



International Pharmaceutical  
Students' Federation  
Information Booklet 2006-2007

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# IPSF IS FOR YOU, THE WORLD IS YOURS

## WORDS OF WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

### **DEAR FRIENDS IN PHARMACY**

I am most honoured to take this fantastic opportunity to introduce you to the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF). My name is Mohamed Atef from Egypt and I am the IPSF Chairperson of Public Relations. IPSF is the student organisation that you have dreamt of millions of times before. If you don't believe me, just become our member and you will see.



IPSF is all that a pharmacy student or young pharmacist could ask for. It is an endless pool of enthusiasm and diverse cultural exchange with a mixture of educational opportunities and the chance to shape and change the world of pharmacy from your home country! IPSF will surpass your expectations of a student organisation.

Pharmacy is a profession that is ever-evolving to adapt to the rapid changes in this technological age, where modernisation and globalisation has become an integral part of our lives. Hence pharmacists must constantly strive to continuously develop our profession on a daily basis in concordance with current healthcare requirements and practices. It is therefore our responsibility as pharmacy students and young pharmacists to keep up with the pace of the world and IPSF is one such avenue through which this can be achieved.

IPSF was founded in London, United Kingdom in 1949 and has remained that important link in the chain of intertwining pharmacy students across the globe, encouraging them to share their **ideas** and **experiences** while **embracing** change and maintaining life-long **friendships**. It is a non-political, non-governmental, non-profit and non-religious organisation with its headquarters in The Netherlands. It is the leading international advocacy organisation for pharmacy students, promoting improved public health through provision of information, education, networking and a range of publications and professional initiatives.

This handbook provides a resource for answering all of your questions about IPSF, and the many opportunities that await you. It outlines the aims and objectives of the Federation and gives you a closer look at projects that are giving pharmacy students world-wide the opportunity to grow as professionals and individuals. It also highlights information on professional development and education, and outlines in detail how to become a member of the Federation.

This is your opportunity to be a part of a fantastic organisation and by doing so, meet pharmacy friends worldwide, gain exposure to multitudes of cultures, travel the globe and move forward in the lifelong process of becoming a well rounded professional.

Remember, wherever you are, IPSF IS!

Yours in IPSF,  
Mohamed Atef (pr@ipsf.org)  
IPSF Chairperson of Public Relations 2006-2007

IPSF is the leading international advocacy organisation for pharmacy students, promoting improved public health through provision of information, education, networking and a range of publications and professional initiatives.



The **specific objectives** of the Federation are:

1. To establish a permanent form of contact with representative organisations of pharmaceutical students and to promote the exchange of ideas by international correspondence and by encouraging full dissemination of scientific and professional knowledge.
2. To encourage the formation and development of national pharmaceutical student organisations without trespassing upon their domains.
3. To maintain Official Relations status and to collaborate on joint initiatives with the World Health Organization (WHO).
4. To maintain Operational Relations status and to collaborate on appropriate initiatives with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).
5. To maintain Roster Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.
6. To collect opinions and information on the subject of pharmaceutical education and suggest improvements where necessary with the aim of attaining equivalence in standards of pharmaceutical education.
7. To collaborate and publish joint statements with other professional pharmaceutical bodies and international student organisations on an educational, scientific, and cultural plane.
8. To encourage and promote international student mobility.
9. To establish pharmaceutical student-managed public health campaigns globally.
10. To publish the IPSF News Bulletin and Phuture, an annual scientific supplement and to distribute fortnightly newsletters.
11. To represent the opinions of pharmaceutical students in discussions with professional

# Public Health Projects

## TOBACCO ALERT CAMPAIGN

Following in the footsteps of the World Health Organization which selected smoking as one of its main targets for action, IPSF decided to implement a campaign which aims to promote the role of pharmacists in the management of tobacco cessation and tobacco control, as well as educate pharmacy students to be role models for a healthy lifestyle.



IPSF's Tobacco Alert Campaign has grown to be one of the most popular initiatives of the Federation.

