

# Quarterly World Report

JANUARY 2019



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- WFC unveils strategic plan 2019-2022
- WFC ACC Education Conference report
- WFC World Spine Day competition winners
- WFC ECU 2019 Congress update



News from the WFC  
World News  
Research News  
Education News  
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# A clear direction for the WFC

Dr Laurie Tassell, WFC President

In 1987 I attended my first Parker Seminar in Dallas Texas along with 4000 other Chiropractors. At this event I had the privilege of meeting with some of the great characters of our profession. Men and women who had a profound impact on both the chiropractic profession and my life as a chiropractor

These people had a deep seated passion for and commitment to chiropractic. Some had even spent time in jail to defend chiropractors' rights to practice. I met with legendary figures such as Jim Parker, Fred Barge, Vern Pierce and Sid Williams - colorful characters but intensely passionate chiropractors that had a deep-seated belief that chiropractic had the potential to change people's lives.

I was fortunate to meet George McAndrews and David Chapman-Smith, two lawyers who fought for and successfully defended our profession. The New Zealand inquiry and the Wilk case were defining moments in the history of chiropractic. These were people I admired and to whom I felt a great sense of gratitude.

The passion for our profession I gained from these people is something that has never left me and I remain deeply respectful of their place in history.

I have never regretted the cost of attending this seminar so early in my career. It was an investment in my future.

That was over 30 years ago. So much has changed in our

*"The New Zealand Inquiry and the Wilk case were defining moments in our profession."*



profession since that time. Chiropractic is now truly global. We have a whole new generation of influential leaders who are no less passionate about chiropractic and its place in the health care system of the twenty first century.

Research, registration and regulation, public scrutiny and university-based training are all

## OUR PEOPLE

### WFC COUNCIL:

Laurie Tassell (President)	Pacific Region
Vivian Kil (First VP)	European Region
Michele Maiers (Second VP)	North American Region
Kei Takeyachi (Secretary-Treasurer)	Asian Region
Espen Johannessen (Past President)	European Region
Musimbi Odeko	African Region
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John Maltby	North American Region
Greg Stewart	North American Region
Corrian Poelsma	Pacific Region

### RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Greg Kawchuk DC, PhD (Chair)	Canada
Christine Goertz DC, PhD (Vice Chair)	USA

### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Currently vacant

### DISABILITY & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

Pierre Côté DC, PhD (Chair)	Canada
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### SECRETARIAT

Richard Brown DC, LL.M (Secretary General)  
Khalid Salim, Sarah Villarba

## A clear direction for the WFC (continued)

influencing the practice of chiropractic. Passion and belief alone are no longer sufficient on their own to move the profession towards global acceptance and utilization.

Later this year in Berlin there is a unique opportunity to mix with and listen to some of today's chiropractic heroes. Individuals who are no less deeply committed to our profession and its place in the health care system. Like our forefathers, these are people for whom I have a deep respect.

While in no way has my passion and belief in the power of chiropractic to change people's lives been diminished, today's leaders have challenged

*"Over the past 18 months, WFC Council has been working to develop a strategy based on four key pillars: support, empowerment, promotion and advancement"*

me to broaden my view of the future of our profession and the importance of concepts such as evidence based and collaborative care.

These individuals have a similarly deep seated passion for our profession as those I met in 1987 and are positively influencing our profession through their leadership.

Clarity of direction and vision is critical for any organization. Over the past 18 months WFC Council has been working to develop a strategy for the next three years. This strategy will focus around four key pillars: support, empowerment, promotion and advancement.

In developing this strategy, Council has been cognizant of the transformation taking place in global health, as a consequence of demographic shifts, advances in technology and an informed public. It has been mindful of the expectations of patients as shared decision-makers and as consumers of health care in a marketplace where choices exist. And it has been careful to prioritize key areas for development where chiropractors can maximize opportunities at a time where low back pain continues to be the leading global cause of years lived with disability.

The global nature of the WFC is such that social determinants of health will vary across our seven world regions. Social, political, environmental and economic differences will impact on access to

chiropractic and persisting inequities mean that in many parts of the work populations have no access to any health services.

*"Our WFC Strategy 2019-2022 has sought to be applicable to our entire global community."*

Our WFC strategy 2019-2022 has therefore sought to be applicable to our entire global community. We will advocate for the rights of chiropractors to practice free of persecution and for the rights of patients to access care that will enable them to live happier, healthier and more active lives.

In Berlin, at our Congress being jointly held with the ECU, our theme will be EPIC2019: Global Opportunities in Spine Care. The focus of the Congress will focus on and celebrate how far the profession has come, where it's at, but critically, where it must go in the years ahead.

We have a host of chiropractic ambassadors as keynote speakers, including Professors Jan Hartvigsen, Greg Kawchuk and Pierre Côté, as well as inspiring presenters from outside the profession. With interactive workshops, hands-on technique and the latest research being showcased in platform and poster presentations, this is an event that no chiropractor can afford to miss.

As we start another year, we must be clear about where our biggest strengths and opportunities lie. As spine care experts, chiropractors can play a key role in the delivery of evidence-based, patients-centered care, working alongside other health professionals in partnership with our patients and the public.

We must also be clear about the leadership role that the WFC will play in matters of research, public health and disability and rehabilitation. We have three outstanding committees comprised of experts to guide Council and their wise counsel will greatly assist in the development of informed positions on key issues relevant to the chiropractic profession.

As I close, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy, healthy and successful 2019. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Berlin. **LT.**

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# Why success will follow a commitment to #BeEPIC

Over the past months many of you who follow the WFC on social media will have seen the hashtag #BeEPIC. You will also know that the joint WFC / ECU Congress, taking place in March in Berlin, is titled *EPIC2019: Global Opportunities in Spine Care*. Why so much fuss about EPIC?

EPIC stands for evidence-based, patient-centered, interprofessional and collaborative care and the WFC has committed to promoting EPIC as the standard of practice in chiropractic. We see EPIC as an approach that can be embraced right across the chiropractic spectrum irrespective of what technique is used or what part of the world you practice. In short, we're calling on all chiropractors to #BeEPIC.

**Evidence-based:** we believe it is every chiropractor's responsibility to commit to an evidence-based approach to chiropractic practice. Judicious use of the best available scientific evidence, clinical experience and acknowledging patient preferences and beliefs are the three components that contribute to the individualized care of patients. This goes hand in hand with every chiropractor's responsibility to stay current and commit to lifelong learning, being prepared to modify their practice when compelling new evidence emerges.

**Patient-centered:** putting patients at the heart of everything we do, every time, will ensure that patients' interests are best served.

**Interprofessional:** working with other health professionals as part of an integrated team can be achieved regardless of whether premises are shared. By sharing views, ideas and expertise as part of a multidisciplinary team, patients can benefit from a system where silos are broken down and which can lead to shared interprofessional understanding.

**Collaborative:** Many patients now value - and expect - a process of shared decision-making in respect of their health and wellbeing. Collaborative care involves working with patients, their families and their carers to inform decision-making and empower patients to self-manage through exercise, lifestyle and wellness.

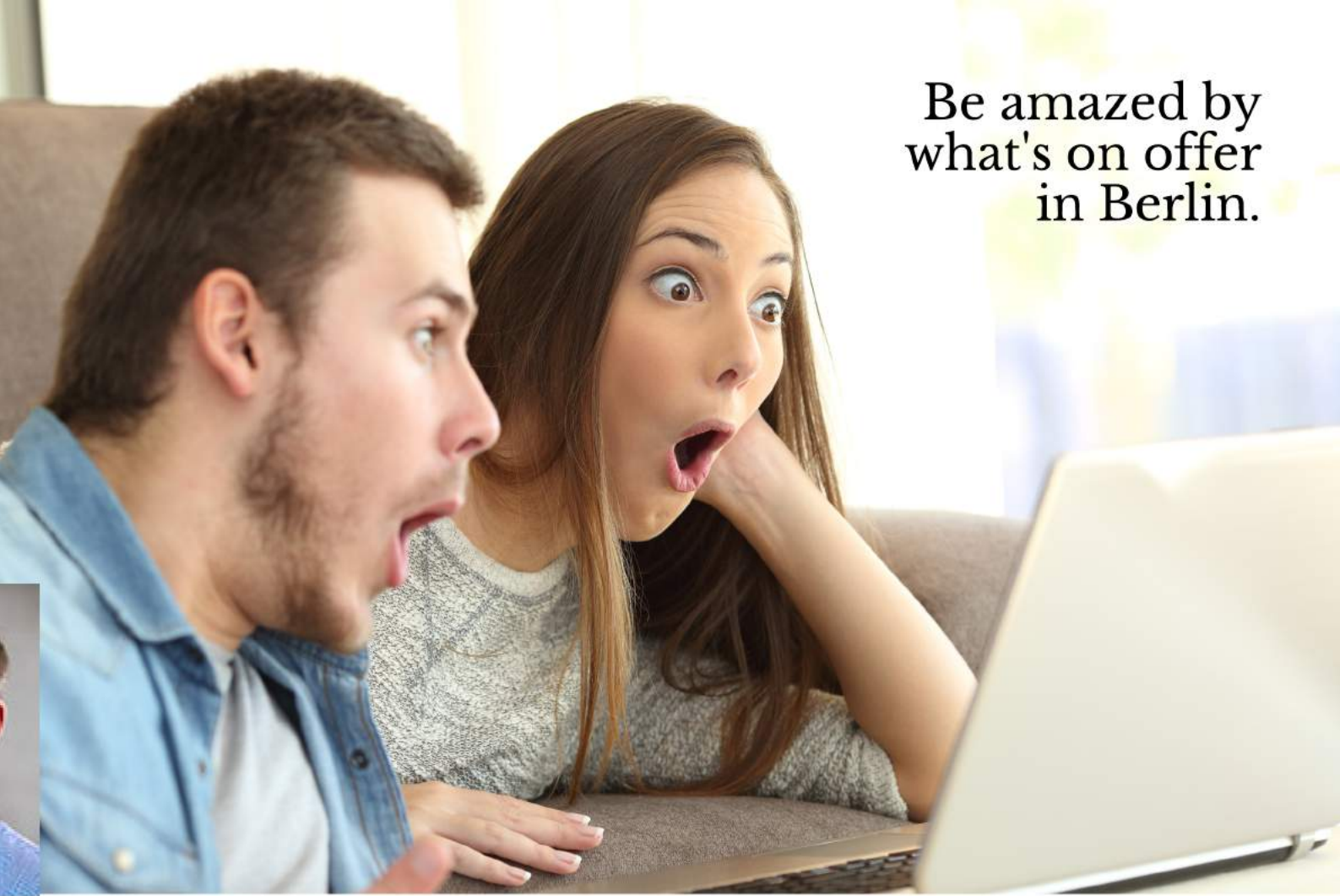
Our vision is a world where every person has access to chiropractic so that populations can thrive and reach their full potential. Currently, there are countries where chiropractic does not exist and others where it is not established or formally recognized. Our role, collectively, is to raise the profile of chiropractic globally and ensure far greater utilization of chiropractors.

This will only be achieved by increasing numbers of chiropractors and expanding education. In the UK, through a dedicated not-for-profit organization, the Society for Promoting Chiropractic Education, one new university-based program accepted its first cohort in 2018, with a further university-based program due to commence in 2019.

