



## Coming Together To Meet the Challenges Ahead

By D.D. Humber, DC, FICA  
ICA President

If the night is always darkest just before the dawn, then we have reason to hope that a bright new day is just around the corner for chiropractic. With the profession under unprecedented pressure from competitors, fighting like never before for their position of dominance in the health care market, and with some in the profession itself so disconnected from the unique principles of chiropractic and so focused on moving chiropractic into that same medical model, there are some who might give up hope.

We at the ICA recognize the potential, not just the challenge of this state of affairs because we know where consumer thinking is headed and because we are fully confident that the overwhelming majority of doctors of chiropractic around the world share ICA's commitment to the maintenance of chiropractic as a separate and distinct science, art, philosophy and practice. Now, that voice of reason is speaking even louder, and much more emphatically

about the cutting issues of the day, issues that will determine the very existence of chiropractic as an independent, separate health care profession.

ICA has taken a real, positive and timely step to honor our commitment to progress by entering into a coalition with two other chiropractic organizations, the Federation of Straight Chiropractors and Organizations (FSCO) and the World Chiropractic Alliance (WCA) to defend chiropractic's unique role in health care and to mobilize like-minded chiropractors across the globe to pursue a host of unique opportunities that are open to us in legislation, public relations and legal defense of chiropractic patient and practitioner rights. The agreed mission statement of this coalition reads:

*"To protect and support the interests of chiropractic consumers and chiropractors through effective and aggressive unified legislative and regulatory efforts, legal action, and public education" and to "promote chiropractic worldwide as a clearly defined, separate, and distinct profession while protecting the chiro-*

*practic consumer's right to have full and direct access to chiropractic care for the correction of vertebral subluxation."*

The conservative, independent-minded center of the chiropractic profession, where the overwhelming majority lies, needs another voice to defend the independence and professional boundaries of chiropractic. The Chiropractic Coalition will help serve this urgent function.

In a recent communication to the profession, ACA Chairman Jim Edwards insinuated ICA is non-cooperative. This is simply not true. The International Chiropractors Association has been actively involved in cooperative action with many chiropractic organizations, setting aside its own organizational issues to secure progress for chiropractic. In the future, this will remain our commitment to the profession. This new Coalition is perfect proof of ICA's cooperative spirit.

This new collective problem-solving endeavor grew out of an invitation by the ICA to the WCA, FSCO and the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) to get together and talk about possible legislative cooperation. FSCO and WCA accepted ICA's invitation. ACA declined.

Senior leaders and representatives of all three organizations were present at the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. The common commitment between the three participating organizations, the shared values and our overriding commitment to progress for chiropractic made for the development of a greater united effort, to extend beyond legislation to other vital issues facing the profession today.

The key ideas behind our coopera-

tive action are greater effectiveness and a more powerful projection of the key values that we share, anchored as they are in a commitment to the maintenance and promotion, worldwide, of chiropractic as a separate and distinct science, philosophy, art and practice, centered on the care of the human spine, the detection and correction of subluxations. Putting these values to work is the Coalition's mission.

ICA, FSCO and WCA have no intention of merging their respective organizational structures. We all have our unique roles to play in chiropractic and we also recognize that this kind of amalgamation is simply not necessary to do what we need to do together, on behalf of chiropractic. Our focus will be on progress, with all parties working together to do what is right, not just for the chiropractic practitioner, but for those billions of people of all ages who so urgently need chiropractic care.

The ability to come together on a common front means a willingness to set aside our respective organizational priorities and imperatives to do what is right for chiropractic. I, for one, am proud that ICA has the courage and commitment to take this step. It is, without any doubt, a step forward for chiropractic!

If you believe that chiropractic should remain separate and distinct, if you believe in the timeless principles on which our great profession was founded, I invite you to act now — join ICA. There is a membership form below, fill it out then fax it in or drop it in the mail. You will be proud you made this choice because the ICA stands tall for chiropractic and always will! Thank you for listening.

### ICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
MONTH YEAR

Office Address\* \_\_\_\_\_ Suite \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Chiropractic College Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Grad. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Chiropractic licenses held in: \_\_\_\_\_

In active practice?  Yes  No Former SICA member?  Yes  No Former Field member?  Yes  No

I hereby apply for membership in the International Chiropractors Association, agreeing to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Code of Ethics, all amendments and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors and Officers of the Association under the provisions of the Constitution, and amendments hereafter legally adopted. I also understand that failure to remit dues will result in loss of membership, and all rights and privileges thereof.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my:  VISA  MasterCard  American Express  Enclosed is a check/money order

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

##### FIELD MEMBERSHIP

###### First year after graduation

- Former Student ICA member (\$50 transfer fee) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Student ICA member (\$85 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

###### Second year after graduation

- Former Student ICA member (\$85 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Student ICA member (\$75 qtr./\$300 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

###### Third year after graduation

- Fmr Student ICA member (\$75 qtr./\$300 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Student ICA member (\$150 qtr./\$600 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

###### Fourth year or more after graduation

- (\$150 qtr./\$600 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

##### INTERNATIONAL — OUTSIDE U.S.

- \$150 yr. (U.S.) Payment may be made by MasterCard/Visa/American Express or International Money Order. Checks drawn on Canadian Banks must have "In US Funds" written after amount. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

##### FACULTY — D.C.s (full-time faculty only<sup>†</sup>)

- Voting (\$75 qtr./\$300 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Voting<sup>\*\*</sup> (\$110 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Teaching at (school): \_\_\_\_\_

##### LAY<sup>\*\*</sup> (must be sponsored by two ICA members)

- Faculty non-D.C. (\$85 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chiropractic Assistant (\$85 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interested individual (\$85 yr.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Plus \$15 non-refundable application fee \$ 15.00

STUDENT<sup>\*\*</sup> (\$30 one-time fee) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT<sup>††</sup>** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return application to:

**INTERNATIONAL CHIROPRACTORS ASSOCIATION**  
1110 North Glebe Road, Suite 1000 • Arlington, VA 22201  
• 1-800-423-4690 or 1-703-528-5000 • Fax: 703-528-5023

\* Unless otherwise requested, correspondence will be sent to your office address.

\*\* Not eligible to vote in ICA elections

† Teaching 8 or more academic hours per week at an accredited chiropractic college.

†† ICA dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes, but may be deductible as a business expense.