



IFESS Officers:

President:
Thierry Keller

Vice President:
Glen Davis

Secretary:
Simona Ferrante

Treasurer:
Michael Russold

Board of Directors:

Manfred Bijak
Christine Azevedo Coste
Erika Spaich
Gad Alon
Robert F. Kirsch
Philip Troyk
Nur Azah Hamzaid
Yoichi Shimada
Ché Fornusek

Please direct all
correspondence to
Simona Ferrante
at the address below or
email to:
simona.ferrante@polimi.it

IFESS Main Office:

Simona Ferrante
IFESS
c/o
Politecnico di Milano
Milano, MI 20133
Italy

Phone: +39 0223999004
FAX: +39 0223999003

Website:

<http://ifess.org>

January 7th 2014

Dear IFESS member,

On behalf of IFESS, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year! I hope that 2013 was prosperous and enjoyable for you and your families and that 2014 will be even better.

Following the recent elections I would like to tell you about the restructured IFESS Board of Directors.

My term as president ends now and I would like to welcome **Thierry Keller** as my Successor. Thierry needs no introduction to you as he has already served as IFESS Treasurer for two terms. I am delighted to be able to hand over to Thierry, who I know has some great plans for the Society. Thierry's election therefore leaves vacant the position of Treasurer, and I am equally delighted to welcome **Michael Russold** to that position. Michael has been a very active and useful member of the Board during the last three years and I am sure his experience and common sense will be extremely useful to the Society. I would like to thank Vivian Mushawar for the tremendous work she has done for IFESS; Vivian has decided not to stand for re-election as secretary and I would therefore like to introduce **Simona Ferrante**, who has been elected our new secretary. Simona too has been a very influential and active member of the Board over the last three years. **Glen Davis** agreed to stand for a further term as Vice-President and has duly been elected – his experience will be of great value to the Board.

With these changes come vacancies on the Board and I would like to introduce our five newly elected Board members. **Manfred Bijak** returns to serve another term – Manfred does so much for IFESS that we almost forget that for the last three years he has officially not been a member of the Board. **Christine Azevedo-Coste** has been re-elected for a second term. New members of the Board are: **Nur Azah Hamzaid**, who will be chairing the next IFESS meeting in Kuala Lumpur, **Gad Alon** and **Erika Spaich**. Information about them can be found on the new and very stylish website at: <http://ifess.org>. I would of course also like to thank the retiring Board members, Nick Donaldson, Paul Taylor and Alberto Cliquet Jr who have each contributed significantly to the Society during their term of office.

It has been a great pleasure to serve as President of IFESS. During my three years in office there have been some big changes. Simple FES applications are now accepted clinical practice in many countries and implanted systems more becoming more common and reimbursed. With increased clinical use we have seen tremendous growth in the commercial sector. Clinical evidence continues to grow and there have been a series of recent publications showing benefits from FES in combination with other rehabilitation technologies, such as robot therapy and virtual reality.

The EU MSc in Advanced rehabilitation Technologies, (MSc ART) <http://www.rehabtech.soton.ac.uk>, which will recruit its first cohort of students in 2015, will promote FES and provide training for researchers, engineers and clinicians. The UKRI IFESS chapter continues to thrive under Paul Taylor's leadership, but we need more National and regional chapters – offers please!

IFESS is currently undertaking a project to create a database of all FES research world-wide in order to expand the influence and increase the size and impact of IFESS. The database will provide an excellent web-based resource of FES research literature.

During my time in office the Society has embraced new and emerging clinical and pre-clinical applications of electrical stimulation such as spinal cord stimulation and non-invasive brain stimulation. Vivian Mushawar, at the IFESS Conference in Banff in 2012, very effectively promoted these new fields. The future is therefore both challenging and very exciting.

Please be an active member of your society and help us to promote and advance our work. Constructive ideas about how we can make the Society better are always very welcome; please contact any of the Board members.

Also please do not forget to renew your membership by logging in at <http://ifess.org> and clicking "Renew membership". When you do that please also check your data and consider uploading a photo to complete the membership directory.

Finally can I remind you that the next IFESS Conference will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 17th -19th September 2014. <http://ifess.org/Conferences> I look forward to seeing you all there.

With Best wishes



Jane Burridge
Past President of IFESS