

ICA Leaders Participate at WFC's Biennial Congress in Portugal

ICA was well-represented at the 9th Biennial Congress of the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) held May 15-19th in Vilamoura, Portugal. ICA President Dr. John Maltby, ICA Board Member Dr. Stephen Welsh, ICA Executive Director Mr. Robert Pohtos, ICA Assembly Representative Dr. Claire Welsh, and ICA Representative to the WFC, and that organization's current President, Dr. Gerard W. Clum, made up the ICA delegation.

ICA is a founding organizational member of the WFC and has been a consistent participant in the developmental activities undertaken by that body. "ICA's mission and vision is a global one, with members in 50 nations, and we appreciate the partnership we have developed with the WFC," said ICA President Dr. John Maltby. ICA is unique among chiropractic organizations because the Association serves as an organizational home for DCs from around the world, providing individual services and support, standing behind local doctors' efforts to shape and develop chiropractic according to a clearly defined and time-proven set of standards and principles.

ICA joined organizations from more than 45 nations at the WFC gathering which included meetings of the Federation's governing Council, Assembly of Members, an extensive educational program, and a special Sports Chiropractic Forum sponsored by Parker College of Chiropractic.



Representing ICA at the Congress of the World Federation of Chiropractic in Vilamoura, Portugal, left to right: Dr. John Maltby, ICA President; Dr. Gerry Clum, current WFC President and ICA's representative to the WFC for 17 years; Dr. Claire Welsh, ICA State Assembly Rep from Georgia; and Dr. Stephen Welsh, ICA Board Member.

The Assembly is the WFC's business meeting, attended by delegates of national member associations from all world regions. Topics at the 2007 session included reports from member nations, a report on the WFC Identity and the Implementation Program, a special report on the crisis in Brazil where the physical therapists are seeking to enact legislation making chiropractic a sub-set of that profession, and

other topics of global interest.

ICA strongly supports the Brazilian Chiropractors Association in their struggle to establish chiropractic as a separate and independent profession and urges every DC in the world to financially support their efforts. For more information on this important issue visit the WFC website at www.wfc.org.

At the 2007 meeting, ICA presented an extensive written report detailing

the policies, programs and priorities of the Association. (A copy of this report is available on request by email at chiro@chiropractic.org).

The 2007 Congress also featured a first-ever "Chief Executive Officers Forum" where executive directors and managers from member associations gathered to exchange information, strategies and issues related to serving international members and addressing emerging issues. ICA's Executive Director Robert Pohtos represented ICA at this important forum, and was joined by eight other CEOs in this historic forum.

"ICA is proud to have had Dr. Clum as the Association's representative for the past 17 years, and we are excited that he is serving as the WFC's current President," said ICA President Dr. John Maltby. "No one has worked harder, fought with greater dignity and determination, or shown greater patience and understanding than Dr. Clum as he sought to promote ICA's vision and values in that world body. ICA and chiropractic owe Dr. Clum sincere thanks for his efforts and his achievements," Dr. Maltby said.

The 2009 Congress is being planned for Montréal, Quebec, Canada. ICA looks forward to continued participation in WFC's activities and events.

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