



# WADEM INSIGHT

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## The New *Insight*

Welcome to your new, bimonthly *Insight*. Your newsletter has been redesigned, carries expanded information, and now has an enthusiastic Editor, Dr. Judith Fisher. *Insight* is distributed to all WADEM members and will accompany each issue of *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine*. It will be posted on the WADEM Website as *e-Insight* (<http://wadem.medicine.wisc.edu>) about three weeks before the printed version is distributed. *E-Insight* is a special edition of *Insight* and is edited by Dr. Frank Archer and will be distributed from the Monash University (Melbourne, Australia) WADEM Office to all members who have provided an e-mail address.

Dr. Fisher graciously has accepted the challenge of Editor of the printed version and is supported by Janis Baun (WADEM Office Coordinator) and Carolyn Lowry (WADEM intern). Dr. Archer is assisted by Liz Noble in the WADEM Melbourne Office.

The mission of *Insight* and *e-Insight* is to keep the membership of the WADEM updated of the activities of the WADEM and its members. It is believed that these publications will provide a mechanism to enhance networking between WADEM members. In its new form, it also will include important information about other organizations that impact the WADEM and its members, such as UN agencies including the World Health Organization and its regional offices including the Pan-American Health Organization and the Southeast Asia Regional Office, and other non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations (ALNAP, etc).

The scope of the content will be expanded and will include (but is not limited to): (1) progress reports from the WADEM Standing Committees and Task Forces; (2) a calendar of WADEM-related events worldwide; (3) status reports from the WADEM Secretariat ([wadem@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:wadem@medicine.wisc.edu)); (4) plans and agendas for WADEM World and Regional Congresses; (5) reports from the WADEM Chapters and Regional Training Centers; (6) news about the WADEM members and their accomplishments, including short biographies of the leaders; (7) Observations or reports by members; (8) minutes and activities of the WADEM Board and Executive Committee meetings as well as meetings of its Task Forces and Committees; (9) lists of new members; (10) descriptions of Congress venues; (11) reviews of related meetings/conferences/congresses attended by WADEM members; and (12) status of the WADEM in the world of disaster and emergency health.

Significantly, the material published in both forms of *Insight* must come from you, the members of the WADEM; it is not possible for the Production Staff of *Insight* to invent it. Send what you believe may be interesting information for other members; let us know what you are up to. Call us before we call you. As always, your suggestions on how *Insight* can better serve the membership are welcome.

## Where is the WADEM now?

Several major developments are occurring in the WADEM:

1. A new organizational structure is in place. The WADEM has moved from a vertically structured organization to one that is horizontally structured (to be discussed in detail in the next issue of *Insight*; it also is available on the WADEM website (<http://wadem.medicine.wisc.edu>).
2. The WADEM now has two staffed offices: (1) the WADEM Secretariat at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and (2) the WADEM Office for Membership Services, Committees, and Task Forces at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. The mission of both offices is to serve the membership and to support the members in their activities in the development of the WADEM. The University of Wisconsin office also supports *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine* (PDM). It is staffed by the PDM Production Editor, Dana Schmidman ([ds5@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:ds5@medicine.wisc.edu)), three interns (Sarah Covington, Jack Helmer, and Josie Caves), and the WADEM Coordinator, Janis Baun ([jcb@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:jcb@medicine.wisc.edu)) as well as a summer intern, Carolyn Lowry, who has been largely responsible for the evolution of *Insight*. The Monash Office is staffed by Liz Noble ([Elizabeth.Noble@med.monash.edu.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Noble@med.monash.edu.au)).
3. The Standing Committees have become very active and include: (1) the Executive Committee that consists of all of the elected officers and is steering the WADEM in its new direction; (2) the Education Committee which has developed and published an issues paper on Education in Disaster and Emergency Health; (3) the Program Committee that has been working hard with the Local Organizing Committee for the 15th World Congress to be convened in Amsterdam in May 2007; (4) the International Law and Ethics Committee, which has met several times and has produced the first draft of a

