



FROM THE PRESIDENT, MARGARETHA HAGLUND

Like any year, we who are living in the cold north are always surprised to notice that after winter comes spring. So after the millennium fireworks in Sweden, we are now getting our tulips. As I have warned you before, we Swedes are very nationalistic.

As I wrote in the winter issue, the year 2000 will be a very challenging one for INWAT; a year that will culminate with the World Conference on Tobacco or Health in Chicago, August 6-11. I really hope that many of you are planning to attend. I was very pleased to hear from the organizers that a goal of special interest to INWAT members will be reached—50% of the speakers and chairs will be women.

Certainly things are moving in the right direction. It seems ages ago since the World Conference in Perth when INWAT was founded as a result of our anger that only 5 percent of the speakers at that Conference were women. But, dear colleagues, don't ever believe that these things happen without hard work. So please let me use this occasion to thank Nancy Kaufman, the Vice President of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and one of the organizers and sponsors of the World Conference, for her support. Also many thanks to Deborah McLellan, our former President, for raising our issues at all meetings of the organizing committee. Deborah has managed to promote INWAT by ensuring that several of the sessions will be devoted to women and smoking.

I wish I could be more precise in describing all our activities in Chicago but we are in the midst of finalizing our plans. Among other things, there will be an INWAT exhibition booth that will serve as a meeting point for the members. Also through the support of the organizers, we are creating INWAT pins. Hopefully all of you will wear this pin so that INWAT members can easily be identified in Chicago and at other Conferences. Thanks to our sister organization WITT in Indonesia, who inspired me with their pins.

Also at the Chicago conference, INWAT will present the first INWAT award. As the purpose of the award is to recognize an individual who has advanced the issue of women and smoking at the same time as we are promoting our organization we have made sure that the award will be handed out at a big plenary event during the conference. Thanks to all of you who made nominations.

For those who are attending the Chicago conference please note that our membership meeting will take place on Wednesday August 9th, from 2-5 PM. I am looking forward to an interesting meeting where we can share ideas and views about how to develop INWAT in the future.

Last but not least, may I also remind you about our upcoming election. A ballot is enclosed in this newsletter. It is only by taking an active role in the election that you can make sure that your voice will be heard. The more active our members are, the stronger INWAT will be. And as the President of INWAT I am the first to say how important it is to be backed by strong support from members.

continued on page 6

A Reminder about Nominees for the Luther Terry Awards



There is still time to make a nomination for the Luther Terry Awards. I guess you all share my view that if you want things to go in the right direction you have to push for it. So for those of you who share my passion of promoting women leadership in tobacco control, I just want to remind you to send your nominations of women to the Luther Terry Award Committee. The deadline is May 15th and I promise as one of the members of the Award Committee I will fight for supporting the work of women. In case you can't find our winter Newsletter please go to http://www.wctoh.org/l_terry_awards.html for full information.

—Margaretha Haglund

In This Issue:

Global Network for Women's and Children's Health RFA Framework Convention Statement on Women and Girls
INWAT Elections and Ballot Report from Asia
World No Tobacco Day 2001 Conference Announcements

Addresses & Contacts

INWAT Committee

President

Margaretha Haglund
Head of the Tobacco Control
Programme National Institute of
Public Health
S-103 52 Stockholm, Sweden
VOICE: +46-8-5661-35-25
FAX: +46-8-5661-35-05
E-MAIL: margaretha.haglund@fhi.se

Vice President

Patti White
Health Development Agency
Trevelyan House
30 Great Peter Street
London SW1P 2HW UK
VOICE: (44) 20 7413 1870
FAX: (44) 20 7413 2044
EMAIL: patti.white@hda-online.org.uk

Secretary

Jerie Jordan
Centers for Disease Control
Office on Smoking and Health, PSB
4770 Buford Highway, MS K-67
Atlanta, GA 30341 USA
VOICE: 1-770-488-1203
FAX: 1-770-488-1147
EMAIL: :jcj6@cdc.gov

Treasurer

Nobuko Nakano
Women's Action on Smoking
1-7-5 Nishihara
Shibuya-ku Tokyo 151 Japan
VOICE: 813-3485-7014
FAX: 813-3485-7023

Past-President

Deborah McLellan
Dana Farber Cancer Institute
Center for Community-Based Research
44 Biney Street SM 221
Boston, MA 02115 USA
VOICE: 1-617-632-5723
FAX: 1-617-632-31618
EMAIL:
deborah_mclellan@dfci.harvard.edu

