

Quarterly World Report

SEPTEMBER 2015



Let's start with what the patient wants

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chiropratique
canadienne

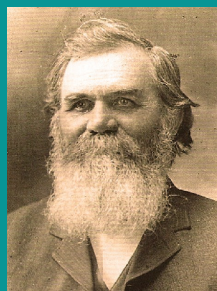


Canadian
Chiropractic
Association

CANADIAN CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION TASK FORCE SHAPES PATIENT EXPERIENCE

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120 years young!
Chiropractic celebrates
another milestone.

We're greater than the sum of our parts.

Dr Greg Stewart, WFC President



People often ask me what the WFC is all about. They've heard of it, they know it's global and it hosts a Congress every two years, but beyond that have very little awareness of what we do or who we are.

It's easy to look at us in separate parts. We have 88 full members, national associations of countries that are distributed across 7 world regions. We have a Council and an Executive. We have a Research Council and a Public Health Committee. Our Secretariat is housed in Toronto. We have Corporate partners and individuals further support our work.

But the WFC is so much more than these separate parts. As a global federation, we bring together chiropractors from all cultures and geographic locations with the view of advancing the profession. Under the umbrella of the chiropractic profession we strive to support, empower, promote and unite the profession in a way that focuses on our similarities, not our differences.

During the summer, I attended the Homecoming at the Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. It was a magnificent celebration of the profession. United by, in many cases, a common Alma Mater, chiropractors from around the world came to enjoy a sense of family, of commonality and of fellowship.

Those present represented the full spectrum of the profession. They may have had sharply contrasting philosophies and approaches to practice but in the end, they were unified by their love of the profession and the communities they served, whether in practice, in research or in education.

As chiropractic celebrates its 120th birthday, we look back and respect the work of our forefathers, but importantly also look forward to an exciting future where, as spinal health specialists we can continue to impact positively on those we serve. The Gallup survey of the profession serves as a timely reminder that as a profession we are moving in a

positive direction, where our services are being ever more utilised and where opportunities lie before us like no other time in our history.

History has shown repeatedly that when nations come together as one, great things can be achieved. The WFC provides a banner under which our members from around the world can unite and advance the profession. As a global federation, we're so much more than the sum of our separate parts. As we move forward into the next 120 years, let's focus on what bonds us as chiropractors and will be our strength: the pursuit of excellence in spinal health and well being and delivering great experiences to our patients. **GS**

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Shaping the Patient Experience of Chiropractic

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As the national professional association in Canada, one of the Canadian Chiropractic Association's (CCA) stated roles is to help the profession reach its full potential, and understand the opportunities and barriers to reaching that goal.

The CCA's vision is that chiropractors will be an integral part of every Canadian's healthcare team by 2023. As the Board contemplated its new vision, it realised that its approach must face the chiropractic profession's public perception issue head on if it were to achieve this success, acknowledging that they need more Canadians engaging in the profession and being aware that they exist.

CCA Chief Executive, Alison Dantas, said, "It is not news that as a whole, the public perception of the profession has some challenges. These issues have been discussed and dissected within the profession for decades, most likely in varying degrees since its inception in 1895".

"Rather than look inwards, contemplating how to 'fix' this issue by measures of fault or differences within our individual spectrums of care, our approach has been to invest in strategic objectives that focused on internal and external programs and services that would provide opportunities for change, even transformation"

The consensus of the CCA is that the profession needs to focus on patients and the public, because it their perceptions becomes the profession's reality.

In 2014 a National Patient Experience Task Force, initiated by the CCA with the support of the professional associations in Canada, undertook the task of understanding 'What the patient wants'

by conducting in depth interviews with 50 Canadians who had received care for MSK conditions.

The interviews, each up to an hour long, were designed to gain an understanding of each patient's journey, determine what experiences propelled them to feel satisfied or dissatisfied with their chiropractic care, or understand what their experiences were like if they were treated by other healthcare practitioners for their MSK condition.

It was clear from this research that the most important driver of a positive or negative patient experience was trust that their practitioner understood them, and that care decisions were based on the patient's goals. From the time the patient walks through the door of a clinic, whether or not the patient has a good experience is an area the profession has the most control over.

As Alison Dantas remarked, "Who are we changing for if not for the people we serve and the people we know we can serve?" "With the support of all the professional associations and on behalf of members, we are committed to understanding these perceptions, to seek out tools and resources that will provide deeper insight to help support a shift in public perception".

The recent 2015 CCA National Convention & Tradeshow captured this important strategic priority by bringing together Canada's Chiropractic Specialty Colleges, Research Symposium, Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association and Canadian Chiropractic Guideline Initiative for the first time ever around the theme of *Advancing Excellence in Patient Care*.

The CCA recognizes that shaping the patient experience of chiropractic is challenging, and that we don't have other professions to use as a model. Its

developing action plan is built upon a strong belief in this profession and the central role it can take in helping to address the tremendous need for better spinal health.

In Canada, it will start by building awareness that patient experience matters and that patients can show the way forward.

Stand Up For Your Back! say Dutch chiropractors in public awareness drive

The Netherlands Chiropractic Association (NCA) has initiated a public health awareness campaign that is taking the country by storm.

Using its own animated character, 'Mooph', the NCA has launched a series of animations showing people how to get active and take regular breaks from prolonged sitting and inactivity. Lasting around 2 minutes each, the short animations track Mooph's progress as he begins to experience back pain and then discovers how visiting a chiropractor can help him.

