

2011 WIP Section Report: Africa

1. The WIPP Africa Section held its annual WIP Cadaver Workshop from 18 - 20 March 2011 at the University of Stellenbosch Anatomy Department.
2. Guest lecturers were Dr. Andrea Trescott, MD, FIPP, AFIP and Dr. Leland Lou, MD, FIPP, AFIP.
3. The topics covered the present syllabus for WIP FIPP exams.
4. 3 C-arm work stations and 1 ultrasound work station with 4 wet cadavers were used to teach 18 students over a 20 hour period.
5. Both Dr. Trescott and Dr. Lou were struck by the high proportion of Orthopaedic Surgeons (5) and Neurosurgeons (6) present on the course. Furthermore, we had an Interventionalist Radiologist attending.
6. Three Africa WIP Section members will be sitting the FIPP Exam in Masstricht and three will sit the FIPP exam in Budapest in August.
7. Myself, Dr. CM de Villiers, together with Dr. Lou, Dr. Trescott and Dr. Wilson will be designing a one year modular WIP fellowship for Africa since such a fellowship does not exist in Africa.

The idea is to have a pre-requisite of 3 WIP Workshops as an entry level to the 1 year modular course. The course will consist of 6 modules of which 3 will be done in Belgium, Holland and the UK respectively, with 3 modules in the RSA at 3 accredited Pain Clinics.

This will ensure that WIP Africa Section candidates are well prepared prior to sitting the FIPP exam.

8. Furthermore, a Pain Training Academy is being established at the University of Stellenbosch Medical School with its own C-arm as a permanent on-going training facility to train under- and post-graduate students.

9. Prospective Pain Practitioners in the neighbouring countries have been identified to establish outreach WIP Pain Clinics in these countries so as to ensure adequate Pain Services in these Third World Countries.

The names of the doctors are:

From Namibia - Dr. Erich Mansfield

From DRC - Dr. Felix Mukenge

From Ghana - Dr. Frank Boni, Dr. Thomas Oakurah and Dr. Balley.

10. Myself, Dr. C M de Villiers (Section Leader), Dr. E N Wilson (Secretary), Dr. A du Plessis (Treasurer) were elected to serve as Office Bearers for the next academic year - until August 2012.

Kind Regards,

Dr CM de Villiers

M.B.Bch (Wits) F.R.C.S. (Glas) FIPP (USA) F.R.C.S. (Edin)

