

World Conference 2014

My first feeling is that Yeh-Liang (with your strong and efficient aid) made a very good congress. He was with his high personal investment in the line of his illustrious predecessors Gloria Gutman in Vancouver 2010 and Annelies van Bronswijk for Eindhoven 2012. This personal investment increases the quality of the organization, and also that of the publications, oral, poster or others. The good standing of the TICC (Taipei International Convention Center), vast and comfortable, of the catering with excellent and free dishes or beverages was also a guarantee of success. My second feeling is that ISG, recognizing the pioneering work of its founders, is able to give an historical dimension to its dynamics, unanimously accepted if we judge by the frequentation of the three Grand Master's lectures.

My third feeling is that many new and young faces showed there, at the 2014 ISG Taiwan Conference. New researchers, generally skilled in gerontechnology and good about themselves, enthusiastic and showing new aspects of technology and services. New PhD students, actives at the Congress and attracted by the ISG Masterclass. Young faces of engineering students participating very actively and efficiently to the every day's organization, (five of them coming from France to study in Taiwan), and following their Yuan Ze University master Professor Yeh-Liang Hsu. All these new faces contribute to open a new chapter of the ISG's History

My fourth impression comes from the success of the Chapter's lunch permitting for many of them, and particularly the Sinophone, the North American and the French chapters to progress by the gathering of members who did had no contacts before, and decided naturally to cooperate. The 'Chapters tool' could

be efficient in the future to boost scientific initiatives, and cooperation, and increase the membership. Doubtless, ISG should continue its mission, grow and spread to many new members. The way is not so easy, mainly because the financial support and model of our Society remains frail. A good congress is a necessity for the treasurer's satisfaction. But 'Gerontechnology', our Journal, needs funds and an incessant editorial work. The Journal is more and more the keystone of the ISG.

I wish fervently that the new executive team, the will and activity of the members and chapters, and the rejuvenation of our Society, contribute to find long term solutions for a sustainable ISG.

Alain Franco MD, ISG past-president since the Taiwan General Assembly

E: alain.franco@orange.fr

doi:10.4017/gt.2016.14.3.004.00

ISG Master Class Taoyuan

Held on June 16-17, 2014 in Taoyuan, Taiwan, ISG2014 Master Class jointly organized by Yuan Ze University and Nan Kai University was a very successful event. 36 postgraduate students attended and participated in the two day Master Class, which brought together health & self-esteem, housing & daily activities, and communication & governance from around the world involved in all aspects of Gerontechnology. (Note: 36 postgraduate students are from Taiwan: 12, China: 11, France: 7, the Netherlands: 3, Finland: 1, Singapore: 1, Guatemala: 1).

The Master Class was led and coordinated by Prof. Tina Hui-Min Hua of Nan Kai University of Technology, Taiwan, and Prof. Sue Levkoff of University of South California, United States. Three Grand Masters of International Society for Gerontechnology (ISG) including James L. Fozard, Herman Bouma and Vappu Tuulikki Taipale, and Alain André Franco,



President, International Society for Gerontechnology were invited to give four excellent keynote speeches and to share their knowledge and ideas on Gerontechnology.

During assignment sessions, Masters and students were formed into 2 groups, and each group contained 2 masters, 1 coordinator, and 9 teams. The concept of 'master-class' is modeled on the training often used with young professional musicians. The student performs in front of one or more professional musicians in his or her field who then offer an evaluation of the performance as well as advice to the students. At ISG Master Class, the posters the students bring with them are the 'performances' analogous to the recitals of the young professional musicians. The masters, as former aspiring musicians who performed at auditions for symphony conductors and in front of great professional musicians in their fields, definitely know how valuable these experiences can be and thus will try their best to make the students find these experiences helpful¹.

Students were also asked to place his or her poster in the propitiatory cell in the Gerontechnology matrix. The advice comes from both masters and fellow students. "It was great to see so many young researchers at the Master and Doctoral level from different disciplines together in one place to share their studies and designs on Gerontechnology", said J.E.M.H. van Bronswijk, the Editor-in-Chief of Gerontechnology, the Netherlands. "There is no right or wrong. The Master Class theme aims at getting young researchers to think about all aspects of your studies and to place it in Gerontechnology Impact matrix. Then, convince your fellows and Masters why you placed it there". These trainings do help attended postgraduate students focus on and narrow their research with their own specific aims.

In the end of the Master Class, both the masters and the students vote on the best poster, and the winner is recognized for that. Over the years since the first ISG Master Class in 2006, the correlations between the masters' and fellow students' votes on best poster have been found remarkably high.

A thank you is extended to the organising committee of Executive Chair Prof. dr. Yeh-Liang Hsu, Honorary Chair Prof. dr. Kuo-Ming Wang, Local Chair Prof. dr. Pan-Chio Tuan and all ISG2014 Secretariat Dr. Jun-Ming Lu etc.