The adventures of Mooph are part of a larger public health campaign to make people more aware of spinal health and wellbeing. On World Spine Day, October 16, the NCA will be celebrating its 40th anniversary and association members will be gathering in Amsterdam for a birthday conference. The WFC will be there, with Secretary-General Richard Brown delivering a keynote address on chiropractic worldwide.

The NCA is supporting its members with a range of materials and calendars to keep them informed about the timeline for press releases. More information can be found at a dedicated 'Stand Up For Your Back' website - www.staopvoorjerug.nl.



Thinking of practising in France? Important information for non-European chiropractors

The Association Francaise de Chiropraxie (AFC) is warning chiropractors who are graduates of colleges outside Europe to ensure they comply with all legal requirements before coming to France to work.

France is a sovereign nation in which chiropractic has been regulated since 2011. It does not grant any diploma equivalence outside Europe and decisions of the French authorities are not under the control of the AFC. Administrative decisions are solely in the jurisdiction of French and European law. At the 2012 Association of Chiropractic Colleges Research Agenda Conference (ACC-RAC), chiropractic college presidents were urged to approach French embassies in order to gain diploma equivalence. The AFC reports that this does not appear to have happened to date.

The AFC wishes to clarify that it cannot be responsible for any difficulty in obtaining administrative authorisation for the Doctor of Chiropractic qualification obtained outside of Europe. It strongly advises all chiropractors wishing to settle in France to request a work permit with the French Embassy and also their license to practice and use the title of Doctor of Chiropractic at the ARS Ile de France prior to coming to France. The AFC also points out that a file review at ARS may take more than one year with a real risk that it may be refused.

The AFC has witnessed dramatic disappointments of foreign chiropractors (including those from the USA, Mexico, New-Zealand) who moved to France and found themselves unable to practice. It is strictly forbidden to open a chiropractic clinic without administrative authorisation.

All Doctors of Chiropractic must have professional liability to practice and it can only be obtained after receiving the administrative right to practice. In addition to judicial proceedings for the illegal practice of medicine and chiropractic (up to 2 years imprisonment and a fine of up to €30,000), a conviction for practising with no valid insurance may also result in a fine of €40,000.

The WFC strongly endorses the advice of the AFC. Working as a chiropractor overseas is not as simple as arriving and setting up in practice. Be sure to check all regulations and prepare accordingly.



“Your Back At Work” World Spine Day 2015 raises awareness in the workplace.

This year's World Spine Day on October 16th will focus on one of the biggest causes of back pain – our activities at work. With back pain the largest single global cause of disability, World Spine Day will be raising awareness of occupational factors and how we can reduce the impact they have on our backs and necks.

. Heavy lifting, repetitive movement and sitting for long periods can all become painful over time; in fact back pain is one of the major causes of time off work, with workers sometimes out of action for weeks or months.

Chiropractor Dr Jennifer Nash is the co-ordinator for this year's World Spine Day program. “What we do to our backs at work can lead to all kinds of problems,” she says. “Often we don't realise the damage we're doing when we lift, twist, bend or even sit. By being more spine aware we will reduce the risk of injury and keep people at work.”

World Spine Day brings together a wide range of health professionals committed to reducing the burden of spinal disorders. An initiative of the Bone and Joint Decade, World Spine Day highlights the burden of back problems and raises awareness of spinal health through a series of public health messages.

Back pain can affect those in sedentary jobs as much as those in heavy physical occupations. Over 80 per cent of adults will suffer back pain at some point in their lives, and many will cite

Philippines chiropractors gather in record numbers for 2015 Assembly

Over 86% of registered Philippines chiropractors came together in July for the second annual General Assembly of Registered Chiropractors of the Philippines.

Joined by members of the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Healthcare, Department of Health (PITAHC, DOH), the gathering provided an opportunity to share best practice and discuss ways to advance the chiropractic profession in the Philippines. The welcome address was given by no other than Dr Isidro Sia, MD, the Director General of PITAHC, DOH.

The meeting attracted the vast majority of registered chiropractors from all over the Philippines, some travelling from remote islands to be able to participate in fellowship and discussions affecting the profession in the country. Of the 29 registered chiropractors in the Philippines, 25 were present at the meeting, which heard President Martin Camara report on outcomes of the WFC Biennial Congress and outlined a strategic plan to address the issue of unregulated practitioners practising as chiropractors in the Philippines. Ratification of a Code of Ethics was successful and talks were initiated in relation to raising the profile of chiropractic in the Philippines.

Dr Camara commented, “This was a highly successful meeting and it was great to see so many colleagues in attendance. We are committed to developing our profession through ethical standards and excellence in conduct and practice.”



their work as being a major cause. In developing countries, access to treatment is scarce, resulting in spinal disorders and inability to continue working. World Spine Day has produced a toolkit, available at its website www.worldspineday.org to help organisations, employers, health care providers and other interested groups plan to get involved. Using the hashtags #worldspineday and #spineselfie, World Spine Day encourages people to take to social media (@world_spine_day) to post images of healthy spine habits at work. With disc disease, osteoarthritis, and structural deformities such as scoliosis, back pain can take many forms but, says Dr Nash, there are measures that can help to address the condition:

“By raising awareness of work-related spine issues, we hope to reduce the terrible impact of back problems throughout the world. Education and prevention strategies are key – we want to stop back pain at work before it starts. World Spine Day aims to reach employers as well as employees – after all, a healthy workforce is a productive workforce.”



Dr. Ron Oberstein named Chair of Board of Regents of Life Chiropractic College West

The Board of Regents, the 12-member governing body for Life Chiropractic College West, recently elected Dr. Ron Oberstein to a two-year term as the board's Chair. Dr. Oberstein has been a member of the college's Board of Regents since 1991 and served as the Chair of the Enrolment Committee for the past five years.

