



Urological Society of India West Zone

31st WZUSICON 2021

Secretary's report

Dear members of the west zone.

It gives me great pleasure in reading this secretary's report at the 31st annual conference of the Urological society of India west zone. At the outset I thank all members of the zone to have elected me to this post. I feel honoured and humbled.

Friends, there is no "I" in "TEAM". So, although this is called the secretary's report, it actually is the report from the whole council, I feel. The new council took charge on 01 Nov 2020. The council consisted of Dr Anil Bradoo (President); Dr Lalit Shah (Past president); Dr Jaikrishin Lalmalani (President elect); Dr Prashant Mulawkar (Hon Secretary); Dr Ashish Patil (Hon treasurer); Dr Prashant Bhagwat, Dr Arvind Ganpule, Dr Ajit Sawant, Dr Sadashiv Bhole (Council members); Dr Pankaj Maheshwari and Dr P P Rao (Ex-officio members). In January 2021, Dr Pankaj Maheshwari retired from the council and Dr Rajesh Kukreja joined as an ex-officio member. The council started work on day one. The major areas in which the council worked are as below

1. Member List database

This was done in a structured phased manner

1.1 Addition of new members

1.1.1 Phase 1: Member get a member

On taking charge the council scanned member list of USI and the west zone. Identified 122 members who were USI members residing in the geographical limits of west zone but not the members of west zone. Their list with contact details was prepared and published on the west zone WhatsApp groups. The existing members were motivated to contact these young members and persuaded to become WZ members. Within 2 weeks 36 members joined WZ. All the sponsoring members were sent certificates of appreciation.

1.1.2 Phase 2: Liaising with Gujrat urology association and Mumbai Urology association

The GUS and MUA member lists were scanned to identify members who could become members of the USIWZ. Significant help was received from Dr Deepak Rajyaguru, Dr Dhawal Naik, Dr Shrenik Shah, Dr Vinit Shah, and many others.

1.1.3 Phase 3: Repeated communications with the USI office

USI central office was communicated frequently to identify new members and they were contacted either telephonically or by e mail.

Their lists were published either on website or in the newsletters and verification done. The list of the members is annexed with this report at the end.

1.1.4 Phase 4: Ongoing

A list of all trainees (and converted from trainee to full) members of USI from WZ was asked for. This list contained 291 names. Of these 59 members were identified who had already become WZ members in last five years. 232 trainees who are USI members but can potentially become WZ members have been identified and the plan to invite them was prepared. But this work has been halted because of the current conference. In addition, we have contacted the heads of teaching institutes to persuade the students to become WZ members. Our target is to get at least 100 members from this list in the coming year.

1.2 Sanitisation of member list

An attempt was made to trace each and every member of the WZ. It was found that some members had already expired. Their names were removed from the member list after due verification by at least two members. Moreover, those members whose address and other contact details were not available were searched through various groups. Significant help was received in this regard from many members. Some of the members who were not in India were contacted through WhatsApp calls and messages. personally communicated with these overseas members. Some of the senior west zone members who have migrated from west zone to outside WZ but had great affinity for the WZ were also traced.

1.3 Status

Currently we have total 829 members: Full=623, Associate=206. Registered voters are 455.

2 Scientific activities

2.1 Publication cell activities

2.1.1 Promoting paper writing

To 'hand hold' and help our PG students and those interested in publishing their studies and work, the USUWZ council decided to constitute a publication cell which will help the students in all aspects of publishing papers. This was headed by Dr Arvind Ganpule with significant contribution from the academicians in the zone. This cell performed mock reviews of the submitted manuscripts and feedback was given which included suggestions on IMRADs, referencing, style of writing, statistics, and journals to be submitted. Till date we have received 6 manuscript and at least two reviews have been provided in 5 manuscripts. Among the reviewed articles one has got accepted for publication.

2.1.2 A beginner's guide to Publication

The Publication cell of the WZUSI has embarked on a project to bring out a "beginners guide in publication" a book intended for postgraduates and junior consultants. The proposed book will be by the West zone members for the West zone members and the USI members. It will cover all the intricacies of publishing and presenting. This booklet is at present peer review stage. It contains basic information about scientific paper writing.

2.2 Ethics committee

Council received a letter from Dr Kandarp Parikh wherein he highlighted the problems in getting ethics committee clearance for the research projects. He wished that USIWZ should have its own ethics committee. Council also received similar letter from Dr Rupin Shah. Council deliberated on

this issue. Formal work on establishing an ethics committee was initiated but we could not form this committee.