IPSF developed a Code of Practice on Tobacco Control to encourage member associations to take more active roles in promoting a tobacco-free world.

World No Tobacco Day on May 31<sup>st</sup> each year is an important date in the IPSF calendar.



## HIV/AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The number of individuals infected with HIV/AIDS has reached epidemic proportions across growing parts of the globe. Lack of awareness and education, limited resources, difficulty in access to medications and widespread misconceptions about this virus are all contributing factors in the spread and difficulty in the management of the disease.

With these facts in mind, IPSF created the HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign, which is a framework for assisting pharmacy students worldwide to encourage the fight against HIV/AIDS. This campaign does not only provide knowledge to target groups but, as a true public health campaign, it addresses attitudes and beliefs and focuses on cultivating the skills of pharmacy students and practitioners so that they may positively impact the health of those affected by HIV/AIDS. IPSF encourages all of its members to take every opportunity to increase awareness and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

IPSF encourages and supports its members to run campaigns on December 1<sup>st</sup>, in recognition of World AIDS Day and carry out activities for this important public health campaign throughout the year.

## TB CAMPAIGN

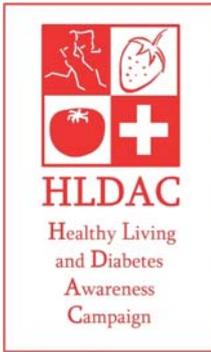
Tuberculosis (TB) is an incredibly widespread disease and is becoming increasingly relevant to many countries worldwide.

The goals of the IPSF TB campaign are to improve the public's knowledge about TB, while developing skills as pharmacy students and young pharmacists that help to develop greater understanding and knowledge of TB prevention, care and management.

In May 2004, IPSF became the first professional organisation representing pharmacists or pharmacy students to be admitted to the Stop TB Partnership. Through our TB campaigns, IPSF promotes and supports the Global Plan of the Stop TB Partnership 2006-2015: *Actions for Life – Towards a World Free of Tuberculosis*.

IPSF celebrates World TB Day on March 24<sup>th</sup> each year.

## HEALTHY LIVING AND DIABETES CAMPAIGN



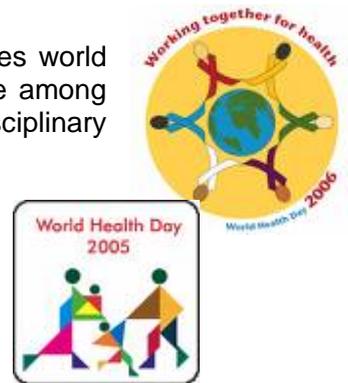
The Healthy Living and Diabetes Campaign, launched in August 2005, is one of IPSF's newest campaigns. It aims to raise awareness of a healthy lifestyle in the prevention and care of diabetes and to encourage pro-active rather than reactive health promotion. The objectives also include training and motivating pharmacy students to move towards multi-disciplinary collaboration in planning events and campaigns while bringing awareness to a globally significant issue.

World Diabetes Day is marked on November 14<sup>th</sup> each each, with IPSF members paying particular attention to the specific theme of each year's campaign – focussing on a specific health-related aspect of diabetes.

## WORLD HEALTH DAY

In addition to the official public Health Campaigns, IPSF actively promotes world Health Day on April 7<sup>th</sup> each year, raising awareness of a chosen theme among both pharmacy students and pharmacists, as part of the multi-disciplinary healthcare team.

IPSF believes that pharmacy students and young pharmacists are in a unique position to positively influence young people to adopt healthy lifestyles. As members of the multi-disciplinary healthcare team, it is not only our responsibility, but also our privilege to help prevent the spread of diseases and be reactive in their prevention.



# Pharmacy Education and Practice Projects

IPSF recognises that education plays an extremely important role in preparing pharmacy students for practice and other professional activities. Hence IPSF is committed to ensuring quality pharmacy education. The Federation strives to provide pharmacy students around the globe with avenues to broaden their knowledge base. In addition, professional development initiatives in IPSF advocate and promote the role of the pharmacist as an integral member of the health professional team. Activities aim to encourage the development of core skills required by pharmacists to optimise health outcomes.