At the WFC / ACC Education Conference, held in London in October, we broke records. Not only did we see the largest number of delegates in the history of the conference, we also had a record number of educational institutions represented and had a record number of educational research abstracts submitted. Our strong focus on quality chiropractic education and providing a forum for leaders, faculty, academics and students to network is gaining momentum. As a profession, we are judged by the quality of the education we deliver and in this issue we report on the outcomes of the conference and the consensus statements formulated by the delegates that were present.

2019 promises to be another historic year for chiropractic. Clinicians will bring relief to communities, researchers will point the way to more effective interventions, students will emerge inspired from our educational institutions bringing energy, exuberance and EPIC care into our profession. And we will celebrate an amazing chiropractic experience in Berlin. Be sure to be there. **RB**





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## Excitement builds as WFC / ECU Congress approaches

With the 16th WFC Congress / 78th ECU Convention less than 10 weeks away, excitement is mounting for what promises to be the biggest chiropractic event ever held on European soil. So why is it proving to be such a talked-about event and why should every chiropractor be making plans to head to Berlin in March?



Put quite simply, any chiropractor who is interested in delivering evidence-based, patient-centered, interprofessional and collaborative - or EPIC - care needs to be at EPIC2019, the joint Congress of the WFC and ECU.

The event features presentations on issues facing every chiropractor and the widest range of workshop topics ever featured in an international chiropractic Congress.

Kicking off EPIC2019 is keynote speaker **Dr Jeremy Howick**. Dr Howick, a philosopher, author and medical practitioner, is the director of the Oxford Empathy Centre at Oxford University. In an era where contextual factors in chiropractic are a hot topic, he will be explaining why empathy is the new medicine.

Also featuring during the opening session is **Professor Jan Hartvigsen**. Now one of the world's most sought-after speakers, Professor Hartvigsen will be explaining how chiropractors can incorporate the key findings from the Lancet Low Back Pain series to become the spine care experts in their community.

With a focus on success-oriented practice, **Dr Stewart Cotterill** will be describing the importance of emotional intelligence, while **Dr Ayla Azad** will explain why individualized care and patient preferences are vital in delivering an evidence-based model.

The Congress will feature three panel debates: the first will explore fundamental factors to

ensure a sustainable future for chiropractic; the second will debate the importance of diagnostic imaging in chiropractic practice; and the third will debate global perspectives on chiropractic's core purpose.

Creighton University Professor **Dr Joy Doll** will be sharing insights on the golden rules of interprofessional collaboration, while chiropractor and epidemiologist, **Professor Pierre Côté** will describe the global benefits and impact for chiropractors of interdisciplinary research.

Chiropractic biomechanist **Dr Ed Cambridge** will describe how to approach the most difficult cases.

Top 10 TED speaker **Julian Treasure** will launch an action-packed Saturday session as he describes the secrets of powerful communication in healthcare.

Chair of the WFC Research Council **Professor Greg Kawchuk** will describe the steps chiropractors need to take to ensure professional legitimacy and why EPIC is the only credible option.

From a global perspective **Dr Claire Johnson** will be leading a session on sustainable spine care around the world on behalf of the Global Spine Care Initiative, showing how models can be applied in high-, middle- and low-income countries.

Director of the Nordic Institute of Chiropractic and Clinical Biomechanics **Dr Henrik Wulff-Christensen** will be delivering a special keynote lecture on why research is fundamental to chiropractic's future success.

There is a **treasure trove of workshops** at EPIC2019, with something for every chiropractor. These include **hands-on technique workshops**, specialist workshops on **Sports Chiropractic, Pediatrics, Grand Rounds, Biomechanics, Neurology, Rehabilitation**,

**EPIC**  
**2019**  
**WFC / ECU Congress**  
**Berlin 20-23 March**



## CONTACTING THE WFC

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## NEWS ITEMS

The WFC welcomes news items, digital images and feature stories to include in the QWR. Send all submissions to [rbrown@wfc.org](mailto:rbrown@wfc.org). Please note all submissions may be subject to editing.

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The World Federation of Chiropractic reserves the right to decline advertising.

## Excitement builds as WFC / ECU Congress approaches (continued)

### Knowledge Translation, Orthopedics, and Practice Management.

With over 200 abstracts having been submitted for EPIC2019, the Congress is the profession's largest scientific meeting. Researchers from around the world will be presenting their **ground-breaking research** in the form of **platform presentations** and **poster sessions**. With awards generously sponsored by **NCMIC** and **IBCE** the meeting attracts the profession's leading researchers.

But it's not all work and no play. As well as a packed academic program, EPIC2019 will offer **three great social events**. As is customary, we will hold a **Welcome Reception** on Wednesday, March 20. On **Thursday, March 21** we shall be holding a **German Party Night** at the iconic Wasserwerk. Friday, March 22 will be a free night, before we close up the Congress on the evening of **Saturday, March 23** with a **glittering gala banquet**.

Booking for EPIC2019 is easy. Simply go to [www.EPIC2019.net](http://www.EPIC2019.net) to register.

At the same time, be sure to book your accommodation at the Congress venue, the **Maritim Hotel**. We have negotiated **special rates for the Congress**, which can be booked from the Congress website.

EPIC2019 will be an unmissable event. As a true celebration of the chiropractic profession, it will provide not just an extravaganza of chiropractic-rich content tailored to creating success as a spine care expert in your community but also an outstanding opportunity to network with friends and colleagues in one of the world's most vibrant capital cities.

Book your place at [www.EPIC2019.net](http://www.EPIC2019.net) today.



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# WFC Launches New Strategic Plan 2019-2022

**The WFC has launched its Strategy Plan for the next 3 years. Here, Secretary-General Richard Brown describes the process and the priorities that will guide the mission of the WFC in the years ahead.**

The great Harvard strategist, Professor Michael Porter, famously said, "The essence of strategy is choosing what not to do."

Over the past 16 months, the WFC Council has worked on identifying our most important priorities by examining the organization and structure of the WFC and deciding what activities best align with our core purpose.

In discussion, we decided that our strengths were the following:

1. Our ability to bring people together to share different views, perspectives and opinions;
2. Our status as a non-governmental organization in official relations with WHO;
3. Our ability to call upon an international pool of experts to advise and guide our policy work;
4. Our ability to generate global support for our projects and programs;
5. Our independence and integrity;
6. Our network of affiliate organizations, both within and outside the chiropractic profession;
7. Our legitimacy as the global voice of the chiropractic profession.

After two rounds of consultation with the Council, a Strategic Planning Committee was convened to shape the draft strategy. This was chaired by Dr Michele Maiers and comprised Dr Corrian Poelsma, Dr Vivian Kil and Dr Richard Brown. The remit of the committee was to finalize the text of the strategic plan, determine an implementation plan and produce an infographic.

Working with a clear mission (to

advance awareness, utilization and integration of chiropractic internationally) and vision (a world where everyone has universal access to chiropractic so that populations may thrive and reach their full potential), the WFC Strategy 2019-2022 has four pillars: support, empowerment, promotion and advancement.

**Support:** supporting chiropractic through advocacy, resourcing, representation and knowledge dissemination.

**Empowerment:** a focus on equality, diversity and knowledge translation to empower our people and develop the leaders of tomorrow.

**Promotion:** promoting the benefits of chiropractic to global stakeholders, politicians and the public.

**Advancement:** advancing the chiropractic profession under the banner of evidence-based, patient-centered, interprofessional and collaborative care

In all of its work, the WFC will be guided by values of passion, accountability, respect, integrity and service.

In determining its priorities, the Strategic Planning Committee carefully examined the relative impact of each of the identified elements of the plan along with the resources that would be required to fund the deliverables. In this way, priority was given to objectives with the greatest impact requiring the least resources.

As an international organization, we appreciate that the way in which chiropractic is delivered around the world will differ, just as the way in which chiropractic is perceived will differ.

We also appreciate that we are working with stakeholders both within the profession, such as our member national associations, and stakeholders outside, such as the

World Health Organization and other partners.

In setting the agenda for the period 2019-2022, Council and the Strategic Planning Committee examined each of the strategic priorities and determined how each would be implemented and, as importantly, measured using a series of key performance indicators.

The production of the Strategic Plan 2019-2022 is timely. A new WFC Council commences a 3-year term of office in March 2019, which will see both new faces and added expertise.

At the same time, WFC Council will be proposing the adoption of brand new Bylaws at the WFC Assembly of Members in March 2019 in Berlin. This has been necessary to both strengthen the governance of the WFC as well as to ensure compliance with the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, with which the WFC is obliged to comply

We recognize that communicating the 'why' of what we do is of critical importance. As a result, ensuring that our stakeholders are engaged and informed using clear, unambiguous language, mitigating barriers and promoting awareness and understanding.

At the same time we recognize that financial sustainability is important. Responsible planning and making the most of our limited funds

This is an exciting time for the WFC. The nature of global health care is changing, the nature of governance is constantly developing and the chiropractic profession is evolving to meet the needs of patients and the demands of society on an ongoing basis.

Our new infographic is on the following page. We invite you to join us as we embark on this next stage in the development of the profession in general, and the WFC in particular. **RB**

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## 2019-2022



### OUR VISION

A world where people may enjoy universal access to chiropractic so that populations can thrive and reach their full potential.

### OUR MISSION

To advance awareness, utilization and integration of chiropractic internationally.



### OUR STRENGTHS

- Global forum to share ideas
- Independence and integrity
- Network of affiliate organizations
  - Connection to WHO
  - International expertise
- Globally supported projects and programs
- Legitimacy as chiropractic's global voice

## OUR STRATEGY

### SUPPORT

Supporting chiropractic through advocacy, resourcing, representation and sharing best practice



#### THE WFC WILL:

- ✓ Support our Constituent Member national associations across our 7 world regions
- ✓ Engage with and support WHO programs and policies
- ✓ Support high standards of education and ethical practice
- ✓ Support research and evidence-based care

### EMPOWERMENT

Empowerment through equality, diversity, leadership development and knowledge translation

#### THE WFC WILL:

- ✓ Create a strong system of governance to guide our actions and decision-making
- ✓ Champion diversity and equality of opportunity
- ✓ Promote leadership development at all levels
- ✓ Empower clinicians, health policy makers, academics and researchers



### PROMOTION

Promoting the benefits of chiropractic to global stakeholders, politicians and the public

#### THE WFC WILL:

- ✓ Foster excellence in internal and external communication
- ✓ Promote the identity of chiropractors as spinal health care experts
- ✓ Advocate for evidence-based, patient-centered care
- ✓ Promote the role of chiropractors as public health advocates
- ✓ Promote high quality chiropractic education
- ✓ Promote chiropractic to governments, health systems and the public



### ADVANCEMENT

Advancing access to evidence-based, patient-centered, interprofessional and collaborative care

#### THE WFC WILL:

- ✓ Advance awareness of chiropractic
- ✓ Advance access to chiropractors for all people
- ✓ Advance integration and interprofessional collaboration



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# London Education Conference Breaks Records

WFC / ACC event attracts global interest and prompts key consensus statements

The 10th World Federation of Chiropractic / Association of Chiropractic Colleges Education Conference took place October 24-27 in London, England.

Held at the headquarters of the British Medical Association, BMA House, in the center of London, the theme of this year's conference was *Empowered to Teach, Inspired to Learn: Creating Excellence in Chiropractic Education*.

Over 170 delegates traveled to London to attend the meeting, the largest ever attendance at a WFC/ACC Education Conference. More than 30 chiropractic educational programs, representing every one of the WFC's 7 world regions were present, also a record for this event.