2.3 Scientific Programs held

2.3.1 The Naïve Urologist: Weapons and Warfield

This program was held on 15 January 2021. Basic idea was of Dr Arvind Ganpule. This was a program targeted at newcomers in the practice. The program consisted of two parts. In the first part topics covered discussion on which equipment to buy and the second part discussed roaming urology. This was moderated by Dr Rishi Grover, Dr Sheetal Mistry. A lot of interaction happened during this program.

2.3.2 Bladder Cancer conclave

This was a two-day online program held on 28 and 29 May 2021. Day 1 covered NMIBC and Day 2 was devoted to MIBC. It was a joint venture of USIWZ and Apollo cancer centre. Dr Ashwin Tamhankar was the convener. Seventeen faculty members from the west zone participated in this conclave.

2.3.3 Energy Sources in Stones

This was held on 7th August 2021. It was a joint venture of USIWZ and urology society Indore. Dr Rajesh Kukreja and Dr Sushil Bhatia took active part in the organization. This program had talks on Thulium fibre laser, pneumatic lithotripter, Holmium laser, Shockpulse etc

2.4 Short debates

This was a new venture started by the zone. It had a two-minute debate on an interesting point. The short vertical videos which are optimised for cell phone were uploaded on Twitter. These videos became immensely popular. The videos covered different topics like: Supine vs Prone PCNL, HoYAG vs TFL, Open vs lap Pyeloplasty, 80 Gram Prostate: Bipolar vs HOLEP, Transplant reimplantation, VVF: Lap vs Vaginal, T1HG Bladder cancer, Post vasectomy azoospermia, Free Downloads, Post TURP stricture, Ejaculatory abstinence, AKI Hyperkalemia, Bulbar stricture: transecting vs Non transecting, Disposable scopes, non palpable undescended testis. Each short video was a complete program in itself. These debates have total of 426521 impressions on twitter in total. The debate on free downloads of scientific papers was the most popular one. In this the participants were Dr Makarand Khochikar, Dr Sanjay Pandey and Dr Rajeev Kumar.

3 Newsletter

Every year we used to come out with three newsletters. This year we decided to have four newsletters. The council decided to come out theme-based newsletters. Dr Prashant Bhagwat took over as the editor of the newsletter. The newsletters published in the last year were as follows

3.1 January 2021: Dr S S Joshi memorial issue

The first newsletter of the year was dedicated to the loving memory of Dr S S Joshi. This issue had a brief biography of Dr S S Joshi by Dr Rajeev Joshi. In addition, had memoirs of Dr SSJ by Dr Percy Chibber, Dr Deepak Kirpekar, Dr Mahesh Desai, Dr Shailesh Raina, and Dr Anita Patel. In addition, the issue had other regular features.

3.2 March 2021: International women's day special issue

This was a special issue released on the international women's day, the 8th of March 2021. It was focussed on women in urology. West zone has the largest number of women urologists. The special section was edited by Dr Anita Patel. Another interesting feature of this issue was on "Biggest lies in

urology". On popular demand, this was printed as hard copy with support received from Intas pharma and was circulated to the members by the Intas team.

3.3 June 2021: Mental health

This newsletter was the brainchild of Dr Prashant Bhagwat. The theme, articles and all content were conceptualised by him. This newsletter had interesting articles by our members and an article by Dr Surbhi Dubey (psychiatrist).

3.4 September 2021: Urology Education

This is the mega bumper issue being released during this conference. It is dedicated to urology education. This newsletter has more than hundred pages. The issue is divided in different sections. It took us six months to plan this issue. Just when this issue was being formatted, we lost Dr S S Bapat. Initial section of the issue is dedicated to his memory. Dr Ravindra Sabnis is the guest editor of the lead section of the newsletter. This part is dedicated to urology education. An interesting feature of this newsletter is the alumni lists of almost all teaching institutes in west zone. Most of this list is compiled by Dr Ajit Sawant. This was a huge task. The lists were put together whatever data was missing was filled up from various sources. The task like this cannot ever be complete. The missing data is being populated through a URL. Hopefully we should be able to reprint another edition of this data once we get updated list. Being a special issue dedicated to urology education, the issue has Guru Purnima messages by students. This is again a collector's issue.

4 Digital identity of West zone

4.1 Cloud based virtual USIWZ office

All the work of the west zone is shifted to cloud platform through google one. I had already purchased 100 GB space on google drive. The council members can log into the office through their google id. All the resources like logos, pictures, meeting minutes, agendas, member lists were available to all the members of the USIWZ council. Meeting reminders and notifications regarding new contents added were be made. Online documents were used. These were editable by all who have been granted access to the resources. This decreased the turnaround time and reduced duplication of efforts. It also helped us to work asynchronously. Technical support was provided to all those who had difficulty in using these resources.

