

Dear ISIAQ Member,

To better serve our members and stimulate associated growth, the Board has decided to change the current timing and operation of future ISIAQ sponsored conferences. The fundamental rationale for this new format is premised on efforts to facilitate conferences tailored to the members' needs (including our goals of serving a multidisciplinary base and encouraging more health professionals to become active in ISIAQ). In addition, the new format is structured to return to the original idea behind the two congresses (Indoor Air - IA and Healthy Buildings - HB) of presenting separate forums on science (IA) and practice (HB). The intended result is to situate ISIAQ for the future by catering more to the original intent of the two distinct Conference themes, creating more regional visibility for ISIAQ, and continued growth. The Board decisions are described below in detail.

After almost 4 years of deliberation and consideration on the issue of conference frequency, and subsequent to an opinion poll response from the membership on the subject, the Board has voted that, subsequent to the planned Healthy Buildings Conference in Brisbane, Australia, in 2012, the following changes will come into effect:

- 1) To hold the flagship International Indoor Air (IA) conference in alternate years and to hold regional meetings in the interim years.
- 2) To strive, *generally*, to hold three regional meetings in the interim years; one each in Europe, in the Americas, and in Asia-Pacific Rim. The regional meetings labeled Healthy Buildings: Europe, Healthy Buildings: Americas, and Healthy Buildings: Asia - Pacific Rim, would be focused on issues that are timely and pertinent to the region being addressed. These Regional events are anticipated to be smaller events, as compared to IA conferences, with specific regional topic-based focus and participation.
- 3) The basic intent for organization and implementation of the future flagship IA Conferences is that the Society will establish more control over conference planning through our members and Academy fellows and, to some extent (to be determined), sharing in the financial risk associated with the events. An international committee of ISIAQ members is envisioned to actively participate, at a detailed level, in the planning and arranging of conferences.
- 4) The ISIAQ regional Healthy Building events will follow the same principle as the international IA conferences. An active ISIAQ-based committee responsible for the work will be established in each region. The extent of control and financial investment for regional events will depend on a number of factors. The key may be one of being "flexible" on the regional events so that we can adjust as needed depending on the site, the interested parties involved, and the infrastructure already in place at the host city location. These meetings will allow ISIAQ to offer more locally accessible events, specific to regional needs, to better serve the membership.
- 5) To facilitate ISIAQ's enhanced role in international IA Conferences, and regional HB Conferences, the Board understands that considerable planning and adjustment must occur well in advance of the events. Practical details will be explored and

developed in collaboration with ISIAQ members during the coming 2 to 3 years with meetings and roundtables at IA 2011 and HB 2012 conferences in Austin and Brisbane. The transition to the new model will be done in a stepwise procedure, meaning that we start with the next international IA Conference, post-IA 2011 (the implementation date of the new conference arrangement will be chosen later). After evaluation of this first international conference we will proceed with the regional meetings following an adjusted model.

For this model to be successful it must be clear to members and others that we are fundamentally altering the way Society conferences/meetings are held. Without the members' engagement toward planning and participation on these important issues (in term of committees, task forces for organization, direct involvement and oversight of technical sessions, etc.), the chances of success are diminished. Although this is the first announcement of this shift in planning for conferences within the Society, the ISIAQ Board will embark upon a continued information campaign to use all possible channels in order to reach all members and others of interest to prepare and motivate them to be involved as the opportunity arises. While changes as detailed above reflect a considerable innovation in operations within ISIAQ, the Board is optimistic that these changes will revitalize its membership and harbor the seeds to grow into the next decade.

Thank you for your time and attention to this announcement. The Board encourages you to be more involved as we move forward in this direction. In an added effort, to encourage greater membership participation, the next ISIAQ AGM for 2010 is planned to be a Web-based virtual event (to be held on two occasions to serve the needs of varying time zones) and will be announced soon for the coming year. We look forward to Indoor Air 2011 in Austin, TX, Healthy Buildings 2012 in Brisbane, Australia, and the future beyond.

Sincerely,
Richard J Shaughnessy, PhD
President ISIAQ
on behalf of the ISIAQ Board