Design & Production of *The Net*

Bonnie Kantor
Pressing Issues, Inc.
P.O. Box 224
Metuchen, NJ 08840 USA
VOICE: 1-732-549-9054
FAX: 1-732-549-9056
EMAIL: bonnie@pressingissues.com

Request for Applications to fund research on tobacco use by women and girls in developing nations

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and several other NIH Institutes/Centers have recently released a Request for Applications (RFA) entitled "Global Network for Women's and Children's Health Research" (Global Network). As stated in the RFA, "NCI intends to commit approximately \$250,000 in FY 2001 to support research related to the prevention and reduction of tobacco use among women and girls in developing countries."

The overall goal of the Global Network is to expand scientific knowledge relevant to improving health outcomes for women and children in developing countries. Projects will be Cooperative Agreements. Applicants must be collaborating teams of investigations that include the applicant U.S. Principal Investigators and a developing country scientist at an established institution in a developing country. Foreign institutions are not eligible to apply for these grants except in partnership with a U.S. applicant.

The Background Section of the RFA recognizes the implications of tobacco use among women and girls in developing countries:

"Behavioral factors also can increase health risk for women and young children. Although currently low (seven percent), the prevalence of cigarette smoking among women in the developing world is increasing, particularly among younger, more affluent women, living in urban environments. Additionally, traditional forms of tobacco use, such as chewing tobacco, are common among women in some developing countries. At present, about three million deaths occur worldwide annually from tobacco use, including 500,000 among women. By 2020, worldwide deaths associated with tobacco use are expected to increase to 10 million annually, with most of the increased mortality occurring in developing countries. An increased prevalence of smoking among women in the developing world, if not prevented or reduced, inevitably will have enormous negative implications for the health of women and children. The burden of tobacco-related chronic illnesses will grow. Maternal tobacco use will contribute to increased risk of low birth weight, placental abnormalities, premature delivery, spontaneous abortion, perinatal death, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. To maintain or decrease the current relatively low prevalence of tobacco use, research is needed on factors that influence initiation of tobacco use, and on strategies that focus on smoking prevention and cessation among women and girls in developing countries."

Application Receipt Date: July 13, 2000

For program questions contact:
Susan Meikle, MD, MSPH
Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch, NICHD
6100 Executive Blvd., Room 4B03, MSC 7510
Bethesda, MD 20892-7510
Telephone: 301-496-0431
FAX: 301-496-3790
E-mail: meikles@mail.nih.gov

The full RFA may be viewed at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-00-007.html>

A website for INWAT-Europe will be unveiled very soon.

It will feature incredibly comprehensive factsheets about European women and smoking, as well as a full INWAT-Europe Directory of Members.

Please go to the INWAT Global website at www.inwat.org and click on the button for INWAT-Europe.



Statement made at Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) on Women and Girls , March 28, 2000, Geneva

The following statement was made by Sibylle Fleitmann from the European Network for Smoking Prevention representing the International Union For Health Promotion and Education and also on behalf of the Medical Women International Association, and the International Network of Women Against Tobacco.

“We believe that tobacco consumption is one of the greatest threats to public health in the world; we therefore thank the World Health Organization and the World Health Assembly for addressing tobacco control in their deliberations.

Following the statement of the Swedish delegation concerning the need for gender specificity screening throughout the FCTC and related Protocols, we would like to draw the attention of the working group to the fact that while smoking rates among men may be declining in some countries, smoking rates among women are rising world-wide. By the year 2025, the number of women smokers is expected to almost triple. In Western Europe female deaths caused by smoking have doubled over the last twenty years and the curve is rising. In the United States, rates of lung cancer now surpass breast cancer as a cause of death among women.

Women who smoke have markedly increased risks of cancer, particularly lung cancer, heart disease, stroke, emphysema

and other fatal diseases. Women experience gender-specific risks from tobacco and passive smoke such as the negative impact on their reproductive health and complications during pregnancy.

According to internal industry documents and several studies, industry marketing and advertising strategies are particularly targeted to women and young girls. The tobacco industry promotes the false association of tobacco with images of health, liberation, slimness and modernity. Advertising and promotional campaigns specifically in women's magazines is one of the major tools in support of this strategy.



