

President's report to the IMS Board

Professor Susan Davis,
Dubai, UAE, Dec 6th 2018



It is a pleasure to welcome the Board to the first full IMS Board meeting. Just on 6 months of this term of office have passed, and we will share today the substantial activity that has been undertaken since June this year.

1. To begin, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and work of Lee Tomkins and Martin Derbyshire who translate what we discuss into action. We would simply be a “talk fest” without them.

There have been several changes in our structure and staffing since June 2018 and I summarise each of these.

- Jean Wright has played a pivotal role in the production of Climacteric for many years. Many of Jean's activities have now been taken in-house by the journal publishers. In addition, the newly appointed Scientific Editor of Menopause Live, will take over the uploading of Menopause Live to the website, a task previously managed by Jean. Jean has now taken on the specific role of assistant to the Editor-in-Chief of Climacteric (Dr Rod Baber) and reports directly to Dr Baber. Although Jean is still part of the IMS staff I would like to acknowledge the important contributions she has made.
 - Dr Amos Pines has made a tremendous contribution to the IMS as Director of Education and Editor of Menopause Live. He has now retired from these positions. I would like to minute our heartfelt thanks to Amos Pines for his very substantial contributions, particularly having made Menopause Live one of members' our most appreciated services.
 - Dr Patrizia Monteleone has been appointed as Scientific Editor of Menopause Live. Patrizia is well known to some Board Members. She is a Consultant Gynaecologist working in Lucca, Italy and holds a PhD in Reproductive Pathophysiology and Sexology. We welcome her to this new role.
2. We have established some new Committees this term, such as the Ethical Standards Committee as one example. We will hear today about the activities of each Committee to date, so I will not speak to these. I would like to make a few generic comments:
 - I propose each Committee set their own agreed goals for the next 18 months
 - I encourage regular engagement between Committee members to achieve these goals
 - We entrust the briefs to each Committee - the Board Executive will support any uncertainties about direction/decisions between Board meetings.
 3. Menopause Live – this is one of the most important regular interactions we have with our membership. It is greatly valued and therefore the importance of Board support is paramount. I suspect there has been some uncertainty as to how the Board is expected to support ML. Recently, I have reached out to several of you for specific contributions and appreciate the response already received from each of the Board members I have personally approached. ML should also be seen as an opportunity for other members and their trainees and junior fellows, to share their knowledge, and also become known to the membership. I encourage you to seek out colleagues to submit reviews to ML.

4. My personal goal over my term of office as President is to cement the status of the International Menopause Society as the lead international organisation in the field of menopause.

PROPOSED STEPS:

- i. Strengthen the links between IMS and the lead Regional Societies, which are the umbrella organisations for national Societies
 - by providing strong support and IMS Symposia at regional meetings - FLASCYM, EMAS, APMF, NAMS
 - where possible translation of educational materials, key IMS position papers/white papers into multiple languages
- ii. Work with other leading organisations by holding Workshops and Symposia at their meetings, joint Position Statements and so forth.
- iii. Maximise visibility of IMS - rapid response to issues that are in our area of expertise, as they emerge.
- iv. Hold regional meetings that complement our World Congress and Regional Society Congresses
- v. Capacity build through outreach to young, future leaders in IMS via support to attend Congresses – for example, allocate small amounts to have an IMS Young Researcher Award/Travel Bursary for each of the major conferences of FLASCYM, EMAS, APMF, NAMS.
- vi. Leadership in education in midlife women's health through a range of media.
Our flagship activity is our World Congress and we have to work together to ensure people not only know about it but identify it as a Congress that has huge offerings to them.
Continue to support Climacteric as reviewers and contributors. Support Menopause Live. Undertake and disseminate initiatives such as the IMPART program, our White Papers and World Menopause Day. Seek out every new opportunity to spread the word about who we are, what we offer.

Every Board is a new beginning and I am excited by the energy already demonstrated by this Board. I believe we are going to have a very productive term of office. We are an eclectic group, with tremendous breadth and depth of experience. I encourage you all to use this meeting to get to know each other better, not only to enhance what we can jointly achieve, but also to share in the fellowship of achievement.