Dr. Oberstein graduated from Life Chiropractic College (now Life University) in 1981 and since has had private practices in both Boston and San Diego. He has provided care for elite athletes, celebrities, and heads of state. With an emphasis on family care, he sees patients of all ages, helping them achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Dr. Oberstein lectures at venues worldwide on the scientific validation of chiropractic and the safety and effectiveness of the chiropractic adjustment along with the vitalistic force that resides within the body. He and his wife of 27 years, Dr. Mary Oberstein, started Hands for Life, a non-profit organization delivering chiropractic care globally to children and adults in need with a focus in Tijuana, Mexico. He is the Past Vice President of the International Chiropractors Association and provides support to other non-profit organizations within the chiropractic profession.

Dr. Oberstein resides in San Diego and has three daughters, all of which have either completed or are currently studying to be doctors of chiropractic.

CONTACT THE WFC!

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Chiropractors included in Danish 50-strong muscle and joint health research team

A team of leading researchers, including chiropractors, have founded a new research institute that aims to become a top centre for musculoskeletal health.

The researchers, from the University of Southern Denmark, have founded the Center for Muscle and Joint Health. With a stated aim of reducing the burden of musculoskeletal health, investigators will look at pain and functional loss in joints.

Research has previously shown that a Dane loses an average of seven years of good quality of life due to pain and functional problems related to the musculoskeletal system. Muscle and joint disorders now constitute the major cause of functional impairment of populations in Europe - larger than other common disorders like depression, dementia and heart disease.

The impact of musculoskeletal conditions has increased by 40% since 1990 and will continue to increase with an aging, overweight and inactive population.

Through its research, the center wishes to influence a paradigm shift from a focus on wait-and-see, disease and disability to a focus on evidence-based knowledge transfer and implementation related to prevention, early detection and effective treatment in the community, in the workplace and in the health care system.

This includes the promotion of physical activity to improve not only muscle and joint function, but also general health. This will not only enhance the quality of life of those individual Danes affected, but also help to contain Denmark's spiralling healthcare costs.





Reviews threaten to impact chiropractic profession in Australia

A series of government-led reviews is threatening to impact the chiropractic profession in Australia, says Dr Matthew Fisher, CEO of the Chiropractors Association of Australia (CAA).

The CAA, who's current President is WFC Council member Dr Laurie Tassell, is the largest member in the WFC's Pacific region. It represents the majority of Australia's 5000 registered chiropractors, 70% of whom are under 45. Chiropractors represent 1% of the nation's health professional workforce.

There are currently four universities offering chiropractic degree programmes in Australia. However, as Dr Fisher explains, one of these, Macquarie University in Sydney, is reconsidering its position as a provider of chiropractic education within the health professions. Despite offering a rigorous 5-year Masters level evidence-based programme which is nationally accredited by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and internationally recognised by the Council on Chiropractic Education (Australasia), the university authorities are contemplating withdrawing the programme. This decision is being vigorously opposed and the WFC has written to Macquarie's vice-chancellor in protest at what is being considered.

The Government is also conducting reviews of the supporting the business of chiropractors.

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, a review of educational standards and competencies, a review of diagnostic imaging regulations, a review of the medical benefits scheme, reviews of primary health care and chronic disease management and a review of the industrial relations framework

The CAA is robustly representing the profession in Australia, promoting the profession and the rights of its members to practice. With direct representation on committees, formal submissions and influencing related associations the CAA is working tirelessly to ensure that chiropractors continue to enjoy rights and privileges consistent with their professional status.

Recognising the need to focus on strengthening the evidence base for chiropractic, the CAA has supported the Australian Chiropractic Research Network (ACORN), the largest, most ambitious research initiative of its type to have been undertaken in Australia. Led by Professor Jon Adams, a senior researcher at the Australia Research Centre in Complementary and Integrative Medicine, Faculty of Health, University of Technology, Sydney, ACORN is a national project undertaken with the wider profession in mind. Funding 4 PhD scholarships, the CAA is committed to improving the evidence base for chiropractic care.

The CAA has also announced the launch of a new strategic plan to improve the reputation and standing of the profession in the community to enable chiropractors to enhance the reputation of the chiropractic profession and the health status of its patients.



Mixed fortunes for Irish chiropractors

The Chiropractic Association of Ireland (CAI) reports that as of September 1, 2015, chiropractic has been removed from a list of occupations ineligible for work permits in Ireland. The decision of the Irish Government, part of a move to address skills shortages, was taken in response to representations from the CAI to overturn a November 2014 decision to prohibit work permit applications. The lifting of the ban on work permits only applies to chiropractors who are members of the CAI.

In a statement, a spokesman for the Ministry for Jobs and Enterprise said that finding an adequate supply of skilled workers to fill key vacancies across the economy was a key objective of the Government's Action Plan for Jobs.

Meanwhile, CAI member Dr Niall Tilley has recently been awarded a Master of Science degree in neuroscience from Trinity College, Dublin, the most prestigious institution in Ireland. Working with Professor Kumlesh Dev, Dr Tilley is continuing his studies looking at the effect of chiropractic adjusting on inflammatory markers.

However, this good news has been tempered by the CAI learning that diagnostic imaging centres that had previously accepted referrals from chiropractors were now refusing to do so. CAI President, Tammy Verlaan-Ross, said, "We're perplexed about this development and are currently investigating. We're not quite sure of the reasons why chiropractors are not being able to order imaging, which is a vital component of our clinical assessment of patients."