We support the Kobe Declaration which demands a global ban on direct and indirect advertising, promotion and sponsorship for tobacco products across all media and in all forms of entertainment. We demand public funding for counter-advertising that disconnects women's liberation and tobacco use and that reaches women and girls in all cultural contexts

We, therefore, urge governments to provide for a total ban on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship in the FCTC and related Protocols in order to protect not only children and young people, but also women and every group.”

INWAT Regional Representatives

Asia Pacific: *Jane Martin*, Quit Victoria, 100 Drummond Street, Carlton South, Victoria, Australia 3053,
VOICE (03) 9635 5518, FAX (03) 9635 5510, EMAIL Jane.Martin@accv.org.au

Europe: *Patti White*, Health Development Agency, Trevelyan House, 30 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HW
UK, VOICE: (44) 20 7413 1870, FAX: (44) 20 7413 2044, EMAIL: patti.white@hda-online.org.uk

Africa: *Nicola Christofides* Women's Health Project, P.O. Box 1038, Johannesburg 2000 South Africa,
VOICE 27 11 489 9927, FAX 27 11 489 9922 EMAIL: nicolac@mail.saimr.wits.ac.za

U.S.A.: *Michele Bloch*, Tobacco Control Research Branch, National Cancer Institute, Executive Plaza North,
6130 Executive Boulevard MSC 7337, Bethesda, MD 20892-7337, USA VOICE: 1-301-496-8584,
FAX: 1-301-496-8675, EMAIL: Blochm@mail.nih.gov

*If you are interested in regional activities and would like to represent your region,
send an email to Patti White: patti.white@hda-online.org.uk*

INWAT Elections

Every three years, before each World Conference on Tobacco or Health, INWAT members are complete a ballot to elect new officers. A ballot is enclosed with this issue. Please cast your ballot by fax to Bonnie Kantor at 1-732-549-9056 or by email to bonnie@inwat.org or by mail to INWAT, P.O. Box 224, Metuchen, NJ 08840 USA. All ballots must be received no later than July 20th. Below are brief biographical descriptions of those standing for office.

Margaretha Haglund, President

Margaretha Haglund has been the President of INWAT since 1997. She is also one of the founding members of INWAT. In her daily work she is a civil servant at the National Institute of Public Health in Sweden where she has headed the national tobacco control programme for many years. Margaretha has spent more than 25 years in tobacco control. She was also the project manger of the EU funded INWAT Europe project from 1997-1999. During the last several years she also has been actively involved in international work as a member of the WHO Policy and Strategy Committee.



Patti White, Vice President

Patti White is a founding member of INWAT and the current Vice President. She has worked in tobacco control for 20 years for ASH in London, WHO Europe and the National Health Service in England. Patti is currently project manager of INWAT Europe. In the next year she hopes to connect the work now being done in Europe to projects elsewhere in the INWAT network.

Jerelyn Jordan, Secretary

Jerelyn Jordan worked at the American Cancer Society's national headquarters in Atlanta where she was editor of the magazine, *World Smoking & Health*. Her policy experience includes directing a preemption education project. She later became the ACS national manager for the American Stop Smoking Intervention Trial, known as the ASSIST Project. During the ASSIST Project, she collaborated with health advocates at the National Cancer Institute and in 17 states to implement some of the first statewide tobacco control programs.

She is now employed at the Office on Smoking and Health at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a program consultant for eight state health departments. She has been secretary of INWAT for the past 3 years.

Bungon Ritthiphakdee, Treasurer

Bungon Ritthiphakdee has been a leading member of Action on Smoking and Health Foundation of Thailand since its founding. ASH of Thailand is a non-government, non-profit organization which is involved in grassroots tobacco education and advocacy.

Find INWAT on the web at <http://www.inwat.org>

Check it out and send us your comments and suggestions.

What would you like to see on our website?

Please contact Bonnie Kantor,
by email at bonnie@inwat.org,
by phone at 1-732-549-90454
or by fax at 1-732-549-9054
with your ideas.

The website has back issues of *The Net*, as well as English and French versions of INWAT-Europe's newsletter, in PDF format. All you need is Adobe Acrobat to view or print it.

You can send a suggestion or comment directly from the website.

Just click on "*Let us know what you think*"

Report from Asia

A New Finding Proves Smoking to be a Woman's Enemy

The most frequent topics in women's magazines in Japan are diet, skin care, and beauty treatments. In addition, most of the ads are for cosmetics and diet products. Teenage girls care about their figures and skin, although they don't mind possible diseases in their far future. Fortunately, Japanese women's magazines have no tobacco ads in them by self-imposed codes. However, they give



little information about the hazards of tobacco use, and tell readers what to buy and use for keeping slim bodies and smooth skin.

