

International Federation of Vietnamese Pharmacists Associations in the Free World

Report of General Assembly Meeting December 29, 2004 Sydney, Australia

Attendance:

- Tuong Anh Nguyen, Vice President of the IFVPA, Maryland, USA
- Binh Nhung Tran, General Secretary, IFVPA
- Mai Tam, Committee for Communications and Publications, IFVPA
- Hong van Cao, President of the Vietnamese Pharmacists Association in Toronto, Canada
- Jason Chau, Member, Vietnamese American Health Professional Association, New South Wales
- Hieu Tam Doan, Adelaide, Australia
- Linh Doan, Adelaide, Australia
- Serena Tran, Goldfield Pharmacy, Girrawheen, WA
- Rose Huynh, Goldfield Pharmacy, Girrawheen, WA
- Phuc van Pham, Sydney, Australia
- Quang Xuan Tran, Sydney, Australia

The General Assembly Meeting of the International Federation of Vietnamese Pharmacists Associations in the Free world took place at 11:30 AM in the Tumbalong theater 2, Convention Center, Sydney, Australia, after completion of the morning part of the Pharmacy CE program with speakers Binh Nhung Tran and Tim Chen.

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mrs Binh N. Tran, Secretary of the Federation, summarized the findings of the meeting on August 11, 2002 at the 4th International Convention of Vietnamese Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists in the Free World in Anaheim, California.

Mr. Mai Tam, on behalf of Mrs. Kim Do, Treasurer, reported on the finances of the Federation. US\$ 5,262 were left in the account.

A main project Mrs Kim is putting much effort in is the publishing of the Vietnamese Pharmacy Book to record the main events occurring in the field of Pharmacy. With the participation of all faculty members, pharmacy graduates and students from over the world, the book will have an invaluable historical value.

II. PROCEEDINGS AT THE 5TH CONVENTION

Mr. Hieu Tran, President, could not attend the 5th Convention in Sydney, and has designated the following Board Members to represent the Federation at the Convention:

- Pharmacist Tuong Anh Nguyen
- Pharmacist Binh Nhung Tran

- Pharmacist Mai Tam

Vice-President Bui thi Hao from the Vietnamese Pharmacists Association in Northern California was not present.

Mrs. Tuong Anh reviewed the events at the Convention since the first day of the Convention on December 28, 2004. At the Opening ceremony, Dr. Thuy Dinh Tran, President of the Vietnamese Medical Association of the free world and Mrs. Tuong Anh came on stage to declare the Opening of the Convention.

III. HISTORY OF THE FEDERATION

Mr. Mai Tam gave an overview of the formation of the International Federation of Vietnamese Pharmacists Association in the Free World since the Convention in Montreal. Through many terms and meetings to coincide with the International Conventions of Vietnamese Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists in the Free World, the mission of the Federation is to rally pharmacists from all countries to realize a strong Vietnamese Pharmacists Community across the world. The thrust now is to involve the younger pharmacists graduating from schools outside of Vietnam to carry on that task. Lively discussions ensued on ways to achieve the optimal participation of the young members.

IV. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR THE NEW TERM

Due to the absence of representatives from France and other countries, there were not enough members to meet the quorum.

The present members, along with Mr. Hong van Cao, President of the Vietnamese Pharmacists Association in Toronto, Canada, voted to extend the term of the current Executive Board until the next Convention.

Thus, the Executive Board for the term 2005-2007 is composed of the current members:

- Hieu Duc Tran, R.Ph., President
- Tuong Anh Nguyen, P.D., Vice-President
- Hao thi Bui, R.Ph., Vice-President
- Binh-Nhung Tran, Pharm.D., General Secretary
- Kim thi Do, R.Ph., Treasurer

Committee for Publications and Communications:

- Mai Tam, R.Ph
- Viet Thuc Truong, Pharm.

Assistant to Mr. Hieu D. Tran:

- Thuy Thanh Le, a pharmacy graduate from Monash University in Melbourne in 1999, currently works at a Medical Centre in Melbourne.

A formal announcement was prepared for Dr. Tuong Anh to deliver at the Closing Ceremony on December 30, 2004.

The contents of the message were:

To rally pharmacists residing in all parts of the world, and foster communication among members. Regarding the Executive Board, the current term members will stay until the next Convention, with the addition of pharmacist Thuy Thanh Le to represent the young members.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Although the attendance is not as high as one would expect from an international meeting, the members present showed much enthusiasm in carrying the objectives of the Federation. Several young pharmacists have attended all activities at the Convention, reinforcing the commitment to build a strong pharmacist community across the borders. Let's all keep the flame burning.

Our deep thanks to the Organizing Committee at the 5th Convention for a thorough planning and superb execution of the programs for the enjoyment of all attendees.

Reported by Binh Nhung Tran
San Diego, California
January 10, 2005