PALMER HOMECOMING

WFC President Dr Greg Stewart, Secretary-General Dr Richard Brown and former Secretary-General Mr David Chapman-Smith attended the Homecoming event at Palmer College between 13 and 15 August, 2015.

The annual event to welcome both Alumni and friends of the College featured a host of top speakers from the world of chiropractic, including those who have contributed over many decades. These included Dr Lou Sportelli, Past President of the WFC, Dr Bill Meeker, President of Palmer College West, Dr Christine Goertz, Vice-Chancellor and Director of Research and Cynthia English, a client service consultant with the market research agency, Gallup. Mr Chapman-Smith gave an excellent presentation entitled, "*Does the chiropractic profession need an adjustment?*" a thought-provoking discourse covering the history of chiropractic over the past 25 years and views on what needed to be done to ensure its sustainability into the future.

The event also featured Mr George McAndrews, counsel for the American Chiropractic Association during the *Wilk et al v AMA et al*, an historic case that led to a permanent injunction to prevent the American Medical Association's formal opposition to chiropractic and its 'Commission on Quackery', set up to contain and eliminate the chiropractic profession.

The Homecoming also saw Dr Goertz launch her "20 for 20 in 20" campaign. Celebrating 20 years of the Palmer Centre for Chiropractic Research (PCCR), Palmer College is encouraging as many chiropractors and friends of the College to commit to giving \$20 per year for the next 20 years to raise funds for the PCCR. During the weekend, Drs Stewart and Brown were given a tour of the impressive, multi-million dollar research centre, which is conducting a range of clinical and basic science research

projects. Dr Stewart gave a short but excellent speech in support of the research agenda, making reference to the success of the Canadian research programme.

The weekend gave Drs Stewart and Brown the opportunity to meet with leaders in the profession, including the Chancellor of Palmer, Dr Dennis Marchiori and the President of the International Chiropractors' Association, Dr George Curry. They also took a tour of BJ Palmer's mansion, which gave them a fascinating insight into the mind of the Developer of Chiropractic.

The climax of the event was a festival event, held in the open air and attended by hundreds of Homecoming delegates and their families. In thanking Dr Marchiori, the WFC commented on the exciting future direction of the College and its clear commitment to research.

Speaking after the event, Dr Stewart said, "This was my first visit to Palmer and it has been a memorable one. I've been hugely impressed and congratulate the College on its forward-thinking agenda and commitment to the future of the profession."



WFC COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Every 3 years the WFC holds elections for its seats on Council. There are 7 world regions represented on Council: Africa, Asia, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, Latin America, North America and Pacific.

Depending on the numbers of chiropractors represented there are between one and five seats available for each region.

The WFC issued a Notice on October 1, 2015 announcing that elections will be held for WFC Council seats for the period 2016-2019.

If you're interested in serving on WFC Council, contact your national association. More information can be found at www.wfc.org.

Puerto Rican chiropractors put patient care first in advancing profession

Puerto Rico (officially the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) is an overseas territory of the United States located in the northeast Caribbean. Its capital is San Juan and it has a population of around 3.5 million.

Under the leadership of its Asociación de Quiroprácticos de Puerto Rico's (AQPR) energetic President, Dr Mayda Serrano, chiropractic has been flourishing in Puerto Rico. Dr Serrano has initiated a number of activities that have placed chiropractic in the spotlight and has brought the benefits of chiropractic care to communities and the wider public. This has included making representations in the Senate and House of Representatives to ensure that all essential chiropractic benefits are included in the Puerto Rican Affordable Care Act (also known as Obama Care).

Dr Serrano has advanced the profession by recognising the value of interdisciplinary collaborative care. The AQPR has also joined forces with the medical college in a case against the insurance commissioner's office to permit changes to coverage so that contracts may be negotiated on an association, not individual, basis.

In further news, the AQPR has been granted membership of CICAP, the Council for Interdisciplinary Colleges and Associations of Puerto Rico, and the Academy of Medical Directors of Puerto Rico, to whom Dr Serrano gave a presentation on the value of chiropractic and interprofessional integration.

Away from the political scene, AQPR chiropractors recently took part in the Juegos de Puerto Rico (nationwide games) and chiropractic has now been embedded into the care of high level volleyball teams.

Finally, the AQPR has been active in the area of public health, providing a series of educational talks to companies and organisations throughout the island.

The WFC congratulates Dr Serrano for her leadership and applaud the efforts of the AQPR in bringing chiropractic to the general public.



Italian Chiropractors hopeful of statutory regulation and new college

The Italian government has presented a bill to regulate the chiropractic profession and create a chiropractic register eight years after legislation first recognized the profession in Italy.

The Association of Italian Chiropractors (AIC) broadly supported the draft bill, which would confirm the autonomous and primary care status of chiropractors and endorse

international standards of education. The success of efforts to regulate chiropractic in Italy represent a triumph over those seeking to designate chiropractic a medical specialty or to classify it as a mere technique common to other professions. AIC President John Williams said, "Our work over years to have chiropractic properly recognized are on the brink of success. We're extremely optimistic at long last that chiropractic will be seen legislated as a distinct profession."

Meanwhile, legislative efforts of other professions are on-going at national parliamentary level, regional and provincial levels as well as in the European Union.

Members of the medical profession have sponsored a bill in parliament seeking to make diagnosis the exclusive right of medical practitioners. This reflects a strategy seen in a number of court cases where chiropractors have been accused of practicing medicine without a licence.

Chiropractic clinic inspections and closures continue but are now relatively sporadic.