In association with Brighthall Inc. a call for abstracts was announced, which attracted over 110 submissions, far in excess of the previous record for a chiropractic education conference and



a reflection on the interest in this sector of chiropractic research. All accepted abstracts were published in the Journal of Chiropractic Education and indexed on PubMed.

Following speeches from WFC President Dr Laurie Tassell, ACC Chair Dr Clay McDonald and Premier Sponsor representative, Dr Arlan Fuhr, the opening keynote speaker was Dr Deborah Bushway, President and CEO of Northwestern Health Sciences University in Minnesota, USA, who spoke on the relevance of competency-based education in chiropractic education.

With a packed program of plenary speakers and panellists, the conference featured content experts from both inside and outside the chiropractic profession.

Dr Naomi van Veen, President of the World Congress of Chiropractic Students (WCCS) eloquently addressed the conference on the importance of appreciating the needs and style of modern learners, while Professor Pierre Côté spoke of the need for psychosocial awareness in institutions and faculty.

Dr Jamiu Busari from Maastricht University in the Netherlands spoke on the importance of recognizing the generational shift in learning, while Dr Daniel Côté addressed the conference on international testing and standardization,

Each of the afternoon sessions featured breakout sessions, with workshops and research presentations generating great interest and participation. The final afternoon brought together conference delegates to generate a set of consensus statements, published later in this issue of the QWR.

Speaking after the event, WFC Secretary-General Richard Brown said: "This was an historic conference in a venue that was fitting to celebrate the conference's 10th anniversary. We look forward to our next WFC ACC Education Conference in 2020."

The WFC and ACC would like to thank Activator Methods International, the premier sponsor of the conference, and all other sponsors and exhibitors who supported the event.



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10TH WFC/ACC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

# WFC / ACC Education Conference 2018

Over 170 delegates attended the conference, held at BMA House in London, UK.





# WFC ACC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

October 24-27, 2018 London, United Kingdom

*"Empowered to Teach, Inspired to Learn: Creating Excellence in Chiropractic Education"*

## CONSENSUS STATEMENTS

**The 2018 WFC ACC Education Conference, held 24-27 October in London, United Kingdom, resulted in the following consensus statements being developed by attendees:**

1. To align with advancements in health care education, training of chiropractors should move towards the inclusion of a competency-based model of teaching and learning.
2. Competencies of chiropractic students should reflect the public's expectations of health care providers and equip them to work inter-professionally in the fields of public health, disability and rehabilitation.
3. Chiropractic education should require demonstration of competencies to deliver skilfully constructed clinical encounters, including use of positive context, inclusion of empathic language and attentive listening.
4. Chiropractic education programs have an ethical obligation to support an evidence-based teaching and learning environment.
5. Embedded technology allows for a range of learning methods and preferences to be accommodated for all types of learners and learning styles. These should be factored into the delivery of curricula and competency assessment.
6. Modern learners in health care education encounter significant psychological challenges. Academic communities should proactively address mental health literacy, remove stigma and provide appropriate support and access to services.
7. The chiropractic community has a lifelong need for mentorship, particularly during periods of transition, notably new students, graduate to practitioner and mid-career shifts in roles and responsibilities. A range of mentorship frameworks should be developed to establish peer networks, interprofessional collaboration and greater opportunities for engagement.
8. Chiropractic educational programs should prioritize faculty empowerment through a process of continuing professional development. This may take the form of evidence-based teacher training, regular appraisal, scholarly activity and student feedback.
9. Educational providers should work collaboratively with a range of stakeholders, including professional organizations and regulatory agencies, to champion the concept of lifelong learning.
10. Public confidence in chiropractic educational standards may be enhanced by global consistency in accreditation and assessment. By meeting public expectations, the reputation of the profession may be improved as a result of a strong identity to drive cultural authority.

## Research supports the validity of chiropractic care . . .



Back pain can be costly and disabling—one in five cases of acute low back pain become chronic.\*



Spinal manipulation may prevent acute low back pain from becoming chronic.



Chiropractic may help avoid reliance on pain medications, including opioids.

# That's Why NCMIC Helped Make a \$14 Million

## Chiropractic Research Grant Possible

NCMIC Foundation provided the seed money that led to the largest federal grant to chiropractic researchers. This is one of the first studies to address the role of chiropractic in the prevention of chronic back pain, and how it may help patients avoid pain medications.

At NCMIC, we are proud to support chiropractic research.

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\* <https://www.ninds.nih.gov/Disorders/Patient-Caregiver-Education/Fact-Sheets/Low-Back-Pain-Fact-Sheet>  
Collaborators on the research project include University of Minnesota, Oregon Health and Sciences University, Duke University and the University of North Texas.

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## 2018 World Spine Day Report:

# 'Love Your Spine' WFC public health campaign inspires global interest

The World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) coordinates World Spine Day on behalf of the Global Alliance for Musculoskeletal Health. For 2018, it selected the theme of 'Love Your Spine' to raise awareness of spinal pain and disability and to promote ways in which public health efforts by chiropractors and other spinal health experts could tackle the global crisis, which sees low back pain continuing to be the biggest single cause of years lived with disability.

World Spine Day takes place every year on October 16. The 'Love Your Spine' theme addressed spinal pain and disability at all stages of the life course, with children and the elderly participating in events around the world.



Hospitals, clinics, self-help groups and the media all responded favorably to the campaign, organizing 'Love Your Spine' themed events and covering activities on radio, television and online.

The WFC's World Spine Day coordinator, Dr Robyn Brown, commented: "Love Your Spine really captured people's imaginations this year. Making activities fun and memorable is the best way to communicate the serious message that we need to look after our spines and take responsibility for preventing pain and disability.

"What was particularly great to see was how resourceful people were. From kindergarten children through to the very old, the range of planned activities really showcased ways in which people can love their spines."

The reach of the 2018 World Spine Day was yet

again truly global and multidisciplinary. Chiropractors, physiotherapists, osteopaths, orthopedic surgeons and others all threw themselves into the World Spine Day campaign.

Once again, the World Congress of Chiropractic Students led a range of activities, with individual chapters hosting campus events, conducting street education and releasing videos.

Radio and television interviews were widely held, with spine experts educating the public about spinal self help.

This year's WFC World Spine Day competition attracted widespread support, with the categories of national association, educational institution and private practitioner/clinic all attracting a broad range of entries.

The Chiropractic Association of South Africa scooped first prize in the association category for a range of membership and community promotional activities, with the Canadian Chiropractic Association coming close second.

In the educational institution category, the South Africans triumphed again, with the University of Johannesburg Chapter of WCCS taking first prize, with the Central University of the Caribbean coming in second.

Australia's ABC Chiropractic Centre won the prize for the individual clinic category for their innovative approaches to World Spine Day, while Lucks Yard Clinic in the UK were highly commended for their "Chiroglobal" campaign.

For more image from World Spine day, see the next page.



# WFC World Spine Day 2018

## Images from international events



# WFC WORLD SPINE DAY 2018 COMPETITION WINNERS

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION CATEGORY

FIRST PRIZE

**Chiropractic Association of South Africa**

SECOND PRIZE

**Canadian Chiropractic Association**

HIGHLY COMMENDED

**Association of Chiropractors of Malaysia**

**Namibian Chiropractic Association**

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION CATEGORY

FIRST PRIZE

**WCCS - University of Johannesburg**

SECOND PRIZE

**Universidad Central del Caribe**

HIGHLY COMMENDED

**WCCS - AECC University College**

**WCCS - Life University**

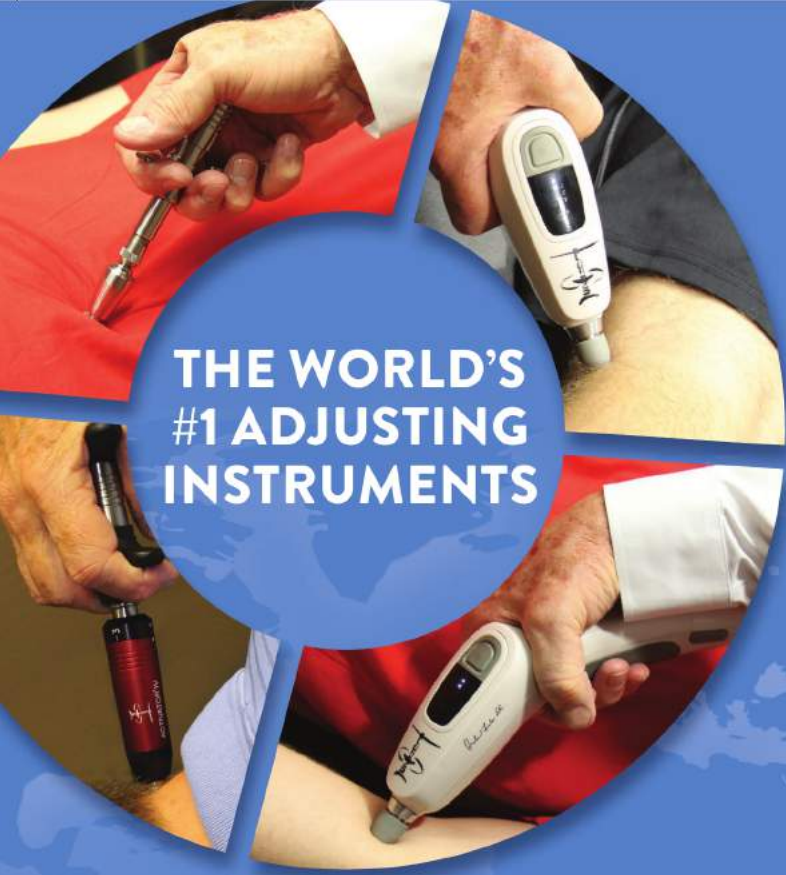
## PRIVATE CLINIC / INDIVIDUAL CLINICIAN

FIRST PRIZE

**ABC Chiropractic Centre**

HIGHLY COMMENDED

**Lucks Yard Clinic**



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Compatible with Activator Methods Chiropractic Technique	✓				
Textbook	✓				
Specifically Approved by Medicare	✓				
FDA Registered	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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Made in USA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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Pre-loaded Tip	✓	✓				
23 Clinical Trials	✓	✓	✓			
Compatible with Activator Methods Chiropractic Technique	✓	✓	✓			
Ergonomically Designed	✓	✓	✓			
Specifically Approved by Medicare	✓	✓	✓			
FDA Registered	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Made in USA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	



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## WFC Secretary-General delivers commencement address at Northwestern Health Sciences University

WFC Secretary-General Richard Brown delivered the commencement address to the 2018 graduates of Northwestern Health Sciences University (NWHSU).

NWHSU, located in Bloomington, Minnesota was founded in 1941 as Northwestern College of Chiropractic. NWHSU now delivers diverse programs, fosters clinical research, promotes individualized instruction and provides faculty development.

Before an audience of 1500 family, friends and wellwishers, 120 graduates received their awards at the prestigious ceremony, held at Northrop Memorial Auditorium, University of Minnesota. Many were graduating from the chiropractic program but those who had successfully completed programs in Chinese Medicine, acupuncture, nutrition and clinical massage were also recipients of degree certificates. Retiring faculty members were also recognized during the ceremony.

Degrees were presented by recently-appointed President and CEO of NWHSU, Dr Deborah Bushway. In her President's address she spoke warmly of the class of 2018 and the opportunity that lay before them.

In his commencement address, Dr Brown reflected on his route into chiropractic and his years as a student. He spoke of the rights and privileges that Doctors of Chiropractic and other health professionals deserved and enjoyed, but also of the enormous responsibilities that accompanied those rights.