Quite recently, researchers at Nagoya City University Medical School Japan, released a new finding. It confirms the long-held view that smoking ages skin prematurely. Morita and his colleagues, the researchers, have shown how smoking could upset the body's mechanism for breaking down old skin and renewing it. They demonstrated the link in the laboratory by exposing human skin cells that produce collagen—connective tissue that make up around 80 percent of normal skin—to a solution of cigarette smoke and saline. Before the body can make new skin it must break down the old skin with special enzymes called matrix-metalloproteinases, or MMPs, that destroy the fibers that form collagen.

After the skin cells were exposed to the smoke solution for a day, the scientists tested them for MMP and new collagen. The cells produced much more MMP than normal skin cells but about 40 percent less new collagen. Morita and his team believe the combined rapid breakdown of collagen and the lack of new collagen is probably what causes premature aging in smokers. The researchers hope to confirm their laboratory findings by testing the effects of smoking on skin samples from smokers and non-smokers in different age groups. This is an important finding that can help young women to think about their smoking seriously.

ASH Thailand

In Thailand ASH is very active to make smoke-free circumstances especially for girls. They run many projects for women. One of them is working closely with three national beauty contests. A training seminar for contestants includes section on "Beauty and Health." Contest winners will join in ASH's Campaign as spokespeople

Women Politicians in Korea

During the last general election in Korea, many women were elected to Congress. Roughly speaking Korean men smoke the most in the world, and women smoke the least. I know Korean women are aggressive against tobacco, and I hope these newly-elected women play an active role in tobacco control advocacy.

—Nobuko Nakano

Welcome to these New Regional Representatives!

Nicola Christofides, MPH is based at the Women's Health Project in Johannesburg South Africa. The Women's Health Project is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that carries out research, training, advocacy and networking. She is responsible for research and advocacy focussing on gender issues in tobacco control.

Jane Martin is Policy and Information Manager at Quit Victoria, Australia.

She started her tobacco control career at Action on Smoking and Health (ASH – Australia) in the mid 1980s. After leaving ASH, she worked in public relations, tourism, tobacco advocacy and for Greenpeace. For the last eight years she has been employed with Quit focussing on policy issues and maintaining the organization's expertise in tobacco control issues. She

is currently studying for a Masters in Public Health.

Dr. Michele Bloch is a medical officer in the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Tobacco Control Research Branch, which funds a broad spectrum of tobacco control and prevention research. Prior to coming to NCI, Dr. Bloch was a health policy consultant focusing on women, girls and tobacco issues. She also spent several years working at the Washington, DC based Advocacy Institute, where she helped develop and direct the women vs. Smoking Network, the first national network of health and women's organizations dedicated to reducing tobacco use among women and girls.

If you are interested in regional activities and would like to represent your region, send an email to Patti White: patti.white@hda-online.org.uk

World No Tobacco Day 2001



At this very early stage, I have heard from WHO that the theme of World No Tobacco Day in 2001 will be passive smoking. Since women are often victims of passive smoking, please start to brainstorm about how we can use this theme to promote our ideas. To stimulate the activities I will try to find out if we can set up a discussion page at our website. WHO has also asked us about ideas on how to use this event to further promote activities on women and smoking. Please feel free to forward ideas and comments directly to Barbara Zolty, WHO/Geneva. Her e-mail is: zoltyb@who.ch

—Margaretha Haglund

Finally, for your information I was pleased to note that at least one delegation at the 2nd Working Group of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control gave strong support to one of the resolutions from the Kobe Conference — the gender-screening of the Convention as well as any related protocol. This comment was also supported by the NGO Community but please, all of you who have the opportunity to influence your country delegation, make sure that these delegates share our main concern for the future: women and smoking—the next wave of the tobacco epidemic. Please note that all relevant documents on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control are available at WHO's website.

All the best and certainly I have felt that spring is in the air!

