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IASP

Working together for pain relief

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Dear Professor Coaccioli:

Warm greetings to IASP members in Italy and to attendees of the 43rd Congress of the Italian Association for the Study of Pain. I wish you and your colleagues a productive virtual meeting.

The International Association for the Study of Pain takes great interest in the activities of its 95 national chapters and is proud to count on the loyalty and hard work of its more than 7,000 members from 133 countries. The relationships among IASP, its members, and national chapters are a top priority for our association, and we are continually working to strengthen and further enhance IASP's support for members and chapters worldwide.

IASP has a number of programs for students, trainees, and early career professionals. Over the next two years, one of my highest priorities will focus on engaging the younger generation in these programs. We will implement a task force to work on targeted programs that will give us the future leaders of IASP. Some ideas toward these goals are to implement a mentorship program, offer targeted skills workshops, peer-to-peer mentoring, and virtual and in person meetings. We want our young members to have a voice in the future direction of the Society, on our committees, Council, and working groups.

Global Year

While the 2020 Global Year for the Prevention of Pain is coming to an end, we would like to highlight our successes disseminating pain prevention strategies to the pain community. Feel free to find free factsheets, webinars, publications, and more on the IASP website (www.IASP-pain.org/GlobalYear). We are pleased to announce that the **2021 IASP Global Year About Back Pain** will launch in the early part of 2021. Materials and articles related to the Global Year will be available on the IASP website. I very much hope that the Italian Association for the Study of Pain and its members will participate in the 2021 IASP Global Year About Back Pain by holding events and meetings on this important topic. Please keep the IASP office at globalyear@IASP-pain.org informed of your Global Year activities, and let us know if translations in more languages are needed. Be sure to include #GlobalYear2021 in all of your social media posts about your 2021 Global Year activities to ensure they are seen by the global pain community.

Virtual Series on Pain & Expo

With the new challenges presented by the global pandemic, and the inability to meet in-person this year, we are delighted to introduce the Virtual Series on Pain & Expo - six months of innovative virtual content and interactive engagement, September 2020 - March 2021. We hope that you will join us by participating in our virtual conference, until we are all able to safely meet in-person. For more information on the virtual conference – visit <https://www.eventscribe.com/2020/IASP-Virtual-Series-on-Pain/>.

Please let me know how I can facilitate continued growth of the Italian Association for the Study of Pain and improve the treatment of pain in Italy.

With my best wishes for a successful meeting,

Claudia Sommer, MD
President, IASP