The Italian association has worked for several years to facilitate the opening of a chiropractic educational institution in Italy. Their efforts have apparently been rewarded, with Life University recently announcing the opening of a campus in Rome within 3 years. The project will launch at the Life Roma Seminar in 20-21 November, in Rome <http://www.liferomaseminar.com> where the ECU General Council will also be meeting.





World Congress of Chiropractic Students

Mexico State University hosts regional WCCS seminar

Mexico's State University of Valle de Toluca (UNEVT) hosted the regional WCCS seminar 24-26 September. Part of the Americas WCCS Region, UNEVT welcomed chiropractic students for a lively weekend of inspiring discussion and debate.

UNEVT is one of Mexico's newest educational institutions, opening in 2009 with just two degree awards, one of which was in chiropractic. Located in Toluca, the state capital of the State of Mexico, UNEVT is approximately 63 kilometres south west of Mexico City. In premises donated by the city with funding from the Federal and State Governments, UNEVT offers three courses of study. As well as chiropractic, programmes in acupuncture and gerontology are also delivered at the university.

Other chiropractic programmes offered in Mexico are at the State University of the Valley of Ecetepec (UNEVE) and Veracruz University (UV), which has recently hosted the annual congress of the Colegio da Profesionistas Cientifico Quiropracticos de Mexico. UV is an independent university offering a range of health science programmes. Chiropractic is offered within the School of Medicine.



Tokyo College of Chiropractic celebrates 20 years of Japanese chiropractic education

Tokyo College of Chiropractic (TCC) celebrated 20 years of chiropractic education in Japan earlier this year as part of an international workshop on clinical education sponsored by the WFC's member for Japan, the Japanese Association of Chiropractors (JAC).

Starting life as RMIT University Chiropractic Unit (Japan) in 1995, the course was a collaboration with its Australian counterpart. With modifications allowing for Japanese culture and people, the programme is accredited by CCE-Australasia and has enjoyed outstanding success. Graduates complete a four-year programme comprising in excess of 4300 hours leading to a Doctor of Chiropractic degree. With a faculty comprising chiropractors, medical doctors and basic scientists, the course is recognized internationally. Its President is Dr Hiroaki Takeyachi, MD, Ph.D, DC.

At a glittering party held at the prestigious Tokyo Prince Hotel, over 100 people celebrated the anniversary of TCC. Attended by WFC Immediate Past President Dr Dennis Richards and a host of other international dignitaries, the event was hailed as a great success.



Life West Rugby wins USA national championship title

The Life West Gladiators secured the USA National Championship title on June 14th at Infinity Park in Denver, Colorado by beating the Eastern Conference Champions, Wisconsin Rugby 43-24. In their second year of the program, Life West Gladiators made the National Club Championships after being runners-up in the D3 competition in 2014.

The team from Life Chiropractic College West is comprised of chiropractic students, some on scholarship and players from the local community. The team went undefeated all season with a record of 23 wins and zero losses. The conditioning of the players was evident and according to Head Coach, Adriaan Ferris, the regular chiropractic care made a huge difference. He said, "We only had one major injury all season so it is clear that our strength and conditioning program, along with regular chiropractic adjustments made the difference in the end."

Along with regular chiropractic care, Life West really pushed boundaries with their professional outlook in preparing for this year's National Championship title run. Partnering with Standard Process, Life West provided a customized nutritional program for each player that facilitated change in players' approach to how they prepared for rugby. In addition, Foot Levelers came on board to ensure all players had the orthotic support to help with their biomechanics that they needed.

Additional training nights, regular video analysis and one-on-one player training sessions helped shape the team into champions.

This rugby program combines the very best chiropractic care, a professional focus and the pursuit of excellence that Life Chiropractic College West is known for. Through the vision of Life West President, Dr. Brian Kelly, the rugby program is gaining tremendous momentum. Two successive division finals in consecutive years, Life West Gladiators have become the talk of USA Rugby. With the women's team now officially started; there are only good things ahead for this young program. The best is yet to come. For information about rugby scholarships or to support the program, please contact www.lifewestrugby.com.

Limited prescribing rights for chiropractors in Liechtenstein

One of Europe's smallest nations Liechtenstein, has recently granted limited prescribing rights for chiropractors.

Occupying just 160km², Liechtenstein is sometimes referred to as one of Europe's microstates. Sandwiched between Switzerland and Austria, its population of just 37,000 is served by 5 chiropractors. The President of the Liechtenstein Chiropractic Association, a full WFC member, is Dr Chris Mikus.

Like Switzerland, Liechtenstein has strong national regulation. It takes much of its rules and procedures from those enjoyed by Swiss chiropractors, which is known for having some of the most demanding educational standards in the world and which has had limited prescribing rights for some years.

Every two years the national commission on services paid for through health insurance (Leistungskommission) meets to review changes to coverage. After considering the Swiss situation, the commission agreed that granting limited prescribing rights to chiropractors would be cost effective in terms of saving GP appointments. With the Swiss educational curriculum content including pharmacology, chiropractors in Liechtenstein will not be required to undertake additional training. ChiroSuisse CE courses frequently cover pharmacology topics.

Dr Mikus commented on this latest development, "We're aware that this is a contentious topic in the chiropractic profession.

"This move relates just to limited prescribing rights and chiropractors will not be allowed to prescribe spinal injections or strong addictive drugs such as opioid pain killers. However, it was the consensus of the LCA that limited prescribing was in the best interests of our patients, particularly in acute phases".

"I would stress that this in no way compromises our firm conviction as chiropractors in the efficacy of our usual chiropractic treatment protocols".

