

# W A R M T H

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL & MOLECULAR THERAPY

Registration No: 5/04634 • Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1960 in New Delhi, India

[www.warmth.org](http://www.warmth.org)

## Governing Body (2013-2014)

### President:

Prof Richard P Baum (Germany)  
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### Secretary:

Dr Emerita Barrenechea (Philippines)  
[emieab@yahoo.com](mailto:emieab@yahoo.com)

### Treasurer:

Dr P S Choudhary (India)  
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### President Elect:

Dr S Srivastava (USA)  
[suresh@bnl.gov](mailto:suresh@bnl.gov)

### Members:

Dr Patricia Bernal (Colombia)  
Dr Luzmaria Castaneda (Dom. Republic)  
Prof AH Elgazzar (Kuwait)  
Dr Shazia Fatima (Pakistan)  
Dr Gopinath Gnanasegaran (UK)  
Dr Knut Liepe (Germany)  
Prof Raihan Hussain (Bangladesh)  
Dr Mai Trong Khoa (Vietnam)  
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Prof Irene Virgolini (Austria)  
Prof N Watanabe (Japan)  
Dr Seyed Rasoul Zakavi (Iran)  
Dr Sze Ting Lee (Australia)  
Prof Cornelis Hoefnagel

### Interim Address for Communication:

Prof Richard P Baum (Germany)  
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January 2014

To: All Members of WARMTH

Dear Friends,

This is the first month of my second year at work as President of WARMTH.

I started my Presidency 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2013, feeling safe with Ajit Padhy on board as Executive Director.

In March 2013 we had another very successful Singapore NM Update and then in June the first WARMTH Categorical Seminar in conjunction with the SNMMI during the Annual Meeting in Vancouver - what made Ajit so proud and happy – to cite him:

"I am happy to inform you that the First WARMTH-SNM Continuing Education Program on "Novel Targeted Radionuclide Therapy" was successfully held in Vancouver as per schedule on 10 June 2013. It was a great beginning to this collaboration between WARMTH and SNMMI. The meeting room was full and lectures were well received. I was told that this session was one of the best attended sessions of this year's SNM."

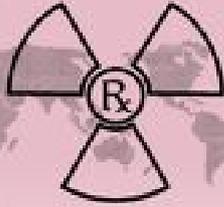
That was the last time I met Ajit in person, still remembering discussing with him future activities and projects. We then had the WARMTH workshop in Coimbatore in South India where some of you met Ajit for the last time.

*Then, on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, came as a severe shock the sudden demise of our founder, leader, colleague and dear friend, Ajit Padhy. Ajit was integral to the function of WARMTH, and for a very brief moment, we were all floundering and wondering as to the future of WARMTH.*

From the hundreds of emails I received after Ajit's demise I will only make citation of one: "Dear Emie and all, between all the sadness that overwhelms us, to feel that we are together is a God's blessing. I am pretty sure like all of you the best tribute to our great friend is to actively participate in the meeting and to continue with all the activities enthusiastically. I am with you. Patricia Bernal."

But fortunately, Ajit's legacy was not only WARMTH, but his network of friends and support throughout the world, who stepped in immediately, and within 3 weeks of his death, we had on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 an international teleconference of the Governing Body as well as the Organising Committee of the ICRT held in Manila. In this meeting, the progress of the ICRT and future of WARMTH was discussed. The great success of the ICRT in Manila was a testament to the efficacy of that teleconference which was made technically possible with the great help of Bill Claxton and Josh Mailman - our patient advocates and IT specialists and geniuses.

IAEA support for the Manila conference could be assured and I was also successful with more companies for support of the conference and I want to thank some of the members for using their relations to also do so.



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I was also able to attract additional WARMTH corporate members which might be able to support our Re-188 trial.

Further discussions since then at the EANM Congress in Lyon/France with International Societies and organizations such as WFNMB, AOFNMB, ARCCNM, AIPES and IRE, as well as with the Governing Board Members, have reassured me, at least, that WARMTH will go on, although some necessary changes had to occur.