References

Bronswijk JEMH van. Master class: The 4th pillar under gerontechnology. Gerontechnology 2014;12(2):63-67; doi:10.4017/gt.2013.12.2.003.00
 Tina Hui-Min Hua MSc, Master Class Coordinator
 E: tinahmh@gmail.com
 doi:10.4017/gt.2016.14.3.005.00

New support for ISG and Gerontechnology journal

Yeh-Liang Hsu PhD, organizer of the successful ISG2014 conference, has volunteered to become the IT Director of the ISG. In this function he steers a



The ISG IT team, posed for a team photo in front of Gerontechnology Research Center, Yuan Ze University; on the right, the silver plate with the ISG logo reads 'International Society of Gerontechnology IT Office'; from left to right: Yadia Colindres, Subscription Manager ISG, Tank Chen MSc, Manager of Information Systems, Jeffrey Sebastian MSc, IT officer and Editorial assistant for ISG, Richard Chang MSc, Manager of Information Systems, and Yeh-Liang Hsu PHD, IT Director for ISG and associate editor of Gerontechnology

team to provide long-term, sustainable solution for IT support for the ISG website and the Gerontechnology Journal. The ISG IT Office is physically located at the Gerontechnology Research Center, Yuan Ze University, Taiwan.

In addition to the daily technical support, ISG IT Office also layout a plan for reconstructing ISG IT infrastructure:

(i) Constructing the ISG website

The one website that currently represents ISG is the Gerontechnology Journal website. Based on the Open Journal System (OJS), the main function of this website is for viewing and archiving Gerontechnology Journal papers. It also contains basic information of ISG and the membership management functions. A new ISG website is under construction as a communication platform for ISG members, and for introduction and promotion of ISG to non-members. It also serves as an entry site for local chapter webpages and for Gerontechnology Journal.

(ii) Using social media as a channel to reach out

ISG website is linked with two mayor social platforms, Facebook and LinkedIn. An ISG Facebook site has been established (converted from ISG 2014 fan page). News and events from ISG officers, members and local chapters are constantly fed to readers and subscribers. The news and events are also displayed in the ISG website. LinkedIn is a business oriented social network, specifically made to connect with people with similar interest, research fields, businesses and more. Current a LinkedIn platform on Gerontechnology exists, but not maintained by ISG.

A decision is to be made on whether to create a new ISG LinkedIn platform or to link to the existing one.

(iii) Restoration of the Journal System

The current Gerontechnology Journal System is built on OJS (Open Journal System). The main function of this website is for viewing and archiving papers. There is an additional Gerontechnology Manuscript Handling System, also based on OJS, for authors, reviewers, editors to submit, review, and edit papers for the Journal. Maintaining the current Gerontechnology Journal System is a challenging task to the IT Office. Bugs were found in the current system, like membership sign-in, the instability and compatibility in the different web browsers.

ISG IT Office proposed to reinstall a new OJS version for the Gerontechnology Manuscript Handling System, while building a new journal website for viewing and archiving papers. The renewal of ISG IT infrastructure is expected to take 15 months.

Yeh-Liang Hsu PhD

E: mehsu@saturn.yzu.edu.tw

doi: doi:10.4017/gt.2016.14.3.006.00

10th World Conference 2016

The 10th World Conference of Gerontechnology has been scheduled for Nice (France), September 28-30, 2016¹. To submit a contribution click on <http://www.gerontechnology.org.tw:8080/ocs/>. The conference will operate under the theme 'Sustainable Humanity', and focus on gerontechnology for a sustainable active and healthy ageing. This includes gerontechnology for sustainable health and aid organisations,

and gerontechnology contributing to a sustainable social economy concerning an ageing population. Seven tracks or sections are foreseen:

Communication – Management –Governance, Health –Comfort – Self-esteem.

Housing – Building –

Daily living, ICT - Robots – Drones,

Mobility - Transport – Travel,

Work - Leisure – Volunteering, and

Innovation opportunities in Gerontechnology.

Additional information may be obtained from: isg2016info@mci-group.com

References

www.isg2016.org; retrieved January 26, 2016

Alain Franco MD, organizer ISG2016

E: alain.franco@orange.fr

doi:10.4017/gt.2016.14.3.008.00

Dušan Šimšík, new associate editor

Since 1997 Dušan Šimšík is full professor at the Mechanical Engineering Faculty of the Technical University of Košice in Slovakia. He is currently heading the Department of Automation, Control and Human-Machine Interactions, and is also in charge of the Access Centre at the Technical University of Košice (Slovakia) that serves students with special needs using assistive technology and eAccessibility tools.

Professor Šimšík has been cooperating with several European universities as coordinator and contractor for students and staff mobility programs (Socrates, Erasmus, CEEPUS), and to support students with special needs (TEMPUS Phare, GATEWAY).

Dušan Šimšík is a member of the Slovak Society of Biomedical Engineering and Medical Informatics, of International Committees, such as IMEKO TC17, ICTA EUROPE Rehabilitation International (chairman). He also serves as board member and national contact for AAATE, as national contact for EDeAN network and EASTIN database, and is a member of ESB and ISG.

His research interest in assistive technology stretches over the complete domain, from students, over older adults to the stage of frailty. This includes, among others, video analysis of posture disorders, counteracting falls in older people, motorized rehabilitation devices, ICT support for daily activities and wearable sensors for home care, ambient intelligence, eInclusion, the role of eAccessibility networking, as well as assistive technology training and the economic aspects of gerontechnology.

Dušan Šimšík, Ing, PhD

E: dusan.simsik@tuke.sk

doi:10.4017/gt.2016.14.3.009.00