He stressed empathy, compassion and kindness were indispensable attributes as well as the need to listen attentively and to always seek to understand the individual needs of patients. He spoke of the constant pursuit of excellence and urged those assembled to embrace lifelong learning.

Dr Brown spoke of professional opportunities and being ready to seize them. He referred to the opioid crisis and the expansion of the ageing population and the opportunities for health professionals in a climate where patients were crying out for non-drug, non-surgical solutions for spine and joint disorders.

He went on to say that success was never accidental and evidence-based, patient-centered, interprofessional and collaborative care - EPIC - was a path he advocated for all and that by adopting this path the class of 2018 could be agents for change.

In thanking Dr Brown for his address, Dr Bushway presented him with a commemorative plaque on behalf of NWSHU.



*Richard Brown delivers the commencement address at Northrop Memorial Auditorium*



*Dr Deborah Bushway, President and CEO of NWHSU, presents a commemorative plaque to Richard Brown*



*Richard Brown addresses the Northwestern Health Sciences University class of 2018*



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## NOTICE TO WFC CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

WFC Constituent Member national associations are hereby invited to attend the 15th Biennial WFC Assembly of Members. The Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of the WFC and provides a global forum for discussion, a platform to present national and regional reports and an opportunity to debate WFC resolutions. With a focus on advancing the international status of chiropractic and the role of the WFC, the Assembly brings national leaders together to share experiences and innovations, network and develop consensus on matters of international relevance.

Attendance at the Assembly is free to appointed representatives of WFC member associations and regional chiropractic federations. Observers are also welcome to attend. The Assembly will be held in advance of the joint WFC / ECU Congress, EPIC2019 and those intending to attend are strongly encouraged to book their hotel accommodation as early as possible through the link at [www.EPIC2019.net](http://www.EPIC2019.net).

Members wishing to submit formal resolutions or agenda items should do so in writing by January 18, 2019. Please address any enquiries to the Secretary-General at [rbrown@wfc.org](mailto:rbrown@wfc.org).

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## American Chiropractic Association Publishes Diversity Statement

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) has published a statement on diversity that acknowledges the importance that cultural competency plays in the chiropractic profession's ability to deliver quality health care, improve patient outcomes and engage in public health initiatives.

"ACA acknowledges cultural agility as a foundation for competent healthcare delivery to improve patient outcomes and engage in public health initiatives," the statement reads in part. "ACA defines cultural agility as having enhanced skills and knowledge of the needs of a multicultural society and requiring a commitment to inclusion that begins with broader concepts of diversity."

In its statement, ACA also notes that diversity encompasses, "without limitation, race, color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, religion, nationality, age, disability, socioeconomic status and marital and parental status."

"ACA has taken a number of steps to enhance our

diversity sensitivity, foremost being the establishment of our Diversity Commission," said ACA President N. Ray Tuck, Jr., DC. "This diversity statement further clarifies our beliefs and values surrounding this issue, enabling us to move forward with a common understanding of what diversity entails for us as healthcare providers and why it matters."

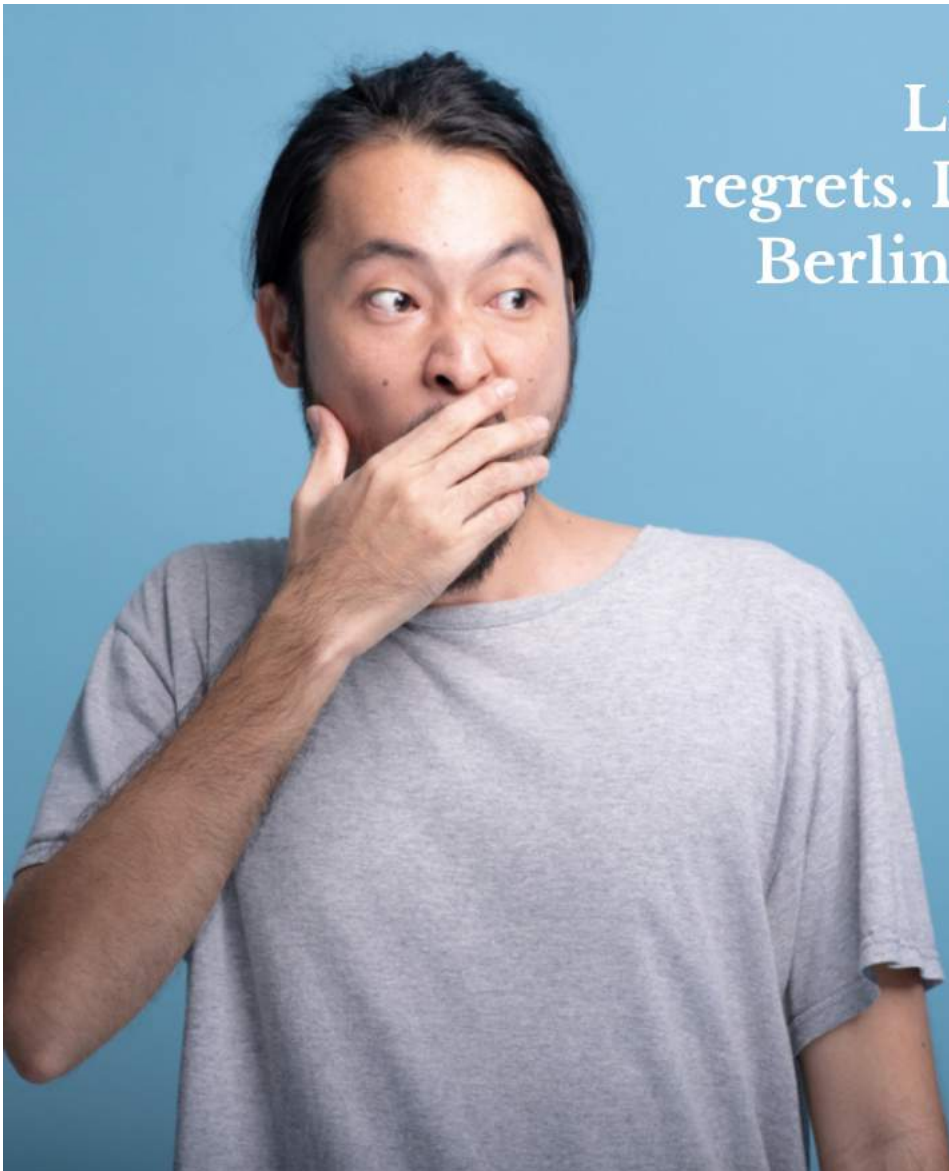
Established in March 2018, the ACA Diversity Commission has worked on several initiatives this past year, including a blog series on the ACA website and a Facebook Live discussion in November. To read the diversity statement in its entirety, visit <https://www.acatoday.org/About/Diversity-Statement>



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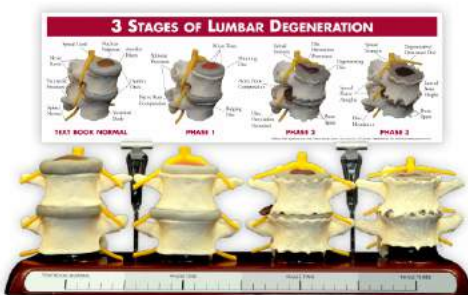
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## Canadian Chiropractic Association Seeks Authority For Chiropractors To Certify Disability Tax Credit

The Canadian Chiropractic Association (CCA) is working to help patients with disabilities. We are urging the Canadian government to make chiropractors eligible to certify the Disability Tax Credit across Canada. The Disability Tax Credit provides financial relief to people with disabilities and caregivers that support them.

Canadians must apply for the credit, which requires certification from an authorized practitioner. The list of authorized practitioners includes physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, optometrists, audiologists, nurse practitioners, psychologists and medical doctors.

This is an issue about accessibility and reducing barriers for patients. Excluding chiropractors has a negative impact on their patients by placing additional burdens and hurdles. Not being authorized to certify the DTC forces chiropractic patients to visit other healthcare practitioners to get certified. This adds undue stress, anxiety and unnecessary costs.

The CCA wants to correct this oversight. Chiropractors are regulated musculoskeletal (MSK) experts and already have the authority to assess disability for programs at the provincial level. Chiropractors assess, diagnose and treat the MSK conditions for millions of Canadians. These conditions include back, neck and knee pain, but also osteoarthritis. According to the Arthritis Society, osteoarthritis is a leading reason for

disability.

This past fall, the CCA met with federal legislators and made a submission to the government to address this issue, and launched a national grassroots campaign. We asked our members to let their local Member of Parliament know why things need to change. By mid-December, supporters had sent almost 1,700 letters.

It appears the message is being heard. A recent federal committee report recommended that the government amend the law. If adopted and passed, chiropractors would be authorized to assess and certify the DTC across Canada.

This change would correct an inequality, improve efficiency and remove barriers to care for patients, and create a more cost-efficient system. The CCA continues to encourage the government to close the existing gap by adding chiropractors and is hopeful the amendment will be made in 2019.



## New Zealand Chiropractic Association introduces CA membership option

Chiropractic Associates (CAs) are often referred to as essential members of the practice team. They are usually the first point of contact for members of the public, and responsible for overseeing critical areas such as advertising and administration.

But while lip service has been paid to the vital role of CAs, this has not always been backed by practical recognition.

The NZCA decided the best way to reflect the value of CAs – and to support their ongoing upskilling – would be to offer them membership. By formally including them within the chiropractic ‘family’, the NZCA would be better placed to develop training pathways and create forums for dedicated CAs to share best practice. With these goals in mind, the NZCA introduced a CA

membership option in 2018.

Non-voting CA membership in the New Zealand Association is now available for a nominal sum. The idea is that chiropractors should see this as a modest but worthwhile investment in their employees. In return, CA members gain access to training resources, including government-certified courses and qualifications.

Creating a CA membership option has also opened the door for CAs to be officially recognized by Kaiawhina, which is a national association for allied health workers in New Zealand. All this serves to cement the place of chiropractic within the broader health care system.

The NZCA has also gained a direct line of communication to some of the

profession’s most valuable frontline workers. Updates on topics such as advertising can be emailed to the person most likely to implement them, freeing up chiropractors to focus on clinical best practice, research and practice development.

This groundbreaking approach to membership has been enthusiastically endorsed in New Zealand. 100 percent of all the new CA members of the NZCA have had their subs paid by their chiropractor employers, proving the worth of the concept. A CA forum on the NZCA website and a vibrant Facebook page have been set up, where CA members of the NZCA now raise questions and share ideas. The 2019 NZCA Conference and AGM will include a dedicated stream of content to continue the development of dedicated CAs.

## Work a Day for World Spine Care

Nathan Cashion, Communications Director

World Spine Care's vision is "A world in which everyone has access to the highest quality spine care possible."

Chiropractors around the world serve their community and patients by frequently treating spinal disorders, among other conditions. This has significant impact in their practice and at a local level, but more can be done to decrease the leading cause of disability in under-served areas.

In an interview on the [CCGI Podcast](#), Dr Scott Haldeman said, "We have to start thinking of spinal problems as a significant cause of disability world wide, and recognize that we are responsible not just for our practice, but also for people who have spinal disorders throughout the world." Many communities in low- to middle-income countries lack access to evidenced based spine care, as do remote towns in well-developed nations.