## ***Moving On* RESEARCH**

*Moving On* is a series of original, questionnaire-based research projects on issues relevant to the profession and education that IPSF conducts on an international scale. Apart from addressing pertinent issues in pharmacy education, the projects are a platform for pharmacy students to be engaged in scientific research and for student-led advancement of pharmacy education worldwide. Project findings will be published in academic media. The following topics have been addressed so far

- Moving On I – Academic Mobility
- Moving On II – Pharmacy Curricula, Student Learning Experience and Quality of Education
- Moving On III – Emerging Pharmacists and their Intention to Migrate

## **TRAINING**

Training is a leadership and capacity-building programme which provides students the avenue to acquire and develop essential knowledge and skills that may not be explicitly taught in pharmacy curricula. It is conducted in an interactive, cascade manner. Professional trainers train IPSF leaders in a variety of topics such as leadership styles, presentation skills, group dynamics, project development etc in small group workshops. These trained leaders then organise training sessions for IPSF members at international, regional and local levels.



## **PHARMACY PROFESSION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

Although important to healthcare, it is a challenge for the pharmacy profession to communicate effectively to the public about the role, scope and importance of the profession. Pharmacy students are the pharmacists of tomorrow. They are the future leaders of the profession and can be key players in increasing awareness and changing attitudes towards the pharmacy profession. Through the Pharmacy Profession Awareness Campaign (PPAC), IPSF aims to make pharmacy a more recognisable profession.



## **PATIENT COUNSELLING AND CLINICAL SKILLS**

IPSF believes that communication skills and clinical knowledge should be core components of pharmacy curricula worldwide to improve medication management for patients. Patient Counselling Events and Clinical Skills Events are organised on international and local levels to promote the role of a pharmacist in patient care.

Patient Counselling Events demonstrate and promote the importance of communication skills in drug therapy and disease management. Clinical Skills Events

are designed to test and develop pharmaceutical knowledge as well as problem solving, verbal and written communication and clinical skills. Such events are conducted in fun and competitive environments.

IPSF teamed up with the FIP Pharmacy Information Section to jointly produce a booklet on patient counselling - *Counselling, Concordance, and Communication: Innovative Education for Pharmacists*. It provides an overview of patient counselling, demonstrates how patient counselling works and provides insight into the mechanisms of hosting your own event. The booklet is available electronically on [www.ipsf.org](http://www.ipsf.org).

## IPSF AT FIP CONGRESS

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) and IPSF collaborate on a Students' Day programme held each year at the annual FIP congress. The programme is based on a particular theme that is deemed timely and of interest to pharmacy students. It is an opportunity for pharmacy students and young pharmacists to meet with colleagues from other countries and to interact with pharmacy practitioners.



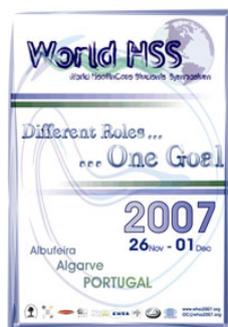
In addition, IPSF also holds joint sessions with individual FIP sections (e.g. Pharmacy Information and Academic Pharmacy). Members who register with IPSF are entitled to attend the congress at reduced fees.

## INTERNSHIPS

IPSF has successfully negotiated for internship places at the Stop TB Secretariat and at the World Health Organization (WHO) Department of Medicines Policy and Standards in Geneva, Switzerland. Through these, IPSF members are given the opportunity to broaden their experiences and to gain an invaluable insight into the public health sector.



Internship places are also available at the IPSF Secretariat. Members are selected to spend one month in The Hague assisting the Executive Committee in the running of the Federation, allowing them to experience work at the heart of a global health organisation



## WORLD HEALTHCARE STUDENTS' SYMPOSIUM

Acknowledging the need for the various healthcare disciplines to work together for the benefit of the patient and the profession, IPSF has been collaborating with the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA).