We had an extremely successful and warm ICRT 2013 in Manila. Emie and her wonderful team have done an absolutely superb job in organizing this congress, together with the Conference Secretariat, Ee Sia and her team as well. We had an outstanding local and international faculty and excellent attendance from participants all over the world, all paying a very touching tribute to Ajit on the night of the Gala Dinner which was also attended by Ajit's wife and son.

Since then, we have employed a Permanent Secretariat in Singapore (led by Ee Sia TAN, events<sup>360</sup>) to perform the day-to-day activities and communicate with our membership, as well as manage our membership database. This was agreed upon at the Members Assembly.

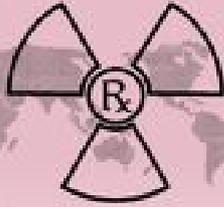
Another significant decision of the GB was that the appointment of an Executive Director was initially proposed in Levi in 2012 to recognize the service given to the Association by Ajit Padhy when he stepped down as its founding President at the end of his term in January 2013. His contribution to WARMTH was unique, and his untimely demise has meant the GB of WARMTH did not feel any individual could take on this role. Consequently, the post of ED will have only a single post holder, that person being the irreplaceable Professor Ajit Padhy. From here onwards, the responsibilities of the role will now be shared by the senior office bearers of WARMTH, namely the President, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer, with the assistance of the Permanent Secretariat. The Members' Assembly unanimously passed this motion.

I am also pleased to announce that in recognition of Ajit's contribution to WARMTH, there will be the creation of an "Ajit Padhy Memorial Oration" which will be held at future ICRTs, starting in 2015. The nominations can be made by any member, with a proposer & seconder with the candidate's CV to be submitted to the Secretariat at least 6 months before the meeting.

In the current world of information technology, our presence on the internet is crucial to our membership growth, and up until now, Ajit's son, Paritosh has been involved in that. However, we do not feel that it is appropriate to impose on his generosity indefinitely, and steps are being taken to revamp our website with more interactive membership and payment opportunities, with the assistance of Josh Mailman (our patient advocate IT specialist) and the new Secretariat. I would like to acknowledge and thank Paritosh Padhy for his commitment to our website over the last few years, which has been immeasurable.

New directions for the World Journal will be implemented soon, with Prof John Buscombe elected as the new Editor-In-Chief in the ICRT in Manila.

Furthermore, with a positive vote of the Governing Body and the Members Assembly, we have created an Education and Training Committee on



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WARMTH, a new initiative proposed by myself. Prof Cornelis Hoefnagel was approached and has accepted the role as the Dean of the World School of Theranostics. More news on this will follow.

Our international standing in the Nuclear Medicine community has grown over the years, with more interaction with other Nuclear Medicine Societies, such as the SNMMI, and WFNMB, and I am pleased to announce that there will be representation of WARMTH on the WFNMB Governing Body as well as the Nuclear Oncology Council of the SNMMI to engage in future collaborative efforts and meetings.

In view of the increasing collaboration with our international community, the next WARMTH meeting will be held in collaboration with the Indian Science Congress in Jammu in February, and two seminars in conjunction with the SNMMI – both in the Mid-Winter Meeting and the Annual Scientific Meeting in June 2014.

I would like to take this opportunity to announce to the membership that ICRT 2014 will be held in Cancun, Mexico on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2014, in conjunction with the 11<sup>th</sup> WFNMB Congress. The next stand alone ICRT will be held in Innsbruck, Austria from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The 2015 Congress President is Prof Irene Virgolini, and we look forward to a very exciting program and robust discussion on radionuclide therapy at these meetings.

As you all may realise, last year has been an extremely traumatic year for WARMTH. However, I would like to thank each and every one of you members for the continued support and positive outlook for WARMTH.

With an ever increasing membership, now at over 450 members, about 50 of whom have signed on over the last 12 months (many from the Philippines, and even from China, South America and Europe), I really want to encourage you to engage one single new member until the end of 2014. By that, our membership could grow to nearly 1000!

We can all be assured that whilst there will only be one Ajit Kumar Padhy, we will all continue in his spirit for the advancement and progress of radionuclide therapy, through his fruit of WARMTH.

I would like to take this opportunity to send you all WARM wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2014.

Kindest Regards,

Prof Richard Baum  
President, WARMTH