

# WFNS Foundation Report

[www.wfns.org/Foundation](http://www.wfns.org/Foundation)



Basant Misra, Chair, WFNS Foundation  
November 1, 2023

The WFNS Foundation was established in the year 2000 in Geneva to promote the Development of Neurosurgery worldwide mainly concerning basic neurosurgical issues and focusing on developing countries. The effort continues after the current Executive Board was elected on November 7, 2021. This report summarizes activities in the last 2 years. Educating and providing support with high-quality, low-cost instruments to young neurosurgeons (YNS) in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) have been the two main activities of the Foundation.

## **Educating YNS:**

### Training Centers

The Foundation has Full Program Training Centers (FPTC), Post-Graduate Training Centers (PGTC) and Short Period Training Centers (SPTC). There were 6 FPTC before November 2021, 4 in Africa supporting 12 YNS with a scholarship of US \$600/ month from the Foundation and 2 in Brazil where the institution supports the YNS without financial liability to the Foundation. In the last 2 years 3 more FPTC have been accredited: 1 in Africa, Department of Neurosurgery, Cairo University where 2 YNS are supported with a scholarship (US \$600/ month) from the Foundation; 2 FPTC in Asia: North West General Hospital, Peshawar, Pakistan and Taipei Neuroscience Institute, Taipei Medical University, Taipei. Both centers in Asia support the YNS without financial liability to the Foundation. Seven PGTC have been accredited in the last 2 years (total now 31). The PGTC supports YNS without financial liability to the Foundation. My sincere gratitude to all program Directors. The education programs facilitated by the Foundation are extremely popular and more than 300 applications have been processed in the last 2 years.

### Instrument Support

Over the years the Foundation has donated over 241 high-quality/low-cost instrument sets to YNS in LMICs, including 42 microscopes. We express our sincere gratitude to companies Aesculap, Zeiss and Xishan for supplying subsidized sets. The Foundation would like to do more. However, there have been many hurdles in this endeavor, finance constraints being the main problem with no major donations and Covid has not helped. In fact, the Foundation is donating a microscope after a 6-year gap. I appeal to all National and International Societies, and to all Neurosurgeons, to contribute to the Foundation account to help this worthy cause as no money is spent on Executive Board Members and no zero administrative cost. Let me take this occasion to put on record the Foundation's appreciation to Neurosurgery Society of Hong Kong that made a donation of US \$3000 to the Foundation after my appeal.

### Foundation Education Courses

The Foundation has organized 3 virtual courses (2022-23) and 8 in-person courses in 2023: April 29-30, Agra; September 1, Jaipur; September 8, Kathmandu; September 16, Mumbai; September

30-October 1, Calcutta; October 2-3, Dhaka, and October 14-15, Chennai. We also organized a hands-on simulation course UpSurgeOn, for the first time in India. I am happy to share that we have donated US \$ 20,000 from 2 Foundation Education Courses in India and expect to donate another US \$ 20,000 from another 2 courses in India. I am grateful to all course Faculty.

### **New Initiatives:**

#### Mentors Series

The Foundation ran a very popular Webinar series ‘Mentors HMV (His/Her Memories & Views)’ in an interview format. Some of the Mentors interviewed were Professors Samii, Kobayashi, Teasdale, Banerji, Spetzler, Heros, Al Mefty, De Rocco, Kaye among others.

#### Next Gen Webinars

There were also Next Gen webinars where YNS presented and Faculty moderated.

#### Promotions-Social Media Presence

The Foundation became active on Instagram, LinkedIn & Facebook. These were made possible by medical student volunteers who had spent time in my Department as Observers again without any financial burden on the Foundation.

#### Prize for Medical Students

A new initiative to increase popularity and awareness of Neurosurgery specialty amongst medical students was the establishment of 2 prizes for medical students. The winners will be decided by an essay competition and the winners will have complimentary Registration and Accommodation at WFNS 2023 in Cape town (sponsored by Congress organizers, President Graham Fieggen) and US \$ 500 travel grant (sponsored by me), again no financial liability on the Foundation. I would like express my sincere thanks to a dynamic medical student from Georgia, Ms Rishmita Thakur. She was doing an elective under my guidance and helped me both with the social media activity and helped in announcing the prize for medical students. There was tremendous response and I received more than 300 essays from medical students.

#### Presentation

An awareness campaign about the Foundation was initiated and I presented Foundation activities at AANS 2023, LA; EANS 2023, Barcelona; JNS 2023 (Japan Neurosurgical Society), NESON 2023 (Nepal Neurosurgical Society), Bangladesh Neurosurgical Society International Meeting 2023 and Africa Health ExCon, Cairo, 2023.