Currently the office is in in my personal Google one space. Google also has provision for google workplace for non-profits. This is more collaborative, productive, and efficient than the personal workplace that I have with me. We are planning to apply for this. The paperwork needed for this is bit lengthy.

4.2 Official phone number of West zone +91 9607 9607 47

The office bearers change every two years. The members must store the secretary's number and many a times they do not receive the broadcast messages. Now it is going to be a one-time process. Every two years we must change the number linked with the bank account. This creates a lot of confusion. Once this number is linked with the bank accounts of the USIWZ, the transition would be smooth and easy. In addition, we would be able to accept and make UPI payments.

Getting a sim card in the name of organization is a lengthy process especially for a small organization like us. There was a lot of paperwork to be done. Mrs Prachi Chatterjee Regional Account Service Manager Vi helped us a lot in getting this sim card. This number is officially in the name of Urological society of India West zone. It is linked with our PAN number.

4.3 Digital contact list of West zone

All the member data along with the membership number is fed into the Google Id of the USIWZ along with the addresses. The contact list also mentions whether the member is an associate or full member. It would be easy for the forthcoming bodies to communicate with the members.

These are a few steps towards digital office. Hoping that we can establish a free-standing cloud office of the USIWZ. So next time we get a new secretary, there would be just handing over of a sim card (or an eSIM on a QR code for that matter).

5 Constitution of USIWZ

We searched for the original constitution of the west zone. But could not get. We got a scanned copy from M/s Chhajer's office. We have applied to the charity commissioner's office in Ahmedabad and asked for a certified copy. We are planning to add all the amendments to the constitution so that it is updated. Once it is updated, revised constitution would be resubmitted to the charity commissioner's office. Original constitution of the west zone is registered with the

6 Council meetings

This year we conducted six council meetings and one extraordinary general body meeting. Issues like publication cell, strategies for membership drive, WZUSICON Goa, USICON Ahmedabad and WZUSICON Nashik, dormant account of USIWZ, complaint of the members about defective equipment, urology gold medal, MIUC fellowship were discussed. Dr Umesh Oza was unanimously selected to be felicitated for the Know your Guru session. It was also decided that Dr A.V Rao would be the felicitated during the know your Guru session during the USIWZ annual conference in 2022. It was also resolved to restart the services award. Issue of refund of the money lying with Holiday inn was also discussed. Scientific program of the WZUSICON 2021 was discussed in details and inputs from all council members as well as the member preferences survey were considered while designing this program. On 15th August it was decided to hold a physical conference at Goa with limited attendance and full in-house meeting in a large spacious hall. The result has been fabulous.

7 Member preferences survey

Before we planned the scientific content of this 31st WZUSICON, an online survey was conducted. 273 members responded. The survey comprised of the member preferences about their participation in scientific events. The responses received from the survey were used to formulate the scientific activities especially the WZUSICON 2021.

8 Website and Mobile app

Our website was previously with the domain of usiwz.org. The domain space was not traceable. There was some financial issue with the domain registrars big rock and Net4india. Hence the domain was changed to usiwz.in. The ownership of the domain name and the password for it was formally obtained from the web host and kept with council. Attempts were made to make the website interactive, but these were not fruitful. A lot needs to be done in this regard.

9 Harping West (Non-academic activity)

This was a talent hunt music group of WZ. Mainly a fun activity. Members recorded their songs and videos. These were broadcast on digital meet. In addition, there was a music quiz for the members. This was held on Holi day.

Friends it is just eleven months since this council took over the charge. These were trying times. There were a lot of restrictions on travel and meetings. But these adversaries have taught us a lot. Everyone in the council were quite helpful. Organizing a conference of the magnitude of WZUSICON within just 45 days was a mammoth task and every member of the council and every member of the zone has put in a lot of efforts. A lot of congratulatory messages an a few constructive messages we have received. These times were testing times, but the zone has come out victorious in arranging this conference. We have been able to raise the standard of scientific activities, to identify and promote new talent in the zone.

In these eleven months, I had the opportunity to personally interact with almost each member of the zone, be it through phone calls or WhatsApp message or mails. Social media was the most important thing that kept a cohesive atmosphere in the zone.

Before I end, I take this opportunity to thank my secretaries Miss Maria, Mr. Kale. Both handled office work efficiently. Incidentally Maria knows all WZ members by name. My daughter Maitreyee, who works in Google, managed the analysis and data mining part of the west zone office.

Friends, being in a position of secretary of the zone puts a lot of responsibilities, it is possible that I might have hurt someone. If it was that it was pure unintentional. But I do have a feeling that we as a group have been able to deliver to the best of abilities.

We remain indebted to you, the members of west zone

Prashant Mulawkar

On behalf of the Council

Tuesday, September 28, 2021