World Spine Care's Work A Day challenge offers an opportunity for clinicians to extend the reach of their healing hands beyond their practice and community with minimal cost and effort. Originally conceived by Dr. Mark Perrett of Neepawa, Canada, the

campaign asks doctors of chiropractic to donate one day of the proceeds from their practice to World Spine Care.

Contributions to World Spine Care help further the work to provide quality, evidence-based spine care in under-served areas. Currently, 6 clinics are actively running in 4 different countries. It is estimated that 88% of donations go directly to these current projects, with less than 1% of funds going back to fundraising efforts.

Dr. David Gryfe, Fellow of the Royal College of Chiropractic Sports Sciences (Canada), suggests that chiropractors consider supporting World Spine Care "if one is considering the greatest return on their philanthropic contribution." He believes "[World Spine Care] makes a compelling case by its lean administrative investment, high volunteer composition, sustainability model, research productivity, and scholarship program. The supporting organizations of [World Spine Care] reflect the integrity of the organization."

After an inspiring trip to Africa, Dr. Hans Teschl of Ontario, Canada, decided he wanted to

do more to put his skills to work for those in need. After learning about World Spine Care online he reached out to inquire how he could take action. Since returning to Africa as a volunteer clinician was not an immediate option, he decided to take part in the Work A Day Challenge. "This year marks my 25th year in practice. I [...] figured that incorporating the anniversary with an awareness and fundraiser event was a perfect opportunity to celebrate what I've accomplished, and give back at the same time." At the end of an otherwise routine day of practicing chiropractic, Dr. Teschl and his patients generously contributed over C\$1,200 to World Spine Care.

If you would like to take the Work A Day challenge, visit [www.WorldSpineCare.org/work-a-day](http://www.WorldSpineCare.org/work-a-day) for more information and downloadable resources, which include prepared posters, brochures, flyers, and press release templates. For more information about how you can volunteer with World Spine Care, please visit [WorldSpineCare.org/take-action](http://WorldSpineCare.org/take-action).



Left: Dr. Hans Teschl celebrated the 25th anniversary of his clinic, Barrie South Chiropractic, by taking the Work A Day challenge



## Logan University College of Chiropractic establishes preceptorship program with the Medical College of Wisconsin

Logan University's College of Chiropractic has entered into an affiliation agreement to establish a preceptorship program with The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Department of Neurosurgery.

Under the direction of Jeff King, DC, MS, 2011 graduate of Logan University, who serves as an assistant professor at MCW, Logan student interns will receive clinical training in a high-quality patient care delivery system.

The goal of the preceptorship program is to enhance patient care, education and research opportunities for both institutions.

"We are very excited to expand the number of schools participating in our preceptorship program," said Dr. King.

"Our hope is that by offering this transdisciplinary educational opportunity we can encourage students to have an interest in reaching across professions to provide the best possible care for their patients during their clinical careers."

During 2018, Logan placed approximately 165 student interns in preceptorship programs with organizations, institutions and private practices around the world.

Preceptorships at MCW will start in May 2019 wherein eligible students will go through a selection process.

Chair of Logan's Department of Radiology Norman Kettner, DC, DACBR, FICC said Dr. King will bring awareness of patient-centered and cost-effective chiropractic care delivered in a multidisciplinary clinical environment, where he daily interacts across a range of specialties and disciplines.

"This clinical environment is what the future is likely to reveal: chiropractic physicians directly integrated into the health care system," he said.

Commenting on the new initiative, WFC Secretary-General Richard Brown said: "This is a truly excellent way to promote interprofessional, integrated care between chiropractors and other health care professionals."

"Bringing together chiropractic and medical professionals to share knowledge, skills and attitudes towards the management of musculoskeletal disorders can only be a good thing both for patients and for the continuing professional development of both chiropractors and their medical counterparts."



*Dr Jeff King, head of the preceptorship program at the Medical College of Wisconsin.*

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# Research Investment For Japanese Chiropractors

## 9th JSCS Conference in Chiba attracts over 100 delegates

Chiropractic has existed in Japan for over 100 years. The WFC member for Japan is the Japanese Association of Chiropractors (JAC), whose President, Dr Kei Takeyachi, is both the representative for the Asian region and the WFC Secretary-Treasurer.

The research arm of the JAC is the Japanese Society of Chiropractic Science (JSCS). In November, the JSCS held its 9th Research Conference in Makuhari Messe, Chiba.

With over 100 delegates in attendance, keynote speaker and Chair of the JSCS, Professor Masayoshi Tsuruoka (pictured, right), of Teikyo Heisei University, addressed the conference on the subject of 'does chiropractic manipulation affect the ascending sensory pathways?'

Other speakers at the conference included Mr Yosuke Maruyama PT, MS, also of Teikyo Heisei University, Mr Yoshinori Himaki, from the Medical Services Division of the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Nobuhiro Watanabe DC, PhD, of the Tokyo Metropolitan Geriatric Medical Center, who gave an enlightening presentation titled 'A mechanism of skin touch stimulation for inhibiting nociceptive transmission.'

The conference was also honored to receive Dr Martin Camara DC, co-chair of the Philippines Olympic Commission and FICS Executive Council member.

Dr Camara (pictured below) presented 'sports chiropractic techniques for elite athletes competing in multi sports events with the Philippines Olympic Committee.'

Final year students from Tokyo College of Chiropractic also presented their own theses at the conference.



*Pictured:*

*Right (top): Professor Masayoshi Tsuruoka*

*Right (middle): Assembled delegates at the 9th JSCS Conference.*

*Right (bottom) JAC members as part of a panel.*

*Right: Dr Martin Camara (standing) presents a workshop at the JSCS Conference.*





## New Adjunct Professor of Research appointed at SCUHS

Dr Sidney Rubinstein has been appointed to the position of adjunct research professor at Southern California University of Health Sciences (SCUHS). <https://www.scuhs.edu/>

SCUHS is a university that houses a range of academic programs, including a chiropractic program. His primary responsibilities as adjunct professor will be to educate the students and faculty in systematic reviews and meta-analyses as well as to support existing research efforts and explore new lines of research.

On his appointment Dr Rubinstein said: "My personal mission is to help prepare future chiropractors to apply evidence-based medicine (EBM), so that this may result in better outcomes for the patients that seek chiropractic care.

"To achieve this aim, I see myself in a role to help educate future chiropractors in the world of EBM, so that they are better able to understand, interpret and apply the evidence in their clinical practice, but perhaps more importantly, are able to critically evaluate that science.

"I see this as a mission which is inherent to my academic position at the university in Amsterdam, and applies not only to chiropractic students at SCUHS, but chiropractors here in Europe as well.

"Furthermore, as an academic, I think that it is not only important to educate, but also to produce high-quality research with a high probability of impact on the profession. In this area, I see myself being active for many years to come."

Dr Rubinstein is a 1992 graduate of Los Angeles College of Chiropractic and was awarded his PhD in 2008.

For many years he has collaborated with Professor Maurits van Tulder at VU University in Amsterdam and has worked on a number of systematic reviews including those within the Cochrane Collaboration. He also continues to work in private practice.



## New systematic review authored by Canadian chiropractor shows benefit of opioids for non-cancer pain 'small'

A recently published meta analysis looking at the benefits of opioids for non-cancer pain has concluded that the magnitude of benefit over placebo is minimal.

The study team that included Dr Jason Busse, a Canadian chiropractor, examined 96 randomized clinical trials involving a total of 26129 patients. The team looked at pain intensity and physical function as the main outcome measures.

In the study, 61% of the participants were female, with a mean age of 56 years.

Although the study showed that, compared to placebo, opioids led to reduced pain and improved physical functioning, the improvement was minimal and there was a greater risk of unpleasant side effects. The study reported that there is low to moderate evidence that there were similar improvements when comparing opioids to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

The researchers concluded that for most people, opioids should be used only as a last resort, if at all.

Lead researcher Dr Busse, of the Institute for Pain Research and Care at McMaster University in Canada said: "Opioids should not be a first line therapy for chronic, non-cancer pain."

The findings from the study support medical guidelines from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and others that discourage doctors from prescribing opioids for chronic pain.

In the study, only 12% of patients reported a noticeable difference in their levels of pain when compared to placebo pills.

The benefits were even smaller when it came to patients' physical functioning and sleep quality.

Dr Busse noted that only a small number of trials compared opioids to active care. He stressed that physical therapy, exercise, acupuncture and cognitive behavioral therapy were alternatives and studies had showed that they could help with chronic pain.

A recent study by the Center for Disease Control showed that 50 million adults reported chronic pain - defined as pain on most days in the past 6 months. This translates to 20% of the adult population.

**Reference:** Busse JW, Wang L, Kamaleldin M. Opioids for chronic non-cancer pain: a systematic review. and meta analysis. JAMA 2018; 320(23): 2448-2460.



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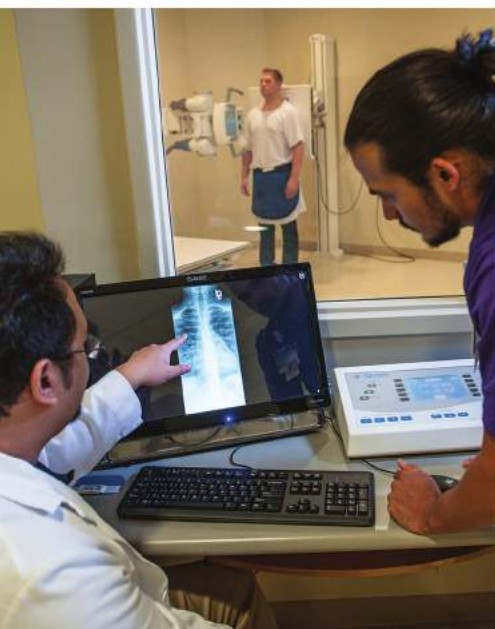
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## Focus on pediatric chiropractic safety for new PhD Pohlman

Mother of four, Dr Katie Pohlman has successfully defended her PhD thesis, which focused on the assessment of safety in pediatric manual therapy.

Dr Pohlman, a clinical research scientist at Parker University, Dallas, Texas identified a lack of prospective patient safety research within the chiropractic population in general and investigated this deficit in the pediatric population in particular.

By using a cross-sectional survey model to assess patient safety culture, Dr Pohlman looked at barriers and facilitators for participation in an active patient safety reporting system. At the same time, Dr Pohlman undertook a randomized controlled trial to compare the quantity and quality of adverse event reports in children under 14



years receiving chiropractic care using both active and passive reporting systems.

The RCT recruited 69 chiropractors and found adverse events reported in 8.8% and 0.1% of the active and passive surveillance groups respectively. Of the adverse events reported, 56% were considered mild, 26% were moderate and 18% were severe. The frequency of adverse events was found in the study to be more common than previously thought, despite the general patient safety structure in chiropractic offices being considered strong.

Dr Pohlman, who conducted her PhD through the University of Alberta, is a member of the Chiropractic Academy of Research Leadership (CARL) an initiative founded to create sustainability and build capacity among chiropractic researchers.

Dr Pohlman is the recipient of a number of awards and has contributed to research across a wide range of areas. The WFC congratulates Dr Pohlman on this fine achievement.

## Portland VA hires first chiropractor

The Portland, Oregon VA Medical Center has hired its first full time chiropractic physician and will help to reduce use of harmful pain medications including opioid narcotics by Oregon's veterans, reports **Dr Vern Saboe, ACA Delegate for Oregon..**

With the March, 2018 passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2018, (omnibus bill) chiropractic's non-drug approach to pain relief for veterans, many of whom suffer from back pain and other musculoskeletal conditions, will be significantly expanded.