The WFC Assembly passed a policy statement in 2003 opposing the expansion of scope of practice to include use of prescription drugs in chiropractic. While acknowledging that at times patients may benefit from such drugs, the statement, which can be found at <https://www.wfc.org/website/docs/992003143> advocates that if prescription medication is needed, patients be referred to a medical doctor or other suitably-qualified health practitioner.



Top Danish research institute investigates effect of chiropractic care on children's headaches.

One of Europe's leading chiropractic research institutes, the Nordic Institute of Chiropractic and Clinical Biomechanics (NIKKB) has announced a high quality research trial looking at the effect of chiropractic care on headaches in children.

It is known that in children aged between 7 and 14 years, headaches are the largest cause of absence from school and a 2008 study showed that they were the second most frequent reason for children consulting a chiropractor. The impact that headaches can have on quality of life can be severe and it is well documented that early intervention is paramount.

Dr Suzanne Lyng, a chiropractor, will be conducting the study, a randomised controlled trial, with Dr Olav Bennedbaek, a paediatrician. Research subjects will be children aged 7-14 who have a history of long term headaches. It will evaluate the use and effect of chiropractic care, the use of medications and measurements of time off school.

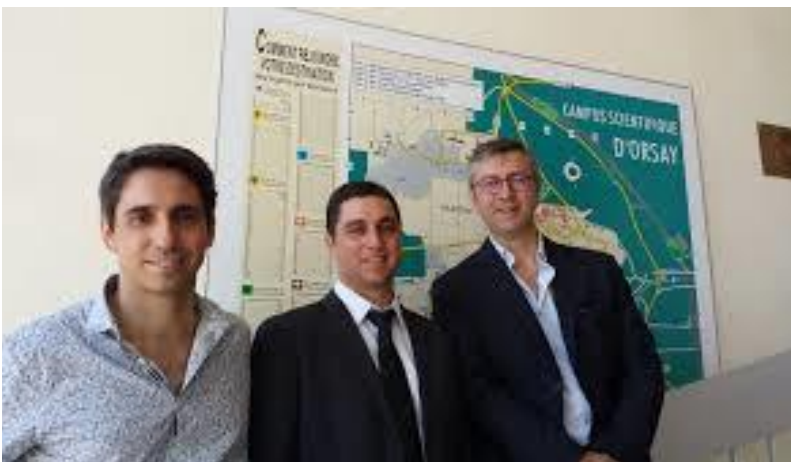
The chiropractic component will focus on biomechanical problems in the spine and will monitor both positive and adverse effects of treatment. The study will take 2 years to complete and data collection will commence at the beginning of November.

Transatlantic collaboration for French PhD graduates

IFEC is celebrating two of its alumni being awarded Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees. Dr Jean-Philippe Pialasse successfully completed a programme at Université Laval in Quebec, Canada, investigating scoliosis. Meanwhile Dr Arnaud Lardon has recently completed his PhD in predictive factors of low back pain in children and adolescents.

The Association Française de Chiropraxie (AFC) is proud to be now funding two postdoctoral fellows in Canada. Dr. Arnaud Lardon DC MSc PhD, will be working under the supervision of Dr. Martin Descarreaux DC PhD at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. His work will consider the difficulties of chiropractic adjustments and their implications in occupational diseases related to the practice of chiropractic.

The second, Nadège Leumenier MSc PhD, also an IFEC lecturer, will be a postdoctoral fellow under the supervision of Professor Pierre Côté at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology in Toronto. Her main objective is to study the implementation of specific recommendations to the chiropractic profession in France.



Over 3000 chiropractors attend FCA Convention in Orlando.

At what is thought to be the largest chiropractic event of the year, over 3000 doctors of chiropractic descended on Orlando, Florida for the 2015 FCA 'The National' Convention.

The meeting was held August 23-27 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, where the WFC delegates were guests of Deb Brown, CEO of the Florida Chiropractic Association.

WFC Secretary-General Richard Brown was in attendance, where he attended the Chiropractic Summit as well as a meeting of the 2017 Congress Planning Committee. Premier sponsorship for the event was confirmed by Foot Levelers, NCMIC and Standard Process.

The event was also attended by David Chapman-Smith and Dr Rand Baird, Chair of the Associate Members Committee, who met with many of the 400 exhibitors in attendance at the accompanying trade show.

Netherlands Chiropractic Association succeeds in VAT appeal

The Netherlands Chiropractic Association (NCA) has been successful in overturning a ruling that saw them having to charge value added tax of 21% to their patients.

The impact of the imposition of VAT meant that many chiropractors were forced to reduce their fees in order to minimise the impact on their patients. Following a concerted campaign, supported by public demonstrations and widespread coverage, in September the authorities made a statement upholding the NCA's appeal and backdating it to January 1, 2013, thus allowing chiropractors to reclaim tax paid.

The WFC would like to publicly acknowledge the great efforts of Dr Vivian Kil, Dr Reem Bakker and the NCA's superb executive manager, Ms Antsje Boersma for their persistence and determination in leading efforts to overturn this judgment, through which chiropractic is recognised as a health profession in the Netherlands, hopefully paving the way for statutory regulation and registration of chiropractic.



New Zealand chiropractic research goes from strength to strength

Celebrating its twenty-first birthday this year, New Zealand College of Chiropractic has evolved into a leading centre for chiropractic education and research. Since its inception under the governance of the New Zealand Chiropractic Association, the WFC member for the country, the college has progressed under strong leadership and has invested heavily in both education and research.

With all faculty completing a certificate in tertiary teaching at Auckland University of Technology, many have also completed or are working towards a PhD.

