

Scientific Committee Report

2019 - 2022 Term

Chair: Dr. Catherine Waldron

Members of the Committee

1. Dr. Sharon Compton Canada
2. Dr. Melanie Hayes Australia
3. Ms. Susan Johnston Ireland
4. Dr. Kyung Mi Kim, South Korea
5. Prof. Kerstin Öhrn Sweden
6. Dr. Catherine Waldron, Ireland

Plans for the 2019 – 2022 Term

- To develop a diverse and interesting programme for the ISDH2022
- To invite a selection of speakers to present, within the Scientific Committee budget.
- To develop the criteria for the Oral and Poster abstracts, to gather a team of reviewers to assess these abstracts and a rubric to provide transparency in this process.
- To review the abstracts presentations from proposed sponsored speakers
- To achieve accreditation for the ISDH2022 programme
- To invite and assign chairpersons to chair the individual programme sessions.
- To consider the development of awards for the Posters
- Set up criteria for the awards, a rubric for transparent grading of the posters and judging panels for these awards.
- To develop a suitable survey and undertake evaluation of the Scientific Programme (in conjunction with evaluation of the ISDH2022 process).
- Develop a CPD certificate
- Organise acknowledgement certificates for all speakers (may be hard copy or electronic).
- To keep all members of the Scientific Committee informed of progress or alterations to these plans.
- To report to the Board at regular intervals leading up to the Symposium.
- To provide any information requested by the Board in a timely manner.

Actions taken / completed

A diverse programme made up of invited speakers, sponsored speakers and submitted oral and poster presentations has been developed. A total of 12 speakers were invited to speak within the Scientific Committee budget, eleven of these in the Symposium programme and one in the Global Oral Health Summit.

Eight speakers were invited based on their international reputation and research topics of interest to dental hygienists, from Canada (1) Ireland (1), the United Kingdom (3), and the United States of America (3). Two speakers from the USA will present jointly and paid their own flights.

For the first time we invited the DH association members of EFDH to nominate a speaker from their countries. These nominees submitted abstracts which were judged by a panel made up of members of the Scientific and Local Committee. A total of 10 countries submitted 15 abstracts, of which three were invited to present (Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland). The two speakers from Sweden will present jointly. The invitation to nominate speakers was limited to the EFDH for budgetary reasons.

The committee opted to limit the oral presentations of submitted abstracts to 30- and 15-minute presentations, similar to formats used by the International Association of Dental Research. This allows a diverse range of topics and provides opportunities for early career researchers to present their research.

We will welcome feedback on both these initiatives and will seek feedback in the evaluation survey.

A total of 158 submitted abstracts were accepted, 80 posters, 57 15-minute oral presentations and 21 30-minute presentations.

We engaged with The Association for Dental Education in Europe in relation to the accreditation of the Symposium, they were extremely pleasant and efficient to work with, and provided a comprehensive report in a timely manner confirming that ISDH 2022 is a peer reviewed event and attendance equates to 16 hours CPD or ECEC(d).

No sponsorship was received for awards, this I believe was due in part to the late withdrawal of Sunstar who had a precedence as a major award sponsor for several symposia. We have proceeded with selecting 35 posters for consideration for awards, although there will be no financial element to these awards. The 35 posters were chosen based on their grading in the abstract submission process, all scored higher than 20/30. They will be judged under the three submission categories of "Systematic Review", "Innovations in research methodology, education or clinical practice" and "New Research".

Chairpersons have been invited and assigned to their sessions, they will be sent the abstracts and biographies relating to their roles in the next week. The judges have been invited and assigned to their selection of posters. They have been sent the relevant abstracts and the rubric to grade the posters.

The CPD certificate and the Evaluation Survey have been developed.

The Scientific Committee worked well together, we communicated mostly through email, and this worked well. There was limited engagement from the Korean committee member, they were always included in emails. At the request of the Board, I have undertaken to provide them with an overview of the plans and timeframes used to support them when organising their own symposium in 2024.

I have attended all Local and Board meetings and provide verbal reports at these meetings.

As of the 25th of July, the following plans are outstanding:

- Send the oral abstracts and biographies to the chairpersons for each session
- Send the link for the evaluation survey once the Symposium is over. This will generate the CPD certificate once completed.
- Provide acknowledgement certificates for all speakers

Final Comments

I am extremely grateful to the members of the Scientific Committee who have worked tirelessly and responded promptly to all my emails and requests over the three years.

The individual members of IFDH are a friendly and enthusiastic group of dedicated dental hygienists. Without exception, everyone I asked to take up a role accepted it willingly. It has been a pleasure to be chairperson of this committee.



Dr. Catherine Waldron