#### Finally

I would like to appeal to all neurosurgeons to support the Foundation, the charitable arm of the Federation. You can contribute by donations (tax free facility for Americans donating to Foundation USA), by contributing to education courses and finally accepting young neurosurgeons as Fellows, especially from LMICs.

As Mahatma Gandhi said, ‘*The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world's problems.*’

**JOIN US!**

# Mentors HMV

(His/Her Memories & Views)

**06th November, 2021**

08.00 am - 09.00 am (EST)  
12.00 pm - 01.00 pm (GMT)  
05.30 pm - 06.30 pm (IST)



**CHAIR**

**Prof Nelson Oyesiku, USA**

- Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery and Professor of Medicine (Neurological) at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- President, WFNS

**MODERATOR**

**Prof Basant K Misra, India**

- Head Department of Neurosurgery & Gamma Knife Radiosurgery, P.D. Hinduja National Hospital, Mumbai
- President, National Association of Neurological Surgeons, India
- Head President, Asian Australasian Society of Neurological Surgeons

**MENTOR**

**Prof Robert Spetzler, USA**

- Emeritus President & DOD Emeritus Chair, Department of Neurosurgery, Barrow Neurological Institute
- Honorary President, WFNS

**CHAIR**

**Prof Akio Morita, Japan**

- Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery, Dept. of Graduate School of Biomedical Science, Hiroshima University
- Secretary, WFNS & President, Japanese Society for Skull Base Surgery

**MENTOR**

**Prof Shigeaki Kobayashi, Japan**

- Professor, Emeritus, Shizuoka University
- Honorary President, WFNS
- Honorary Director, Stroke and Brain Center, Akita Hospital, Japan

**MENTOR**

**Prof Madjid Samii, Germany**

- Honorary President, WFNS
- President, IAN, Hannover
- President, IAN, China

To Join The Webinar  <https://zoom.us/j/96197457592>

**JOIN US!**

# Mentors HMV

(His/Her Memories & Views)

**07th January, 2022**

01.00 pm - 02.00 pm (GMT)  
06.30 pm - 07.30 pm (IST)



**CHAIR**

**Prof B K Misra, India**

- Chairman, WFNS Foundation
- Chief of Surgery, Head, Dept. of Neurosurgery & Gamma Knife Radiosurgery, P.D. Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai
- President, WFNS
- Hon. President, AASNS

**MODERATOR**

**Prof Miroslav Vukic, Croatia**

- President, Croatian Neurological Society, 2013 - 2021
- Professor, Neurosurgery, Medical School, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- Assistant Secretary, WFNS
- Board Member - Audit and Governance, IANS, 2017 - 2022

**MENTOR**

**Prof Ajit K Banerjee, India**

- Emeritus Professor, Neurosurgery, AIIMS, Delhi
- Founder, VIMHANS, New Delhi
- Emeritus Consultant, Apollo Hospital, New Delhi


**MODERATOR**

**Prof Suresh Nair, India**

- President, NSI (2018)
- President Elect, IMS
- Secretary, WFNS
- Former Professor & Chairman of Neurosurgery and Dem. SC, IASST, Tiruvananthapuram
- Former Professor, Neurosurgery, AIIMS, Bhopal

To Join The Webinar or watch Live on  <https://zoom.us/j/96767348733>  
 <https://youtu.be/Jjqp11Pw8>

**Course Director**



**Prof. Basant Misra**

Chairman, WFNS Foundation  
Hon President- Asian Australasian Society of Neurological Surgeons

Head Department of Surgery  
Consultant Neurosurgeon,  
Section Co-ordinator, Dept. of Neurosurgery & Gamma Knife Radiosurgery  
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**International Faculty**



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USA



**Franco Servadei**  
Immediate Past President, WFNS  
Italy



**Nasser El-Ghandour**  
Treasurer, WFNS  
Egypt



**Luis Borba**  
Chairman, Education Committee, WFNS  
Brazil



**Wan Teow Seow**  
President, AASNS  
Singapore



**Yong Kwang Tu**  
Chairman, WFNS Honorary President Committee  
Taiwan









# WHY

# NEUROSURGERY?

## ***Students' Essay Competition***

Our two winning essays will get a cash prize up to 500\$ with an incredible opportunity of attending the future WFNS Congress in person!



***Why Wait? When you can get to Writing Straight!!***