The ct was supported by several veterans groups and championed in Congress by US Senators Jerry Moran (R-Kansas), Jon Tester (D-Montana), Johnny Isakson (R-Georgia), and Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut).

The approved language requires the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to expand the availability of chiropractic services at no fewer than two medical centers or clinics in each Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) no later than Dec. 31, 2019, and at no fewer than 50 percent of all medical centers in each VISN by Dec. 31, 2021.

Congressman Kurt Schrader, former Governor John Kitzhaber, MD, as well as Bronze Star winner Army veteran and Oregon State Senator Brian Boquist all played a role in prompting the Portland VA to hire a chiropractic physician.

In 2013 the Oregon Legislature passed House Joint Resolution 201 (HJR 201) recommending the Portland VA Medical Center hire a full-time chiropractic physician. HJR was signed by Co-Speakers, Rep. Arnie Roblan (D) and Rep. Bruce Hanna (R) and then Secretary of State now Governor Kate Brown.



**VA**

U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

## Adjunct Professorships to expand inter-institutional collaboration

**Leading Danish researcher and chiropractor, Professor Jan Hartvigsen has been appointed Adjunct Professor at two Canadian educational institutions.**

Hartvigsen, Professor and Head of Research at the Department of Sports Science and Biomechanics and Senior Researcher at NIKKB, has been appointed Adjunct Professor at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto and the University of Ontario UOIT-CMCC Centre for Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation.

Professor Hartvigsen plans to use his Adjunct Professorships to further collaboration between the University of Southern Denmark and the Nordic Institute for Chiropractic and Clinical Biomechanics (NIKKB) and the two Canadian institutions. He said:

"I am very happy to have received this appointment and recognition. We generally collaborate a lot with researchers from Canada, most recently with researchers from CMCC.

"As an example of our collaboration, we exchange young researchers working on common projects. During 2018, chiropractic student Michaela Saugstrup spent a month at the CMCC, where, among other research activities, she and chiropractor and epidemiologist Professor Pierre Côté analyzed data that can tell us more about why Danes with back pain present to a chiropractor"

He added: "We are planning to invite a young

chiropractor from UOIT-CMCC to come to Odense for three years to work on a PhD project on spinal stenosis. We also collaborate on a large project where we will develop a new system for communication about manual therapy – a sort of modern 'listing system' together with researchers from all over the world. The project includes representatives from all health professions using manual treatment."

"I plan to visit UOIT-CMCC in Toronto approximately once every year with the purpose of working on projects, doing talks and develop collaborations."

Professor Côté commented, "We are delighted to welcome Professor Hartvigsen as Adjunct Professor at the UOIT-CMCC Centre for Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation. As one of the world's leading researchers in musculoskeletal pain and biomechanics, the centre will benefit hugely from his experience and knowledge."



*Jan Hartvigsen, Professor and Head of Research at the Department of Sports Science and Biomechanics, University of Southern Denmark., Senior Researcher, NIKKB.*

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## Danish Chiropractic Association hails national congress as 'huge success'

Over 500 delegates attended the Danish Chiropractors' Association (DCA) conference in November in Odense.

Titled Faglig Kongres 2018, the event was a collaboration between NIKKB and the DCA.

Over the course of 3 days, attendees were treated to 37 presentations on matters ranging from the future of the profession to workshops of interest to practising clinicians.

Speakers included the Managing

Director of the Danish Health Authority, who issued an invitation for chiropractors to become part of an interdisciplinary health service by implementing evidence-based treatment in Danish clinics.

WFC Research Chair, Greg Kawchuk spoke on the subject of AI in chiropractic. University of Minnesota professor Gert Bronfort was honored by the DCA for his service to musculoskeletal research. A native of Denmark,

Professor Bronfort helped to build the research organization NIKKB and has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles. He has recently secured a grant of over \$5m to study the impact of spinal manipulation on low back pain.

There are approximately 700 practising chiropractors in Denmark, where the profession is regulated and recognized by the national health authorities

## AECC University College makes bold commitment to research activity in 2019

Research activity at AECC University College has taken on a new level of expansion and direction in the last few months. Consolidating our move toward defined areas of expertise and research activity within our new and existing research centers, there have been meetings and outreach events within the University College, kicking off what we hope will become vibrant centers of research activity and productivity. The new Research Centres are named in accordance with the focus of research within their remit.

The Centre for Health Exercise and Sport Science (CHESS) is largely at present associated with our new School of Psychology, Sport and Physical Activity. Headed up by Dr Alyx Taylor, along with other research center leads including Michelle



*AECC University College*



*Dr Alex Breen*

Holmes and Dr Alex Breen, this group presented and aspirational research aims are to leverage the growing expertise in this area from academics in the new School of Sport, Psychology and Physical Exercise and across the institution.

The Centre for Clinical and Applied Service Provision Research (CCASPR) headed up by Michelle Holmes, a new member of academic staff with multiple expertise across qualitative and quantitative methods, a Chiropractic Academy of Research Leadership Fellow and recent author in the BMJ Open, is presently focused on clinical research including patient reported outcomes, potential chiropractic services as delivered with the NHS, and chiropractic paediatrics. With links to the University of Southampton and the global links afforded by CARL, this centre aims to consolidate and expand a clinically focused research effort within the institution.

Finally a new Centre for Health Professions Education Research (CHPER) headed up by Edward Crowther, a highly experienced academic and former

senior member of the team in the chiropractic program at International Malaysian University, aims to harness research into one of the main activities at AECC University College, namely teaching. As with all other areas of activity at the institution, evidence-based teaching is increasingly an expectation of the university sector and investigating aspects of our teaching, such as delivery of content, curriculum design, learning of students and relationships to assessment attainment all are key activities to be understood better and ultimately improved upon.

The Centre for Biomechanics Research is already well-known to the profession, whose convener Dr Alex Breen is also a CARL Fellow and Senior Research Fellow at AECC University College. These focused groups are intended to help support the building of a wider research culture, activity and productivity at the University College as we move forward to major initiatives such as REF and RDAP in the immediate and more medium term future. All these centers and the contacts of their conveners are to be found on the AECC University College website here: <https://www.aecc.ac.uk/research/centres/>



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## Chiropractor and Lancet author appointed Professor at University of Southern Denmark



Alice Kongsted, Senior Researcher at NIKKB and Associate Professor, Department of Sport and Biomechanics at SDU, has been appointed Professor with special tasks in the field of musculoskeletal research in the primary sector at the University of Southern Denmark.

Professor Kongsted is the first chiropractic graduate from the University of Southern Denmark to have received a professorial appointment.

Having graduated as a chiropractor in 1999, she was awarded a PhD in 2005. Her practising career continued until 1999, mainly in a hospital outpatient department in Denmark.

As a senior researcher at the Nordic Institute of Chiropractic and Clinical Biomechanics (NIKKB) Professor Kongsted set up a network of chiropractic primary care research clinics that has provided a rich source of data.

She is also an Associate Editor of BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders and is a member of the editorial board of Chiropractic and Manual Therapies.

Professor Kongsted has been involved in the Danish Health Authority's development of three national guidelines for the treatment of lumbar radiculopathy, cervical radiculopathy and of non-specific neck pain.

Professor Kongsted's work will focus on building the university's practice-based research in musculoskeletal health focusing on back pain as well as strengthening recruitment and development of new research talents.

The appointment of Professor Kongsted as a professor strengthens research in a field that needs new solutions. This was recently highlighted in an article series in the prestigious journal *The Lancet*, of which Professor

Kongsted was a co-author.

*The Lancet's* low back pain series of articles pointed out that back pain is the leading cause worldwide for people living with impairment and that negative effects of back pain are a growing global problem, which is largely neglected. It further concluded that the use of potentially harmful treatments, including morphine, are continuing to rise, while recommended treatments do not provide widespread benefit.

The focus of Professor Kongsted's research is how patients with back pain are best assisted in primary practice. It involves partly investigating factors that affect whether patients develop long-term disabilities, and partly projects that look at how self-management can be supported through the offers offered to patients in primary practice.

In addition to the research-related tasks and teaching of the department's students, it is part of the assignment for the new professorship to support the recruitment and development of new research talents. To this end, NIKKB and IOB jointly established NIKKB / IOB research grants for graduate students.

The professorship is a partnership between the Department of Sports Science and Biomechanics at SDU and the Nordic Institute of Chiropractic and Clinical Biomechanics (NIKKB) and is sponsored by the Danish Chiropractic Fund.

Chair of the WFC's Research Committee, Professor Greg Kawchuk, said: "I was fortunate to have been in attendance at Dr Kongsted's inauguration where she delivered a compelling public lecture. We as a profession are fortunate to benefit from her intellect and leadership."



## AECC University College Principal steps down after 27 years of service

After serving AECC University College, the specialist higher education institution in Bournemouth, for over 27 years, Principal, Professor Haymo Thiel stepped down from his position at the end of 2018.

After a long and happy association with the University College, we take a look at some of the highlights and memories of Professor Thiel's career, displaying his unwavering commitment and dedication to chiropractic education and the profession.

Professor Thiel graduated from the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, studying with David Cassidy and under the supervision of William H. Kirkaldy-Willis – some of the great pioneers of low back pain research. In addition to his Doctor of Chiropractic qualification, Haymo completed an MSc through the Department of Orthopaedics, Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and a PhD through the School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Portsmouth. He holds a postgraduate Diploma in Medical Education from the University of Dundee and has membership and fellowship status with a number of clinical and educational organizations and institutions

Professor Thiel's journey with AECC began in 1991, as Senior Clinical Tutor at the AECC Clinic, where he worked alongside the late Barry Lewis. After practicing as a chiropractor in Canada for a number of years, Haymo and his family made the move to Bournemouth for what was set to be a long and fruitful relationship with the institution.

Dr Neil Osborne, Director of AECC Clinic, reflects on his time under Professor Thiel's direction: "When I started as a Clinic Tutor, Haymo was my boss as Clinic Director. I don't think I ever saw Haymo take a lunch break as he always seemed to eat his sandwiches at this desk. As my line manager, Haymo was approachable and astute. He has always been organized, unflappable, helpful, a consumer of vast amounts of information yet always made time to talk to you despite how much he needed to get on with other things. As Principal, nothing changed. And now, standing in those rather large shoes as I run the clinic, try as I might, I realize how difficult all of those things are to emulate."

Professor Thiel has seen the graduation of many health professionals over the years who have gone on to achieve success. Alumna and President of



the British Chiropractic Association, Catherine Quinn comments on Professor Thiel's obligation to students, "Since my graduation in 2012, and in particular over the past two years of joining the BCA Council and subsequently becoming President, Haymo has been an ever gracious source of encouragement. Haymo lives the example of how every leader should take responsibility for building the next generation, and the environment he created at AECC University College is one within which students thrive. His unending commitment to growth of the students and graduates he comes into contact with is an inspiration. Haymo has the ability to make you believe in yourself and that you can achieve anything you work towards. Building on his award as Chiropractor of the Year in 2011/12, the BCA wanted to mark Haymo's incredible contribution to the chiropractic profession, and we were pleased to award him with a Lifetime Achievement Award; an award which marks the impact he has made on areas including education, research and the growth of the profession."