In November 2005, the 1<sup>st</sup> World Medical and Pharmacy Students (WorldMaPS) Symposium was held in Saint John's Bay, Malta. At this largest ever international meeting between pharmacy and medical students, future cooperation between both healthcare professions and students were discussed. A Statement of Beliefs on interdisciplinary collaboration was developed. A Memorandum of Understanding between IPSF and IFMSA was signed in August 2006. The 2<sup>nd</sup> World Healthcare Students' Symposium (WorldHSS) will be held in November 2007 in Albufeira, Portugal and will also involve the International Nursing Student Network.

# Other Activities

## GOING ACROSS THE GLOBE, STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME TOUCHING LIVES

The IPSF Student Exchange Programme (SEP) allows pharmacy students and young pharmacists to experience pharmacy practice in another country. Participants have the opportunity to experience first-hand the way pharmacy works in another country, meet with pharmacy students from different places and exchange ideas and information.



Student exchanges run throughout the year, but most exchanges take place between May and September. The length of exchanges can be one to three months and students may select from host sites in community, hospital, industrial and university-based pharmacy settings. Information about countries participating in the Student Exchange Programme is available at the website [www.ipsf.org](http://www.ipsf.org). Applications are filled in and then viewed by Student Exchange Officers online in the Student Exchange Database. Room is often provided by the host, while board, travel expenses and insurance are usually the responsibility of the student.

## IPSF PUBLICATIONS

The main publication of the Federation is the **IPSF News Bulletin**, which is circulated yearly. Students and recent graduates write articles that are published in the News Bulletin from member and non-member organisations. Members thus have an opportunity to share their thoughts, ideals and experiences with the rest of the pharmacy world. The IPSF News Bulletin is a medium for information about current student events and activities and expresses the members' opinions on current topics of pharmaceutical interest. It has a global circulation of approximately 3000 copies.



A supplement on a specific scientific topic, **Phuture**, is published each year. It includes opinions from different health professionals and students around the world. IPSF also contributes with articles to the International Pharmacy Journal (IPJ), published by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), and to organisations and journals interested in the future of pharmacy.

## DEVELOPMENT FUND



IPSF has not only been interested in promoting membership in developing countries, but it has also shown concern for the material needs of pharmacy students in these countries. The Development Fund program was established in 1969, based on a suggestion by Swedish pharmacy students. Every year since its establishment, support has been given to several students to enable them to attend the annual IPSF Congress or participate in other IPSF activities. The Development Fund is also available to assist member organisations from developing countries to pay their membership dues and get funding for their projects and campaigns.

## IPSF ANNUAL WORLD CONGRESS

The focal point of IPSF activities is a 10 day-congress held in a different country each year. The congress aims to provide an international forum for the review and discussion of all subjects, which may advance the objectives of the Federation and those of pharmacy students throughout the world. It is also an ideal opportunity to improve relations between countries, student organisations and individual students. The next IPSF Congress will be held in Taipei, Taiwan, China in August 2007. The programme includes:



52nd IPSF World Congress - JCU, Cairns Australia 2006

- **General Assembly (GA):** Reports, policy statements and future IPSF Projects are discussed and voted upon by Full Member organisations. Elections for the Executive Committee for the following year are held. All official delegates must attend the GAs.
- **Scientific Symposium and Poster Exhibition:** A full day event, where guest speakers address the audience on aspects of a specific topic, followed by a discussion involving the congress participants and their views. Congress participants can submit posters relevant to the symposium topic.
- **Patient Counselling Event:** A patient counselling event has been held annually on an international level since 1989. Participants are given a "pharmacy scenario" and after 10 minutes reading time, they must counsel the patient on all aspects of the prescription and determine the underlying situation. The event is videotaped and the student is evaluated on competence and communication skills. All are encouraged to participate and learn from this educational experience.