These include Dr Kelly Holt, who has just been awarded his doctorate from the University of Auckland for his work in studying falls in the elderly. A 1998 graduate, Dr Holt has won a number of international research awards and was the 2014 NZCA's Chiropractor of the Year.

The college's Centre for Chiropractic Research includes three PhD qualified researchers, working with a number of master's students and undertakes research worldwide including New Zealand, Turkey, Denmark and Canada. WFC Research Council member Dr Heidi Haavik is the Director of the Centre, which had 30 papers published during the 2014-15 academic year and whose team gave platform presentations in over 30 countries.

The New Zealand College of Chiropractic is a major contributor to research and regularly receives more research funds than the combined efforts of all the chiropractic colleges in Australia. In 2015, Performance Based Research Funding (PBRF) funding for research is currently over \$35,000 and increasing in the future, while \$200,000 of other external funding has been approved with a further \$450,000 awaiting approval.

At the Independent Tertiary Education New Zealand (ITENZ) awards 2015, the College's neuroscience lecturer Alice Cade was awarded the Margaret Yates Scholarship, to assist her current study toward a Masters in Health Science at the Auckland University of Technology. Her postgraduate degree will mainly be a pilot study on chiropractic care, visual target acquisition, and reading behaviour in children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

French Health Ministry raises education requirements for chiropractors

The WFC's member for France, the Association Francaise de Chiropraxie has been working with the Ministry of Health to increase the training requirements for chiropractors in France.

Under current regulations, the minimum educational requirement for chiropractic training is 3500 hours. New proposals being considered by the Government would result in a significant increase to 4800 hours, conducted over a 5-year period. New training regulations for chiropractors are predicted to come into force early in 2016.

IFEC delivers quality chiropractic education at its two campuses in Paris and Toulouse. It is fully accredited by the European Council on Chiropractic Education (ECCE), whose President, Dr Olivier Lanlo, is also the Principal of IFEC.

Its Diploma in Chiropractic has recently been fully recognized and accredited by the French Government and is now listed on the National Register of Certifications.



Life West Chiropractic College invests \$5m in renovation project

The San Francisco community joined in September to celebrate the ground breaking of the \$5M+ renovation projects at Life Chiropractic College West, beginning with the Standard Process Assembly Hall.

College President, Dr. Brian Kelly kicked off the ceremony by talking about the impact this development will have on the community. "We are doing these renovations first-and-foremost for our students. They deserve a fully updated facility that allows students to assemble in one place along with the staff and faculty. The new renovations will also provide a state-of-the-art health center where students will learn and intern and the college can provide valuable services to the community. It is an exciting time at Life West," he said.

Many local organizations, financial institutions and government leaders played a role in developing this project. Partners in the project include: City of Hayward, Standard Process and The Bank of the West.

The Assembly Hall was partially financed by Standard Process with a \$500,000 donation to kick off the capital campaign. Assembly member Bill Quirk's office presented Life Chiropractic College West with a recognition certificate to acknowledge the importance these campus renovations will have on the student body and on the larger community.



World Spine Day is on October 16. If you haven't started already, now is the time to start getting ready for the WFC's World Spine Day competition. There are prizes to be won for the best entry and judging will take place after entries close on November 15, 2015.

The competition is open to individuals and organizations. Cash prizes for this year are:

- Professional organisations - two prizes of USD\$500 each
- Chiropractic college/university programmes - two of USD\$500 each
- Private Practice/Clinic - USD\$250

Three international judges will be appointed by the Public Health Committee.





50th birthday for AECC

The Anglo-European College of Chiropractic in Bournemouth celebrated its 50th anniversary in September. The first recognised chiropractic college outside the US, AECC offers a range of Masters' programmes as well as its M.Chiro degree.

Principal Professor Haymo Thiel was joined by faculty and Alumni of the College at a drinks reception on the eve of its Autumn conference, held jointly with the British Chiropractic Association.

WFC represented at BCA 90th anniversary conference.

The British Chiropractic Association (BCA) celebrated its 90th birthday in style in September when it co-hosted its Autumn Conference in Bournemouth with the Anglo-European College of Chiropractic.

The BCA was well represented with Secretary-General Richard Brown, General Counsel David Chapman-Smith, Research Council member Jan Hatvigsen and Past President Stathis Papadopoulos all attending. Dr Brown presented the keynote address, titled *Respecting the Past, Embracing the Future*.

The event was attended by delegates from Europe and the rest of the world with Alumni celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years since graduation.

The joint birthdays of AECC and the BCA were celebrated in style at a glittering gala dinner at the Pavilion Theatre, where BCA President Dr Matthew Bennett and AECC Principal Professor Haymo Thiel reflected on the success of the respective organisations and presented annual awards.



Positive outcome for chiropractic at Belgian Parliamentary Colloquium

The WFC was in the Belgian capital, Brussels, on Friday, September 25, representing the global profession at a colloquium held at the Federal Parliament.

WFC Secretary-General Dr Richard Brown and Research Council member Professor Jan Hartvigsen were invited as part of an international delegation (pictured), which also included IFEC Principal Dr Olivier Lanlo, Norwegian lawyer Mrs Kari Paulsrud, European Standards expert Maitane Olabarria Uzquiano and Belgian MD/DC Dr Tom Michielsens.

The colloquium was called by the Belgian Chiropractors' Union (BCU) and was supported by Chair of the Belgian evidence-based medicine organisation (CEBAM) Dr Patrik Vankrunkelsven.

Attended by Belgian politicians, senior members of the medical profession and the Board of the BCU, the meeting attracted positive press coverage, with calls for greater funding for chiropractic treatment by the Belgian health insurance providers.