Professor Dave Newell, Director of Research at AECC University College has witnessed the exceptional growth that Professor Thiel has achieved for the institution. "Haymo's impact on AECC University College has been unique and profound. Indeed the very title of the institution as a University College is testament to both his leadership and steady but determined helmship. Along the way, he has achieved many additional personal and institutional milestones including, to highlight only two, gaining his PhD and bringing one of the few Upright MRI machines to the south of England. His PhD, chosen again with his typically skilled eye to the greatest impact, centered on the risk of adverse events following neck manipulation. From advancing our diagnostic imaging services with the launch of our Open Upright MRI scanner in 2015, to achieving Taught Degree Awarding Powers and University College designation in 2016, Haymo has achieved a hugely progressive shift in both internal and external perception of the status and impact of AECC University College. His quiet determination, delivered with typical grace and humility, has seen a sea change in who we are as an institution that will cement his legacy as a leader."



## UQTR celebrates 25th anniversary of chiropractic program

The Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR) celebrated its 25th anniversary on September 27 with a congress and glittering gala dinner attended by over 600 guests. The event was organized jointly by the University and the Order of Chiropractors of Quebec (OCQ).

During a keynote address delivered in French and English, WFC Secretary-General Richard Brown paid tribute to the visionary pioneers who had founded the program and to those who had developed the program over the past quarter of a century.

"We have unprecedented opportunities to impact health in a positive way," he said during his address. "Many of you here in this room this evening have contributed to the impact that chiropractic has had here in Quebec and beyond."

Speaking after the event, program co-chair, Dr André-Marie Gonthier, a professor in the Department of Chiropractic, said: "The anniversary of the UQTR program allowed us to reflect on how far we have come since its creation in 1993. Twenty-five years after our arrival at UQTR, we achieved great success, with nearly 900 students having qualified as chiropractors. We are also proud to have developed research programs in partnership with the Quebec Chiropractic Foundation."

Speaking on behalf of the OCQ, president Dr. Jean-Francois Henry commented: "The Ordre des Chiropraticiens du Québec is proud to have joined the Department of Chiropractic at UQTR to organize an event highlighting the University's invaluable contribution to the field of chiropractic and neuromusculoskeletal health in Quebec. The success we have experienced demonstrates the strength of our professional community and its true passion to make every effort to contribute to a modern, patient-oriented health network."

Mr. Jacques R. Parent was honored for his role in creating and implementing the program at Trois-Rivières. Rector of the UQTR from 1983 to 1993. In paying tribute to M. Parent, current Rector, Dr Daniel McMahon said:

"Jacques Parent led an extraordinary example of collegiality and commitment between the University and a group of professionals who, like him, believed that chiropractic should be taught at university level."

During the evening, Professor David O. Hayes was also honored, receiving the Merit Award from the Conseil Interprofessionnel du Québec (CIQ). Created in 1990, this prize is awarded to highlight outstanding work in the service of their profession and their respective order.

Professor Hayes began a second term last April at the head of the Canadian Chiropractic Federation. He joined the Federation Executive Committee 10 years ago as Secretary-Treasurer and later held the position of Vice President, before becoming President. The leadership of Professor Hayes is recognized by all the provinces.



Top (L to R): Emile Marineau Belanger, Andre-Marie Gonthier, Jacques Parent, Jean-Francois Henry, and Daniel McMahon.

Middle (L to R): Jean-Francois Henry, David O. Hayes, and Gyslaine Desrosier (President, Conseil Interprofessionnel du Québec).

Bottom (L to R): Emile Marineau Balanger, Andre-Marie Gonthier, and Philippe Parent-Simard

## Life University's Chillon Project Awarded Program Sustaining Grant From Laughing Gull Foundation.

Life University's Center for Compassion, Integrity and Secular Ethics' (CCISE) Chillon Project at Lee Arrendale State Prison for women (pictured below) has been awarded another program-sustaining grant from Laughing Gull Foundation in the amount of \$75,000 per year for the next three years. This vital funding will help subsidize staff salaries, books and supplies for students, as well as the addition of adjunct faculty to teach the program.

"The Laughing Gull Foundation is privileged to continue our support of Life University's Chillon Project. The Chillon Project is innovative and inspiring in its work to provide educational opportunities to incarcerated students. Their work creates opportunities and changes lives as well as communities," says Hez Norton, Interim Executive Director of Laughing Gull Foundation.

The Chillon Project is an undertaking of CCISE, together with the Georgia State Department of Corrections, to introduce full associate and bachelor's degree programs in Georgia's correctional facilities. Starting in 2016, Life University began offering an Associate of Arts Degree at Arrendale in Positive Human Development and Social Change. This was the first full degree program to be offered in a prison by a college or university based in the state of Georgia since 1994, when Pell Grants were banned for incarcerated people.

Laughing Gull Foundation (LGF) is a progressive family foundation rooted in the Southern United States, and they leverage their resources to transform systems, institutions and relationships for the benefit of people and the planet. Their mission is to honor the family's evolving identity while proactively addressing broken systems that have created inequality and harmed the planet. They achieve their mission through grantmaking, donor organizing and impact investing in support of three priorities: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Equality; Higher Education in Prison; and Environmental Justice.

In 2015, representatives from LGF met and spoke with several incarcerated people at Lee Arrendale State Prison who were involved in educational programs about why they were interested in obtaining a college degree. This led to Life University's CCISE writing a grant request, which LGF met with a \$40,000 per year grant for the first three years of the Chillon Project.

Thomas Fabisiak, Ph.D., Director of the Chillon Project, says, "We are honored to continue our partnership with the Laughing Gull Foundation, whose support has been essential to the Chillon Project's development. We are grateful for their extraordinary commitment to justice and equity, and for all that they do to make higher education available to

people in prison in the South."

Fabisiak adds, "The additional funds will support our hiring of a part-time staff person to work onsite with the Chillon Project." This added position means increased support to the students as well as to the program facilitators, which will free up more time for fundraising, research and program development work.

Michael Karlin, Ph.D., Life University Assistant Professor of Psychology and Associate Director of CCISE, says, "Laughing Gull Foundation was there at the beginning and really got us off the ground with their initial grant. We were able to use the subsidy for our hiring and supplies for the program's first three years. And now, with a renewed grant and increased funding, this means a vote of confidence in the value of our program and that LGF sees it as doing really important work in the field of higher education in prisons in the South."

The grant will play a big role in helping sustain the Chillon Project as it expands to include a new degree offering: a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. Funding the progression of the project will allow the entire first class at Arrendale State Prison, which will graduate with the associate degree in January, to continue on to the bachelor's program.



**LIFE**  
University

## More University-Based Chiropractic Education to Commence in UK

Teesside University and the Society for Promoting Chiropractic Education (SPCE) have announced the launch of new chiropractic course in the United Kingdom. Subject to regulatory clearances, the course will commence in Autumn 2019.

The new program is the first chiropractic course to be located in the North East of England and will continue to enhance and increase the opportunities for the profession, not just locally but also nationally.

Teesside University has world-class training and research facilities for musculoskeletal (MSK) healthcare, especially in physiotherapy and sports science. The course will be an integral part of the School of Health & Social Care and students will benefit greatly from interprofessional learning.



*L to R: Gordon Mitchell (Associate Dean, Teesside U), Peter Dixon (Director, SPCE), Anne Binks (Associate Dean, Teesside U), Marion Grieves (Dean, Teesside U), Satjit Singh (CEO, SPCE), Matthew Bennett (Director, SPCE)*



*Teesside University*

Marion Grieves, Dean of the School of Health & Social Care, said: "MSK healthcare is a significant and increasing demand on the health system and the economy. We believe that tackling this issue with the aid of highly trained professionals will be a major priority for the country in the coming years and we are proud to be part of this development.

"The chiropractic course fits extremely well with our existing offers within the school. Teesside students benefit from state-of-art facilities on and off-campus, supporting them to lead fulfilling academic and social lives".

Satjit Singh, Chief Executive of SPCE commented: "As first contact, non-surgical spine specialists, chiropractors have a significant role in dealing with the MSK crisis the UK faces. Training chiropractors in one of the country's leading universities, is a major step in that direction. We look forward to supporting Teesside University in developing a

world-class course, which will meet the aspirations of the patients, profession and students".

WFC Secretary-General Richard Brown commented on the development. "This is excellent news for chiropractic in the UK and for the global profession.

"As the value of chiropractic is appreciated by ever-greater numbers of patients, and the role of chiropractors is recognized in tackling the burden of disease created by spinal pain and disability, we need to ensure that we meet demand through education and training.

"The work of the SPCE in securing not just one, but two new UK university-based programs during 2018 is testament to the dedication of its officers. The WFC congratulates all involved on this tremendous achievement."

For more information about the SPCE, visit [www.chiroeducation.org](http://www.chiroeducation.org).



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## Spanish chiropractors appeal for support as government seeks to label chiropractic 'pseudoscience'.

**Following a letter from 400 scientists protesting against homeopathy and other non-medical treatment, chiropractors in Spain have been caught up in government proposals to ban therapies labeled 'pseudoscience'.**

In September 2018, a group of 400 scientists sent an open letter to the Spanish Health Minister Luisa Carcedo demanding firmer action against pseudoscience.

The letter followed the highly publicized death of a young woman from breast cancer after she had refused standard medical care, opting instead to continue with homeopathic remedies.

The letter was published in the Spanish *El País* newspaper. The scientists complained that individuals were working in health centers and violating legislation, but in other cases qualified medical practitioners were promoting pseudoscience and misleading patients. The scientists' letter went on to call for action against 'a plague affecting the roots of the country's health system'.

The recently-elected Spanish government has already alerted the European Parliament in Brussels that current regulations pose a health risk and that action is called for to strengthen laws. It will draw up a list of therapies that it considers pseudoscience but is currently using a list drawn up by skeptic organizations. This list includes chiropractic, which both skeptics and the media have branded both ineffective and the 'most dangerous of pseudotherapies'.

The national chiropractic association in Spain is the Asociación Española de Quiropráctica (AEQ), whose President is Carlos Gevers-Montoro. The AEQ is the Spanish member of the World Federation of Chiropractic and the European Chiropractors' Union. Both organizations have been providing assistance to the AEQ, which has produced an institutional statement and a compendium of research setting out the evidence base for treatments used by chiropractors.

"Let's be clear, this is a very serious situation," said Dr Gevers-Montoro. "We have held urgent meetings with members of the Health Ministry and the science Ministry to explain the standards of education and training for chiropractors and we've also put forward respected many scientific papers supporting our treatment methods. However, the media is powerful in Spain and despite our objections to reports that are not true, the government seems determined to press



*Dr Carlos Gevers-Montoro, President AEQ*

ahead with its plans."

There are approximately 400 chiropractors in Spain, half of which are native Spaniards, with the remainder being expatriates. Just under 300 are members of the AEQ. Despite the existence of two educational institutions, Barcelona College of Chiropractic and Madrid College of Chiropractic, chiropractic remains unregulated in Spain. This makes the profession vulnerable, with physiotherapists frequently claiming that chiropractic is a sub-specialty technique skill of physiotherapy and not a profession in its own right. This is contrary to the position of the World Health Organization and many jurisdictions globally which have legislated chiropractic as a distinct profession.

The Spanish government has put forward proposals that if passed will prohibit universities from teaching what it classes as pseudoscience. They will also prevent public and private establishments that offer therapies on the government's list from calling themselves health centers.

The government says that as well as not working, pseudoscientific therapies perpetuate illness and even increase the risk of death.