- **Workshops:** Small discussion groups to investigate areas of pharmaceutical interest. Topics usually include the future of the federation and public health.
- **Development Fund (DF) Auction:** This fund is used to help students from developing countries participate in IPSF activities. Money is collected from an auction of donated gifts that participants bring from their home countries. The DF Auction is held at the IPSF Congress each year.
- **Education Forum:** The Education Forum is a full day event where international guest speakers present on a topic connected to pharmacy education and run workshops to generate ideas and stimulate discussion.



- **Social activities:** The Reception Committee of the host organisation has the responsibility of keeping the participants entertained while they get better acquainted. Activities usually include a Traditional Night, an International Evening and a Congress Ball/Gala.

## MEMBERSHIP



### STUDENT ORGANISATIONS

- **Full Member (FM):** Full Membership may be granted to national representative organisations of pharmaceutical students. A national representative organisation is one which represents pharmaceutical students from the majority of schools of pharmacy in a specified nation, a nation being a community of people having a government which is recognised by the United Nations.
- **Member in Association (MiA):** Any other pharmaceutical student organisation may be granted Membership in Association.

#### 1. PRIVILEGES OF FM AND MiA

> Full Members and Members in Association enjoy the following privileges:

- Participation in the Student Exchange Programme
- Applying for Development Fund Grants
- Participation in professional development, educational and public health Programmes
- Receiving reports activities
- Receiving regular publications and information about the Federation

> Full Members have the following privileges:

- Forwarding motions at General Assemblies
- Voting at General Assemblies

#### 2. DUTIES OF FMs AND MiAs

The duties of Full Members and Members in Association are to:

- Appoint a committee or a Contact Person to be in charge of the IPSF affairs.
- Work within the framework of the organisation, the decisions of the General Assembly and Executive Committee.
- Keep the Executive Committee informed of the proceedings and activities of the organisation.
- Provide the Executive Committee with all information required as deemed necessary by the Federation
- Appoint official delegates to the annual General Assembly and to complete the official credential forms.
- Pay the annual IPSF membership fee.
- Carefully study the IPSF Official Documents.
- Appoint a Student Exchange officer, who shall maintain an effective and speedy co-operation with the member organisations concerned.

## **INDIVIDUALS**

Individuals wishing to become members of the Federation can apply to become either an Individual Member or a Friend of the Federation:

- **Individual Member (IM):** Pharmaceutical students and pharmacy graduates, up to four years after graduating from their first degree in pharmacy, who wish to actively participate in the activities of IPSF, may become an IM.
- **Friends of the Federation (FoF):** Any person, who wishes to support and advance the aims of the Federation both morally and financially, may become an IPSF FoF.

## **PRIVILEGES**

Both IM and FoF enjoy the following privileges:

- Participation in the annual IPSF Congress
- Speaking rights at General Assemblies
- Regular publications and information about the Federation

IMs can also apply for Development Fund Grants.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ORGANISATIONS**

- A. Application for membership shall be made on the official membership application form. This form can be found in Appendix 1, and is also available upon request from the Secretary General or the Chairperson of Public Relations.
- B. The President or Chairman and two officers of the applying organisation must sign the application forms for FM and MiA.
- C. When the application has been received by the Secretary General, the **first membership fee is to be paid to the IPSF Treasurer.**
- D. **FM and MiA application forms must be submitted to the Secretary General at least two months before the IPSF Congress.**

**MEMBERSHIP FEES (FM and MiA)** – according to the IPSF Constitution.

FM and MiA must pay an annual fee. This fee depends on the membership status (FM or MiA), the number of pharmacy students represented in the organisation and the Gross National Income per capita (GNIPC) figures of their nation. To obtain a quotation for your organisation, please contact the IPSF Secretariat.

## **2. ADMISSION OF IM AND FoF**

- A. Application for membership shall be made on the official membership application form. This form can be found in Appendix 2 (IM) and Appendix 3 (FoF), and is also available upon request from IPSF Secretariat.
- B. Individual Membership and Friends of the Federation become effective upon receipt of the **appropriate membership fee and a completed application form.**