addressing education, legislation, healthcare reform and the understanding of chiropractic and its contribution to the optimal expression of human health and potential. The WCCS is positively influencing chiropractic globally by contributing to a united profession that honours diversity and acceptance. We achieve this through excellence and universal ambition, upholding the integrity of chiropractic students and the profession itself. The members of the WCCS are leaders of character who empower the human spirit both in others and in themselves. They hold true to their vision, act with intention, and continuously strive for self advancement. The financial abundance of the WCCS is enabled through opportunities that are congruent with our vision. This freedom allows us to serve and further support causes that have the power to change the world.

- Ratified 2011, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Table of Contents

Pg 3  President's Message
Pg 6  Africa Regional Update
Pg 7  Americas Regional Update
Pg 10 European Regional Update
Pg 11 Western Pacific Regional Update
Pg 13 Act4SDGs Campaign
Pg 14 MoU with IADS
Pg 15 European Regional Event Flier
Pg 16 Stay Connected
Hi and welcome to the September Quarterly Report.

Have you ever heard of Greta Thunberg? Whoever thinks that young people cannot make a difference, should look into this extraordinary young Swedish girl. In 2018, Greta Thunberg initiated a School Strike for Climate movement. She began with a sit-down protest outside of the Swedish Parliament and was quickly joined by other students. Soon after, roughly 1.5 million young people participated in a total of 2,083 events in 125 countries worldwide, all to request stricter environmental legislation against climate change. Last month, she refused to fly to the states to attend the UN Summit on zero emissions. Instead, she sailed from the UK to New York on a zero-carbon yacht, propelled by wind, with solar panels and water-driven generators for electricity, ‘to make a stand’ the 16-year old girl said. In Sweden they speak of the Greta-effect, where flight shaming has become a thing. Many celebrities refuse taking flights, to reduce their climate footprint. Above all, Thunberg has become a proactive force in putting pressure on the world’s leaders. If you haven’t seen her interviews and speeches, I highly recommend doing so. Her message is extremely vital and she is also incredibly funny.

If you would like some more inspiration, I’d also highly recommend to Google Boran Slat, who at age 16 invented a product that can clean the oceans from plastic. Dali and Fin Schonfelder, the kids of two chiropractors with a clothing company that helps children in developing countries to go to school. Or Malala Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel prize laureate ever, fighting for young people in war areas to have the ability to have an education. Young people are making a difference all around the world.

So, what is it the WCCS can do to make a bigger difference worldwide? We have a
rock-solid foundation in our internal affairs. The WCCS is and has been creating a platform for chiropractic students create leadership skills, learn about chiropractic worldwide, discuss healthcare and chiropractic related issues as well as advocate for spinal health since its start over 40 years ago. Many leaders in the chiropractic profession started their leadership journey as delegate at the WCCS AGM.

At the same time, the WCCS can do better and can make more of a difference in global healthcare. The WCCS has been attending the World Health Assembly for over 10 years. We have been in contact and building relationships with other student healthcare organizations for years. These are great achievements for the organization, however they are relatively small improvements over the many years, keeping us in a state of dependence. We are dependent on other organizations to attend the World Health Assembly and on other student healthcare organizations to decide if and when their members get to learn how and what chiropractic can contribute to global health.

The solution for the WCCS is to become a Non State Actor (NSA) in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHO’s primary focus is to direct international health within the United Nations’ system and to lead partners in global health responses. Having the focus of the WCCS on becoming an NSA, our finances, our mission, vision, values, actions, and our external affairs are all being thoroughly evaluated.

What would the WCCS look like if the application would be successful?

The WCCS would be the second chiropractic organization with this status, next to the World Federation of Chiropractic. It would take on a big responsibility, and should
probably add a board official to focus purely on WHO affairs. It would have the 
opportunity to send its own delegation to the World Health Assembly and advocate to 
member states of the UN, the decision making body of the WHO. It would be putting 
forward statements to the UN Member states about topics that the WHO puts on their 
provisional agenda. It would also be invited to attend the executive board meeting of 
the WHO each year in January. Becoming a Non State Actor would open countless 
doors and provide unlimited opportunities for the WCCS in the future.

In this process I would like to acknowledge the amount of work that has been done to 
get where we are today by our previous members and leadership. In the past two years 
we have hit two tremendous milestones, that greatly contribute towards our significant 
goals. We are a founding member and member of the steering committee of WHO’s 
Global Health Workforce Network’s Youth hub. This is mostly the work of Dr. Danielle 
Wiesner, who deserves all the credentials. Secondly, we have just signed our first ever 
Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association of Dental Students 
(IADS) making our partnership even more official (find more information on this 
further down in the QR). This has all been due to the fantastic work of the Director of 
External Affairs, Dr. Fraser McClymont.