Richard Brown commented, "Congratulations must go to BCU President Dr Bart Vandendries and his excellent Board for their terrific work in making this meeting so successful. They have a purpose and vision that is likely to reap huge rewards in the coming years. This leadership is a model for other national associations to copy."

Straighten Up Belgium was also presented at the meeting by Dr Anneke Verbeeck, demonstrating further the BCU's commitment to health promotion.



ACA active in tackling prescription painkiller epidemic.

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) hosted its first Twitter chat focusing on addressing the overuse and abuse of opioid painkillers in the United States on Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. The chat focused on ways to heighten awareness of conservative approaches to pain that can potentially help people lessen their dependence on opioids and educate the public on simple ways to enhance strength and avoid pain and injury in everyday life.

"Now, more than ever, it's vital that the chiropractic profession repeat and amplify its message that a conservative care-first approach to pain management makes clinical and economic sense," said ACA President Anthony Hamm, DC. "Generating more awareness about this critically important issue is key to curbing opioid overuse and abuse, and I'm pleased that so many doctors of chiropractic are answering the call to do just that."

The media continues to cover the issue of pain extensively, following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's declaration that the overuse and abuse of opioid painkillers in the United States is an "epidemic." In 2013, there were 16,235 deaths involving prescription opioids, an increase of 1 percent from 2012. Total drug overdose deaths in 2013 hit 43,982, up 6 percent from 2012*.

The [#PainFreeNation](#) Twitter chat preceded [National Chiropractic Health Month \(NCHM\)](#) in October, when ACA will work with thousands of chiropractic physicians, chiropractic assistants (CAs) and chiropractic doctoral students nationwide to bring attention to the public health crisis caused by pain, and in particular the overuse of prescription painkillers. The campaign is part of the profession's ongoing efforts to educate the public about the value of exhausting conservative forms of care for both acute and chronic pain before resorting to higher risk options, such as opioids.

WFC Research Council Chair hailed as 'Rockstar of Chiropractic Research' at Niagara Falls.

WFC Research Council Chair, Professor Greg Kawchuk wowed an audience with his presentation at the national Canadian Chiropractic Association conference at Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Peeling off his jacket, shirt and tie on stage, Dr Kawchuk, adopted an altogether more casual style as he donned a radio microphone and energised the delegates with a fast and furious run through the world of chiropractic research.

Dr Kawchuk, a Professor of Rehabilitative Medicine at the University of Alberta, shot to fame earlier this year for his published work on a functional MRI-driven description of joint cracking in the knuckles of the hand.

His presentation at the Falls drew a standing ovation from the audience as he mixed his serious messages with a strong dose of humour.

Professor Kawchuk is the originator of the WFC Reading List, an open access resource for chiropractors and those interested in chiropractic.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Bone and Joint Decade 2010-2020

Global Alliance for Musculoskeletal Health - World Summit 2015

Oslo, Norway, October 7-9, 2015

Breaking Down Barriers - Towards Integrated Care



2015 JAC Symposium

Winc Aichi, Nagoya, Japan

November 1-2, 2015

Learning integrative medicine scientifically - medical and chiropractic views.



9th Interdisciplinary World Congress on LBP and Pelvic Girdle pain

Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

October 31 - November 3, 2016

Progress in evidence-based diagnosis and treatment



2017, WFC/ACC/ACA Congress

Washington DC

13-18 March

Practice Purpose and Policy

CORPORATE PLATINUM SUPPORTERS

Activator Methods International - USA
Chiropractic Diplomatic Corps - Philippines
Chiro Touch - USA
Dynamic Chiropractic - USA
Foot Levelers - ISA
International Board of Chiropractic Examiners - USA
Logan University -USA
NCMIC - USA
Palmer College of Chiropractic - USA
Standard Process - USA

CORPORATE DIAMOND SUPPORTERS

Canadian Chiropractor Magazine - Canada
Life University - USA
National Board of Chiropractic Examinars - USA
Parker University = USA
The American Chiropractor - USA

CORPORATE GOLD SUPPORTERS

BioFreeze/Performance Health Inc
Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College
Cleveland Chiropractic College
Multi-Radiance Lasers
North Western Health Sciences University

CORPORATE SILVER SUPPORTERS

Anglo-European College of Chiropractic
Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association
Chiropractic Economics
Dee Cee Laboratories Inc
Human Touch
Internationals Medical University
InXpress
Life Chiropractic College West
Lloyd tables
National Chiropractic College
New York Chiropractic College

CORPORATE SILVER SUPPORTERS (ctd)

New Zealand Chiropractic Board
ScriptHessco
Texas Chiropractic College
McKenzie Institute International
University of Bridgeport College of Chiropractic

CORPORATE BRONZE SUPPORTERS

Acupuncture Council of Ontario
Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors
American Chinese Chiropractic Association
Asociacion de Quiropracticos de Puerto Rico
Belgium Chiropractors Union
Breakthrough Coaching
Chiropractic Education Australia Ltfd
Clear Institute
College of Chiropractic Sciences
Da Vinci Lab
Elite Chiropractic Tables
Hanseu University
Integrated Assessment Services Inc
Japanese Federation of Chiropractic Professionals
KCS Association
KinesioTaping Association International
Madrid College of Chiropractic
Mettler Electronics Corp
National University of Health Sciences
NIKKB
NutriWest
Posture Pump
Southern California University of Health Services
Thumper Massager
Tokyo College of Chiropractic
University of Western States
Vibe For Health

WORLD FEDERATION OF CHIROPRACTIC
Quarterly World Report

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