—Margaretha Haglund

Tobacco Control: National & International Approaches

**Sponsored by the Johns
Hopkins University School of
Public Health**

July 3-7, 2000

Baltimore, Maryland USA

Presenters: *Dr. Jonathan Samet, Director, Institute of Global Tobacco Control, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health; Allyn Taylor, Attorney, Tobacco Free Initiative, WHO; Marion Ceraso, Assistant Director, Institute of Global Tobacco Control, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health*

Faculty will present the health and economic burden of tobacco use and practical approaches to prevention, control, surveillance and evaluation. Through lectures and problem-solving exercises the course examines: the interpretation and packaging of epidemiologic evidence for policy makers, the determinants of tobacco addiction, tobacco industry strategies, the legal foundation for regulation, national and international case studies in tobacco control, basic surveillance methods, evaluation of interventions, and transnational issues in tobacco control.

Contact: Ayesha Khan by email at: akhan@jhsph.edu; by phone at (410) 955-7148; or on the web at: <http://www.jhsph.edu/Departments/Epi/summer.html>

European Institute of Women's Health 'Promoting Gender Equity in Public Health in Europe' Conference

Trinity College, Dublin September 9th-12th, 2000

Background :

What issues need to be addressed to ensure that women's and men's health needs are given equitable consideration in health care?

In other words, how can gender issues be mainstreamed into the health sector?

Women and men are differentiated by social characteristics on the one hand and by biological characteristics on the other. These differences are reflected in the patterns of health and illness found among women and men. There are marked variations in the prevalence rates of particular health problems between women and men.

There is a need to foster gender sensitive research, health care policy, planning and care, which will take the gender perspective into account. A comprehensive approach covering the range of interconnected issues - sex, age, socio-economic background, ethnicity - will contribute positively in correcting the imbalances in health care, including the quality and standard of diagnosis and treatment.

The aim of the conference is to :

Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of incorporating the gender perspective into public health policy and to meet the needs of men and women in the planning and delivery of services by:

- highlighting the importance of gender sensitive research examining more effective health promotion and disease prevention programs for women and men
- emphasizing the importance of detecting and treating diseases in their earliest stages when it is most effective and less costly
- examining health service delivery and reforms needed to achieve equal access by women and men

Conference Venue

The venue for the Congress is Trinity College, Dublin, the oldest university in Ireland. Founded in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth I, the college is in an enviable position situated in the very heart of Ireland's capital, and within walking distance of shops, theatres, cinemas and museums.

The 40 acre campus retains some of its ancient seclusion and its cobbled squares, gardens and parks have a tranquil atmosphere compared to the bustling streets outside. The campus contains a unique collection of buildings dating from the 17th to the 20th century, including the library which is famous as the home of the magnificent Book of Kells.

Language

The official language of the conference is English.

Conference Themes

Ageing, Teenage Health, Diabetes, Menopause, Children's Health, Nutrition, Heart Disease, Family Planning, Smoking, Cancers (Breast & Prostate), Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Occupational Health and Safety, Mental Health, HIV/AIDs, EU 6th Framework Programme, Complimentary Therapies, Dementia (particularly Alzheimer's), Violence Against Women

More information:

Register on the web: <http://www.eurohealth.ie/conf.htm>

Send an email: support@eurohealth.ie

Phone +353-1-6766717

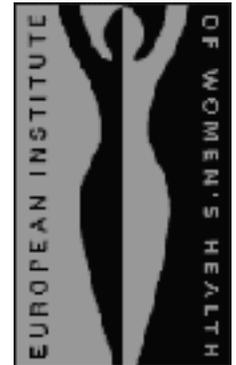
Fax at +353-1-6766740

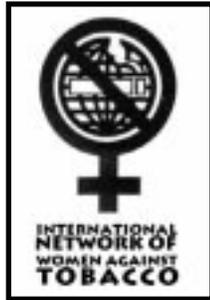
or Write to:

European Institute for Women's Health

9 Herbert Place

Dublin 2 UK





INWAT ELECTIONS

Ballot

Indicate your support for a candidate by marking an X or a ✓ in the box next to her name.
Feel free to write in other candidates, as well. *Please mark only one line per office.*

SEND THIS BALLOT SO THAT IT IS RECEIVED BY July 20, 2000.

President	Margaretha Haglund	<input type="checkbox"/>
	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	Patti White	<input type="checkbox"/>
	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Jerie Jordan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Bungon Ritthiphakdee	<input type="checkbox"/>
	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please **fax** this ballot to Bonnie Kantor at **1-732-549-9056**,
email your choices to bonnie@inwat.org

or **mail** to:

INWAT

P.O. Box 224

Metuchen, NJ 08840 USA

NO LATER THAN July 20!