Dr Gevers-Montoro continued: "We know that chiropractic is extremely safe and that the effectiveness for spine and joint disorders is well documented. We need the support of the international community to fight the misinformation that is currently being given to government ministers. It is ironic that in a number of European countries chiropractic is delivered in mainstream hospital care with great success, yet in Spain, the government is trying to ban chiropractic. This is at a time where there has never been a stronger case for tackling the burden of disease caused by back pain and other neuromusculoskeletal conditions."

## AIC in talks with Italian Ministries to secure status of chiropractic

**The Association of Italian chiropractors (AIC) has been in discussion with the Italian Ministry of Health over issues of education and scope of practice. Here, AIC President John Williams reports on progress.**

There are two key issues about which the AIC is very passionate when in discussion with the Ministry of Health: the chiropractic curriculum and the ability to diagnose.

In early December, AIC President John Williams and the AIC lawyer, Laura Frattari met with the Ministry of Health to discuss these two issues, which for many years have been obstacles to the full legal recognition of chiropractic in Italy.

Also present at the meeting was a representative from the University Ministry (MIUR). His role at the meeting was to understand the interests of the AIC in light of existing regulations that refer to law #43 of 2006 concerning technical professionals

As is the case in many parts of the world, reference to the term diagnosis is protected as a medical act, meaning that only licensed medical practitioners have the right to diagnose. However, in Italy, chiropractors are considered 'first-contact professionals' who are

responsible for assessment and their treatment protocols. What this essentially means is that a patient can attend a chiropractor having already received a diagnosis and the chiropractor can independently assess and design a plan of management. The chiropractor remains entirely responsible for their actions throughout.

One significant challenge is that the Ministry has invited those with inferior educational qualifications to be part of the talks. These persons, calling themselves chiropractors, have graduated from unrecognized universities and unaccredited chiropractic programs. They are supportive of short, 3-year programs and a medical prescription for chiropractic, which the AIC sees as a dangerous situation that could weaken the arguments of the AIC for high standards of education and practice.

The AIC continues to advocate strongly for a 5-year program and have been given time to set out their arguments, including proof that the proposed 5-year program could not be compressed into a shorter time period. The AIC has requested a detailed curriculum from 3 chiropractic institutions, with further discussion between MIUR and the National University Council taking place at that stage.

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## Foot Levelers and Chiro Congress partner to aid advancement of chiropractic

With the aim of exposing more patients to the benefits of chiropractic, Foot levelers and Chiro Congress, the Congress of Chiropractic State Associations, have partnered to produce a suite of marketing content for use on a state-by-state basis.

In November, the Foot Levelers video team traveled to the annual Chiro Congress conference in Austin, Texas, and shot over 90 videos involving 31 state associations.

Topics of discussion on filmed interviews included the value of chiropractic, the opioid crisis, and why chiropractors should support their state association.

"This was a great opportunity to partner with Chiro Congress and state associations, increase exposure to both chiropractors and the public," said Dawn Galbraith, Foot Levelers' Senior Vice-President. "Foot Levelers was pleased to provide resources at no cost."

The videos, valued at over \$75,000, were carefully edited by Foot Levelers staff and are being dispatched to state associations to support marketing, including

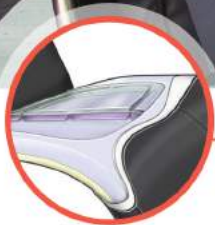
membership drives and public awareness campaigns.

"Foot Levelers' support of the profession and state associations is remarkable," said Elizabeth Klein, executive director of Chiro Congress. "These videos are a major help to our state associations' marketing and recruitment efforts. The videos educate current members about the state associations' top priorities in 2019 and the value of being a member of these state associations. We can't thank Foot Levelers enough for their dedication to our mission and their tremendous generosity in making this project come to fruition."

For over 66 years Foot Levelers has supported chiropractic through donations, education and professional development. Dawn Galbraith continued, "We're excited to continue our partnership with Chiro Congress and other organizations as well to help chiropractic and the benefits it can bring in this challenging health climate."

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## Chiropractor heads up international study on pelvic girdle pain

A group of 12 international researchers, led by **Francesca Wuytack DC, PhD** (pictured) from Trinity College Dublin, Ireland are working on the development of a consensus-based Pelvic Girdle Pain - Core Outcome Set (PGP-COS).

PGP is an important cause of disability and economic cost worldwide. There is a need for effective preventative and management strategies, but emerging studies measure a variety of outcomes rendering synthesis and translation to clinical practice difficult. An agreed set of core outcomes (COS) can address this problem by ensuring that data are relevant, useful and usable for making well-informed healthcare choices. The resulting PGP-COS can be used in research and clinical practice, with the ultimate aim of globally promoting the health and well-being of people with PGP by consistent and relevant outcome measurement and reporting worldwide.

To develop the consensus-based PGP-COS, the group is undertaking a two year long, five stage study. The initial phases included systematically reviewing the published literature surrounding PGP to identify all outcome measures used in clinical trials. Patient interviews in Ireland, Sweden and Mexico were also undertaken to make sure that sufferers of PGP have a clear voice throughout the entire study.

They are now in the final phases of their study which will involve a three round online international Delphi survey where the researchers plan to invite all PGP stakeholders, including patients, researchers, clinicians and policy makers, to take part. Twenty participants of

the Delphi will then be invited to partake in a face to face consensus meeting which aims to reach agreement and finalize the PGP-COS. The study team will roll out a global dissemination of a consensus-based core outcome set to promote implementation worldwide.

This study is registered with the COMET Initiative (<http://www.comet-initiative.org/studies/details/958>). More details of the PGP-COS study can be found here in the protocol (<https://rdcu.be/bcpon>). If you are a PGP stakeholder interested in participating in our online Delphi survey please contact Alex Remus at [remusa@tcd.ie](mailto:remusa@tcd.ie) for more information.

Acknowledgments: The PGP-COS study received funding from the Belgian Chiropractic Union Research Fund & the European Centre for Chiropractic Research Excellence.



## Call for applications: VA Chiropractic Residency (US applicants only)



**VA** | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The VA Chiropractic Integrated Clinical Practice residency is a full-time, one-year, hospital-based postgraduate training program for DCs seeking innovative training and experiences relevant to careers in hospitals, integrated medical systems, and/or academia. The residencies provide advanced clinical training in complex case management, allowing recent graduates to increase their knowledge and acumen under the mentorship of senior VA chiropractors. Residents gain valuable interprofessional experience by collaborating with primary care providers, medical and surgical specialists, and associated health disciplines. To date, 19 of 20 program graduates (95%) have placed in hospital practice or medical academic positions after program completion.

Further details and application instructions are available at <http://bit.ly/VAchiro>.

The application period for the VA Chiropractic Integrated Clinical Practice Residency Class of 2020 (training dates: July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020) opens January 14, 2019.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**January 14, 2019: Application period opens**

**February 8, 2019: Deadline for submission of all application materials**

**March 31, 2019: All applicants will be notified of decisions on or before this date.**



## International regulators to meet in Berlin

### The International Chiropractic Regulatory Society will meet for its 11th Forum, March 20, in Berlin, Germany.

"We are looking forward to offering a robust Forum in conjunction with EPIC2019," stated Dr Lisa Richard, chair of the International Chiropractic Regulatory Forum. "This international gathering is an ideal opportunity to continue the conversation about how best to ensure that chiropractic patients receive care that is both skilled and ethical."

The ICRS is an international nonprofit organization, which was incorporated after a decade of meetings among countries with legislation and those seeking legal recognition of the practice of chiropractic.

"We held our first annual general meeting in Budapest," Dr Richard reported. It was there that the ICRS bylaws were confirmed, marking the last of the many procedural steps required to incorporate under Canada's uniform requirements for nonprofits.

The ICRS has engaged the services of Donna (Liewer) Cohen as its volunteer executive director. Cohen was previously with the US Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards for 25 years as its top executive.

"The 11th Annual Forum will be held all day on Wednesday, March 20," Ms Cohen explained. "We realize there are many concurrent events going on in Berlin at the EPIC 2019. The Forum is open to all, and we hope that nations interested in improving or establishing legislation will be able to send at least one representative to this important meeting."

The ICRS will also be presenting a workshop on Saturday afternoon, March 23, as part of the EPIC2019 official educational program. "We will peel back the layers of some interesting adjudicated cases involving disciplinary actions," Dr Richard explained. "In this highly interactive session, attendees will be able to see why certain aspects of regulation are vital to protect the public."

Former chair of the Federation of Canadian Chiropractic, Dr Richard was optimistic in describing the future of chiropractic regulation internationally. "There are so many good people hard at work in associations worldwide. Those nations who already enjoy the professional legitimacy and protections provided by legislation are eager to share their experiences with others," she said.

Dr Richard continued: "We also recognize that in the end, however, every country must adopt a system that is in sync with its own unique cultural identity. Within that framework, we believe the issues in public protection are very common among health care professions in general as well as among chiropractors. Working together, we can enjoy relatively uniform approaches that open greater worldwide mobility for safe, ethical practitioners."

In addition to Dr Richard as chair, the membership recently elected Dr Kristin Grace, of the New Zealand Chiropractic Board as vice chair and Mrs Penny Bance of the United Kingdom's General Chiropractic Council as secretary/treasurer.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to work closely with our growing membership and this powerful leadership team of experienced regulators," Ms Cohen commented.

Please visit the ICRC website at [www.chiroregulation.org](http://www.chiroregulation.org) for more information about membership in the organization and to register for the Berlin Forum.





# CHIROPRACTIC DIPLOMATIC CORPS

REGIONAL STRATEGIES ARE NEEDED  
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
NEW CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGES



In the advent of globalizing the chiropractic education process, it is paramount we first understand that our profession is able to qualify Doctors of Chiropractic under an accredited chiropractic program which permits students to satisfy internship requirements in an on-campus clinical setting concomitant with completion of their formal education. This is particularly important for the new schools that are added to an established university. Laws can then logically follow schools.

What appeals to the law makers is the addition of a new and viable profession, unique and distinct, clear in its service mission and not one that merely tries to duplicate services already provided by other existing licensed health care professionals.

The chiropractic profession is gradually beginning to expand its ability to educate chiropractors in an increasing number of countries. There is a need for an organized effort to package an exportable educational product that complies with the legitimate and established professional standards.

Standards of the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) establish the area of eminent qualification of the chiropractor: "*skeletal biomechanical and subluxation evaluation*" and general screening of the patient for referral and consultation. (neuro?)

Length of Chiropractic courses would best be compared with the other healthcare professions of similar education, such as Dentistry or Optometry.



## International Education

Doctor of Chiropractic		Ms. Chiro	Other
Brazil	Canada	Australia	Master in Clinical Biomechanics
France (2)	Japan	New Zealand	Denmark
Mexico (3)	Spain (2)	South Korea	Bachelor in Technology (Chiropractic) & Master in Technology (Chiropractic) South Africa
Sweden	United States (18)	Switzerland	B.Sc. (Hons) Chiro Malaysia
(Most commonly used)		UK	
		(Other varieties here)	

Chiropractors may be found in 120 countries but not all nations can support its own college, therefore a regional logistical strategy can be established to address future college development. It would be fair to state there are now 15 to 20 countries attempting to start their own college. The need to have adequate qualified chiropractic faculty is the central barrier to Chiropractic college expansion in the world. A strategic plan can address these barriers to growth. A consortium of Chiropractic Colleges is part of the solution such as the Rubicon group to bring to bear the faculty manpower and the education technology needed to establish new colleges. Other strategic stakeholders are needed as well. The Chiropractic Diplomatic Corps continues to advocate for a regional strategic plan to adequately advance the needs of several nations at the same time.

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