I’m incredibly excited to see what this new collaboration is going to bring us, and to 
future work towards our application of becoming a Non State Actor in official 
relations with the World Health Organization.

Yours in chiropractic,

Naomi

Dr. Naomi van Veen
President
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The African Region has had a busy two months post 2019 AGM prepping and handing over for the new year. UJ had their Chiropractic Ball recently and their new executive team is made up of Tayla Wagner (Chair) and Brittany Madden (Secretary). The DUT chapter executive team is made up of Kesego Chika (Chair), Breigh Smith (Vice-Chair), Devin Chen (Treasurer) and Tamia Abrahams (Secretary).

Both chapters have been actively planning for World Spine Day as well as the #ACT4SDGs campaign. DUT has recently taken part in a Park Run and included a Straighten Up South Africa demonstration for the public. They plan on making this a monthly event!

Lebogang Khesa (Director of Internal Affairs) and myself were very glad to have had the opportunity to attend the Chiropractic Association of South Africa AGM 2019 held in Durban, RSA. The theme of the AGM was “Movement is Medicine” and included a range of talks and activities that fed into this theme, including a very relaxed yoga session and a very groovy Zumba session! The keynote speaker, Dr Corrie Myburgh (Assos. Prof. Univ. of Southern Denmark: Institute of Clinical Biomechanics), addressed making "movement is medicine" work for the chiropractic profession as well as covering frameworks for patient recovery and looking at what adds value to our practice as healthcare providers. Some highlights include: presentations by Dr Neil Cunninghame (M.Tech Chiropractic - RSA) who covered pain and how to approach the management of pain. Dr Yael Joffe (PHD RD FACN) educated us on the very interesting field of nutritional genomics and what challenges healthcare practitioners need to overcome to engage with it. We were able to learn so much and network and engage with our future colleagues. It was a wonderful congress to attend and we loved having the opportunity to represent the WCCS in front of 196 of our local chiropractors!
This time of the year is a very intense testing period for both African region chapters and so they may be a little less active over the next month. I’d like to take this opportunity to wish all the chapter members well as they prepare for their final examinations of the year. I can’t wait to see what you have planned for the next quarter!

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REGIONAL UPDATES
AMERICAS

Across the America’s region, chapters are actively preparing for finals or beginning the new quarter/trimester. As a region, the chapters have been very active on recent regional calls, primarily focused on keeping up to date with the WCCS and also brainstorming for upcoming events. Primarily, the head delegates have been working together to improve their World Spine Day events at their respective campus. Collectively, the chapters were inspired by the entire week of awesome activities the South African region hosted last year. The Americia’s region is dedicated to showing the world that we are actively participating in global health initiatives.

Every quarter, we will highlight a few chapters in our region. This quarter we are highlighting the chapters at Southern California University of Health Sciences and Parker University! If you would like to know more about their activities, connect with them!

Southern California University of Health Sciences:

SCUHS is starting off the term partnering with R2P with a pilates event with two guest speakers and free tacos to pull in the new students. Former MLB player Ryan Kalish who has gone under 13 surgeries throughout his career chose to study pilates post MLB to rehab his body. Kalish will be teaching a mat class and Samantha Wood, MPT, who wrote the book on “Pilates for Injuries” and teaches pilates for athletes, chronic pain syndromes/injuries and pathologies will be speaking to her experience working with pro athletes and integrating pilates into a clinical setting alongside Ryan’s experiences.

Also, SCUHS is gearing up for their second annual Mr. SCU pageant. There is already a lot more interest this year! The pageant was their biggest fundraiser last year and they are hoping to double the success.
Parker University:

Parker’s chapter is actively promoting unity with their implementation of club collaboration events throughout campus. By including and involving other clubs and their leadership with our WCCS mission-centered events, Parker is visibly taking action steps toward the unity of their students with respect to the diverse groups on campus. They have several events planned and speakers lined up promoting leadership development and international chiropractic perspectives. The Parker chapter has seen significant growth since AGM, and is continuing to grow and expand both with members and experience.

Moving forward, efforts are being made by both Regional Coordinators to approach more schools within the Americas Region. The purpose of these actions is to continue spreading the word about WCCS and giving all chiropractic students a voice within our profession.

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After enjoying almost three months of summer break, all the European Schools are ready to start another academic year. Many chapters will have elections for their board soon but in the meanwhile they are working on planning presentations of WCCS to the new students at their respective universities.

The main focuses at the moment are the Sustainable Development Goals - Week of Actions and World Spine Day. All the chapters are planning actions for these two events in order to increase awareness and give visibility to WCCS at their schools and local communities.

After the controversy regarding the European Regional Event, I am very happy to share that all the chapters are getting very excited to attend. Jakob Dersch and his team at the University of Southern Denmark (SDU), in Odense, Denmark, have done an incredible job to prepare this event and I cannot wait to see all the European Chapters at SDU from the 29th of November till the 1st of December. Registration is open and I invite you all to keep an eye on the Event Facebook Page for more details!

Looking forward to see you all soon at the Regional Event!

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There has been lots of action happening in the Western Pacific region!

First off we would like to congratulate both Izak Geddes from Murdoch, and Kellen Jenner from CQU Mackay for being elected as presidents of their respective chapters.

Here is what’s happening with our chapters:

**RMIT**: Had a very successful Jumper sale, having to order a second round once the first sold out. They also had a post AGM informational session, which led to the chapter growing with new active members signing on. Currently they are planning to do a sausage sizzle with a local hardware company and prepping for World Spine Day.

**Murdoch**: Is coming off of a very successful quiz night which had students and local chiropractors battling wits. The presence of the practicing docs was a highlight as it allowed for students to socialize with those in the field and ask questions. Izak is very proud of the event his team put together, making sure everyone had a great time!

**CQU Mackay**: Recently had a speakers night with 3 great speakers, including Dr. Gary Gray, Brayden Smith, and Dr. David Stransky. The event was very intimate, allowing for great participation, networking and learning. CQU is also planning to participate in the Worlds greatest shave for leukemia research. They are currently organizing chiropractic education information sessions in rural towns dominated by industries such as mining, to spread the word of chiropractic and to show high school students the opportunity chiropractic provides to give back to their community.

**Macquarie**: Had the opportunity to have a club stall featured at Macquarie’s club day, allowing for great exposure in their program! They are gearing up for WSD and planning other fundraisers in the future, once they hold chapter elections in October.

**NZCC**: Hosted a very successful Trivia night with around 200 pre-chiros, students,
Regional updates Western Pacific

Lecturers and mentors present. They also hosted a “Dinner with Docs” event prior to the NZCC Lyceum in which Dr. Bettina Tornatora, Dr. Jim Karagiannis, Dr. Monique Andrews and Dr. Tamara MacIntyre sat down with students for a Q&A session after the dinner. The event was capped off by a surprise appearance from Dr. Patrick Sim, who is the president of the newest school to open in the Western Pacific region, the Australian Chiropractic College, which will have its first cohort launch in 2020!

All the chapters are also looking forward to participating in World Spine Day on October 16th, with a wide variety of outreach and educational events planned!

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THE WCCS IS PARTICIPATING IN THE UNITED NATION'S GLOBAL WEEK TO "ACT4SDGS"

This campaign is part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the UN Member States in 2015. It is a call for a global partnership among countries to achieve 17 goals focusing on improving quality of life, healthcare, and education, while reducing inequalities, ending poverty and spurring economic growth, and taking action against climate change.

How are we participating?

WCCS chapters are tackling Goal #3: Good Health and Well-Being. Through their own unique initiatives, our chapters are participating in initiatives that aim to achieve Good Health and Well-Being in their communities, and will be sharing their actions on social media for the world to see.

WCCS regional coordinators have challenged chiropractic organizations and institutions all over the world to join the movement as well. It is our goal as an organization of global youth healthcare leaders to be part of creating a better, healthier, and more sustainable world for generations to come.

For more information regarding our involvement in this campaign, contact:

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QUARTERLY REPORT | SEPTEMBER 2019
WCCS SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL STUDENTS

The 1st of September marked a momentous day for the World Congress of Chiropractic Students (WCCS) as they signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Association of Dental Students (IADS). The IADS is a non governmental organisation which represents 200’000 dental students worldwide in 68 countries. The IADS strives for educational and scientific excellence in dentistry through the international projects and initiatives they manage. The WCCS and the IADS have a history of collaboration through shared involvement in the Global Health Workforce Network Youth Hub, and in addition the two groups have a shared interest in the further promotion interdisciplinary care and education.

The MoU focusses heavily on sharing educational resources and opportunities, cooperation in healthcare campaigns and collaboration on capacity building. The IADS and WCCS also hopes the MoU can spark local members of the respective student organisations to collaborate on campaigns at a chapter and regional level. The signing was well-timed, as both groups are looking forward to promoting the #act4SDG’s global campaign. Both groups are looking forward collaborating in promoting and advocating for spinal and dental health for all.

Dr. Fraser McClymont
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